

Aug. 15, were as follows: For Victoria—170 cs pears, 370 cs plums, 305 cs peaches, 54 cs cucumbers, 305 cs apples, 382 cs grapes, 52 cr. melons, 3 crts cantelopes, 33 cs lemons, 70 cs oranges, 34 crts bananas, 30 cs prunes, 43 sacks onions, 130 sacks potatoes, 67 cs tomatoes, 20 cs sweet potatoes, 184 cs apricots, 6 sacks coconuts, 1 cs garlic, 3 cs peppers, 1 cs horse radish; total, 2,378 pkgs. For Vancouver—255 cs apples, 23 crts bananas, 5 cs sweet potatoes, 12 cs lemons, 230 cs pears, 1 cs peppers, 11 cs apricots, 55 cs tomatoes, 201 cs peaches, 10 cs cucumbers, 8 crts melons, 5 crts cantelopes, 18 cs nectarines, 180 cs plums, 111 cs grapes, 20 cs prunes, 2 sacks coconuts, 1 cs garlic, 44 sacks onions, 10 cs oranges; total, 1,201 pkgs. Grand total, 3,579 pkgs. The receipts by the previous steamer, August 5, were 2,550 packages. The imports show a good increase over the receipts last week, but it is believed they are too heavy for the present demand, which is said to be lighter than last week. Collections are reported fair. Advices from San Francisco state that fruit is arriving in large quantities, but it is generally too ripe for shipment to a distance. Good shipping fruit brings high prices, in fact almost double the ordinary prices asked, it being necessary to pick over fruit required for shipping. The fruit received by last steamer was not in very good condition. Muscat grapes were poor. The fault lies with shippers in San Francisco, who ship fruit that is too ripe, and consequently it arrives here in bad condition. Potatoes received from the Fraser River are of inferior quality. The fault is principally in the way they are put up, being too much mixed to find favor with buyers. Merchants object to the large number of small potatoes that are shovled on them and which they cannot sell. Gravensteins have taken the place of Red Astrakan apples, at about the same prices. Tahiti seedling oranges are quoted at \$1.75 per box. Riverside seedlings are about out of the market. California lemons are scarce, and some dealers are asking \$0 and \$7 a case, but others quote from \$4.50 to \$5. Cantelopes are quoted at \$3.00 to \$3.75 a crate. Sweet potatoes are quoted from 5c to 6½c. per lb. The great difference in the price of grapes is explained in the fact that the low figures are asked for fruit in boxes and the high for crates. White grapes in boxes are quoted at \$1.75 to \$1.85, and in the crates \$2. Black grapes in boxes \$1.85, in crates \$2.25.

Interviews with leading fruit growers in Niagara district indicate that the fruit crop will be small. Early peaches will be less than a third and late peaches not more than half a crop. Pears will give a fair yield, and apples about half a crop. As to small fruits, it is known that raspberries, strawberries and currants were a fair crop, while cherries were an entire failure. Plums will be an exception. Grapes are the exception. An abundant harvest of the vinous fruit is expected. Regarding peaches, it may be added that while some orchards are entirely bare of fruit, others will give an average yield. Nature is playing freaks this year in this respect. There is no apparent reason for this unequal distribution of the crop. Even old farmers cannot account for the

uneven yields of orchards which are close together, and have been subject to the same weather.

Current quotations for fruits are as follows:—

Oranges—Santa Barbara.....	\$3 75 @ 4 00
Tahiti Seedlings.....	4 75 @ 0 00
Riverside Seedlings.....	3 00 @ 3 50
Lemons—California.....	4 50 @ 7 00
Sticly.....	7 00 @ 0 00
Bananas, crate.....	3 75 @ 4 00
Plums, box.....	1 25 @ 0 00
Prunes.....	1 35 @ 1 75
Apricots.....	1 25 @ 1 35
Peaches.....	1 35 @ 0 00
Nectarines.....	1 50 @ 0 00
Pears—Bartolotta, large boxes.....	1 75 @ 2 25
Apples—Gravenstein.....	1 60 @ 1 75
Crap apples.....	1 25 @ 0 00
Grapes.....	1 75 @ 2 25
Pine Apples, doz.....	5 00 @ 0 00
Coconuts, doz.....	99 @ 0 00
Cherries—Royal Anns (local) 20-lb box.....	2 50 @ 0 00
Watermelons, crate.....	5 50 @ 6 50
Musk " ".....	5 50 @ 0 00
Nutmeg " ".....	2 00 @ 2 50

Vegetables are quoted:

Potatoes—California, sweet.....	5 @ 6½
Local.....	1½ @
Onions—Red California.....	1½ @
California Silverskins.....	1½ @
Tomatoes, bx.....	1 25 @
Cucumbers, bx.....	1 25 @ 2 00

SALMON.

