

British Columbia Brief Business Notes.

The New Westminster Board of Trade has memorialised the Dominion Government respecting the improvement of river navigation, the removal of the bar at Annacis Island, and the construction of the Mud Bay Canal, and urging the need of a new drill shed. The board has been also investigating the sturgeon fishing industry and has sent certain recommendations about the size of fish to be caught, etc. Several alterations were also suggested in the insolvency act.

R. H. Scott, foreman of the New Vancouver Coal Co.'s Northfield mine, and one of the best known mining men in the district, died on Thursday last.

The C. P. R. is now receiving freights for points in the Kootenay district. Navigation has been resumed on the Upper Columbia river, from Golden to Windermere, Fort Steel and Jennings, steamers have also resumed regular trips from Revelstoke to Nelson, Kaslo, New Denver, Nakusp and Spokane Falls.

The New Westminster board of trade has sent a protest to the Dominion government against the free admission of American lumber.

Ten car loads of salmon were shipped to the eastern markets from New Westminster this week.

C. T. Williams, late manager of the B. C. Jute and Cooperage Co., died last week.

Jas. Wilson has opened in boots and shoes at Golden.

Poole & Co., speculators, Vernon; advertise going out of business.

E. J. Fader & Co., has opened business as wholesale fish dealers at Vancouver.

W. T. Jackson, publisher, Chilliwack, succeeded by The Progress Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd.

Judson Elson, hotel, Fort Steele, sold out to R. L. Galbraith.

Van Houten & Randle, hardware, Nanaimo, dissolved; W. J. Houten continuing.

Grant & Co., saw mill, Union and Wellington, Wellington business closed.

Kirchberg & Landsberg, pawnbrokers, Victoria, dissolved; F. Landsberg continuing.

A Vancouver exchange says:—Last season over \$100,000 worth of cattle died from cold and starvation on the ranches of British Columbia. This year the same result was anticipated, and butchers placed their orders in the fall with Calgary ranchers for May and June delivery. The same results did not obtain however; the weather was mild and during the whole winter no cattle were lost on the ranches of British Columbia. At the present time the province has more cattle on hand in good condition than will supply the provincial markets without assistance from over the mountains.

At the meeting of the British Columbia Southern railway company held Friday the old board of directors were re-elected. F. B. Pemberton and H. E. Smith were added. John Hyde, of Montreal, was appointed auditor. The election of officers was deferred.

The following is the value of exports from the consular district of Vancouver to the United States during the quarter ending the 31st March: Curios, \$428; exhibits, \$3,159; fish, \$39,933; furs, \$1,777; lumber, \$1,551; general merchandise, \$831. Total, \$50,729.

On May 1 the Canadian Pacific Company's new steamship schedule for the summer season goes into effect, the Empress of Japan sailing for Oriental ports, to be followed by another Empress on May 14.

The B. C. Horticultural Association will hold a meeting at Mission City on May 1.

The tug Mogul, the ownership of which has been changed from the Puget Sound Tugboat Co. to the B. C. Tugboat Co., is to be registered as a British bottom.

Philip Sontell's shingle mill, Vancouver, has been burned down.

Thomas Booth, billiards, Nanaimo, contemplates adding fruit and confectionery.

Ralph Craig, blacksmith and carriages, Nanaimo, auction sale of carriages advertised.

Sloan & Scott, dry goods and millinery, Nanaimo, opening branch at Wellington.

James McDonald & Co., furniture, Nelson, assigned to Wm. A. Jowett.

E. Phair, hotel, Nelson, has given up here, moved to Kaslo.

James Atkinson, butcher, Northfield, assigned to Wm. Paterson.

F. Canonica, grocer, Northfield, assigned to K. K. Peiser.

French Bros., fruits and confectionery, Vernon, sold out.

A. J. Palmer & Co., fruits and confectionery, Vernon, opened.

Benj. Carter, hotel, Victoria, dead.

Ideal Grocery and Provision Store, Victoria, opened; W. Blakie in charge.

Victoria Theatre Co., Ltd., Victoria, property sold at auction, 16th inst.

A. A. Roak has taken D. A. Lethbridge into partnership in his real estate and insurance business.

The British ship Benmore reached Victoria on Tuesday, after a smart passage of 115 days from Liverpool. She has a general cargo for Victoria and Vancouver.

The Bear Lake Consolidated Mining company is a new corporation just registered. Its object is to develop the Snowshoe claim in the Slokan district of West Kootenay. The capital stock is placed at \$500,000, in \$5 shares, and the business headquarters are at Victoria. The first trustees are George Riley, Gustav Leiser and Gordon Hunter.

Late Western Items.

J. Y. Griffin & Co., wholesale produce merchants and packers, Winnipeg, have moved their office and wareroom to McDermot street west, in a portion of the block formerly occupied by Thompson, Codville & Co.

