

British Columbia.

A local train will be run between New Westminster and Vancouver.

Kamloops is having a boom, building is active, and many strangers are in town looking for business opening.

The Royal City Plaining mills at Vancouver have added machinery for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, etc.

The Government will be petitioned to establish a quarantine station in the vicinity of Burrard Inlet, owing to the increase in shipping arriving.

A factory for the manufacture of glazed sewer pipe, fire brick, ornamental brick and tiles of various colors, will be established at Victoria.

The strike of Italian laborers at Port Moody has been arranged by the men returning to work on their receiving an advance of ten cents to \$1.50 per day.

The last rail has been laid on the extension of the C.P.Ry. from Port Moody to Vancouver, and trains are now running into the depot at the latter place.

The salmon are entering the Fraser river in considerable numbers. Some of the canneries are availing themselves of the fine fish (spring salmon) now running and are packing on a small scale.

The Victoria board of trade has forwarded a memorial to the Dominion Government asking for harbor improvements for that place. An appropriation of \$100,000 is asked for to commence improvements.

Carne & Munsie, Victoria, have purchased a schooner in Chester, Nova Scotia, a new vessel of about 100 tons and a fast sailer. She will leave at once on her four months trip round the Horn, and on arrival will be put in the sealing trade.

The Northern Pacific Express Co. has extended its service to Alaska. The rate on currency, gold and silver from Portland to Sitka or Juneau is \$10 per \$1,000; on freight \$7 per 100 pounds. Insurance on freight is 1 per cent. and on gold, silver and currency $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent.

The Vancouver News says: The steamer Walla Walla has arrived from San Francisco with 310 bags of sugar and 23,780 pounds of wool to be carried over the C.P.R. to its destination. The sugar is for a St. Paul firm and will cost \$2.24 per 100 pounds, and the wool is for Boston.

The agents for the Cape Horn route at Victoria have named a rate of one half cent a pound on wool and thirty cents a case for salmon to New York. The rate to New York last year was 92½ cents a hundred. The new rate, counting interest for six months at 7 per cent. and insurance 2 per cent., is a trifle under 83 cents a hundred.

The Victoria people are agitating the question of establishing a transfer ferry across the Gulf of Georgia, whereby the trains could be transferred from Vancouver to the Island Railway at Nanaimo, and thence continue on to Victoria, thus making the latter place the practical terminus of the C.P.Ry. The argument in favor of this plan is, that the navigation between Victoria and Burrard Inlet is dangerous for large ocean craft,

The Drummer Did It.

All investigations by archaeologists into the various races and their history break on an inexplicable influence that seems to connect widely different places, periods and peoples. They find old jars in use in India that the mound builders had here, and they came across iron teaspoons in the primeval forest beds of coal. They are astonished to find the gridiron of the north of Ireland figuring in the social life of China three or four thousand years ago. The Bedouin Arab has the army blanket of the Esquimax, and in the ruins of Pompeii they came across peanut shells like what the sweeper sweeps out of the gallery of the theater to-day. Well, why is this? Archaeologists cannot tell. I can. The mysterious ubiquitous influence that leaves no tracks save the article is simply the drummer. It was the drummer who did it all. He left those curious Grecian scrolls in Egypt; he carved those hieroglyphics on the rocks of ancient Britain; he is the man who introduced French candy into Herculaneum and struck the mound builders with iron teaspoons.

Do you ever know what becomes of a drummer? Not that you care, but have you ever seen a dead drummer? I don't believe drummers die. I believe they simply talk themselves into gas. "Gas thou art, to gas returnest," was written for the drummer. I have met one or two men who have been drummers, but they do not talk much about it. When a drummer gets tired of talking he just disappears. I do not see how his country survives the existence of drummers. You go into a small country place, you step into the hotel; you find in the office sixteen coats hanging up on the wall and sixteen valises in a row on the floor, and sixteen men sitting with their thirty-two feet up on the stove telling sixteen lies about their business and their adventures, all at one time. You can't get what you want in that town. The drummers have made the store keepers buy what they have to sell, and you've got to take it or go without. It seems almost impossible to believe that a drummer should ever be able to disguise his identity. He is, as a rule, aggressive and runs things.

If you see a man come into the hotel and step up timidly to the counter and ask the clerk if there are any letters for him, please, you may know that he's an humble private citizen and a plain guest. If you see a fellow bang open the door, stride in and leave it open behind him, go and hang his coat on a peg and jam his valise on the floor, walk behind the counter, take out all the letters and read the addresses from every box, open the drawer and look in, then you will know it's a drummer—good for one night's lodging and several drinks. He generally lets everybody know that he's sold a lot of stuff, and he talks very loud about the fun he's had sometimes. But they told me of one drummer who called himself a count, and wore a long fur-lined ulster and an imposing foreign looking mustache. He came in the summer season and stayed a long time. He was the rage; the girls fell in love with him; the mamas admired him; he was on the eve of getting engaged to a haughty San Francisco belle, when a lady walked into a drug store one day and found him with a lot of samples of soap, trying to stick the pro-

prietor with his stock. That let him out and he disappeared. But the profession disowned him, for, as a rule, the drummer is a straightforward, open, honest and enthusiastic nuisance. —Ex.

Stick to your Business.

There is nothing which should be more frequently impressed upon the minds of young men than the importance of steadily pursuing some one business. The frequent changing from one employment to another is one of the most common errors committed, and to it may be traced more than half the failures of men in business, and much of the discontent and disappointment that renders life uncomfortable. It is a very common thing for a man to be dissatisfied with his business, and to desire to change it for some other, and what seems to him a more lucrative employment, but in nine cases out of ten it is a mistake. Look round you and you will find among your acquaintances abundant verifications of our assertion.

Here are two young men, clerks; one of them is content, when his first term of service is over to continue a clerk till he shall have saved enough to commence business on his own account; the other can't wait, but starts off without capital and with a limited experience, and brings up after a few years in a court of insolvency, while his former comrade, by patient perseverance, comes out at last with a fortune. —Ex.

Canadian Tobacco.

We have held and still hold that properly cultivated and properly cured, the product of the native tobacco plant can be made equal attractive, saleable and as good as any can be produced elsewhere. Indeed, if such has not been the case long ago and if the fashion has been to look somewhat contemptuously upon *tabac Canadien*, it has been the fault of our people who had not studied out the conditions under which the article could be brought to its highest state of excellence. We are happy to know, however, that no longer need Canadian tobacco take a position second to that grown in any other country not, indeed, in the lands that have been regarded *faciles principes*. Whether for smoking or for chewing the aroma and the flavor of our own product can be brought out. Just as well as in any other tobacco. Naturally the subject required no small amount of study, inasmuch as on account of the climate, condition of growth, the treatment required for Canadian tobacco was very different to that which was applicable elsewhere; but the secret has been successfully solved and the brands of the Canadian tobacco works easily hold their own against all tobaccos, no matter where they come from. And when we think of it, there is no reason why this should not be the case, albeit we frequently belittle what ourselves produce because it does not come from abroad. Experience we say has amply proven that in this country we are in every direction perfectly safe in saying not alone "Canada for the Canadians," but "Canadian products for Canadian consumption." —*Canadian Trade Review*.

J. M. NZELIN, of Port Arthur, will open in gents' furnishings at Banff, Alberta.