

Furs of the Upper Yukon.

United States Consul J. C. McCook writes under date September 19—

Dawson is the central market for a vast extent of fur-bearing country, stretching from the Mackenzie Basin to the coast range and from the Porcupine to the Hootalinqua. In this area, perhaps, 1,000 men are engaged in hunting and trapping, exclusive of the Indians; and from Dawson, fully 40,000 peltries are annually exported to the great fur markets of London and New York. The industry yields a revenue every year of nearly \$350,000.

The season is now at hand when the hunters and trappers are moving their outfits to the various rivers and streams where they will winter, and men are leaving town almost daily for their long sojourn amid the "great white silence." In most cases the work of reaching their destination is of an intensely arduous nature, as they must

price, and in most cases dark-colored fur is worth much more than the lighter varieties.

The local dealers say the pelts in this vicinity are of better quality and obtain higher prices than those taken along the lower Yukon and on the Alaskan coast. The hair is softer and more glossy in appearance.

In varieties, marten are the most numerous, and black fox are the scarcest. The latter is the most valuable of all, a good pelt readily bringing \$300; and muskrat is the least costly, being worth only 4 cents.

The favorite rivers among the trappers are the Pelly, White, Stewart and Porcupine, while game hunters prefer the Klondike and Forty Mile, because of their accessibility to a ready market. The Big and Little Salmon, Hootalinqua, Chandler and Selwyn rivers are also frequented by many trappers, while a goodly band is scattered along the Yukon itself. The Peel and other

gray; number shipped, 25 to 40; price, \$100 to \$200; black; number shipped, 5 to 7; price, \$200 to \$300.

Lynx.—Mostly from along the Dalton trail; number shipped, 2,000; price, \$1 to \$2.50.

Wolves.—Black and gray, mainly near the mountains; number shipped, 2,000; price, \$1 to \$2.50.

The Similkameen Country.

Geo. R. Philip, of Princeton, B. C., talking to a Toronto Globe reporter a few days ago, says that great development is expected to take place in the Similkameen shortly. This valley lies south and east of Hope station, and a railway to open it up is almost assured for the near future. The Crow's Nest line, the southern division of the C. P. R., has reached midway, and a line is projected thence across country

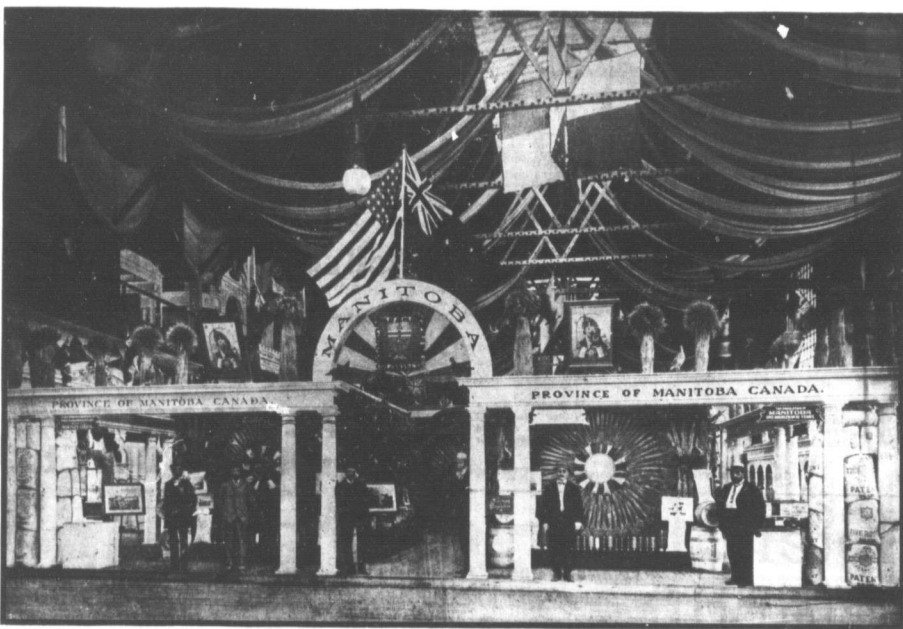
Kootenay Mining News.