A. D. Ferguson, late of Regina, is opening a drug store at Wolsely, Assa., on May 1.

E. O'Kelly, who will manage the Northern hotel, Port Arthur, Ont., this year arrived on Wednesday. The Northern will be opened for the season on May 1.

W. G. McMahon, formerly a well known traveller for a Winnipeg house, has branched out in business in Winnipeg as manufacturers' agent and commission merchant. Among others he represents Wm. Buck, stove manufacturer of Brantford, Ont., Peck, Banny & Co., metals, etc., Montreal; the Patterson manufacturing Co., building paper, Montreal, and others. He has opened in the building on McDermot street west, formerly occupied by Thompson, Codville & Co.

J. Thompson, books and stationery, Port Arthur, Ont., is opening a branch at Fort William.

The assessor reports the population of Brandon to be 5,076.

The tobacco business conducted by Keut & Co., Winnipeg, corner Bannatyne and Main Streets, has been transferred to the charge of C. Y. Gregory.

The extensive lumber piles of the Ontario & Western Lumber company, Rat Portage, were reported on fire by a telegram received this morning.

One of the rooms in the Bell Telephone Co.'s exchange, Winnipeg, caught fire Friday evening and in a few minutes damage to the extent of several thousand dollars was done to the wires and appliances.

Brayfield & Smith, auctioneers and commission merchants, intend starting in business at Brandon.

Ball & Co., drugs, Elkhoro, have sold out to Dr. Goodwin.

J. F. Waddell, planing mill, intends starting in the above line at Newdale.

Head & Bossoms, contractors, Portage la Prairie, have dissolved partnership.

A. Edwards & Co., furniture, Portage la Prairie; reported sold out to D. McKillop.

John McDonald, butcher, has opened business at Strathclair.

H. Roberts has opened a general store at Strathclair.

W. R. Lynn, picture framing, etc., opened in business at Winnipeg.

J. Carnahan, wagon maker, Fleming, Assa., being closed out.

Mrs. T. B. McAlpine, fruit and confectionery, Moosomin, Assa., contemplates resuming business.

McArthur & McDougall, flour and feed, Moosomin, Assa., sheriff in possession.

McCurdy & Tucker, blacksmiths, etc., Moosomin, Assa., dissolved partnership.

W. Service, blacksmith, Whitewood, Assa., reported moving away.

Governor Mackintosh has proclaimed Thursday, May 10, a public holiday throughout the Territories to be observed as an Arbor day.

The premises of Laporte, Martin & Co., wholesale grocers, Montreal, were destroyed by fire on Friday. The loss foots up to \$150,000.

A contract has been signed by the Philadelphia Engraving Co., of Philadelphia, to erect a smelting works plant at Hamilton, Ont. for a local company. The contract price is \$360,000 and the works are to be in running order by the first of January next.

President William J. Thomas, of the Ontario Brewing and Malting Co., acting for an English syndicate, has purchased the property of the Davies Brewing and Malting Co., of Toronto. It is understood the price paid is in the neighborhood of \$250,000. The syndicate will spend \$50,000 in improving the machinery and go in extensively for the manufacture of lager beer.

Joseph Lalonde, of Winnipeg, has invented a new style of syringe, which is known as Lalonde's automatic combination cushion syringe. It is claimed to be the best syringe on the market, and it certainly possesses some unique and valuable features, being quite different from any other syringe made. A syringe is a good thing to have—in fact, a necessary thing in every household. The article should certainly have a large sale, and only requires to be seen to be appreciated. Druggists should see it.

The steamship Miowera, the pioneer steamer of the Canadian Pacific-Australian Pacific route has reached the river Tyne, England, having steamed 14,500 miles from Vancouver in sixty days. She is being fitted out with the latest things in steamship refrigerators, which will be capable of holding eleven thousand carcasses of frozen mutton. She will also be fitted out with a chilled fruit storage compartment, before returning to the Australian Canada route.

A cable from London on April 26 says:—Emigration to Canada throughout Great Britain, which declined 64 per cent. during the month of March of this year as compared with the corresponding period of last year continues to decrease, though the St. Lawrence route is now open. So far this month the departures from Liverpool have only been one-quarter of the number as compared with April of last year. Emigration experts here say that the bottom has been completely knocked out of Canadian emigration. This, they claim, is partly due to the increased and excessive steamship rates and also to the revival of the British rural life owing to the extensions of local government, the bad reports of things generally, which are received from Canada and the low prices of wheat, but, besides these reasons, the experts say there must be some other unexplained reasons for such a remarkable decrease. They all agree that it is a most foolish thing for Canada to do to diminish her exertions in the direction of securing good immigrants.