

**Lake Superior District.**

Fort William is agitating for better fire protection.

The C. P. R. workshops and other buildings at West Fort William will shortly be removed to East Fort William. It is also stated that the C. P. R. will also put up several additional buildings at East Fort William and make other improvements.

The latest discovery of silver is situated within five miles of Port Arthur and upon the property of a well known Canadian senator. This property is being professionally examined and placed under development by Mr. Walpole Roland, M. E., who is quite enthusiastic over the outlook.

The Government has shut down on patenting large tracts of land to single speculators. Hereafter everyone is to have a chance in the lottery. Some parties who already own quantities of land have been refused any more. The government did not begin this plan soon enough and even now it is easily got over by any speculator who is anxious for the land, by sending in the names of his friends instead of his own under an agreement that he would get immediate assignments from them.—*Sentinel*.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press noting the great variety of fish sold on the St. Paul and Minneapolis markets has the following interesting reference to the trout and white-fish of Lake Superior. It says:

Lake Superior supplies the trout and white-fish. Between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 pounds represent the annual catch in those waters, giving employment to between 250 and 300 men. Of late years whitefish have been scarce in the lake on this side of the international boundary line and appeared to have gone to the north shore. The results of the work of the fish commission in restocking the lake were, however, very visible last season as the water was swarming with small whitefish which will have attained this season such a size that they will be available for the market. Comparatively few people appreciate the Lake Superior whitefish at their true value. There is hardly any comparison between the fish of Lake Superior and those of Ontario and Erie, the fact being that the farther north you go the finer quality of whitefish you find. For instance, while Lake Superior whitefish are vastly superior to those caught in the lower lakes, they are greatly surpassed by those found in Lake Winnipeg, while these in turn would be pronounced greatly inferior in every way to the fish of Lake Athabasca in the far Northwest. But the white fish of Lake Superior are so good in quality that connoisseurs are loud in their praise. Englishmen who have been accustomed to the far-famed turbot and other boasted delicacies in the fish line have never failed to go into raptures over the peculiarly delicious flavor of the Lake Superior whitefish. The trout found in the same waters are of an excellent quality also.

**British Columbia.**

Vancouver City Council voted \$1,000 for the Seattle relief fund.

The Hudson's Bay Company are about to

erect a fine block at Vancouver on the corner of Georgian and Granville streets.

No tax will be imposed on commercial travelers doing business in a legitimate way and representing bona fide wholesale establishments by the New Westminster civic officials.

The National Electric Tramway Co. of Victoria are advertising for tenders for the construction of five miles of tramway at that place.

The New Westminster City Council have requested the Dominion Government to immediately appoint a county court judge for the city and district.

The San Francisco Bridge Co. has secured the contract for the construction of the bridge across the North Arm, connecting Lulu Island with the mainland. The cost will be about \$30,000.

In consequence of representations being made to the Express Company by the exporters of fresh salmon, that under the new rate it would put a stop to any further shipments, the old rate has been returned to, and the business will be continued as formerly.

Miners are flocking into Yukon mining district in large numbers, and the demarkation of the boundary line between Alaska and the British possessions becomes more necessary daily. The jurisdiction of the American Government there is questioned, many claiming the territory is British soil. The Canadian Government for a year or two past has been pressing the American Government to join with it in settling the disputed question. The cost of demarking the frontier is estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

The steamers Sardonix and Boscowitz both arrived from the north yesterday morning, the former only about two hours in advance. News is brought of a general strike among the Indians employed at the Skeena River canneries for an increase of pay. The men have been earning \$45 a month, and now demand \$50. They refuse to go to work until the increased pay is given to them. The Sardonix called at Queen Charlotte Islands on her way down, and took on board 100 barrels of salted skill for Victoria. At the largest island the Nova Scotia prospecting party have already commenced operations, which they expect will engage their time for nine months or perhaps a year. The canneries are still busy preparing for the run which has not yet set in.—*Colonist*.

The Inland Revenue collections at Victoria for the month ending May 31st, 1889, were:

Licenses.....	\$10 00
Tobacco.....	1,263 50
Cigars.....	1,143 90
Spirits.....	6,281 79
Malt.....	1,353 41
Rents.....	25 00
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	\$10,079 60
May, 1888.....	7,796 38
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Increase.....	\$ 2,283 23

The Customs collections for the month ending 31st May, 1889, were:

Duties.....	\$71,370 32
Miscellaneous.....	602 30
Chinese Immigration Act.....	235 50
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	\$72,208 12
Collections, May, 1888.....	71,527 78
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Increase.....	\$680 34

**Fur Trade.**

The Newfoundland seal fishery has been a success this year, all the vessels securing good supplies. The Ranger secured 38,000 seals, the Wolf 28,000, the Esquimaux 32,000, the Walrus 15,000, the Hector 15,000, the Neptune 30,000, the Panther 16,000, the Falcon 27,000, the Terro Nova 31,000, the Vanguard 19,000, and other vessels made similar turns, bringing the total catch close to half a million seals.—*Review*.

A survey of the past season, which is in order, reveals the fact that the most unfortunate event was the London January sale, owing to the course in driving prices so high that the bulk of the catch, which had not come forward at that date, was secured only by paying more than the value of the goods; in consequence of the higher prices paid here shippers to the March sale lost considerable money on some articles, notwithstanding the figures realized.

Local manufacturers have obtained their supplies at moderate cost, but very few firms have purchased sufficient stock to last through the season. The market has been pretty well cleared of raw furs; and though prices are somewhat lower than they were a month ago, the general tone is strong, and an early demand will be likely to cause a healthy reaction.

There has been a good demand for seal; sable, mink and marten are in excellent request, and have a promising future. skunk and choice raccoon have also sold very well. Pale beaver is scarce, and otter has not accumulated as in former years; lynx, natural and dyed, continues in good request; muskrat is not over-abundant, and may bring higher prices. Persian and astrakhan are in better demand than heretofore, but values rule so high that buyers are purchasing carefully. Black dyed hares and coney continue to sell at about cost.

Taking everything into consideration, prospects are gratifying, and a good season is confidently anticipated.—*Review*.

**Montreal Butter Market.**

Receipts, 1,723 packages during the past week ending June 5th, 1889. Dealers now find it difficult to keep their floors clear, and as supplies are beginning to accumulate, prices have a downward tendency. Sales of May creameries are reported at 19c at factories, and dealers are offering to deliver here at 20c, without finding buyers. Local buyers are offering to contract at 19½c to 20c. New American creamery is being offered here at 15½c to 16c in bond, but it appears to be too high to induce business to any extent. Advices from Newfoundland report the market there in a terrible state of demoralization, receivers of old American creamery having had to resort to auction sales in order to dispose of it, as fears were entertained of its keeping quality, after the warm weather set in. Eastern Townships dairy is selling at 17c to 19c, and western at 14c to 16c as to quality. Offerings west of Toronto are quite liberal, and sales have been made there at very low prices. There is no export demand. The receipts of rolls are increasing and large packages are very difficult to sell, although offered at low prices, sales being reported at 14c to 16c as to quality and packages. Creamery, 19 to 20c; Eastern Townships, 17 to 19c; Morrisburg, 17 to 19c; Brockville, 17 to 19c; Western, 14 to 17c; Rolls, 16c.—*Bulletin*.