

ton. On Victoria than in Southern guous country is is no better sec- g, of course; but, pected to last six ing exception that apital of Alberta, Railroad manage- so closely related law or expediency between the two, happiness of both. e and a half been st across the Sas- Northern reached —an event which ens to see more ore or since. The a year from next unkind.

is only an inter- . The Canadian each over twenty which you cannot ville, whence four y shipped to Ed- steel the country e Yellowhead Pass decade of our own er of Alberta is in rthering the plans tended to tap the se who have seen in itself.

ern, potential and Winnipeg is, and nton is a City of nthusiasts should e as sunshine in y, is not composed eing statesmen in many people who festly destined to ver any sanguine be free from the vidual who gives or anywhere else. months were the ad perforce refused that, in normal over. I did not ver ordinary mer-commodity behind e quantity instruc- licit, almost per- to say except that friends, have done

ne singular rise in centre—it is impos- workman's house for

ed much to bring a price of labor, s heavy, makes it ufacturer to start; roduce much more

A cigar factory thirty-five, thanks roducible in every ere have been dis- entitude of civic reets are up for

sewerage, gas, water, electricity or street car purposes—taxation is not specially heavy. For the land has been made to bear its full burden, a la George, by which means assessments have risen wondrously. Should a reaction come the load on the householder must increase.

Buildings, though released from excessive rating, are expensive enough on account of high-priced labor and cost of material. In the valley, between Edmonton and Strathcona, first-class brick are being made and sold at \$15 per 1,000. Output cannot keep pace with orders—which explains a remarkable difference between the cost of production and the selling price. Until things simmer down, then, it is scarcely likely that industries will flock in from the outside. But indigenous industries will spring up in good time.

A Real Western Cannery.

I went over the site of a packing house, the contract for which calls for completion in September. It is said that the Swifts, of Chicago, are friends of the enterprise. At present the raw material is not being produced largely in the Edmonton country. But the main building will be seven storeys high, and with its subsidiary structures and plant will cost \$300,000. It will lead to the establishment of stock yards and of a market generally for all kinds of farm produce that can walk to slaughter. The enterprise is the direct outcome of a stop-over at Edmonton on a journey by Mr. Dwyer to Japan—a trip that won't be completed till after the packing plant is taking the squeal out of Alberta hogs. The new business will be located on 157 acres of land, bought last August from a man who, having purchased in June, made a profit of \$45 per acre. Heat, light and power will be cheap, for there is coal—not the best, but good enough—a short distance below the surface.

In the last resort, of course, it is the grain crop that counts. The feeding of cattle, hogs and poultry in a section of country so free from drought as north-western Alberta has these many years been proved to be, makes wheat of less vital importance than it is in parts of Manitoba. Indeed, one most competent observer told me he would never think of confining his agricultural hope to wheat—he could make much more money from much less land by growing cattle and hogs and poultry, and the things that fetch big prices.

When Prince Rupert is a port of export there must be a rapidly increasing movement of commodities between the Orient and what is to the easterner the far North-West. The sea route will be shorter than via more southerly harbors. The railways through the mountains will have favorable grades. The country between the Yellowhead and Winnipeg is the best we have. Edmonton is bound to flourish, even though it submit to some of the minor temptations of lusty youth.

A. H.

FAST STEAMSHIP LINE.

In 1840, the white population of the United States was 14,000,000. By the latest census, it was 76,356,000. Mr. W. L. Griffith, the Secretary to the Canadian High Commissioner in London, quoted these figures in his paper: "Some Phases of Canada's Development," read at the Royal Colonial Institute recently. We anticipated a much more rapid increase in population in Canada than was the case in the United States. Speaking of the proposed fast steamship line between Great Britain and the Dominion, Mr. Griffith heartily supported its establishment, and referred regretfully to the fact that a proposal for such a line has been under consideration for twenty years. The British Government is spending huge sums upon the Cunard Line, and Mr. Griffith urged that the justification for a similar concession in order to procure a service between British ports seemed equally strong. He hoped that when this proposed Canadian fast line did become an accomplished fact, in each vessel a certain amount of passenger space would be available free to state-selected emigrants who desired to transfer themselves from the congested centres of England to the healthy life of the open prairie, but were unable to do so for lack of funds.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED.

THE HEART OF THE FAMOUS WHEAT BELT.

The Saskatoon and Western Land Company Limited, send a particularly neat well produced booklet, containing a list of their Saskatchewan lands for sale. The catalogue is supplemented with descriptions of Western cities and towns, statistics as to wheat land prices, and numerous illustrations of life in the West.

THE CANADIAN BANKING SYSTEM.

Messrs. John Mackay and Company, Chartered Accountants, Toronto, by the courtesy of Mr. Z. A. Lash, K.C., have published for private circulation a lecture recently delivered by Mr. Lash to the third year students of the Law School, Toronto. The paper is an admirable summary of the banking system of Canada, the history and practice of which is being dealt with at present in a series of articles in the Monetary Times.

CONDITIONAL SALES.

Mr. J. A. Barron has issued a second edition of his annotation of the Statutes relating to Conditional Sales. To his own knowledge, in many business transactions, the vendor of a chattel himself has avoided a compliance with the Bill of Sale and Chattel Mortgage Acts by retaining in himself the property in the chattel until payment therefor by the vendee. The present volume will afford some little protection to the public, of whom there are many too apt to assume, from the circumstances of a man's possessions, that he is financially that which in reality he is not.

A COBALT VADE MECUM.

"While there are a large number of companies whose shares are worth more than the present market price, it is well known that there are a large number of 'wild cat' companies operating in Cobalt, as in all other new mining camps." This is an admirable preface to anything pertaining to Cobalt. And it appears in one of the first few pages of Morton's Handbook of the Cobalt District, published by the Cobalt Mining Information Bureau, Limited, Traders Bank Building, Toronto. The book contains the important extracts from the Mines Act, 1906, and gives a list of "passed" claims in the mining district. Information respecting some mining companies is incomplete. There always has been difficulty in obtaining data from certain companies. The handbook, which is of pocket size, is supplemented with a couple of very useful maps.

PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN BANKING AND CURRENCY.

Under this title the Macmillan Company of Canada, Limited, Toronto, add a valuable volume to the financier's library. The book contains a number of selected addresses, delivered in recent years by prominent bankers, financiers, and economists. It is edited by W. H. Hall, with an introduction by the Hon. C. F. Phillips, of New York. While a number of the papers deal with subjects more particularly interesting to United States bankers, there are many which will appeal to Canadian banking and financial circles. Bank Audits, Requisites of a Good Loan, Bank Defalcations—Their Causes and Cures, Supervision and Publicity, Financial Advertising, Financial Crisis, and Branch Banking, are some of these. The volume is divided into three sections—General Banking, Banking Reform and Currency, and Trust Company, and the price is \$3.50 net.

INDUSTRIAL INNISFAIL.

Innisfail is a flourishing town in Alberta 76 miles north of Calgary on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway. It is noted chiefly for its creamery butter, the largest creamery west of Winnipeg being established there. The output in 1906 was more than 240,000 pounds, while in the Innisfail district there are other creameries which bring up the total for 1906 to over 350,000 pounds. A large quantity of grain fed beef also is raised. This year already more than 600 head have left the Innisfail yards for the Western markets. Pork raising is also another industry.

Two chartered banks have branches there and there are numerous stores.

There is an opening at Innisfail for a cash and door factory, and for a good machinist and iron foundry.

The ratepayers of Calgary will shortly vote on a by-law to raise \$75,000 for a new hospital. Address Mayor Cameron.