

### Lumber Cuttings.

Genelle Bros.' saw mill at Sproat, B.C., will soon be in operation.

The great lumber firm of Smith, Wade & Co., Quebec, are reported to be financially embarrassed. Liabilities about \$2,000,000.

The Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railway Companies say that the grain trade is not the only one by which they have been losing money. Certain shippers in the lumber trade have been discovered to be great offenders in the way of underbilling.

It is a queer state of affairs which prevails at Spokane Falls says the *Mississippi Valley Lumberman*. The mill men there are actually asking that the railroads advance the rate on lumber. It is so long since anything of the kind ever happened before that the railroad officials probably are willing to believe that the millennium is at hand.

The North Pacific Lumber Company's mill on Burrard Inlet, B.C., is rapidly nearing completion. In this mill there will be some entirely new machinery designed especially for it. The contract for the boilers, engines, refuse burners, etc., has been let to the Waterous Engine Company, of Brantford, Ont.

The *New Westminster Truth* says: Never before in the history of the coast has the lumbering industry taken such strides as it has during the past year, and it is not to be wondered at, when we consider the fact that timber is getting so scarce in the east that mills are cutting logs as small as 9 inches in diameter, thousands of of such having been cut last year by some of the mills in the vicinity of Ottawa.

A recent issue of the *Canadian Journal of Commerce* contains the following: Toronto lumber merchants are endeavoring to arrange an official scale of grades for measurement and inspection that will, with regard to the buying and selling of lumber, have the same effect as the grain inspection standards. A committee was appointed at a meeting of the lumber section of the board of trade to propose rules for measurement and inspection which after adoption by the section are to be submitted to the trade of Ontario generally.

In the vicinity of James Bay and up the Hayes and Nelson rivers and west and northwest of Port Nelson river, the country is heavily timbered with pine, spruce, tamarac, aspen and balsam of gilead. On the islands in the Nelson river the spruce attains a good size suitable for building purposes. Many of the white spruce measures three feet in diameter, but the greater proportion of the timber is pine of good quality. Dr. King who was with Capt. Black in his "Journey to the Arctic Ocean," says that "The Hayes's river is well wooded, producing scenery of extreme beauty."—*Prince Albert Times*.

Michigan men are now at Washington endeavoring to have Congress take cognizance of the fact that there is no import duty on cedar, and that American operators are placed at a great disadvantage by Canadian competition. Farmers in Michigan, for example, who take cedar off their land after the lumbermen have been over it are injuriously affected. Canadians have been doing a rushing business, but the trade in poles across the line has been largely dull and unprofitable. It is said, however, that the Senate ways and means committee

does not take kindly to the proposition of placing a protective duty on cedar.—*Montreal Trade Review*.

### British Columbia.

H Lapierre, grocer, Victoria, wants to sell out.

J. Reichenback will open a butcher shop at Victoria in a few days.

Riddie & Johnston have opened a shipmith's establishment at Westminster.

F. Richardson is about to engage in the butcher business at Revelstoke.

The Ross-McLaren mills, of New Westminster, will start work in a few days.

A fire broke out in the Chinese quarters at Stanley, and destroyed several stores.

The Nanaimo tannery and boot and shoe factory started active operations last week.

Chas. Whitehead has secured a contract on the C. P. R. Revelstoke & Kootenay branch.

The C. P. R. is constructing an immense warehouse at Sproat to protect its great quantity of supplies.

An application has been filed at Ottawa for legislation next session, incorporating the Vancouver, Northern & Alaska railway.

The steamship *Islander* made the fastest time on record from Victoria to Vancouver on May 22, making the trip in four hours.

A new steamer has just been launched at Vancouver called the "Ezlon;" valued \$10,000. She will do a general trading business along the coast.

H. V. Rudd has resigned his position as accountant in the Bank of B. C. at Kamloops, and is succeeded by Mr. T. H. Paterson, late of Vancouver.

Mr. Lane, of Calgary, representing the Northwest Cattle Company, passed through Kamloops last week with a carload of beef cattle for the Vancouver market.

The Vancouver Electric Illuminating Co. and the Vancouver Street Railway Co. have amalgamated into one company which will be known as the Vancouver Electric Railway and Light Company.

Lionel Dickenson, a member of the firm of A. J. Rowbotham & Co., grocers, Victoria, has succeeded to the entire business, the senior partner, Mr. Rowbotham, retiring from active commercial life.

There will be a general meeting of the shareholders of the British Columbia Mills Timber and Trading Company on the 16th of June at the company's office, Vancouver, for the election of directors.

The Provincial Exhibition association, of British Columbia, have requested farmers and gardeners to preserve samples of spring fruit and produce. These will be sent to the exhibitions at Toronto and London, Ont.

Nine hundred coal miners, at Wellington, are out on a strike for shorter hours. It is probable that the mines will be shut down for an indefinite length of time as the employers are determined not to grant the demands of the men.

Two steamers are being built at Barrow-in-Furness, Eng., for the Canadian Pacific steamship line from Canada to Japan. It is estimated that they will cost \$1,000,000 each. They are

equipped up with electric lights and electric bells, and will probably be the finest steamers on the Pacific coast.

A company has been formed for the purpose of constructing, equipping, and operating a line of railway and telegraph from Vancouver into the interior of British Columbia to the Peace River country, as well as Alaska. Power is asked to operate a line of steamships and sailing vessels. Vancouver is to be the headquarters of the company. Application for incorporation has been.

The Dominion Government has amended the rule by which the payment of \$105 was required from miners upon the location of a claim. Now the miner need not pay this sum until after he has proved his claim and applied for the Crown grant.

The *Nanaimo Free Press* says: "The St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company have purchased of Thos. Hosmer, D. W. Tyler and C. P. Macverson, their half interest in the Wilkeson coal mine for \$80,000. The lumber company propose to establish large coking works at the mines, and furnish among other important works the Tacoma Smelting and Refinery Company with coke.

C. D. Rand, Vancouver, is on his way to England to complete the sale of the British Columbia Milling and Mining Company's quartz mines at Cariboo, to an English company through Messrs. John Taylor & Son, the well known mining engineers, of London. It is stated that the company will receive about \$500,000 for its property, which will give a return to the shareholders of \$140 for every dollar invested.—*Toronto Hardware*.

The *Inland Sentinel*, Kamloops, publishes the following rather gloomy report: The grasshoppers have commenced depredations in the district between Kamloops and Shuswap, and fears are entertained that they will do serious damage to the hay and grain crops. Should the present dry weather continue for a lengthened period, many fields will not yield any crop at all, as the small streams are now almost dry, and there is no water available for irrigating purposes.

A party is being sent out by the Government of British Columbia to survey the Chilcotin country lying to the northwest of the Fraser and estimated to be 45,000 square miles in extent. A. L. Paudier, D.L.S., has been selected to take charge of this party. It will be the explorer's object to ascertain the fullest possible particulars of the character of the land, its adaptability to agriculture, timbering, grazing mining; the water-power it possesses and the number and extent of irrigation streams, with all other valuable particulars.

A British Columbia exchange of last week has the following: An enterprising mining company have at last struck the continuation of the celebrated lost Heron lead, on the lower end of Grouse Creek. It will be remembered that the Heron company (Mr. James Laidlaw, foreman) worked a very excellent piece of ground during the winter of 1866-7, which netted to the owners (eight) some \$20,000 each. Large sums of money and labor was expended to find its continuation down stream covering years, but without success. It is reported that the present fortunate miners have found the run of gold on a higher level than it ever before had been looked for.