

the vessel's hull and to enable this to be done provides a suitable braced tube having a curved lower end through which compressed air or other fluid may be discharged, which clears a passage under the vessel for a light line which, when the clearing operation is finished, is discharged through the tube and having a light buoy at its free end, rises to the surface on the other side of the hull and enables a stronger line to be passed through suitable for hauling the lifting slings by which the vessel may be raised. This device contains several ingenious features fitting it for the work it is required to perform.

To enable the position of the sling to be correctly located, the same inventors have also designed a submarine telescope having electric searchlights which will enable the condition of the work to be examined from the surface as it proceeds.

Mr. Brittain begs to notify his clients and the general public that he has moved his office from the Bank of B. N. A. Building to more convenient and suitable quarters in the Fairfield Block, Granville Street, at the corner of Pender Street, opposite the post office.

#### THE LUMBERING INDUSTRY.

**I**N an interview published in the *Rosland Miner*, Mr. John G. Billings, manager of several sawmills, estimated that the exports of lumber from East and West Kootenay this year will not fall short of 200,000,000 feet; and this output, he added, is likely to be further increased next year by the addition of several large mills to the number of those now in operation. Lumbering is commencing, in fact, to rival mining in the Kootenays in point of importance and rapid growth. In the Kootenays in point of importance and rapid growth.

In the Revelstoke district, the Arrowhead Lumber Co. is besides is sawing some 20,000 feet a day. It is the intention to get out three million feet of logs this season. The new mill is to be equipped with a stock gang of forty saws. Another mill is also to be erected, of 60,000 feet capacity at Trout Lake. Lumbering, the Revelstoke *Herald* remarks, is at present the great industry on the Upper Columbia River and will certainly assume ten times its present magnitude ere long. From Carnes Creek to Canoe River there is an immense growth of timber along the Columbia River and its tributaries. This timber consists mainly of cedar, but there are also considerable quantities of fir, spruce and pine, though much of the fir has been destroyed within the past few years by some fungoid disease. Montreal investors are reported to have just purchased several limits at Bigmouth Creek; American investors have been dealing for limits above Death Rapids, and negotiations are proceeding for the sale of the 30,000 acres between Goldstream and Bigmouth for \$750,000, or at the rate of \$25 an acre, including the freehold title to the land, much of which, when cleared of timber, will become valuable for agricultural and pastoral purposes, as these blocks include some of the most fertile lands in the Province.

In connection with the export of lumber to Cape Town and South Africa good news has been received by Coast lumbermen. It is to the effect that a preferential tariff is being considered, and is likely to pass the Cape Legislature shortly, which will put British Columbia lumber on the favoured list. A preferential tariff will be made on imports from points within the British Empire, and this will mean that the big lumber trade of Cape Town and ports in Cape Colony and South Africa generally, which has heretofore been divided with mills of the United States, will hereafter come to British Columbia. It is expected that the B. C. mills, aided by the new tariff to be imposed when the legislation passes the South African House, will be able to secure all the business of the growing markets in the south of Africa.

#### THE SALMON CANNING SEASON.

The salmon fishing season in northern waters closed early in August, the results this year being far from satisfactory, only about half the average pack being reported. On the Skeena River the eleven canneries put up approximately

80,000 cases; three canneries on the Naas, 8,000 cases; four canneries on Rivers Inlet, about 70,000 cases, and one cannery at Alert Bay, 15,000 cases. The Fraser River season has also been unsatisfactory, but the returns are not yet in. Mr. G. I. Wilson, secretary of the British Columbia Packers' Association, expresses the opinion that the great falling off in the catch of sockeyes on the Fraser River is without doubt due to the fact that there are not sufficient hatcheries on the river to maintain the supply. Personally he is in favour of the Americans being allowed to contribute toward the establishment of more hatcheries on the river. He also favours the limiting of fishing licenses hereafter. This year there are licenses for 3,100 boats on the Fraser River and Gulf. Mr. Wilson avers that 2,000 boats only should be allowed to fish. He believes that with the curtailed number of boats the canners would receive as many fish as they do now, and furthermore he thinks that the fishermen would have better catches.

We have since learned that the Fraser River pack to date is 177,992 cases.

The following telegram has been sent to Ottawa by the Canners' Association:

*"Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.*

"The Fraser River Canners' Association, in view of the lamentably short run of sockeyes on the Fraser River, and their entire absence from the spawning grounds, respectively pray that your department will prohibit all fishing on the Fraser from August 29 to September 12, inclusive, in order that the balance of the sockeyes remaining outside may be enabled to reach the spawning grounds and the hatcheries get some supply of spawn. If close season is not ordered, future industry seriously threatened. Immediate consideration and favourable reply requested in the interests of the canners and of the fishermen.

(Sd.)

W. D. BURDIS,

"Secretary."

#### TRADE PROGRESS IN CANADA.

**I**N the year 1880 the aggregate trade of Canada amounted to \$174,000,000; in 1888 it was \$202,000,000. By 1896 it had advanced to \$239,000,000; in 1901 it was \$396,000, and this year it reaches \$424,000,000. These figures are noteworthy, not only for their size, but for their relative increase in two decades.

The change in the character of our exports is an element to be borne in mind. Years ago the great item of Canada's export was lumber and timber, ranging from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 a year in value. In 1873, it constituted one-third of all our home export; in 1881, 31 per cent, and as late as 1892 32 per cent. while the item of animals and their products, which attained such large proportions in recent years, was then quite subsidiary. For the last few years, two divisions of our export trade, live and dead meat, including dairy and field produce, have surpassed forest products in export value. Minerals form a much more considerable item of our outward trade. Exports of these last year, \$34,497,000, were ten times what they were 20 years before. Our fishery product has developed, too, and manufactures shipped abroad have made strides which are illustrated if we compare the \$16,000,000 and \$18,000,000 of manufactures exported in 1901 and 1902 with the \$3,000,000 of 1882 and the \$6,000,000 of 1892 under the same category.

The character of our import trade varied somewhat in the last twenty years. In 1882, out of total imports amounting to \$111,145,000, we bought \$50,356,000 worth from Great Britain and \$47,006,000 worth from the United States. To-day out of total imports of \$196,000,000 we buy only \$49,000,000 worth from the Old Country and \$114,740,000 worth from the States. That is to say, the proportion of our purchases from Great Britain was 45 per cent. in 1882, and 25.36 per cent. in 1902, while from the United States it was 42.33 per cent. in 1882, and has grown to 58.4 per cent. last year. Almost half these purchases from the States, however, were raw materials