

BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON

Prospects Are That This Year's Pack Will Be Considerably Decreased.

Though the Improved Quality Will Equalize Its Value—Talk of Pooling.

It is impossible to make an absolutely accurate forecast of the total pack of salmon this season, but from advice received up to the present time from every fishing point on the coast it is safe to predict that the pack will be fully one-third less than that of last year. The quality, however, will be excellent, nothing but the sockeye salmon being put up; and from several causes prices will be from 15 to 20 per cent. higher than last year.

On the Fraser river, where 75 per cent. of the British Columbia catch is secured, the fish have as yet hardly commenced to run. Whether the immense amount of fresh water consequent on the recent floods has carried with it debris objectionable to the fish it is impossible to say, but comparing the catch up to the present with that of the corresponding period of last year, the falling off in the number of fish caught has been fully 50 per cent.

On the Skeena river, where last season 10 per cent. of the British Columbia pack was secured, this season is about up to the average, and the canners expect to send down some 60,000 cases. At Rivers Inlet, the Nana Canning Co., has gone out of business, but the others expect to do better than last year. On the Naas, at Lowe Inlet and at Alert Bay, the catch so far has been insignificant, and their pack will not out a very prominent figure in the returns.

Last year the total output of the British Columbia canneries was 590,229 cases, and from present indications the season which ends on August 25 of this year will see about 400,000 cases ready for the market. A combination of the big London buyers has been formed to purchase the entire output of the Coast, but it is doubtful whether they can succeed in their object. At the first intimation of a pool being formed prices hardened everywhere, and in London salmon went up nominally sixpence a case. The first move of the combination was the purchase from the Alaska Packing Co. of large lines of last year's and this season's catch at 15 shillings per case, the intention evidently being to force the rest of the canneries to join the ring.

Robt. Ward & Co., Ltd., who last year handled 132,241 cases, or about 25 per cent. of the whole British Columbia pack, have advised their London principals that it would be unwise to enter the combination, as the Eastern market is dull, with few transactions, and the Australian trade, though showing an increased demand, is still very small. They consider that this season's pack, being of excellent quality and limited in quantity, will naturally command a fair price on its merits without being forced up in the market by the formation of a pool. Last year's exports were as follows:

	Cases
Liverpool.....	308,381
London.....	148,525
Eastern Canada.....	114,728
Australia.....	8,836
Local sales and stocks on hand.....	11,391

A NUN ABDUCTED.

MARCHESTER, N.H., July 21.—The city was thrown into a state of great excitement yesterday afternoon by the forcible abduction of a nun on Elm street, the main thoroughfare of the city. The kidnapping took place in front of the Kennard, the biggest business block in town, and was witnessed by thousands of people, hundreds of whom followed the kidnapper and his victim to the passenger station uttering threats of the direst character. Nearly four years ago there came to this city from Lowell a dark-haired and beautiful young woman named Mary Fay. Her parents are among the wealthiest Catholic residents of Lowell, and her brother, Hon. Peter A. Fay, is a leader of the Middlesex county bar.

The victim was Miss Mary Fay, aged 23, and her abductor was her lawyer brother. When the young woman came to Manchester she entered the celebrated college attached to Mount St. Mary's convent. She became imbued with a desire to become a nun and retire from the world in the local convent. She has been pursuing a course of teaching of a year and a half at the Manchester training school with this point in view, and having graduated this term she on Monday took the white veil as being the first step in the course she had marked out for herself.

Her relatives have been determined during all this time that she should not enter the convent, and her brother has been particularly bitter, compelling her on a recent occasion, it is said, to sign a promise that she would never thus immolate herself. In answer to this she said she was not under duress, she did not regard it as binding, and on Monday turned her back on her family and joined the institution to which she had dedicated her life. This seemed to madden her brother, and he determined to cure her of her folly, as he evidently viewed it, peacefully if he could, forcibly if he must. Accordingly he put in an appearance at the convent yesterday and demanded an audience with his sister, saying that their mother had come to this city from Lowell with him and was lying at the office of the Granite State Provident Association in a dead faint. Another brother is employed by this association, which gave an air of plausibility to the story.

The sisters procured a carriage and in company with another nun, Miss Fay started for the Kennard, where the Granite State Provident is located. When they reached the sidewalk in front of the building Fay was there. Mr. Fay grasped his sister around the waist, snatched her bodily from the hack and shouted: "Your mother is dead or is dying, but she is not here; she is at home in Lowell, where you are going." The young woman endeavored to shake off her captor, but it was no use. He clutched her firmly by the arm and started down Stark street toward the depot. The crowd surged in about him and there were cries of "where is the police?" and "send for an officer."