Rossland, B. C., Oct. 28.—The ore shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending Saturday totaled 5,620 tons, made up as follows: Le Roi to Northport, 2,900 tons; Le Trail 1,840, Le Roi No. 2 900 tons. The total for the year to date is 242,378, and for the period since work was resumed on September 1, 25,070 tons.

Since work started 625 men have applied for work and this is approximately the number at present working.

The Nickel Plate mine is being unwatered and work will be resumed on Nov. 4. This will add substantially to the weekly shipments.

Grand Forks, B. C., Oct. 28.—During the week ending Saturday the Granby smelter treated 4,881 tons of ore, an average of 690 tons daily. This beats all previous records for the same period by 97 tons. The grand total to date is 243,075 tons.



Manitoba's Exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition, 1901

take their canoes to the head waters of the swift streams, make long portages, and penetrate pathless woods, but no hardships daunt these Yukon trappers, and they will deserve the success they so frequently achieve.

In the local fur market, London quotations govern. These are fixed twice a year—March and August—by a board of principal dealers in that city, and prices are gauged according to that basis in all parts of the world except Russia. The present rates, compared with last year's prices, show an increase on bear, beaver, otter and mink, with a decrease on silver-gray fox, marten, wolf and wolverine. On most other peltries, quotations are the same. A wide difference is often noted between the maximum and the minimum figures; this is due to variations in the grade and quality of the fur, and to the time of the year in which the animal was caught. For instance, pelts of beaver caught in the spring, just after the hibernating process is over, are worth much more than those secured in the fall, because their fur is soft and thick, instead of harsh and thin. In all pelts, winter fur commands often three times as much as summer fur in

streams flowing into the Mackenzie Basin are also considered choice trapping grounds.

The annual production of the different varieties of pelts, their market value, and special facts distinguishing their distribution are given as follows:—

Bear.—Black, silver tip, brown, grizzly and cinnamon; found all over the country from March to November; number shipped, 3,000; price, \$10 to \$25. It takes an exceptionally fine skin to bring more than the maximum figure.

Beaver.—On all streams, but chiefly numerous on White, Pelly and Stewart rivers; number shipped, 2,500; price, \$3.50 to \$7.

Mink.—On all streams; number shipped, 1,900; price, \$1.50 to \$3.

Marten.—On all streams; number shipped, 25,000 to 30,000; price, \$3.50 to \$12.

Otter.—On Pelly and along the Yukon, most of the pelts coming from below Dawson; number shipped, 200; price, \$4 to \$8.

Foxes.—Red; number shipped, 2,000; price, \$1.25 to \$2.50. Cross; number shipped, 650; price, \$3 to \$15. Silver

to Hope, and there are one or two other projects also on foot for supplying this valley with railway facilities. Some of its resources in ore are very rich. Within the boundaries of Princeton there is a fine bituminous coal deposit on the banks of the Similkameen river, with a fifteen-foot solid seam of what has been reported to be excellent coking coal. All around Princeton are minerals that require smelter treatment. In the Hope mountains at Summit City camp are rich galena ores, some of which run 200 ounces to the ton in silver. Copper Mountain, on the Similkameen, has a dyke of gold-copper ore from one to one and a half miles wide. The Sunset mine, the most highly developed in this range, is down 200 feet, and has done a lot of cross-cutting that has developed the fact that the ore is in great volume. To the northwest in the Nicola country, at Aspen Grove, and elsewhere there are deposits of native copper, peacock copper in white quartz, grey copper and borinite, all of which contain very high values. In the case of one property of grey copper ore a bond of \$60,000 was offered this season and refused by the prospective owners.

The wall paper factory of Colin McArthur & Co., Montreal, was completely gutted by fire on Monday.

The strike at the Montreal Cotton Co.'s mills at Valleyfield has been settled through the intervention of the Dominion government labor bureau.

**\$10.00
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