

mented in the immediate future, certainly indicate the rapid approach of a brilliant epoch.

It is now known that the Dominion Government has taken over the Dry Dock at Esquimalt upon what are thought, by some, to be most favourable terms, and that the work will be pushed on vigorously to a speedy and satisfactory completion. A company has been formed for the construction of the Island Railway and it is their intention to proceed with the work as soon as final arrangements have been made and a charter granted by the Provincial Legislature. The lands in the railway belt on the Mainland are to be thrown open to settlement next year, so that the difficulties, so long pending between the two Governments, are now practically settled. The barrier to Provincial advancement has been removed and a general boom of prosperity is confidently looked for.

IN THE RESOURCES we shall endeavor to put our Province before the world as nearly as it exists as possible. To this end we shall pay all reasonable attention to the farmer and farming interests. Believing that class of our community will profit by a little attention, we place at their disposal a page or more, hoping they will fill it with their various experiences. The yield per acre of any crop will be of value, as we may thereby show the capabilities of our soil and climate, the locality in which it was obtained, and the chance for intending settlers to procure land in the neighborhood. Cuts of all descriptions of live stock will be printed as regularly as we can receive them, together with the best information obtainable, relative to their successful production.

DELAY.

We have delayed publication of this issue five days in the hope of having our new heading as well as cuts of some very desirable horned cattle, but

"The best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft agley."

The cuts have not come—we are disappointed—and hope our patrons will take this excuse for apparent tardiness.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

Henceforward we shall endeavor to give the real estate transactions as far as they can be obtained, and to this end we ask the assistance of real estate dealers generally. Without their assistance, of course, we can do nothing. We make this move knowing that the same thing is done in San Francisco daily, and can see no reason why British Columbia should be behind in this particular.

SCHOOLS.

We have made one of our correspondents say that the sum of \$50,000 is annually expended on public schools in Victoria. Well, we presume the wish was father to the thought on the part of the compositor. It should be, however, in British Columbia.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

There can be no doubt that the agricultural exhibitions held within the last fifty years, the wide world over, have done more to promote an enlightened system of cultivation and breeding than any other movement whatsoever. Half a century ago, there was, properly speaking, little or no scientific farming. Success was the result of chance rather than the well merited reward of careful study. The constituents needful in soils for the proper development of grasses grain etc., were unknown; the value of the rotation of crops was also unknown. Lands were cropped year after year until they were rendered barren by exhaustion. This sad state of things has almost passed away. By means of agricultural exhibitions, agriculturists meet one another, compare notes, give the results of their varied experiences, show what crops are the most profitable to plant in succession, and what fertilizers best meet the requirements of the various kinds of land, and supply the waste incurred by the cultivation of the different cereals. Farms that were once considered worthless have been rejuvenated, and cereals of a much higher, and more prolific order, have been produced. These exhibitions have done very much to increase the value of the stock raised on farms. Breeders now recognize the fact that it will not pay to raise poor stock of any kind. That "like begets like," and if the parent on either side be inferior, the progeny will be inferior also. Some cows are found to be more suitable for dairy purposes than others, whilst other breeds, by their early maturity and rapid growth, are better adapted for the butcher. Let farmers and stock-raisers in British Columbia remember these facts and get rid of the ill-bred, cross-grained stock which in many instances still are found in this land. Like the lean kine they devour all the fat cattle. The coming agricultural Fair at New Westminster ought to be a success. True, the dry weather has somewhat marred the crops, still enough, remains to show what intelligent farming can do. The Delta lands of the Fraser ought to be able to supply first class exhibits of cattle and horses. The country is likely to be full of strangers—let it be shown to them that British Columbia is a land of Goshen to any who, with intelligent industry, will take up their abode here.

We desire to have as much news as possible in our paper. It is circulated abroad extensively, and as it is hard to find a person who has not friends in a foreign land, we intend publishing, in each issue, a list of births, marriages and deaths, free of charge. Notices, to insure publication, must be properly authenticated.

THE Saanich agricultural fair will take place early in October.