

### British Columbia.

A. Holnott, hotelkeeper, Victoria, has assigned.

Haynes Bros., bakers, Victoria, have dissolved.

Nelson will have a weekly mail service this winter.

C. Whetham & Co., real estate, etc., Vancouver, have dissolved.

J. G. Pomeroy, of Vancouver, has opened a furniture store in Centreville.

O'Toole & Ralph, stoves, tinware, etc., Vancouver, contemplate dissolution of partnership.

King, Dyer & Co., fruit, etc., Victoria, have dissolved; Charles King will continue the business.

McEdwards & Co., hotel, Vernon, have dissolved; the business will be continued by Tronson & Brewer.

The bark Hamburg, was loading lumber from Morse's saw mill, at Vancouver, for Chili last week. She takes upward of 1,000,000 feet.

The British Columbia Tannery Company have put in the necessary machinery at Nanaimo and have begun the manufacture of boots and shoes for the trade.

The Victoria Electric and Illuminating Company has been reorganized, the capital increased and a new directorate appointed. M. Hutchinson continues as superintendent.

Eight cars of stock were recently shipped to New Westminster from Kamloops. Forty head of these were for Nanaimo, sixty for Victoria and the balance for Westminster.

The discovery of reputed good placer ground at the headwaters of the Salmon river has caused not a little excitement at Nelson. Claims for three companies have already been staked out and next spring will probably see a rush of miners to this locality.

The Fairhaven road will be in running order from Sedro, Washington, to New Westminster, where it connects with the Canadian Pacific, by Dec. 15. This, in connection with the Lake Shore & Eastern, will give a through rail line from Seattle to the Canadian Pacific.

A mining commission consisting of J. M. Kellie, M.P.P. for West Kootenay, Geo. Cowan, ex-M.P.P. for Cariboo, William Wilson, of Victoria, and G. B. Wright, of Hot Springs, Kootenay, will meet in a few days to discuss the necessary amendments to the mining laws of British Columbia.

The manager of a prominent ranching company in that province estimates the total number of cattle in British Columbia at about 80,000 head. The consumption of beef in the coast cities amounts to about 11,000 head annually, and in the interior about 5,000. The range cattle are now in fine condition and a mild winter is anticipated.

A representative of the Revelstoke Smelter Company was in Vancouver recently for the purpose of purchasing from the Smelter syndicate of that city the ore they will take out of the mines at Field during the winter. The works of this company have been closed down for some time, but operations will be resumed again shortly.

A war is imminent between the New Vancouver Coal Company and the Wellington mines. Already a cut of \$1 per ton has been made on Wellington coal, it now being offered

at \$7. To meet this cut the New Vancouver Company has lowered theirs to \$6.50. More reductions will follow these and consumers may expect cheap coal for some time.

Operations are being commenced on the New Westminster electric lighting plant with a view of having it running by January 1st. The contract was let some time ago to the Royal Electric Company, of Montreal. The arc lamp has been decided upon for street lighting and arrangements will also be made for furnishing incandescent lamps to stores and dwelling houses.

A deputation of Victoria business men waited on the Mayor and council of that city recently, with a view of ascertaining whether some action could not be taken to afford protection to the local traders who pay licenses, rent, taxes, wages and living expenses, and just at the season of the year when there is a prospect of doing a fairly profitable trade are entirely superseded by the itinerant auctioneer, who on the payment of \$50, gets the privilege of doing a business of \$25,000 or \$30,000. The council acknowledged the justice of the request and promised to do all in its power to remedy the evil.

A map of New Westminster district, including all surveys up to the present time, and also embracing roads, post offices, and all other general information, within the large area delineated, is being prepared by the engineering and surveying firm of Messrs. Hill & Kirk. They also expect to include in this work the results of the exploratory surveys sent out by the Provincial Government during this year. Early next year, Messrs. Hill & Kirk intend having the map published and ready for distribution. It will be a much more complete map of the district than any yet published.

