

Angus Collins & Co., general store, Margaree, Angus Collins registered as sole partner.

Jesse Jeffers, lumber, Newville; registered consent for his wife to carry on business.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Robt. L. Blake, Hillsboro, has sold out.

G. G. Corbett, teas, St. John, has assigned.

D. G. Scott, grocer, Moncton, has assigned.

John Sullivan, general store, Chatham, is dead.

W. H. Hall, hotel, St. Stephen, has assigned.

Wm. Murray, shingle mill, Head Tide, was burned out.

Robt. J. Morton, hotel, Kent Junction, was burned out.

O'Neil & Fitzgerald, undertakers, St. John, have dissolved.

R. F. Clarke, hardware, St. George, has moved to St. John.

James Frier, general store, Shediac, is closing up his business.

Hubert Phillip, grocer and butcher, St. George, out of business.

John McDonald, general store, Acadieville, was burned out; insured for \$1,000.

Thos Furlong, wholesale and retail merchant, St. John, estate re conveyed to him.

James Brown, general store, Weldford, is offering to compromise at 50c on the dollar.

British Columbia Trade Letter

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

VANCOUVER, June 22.—The weather has been dull and heavy for a week and so unfavorable to growth and the harvesting of the strawberry crop. The principal event in real estate during that time was the sale of Steveston townsite lots which was very successful, some \$16,000 worth being disposed of at reasonable prices. As I promised to say something about this section of the province in a future issue, a reference may be made now. Steveston is named after the proprietor of the townsite and has made astonishing progress during the past few months. Dykes have been built, wharves constructed, streets graded and sidewalked, and houses and stores built, all in a surprising short space of time. It even possesses a very commendable and sprightly newspaper, known as the *Enterprise*. Steveston is on the head of Lulu Island, near the mouth of the Fraser river, and is the centre of the salmon business, which now boasts of 25 canneries. Seven of these belong to Steveston. There are 35,000 acres of prairie, rich alluvial deposit, at the back of the new city. The soil is wonderfully fertile and the root crops are prodigious. Wheat thoroughly under drained and dyked, Lulu Island will be every inch a garden. Farm lands range now from \$100 to \$200 and \$250 an acre. Dan. McGillvray, our king contractor, the other day sold 10 acres for \$10,000 for a millsite. There are a number of fine farms on this island, but the improvement will be henceforth. There is also a disposition for owners to divide up and sell. What has attracted attention to it particularly of late is the fact that natural gas has been discovered right in the centre of Steveston. Bubbles were noticed rising in the water of the ditches which proved to be gas. An empty barrel bottom up was placed in the ditch as a reservoir, a hole bored in the bottom and a gas pipe and burner inserted. The result was a beautiful and continuous flame day and night. Quite a few ex-

periments were made in the vicinity with similar success. Tests will be made by boring the machinery for which is on the ground and it is thought that either coal or oil may exist as well or both.

Another event effecting real estate in Vancouver was the definite location of the line of the electric tramway to Westminster into this city. Park street in 264 A, east end, has been selected for the route and property in 264 A is experiencing a boom as the result. Steps are also being taken to erect all the lands between Point Gray and the mouth and south of the Fraser into a municipality to be called South Vancouver.

Public sentiment has been somewhat affected by the *modus vivendi* in regard to the Behring sea. There is no curing indignation expressed and opinion is pretty equally divided on the question, but it is generally felt that more or rather due notice should have been given of the intention of the two governments, because all the sealers are north fitted out at large expense, and if prohibited from sealing or have their catch confiscated great loss will ensue. Certainly it will be a serious question for the Imperial and Canadian governments to consider, viz., compensation, and without any doubt heavy claims will be filed. If these are not considered, the authorities may make up their minds that there will be trouble. British Columbians don't kick often, but they kick very hard when they do. As to the *modus vivendi* itself as a means to settlement under other circumstances, no one can question its wisdom as being practical and statesmanlike, notwithstanding the harmless war cries of some of our newspapers. The question is one for which not one of the three governments mainly interested is responsible for having on its hands. It must be settled, however, before long, and all parties should desire equity, regardless of local interest involved, as the basis of settlement. It would be extremely ridiculous, if not so calamitous, for two great nations to go to war about 21,000 seals, last year's Behring sea catch, valued at less than a quarter of a million dollars, unless it were purely a matter of denied right and justice that was the issue. What British Columbia is mainly interested in just now is that its sealers shall not be taken unawares on the high seas. Victoria has a large number of sealers out, and Vancouver has fitted up and sent north five this spring. Without any intimation of the *modus vivendi* their surprise by being ordered off by British war ships will be very great. How the position of the sealing industry would be improved, though, by Canada becoming independent, as one or two of our newspapers suggest, is hard to understand, because the United States would not likely be less exacting or more scrupulous in dealing with Canada alone than with both Great Britain and Canada.

