

**Brief Business Notes.**

*Continued from page 1363.*

O'Brien & Dunlap, livery, Nanaimo, dissolved. Mrs. O'Brien continues.

B. & L. Lequime, sawmill, Kelowna, have dissolved; Lem. Lequime continues.

The estate of A. G. Horne, of Nanaimo, general store. Tenders advertised for.

Warren, Baur & McCartney, civil engineers, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership.

The Shuswap district is this year shipping large quantities of fruit, hay and vegetables.

The business of D. W. Sutherland, Mr. Lehman, has been purchased by J. G. Langley, of Mission City.

Winchester & Campbell, saloon, Kaslo, have been closed. G. A. Bigelow & Co., of Nelson, are in charge.

The Tumbo Island coal shaft is now sunk 250 feet, and coal will, it is expected, be reached in two months.

Simpson & Simpson, barristers, Nanaimo, have opened a branch at Comox, with P. W. Patterson in charge.

Mt. Baker Hotel Co, Oak Bay, Victoria, are evidently in difficulty, but are arranging a settlement with creditors.

Geo. Ward De Beck, the timber expert, has become a partner in the firm of McKinnon, McFarlane & Co., Vancouver.

C. G. Ballentyne succeeds S. H. Matson as manager of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society for the province.

Robt. Ward & Co., Ltd., Victoria, have moved into their handsome new offices next door to the Bank of British Columbia.

A complete metallic circuit has just been established by the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Co. at a cost of \$20,000.

The latest B. C. paper is the *Okanagon Mining Review*, published at Okanagon Falls. R. Mathison, Vancouver, is the proprietor.

McMillan & Hamilton, wholesale produce merchants, have given up their branch in Kaslo and Mr. Hamilton has returned to Vancouver.

The Slough Creek Mining Co. (foreign), has been duly registered, with a capital stock of \$500,000, and Victoria as the principal place of business.

The Inland Sentinel Printing Co., Ltd., has been incorporated, with a capital stock of \$10,000, and three trustees: H. McCutcheon, M. F. Gordon and James Vair.

A building society has been organized at Nanaimo. It is a local concern, with local directors. Branches are to be established at Comox, Union, Northfield and Wellington.

Alex. Ewen, Westminster, has entered an appeal against the decision of the District court fining him \$50 for placing offal in the river. The object of this appeal is to make a test of the law.

Lenz & Leiser, the large wholesale dry goods firm of Victoria, have purchased the stock of C. Strous & Co., of the same place. Mr. Boomingdale of the latter firm goes to San Francisco.

A petition has been filed in the Superior Court by one of the stockholders of the Michigan Lumber Co., of Vancouver, to have a receiver appointed to wind up the affairs of the said corporation.

G. Weeks, grocer, Vancouver, has admitted D. Robson, late manager of the Hudson's Bay Co. stores there into partnership. Both were formerly Hudson's Bay Co. employes and are regarded as a strong firm.

The following unique advertisement appears in the *Vernon News*: "Notice to creditors—Of W. F. Bouvette. If my creditors will give me time to pay my bills I will pay them all in full, but if they want to sell me out my stock will not fetch 25 cents on the dollar, so you can consider the the best.—W. F. Bouvette.

The sale has just been completed of one of the largest and most valuable ranches in the Okanagan country. It was the property of Major Dupont and J. D. Pemberton, and has been sold to Sir Arthur Stepney. The ranch contains some 1,332 acres, of which 600 to 700 acres are in wheat, the balance being grazing land.

**Manitoba all a Garden.**

The soil of the prairies of Manitoba differs from that in the eastern provinces in being composed of what might be described as garden land or cultivated ground. For ages large portions of the country have been destitute of trees and covered by grass, consequently the soft, black, vegetable mould has formed a sort of wild garden of vast extent, on which many strange and interesting plants and flowers have become native, a state of things that could not exist in the hard and rooty soil of wooded districts. On the wild and verdant prairie hills that have been cultivated only by nature for her own amusement, may be found many of the bushes, plants and flowers that are confined to gardens in the east. The marigold, the lupine, the violet, the rose, the primrose, the aster, the lily, the morning glory, the honeysuckle, the bluebell, and a vast variety of other beautiful flowers appear everywhere on the plain. Vegetables and plants are also well represented and onions, turnips, tomatoes, peas, wild cabbage, hemp and hops are quite common on the prairies near the woods. Even the berries in Manitoba resemble some varieties to a much greater extent than in wooded countries. This is especially the case with raspberries, red and black currants, gooseberries and plums. Even in the woods the shrubbery bears a certain resemblance to cultivated bushes, and berry bearing trees have a different character when compared with those found in the woods of Ontario. The tendency of the trees here is to remain small, but to bear enormous quantities of fruit, while in the east bushes and trees that grow wild do not bear so abundantly but grow larger and faster.