The Vancouver World says: For some time back negotiations have been in progress for the consolidation of the ranching and butchering business of Van Volkenburg Bros. into a joint stock concern, and that has now been consummated. The firm have carried on business successfully for many years in this province. The sale of their ranches which are situated in the Nicola and Chilcoten districts, and of their wholesale and retail meat stores in Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster, was consummated recently, the British Columbia Cattle Company being the purchasers. The various properties are very valuable, and it is understood the new company will greatly increase the number of stock on the ranches, and introduce sheep raising, while the killing and sale of meat will be continued as before. Mr. R. L. Cawston, one of the members of the company, will take the active management of the concern.

The Montreal Herald in commenting on the fruit canning industry of British Columbia says: "Our Pacific province has for some time been celebrated in the edible line for her salmon, both fresh and canned, which, since the advent of the Canadian Pacific railway, has been largely imported into Ontario and Quebec, but British Columbia bids fair to be a strong rival in more than her supply of famous salmon. A new enterprise, a small shipment of which has arrived lately in Montreal, and met with an extremely rapid sale, consisted of canned cherries and plums. These goods have been put up by D. J. Munn & Co., of New Westminster, and are branded as famous Pacific fruit from the Fraser valley. They are of the finest

quality, and competent judges claim that no finer canned fruit has ever reached the city. This is claiming a good deal, but the old saying that the proof of the pudding is the eating of it, can be easily verified by tasting the green gages and cherries which some of the largest grocery houses in the city have obtained through Lockerby Bros. Munn's agents here. The prices are also nearly 25 per cent. less. Some of the largest fruit farms on the Fraser river are situated near Chilliwack and Delta, where peaches, pears, apricots, plums and cherries grow to a large size, and of fine flavor and quality. Next year all these varieties are to be canned, and a large market in the east is anticipated.

### The New Tariff.

A new tariff on grain, flour, oatmeal, mill stuff, flax seed, oil cake, potatoes and hay to Port Arthur went into effect last week. It also applies to the M. & N. W. branch. From Winnipeg to High Bluff the rate is 21c to Port Arthur; from High Bluff to Alexander it is 22c; from Gravelly it is 23c; from Oak Lake it is 24c; from Routhledge and Virden, 25c; from Hargrave, Flkhorn, Fleming, 26c; from Moosemin, 27c; from Red Jacket to Grenfell, 28c; from Summerberry to Qu'Appelle, 29c; from Qu'Appelle to Moose Jaw, 30c; from Boharin to Swift Current, 31c; from Leven to Dunmore, 32c; from Stair to Calgary, 33c.

On the Deloraine branch the 21c rate holds to Thornhill; the 22c rate then comes into effect as far as Boissevain; while at White-water and Deloraine the rate is 23c. A 21c rate applies all along the Emerson branch. On the Glenboro branch there is a 21c rate to Carman; a 22c rate from there to the end of the track. Beyond Glenboro there will be three stations, Stockton, Treesbank and Vanapolis. On the Souris line there is a 22c rate from the latter place to Melita, when the line is completed to that point. On the M. & N. W. there is a 22c rate to Rapid City and Basswood; a 23c rate to Newdale; a 24c rate to Strathclair; a 25c rate to Shoal Lake and Kellie; a 26c rate to Solgirth and Birtle; a 27c rate to Foxwarren and Binscarth; and a 28c rate on the rest of the line to Binscarth.

On the Prince Albert branch there is a 32c rate from Lumsden to Aylebury; a 33c rate from Craik to Hanley; a 34c rate from Dundurn to Hague; and a 35c rate from there to Prince Albert.

### Grocers Want Shorter Credit.

A telegram from Montreal, dated Dec. 4, says: "Representatives of the wholesale grocery trade from various parts of Canada are in session here. Terms of credit to the retail trade and similar topics are being discussed. The term of credit is important to the trade and is one of the bones of contention with the retail men. Hitherto four months' time has been given on general groceries and sixty days on sugar, molasses, canned goods and fish. The shortening is three months for general groceries and thirty days on sugar and that class—an allowance at the rate of twelve per cent. for the unexpired term being made in either case for cash payment. The terms proposed are not so short as those in the States." It is understood the wholesale grocery firm of Lightbourn, Ralston & Co. are vigorously opposing the movement.