

British Columbia.

Wm. Denny, dry goods, Victoria, is out of business.

R. Attwood & Co. have opened a drug store at Victoria.

Mrs. A. Astrico, hotel, Victoria, has given up business.

John Stewart, plumbers, etc., Victoria, has assigned in trust.

D. E. Campbell, drugs, Victoria, has admitted J. F. Jaeck into partnership.

Bunker & King have opened a grocery store in the Hamilton Block, Vancouver.

W. F. Wood, boot and shoe commission merchant, Vancouver, has been closed out.

Frequent shipments of canned goods are being made to England and eastern Canada.

The Canadian Anthracite Coal Company of Banff, has shipped 500 tons of coal to Vancouver.

Some 5,500 cases of salmon were shipped from Victoria to England on the Hudson's Bay Co's ship Titania.

R. Campbell, late of the Arlington hotel, New Westminster, has leased the Sunnyside hotel at Vancouver.

A. Offner, who lately disposed of his wholesale grocery business in Victoria to Angus & ordon, has gone with his family to Germany.

A colony of Norwegian settlers who located some months ago in the Squamish River district, are being augmented by the arrival of friends.

A large shipment of furs, consisting of 38 casks, valued at \$20,000, was made from Victoria via the C.P.R. to Messrs. C.M. Lampson & Co., London, England.

A Yale correspondent says: Foo Yuen and several other prominent Chinese merchants here have found business rather dull of late, and have sent most of their stock to Kamloops.

The total salmon pack to recent date for British Columbia is 160,000 cases, against an estimate of 250,000 cases. It is thought that the pack may be considerably increased, perhaps to 200,000 cases.

The province has produced nearly \$50,000,000 of gold, and although the production has declined to a little over \$600,000 per annum, it is expected that the prosecution of quartz mining, will, in the near future, become an important industry.

Capt. Melon, of Vancouver, has been appointed agent for the California Board of Marine Underwriters of San Francisco. He has been authorised by English underwriters to write policies amounting to £20,000 on each Canadian Pacific Line steamer at 5-16.

Alexander Begg left lately for Scotland, previous to which he made arrangements with the Provincial Government to act as Immigration agent, and will, upon his arrival in Scotland, use his efforts to induce the crofters and fishermen to emigrate to the Pacific coast.

At a late meeting of the Vancouver city council, a communication was received from Alexander McKelvie & Co., of Quebec province, asking for bonus and exemption from taxation for machine shop and foundry, and stating that they thought of erecting works costing \$20,000 at first, and having them in operation in from three to four months. The matter will be taken into consideration.

Rand Bros., real estate, etc., Victoria and Vancouver, have closed out their Victoria branch.

The sealing schooner Mary Ellen, Capt. McLean, has arrived at Victoria from Behring Sea having on board 2457 seal skins for the season's catch.

The programme of the British Columbia Agricultural Association has been issued. The annual exhibition will be held at Chilliwack, from the 23th to 30th September.

Victoria Standard: The Goat River gold mines excitement has subsided. The latest reports from these mines are that there is plenty of ground to prospect but the gold is very scarce.

J. H. Tood & Co., of New Westminster, shipped six car loads of salmon yesterday by the C.P.R., of which two car loads were consigned to Toronto, two to Hamilton and two to Winnipeg.

Prices current at Vancouver last week were: Manitoba patent flour, \$6 per bbl; strong bakers', \$5; oatmeal, \$5 per 100 pounds; hams, 18c; bacon, 13 to 18c; potatoes, \$1 to \$1.40 per 100 pounds; eggs, 25 to 30c per dozen; butter, 25 to 35c lb; cheese, 20 to 25c lb; wild ducks, 75c a pair; cabbage, 3c per lb; radishes, 25c per dozen bunches; green onions, 25c per dozen bunches; lettuce, 25c per dozen bunches; cauliflower, 15c per head.

Vancouver News: Jas. Gray, manager of the Ophir Gold Mining Co., of Big Bend, B.C., has arrived in the city. He reports the mining operations of that section as being in a prosperous condition. The Big Bend mines are situated about 100 miles north of Revelstoke. There are several companies operating in the vicinity, and are receiving encouraging returns for their labor. The Ophir Co. is the most extensive in its operations of any gold mining company in B.C. This spring they put in the very best mining machinery which could be procured, and the result has been that the yield of the coveted metal has been beyond the expectations of the most sanguine. Mr. Gray is of opinion that there is abundance of gold all through that upper country, and that although it will take a very large outlay of money to develop the mines the prospects are sufficiently encouraging to justify the same.

The population of British Columbia is only about 70,000, of which about half are Indians and Chinese, the exports of our most westerly province amount to nearly \$4,000,000 annually, and consist of minerals, (chiefly gold and coal) sea products, (chiefly salmon and oil) timber, furs, skins, etc. According to correspondence recently published by Rev. Hugh Johnson, inlets and rivers of the province swarm with fish. Herrings, oolahan, trout, sturgeon, bass, flounders, skate and halibut abound, while the cod banks are superior to those of Newfoundland. Whales are numerous in the North Pacific. Seals and sea otter abound in the Straits of Fuca, and ten or fifteen schooners are engaged in sealing, with an annual catch of 10,000 fur seals, valued at \$10 each, and 3,000 hairy seals of less value. In fact fish and sea food are practically inexhaustible. Of salmon there are five varieties, caught in multitudes and the canning industry is one of the most important on the Pacific coast.—Canadian Trade Review.

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