### GOVERNMENT AND CAR SHORTAGE

A conference between Hon. Robt. Rogers and Hon. Geo. E. Foster, representing the Dominion government, and G. J. Bury, of the C.P.R., George H. Shaw, of the C.N.R., and J. E. Dalrymple, of the G.T.P., was held at Ottawa on January 9 to discuss the car shortage situation in the West. The railway representatives promised to do. railway representatives promised to do everything in their power to relieve the congestion and undertook to ship every available empty car in the East to the West.

The railway officials admitted that the congestion was bad, but declared that the conditions and situation were abnormal. They pointed out that the season was late, so that there was less time to get the grain to ports; also that the Manitoba crop, which is usually two weeks ahead of Saskatchewan and gives the railways a good start, was not ripe until after the far Western

A. J. Nixon, an official of the Railway Commission, arrived in Winnipeg on January 11 to investigate car shortage January 11 to investigate car shortage conditions, and will spend some time in the West looking into the matter. Mr. Nixon will conduct his investigation privately, and desires to receive information from all who can assist him in obtaining full information to lay before the Railway Commission, and also any suggestions as to means of realso any suggestions as to means of re-lieving the situation and preventing its

### C.P.R. TELEGRAPH PROFITS

An investigation into the rates charged by the telegraph companies throughout Canada was opened by the Railway Commission at Ottawa on January 8. The business of the C.P.B. Telegraph company was under review on January 10, and a statement presented by the company showed that enormous profits were being made. The analysis was conducted through audit office features and the following statements. was conducted through audit office figures, and the following statistics indi-cate the earnings and expenses, together with net earnings, during the past six

For the year ending June 30, 1906— Earnings, \$1,687,558.60; expenses, \$728,-762.24; net earnings, \$958,796.36.

1907—Earnings, \$1,900,444.39; expenses, \$852,640.87; net earnings, \$1,017,803.52.

1908—Earnings, \$1,713,219.82; ex-

1909—Earnings, \$1,855,785.71; excesses, \$933,137.61; net earnings, \$922,-

1910—Earnings, \$2,171,518.00; expenses, \$1,057,783.35; net earnings, \$1,-113,734.65.

1911—Earnings, \$2,467,642.30; expenses, \$1,196,497.80; net earnings, \$1, 270,143.22.

The total revenue for all branches of the company's telegraph business for 1910 was shown to be \$2,171,518.00. A statement provided by Mr. Camp showed that the number of messages sent had increased from 2,343,705 in 1906 to 3,246,664 in 1910. A valuation of the company's plant and equipment, based on the cost of reproduction, was submitted and totalled \$6,696,421.40 divided between pole lines and equipment. divided between pole lines and equipment, valued at \$3,897,238.39, and wires valued at \$2,199,968.37, while there was a cable item of \$275,000. There were 12,208 miles of poles, and this was valued at \$321.87 per mile.

In another column of this issue the B. C. Permanent Loan Company of Vancouver, B.C., notifies its shareholders of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the Permanent Stock of the Company for the half year ending Decem-ber 30th. 1911.

During the past year this company made splendid progress in all departments. The Reserve was increased from \$400,-000.00 to \$500,000.00; the Permanent Stock from \$600,000.00 to \$700,000.00 and the Assets from \$3,211,511.86 to over \$3,500,000.00.

The Company will this year issue the balance of the Million Dollars of Permanent Stock and the Directors are confident that with the increased earning power, a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum will be permanently maintained. GOLD RUSH IN MANITOBA

Minitonas, Man., Jan. 15.-Intense-scitement prevailed in town today when the business men closed their shops and made a rush for the gold fields situated 4 miles southwest of here to stake out

claims.

A week or ten days ago a farmer named Elliott found several gold nuggets in the crops of turkeys that he had killed. This discovery was not taken seriously by the citizens at the time. Other turkeys were killed and with the exception of two or three traces of gold were found upon all the birds.

This gold was found on a black sand ridge which runs east and west through Elliott's farm and extends from Fisher's, some 50 miles along the old Indian Polly trail, toward Polly, Sask., at the foot of the Duck mountains. Andrew Armstrong, a farmer, 5 miles west of Elliott, has also located a small nugget in a fowl he killed.

James N. Hunter, a thresher, claims

James N. Hunter, a thresher, claims to have found a small nugget in the nozzle of his hose that he was using to fill his engine with water out of the creek in the same locality.

Upwards of fifty claims have been staked today and the rush has apparently only begun. A Klondyke prospector was on the ground and claims the find to be the richest in his experience. He examined the nuggets and pronounced them amined the nuggets and pronounced them genuine. Some black sand was washed and also showed traces of gold.