Business has continued good. Foreign shipments of lumber are unusually heavy and local shipping is brisk. The B. C. sugar refinery is carrying the war into Africa vigorously and sending large consignments as far as Portland. The Empress of Japan, the second of the new China steamers to arrive, is just in port with a full passenger and freight list. Eggs and butter are coming in freely from the east, while a larger supply of B. C. ranch butter than ever is on the market. Imported fruits are plentiful and of good quality and reasonable in price—cherries, apricots and peaches principally.

British Columbia strawberries are considerably reduced in price, although the rain of last week has been against them. Vegetables are very plentiful and cheap. The supply of fish of all kinds is better and the canneries are all ready for operation. Wholesale prices are:—

Flour and Grain—Manitoba patents, \$6.50; Manitoba bakers', \$6.00; Oregon, \$5.50 to \$5.75. Cornmeal and oatmeal, \$4; rolled oats, \$5.25; Oil cake, \$40 per ton. Shorts, 26 per ton; bran, \$24 to \$26; wheat, \$36 to \$42; oats, \$40 to \$45.

Meats—Dry salt, 12c; roll bacon, 12c; breakfast bacon, 14c; backs, 13½c; ham, 15c; mess pork, 22½c; pickled pork bellies, 15½; lard, in tubs, 12c; in pails, 12½c; in tins, 13c; lard compound, 12c.

Eggs—17 and 18c.

Butter—Creamery, 26 to 28c; dairy, 20 to 25c per lb. California roll, 27c.

Sugar—British Columbia refined. Granulated, 7½c per lb; yellow, 6½ to 6¾c; cube, 8c. Syrup is quoted at 3½c.

Fruit—Oranges, \$3 to \$5.25; per box. Sicilian lemons \$6.50 to \$7; California lemons, \$3 to \$4. Cherries, \$1.25 per box. Bananas, \$3.50 to \$4 per bunch. Peaches, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box. Pears and apples, \$1.25 per box.

Vegetables—Potatoes, \$16 to \$20 per ton; New potatoes, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per 100 lbs.

Winnipeg Orange Market.

A great quantity of California oranges has been handled in Winnipeg this year, considering the size of this market. Rublee, Riddle & Co., wholesale fruits, have handled 25 cars alone, and probably about 40 cars in all have been handled in the city. The oranges are brought direct from California in car lots. Winnipeg gets a low rate of freight on California fruits, when shipped direct through in bulk, the rate being \$1.25 per 100 pounds. Winnipeg gets the same rate of freight from California as Minneapolis and St. Paul, and the only increased cost to lay down here, over the markets named, is the duty of 25 cents per box. The large sale of California oranges is accounted for to a considerable extent by the low prices at which they can be sold here, on account of the favorable freight rate. California oranges also have the largest sale in this market, over other varieties, because they are in season during the time of year when the weather is warm in Manitoba, and the demand largest. Earlier in the year, when Florida oranges are in season, there is not so much demand here for fruit of any kind, though this year there was a considerable quantity of Floridas handled. Chicago is the market for Florida oranges, where they are sent on consignment by the growers. They can generally be bought cheaper in Chicago than direct from the growers. Messina and other eastern oranges are brought in usually via Montreal, and they have a considerable sale at certain seasons. Oranges from some quarter of the globe, can be had nearly all the year around, for as the season closes in one region, supplies can be had from some other quarter.

Hayes & McIntosh, Vancouver have made arrangements to receive 200 sheep every ten days during the summer months from Oregon. British Columbia imports a considerable number of sheep from the States, which should be produced in the province, or in our own territories, where the country is specially adapted to raising sheep.