The run of sockeye fish on the Fraser has continued poor, and cannervmen are much disappointed with the season's outlook. A private report gives the following statement of fishing by day boats for two days, and may be taken as a fair average of the fishing for the week: On Thursday 11th, an average of 22 fish to the boat; Thursday night, 25 fish; Friday 12th, 26 fish; Friday night, 17 fish. The same advice says that fishing on the river for the week has averaged from 15 to 30 fish a day per boat. The three canneries on the North Arm of the Fraser have been more fortunate than those on the main river and their packs are said to be about double those on the main river. The average pack per cannery for the past week is said to be about 500 cases, and 2,000 cases each is about all the canneries have succeeded in packing to date. Sockeye fishing continues until the 1st Sept., but owing to the extreme shortness of their packs some of the canneries which have sold largely ahead may put up fall fish. The *Steveston Enterprise* of the 11th inst. says:

"The run of salmon is still light. Some of the fishermen are about discouraged, and will quit unless prospects brighten."

The Alert Bay Cannery had 2,000 cases up at last report, and was reported as shut down. It is said, however, that they are seeking for fish at other ports and hope to put up another 1,000 cases.

River's Inlet has been practically a failure. The fish have stopped running, and the two canneries there have only secured about 7,500 cases, while according to agreement they were allowed to put up 11,250 cases each.

The fish are, according to last accounts from the Naas River, running poor and they are not expected to fill.

The canneries on the Skeena have all secured their full pack, according to agreement, of 11,250 cases. The new cannery of the *Royal Canadian Packing Company*

was late in starting but has secured its full limit pack.

The steamer *Cariboo Fly* arrived at Vancouver Aug. 12 from Claxton, Skeena River, with 2,000 cases of Globe brand salmon from the Royal Canadian Packing Co. for shipment east. The steamers Louise and Boscovitz which sailed for Northern cannery ports on Aug. 10, will bring back full cargoes of salmon. The *Islander* will also bring back a full load of salmon from the Skeena River. The bark *Martha Fisher* is awaiting the arrival of fish from the North to load for Liverpool. Inquiry is reported for fish both from the Eastern Canadian and English market, fur dealers are now realizing that the pack will be very limited. A cannery man reports having refused an order from the East, last week, for a prominent brand of Fraser River salmon, on account of the shortage of the season's pack of which he has already sold all that he can put up.

The following shows the imports of canned salmon into Great Britain and Ireland each year since 1883. It should be preserved for reference, and merits careful study: In 1883, 501,324 cases; 1884, 471,366; 1885, 357,893; 1886, 364,077; 1887, 316,346; 1888, 369,035; 1889, 621,054; 1890, 708,035; 1891, 609,365.

Elmore, Sanborn & Co., of Astoria, Or., who have compiled returns of the salmon pack at the Columbia river canneries in Astoria and along the river on both the Oregon and Washington shores, reported as follows:

"The season which closed to-day has been remarkable for the scarcity of the Columbia and Chinook salmon. It is found from careful estimates that the twenty-two canneries on the Columbia have packed 448,900 cases of all grades. The proportion of royal Chinook is 248,000 cases, the remaining 200,000 cases being composed of steelheads and bluebacks. As compared with last year's packs, there is a decrease this season of 100,000 cases of royal Chinook. The total pack, however, exceeds that of last year by 48,000 cases. This decrease is largely due to the larger production in the canneries at Cascades and The Dalles, where a large percentage of the pack was steelheads and bluebacks. The season has been stormy, and there has been a freshet in the river all summer owing to the tardy melting of snow in the mountain ranges. The canneries have sold all their best salmon at an advance on last year's prices. Two ships are now loading here with salmon for London and one for New York. Advices from Alaska indicate that the pack will be limited to one-half that of last year, as was agreed upon. In British Columbia the pack on the Fraser river is said to be a comparative failure, and the total product of that country will not exceed one-half of last year's pack."

LUMBER.

During the last week, the American ship *George Skolfield*, 1,276 tons, Capt. Dunning, now at Vancouver, has been chartered to load lumber at the Hastings Hill for Valparaiso. The American schooner *Robert Searles*, 570 tons, Capt. Piltz, arrived at Vancouver Aug. 10, under charter to load for Port Pirie at 41s 3d. There are four new vessels reported on the way, but it is not known yet whether they are going to load lumber: The Br. ship *Mylomene*, 1,900 tons, from Coquimbo, the Hawaiian bark *Manua Ahi*, 537 tons, from Honolulu, the British bark *Bankburn*, 1,352 tons, from Taitai, and the British ship *Andreta*, 1,708 tons, from Antofagasta. There are, at present, six vessels loading at Burrard Inlet for foreign ports.