

The extremely dry weather has been very bad for bees, and it is thought that the supply of honey will be very limited this year. Bee-keepers around St. Thomas say their bees will not make enough honey to keep themselves over winter, and will have to be fed.

English markets last week were not favorable to an export cheese trade. Montreal exports were, however, fairly large, amounting to 57,435 boxes, or 3,442 boxes less than the shipments of a similar period, 1894. During the season 527,077 boxes cheese have been exported, while to a similar date last year 601,260 boxes had been sent across the Atlantic.

Latest advices are hardly favorable to the growing crop of Valencia raisins. While it is thought that the crop will be of fair size, the general opinion seems to estimate it less than the yield in 1894. Prices will range about the same as last year. Stocks of old fruit are not large in this city, and will probably be about exhausted when the new crop arrives.

It is well for the lobster packers that they live many hundred miles from Toronto, as merchants here are very indignant at the tardy arrival of 1895 goods. If promises had been fulfilled the new pack should have been on the market ten days ago; it has yet to arrive. It is estimated that P.E.I. packers put up only 35,000 cases this year, as against 50,000 cases a year ago.

The present season has witnessed an upward turn in the export butter trade. Last week's shipments from Montreal amounted to 2,917 packages, or just 464 packages more than the total shipments of 1894 to date. The bulk of the week's shipments was carried by the steamer "Dominion," which vessel took 2,408 packages to Bristol. Shipments to date, 1895, are 7,384 packages as compared with 2,453 packages during same period last year.

Peanuts are likely to be scarce—but this is not of so much moment to Canadians as to Americans. Growers were discouraged by poor sales and low prices in 1894, when the crop was 1,000,000 bags above the average, and the acreage under cultivation in Virginia was much curtailed. The same causes that have produced the advance in cotton and wheat, remarks the *New York Journal of Commerce*, are said to have been at the bottom of the recent improvement in peanuts. However, present prices are still about a cent per pound below the figures ruling at this time a year ago.

The street is almost bare of prunes. It is true that the months of consumption are past, but present supplies will not be sufficient to supply even the limited demand during the next two months until the arrival of new stock. In New York we understand there are abundant supplies, and two weeks ago the dealers of that city were said to be carrying 6,000,000 pounds of two to four year old Turkish prunes. Latest advices from Trieste indicate a larger crop of Bosnia prunes than previous reports had indicated. Prunes are now selling in Toronto at 6 to 6½c.; the opening quotation of the season was 4½c. per pound.

The executive committee of the Canadian Fruit Buyers' and Exporters' Association met in Toronto last Friday afternoon. J. M. Shuttleworth, of Brantford, occupied the chair, and there were present: W. S. Dixon, Hamilton; David Cantelin, Clinton; J. C. Smith, Burlington; Samuel Nesbitt, Brighton, and J. A. Cooper, secretary and treasurer. The outlook for prices of fruit is not very good; most of the crop will have to be marketed in Canada. A letter from London states that the crop of apples in England is the best seen in years. The same advices come from the continent of Europe and the United States. In Canada there will not be half a crop.

MINING PARAGRAPHS.

The result of the partial clean up at the Nelson Hydraulic Company's works at Forty-Nine Creek is between \$4,000 and \$5,000 for 120 hours' work.

New Denver, B.C., is quite excited over rich strikes on Springer Creek. From the I.X.L. mine samples were taken running \$105 in gold and 774 ozs. silver.

A rich iron deposit has been located on the farm of George James, near Merrickville. The *Belleville Intelligencer* says an American syndicate has offered Mr. James \$2,000 for mining privileges, and a guarantee to place 500 men at work at once.

The roasting capacity at the Slocan smelter not being great enough to keep the stack running on full time, more furnaces have been ordered from the British Columbia Iron Works, Vancouver. The Sky-line will ship twenty-five tons a day of ore to the smelter. Seven hundred tons now (July 16th) on the dump at that place will be shipped immediately.

