

British Columbia.

It is proposed to spend \$74,000 in street improvements at Vancouver.

F. J. Miller has resigned the management of the Moodyville Saw Mill Company's store.

John McLeod has been appointed superintendent of the Columbia & Kootenay Railway.

A car of fine thoroughbred stock, from Ontario, has been brought in for the Chilliwack district.

Men and supplies have been sent to Sicamous to commence work on the Shuswah and Okanagan Railway.

A fire broke out in Adderton & Sons bakery, Nanaimo, but it was put out before much damage was done.

Knight Bros. of Popcum, are getting in machinery for grinding wood into fibre, to be used by upholsterers.

T. F. Sinclair has opened a slate quarry near Golden on the C. P. R., which he will operate on an extensive scale.

Chas. Watson has taken possession of the business lately carried on by W. Bently, stationer, at Kamloops.

Nearly one hundred new dwelling houses are being erected in this city at the present time, says New Westminster Truth.

A potato famine is threatened at Westminster. Prices are quoted at 2½ to 2½ cents per pound, and some are talking 3 cents.

Cuthbert & Weeks have commenced the manufacture of marmalade, etc., at Vancouver, and contemplate manufacturing pickles shortly.

Henry Croft, M.P.P., has let the contract for the erection of a palatial residence on the Esquimalt Road, Victoria. It will cost about \$30,000.

The new Clyde-built steamer, Kutch, the property of the Union Steamship Company, is expected to arrive in Vancouver about May 10. She will at once be put upon the Nanaimo route.

Work has been begun on the wharf and hotel at Port Crescent, near Victoria, and the contract for a roadway from the wharf to the leading street of the new town has been let, the price being about \$20,000.

Contracts are now under way on the extension of the Seattle, Lake Shore and Eastern 31 miles north of Sedro. The connection with the C.P.R. at Mission station, east of Vancouver, is expected to be made early this fall.

The foundry and machine shop of Robt. Law, of Westminster, has been purchased by a syndicate of local men, who will at once extend and improve it. It is the intention of the new company to build a boiler shop in connection with the foundry.

"The supply of beef from the interior of the province," says the Vancouver World, "is apparently now nearly at an end, and one butcher said to-day that the last received was of rather poor quality. The company which had contracted to supply him till the 1st of June had instructed him to purchase in Oregon, and charge them the difference in cost."

The British war ship Amphion is expected to leave the dock by May 10th. This is the iron ship which was so seriously damaged with the Governor on board some time ago. The repairs, costing \$150,000, have been done by the Albion Iron Works, of Victoria, in competition with

San Francisco firms, and are very creditable to the capabilities of the Victoria works.

Victoria Colonist: "It is reported upon excellent authority that the next three or four weeks at the latest will see the foundation for the long-looked-forward-to sugar refinery laid on R. P. Rithet's property, at the outer wharf. The start being made construction will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and by the end of the year it is probable that the refinery will be in operation."

Kamloops Sentinel: "Recent investigation shows that there is in Keremeos and Similkameen gold quartz assaying from \$24 to \$174 per ton. Rock Creek also has gold quartz assaying from \$35 to \$300 per ton. G. Douglas has been working one of the principal mines for a New York company for the last four years, and is now in the east to bring out machinery for the purpose of reducing ore, of which there is a great amount already on the dump for milling."

Victoria Colonist: Very few people not in the cannery business, have any idea of the large amount of tin that is yearly imported by Victorians to be used in the canneries of the Fraser, and the Northern rivers. The amount received this year, with more to follow, is:—Per bark Archer, 4,500 cases; per bark Early Derby, 15,298 cases; per bark Dunscore, 6,620 cases; per bark Glenbervie, 7,655 cases; total, 34,073 cases. Besides the tin there is a proportionately large amount of lead and salt, also for the canneries.

