

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Michigan peach growers report that enough buds escaped the frost to give a full crop.

Fire destroyed 750 barrels of smoked fish at the British Columbia Fish Company's warehouse at Vancouver last week.

A recent shipment of 2,500 barrels of apples from the apple house at Bridgetown, N.S., to London, netted over 20s. per barrel.

The supply of canned vegetables in Canadian markets is running low. Retailers will have some chance of disposing of long-held stock.

That the Australian meat export business was a prosperous one last year is indicated by a dividend of ten per cent. paid by one of the largest export companies.

The Whyte Pork Packing Company, who are moving from Mitchell to Stratford, are putting up new building and expect to be able to handle 3,000 hogs per week.

Jean Jolicoeur, a Quebec man, who has been investigating the United States market, will raise frogs for export. This industry is carried on in a small way in New Brunswick.

All the Halifax cornmeal mills except those of A. Gunn & Co., and Cunningham & Curren, have closed down. These two mills will supply the others at reduced rates. Greater supply than demand caused the deal.

Spice dealers report that 30 per cent. of the clove trees in Zanzibar have perished and that the crop is not likely to exceed 73,500 bales per annum for the next seven years, as against an average yield of 105,000 bales.

The Simcoe citizens and Norfolk county farmers, who organized a \$200,000 joint-stock company to build a pork packing factory, have discovered that \$100,000 will be enough to start with, and will re-organize on that basis.

The results to date of the present winter's codfishery on the West Coast of Newfoundland have been unsatisfactory; fish were fairly plentiful, but owing to continuous stormy weather and the usual scarcity of bait, the catch is much curtailed.

The Sublime Porte has returned an evasive reply to our Government's protest to its exclusion of the American hog, says an American paper, and "stronger language will be addressed to the Sultan by our Government next week" if he does not change his mind.

One of the signs in the grocery store announced: "Raspberry jam, 25c. the jar." "Ah!" said Mrs. Newliwed, "isn't that jam jear?" "Beg pardon?" exclaimed the grocer. She tried it again. "I said isn't that dam dear?" Then she blushed vividly and retired in confusion.—Jersey Clarion.

A new company, composed largely of wholesale grocers, has been incorporated to absorb the interests of the Aylmer Canning Company, and to go extensively into the manufacture of canned goods. The provisional directors are: W. H. Gillard, George E. Bristol and Alexander Turner, of Hamilton; J. F. Eby, and William Ince, of Toronto, and David Marshall and J. J. Nairn, of Aylmer; the capital is to be \$250,000. It is expected the new company will also go largely into the manufacture of pickles.

—A man named Evangeliste Joly is under arrest in Montreal, and the police think that in him they have captured the clever burglar who on three different occasions robbed the C. P. R. station at Joliette, Que., securing in all \$16,500. The first robbery of the series took place in 1896, when \$6,000 was taken from the safe; a year later another \$3,500 followed, and there was no clue to the robbers. In 1899 came the third robbery. The station agent, who was also the express agent, had been changed, and the new man took extreme precautions. One night a parcel containing \$7,000 for the local branch of the Banque Nationale arrived, and the agent, afraid to trust to the oft-tampered-with safe, hid the money around the premises. Next morning it was gone. Pinkerton's were set to work, and on Saturday, Joly was arrested. He was well armed, and a search of his house showed it to be a veritable arsenal. The evidence against him has not been made public, but it is said that

while apparently a poor man he made a large deposit immediately after one of the robberies, and that in paying for a lot he bought he used some of the missing money.

—Encouraging accounts have come from Rossland within the week stating that a number of miners in the Le Roi mine resumed work last Saturday morning in a body, and the making of contracts would be gone on with this week. Similar methods of contracts would be gone on with this week. Le Roi will be followed in War Eagle and Centre Star mines. Le Roi now has plenty of stopes open to begin producing ore on the old scale, as soon as the mine is in full operation. The same account says that the Iron Mask mine is likely to continue shipping about a carload a day; the Evening Star, and I. X. L. will also ship from two to four carloads a month, each. Whatever decrease shipments may show on account of stoppage of supplies from War Eagle and Centre Star, are likely to be made up from the other mines which will come forward into the ranks of regular shippers. These include the Josie, the No. 1, and the Nickle Plate, which are putting up hoists for the purpose. Nay, more, the opinion is even ventured that before War Eagle and Centre Star have resumed shipping ore, other mines mentioned will have run up the weekly output of the camp to what it was before the shut-down that made such a scare.

—On Wednesday of last week the village of Kuskanook, on Kootenay Lake, B.C., was virtually destroyed by fire. It was midnight when the fire broke out in the Windsor Hotel, and soon four other hotels, two stores, a saloon, and in fact every business place in the village fell a prey to the flames. The inhabitants were driven from their homes with but little clothing on. A request was made by the authorities for bedding and clothing, both which, along with money and food, were promptly sent from Nelson and Rossland. There was no water to fight the flames with—the place, like many others in that region, having no fire appliances. Nor is there any insurance.

—On Tuesday last the Private Bills Committee in the Legislative Assembly confirmed the agreement of the Lever Bros. Co., limited, with the city of Toronto, to which we lately called attention, on condition that not more than \$60,000 should be expended on improving the Don river, and not more than \$1,500 per year in maintaining the same. The representatives of the city contended that as the Don improvements had been commenced years ago this expenditure should not be construed to mean a bonus. That view appears to have prevailed, for no consideration is given, as proposed, to the other firms here already engaged in the manufacture of soap.

—Sir William Macdonald has given another \$200,000 to McGill University to be devoted to enlarging the teaching staff and equipment of the chemical department of that seat of learning. McGill is one of the glories of Montreal, adding to her fame all over the world. And men like Lord Strathcona and Sir William Macdonald, giving cheerfully of their great wealth to further the permanent greatness of Montreal by building up her educational and philanthropic institutions, are setting a noble example.

—The new mining bill to be brought down by the Ontario Government will provide for the abolition of all royalties on mines in Ontario and the substitution wherever is seen fit of a mineral tax on the gross output on the following scale: Iron ore, 50 cents a ton; zinc, \$5 a ton; copper, \$2 a ton, or \$25, if the ore is partly treated or reduced; nickel, \$10 a ton on ore, and \$60 if partly treated or reduced; all other ore rates not to exceed 5 per cent. of the selling price thereof in a free market.

—A branch of the People's Bank of Halifax was opened last week at Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia, under the management of Mr. H. E. Rudderham.

—Having to go to press on Thursday morning this week, by reason of the Good Friday holiday, we are unable to give our usual Bank Clearing House figures.