Fay's blood was up and he was in no mood to stand resistance. Clinging his sister by the arm he shouted: "This is my sister, and I am taking her home. I will fill the first man who lays hands on me or her." At this the crowd fell back. Word was hurriedly dispatched to police headquarters, and when Fay showed up at the passenger station there was a posse of officers, headed by Inspector O'Dowd, and a crowd of thousands awaiting him. Fay had lost none of his grip. The officers demanded that he give the girl up. "Ask her whether she goes with me willingly or not," he shouted. The police accordingly addressed the young woman, and she replied promptly: "Yes,

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sooner than have any more trouble I will go with him." "That settles it," declared Mr. Fay emphatically, "and I will now thank you," addressing the police. "To clear away this mob and let us pass." A curious crowd surrounded the struggle, but, however, until their departure on the 31st of October try. It is not believed that Miss Fay will stay in Lowell, as she evidently went with her brother to prevent a scene. The affair has caused a tremendous sensation.

WINNIPEG WIRINGS.

WINNIPEG, July 21.—(Special)—A hail-storm passed through Yorktown, N.W.T.; several crops and gardens being totally destroyed.

While playing a game of football at a picnic at Morden, Donald Ainsley slipped and fell on the knee of one of his companions causing a rupture of the intestines from which he died.

The Winnipeg summer exhibition opens on Monday and promises to be a great success. The number of entries is largely in excess of last year.

H. E. Ketcheson is under arrest for the murder of nightwatchman Corrigan, of the N. P. bridge, on Tuesday night. Bail has been refused.

A carpenter named Robinson was injured by the Kildonan electric car, on Thursday night.

A Northern Pacific exhibition car has arrived to remain during fair week.

While a young man named Sword was going down the river in a punt, at Brandon, he found a pall containing the body of a newly born babe.

The recent discovery of Dr. Eseljay is the best remedy for biliousness and all stomach and liver troubles. While regulating the digestive system, Eseljay's Liver Lozenges act as a tonic and do not weaken like pills. They are the best family medicine on the market. 25 cents at all druggists.



ROYAL COMMISSION.

The following report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into certain matters concerning the Nakusp & Slocan Railway is published for general information.

By Command,

A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,

Dep. Provincial Secretary.

REPORT.

To the Honourable Edgar Dewdney, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia:

We, the undersigned Commissioners appointed by the Commission of the twentieth day of April, 1894, to inquire into certain matters therein mentioned, concerning the Nakusp & Slocan Railway Company, have the honour to report that the manner in which that inquiry has been made, and the evidence taken therein will appear by the record of the proceedings of the Commission, which we have the honour to submit herewith.

It will be seen from the notes of evidence, that, though full notice was given of the time and place of sitting, and also, in our opinion, sufficient intimation that the reasonable expenses of witnesses would be repaid to them through the Commission, no one has thought fit to appear in support of the accusations.

The only person from whom we have received any assistance in this direction has been the Hon. Robert Bevan, M.P., who, though not responsible for making the charges, brought forward some facts upon which he suggested the absence of certain might have relied.

These were: first, irregularity in acting upon the Statute of 1885 before it had actually been brought into force, which could only be done by an Order in Council.

But this seems, though an irregularity, to be quite inadequate to support the charge of corruption against the Minister. The Statute of 1885 was brought into operation by an Order in Council almost immediately afterwards. The whole transaction has been confirmed and ratified by the Statute of 1894, and the irregularity, so far from demonstrating that the Minister was then the agent of the Company, points distinctly in the opposite direction, since it would have been the first care and duty of such an agent to see that everything was in order.

And secondly: Mr. Bevan pointed out that in the opinion of many persons, the undertaking which the Statute of 1885 imposed upon the Government, in lieu of that under the Statute of the former year, was so manifestly disadvantageous, that it was to be inferred that it could only have been introduced and supported through corrupt motives; though it must be added that he did not make such a charge.

It does not follow, of course, that a bad bargain must be a corrupt bargain. An honest Minister, with no motive or desire except to serve his Province, might make a mistake. We do not wish to suggest for a moment that any such mistake has occurred in the matter into which we have been inquiring. On the contrary, we think that under the evidence adduced, and the arguments addressed to us, only one conclusion is open to us, and that is that the arrangement for the construction of the Nakusp & Slocan Railway which was ratified by the Act of 1894, is more advantageous to the Province than the arrangement contemplated by the Act of 1885, and we have had no difficulty in arriving at that conclusion. But, however that may be, on the issues more directly submitted to us by the Commission, there we think no room for doubt, and we find as follows, that is to say:—