THE BANK OF COMMERCE

The forty-fifth annual report of the Canadian Bank of Commerce presented to the annual meeting of shareholders, held on January 9, shows that the past year has seen continued success and progress in this institution. The profits for the year after providing for all bad and doubtful debts amounted to \$2,-305,409.42, while \$500,000 was taken into the profit and loss account from overappropriations in connection with ascets now realized, and \$1,357,820 was received as premiums on 82,000,000 of new stock issued. A dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum was paid, 8400,000 was written off bank premises, and \$2,757,820 transferred to the rest account. hich now amounts to \$9,757,820, the paid up capital stands at \$11,697,\$75. Twenty-six new branches were opened during the year, twenty-two of these being in the West, and five were closed. Sir Edmund Walker is president of the bank and Mr. Z. A. Lash, K.C.,

DAIRYMEN TO DISCUSS MILK SUPPLY

Two hundred or more dairymen, farmers and others interested in the dairying business in Manitoba are exed to attend the organization meetings of the recently appointed commission to enquire into the whole question of the milk supply of Winnipeg and other Mani-toba cities which will be held in the council chamber of the Winnipeg city council chamber of the Winnipeg city hall today at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Representatives of all the big city dairy companies will take an active part in the proceedings, and it is expected that all branches of the industry will be well represented. The present intention is that the meeting should be only of a preliminary character, the idea being to have a further convention of farmers and dairymen during bonspiel week. and dairymen during bonspiel week. The meeting at 2 o'clock today will convene in charge of Prof. Mitchell, Mr. Tully, of Reaburn, and Mr. Cosby, secretary of the commission, Principal Black, of the Agricultural college, has been asked to attend.

### HUDSON BAY ROAD TO PROCEED

Ottawa, Jan. 15 .- Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways, announced in the House of Commons today that he had given instructions to J. D. Mc-Arthur to proceed at once with the contract for the construction of the first section of the Hudson Bay railway, which was let by the late government. Mr. Cochrane said another expedition to the bay would be necessary before it could be decided whether Fort Churchill or Port Nelson would be made the terminus of the line, but no time would be lost and the road completed in two or three years. This statement was loudly cheered years. This statement was loudly cheered by Western members on both sides of the House.

The railway commission has forbidden a higher freight tariff on hay shipments from Ontario and Quebec to the United

## -GRAIN GROWERS

ARE YOU SATISFIED?

ARE YOU CONVINCED?

The reliability of the Commission Merchant who handles your grain is of utmost importance to you. There have been several changes in the personnel of the grain trade during the past year. Some have come and gone, but we are still at your service with a clear record of twenty-nine years in Western Canada

INVESTIGATE and send your grain and option orders to the Pioneer Grain Commission Merchant.

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S. SPINK

Winnipeg

References: Union Bank of Canada, Royal Bank of Canada.

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WATSON'S leads the market. Cuts hay, corn and straw perfectly. Fast and economical—Saves Feed. Cut shows our Excelsior, Jr., a favorite with farmers. Cuts up to half a ton of hay an hour. Specially tempered finest English steel concave knives. Start, stop and reverse lever. Made in seven sizes Made in seven sizes and used all over Canada. Suitable for hand, horse, windmill

or engine power.

If your dealer can't supply you, write us.



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WAPELLA CAR SHORTAGE

WAPELLA CAR SHORTAGE
On January 10 a delegation from
Wapella waited on J. T. Arundel, superintendent of the C. P. R. at Winnipeg, in
relation to the car shortage. The delegation consisted of H. Barish, representing
the Grain Growers' Association and A.
G. Dawson and Dr. Miller from the board
of trade. They pointed out to Mr.
Arundel that only thirty-six cars had
been received at Wapella from September
1 to January 8. Of these, only five had
been sent in as empties, the balance having been sent in as empties, the balance having been shipped in with goods and re-loaded with grain. The delegation also loaded with grain. The delegation also stated that there were 450 cars yet needed to carry out the crop. There were ninety-two names on the car order book and the elevators had been full for three weeks. About ten per cent. of the grain is still unthreshed. One of the great problems of the Wapella district is the marketing of grain in less than car lots. Fully fifty per cent. of the farmers are in this situation and there is little money to be secured from the bank. Mr. Arundel promised them ten cars at once. Arundel promised them ten cars at once, ten cars additional at the end of the week and another ten cars next week. This was the best he could promise them.

### \$5,000 DUTY AT PORTAL

North Portal, Sask., Jan. 16.-During September, October, November and De cember there were shipped through this port to the United States 12,659 bushels port to the United States 12,659 bushels of Canadian flax, the duty on which, at 25c. a bushel, was \$3,164.75. Of this amount, 1,683 bushels were delivered by wagons by farmers close to the border, the balance being shipped from Milestone, Weyburn and other Soo line points. During the same period 6,904 bushels of oats entered the United States, representing a duty of \$1,035.65, and

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE

8,366 bushels of wheat, representing a duty of about \$800, half of this quantity being shipped in bond to Eastern Canada points. This means a total of over \$5,000 paid into the United States treasury by the Canadian farmers near the bound

#### COUNSEL FOR FREIGHT RATE INQUIRY

H. W. Whitla, a Winnipeg barrister, has been appointed by the Dominion government to act as counsel on behalf of the public in the investigation of Western freight rates.

A bomb was thrown at the carriage of Premier Yuan Shi Kai, of China, on Tuesday. Two soldiers were killed.

### F. J. DIXON AT SWAN LAKE

Under the auspices of the Swan Lake Grain Growers' Association, Mr. F. J. Dixon, of Winnipeg, on Wednesday evening gave a lecture on Direct Legisla-

The lecture was interesting and in-structive and dealt with the growth of constitutional government, showing its weaknesses at the present time, as a true embodiment of the will of the people embodiment of the will of the people. He then went on to show what Direct Legislation meant, dealing with its three aspects of Initiative, Referendum and Recall. Mr. Dixon also showed how it was working, in places where it had been adopted, for the benefit of the people. After a few questions had been asked and answered a very instructive evening came to a close.

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