The Nanaimo Free Press says: "Operations for the manufacture of leather by the British Columbia Tanning Company have been commenced. One hundred hides and two hundred calf skins were placed in the vats, for the first process, and everything will be in full swing in another two weeks. This tannery is at present the only one in British Columbia, and its future prospects appear to be exceptionally bright. The shares of this company are held by our residents and is therefore a purely local enterprise, and it is to be hoped it will be liberally patronized.

The Westminster Columbian of April 22, says: "The wonderful run of spring salmon still continues, last night's catch being the largest of the season. All the boats made splendid hauls, the catches running from 30 to 71 fish, the latter being one of the largest night's work ever made during the spring salmon run. Ever since the beginning of the season the run has been larger than ever before, and, notwithstanding the immense quantities of fish shipped east daily, the supply has been much larger than the market demanded. Since Fwen's cannery commenced packing the surplus catch has been taken up by it."

Canadian Pacific in Chicago.

A Chicago telegram says: The Canadian Pacific has announced that early in June it will open its new line to Chicago. The route is from the Canadian Pacific line at London, Ont., to Windsor over a new extension, where connection is made at Detroit with the Wabash railroad, and thence over the Wabash, with which the Canadian Pacific has made arrangements for the joint use of its track to Chicago. The intention is to open the line with a vestibule service, leaving Chicago about 4 p.m. and arriving in Montreal the evening following in

time for connections with the other lines west bound. The train will depart from Montreal in the evening about 9 o'clock, arriving in Chicago on the next day in time to make west bound connections. The Canadian Pacific comes into the field determined to secure an equal share of the business between Detroit, Chicago and points west to Eastern Canada, the Maritime Provinces, and New England States. This will be stoutly contested by the Grand Trunk and Michigan Central and may lead to a vigorous rate war in the east.

Brandon Board of Trade.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Brandon board of trade took place last week, there being a good attendance of the merchants of the city. E. E. Smith, the retiring president of the board occupied the chair, while the election of officers for the current year took place, with the following result: President, Wm. Johnston; vice-president, E. S. Phillips; secretary-treasurer, E. Fitz Bucke. Council—I. R. Strome, John Murray, Kenneth Campbell, R. Butt, P. E. Durst, F. Nation, E. B. Smith, and C. A. Larkin.

The most of the evening was taken up with the discussion of the new freight tariff. Finally, on motion, the matter was left in the hands of the board's council to take what action they deemed advisable.

An Electro-magnet placed in seats of bar-room chairs covered by thin iron plate, which Electro is connected by wire with a good battery behind the bar, has been found an effectual "hoister" of lounging tramps in bar-rooms.

Chicago Daily Business says: "One explanation of the probable decreased wheat acreage in the Dakotas may be found in the fact that the state is requiring rent for the school section (one section in every eighteen), whereas heretofore the land has been used rent free by squatters. The farmers of Dakota cannot cultivate their own land this year, much less pay rent."

The Toronto Empire of April 25, says: Flour was quiet but firm. Bids of \$1.25. Toronto freights, were made for straight rollers and \$1 for extras. Local mills are firm, and are making sales of 10 to 100 barrels as follows: Manitoba patents, \$5.55 to \$5.75; Ontario \$5.25 to \$5.35; Manitoba strong bakers, \$5.30 to \$5.45; family, \$4.60 to \$5.10, and graham flour at \$4.10.

The Sarnia, Ont., Canadian says "The last issue of stock by the Lambton Loan & Investment Company, \$50,000, was promptly taken up by the stock holders at a premium of 35 per cent. The majority of the stock holders of the Company are farmers, and there does not appear to be any of the 'distress' of which we hear so much among them when they can pay such a high premium for stock."

Late reports state that speculation in canned lobsters in the English market is running wild. Fancy flats are said to have been sold at as high as 45s for prompt delivery, which is equivalent to \$2.70 per dozen, whilst new pack contracts are stated to have been placed at 35s 6d to 37s. This state of affairs naturally has a pronounced effect upon packers, and prices in the primary markets are up to a point that seems to surprise even the most enthusiastic believers in high prices for lobsters.