

Mercantile Summary.

Winnipeg council will shortly prepare a by-law to provide for the running of Sunday cars in that city.

On the 23rd May, the first sod was turned in the construction of water-works at Portage la Prairie.

The Canadian Shovel and Tool Company, Limited, Hamilton, capital, \$150,000, has been incorporated to make and deal in spades, shovels, and field, railway, and mechanics' tools.

The Reid Wrecking Co., of Sarnia, proposes to build a floating dry-dock at that place. It has already begun the work of constructing a new 380-foot wharf on its property recently acquired there.

The Canadian Fence Manufacturing Co., Limited, Woodstock, Ont., has received an Ontario charter. C. A. Brink and Noah Stickney, of West Oxford Township, are directors. Capital stock, \$250,000.

The report of the International Nickel Company, Sudbury, shows a surplus for the year ending March 31st, of \$668,094, or an increase of \$326,992 over the year previous. A large floating debt was also paid off.

Selby & Youlden, Limited, have received an Ontario charter empowering them to manufacture and buy and sell engines, boilers, and all articles made of wood and metal. The capital is placed at \$50,000, and head office is to be at Kingston.

The Gurney Oxford Stove and Furnace Company, Limited, Toronto, capital, \$40,000, has been incorporated for the purpose of dealing in and manufacturing metals and metal goods, and to acquire and carry on the business of the Gurney Oxford Stove and Furnace Co.

The Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company, of Lethbridge, has ordered a 175-h.p. Robb-Mumford boiler from the Robb Engineering Company, Amherst, N.S. This makes eight boilers of this type that the company has purchased during the past few years.

It is not yet certain whether the British Columbia Copper Company will build another smelter at Midway or Rock Creek, but there is no doubt, says the Phoenix Pioneer, that the smelter at Greenwood will be enlarged, and the above company will probably secure several new and important properties in the Similkameen district. It lately secured a controlling interest in the Sunset group of mines on Copper Mountain, near Princeton. The Sunset is a low-grade mine, with an immense body of ore which is alleged to run rather better than Boundary's low-grade propositions.

A British Columbia man has invented a device to make railway cars glide along without the clanking and jarring caused by the wheels going over the points between the rails fastened by fish plates. His device is a simple contrivance, consisting of a casting, into which the ends of the rails are inserted, a portion of the casting running alongside the rail and bridging the space between the ends, ample provision being made for support-

ing the bridge casting with a tongue or wedge and allowing for the contraction or expansion of the rails. It is stated that the United States Government is offering a prize of \$50,000 for the best patent along these lines.

An extended service is to be inaugurated by the Canadian Pacific coasting steamers for northern British Columbia and Lynn Canal ports. The steamers Princess May and Princess Beatrice will alternate upon the route between Vancouver and Skagway, making calls at Northern British Columbia ports. Calls at Northern British Columbia ports will be made both north and south bound by the steamers. In order to furnish a

service to Northern British Columbia ports off the direct line of travel which will be followed by the May and Beatrice, the company will operate the steamer Tees, which is scheduled to sail from Vancouver on the second and sixteenth days of each month. On the first trip of the month she will call at Skidegate, and on the second she will run into Bella Coola, besides touching at all the other ports. It has been arranged that the Princess Beatrice shall call at Alert Bay and at all the Rivers Inlet canneries northbound, and southbound she will make calls at Port Simpson, the Skeena River and Wadhams' cannery, Rivers Inlet.



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RECORD FOR 1904.

Policies Issued and Taken '04. \$5,103,413	Interest received, 1904.....\$133,262
" " " " '03.. 4,278,850	" " " " 1903..... 93,035
INCREASE 19% \$824,563	INCREASE OVER 40% \$40,227
Business in Force Dec. 31, '04..\$20,611,399	Total Assets, Dec. 31, 1904.... \$2,557,983
" " " " '03.. 18,023,639	Liabilities, " " 2,017,291
INCREASE 14% \$2,587,760	SURPLUS TO POLICY-HOLDERS.. \$540,692

Average Interest Earned, SEVEN per Cent.

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