

BANK GEOGRAPHY

LESSON 2.

The Railway Systems.



THE first lesson described how the banking machinery of Canada is placed. The various systems of branch banks may be regarded as comprising on the whole a vast system of pipes or ducts by which the circulation of the blood of the commercial organism is facilitated. As aids to commerce and industry however, the banks should be considered in connection with the railroad and other transportation systems. By means of the transportation systems, goods and merchandise are physically transferred from the place of production or of import to the markets; by means of the banking machinery the transfer of capital or money necessitated by the transfer of the goods and merchandise is effected. Thus the banking system supplements the work of the transportation system; and it will be well to undertake a brief study of the principal railway systems operating in Canada. The four principal systems are the Intercolonial, the Grand Trunk, the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern.

The Intercolonial

The Intercolonial is owned and operated by the Dominion Government. It follows a north-easterly course along the south shore of the St. Lawrence River to Rimouski, then turns inland, and after skirting the southern shore of Chaleur Bay, it strikes southwards through the eastern part of New Brunswick, enters Nova Scotia near Amherst, and proceeds to the port of Halifax. It also has a branch leaving the main line near Oxford and running through the northern