Firstly: That the Honourable the Premier of the Province, in advising the guarantee mentioned in the said Commission, did not work for the Company, but worked for the Province;

Secondly: That the statement made by the Honourable Member for Nanaimo District, in his place in the Legislative Assembly, that it appeared that the Honourable the Leader of the Government had been working for the Company and not for the Province, is not true;

Thirdly: That no corrupt motives of any kind existed with or influenced Your Honour's Ministers in the advice tendered by them to Your Honour in relation to the Nakusp and Slocan Railway Company;

Fourthly: That no one of Your Honour's Ministers has had, or has, any interest, directly or indirectly, in

(a) The Nakusp and Slocan Railway Company; or

(b) In the Construction Company by which such railway is being built; or

(c) In any contract by or with either of the said Companies, either in furnishing materials or supplies, or in any way whatsoever.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated the 15th day of May, A.D. 1894.

MATT. B. REDDIE,
GEO. W. BURBIDGE,
Commissioners.

FROM THE DAILY

THE

The Canadian-American steamer sailed from Sydney Friday.

The half yearly general meeting of the Victoria Building Society was held on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Joseph Dwyer, a resident of Victoria, at her husband's request, died at 9:30 to St.

In Chambers yesterday Mr. Wilkes, an order amine plaintiff and defendant, in the case of Messrs. Eberts & T. Messrs. Bodwell & Irvin.

Rev. J. E. GARDNER, among the Chinese, signed his position in or work in China, to which shortly remove with vacancy here created by being filled very shortly.

W. PAYNE, the unfortunate who was the victim of a fatal accident, is doing as expected at St. Joseph's hospital is now not thought to be in any danger, and it will be several weeks before he will be again able to resume his duties.

It would appear that the over the campaign lies The Times of last evening from a correspondent at which states that Premier public political meeting noon at Three Forks. It is will be several weeks before he will be again able to resume his duties.

Messrs. Lawson & B. of the City Brewery on dissolved, and the brewer; Mr. Bennett has for with Mr. John Leahy of ery, Johnson street, and Leahy & Bennett will at at Johnson street as the Breweries, Amalgamated.

There is no longer a body found off Macaulay that of the unfortunate who was drowned with the sloop Undine captured on Foot and Henry Thompson the body by the old found in the pocket. A last evening, when a verdict in accordance with the fact.

MARY TROY, who was Paterson's bridge by the couple of days ago sick condition, refused to remain hospital and went to the Kaffee on Collinson street. Her condition has been made to after. She is evidently of fainted something dreadful down to her in the hospital creature whose heel was a the winter.

THIS is the last day the B.C.G.A., will remain to-night they break camp return to town. A church held this morning, when, Engineers and Royal March to St. Saviour's of divine service. The fits at the marine artillery will the parade. A prize is to be nearest kept tent in the Peters, D.A.G., being the

CAPTAIN NEWTON B. C. in 1882 made at the wilds of this province and auspices of the British ment; again in 1884, visited lands of the Queen Charl and in 1885 published "Ocean," under the patronage government, is again in just returned from the Mission at San Francisco. The the World's Fair, London has acted as special British missioner, and exhibited his of Northwest prehistoric material. These fill the upholding will commence Museum to-morrow, City having decided to press museum. The value of the many hundreds of dollars.

No. 1 COMPANY of the surprised the men of No. 1 about 10:30. The friendly one, but was dedicated for the boys who have been Macaulay's point during the telephone message from the camp that an "enemy" was them, and in order to make secure the defenders were strong out-posts and occupations of advantage all around the main road. The men of No. 1 marched yards of the main guard were. As the camp was mercy the visitors piled arms remained in the camp. The men of No. 1 marched the men of the two companies a good time. The captured tained their captors right a half hour spent in singing ship the men of No. 1 marched thoroughly pleased with the

A REVIVAL of the interest finding of good mineral a year has been brought about recovery on the 13th instant showing to whom exactly the belongs. A stock company formed to develop the claim as the "Daisy." The capitalization at \$12,500, in which 100 will be reserved situated in section 2, Range the north side of the back front. Samples of the mineral, assayed by Mr. H. P. Golden, on the 9th inst., that it averages to the ton in gold, \$4.70; and in copy other words its estimated \$1,023.54. In some places fully six feet deep, but which inspected indicated is still the coating of the rock city ordinary hammer. An into to the finding of the claim John Sandercock, the organ company, Cornish man, was on board H. M. S. J. while here on leave some Mr. Pasco, another Cornish Cariboo miner. Both were to soon leave for England, first going, having made being careless as to what he asked Sandercock if it was tention to return. Getting affirmative he told him of after some months searching in finding, and which is soon make his fortune.