

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, May 19, 1896.

Business is still brisk and collections fair. Preparations for the canning season have commenced and trade in the supply line is increasing. The lumber trade was not so brisk last week. The Vancouver market is becoming quite an important feature of trade. A suitable steamer is to be chartered to run between Chilliwack and Vancouver.

There are several changes in the market. The winter dairy butter from Manitoba is practically a glut on the market and commission merchants do not care to quote Manitoba dairy until the spring grades come in. The market is chiefly supplied by California dairy at 20 cents. Potatoes are being sold for almost anything offered, the best Ashcroft going at \$5. Trade is very dull in the flour and feed line, one dealer stated that in the rush for business firms had been selling at cost, or a little under, so that the old and reliable institutions were not at present pushing for business.

British Columbia Business Notes

F. Adie, hotel, Wauata, is out of business.

Hugh Mann, freighter, of Sandon, has assigned.

The machinery for the Chilliwack creamery has gone forward.

Jacob Haxenfratz, saloon, of Victoria, has sold out to Geo. E. Fisher.

The Pacific Varnish Co., of Vancouver, has sold out to Blackburn & Co.

Joseph Matty, fish, of Wellington, is reported to have left town.

H. A. Hicks, hotel, of Lauvers Landing, has sold out to P. Shirley.

Madden & McGarry, hotel, of Burton City, are succeeded by Shewan & Hector.

Vancouver is to hold a flower show on the Hotel Vancouver lawn on the 30th of July.

The bailiff is in possession of the stock of T. W. Bucklee, paints, etc., Wellington.

Reports from all districts in British Columbia indicate that the fruit crop will be very large this season. Therefore, Manitoba, if she so desires, will be well supplied with British Columbia fruit.

The Langley Creamery Co. are promised Government support when 50 per cent of the stock is subscribed. The stock is being paid up with that end in view, when operations will at once commence.

The Pacific Casket Co. was burned down two years ago, loss almost \$30,000. There was some misunderstanding about insurance from the Scottish American Assurance Co., of British Columbia. A jury yesterday awarded plaintiffs in suit \$1,500.

Persistent rumors are in circulation that the largest capitalized company working outside the mines are to start an immense iron and pipe works, marine railway and dry docks in Vancouver. The news is believed by the uninitiated as a capitalized English Co. is acquiring foreshore rights and surveying for marine railway.

The review of Rithet & Co., Victoria, says: "Grain chartering for April is decidedly dull as owners prefer to await the harvest rather than accept current rates for old crop loading. Prospects for the coming crop are improving. The demand for lumber tonnage continues to widen, though freights remain at the same level. In the salmon fleet there are four fixtures for England. The rates are 37s 6d from the Fraser River."

British Columbia Mining News.

There are a large number of men at work on Granite Creek with good results.

The Canmore Coal Co. is supplying the Trail smelter.

The stock of Victor Watson, general store, of Wellington, has been seized under chattel mortgage.

The Le Roi declared a dividend of 10 per cent. last week. They made \$150,000 in dividends in six months. The mine will pay \$50,000 a month hereafter, say the owners.

The Hall mines smelter is burning Wales coke. The smelter has made four shipments of matte during the week.

The Gooderhams, of Toronto, are not going to buy the Noble Four mines after all. They objected to paying \$100,000 cash down so the deal is off.

The Northern Bell mines in South Kootenay have been sold to the International Trading Co. for \$60,000.

The Cariboo mine Boundary Creek, South Kootenay, has declared a dividend of \$16,000. They have paid \$79,000 in dividends in fourteen months.

SLOCAN.

There is lots of snow at Slocan Lake yet, about six feet. Miners have camped ready to wait for July if necessary.

Ed. Carpenter, the discoverer of Slocan country is a poor prospector still. He is emigrating to Spurgeon Creek this summer.

A fifth tunnel is being made in the Slocan Star. Twelve thousand tons of ore will be shipped to Omaha from this mine this summer.

R. Marpole has an option on the Highland Chief for \$35,000.

Options have been secured by Vancouver people for English capitalists on the following mines: True Friend, Black Prince, Dundas, Crusader and Ottawa.

