

**British Columbia.**

R. Campbell, jr., has opened a boot and shoe store at Vancouver.

It is reported a change will shortly be made in the Victoria *Standard*.

The Palace Hotel, Nanaimo, will pass into the hands of R. Hindermash.

The capacity of the dry dock at Esquimalt is to be lengthened by an addition of forty-five feet.

A seam of coal about 8 feet thick has been struck at Northfield mine, the property of the Vancouver Coal Company.

Grain cutting, says the *Columbian*, is well under way on the North Arm, and a bounteous harvest will be reaped. Threshing will commence on Monday next on several of the large farms.

The output of coal for the Vancouver Coal Company for the month of July was 19,000 tons. The company has several new enterprises under way which will enable it to materially increase the output.

The real estate agent at Vancouver held a meeting recently and decided to fight the local license by-law to the bitter end. The fee for real estate agents is \$50, which sum is considered exorbitant and unjust.

R. N. McFarlane, manager for the new commission firm of Bell-Irving, Patterson & Co., Vancouver, is preparing the warehouse to be occupied by the firm, in the Armstrong block, for the reception of goods. The establishment is now about ready for business.

A new deal has been made in connection with the Westminster Southern railway. The franchise of the road is said to have passed into the hands of Nelson Bennett; and a new bonus scheme from Westminster is being worked up in aid of the road.

Revelstoke is surrounded with serious forest fires. Heavy smoke obscures the mountains, which in a clear atmosphere are visible in all directions. The Big Bend trail is impassible; Crowl's pack train, which started Thursday, had to turn back a few miles out.

The death is announced of Hon. A. E. B. Davie, Premier and Attorney-General of the province. Mr. Davie has long been a leading spirit in the social and political life of British Columbia, and his work will not soon be forgotten. Hon. Mr. Robson, provincial secretary, has been sworn in as premier.

The salmon run in the Fraser river continues good. The *Columbian* says: The salmon catch last night was just as good as ever. The canneries are overcrowded with work, and the staff employed are kept as busy as bees from morning till night. Another week of this run, and one of the largest packs on record for the Fraser river will be assured.

The following inland revenue collections were made at the port of Victoria, for the month ending July 31st, 1889:—

Licenses.....	\$ 2,025 00
Tobacco.....	1,295 00
Cigars.....	859 50
Spirits.....	6,444 02
Malt.....	1,331 42
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$11,954 9</b>

The exports of coal from British Columbia for July were as follows:—

	TONS.
Vancouver Coal Company.....	19,030
Wellington Colliery.....	18,503
East Wellington.....	4,799
Union Colliery.....	4,600

Total..... 43,932

The collections at the port of Victoria for the month of July, 1889, were as follows:—

Duties.....	\$57,113 65
Miscellaneous.....	1,031 50
Chinese Act.....	104 50

Total..... \$ 58,249 65  
Collections for July, 1888..... 71,092 94

Decrease..... \$ 12,743 29

At a meeting held in Victoria to consider the advisability of establishing a university, the following resolution was passed: "That this meeting strongly affirms the desirability of the establishment of a Provincial University, to be located in or near this city, and that a committee be appointed to draft a suitable scheme for the establishment of such an institution, and to report to a public meeting to be called by His Worship the Mayor." Victoria is not moving too soon in this matter. By all means British Columbia should have a university, and it is appropriate that the residents of the capital city should take the matter in hand.

The customs returns for the port of Vancouver for the month of July, as compared with the same month of last year, was as follows:—

	1889.	1888.
Exports.....	\$41,254 00	\$61,180 00
Revenue—		
Duties collect-		
ed.....	\$10,787 28	\$ 6,287 13
Total reven-		
ues.....	5,257 65	6,898 98
Total.....	\$16,644 93	\$13,186 11
Imports—		
Free.....	\$14,824 00	\$ 8,586 00
Dutiable.....	40,052 00	21,177 00
Total.....	\$54,876 00	\$29,763 00

EXCISE RETURNS.

The Inland Revenue returns were as follows: For July, 1889. . . . . \$1,990 65  
For July, 1888. . . . . 908 36

We learn from Kamloops *Sentinel* that the Kootenay canal, the first canal in British Columbia, has been completed. The canal connects the Kootenay river with the Columbia; it is 1½ miles in length, 30 feet wide and 17 feet deep, to overcome the difference between the two river levels it connects. It was constructed by the Kootenay Valleys' Co., Eng. The *Sentinel* says: The canal is at present practically useless, until the Federal government carries out some most essential improvements on the Columbia river about ten miles north of the canal, said improvements consisting of cleaning the narrow channel of snags and other obstructions, and also in cutting a tow path for a distance of about three miles. When these improvements are made, the object of the canal will then be attainable, making the two rivers navigable for a distance of 200 miles or more—or in other words, from the C.P.R. at Golden to the American boundary.

THE Ontario crops, says a Montreal exchange, particularly in the Bay of Quinte are splendid, this being indeed fortunate, as the farmers could not stand more bad seasons. Their barns however, this year, are not sufficiently capacious for their requirements.

THE Barnum Wire Works Co., of Windsor, Ontario, manufacturers of architectural iron work of all kinds, have put in over 250 of their fire escapes in large buildings throughout the country, since the enforcement of the act requiring buildings of certain proportions to be furnished with fire escapes. There are a number of buildings in Winnipeg which should be provided with fire escapes, and the enforcement of some such law as is done in Ontario, would be a wise step.

THE *Gazette*, of Macleod, Alberta, says: Anyone who has not seen the Peigan Indian Reserve for some year, would not know the place now. The agency consists of a number of substantial log and frame buildings, and everything about the reserve is in the neatest possible order. Mr. Springett's very marked success in the management of these Indians is due to the fact that they have the utmost confidence in him. The improvements and progress on this reserve, as well as on the Blood Reserve, are well worth extended notice. At a later date we shall give a detailed account of the progress and work on both reserves.

**A Test for Tea.**

A Russian analyst gives the following as a test by which tea can be proved to be genuine or not. Take a pinch of tea in a glass, pour upon it a little cold water and shake it up well. Pure tea will only slightly color the water, while a strong infusion is quickly got from the adulterated or painted leaf. Now boil both sorts separately, and let them stand till cool, and the difference between them will be most marked. The false tea will become still stronger after a long standing, but will remain transparent. Whereas pure tea will become muddy or milky. This last appearance arises from the tannic acid, which is a natural property in pure tea, but which in artificial tea is entirely absent.

**Career of the Salmon**

When the salmon is hatched he is known as a "fry," then he becomes a "parr," or "samlet," or "pink," or "bradling." The next change makes him a "smolt;" then he is transferred to a "grilse," and finally develops into a salmon. When leaving salt water he is called a "white" salmon, and when going back after spawning a "black" one or a "kalt." The baby salmon is hatched from thirty to a hundred days after the eggs are laid in furrows in gravelly beds near the head waters of clear, cold rivers. When in the "fry" stage he is about one inch long, with goggle eyes. When three months old he becomes well shaped, with carmine spots on the sides. He is then so hungry and greedy he will jump at anything. Many mistake them at this age for trout, and it is common for markets to offer them for sale as brook trout. Only about one-half the hatch returns to the sea, the rest remaining in fresh water. This has been decided to be because some develop more rapidly than others, the late ones going to salt water the second season. The arrangement can be accepted as a wise provision of nature against extermination by wholesale destruction.