As this country becomes more occupied and settlers have leisure to attend to the improvement and adornment of their grounds, some consideration may be given to the cultivation of the wild grape, more for the beauty and shade of the foliage than for the value of the grapes, which are, however, very good. On the shores of the Red River we have noticed very large grape vines growing wild and with a little care and attention the native vines might be made useful as well as beautiful.

Manitoba possesses an interesting variety of small flowering trees, the presence of which show that the garden character of the country is visible even in the woods. Some of the wild fruit might be used successfully in improving gardens and groves around dwellings. The June berry, if a lit le shaded by other trees or by building, makes a clean and beautiful ornament, especially in the spring when hoary with blossoms or in the summer when the branches are bent with the weight of purple berries. Already large numbers of currant and gooseberry bushes, found wild, have been transplanted into gardens and are found about equal in quality to tame varieties. Red and dark cherries are equally hardy and exceedingly prolific, the fruit being much improved by care and cultivation. The nanny berry is a very fine tree for ornamental purposes. The blossoms are attractive and hang in a profusion of purple clusters. In the fall, when touched by frost the leaves assume a blood red color and from a little distance look like flowers.—*Pilot Mound Sentinel.*

**Latest Wool Statistics.**

Practically the closing work in the late official life of S. G. Brook, chief of the bureau of statistics of the Treasury Department until this week, was a special report on wool and woolsens, which will be issued soon by the public

printer, and which has been made public by means of advance sheets. The totals, it is explained, have "been brought down to date."

The number of sheep in the United States on January 1, 1892, is given at 44,938,000, and at 47,273,000 this year, an increase of 5.20 per cent in number and 18.43 per cent in value during the year. The wool product of 1892 is stated at 291,001,030 pounds. The amount of pulled wool for the year 1892 is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at 43,000,000 pounds, which with fleece wool makes a total product of domestic wool in the United States in 1892 of 340,000,000 pounds.

The number of woolen establishments in the country in 1890 is shown by the census bureau to have been 2,490, with an invested capital of \$280,401,481, employing 210,132 hands, paying wages of \$76,086,742, and using 372,787,413 pounds of wool, which cost \$98,340,489. The cost of all material used was \$232,815,842, and the value of the product was \$337,788,524.

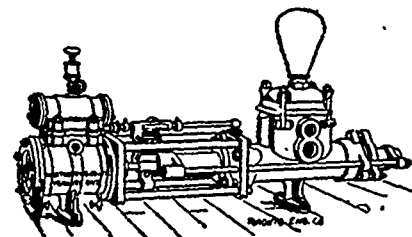
The progressive improvement of the fleece was as striking before 1860 as after that year, the average weight of fleece in 1840 being reported at 19 pounds, and in 1850 24 pounds. The increase in the number of sheep from 1880 to 1892 was almost exactly 100 per cent, while the increase in the wool clip was 387.84 per cent. The total imports of wool in 1892 were 145,063,089 pounds, of which 47,713,133 pounds were wool of class one, 5,744,029 of class two, and 92,212,922, or 63.36 per cent of class three.

The per capita consumption of wool in the United States has grown from 4.49 pounds in 1840 to 5.58 pounds in 1850, 6.84 pounds in 1860, 7.93 pounds in 1870, 8.52 pounds in 1880, and 9.07 pounds in 1890. The United States consumes more domestic wool in proportion to imported wool in domestic manufactures than either of the other leading manufacturing countries. The total wool product of the world for 1891 is estimated at 2,250,000,000 pounds.

The growth of the domestic woolen industry as shown by the census returns is set forth in the following table:—

Year.	Estab-lishments.	Capital invested.	Product.
1860 . . . . .	2,106	\$ 39,566,037	\$ 76,146,589
1870 . . . . .	3,458	132,452,087	217,948,906
1880 . . . . .	2,689	189,091,869	267,252,913
1890 . . . . .	2,489	286,494,481	337,788,524

The opinion is expressed by the late statistician of the bureau of statistics of the Treasury Department that the limit of production in wool has been reached in the leading wool countries, such as Australasia and the Argentine Republic, and that in the near future supply will hardly keep pace with the demand, with the result of an improvement in prices.—*Bradstreet's.*



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