It is prophesied that J. A. Finch will clear \$100,000 on his Enterprise mine. Immense bodies of ore are being uncovered.

The Spokesman Review of Spokane, quotes the famous English mining expert C. W. Calahan as saying enormous English capital had been withdrawn from Africa and Australia and capitalists await fuller and more explicit reports from British Columbia before placing these huge sums of pounds in this province.

Mr. Calahan has reported that no country under the sun has the mining possibilities of British Columbia.

Revelstoke has a miners association affiliated with the British Columbia association.

J. J. Kingsmill, Q. C. and W. C. Clowett of Toronto have formed a company of \$50,000 to work the Hera, Heba and Oper mineral claims.

The Dunsminers', Victoria's millionaires, are developing claims on Taxada Island, an island near Vancouver Island almost entirely mineral and of a large size.

It was predicted that Alberi mines were similar to the famous Rossland group. This appears to be the case. For the Victoria Island mines so far worked widen as they go down. The report that at 50 feet down the consolidated mine widened out to six feet six, and quartz still showing strongly in free gold caused great excitement.

ROSSLAND.

As the season advances it becomes more evident that the prophecy that Kootenay will output \$10,000,000 of ore this season will come true.

A new strike was made on the Josie last week.

The Josie mines will soon be in a position to ship 100 tons a day for 10 months.

A great deal of mining property has changed hands lately. There is much activity. Among the big mines sold are the Command, the Cand C, Monte Cristo, North Star, and the Polo Alto and bought by syndicates.

It is thought the fine ore discovered in the long tunnel of the Center Star is the continuation of the Li Roi vein.

War Eagle stock has advanced 20 cents. It is expected the Iron Mask will declare a dividend May 28th.

The Li Roi has \$250,000 worth of ore on the dump, enough for five dividends.

They will commence washing on the Pond Orielle soon. They will wash 600 yards of gold bearing gravel a day.

F. C. Loring has sold the "Hill Top" by option at \$12,000.

Murphy Creek is showing up well.

Victoria capital has secured the Georgia. The Star also goes to Victoria the price being \$15,000.

English capitalists have hold of the Paymaster group, and will develop.

The mountain of Monte Cristo a half mile from Rossland is covered with good mines and all will be worked this summer.

The "City of Spokane" has been bonded by Englishmen for \$65,000. The mine is near the Red Mountain claim. The ore body of this mine is 20 feet wide as far as exported.

The United States has been sold in Spokane for \$1,750.

Sixty locations have been recorded at Deer Park, east of Arrow Lake. The scene of the latest mining excitement.

The Travelling Men.

A change has taken place in the western agency of McMaster & Co., wholesale dry goods, of Toronto. Mr. Wetmore, who has represented the firm in the west for some years, has been succeeded by J. J. Thorley. The latter gentleman, arrived in Winnipeg from Toronto last week, with full lines of fall samples, and will proceed to work the country as far as Victoria, B.C. This is Mr. Thorley's first trip west, though he has been with the firm for some years, in the east. He says his fall samples this year are the finest he ever carried. Mr. Wetmore, the late representative, will continue on the road in the west, as he has secured the agency for several specialties.

Lumber Trade News.

At McLeod, Alberta, a bonus by-law has been passed to assist in the building of a new mill by the McLaren company, whose mill was burned some time ago.

A large boom of logs broke from its moorings at Graham, Horne & Co.'s mill, Fort William, on Monday last, owing to the force of the strong current caused by late heavy rains. The boom floated down to elevator B, where it was stopped. Later, while the steamer Curry was moving from elevator B to C the boom broke from its cable jamming the Curry against the steamer Alberta. The tug Mary Ann pulled the boom up stream and only slight damage was done.

Ontario Crops.

A telegraphic report from Ontario, dated May 21 says: Crop prospects are generally good. Pasture is abundant, and the fruit crop is looking well. Winter wheat is not so promising as it might be, but owing to the reduced acreage in late years, the winter wheat crop is not so important as heretofore.

Secretaries Olney and Carlisle consented, for the first time since they held office, to be photographed seated at their desks. The pictures were taken at the request of The Ladies' Home Journal, and will be used to illustrate ex-President Harrison's article describing the working of the State Department in the July number of that Magazine.