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### British Columbia Paragraphs.

(The following items came to hand too late for our last issue:—)

The S.S. Delaware has decided to run from Vancouver to Chilliwack direct.

Every effort so far has failed to raise the wrecked steamer San Pedro near Victoria.

British bark Thermopylae has been chartered to load a cargo of rice puddy for the Victoria rice mills.

Dr. Hickingbottom has purchased the livery business, owned and conducted by B. Bartlett, Chilliwack.

The tramp steamship Mascotte has arrived from China and Japan with a cargo of freight and 100 Japs on board.

A company is being formed under the Limited Liability Act, to incorporate the Parisian Store company, at Northfield.

The Empress of India on Sunday sailed for China and Japan with a small cargo of freight and a large number of passengers.

Ramsay Bros & Co., proprietors of the Vancouver Canning Co., have decided to erect larger premises for their business.

The Nanaimo soap factory is now in full running order. The building is completed, the necessary machinery has been put in. Mr. Bowen is manager.

The Chilliwack council have decided to commence operations on the Big Prairie, shortly. It is also expected that the dyking of Sumas will be proceeded with at once.

It is understood that Thomas Thompson, the well-known contractor, has secured the contract for the new C.P.R. general offices, Vancouver, at a figure not far from \$160,000.

Cope & Young have bought out the stock of dry goods, millinery, etc., belonging to A. Richardson, Vancouver, late of Nanaimo, and are disposing of it in a sacrifice sale.

A gentleman named Worren, who does a big business in Tacoma in the galvanized iron line, has bought out Mr. O'Toole, Vancouver, plumbing and galvanizing iron works, and will conduct it on a large scale.

McKelvie & Co., the three members of which were connected with the Vancouver foundry and machine works, have established another machine shop in Vancouver on Westminster avenue. They are commencing modestly and will increase their plant as business justifies.

Victoria merchants are very interested in the project of George Lycurgus, the Honolulu fruit merchant who proposes to put on a line of British steamers between British Columbia, the Sound, and Honolulu in the fruit and passenger trade. Mr. Lycurgus is confident that a good trade can be built up.

The C. P. R. Co'y., it is understood, is about to undertake the erection of cattle sheds in

Vancouver, the want of which was for a long time felt. The company is also going to change the location of the freight sheds at Vancouver, and place them at the foot of Pender street, near the round house and machine shops.

J. B. Williams, owner of the famous Lucky Jim mine in the vicinity of Bear Lake, Slokan, has made a sale with Joseph Young, of Seattle, for \$40,000. The vein has been cross cut, and twenty feet below the discovery point it is said to be thirty feet wide. The vein is one of the largest in the Slokan, and shows a large body of ore in the second extension.

A strike, which is attracting considerable attention in Kootenay, has been made some distance south of Silver Queen. The name of the claim is the Anchor, located by Gay Nelson. The choppings were small, but by stripping the lode a considerable body of ore has been discovered, its character being somewhat similar to the surface croppings of the Kootenay Bonanza.

Startman, Ashfield, Cameron & Sanders are said to have struck a big thing between the head of Wilson creek and the north arm of the north fork of Carpenter creek. The ledge is traceable over two claims, and varies in width from two feet to twenty feet. The ore is free milling silver ore, and runs very high. The vein is a true fissure in porphyry and granite. The two claims are the Dolly Varden and Archie.

### The Grain Markets.

The grain trade has reached the end of one of the most disastrous crop years, to speculators and shippers, that has been experienced during the last decade. And, so crippled by their losses have the importers of Europe become, and so loaded down with stocks, that had cost much higher prices, that there is little prospect of more than a hand-to-mouth demand from the other side for the coming crop year. Indeed, speculation for foreign account in our grain markets, has almost ceased, instead of being the chief element as it has been the past few years. From being the best informed people in the trade, as is usual, they have been the worst deceived the past year, as to Europe's deficit and the world's supply; and they have anticipated wants that have not been found to exist, and are left with a larger surplus of old crop on hand, at the beginning of the new, than since old times, before the grain-carrying trade of the world was done by steam, requiring the carriage of large stocks. This applies, as before stated, chiefly to food products, or wheat and flour and not to feed stuffs, or corn and oats. We are now back to nearly old bottom prices, in force prior to the last two years of short crops, here and in Europe, respectively, and the outlook to the agricultural interests, for the coming

year, are but little better than they were on the last big crop year previous to last, when, for the first time, in the history of this country, they were so large, as to be a curse to the producer, who could not, except under favored circumstances, realize the cost of production; and, the more he had to haul to market, the poorer he was. This will not yet apply, as stated above, to corn and oats, which are still bringing remunerative prices to the farmers. Wheat, also, is not yet back to the lowest figures, prior to the short crop of 1890; but flour of the lowest grades has gone below the bottom figures of that period, and the European markets are overloaded with purchases made months ago, for forward shipment, at prices from 15 to 25 per cent. or more over present figures, and new business for export on flour, except for special high grade for England, and for the West Indies and South America, has been at a standstill for the past month. The price of corn has already begun to follow that of wheat, under the improved prospects of an average crop, while oats and other grains have sympathized. The tendency on all is to still lower prices, unless damage occurs between now and harvest to the crops of this country or of Europe.—H. A. Pierce in New York Banker's Magazine.

### Indian Wheat Shipments.

The exports of wheat from India during the last three shipping seasons form the subject of a Government report, which, like most other statistical intelligence, has its values and its dangers. Thus the news that Indian wheat had been imported into Belgium to the extent of 8,600,000 bushels against a previous maximum of 4,349,000 bushels is doubly significant, for Belgium buys largely for Switzerland and Germany as well as for her own market, and the increase argues that Germany as well as Belgium is satisfied with Indian wheat. On the other hand, the rise in Egyptian imports from 3,088,000 bushels to 9,072,000 bushels is quite deceptive. Egypt is only the nominal destination of most of this grain, and the rise from three to nine millions argues no more than the increased convenience found to exist in a "halfway house," where grain can be arrested on its passage Europe-wards and directed by telegram to the port where value shows best current appreciation of Indian wheat.

Italy, as we learn from the same return, takes from 700,000 to 1,980,000 bushels of Indian wheat, while French purchases have a still greater range, from 2,333,000 to 11,250,000 bushels. Neither Italy or France is likely to be an extensive buyer of Indian wheat during the cereal year on which, with Sept. 1 next, we shall be entering. The prohibition of Russian exports in 1891 greatly favored Indian trade.—London Mark Lane Express.