

## IMMIGRATION.

The Dominion Government, according to its own announcements, is not only going to carry out energetic emigration work in Europe, but proposes to secure some of the discontented settlers and farmers in those parts of the United States where it is generally admitted that the farming lands are played out. It is true that, in some of these sections, agriculture has been carried on for many years in consequence, of which a climax has not unnaturally been reached. Some of this, however, might have been avoided had good farming methods been employed, as in the Old Country some of the best lands there have been farmed for scores and scores of years; but it has been done systematically. We want in Canada not only men who are prepared to farm and have the capital to do it with, but we have especial need of those who will do the business well, and will not allow their lands to be ruined for the mere sake of departing from the old and time-honored rule of thumb.

## UNNECESSARY CREDIT.

In some of the reports recently published of the sale of school lands in Manitoba, occasion is taken to remark that none of the properties fell into the hands of speculators, the farmers who knew the capabilities of the soil having outbidden those who make it their business to buy and lock up eligible lands. It is, however, suggested that among the men who have had cash to pay down for large quantities of property, have protested inability to pay their store bills, to the immense disadvantage and loss of the men with whom they are accustomed to deal. One such farmer is said to have had no difficulty in paying down \$1,000 for more land. Doubtless it is on account of men like this that one not unfrequently hears the report that "mercantile collections are not as prompt as they should be." In this connection, it is remarkable that it is this scandalous system of credit which obtains that is at the bottom of most of the trouble about slow collections, and if farmers are slow pay and invest their money in other ways, instead of paying their store accounts, it is because they have been educated so to do by the way business is done. In the above experience, is furnished additional practical proof of the real necessity that there is for customers to make early cash returns for the purchases that they make, for no matter how great the amount of real estate is acquired—too frequently at the expense of creditors—the condition of that community cannot be said to be prosperous, of which it is possible to say that "mercantile collections are not as prompt as they should be."

## FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

It is said that in a few weeks' time there will be a very urgent demand for farm laborers in Manitoba, and that the demand will be greatly in excess of the supply. The *Winnipeg Commercial*, referring to this subject, says: "The enormous crop of last year, combined with a late harvest and unfavorable fall weather,

has forced a great deal of work to remain over until spring. There will be millions of bushels of grain to be threshed in the spring, and threshing hands will be in demand. On account of the smaller area of land plowed last fall, there will be much more spring plowing to be done this year than usual, and additional help will be required to plow and put in the crops. Many farmers will have hundreds of loads of grain to haul to market in the summer, which they have not been able to get threshed in time to market during the winter. This again makes extra work for the farmers. The season promises to be a busy one for the farmers right through. What with threshing and marketing grain, attending to their spring seeding, breaking new land, etc., the farmers will be busy right up to next harvest, when another rush of work will set in."

There are doubtless some people who have arrived on this coast that are fitted for nothing but the rough farming which obtains in the prairie province, and these would do well to avail themselves of the opportunities which are offered, at any rate for the time being, on the other side the mountains. Here the man that is principally wanted to go upon our lands is he who has at any rate some small amount of pecuniary resources, who is prepared to supplement them with all the labor he is capable of supplying. As has been said many times, we have no room on the Pacific Coast for any of the pests or parasites that elsewhere are accustomed to prey upon society and upon natural and industrial products.

## B. C. BOARD OF TRADE.

At the meeting of the council of the B. C. Board of Trade held last Tuesday, the following members were present: Vice-President Flummerfelt, in the chair, Messrs. D. R. Ker, J. H. Todd, S. Leiser, W. F. Bullen, A. B. Gray, H. F. Heisterman, C. E. Renouf, and Joshua Davies.

Letters were read from Mr. J. A. Hall, of Manchester, England, addressed to Mr. W. Jensen, asking for information as to the prospects for the starting of chemical works in Victoria. The correspondence had been before a previous meeting of the Board, and on that occasion was referred to a committee. The committee suggested that the secretary be asked to ascertain the amount of chemicals imported during the past year, and furnish particulars thereof to Mr. Hall. The report was adopted, and the secretary instructed accordingly.

The brewers of the city addressed the Board on the subject of a grievance under which, they claim, they labor, and which will be intensified with the establishment of the lager beer breweries. Rice is largely used in the making of beer. It is taxed as rice, and when the beer is produced, the excise step in and claim 10 cents per gallon extra, which the brewers claim to be a double tax on the same commodity, or its part product beer.

In the absence of President Hall, who has had a great deal of correspondence on the subject, the matter was deferred.

A communication was read from the Vancouver Board of Trade with a resolution, adopted by that body enclosed, endor-

sing the memorial of the B. C. Lumber Association, requesting the Dominion Government to procure the admission of Douglas fir into the United States free, failing which to impose the same duty as is exacted by them on Douglas fir upon pitch pine and redwood when imported into Canada.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Manufactures.

A communication from the Deputy Minister of Marine was received and filed. It was to the effect that reports of vessels in sight would be forwarded from Bonilla Point to some central place at the rate of 50 cents for the first ten words and three cents each additional word, and asking if the Board would pay the expense.

The communication announcing that a stone beacon would be placed on Brothie Ledge, and that the different pilotage boards had been communicated with on the subject of arrangements for a pilot boat in the Straits, were also received and referred.

The secretary of the New Westminster Board of Trade wrote acknowledging the receipt of the Board's letter in regard to the deep-sea fisheries which suggested that the Douglas be used. The Westminster Board decided to co-operate with the Victoria Board and had sent a memorial to the Minister of Marine.

The question of silver currency and the action taken to receive American coin at a discount was discussed at considerable length. Some of the members held that it would be injurious to the best interests of the city not to receive United States coin at par, as visitors and traders from the other side had for years been in the habit of passing American coin here at face value. It was shown that Canadian money would be received at San Francisco on much more favorable terms than were proposed in connection with United States currency in this country. The subject was referred to the Finance Committee and the council adjourned.

Rosenbaum & Co., of Hamburg, Germany, have opened in Vancouver, with Mr. Alfred Rosenbaum as manager. The firm are direct importers of drugs and chemicals and fancy goods of every description. A considerable stock will be carried in Vancouver.

A proposal to secure reciprocity in giving effect to judgments between Great Britain and the colonies is at present being mooted. It originated with the colonial conference in 1888, and counsel was employed to prepare a bill by which it might be carried into effect. The State Department at Ottawa having received communication of the proposal, has forwarded it to the Provincial governments, which, having cognizance of "property and civil rights," have a right of decision in the premises. The judgments to be mutually adopted would be confined to those rendered by Superior Courts, ultimately the reciprocity might be extended inter-colonially. Among the effects of the acceptance of such a measure would be a saving of time and money in giving effect in one part of the Empire to judgments rendered in another. No doubt the measure would find its most active operation in connection with the collection of debts, in respect to which creditors in all parts of the Empire are entitled to every reasonable aid from other parts.