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JAMES E. STEEN, Publisher.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Nov. 10, 1896.

There has been practically no change in the market. The promised raise in grain has at this writing really not taken place although hay is selling in Victoria at \$12 and wheat is scarce and said to be worth \$30 ton. Oats are being held by farmers for higher prices. Again higher prices all round are being predicted for next week. Vancouver butter has jumped three cents since the last market report, which has hardened the prices for the imported article. There has been an eighth of a cent decline in the price of sugar. Apples are coming in from Ontario so fast that it is feared that the local apples will not only be crowded out but that the eastern apples will be a glut on the market. They can be bought here now for \$3.75 a barrel.

British Columbia.

Joseph Irwin, merchant, New Denver, has assigned.

H. T. Green, fish, etc., New Westminster, has sold out to T. Pinnick.

Adam McKay, hotel keeper, Three Forks, is dead.

The stock of Major & Eldridge, wholesale produce, Vancouver, has been sold to W. Templeton.

Ledingham Bros., carriage makers, Victoria, have dissolved, R. L. Ledingham retires.

The last consignment of fruit from Australia came in by the Miowera on her last trip. It consisted chiefly of oranges and lemons. An official of the company informed your correspondent that the new Canadian

Australian liner would be running on the route in March next.

At a meeting of the fruit growers of British Columbia, the secretary informed those present that losses had been made on fruits shipped by the co-operative society owing it is said in a measure to the unprecedentedly large shipment of eastern apples Coastward and the competition from the Sound. A lesson should certainly be taken in packing from the Sound shippers whose tasty fruit consignments are the admiration of British Columbians.

The contract has been let for the construction of an automatic can factory to be built in Westminster to D. Bain. The company will manufacture salmon cans and other tin supplies, which have hitherto been imported, and will no doubt supply all British Columbia. The buildings will be 250 by 90 feet and the sides and roof will be of corrugated iron. Operations will be commenced by the middle of next January.

It was thought that salmon ova would be scarce this year owing to the sockeyes not having reached the old spawning ground in such large numbers as usual, but Mr. McNab, fishery inspector for B. C., has been agreeably surprised by not only getting all he wants for the hatchery some 7,500,000, but ascertaining that the spawn in the small streams is about as large as usual. So that all is in readiness for this big run next year.

The four-story furniture factory of Hibner & Co., of Berlin, Ontario, employing about one hundred men, was destroyed by fire on Nov. 12, involving a loss of about \$70,000, with insurance amounting to \$25,000.

The Pledge Hardware Co., Nanaimo, has been incorporated.

The Colonial Canning Co., New Westminster, has been incorporated.

Reid & Currie, iron works, New Westminster, are succeeded by H. Beck.

Harrook & Co., tobacconists, Rossland, have sold out to S. B. Shaw.

The stock of the Slocan Store Co., Ltd., general store, Three Forks, is advertised for sale.

Henry Collins, dry goods, Vancouver, has assigned.

M. G. McLeod, hotel, has sold out to Francis J. Lytho.

The Vancouver Investment Co., has been incorporated.

The British Columbia Cold Storage and Ice Works, Victoria, has been sold out to Patton & Son.

White & Sloan, restaurant, Victoria, have dissolved. Wm. White continues.

Convicted of Fraudulent Assignment.

John Samuel Douglas, dealer in furs and boots and shoes, Winnipeg, who assigned about a year ago, and who was shortly afterwards arrested for defrauding his creditors, has been found guilty. The trial came off at the Winnipeg, assizes last week by a jury.

Assiniboia.

Major Charles A. Bell, proprietor of the Wodbine hotel, Whitewood, Assa., is dead. He had been ill for about two weeks with a general break up of the constitution.

Charles Sheldon, Maple Creek, livery, has sold out to J. Quesnell.

Thomas Meredith, Yorkton, furniture, etc., has sold furniture branch to W. D. Dunlop.

J. G. Thornton, Yorkton, general store keeper, has moved to Rossland, B. C.