

fraction over 45.50, and since then the advance has been practically continuous. The outlook at present is regarded as decidedly satisfactory and no re-action is immediately anticipated.

Copper has been fairly active, but prices have remained largely unchanged. The latest quotations are Lake, 12% to 12¾; electrolytic in ingots, cakes and wirebars, 12½ to 12¾; cathodes, 12¼ to 12¾; casting copper, 12¼ to 12¾. The *Engineering and Mining Journal* states that the statistics for the first half of October show a decrease in the visible supplies of 600 tons. The American lead market is quiet and no change is reported. The price quoted in St. Louis is 4.25 to 4.32½; New York, 4.35 to 4.40. The average price in New York last month was 4.243. English lead at the close of October was quoted at £11 3s. 9d. Spelter has receded to 5.30, St. Louis; 5.45 New York. Spot metal, however, is somewhat scarce.

DECISION OF THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

FOLLOWING is an official digest of the decision of the tribunal: The decision of the tribunal is made up of answers to the seven questions contained in the twenty of 1903 constituting the tribunal.

First question—What is intended as the point of commencement of the line?

Answer—The line commences at Cape Muzon.

Second question—What channel is the Portland Channel?

Answer—The Portland Channel passes north of Pearse and Wales Islands, and enters the ocean through Tongas Passage between Wales and Sitklan Islands.

Third question—What course should the line take from the point of commencement to the entrance of Portland Channel?

Answer—A straight line to the middle of the entrance of Tongas Passage.

Fourth question—To what point on the 56th parallel is the line to be drawn from the head of the Portland Channel, and what course should it follow between these points?

Answer—A straight line between Salmon and Bear Rivers direct to the 56th parallel of latitude.

Fifth question—In extending the line of demarcation northward from said point on the parallel of the 56th degree of north latitude, following the crest of the mountains situated parallel to the coast until its intersection with the 141st degree of longitude west of Greenwich, subject to the condition that if such line should anywhere exceed the distance of ten marine leagues from the ocean, then the boundary between the British and the Russian territory should be formed by a line parallel to the sinuosities of the coast, and distant therefrom not more than ten marine leagues; was it the intention and meaning of said convention of 1825 that there should remain in the exclusive possession of Russia a continuous fringe or strip of coast on the mainland, not exceeding ten marine leagues in width, separating the British possessions from the bays, ports, inlets, havens and waters of the ocean, and extending from the said point on the 56th degree of latitude north to a point where such a line of demarcation should intersect the 141st degree of longitude west of the meridian of Greenwich?

Sixth question—If the foregoing questions should be answered in the negative, and in the event of the summit of such mountains proving to be in places more than ten marine leagues from the coast, should the width of the lisiere which was to belong to Russia be measured (1) from the mainland coast of the ocean, strictly so-called, along a line perpendicular thereto, or (2) was it the intention and meaning of the said convention that where the mainland coast is indented by deep inlets, forming part of the territorial waters of Russia, the width of the lisiere was to be measured (a) from the line of the general direction of the mainland coast, or (b) from the line separating the waters of the ocean from the territorial waters of Russia, or (c) from the heads of the aforesaid inlets?

Required no answer after the fifth question had been answered in the affirmative.

THE MOUNTAIN LINE.

Seventh question—what, if any exist, are the mountains referred to as situated parallel to the coast, which mountains when within ten marine leagues from the coast are declared to form the eastern boundary?

Answer—The majority of the tribunal have selected the line of peaks starting at the head of Portland Canal and running along the high mountains, on the outer edge of the mountains, shown on the maps of every survey made in 1893, extending to Mount Whipple and thence along what is known as the Hunter Line of 1878, crossing the Stikine River about twenty-four miles from its mouth, thence northerly along the high peaks to Kate's Needle, from Kate's Needle to the Devil's Thumb. The tribunal stated that there was not sufficient evidence, owing to the absence of a complete survey, to identify the mountains which correspond to those intended by the treaty. This contemplates a further survey of that portion of the two governments. From the vicinity of Devil's Thumb the line runs to the continental watershed, thence through White and Taiya or Chilkoot Passes, westerly to a mountain, indicated on the map attached to the treaty as 6,850 feet, thence to another mountain 5,800 feet and from that point in a somewhat curved line across the head of the Glaciers to Mount Fairweather. This places the Canadian outpost on the upper water of Chilkoot River in British territory and the mining camps of Porcupine and Clacier Creeks in American territory. From Mount Fairweather the line passes north on high peaks along the mountains indicated on the map by Mounts Pinta, Ruhama and Vancouver to Mount St. Elias.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS AND PROGRESS IN VANCOUVER.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

THIS month brings many new developments in the lumber industry, showing that the activity of the operators is on the increase. American speculators are purchasing timber in the vicinity of Vancouver; others are about to erect mills, and large owners are about to interview the Government to have their timber holdings transferred to spruce limits that they may engage in the manufacture of pulp.

Two thousand acres of timber land situated on the north arm of Burrard Inlet, were purchased recently by Americans. The relative inaccessibility of the area is considered as rather a drawback, but to overcome the difficulty of high slopes, long and steep chutes will be constructed to convey the timber to the water.

Messrs. Small & Buckland, of Ithaca, New York, are establishing a new lumber mill in New Westminster, having a capacity of 50,000 feet per day.

Those interested in the Western Pulp and Mill Co. are endeavouring to induce the Government to grant a transfer of their present lease to one giving rights over spruce limits. Both Victoria and Vancouver people are concerned in this undertaking, and if they are successful in obtaining the concession, the manufacture of pulp will be proceeded with on a large scale.

The activity of British investors in pulp undertakings on Princess Royal Island has had not a little to do with the interest taken locally in the project. Col. Mellis and Mr. E. Youlle, a member of the London Stock Exchange, are engaging Mr. W. A. Bauer, of Vancouver, to prepare plans for this mill, and have asked him to make all possible haste. This enterprise will mean an expenditure of \$500,000, and while the mills will be established on Princess Royal Island, the Coast cities will benefit to a large extent. The promoter of this enterprise is Mr. J. J. Palmer, of Toronto, formerly interested in the Marble Bay mines on Texada Island.

In addition to the new cedar mill about to be constructed on the south shore of False Creek in Vancouver by Messrs.