

BUSINESS CHANGES.

C. Coy, publisher, Kaslo, has sold out.

Thos. R. Cusack, job printer, is opening in Victoria.

William Wadds, jeweller, has started at Vancouver.

John K. Sutherland, druggist, has opened at Vancouver.

Thomas Vincent, restaurant, Victoria, has sold out to Mrs. White.

Huff & Swanson, have succeeded S. Huff, hotelkeeper, New Westminster.

Tenders for the lease of the Kamloops Electric Light Co's plant are being advertised for.

Williamson & Patchett, butchers, Armstrong, have dissolved. John Patchett continues.

Kitchen & Walterhouse, real estate brokers, Nanaimo, have dissolved. Thos. Kitchen continues.

It is reported that John Sampson, photographer, Nanaimo, contemplates opening in the hardware business.

J. Johnson & Co., estate, books and stationery, Victoria, stock offered for sale by tender by assignees.

Charles Boyer & Co., have leased the Westminster Woollen Mills for four years. The mills will be reopened shortly.

Baker & Leeson, commission merchants, Vancouver, have sold out to Stewart, Lethwaite & Co., late of Brandon, Man.

K. Thompson, livery, Kolowna, is out of business. Campbell & Doherty, tailors, New Westminster, contemplate opening in Vancouver.

L. H. Jenns, insurance and real estate agent has opened in Victoria, representing the following fire companies: City of London, Atlas and United Fire, and city agent for Equitable Life.

BRITISH SALMON MARKET.

The London *Grocers' Gazette* of January 27th says: The Elginshire has arrived from San Francisco with a very small quantity of Alaska salmon, of which there are only a few hundred cases unsold. This is the first ship to arrive from San Francisco with Alaska salmon, and as the stock in London of this kind of salmon is very limited, with an insignificant quantity on the way here, and the ships from British Columbia cannot possibly arrive before the middle of April, or perhaps later, there is scarcely any likelihood of the very low prices now ruling being further reduced. Business for the season is only just opening up, and the demand is very fair without being brisk. Buyers seem to anticipate that prices will be lower, but it is more than likely, as just stated, that their expectations will not be fulfilled.

The Cutting Packing Co's circular, just issued, says of salmon: Trade in this article is of the most meagre description, a carload parcel now and then going out of warehouse to replenish the depleted stock of some jobber, but all of the business is of the "hand to mouth" nature, and, until some pronounced movement of general trade is apparent, conditions must remain the same. People who outside of producers are accustomed to handle the

article, are, according to all accounts, carrying very light stocks, and any revival of trade, such as is to be expected each spring, would cause a very general demand for the goods and would possibly favorably affect prices for sellers, as they are still on a low plane. Preparations are being made for the coming season by those previously interested in the packing of salmon, but prices are too low to offer any inducement for new plants to be established at the present time.

FRUIT CULTURE.

The fruit development of the Northwest received another impetus at the Convention held last week at the city of Spokane. Among the delegates from British Columbia that attended the Convention was Mr. G. W. Henry, of our own locality. Mr. Henry was immediately placed on the important Committee of Organization. The Fruit Association of this district will always be well represented wherever Mr. Henry is sent as a delegate. His knowledge of fruit, from the planting of the seed until it is marketed in the form of a delicious and paying merchandise, is extensive and comprehensive. Fruit is an important article of food to-day, and it is highly commendable to see the attention that is paid to its culture and development in the new Northwest and particularly in our own vicinity. Our Fruit Association has an important mission to perform during the next few years, and we trust that all the members will be alive to their duties. The generation that is now rising will bless the efforts now exerted to foster the growth and culture of such an article of farm product which is of such an incalculable worth to society at large. How often do we hear the children say, "It is a pity that our parents did not plant orchards here when they first arrived and began to cultivate this soil." Fruit trees grow like all other trees and there is no reason why our land should not be covered with them instead of the wasteless rubbish that in a great many cases cover large areas of it at present. The co-operation of fruit growers and the formation of such associations as ours were strongly endorsed by the Convention.—*Mission City News*.

FOREIGN COAL SHIPMENTS.

The following are the shipments for the week ending February 24:

NEW VANCOUVER COAL CO. SHIPPING.

Date.	Vessel and Destination.	Tons.
19.	Montserrat, str., San Francisco.	1,502
20.	Tacoma, str., Port Townsend	73
22.	Crown of England, ss, San Diego	3,502
Total.....		5,077

INVENTORS' RECORD.

The following list of United States patents, granted to Canadian inventors, Feb. 6, 1894, is reported expressly for THE COMMERCIAL JOURNAL by James Sangster, solicitor of patents, Buffalo, N. Y.:
Spade harrow, Joseph Drader, London, Ontario.

Injector, James, Morrison, Toronto, Ontario.

The C. P. R. traffic receipts for the week ending Feb. 21st, were \$586,000; during the same week last year they were \$339,000.

Considerable baled hay is shipped from Vernon to Revelstoke, which finds its way from there to Nakusp and sells at a very high figure.

The old established hardware firm of Messrs. Thomas Wilson & Co., Montreal, is in business difficulties and is endeavoring to effect a compromise at fifty cents on the dollar. The liabilities are \$25,000.

There is every prospect of a pork packing establishment being started at Vernon during the coming season. Such an enterprise would be the means of keeping a lot of money in the district which at present finds its way to the coast and other points.

H. B. Smith, C. E., has completed the work of procuring the necessary data upon which to calculate the cost of the proposed bridge across the Thompson River. The survey he made was most complete, including the depth and width of the stream and the material composing the substratum of the river, upon which the piers would rest.

The Vernon *News* says that the ranchers of Grand Prairie, Kettle river, have of late found a ready cash market for their beef cattle in the mining towns of S. W. Kootenay. They are driven over the old Kootenay trail to Trail. No market can, however, be obtained by them for general farm produce, owing to there being no wagon road or railways.

A telegram to the *Victoria Times*, dated Kaslo, Feb. 25, says: "Fire last night destroyed nearly all Front street between Third and Fourth streets, excepting three stores. All the business portion of the town is destroyed. Thirty buildings in all were burned, including all the hotels, excepting the Leland and Green Bros. and Wilson's stores. Other parts of the town escaped. Front street is the principal street in Kaslo. It contains a number of two-story frame buildings and a large number of small buildings, including real estate offices, restaurants and drug stores. There was very little insurance carried, the rates being very high. Most of the dealers carried very heavy stocks for a small town."

If a train moving at the speed of twenty-five miles an hour, were suddenly stopped, the passengers would experience a shock equal to that of falling from a second floor window; at thirty miles an hour, they might as well fall from a height of three pair of stairs, and an express train would, in point of fact, make them fall from a fourth story.

Metallurgy is tending to become one of the most efficient producers of manures in the world. Twenty years ago 20,000 tons of phosphoric acid were as poison to the 5,000,000 tons of cast iron which England produced, while English ships were ransacking the most distant regions of the globe for phosphoric acid for agriculture. The basic process has been the end of this anomaly.