

British Columbia Business Review.

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arbitration. It provides for a commissioner, whose duty it will be to collect statistics and report on the labor interests of the province; for a deputy commissioner in each of the six districts of the province; for boards of conciliation and arbitration for the settlement of the labor disputes. As an effort to solve a problem surrounded by many and serious difficulties, it may be said to be the most ambitious and advanced attempt which has been incorporated into recent legislation. The introduction of the Torrens system of registering land titles in a more complete form is promised; also a public health act regulating quarantine and sanitary matters; and amendments to the mining and horticultural laws. The time for the Deep Sea Fisheries Act to come into operation has been extended and satisfaction expressed regarding the progress made in the exploratory surveys being carried on.

The parliamentary notice of application for an act to incorporate a company to erect a smelter, blast furnace, ship yards, etc., in Victoria, and "to provide a guarantee by the province of 5 per cent. per annum for a period of twenty years on \$1,000,000 of the capital stock of the company, together with the freedom from government and municipal taxation and assessment for a like period" has been duplicated, and a similar application is being made for Vancouver city. How far either will be successful remains to be seen.

B. C. Market Quotations.

SUGARS.—The following are the advertised prices of the British Columbia Sugar Refinery. These prices are subject to 2½ per cent. discount for cash in fourteen days, and cover delivery in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo or New Westminster. No order taken for less than 100 barrels or its equivalent:

Powdered, 6½c per lb; Paris lumps, 6½c per lb; granulated, 5½c per lb; extra C, 5c per lb; fancy yellows, 4½c per lb; yellow, 4½c per lb; golden C, 4½c per lb. Above prices are for barrels or bags; half-barrels and 100 lb kegs, ¾c more; boxes, ¾c more.

CANNERS.—Finest Golden, in 30 gal. brls, 2½c per lb; ditto, in 10 gal. kegs, 3c per lb; ditto, in 5 gal. kegs, \$2.25 each; ditto, in 1 gal. tins, \$1.50 per case of 10; ditto, in ½ gal. tins, \$6 per case of 20.

The estimates presented to the Dominion Parliament contain the following appropriations for British Columbia. Vancouver—Post office, to complete, \$13,000. Victoria—Drill hall, \$3,000; public buildings, \$5,000; dredging inner harbor, \$10,000; dredging outer harbor, \$12,000. Fraser river—Improvement of channel at mouth, \$30,000; protection of banks at Garribush, \$12,000; improvement of navigable channel and protection south bank at Miller's Landing and Sumas, \$7,500; Columbia river—improvements above Golden, \$4,500; improvements between Revelstoke and Arrow Lake, \$1,500; Skeena river, \$3,000; general repairs and improvements, harbor and river works, \$3,000.

Robt. Jamieson, bookseller, has assumed the management of the Victoria Theatre.

Imports at Vancouver for January amounted to \$85,343, and the exports \$44,989.

The Victoria Board of Trade has moved into its handsome new building, in Eastern Square.

Tusner, Repton & Co., Victoria, have been appointed local agents for the Canadian Settlers' Loan & Investment Co., London Eng.

Brief Business Notes.

G. B. Yuill, Nanaimo, jeweller, closing out.

C. D. Chapman, Vancouver, jeweller, deceased.

B. L. Woods, hotel, Nanaimo, for sale by auction.

John Hawkins, grocer, Victoria, partially burned out.

Jas. A. Laidlaw, Westminster, salmon canner, deceased.

Goldstein & Aptakoo, pawnbrokers, Vancouver dissolved.

F. S. Scott, Nanaimo auctioneer, sold out to C. G. Dempster.

H. D. Adams, hotel, Nanaimo, sold out to Wolf & Dunbar.

Riddell & Davidson, general store, Langley Prairie, burned out.

Fairrall & Barry, brewers, Victoria, succeeded by H. S. Fairrall.

The Customs collections at Vancouver for January were \$24,681 90.

W. P. Coughlan, photographer, Nanaimo, sold out to E. P. Laess.

Percival & Hatchor, steam laundry, Vancouver, sold out to M. C. Percival.

The Inland Revenue Returns for January in Victoria amounted to \$11,595 34.

Lorgen & Mansfield, bakers, Vancouver, succeeded by Mansfield & Dodds.

Reid & Johnstone, flour and saw mills, Quesnelle, dissolved. Reid continues.

The Inland Revenue receipts for January at Vancouver amounted to \$6,654 18.

McKenzie & Exley, groceries and provisions, Nanaimo, dissolved, Exley continues.

A. W. Moore & Co. have been appointed agents for Victoria of the Federal Life.

Tenders are called for the erection of the Vancouver court house, to cost about \$85,000.

The Victoria & Sidney railway company have authorized the issuing of \$300,000 of stock.

McDonald Bros, grocery and crockery, Westminster, advertise going out of business.

