

BUSINESS NOTES.

Wm. Wolf has started a cigar stand in Victoria.

C. Van Ness has opened an hotel at Rossland.

F. P. Armstrong, grocer, has opened at Vancouver.

Dalby & Claxton are agents in Victoria for the Auer Light.

Capt. Wm. Power, formerly of Vancouver has died in London, Eng.

Osmond P. Skrine, commission merchant, is starting at Vancouver.

S. A. Shatford is opening a millinery and dry goods store at Vernon.

Langley & Co., wholesale druggists, Victoria, are opening a branch at Vancouver.

Arch. Muir, grocer, Vancouver, is reported arranging a settlement with his creditors.

Fred Hill, succeeds Capt. Copp as manager of the B. C. Stevedoring Co. at Vancouver.

The Balmoral Restaurant and Hotel, F. W. Garland, prop., has been closed for a month.

George Leonard, Tailor, has opened in Victoria at stand formerly occupied by Wm. Schur.

Baker, Crawford & Co. succeed Baker Bros. & Co., importers and commission merchants, Vancouver.

Westminster Slate Co., L'd., is being wound up. John L. Jones has been appointed liquidator.

J. G. Brown, contractor, Victoria, has assigned to J. M. Malcolm. Meeting of creditors called for March 4.

Dr. Arthur, of Nelson and Dr. Herman of Vancouver, have gone into partnership at Rossland.

R. J. Wenborn, machine shop, Nanaimo, has sold business to John Shaw, and in future will conduct it as a lessee.

Wm. Sharp, hotelkeeper, Courtney, has assigned to Louis W. Farquier of Union. Meeting of creditors Feb. 28th.

The creditors of C. A. Lombard & Co., music dealers, Victoria, at a meeting held on 23rd, decided to continue the business.

John J. Bland has opened a boot and shoe shop in the Doane Block, Victoria, and has bought out Alex. Hutcheson same line.

The War Eagle Gold Mining Co., L'd., foreign; capital stock \$500,000, has been registered. Spokane is the head office of the company.

Chas. Russell, McDonald & Co., estate dry goods, etc., Victoria and Vancouver, have offered 25c on the dollar. Creditors meeting adjourned until March 6th.

The Nelson Saw Mill Co., will shortly put in a mill at Rossland.

R. B. Anderson, machinist, Comox, has added a power plant and machinery.

The Victoria Electric Light Co.'s works were seriously damaged by fire on Tuesday, February 26th. The loss is estimated at \$15,000 to \$20,000.

H. T. Scurry & Joseph Poirier, of Vancouver, have applied for a patent for a device to make secure glass globes on lamps. It is made of wire and fits on under the burner.

The Black Creek Hydraulic Mining Co., L'd., has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$300,000. Trustees are W. F. Salisbury, Edward Mahon and Johann Wulfssohn. Vancouver is the principal place of business.

The Bank of British Columbia have placed H. R. Ella in charge of the business and premises of the Sehl Hastie-Erskine Furniture Co., L'd, Victoria, under a chattel mortgage, executed on February 14th, for \$42,278 69. The Bank have also registered judgment for \$42,295.69, on February 19th.

B. F. Young, of Spallumcheen, is endeavouring to introduce a steam plow.

The Minister of Fisheries has decided to allow the Fraser River canners to use seines this year.

It is learned on reliable authority that the telegraph line will be pushed through to Alberni at an early date.

The Port Townsend *Leader* is authority for the statement that the San Francisco owners of the big Port Discovery mill, whose machinery has been idle for several years, have arranged for the outlay of \$100,000 in improvements and working capital, and that the mill will soon be operated to its full capacity of 300,000 feet per day.

Mr. Langdon, in the office of Mr. M. Wolfe, Insurance and General Agent, Johnston Block, has taken the trouble to analyse the Fire Insurance business on the Pacific coast for the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive, with the following result:

Eighty-five companies have done insurance business during that period. Of these 15 companies have increased their aggregate surplus \$3,042,000. Per contra, 70 companies have decreased their aggregate surplus \$16,487,000, showing a net decrease in surplus during the five years, of \$13,445,000.

The average reduction in surplus of the 85 companies, is \$185,176 each.

In the face of these figures Mr. Langdon contends that there is not the slightest truth in the oft repeated assertion that the insurance companies are making a large amount of money—the reduction in surplus indicates the very opposite.—*Nanaimo Free Press*.

FREIGHTS.

Grain rates are practically unchanged and as crop prospects in California are excellent, owners are not inclined to make concessions. Freights are quoted at 23s. 9d. for large carriers and 25s. 3d. for small, with the usual options.

Lumber freights from British Columbia or Puget Sound are quoted as follows: Valparaiso for orders, 42s. 6d.; Sydney, 32s. 6d.; Melbourne, direct 42s. 6d.; Port Pirie, direct 40s.; United Kingdom, calling at Cork for orders, 65s.; Shanghai 50s.; Tientsin 55s, nominal; South Africa, 63s. 9d nominal.

Coal freights from Nanaimo or Departure Bay to San Francisco, \$2.00 to \$2.25, to San Diego or San Pedro, \$2.50 to \$2.75, all more or less nominal.

SAN FRANCISCO COAL TRADE.

J. W. Harrison's San Francisco coal report dated February 16 says: During the week the arrivals from the coast have been 11,482 tons, from Australia and Swansea 12,581 tons. The imports this week have been very light, much less than has been consumed, still there is ample here to supply the immediate demand. There is no change of values from first hands, as freights from all sources remain steady, importers complain of the small margin left after paying cost, freight and duty; in fact it takes a very finely pointed pencil to calculate it, it is so infinitesimally small. Then the jobbers also complain that competition is so keen that although they buy closely, their profits are almost nil. Under existing circumstances the consumer is the benefitted party. There is no mercantile branch where so much capital is invested in large plants, and valuable stocks on hand, as the coal business, that shows so small a percentage of profit at the end of the year. With a few engaged in this line, and no probability of new comers, it is singular there is not more unanimity for the sustenance of values.

New names of vessels loading at Australia and Swansea have been added this week, so that enroute and loading combined there are over 110,000 tons listed from these two sources, all carrying coal only. With this quantity named, and considerable withheld, no scarcity of the good grades may be looked for.

FOREIGN COAL SHIPMENTS.

The following are the New Vancouver Coal Co's shipments for the week ending February 23:

Date.	Vessel and Destination.	Tons.
16.	Pioneer, str., Port Townsend	50
18.	Rapid Transit, str., Seattle	61
20.	Tacoma, str., Port Townsend	57
20.	L. J. Morse, ship, San Francisco	2,147
21.	Holyoke, str., Port Townsend	70
21.	Cyrus Wakefield, ship, San Francisco	3,237
22.	Wilna, bark, San Francisco	2,340
Total.....		7,932