Some one has sent us a newspaper published in Rossland, B.C., a new and busy mining town of British Columbia, which is attracting

merchants from elsewhere in the province. For instance, Wm. Martin and S. A. Shatford, of Vernon, went down on the "Lytton," Thursday. They are bound for Rossland, where they will inspect the prospect of opening branch stores. And J. C. Campbell, furniture dealer, of Vernon, returned from Rossland the other day and is so favorably impressed with the town that he intends opening a store there.

Just as we are going to press, says the Nelson, B.C., *Miner*, of 13th instant, news of the find of a valuable ledge on the Spillimichine River reaches us. It is reported to be twelve feet wide with an iron capping, which lower down gives place to free milling gold quartz. Six assays have run from \$17 to \$170 per ton. The ledge can be traced for 9,000 feet. The district has been known for some time to contain low grade galena, and the spot where the new find has been made is a favorite camping ground for prospectors on the Bugy-a-boo Creek, about four miles from the junction of the Spillimichine and the Columbia.

Referring to what is said by the Kootenay *Mail* about the grand way in which the Government at Ottawa talks about the C.P.R. being a part of the Imperial highway round the world, "while yet there are three disconnected bits of railway in the Kootenay country that begin nowhere and lead to no place in particular. As a consequence, what is probably the richest mining region in the world, the property of Canada, is not in touch with the C.P.R." The *Miner* sarcastically observes: "This is all very true, and we think that it will be much better when all these bits of lines are joined up, but we can hardly lay the fault at the door of the Dominion Government. It is doubtful if that body knows where the Kootenay is." What a pity the Government is not rich enough and good-natured enough to oblige each mining town with a railway.

MUNICIPAL MEMORANDA.

St. Thomas tax rolls for 1895 exceed those of 1894 by \$4,500.

The Executive health officers of Ontario meet this year in Belleville on the 14th and 15th of August.

The by-law granting the privilege to the Stadacona Water and Light Company of supplying water, sewerage and electric light to the village of Huntingdon, Que., received the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 10th inst.

The transfer of \$20,000 New Westminster street improvement bonds has been completed, and the money is now in the Bank of British Columbia to the credit of that city. By the sale \$22,022 was realized, or a fraction over 110 for the bonds, which were purchased by the London and Canadian Loan and Agency Company, Ltd., Toronto.

The building of the town and fire hall has virtually been knocked on the head for this year, says the *Carleton Place Herald*. The lowest of the tenders was some \$5,000 in excess of the estimate, consequently nothing can be done. The council are of opinion that a suitable building to answer the town's needs cannot be put up for the figure estimated, and the ratepayers are to be asked for a further grant of \$5,000.

The people of Petrolia have for years desired a supply of pure water, and at one time a company was formed and got a franchise to supply it, but failed to find a supply. Early this year a committee of the council and prominent citizens was formed, the council made a grant of \$500 for testing and exploring, and at last a bed of good water has been found in a natural basin under Blackstock's farm, 4½ miles east of the town. The flow in the test shaft is nearly 200 barrels per hour. Mr. John Scott, chairman of committee, has been most energetic in the work. He has secured an option on the land, and wants to put down a 40-foot shaft at once.

Vancouver has a ratepayers' association, which looks after municipal affairs. This body finds out and recommends proper men for city aldermen, and, we presume, discourages the election of improper men. At a meeting of this body the other day, Capt. Mellon gave it as his opinion that the committee as a whole should submit a platform to their candidates for acceptance, so that the public might really know the position occupied by the latter. The secretary, Mr. Prentice, agreed with Capt. Mellon. He pointed out that quite a number of important questions would soon demand consideration, apart from the police investigation, with respect to which the attitude of the association was unequivocal, such as the Northern Pacific bonus and electric lighting for the city.

—Announcements are now made of the dates of several of the great Canadian fairs. The Western Fair begins on September 12th and lasts till September 21st; the Provincial Exposition for the Province of Quebec lasts from September 12th to 21st; and date of the Toronto Industrial is September 2nd to 14th. The date of the Central Canada exhibition at Ottawa will be from September 20th to 28th; of the Central exhibition at Guelph from September 17th to 19th.