Chas. Gilbert Fanquier, produce dealer, Vancouver, assigned to Walter Bault, commission agent.

It is proposed to reclaim the Fishhook Lake in the Cedar district of Vancouver Island by means of a drainage canal.

D. Adams has sold his interest in the Royal Hotel to George Dunbar and Otto Wolf, who will run the place in future.

It is stated that Dr. Praeger, of Nanaimo, and Dr. McKechnie, of Wellington, will enter into partnership on March 1st.

Premier Davie has promised to open a registry office at Nanaimo so that writs may be issued without going to Victoria.

Grant & McGregor are building fifty cars for the Union railway. These cars will enable the company to load colliers with dispatch.

The Dominion Government Geological Survey will, it is stated, this year take in and closely investigate the North Thompson country.

A co-operative coal company is being organized in Vancouver for the purpose of making its members independent of any coal company.

A company that proposes to build a tramway, erect electric light plant and put in waterworks in New Denevr has applied for incorporation.

The Vancouver Board of Trade passed a resolution urging the Dominion Government to establish a fast Atlantic service as soon as possible.

Customs receipts at Victoria for January were \$86,443. Exports, \$44,989, and duties collected \$24,651. The imports amounted to \$196,458 and exports \$59,754.

The promoters of the Fraser Valley and Burrard Inlet bonus by-law have received notice that Judge Drake's decision will be appealed. The case will come up in Victoria.

The wreck of the schooner C. H. Tupper was sold at auction last week. The hull was sold to Richard Hall for \$375, and the same gentleman's bid of \$350 for the cargo was also accepted.

The B. C. Timber and Electric Co. (Ltd.), of Westminster, and the Okanagan Telephone Co., who propose to connect Vernon and Kelowna

with a "talking wire," have been duly incorporated, the former with a capital of \$100,000, and the latter at \$10,000.

P. Draney has returned from a trip to the north, having selected a site at the mouth of the Bella Coola river, for a cannery that he intends to build. Work will be commenced on the necessary buildings in about six weeks, and the cannery will be ready for the spring run of salmon.

The San Francisco firm that chartered the SS Grandholm from the Union SS company have given her up, as they find they cannot compete with the Pacific Mail SS company on the route between San Francisco and Central America. The Union SS company will thus have her on their hands again shortly, and intend, if possible, to secure a charter to England for her.

D. E. Brown left recently for San Francisco en route for Australia. He will sail from San Francisco on the steamer Mariposa on February 3rd, and will spend several weeks in Australia in the interests of the C. P. R., and will enquire into the prospects for the establishment of a line of steamers between New Zealand and Australia and Vancouver. He will then proceed to Hong Kong, where he will take up his residence as agent for the company.

Dominion Fishery Inspector McNab has reported to Ottawa to the effect that our almost inexhaustible sea fisheries are as yet sadly little worked, save in the case of halibut, which is beginning to be shipped East. What other sea fishing is done merely supplies the home market. He advises, as regards the disposal of salmon offal in the Fraser, that it be dumped when fresh amidstream, where the water is very deep, the current strong. It will then be practically harmless, whereas if confined in cribs till putrid, it floats on the surface, on an oily scum. The report is received with satisfaction by the canners, as largely meeting their wishes.

The Anglo-American Club has been started in Victoria. The object of the club is stated to be to bring together merchants, mine owners, canners, lumbermen, stock owners, and the large American and English travelling public who visit Victoria annually, and to demonstrate to the latter the great natural resources of British Columbia. Tourists and business men can be made honorary members of the club for a period of 14 days. The club will keep on file all the leading American and English papers, and the officers of it will be happy to give any local or provincial information that may be required.

The British ship County of Yarmouth, 2154 tons, is loading lumber at Hasting's mills for the United Kingdom.

H. N. Davis, importer of fancy goods, Toronto, has assigned. The estimated surplus of assets over liabilities are about \$8,000.

Eastern soap manufacturers have put prices up 1c per pound on all soaps. This is due to the recent advance in tallow, which is very high and scarce.

P. Gallagher & Sons, Winnipeg, have recently received two carloads of mutton, one from Pictou, N.S., and the other from St. John, N.B. The car from Pictou was sent forward to Vancouver, so that the mutton was sent clear across the continent from ocean to ocean.

An Ottawa telegram says the restrictions placed upon Canadian cattle entering the United States has caused no little surprise here. If any evil results follow it, it is anticipated they will be of a moral rather than of a financial character. Last year only \$21,327 worth of Canadian cattle were shipped to the United States, while our exports of the same to England exceeded seven millions and a half. Pleuropneumonia does not exist among Canadian herds, hence no necessity for the imposition of the quarantine regulations exists. It is thought the move by the United States government was made with a view to confirming the suspicions entertained in England regarding the existence of disease among Canadian cattle.