

# THE COMMERCIAL JOURNAL

Is a medium through which the wholesale trade can be placed in direct communication with every retailer in the Province of British Columbia. One thousand copies of every issue of the paper are distributed among the retail trade, thus rendering it invaluable as a means of reaching this desirable class. To those who receive this paper, and not having ordered it, we would say that **THE COMMERCIAL JOURNAL** will be sent to them **FREE**, until our representative makes a personal call on them; when they can arrange to become permanent subscribers, or order the paper discontinued. The simple fact of taking the paper from the post-office, in the meantime, will not be considered as placing the person to whom it is addressed under any obligation to become a regular subscriber.

British Columbia's illimitable wealth of coal, fish, timber and gold, render it a region of not only great possibilities, but vast probabilities. Although in its infancy, in comparison with the other provinces of the Dominion, the Pacific Province must eventually surpass all the others in the race for wealth.

Coal is found in almost inexhaustible quantities on the island, and the amount of money expended annually in the development of this industry is almost inconceivable. Its excellent quality and the extent of the supply cannot but lead to the conclusion that for many generations to come it must continue to be a source of great wealth to the Province. The proportions of this industry can be better understood when it is stated that last year, according to the annual report of the Minister of Mines, the total output amounted to nearly **SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS**.

The Fisheries, which are divided into two separate and distinct classes—the fresh water and the sea fisheries—have been already the source of considerable revenue to the Province, particularly the former. Last year, for a variety of reasons, the salmon pack was not so large as the preceding year, but there are good reasons for believing that this year will far exceed any former one in the development of this industry.

In this Province there are vast limits of timber, which are capable of supplying for years to come the wants of a great population. The lumber trade of the Province is one of considerable proportions, and, at the present time, offers many advantages for the investment of capital.

The future can only reveal the possibilities and wealth of the gold deposits in the mountains and streams of British Columbia. Other minerals are found in paying quantities within the limits of the Province.

British Columbia, during the past few years, has manifested unmistakable signs of prosperity; and in no place is this prosperity more apparent than in Victoria, her leading city. The seat and centre of wholesaling in the Province is now firmly fixed at Victoria. The accessions that are received to this interest from year to year, and the increase of its total transactions indicate a natural and healthy growth. Vancouver, the terminus of the greatest railway in the world, is one of the wonders of the century. With the development of the territory tributary to and lying to the east of that city, it must become a great seaport, as, in fact, it is at the present time. The fisheries, lumber mills and the magnificent agricultural lands in the neighborhood of New Westminster are sufficient guarantee of the bright future in store for that city. That Nanaimo with its famous coal beds must eventually become an important commercial centre, is no longer open to reasonable doubt. To note each week the progress made throughout the Province, besides giving a review of the business transacted in these four cities will be the aim of

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