

Nelson — Queen City of the Kootenay

If goods must be brought to Vancouver and then sent to Nelson, they have to travel nearly 1,000 miles more than if they came to Nelson direct. So that under readjusted freight rates, which are bound to arrive in time, Nelson will become an even greater distributing centre than it is today.

At present, the following firms are engaged in wholesale business, and the number is rapidly growing:

A. Maedonal & Co., groceries.
Starkey & Co., fruit and provisions.
Brackman-Ker Milling Co., flour and feed.
Taylor-Milling Co., flour and feed.
Swift Canadian Company, meats.
P. Burns & Co., meats.
Canadian Explosives, Limited, powder.
Giant Consolidated Powder Co., powder.
Nelson Wine & Spirit Co., liquors.
Hudson's Bay Company, liquors.
Wood-Vallance Hardware Co., hardware.
Standard Furniture Co., furniture.
D. J. Robertson, furniture.
Kootenay Fruit Growers' Union, fruit.
Canadian Oil Company, oil.
Imperial Oil Co., oil.
W. C. Sandercock, Pitner gasoline lamp.

Another factor which makes for the development of the Kootenay is the fact that the trade routes of the world are changing today. Nearly half a century ago, Secretary Seward, of the American cabinet, made the statement that the time was coming when the Pacific would be as great a highway of commerce as the Atlantic. That day has dawned now. Japan has awakened, her commerce has gone forward by leaps and bounds; checked though her development has been by the economic strain of her comparatively recent war with Russia, Japan is emerging from the crisis into the family of great commercial nations. The influence of Japan is being exerted over Korea, and what was heretofore described as a hermit kingdom has begun to pour its wealth into the lap of the world.

*"The western world is
awakening."*

Within the past year China has awakened. The Chinese have begun to adopt Western habits and Western ideas. They are a most vigorous commercial people when once brought into contact with the ideas of the West, and nations facing upon the Pacific Ocean must feel within a few years the reflection of Chinese development.