

other industries which have brought Canada into prominence.

The work of the Dominion association has resulted in the formation of a provincial forestry association for British Columbia. The forests of British Columbia are so differentiated from those in any other part of the Dominion that the questions involved in forest management are in many ways peculiar to that province, and therefore the demand for the existence of a provincial association is greater there than elsewhere.

During the present year the attention of the public has been so much taken up with other matters that the association has not attempted to hold many public meetings, but during the coming year it is the intention to hold a number at important points, and to conduct a more aggressive campaign generally. In pursuance of this policy, a meeting will be held in Toronto on the 6th of January in connection with the Canadian Institute, at which a number of important papers in connection with forestry will be given. Mr. Stewart, the chief inspector of timber and forestry for the Dominion, has also arranged for a number of meetings to be held in the west during the months of January and February, and the annual meeting of the association will be held in Ottawa in the beginning of March, and following this there will be other conferences arranged for.

Bad Fire at Calgary.

Calgary, Dec. 25.—The most destructive fire in the history of Calgary raged to-day and wrought damage variously estimated, but it will not be below \$100,000. Several of the finest business structures fell a prey to the devouring flames, notably the Clarence, the Eau Claire, and the New Norman blocks.

The fire broke out about 2 o'clock this morning in the basement or lower story of the Clarence block, and in a few minutes the huge three-storey stone building was enveloped in smoke and flame. The fire brigade was early on the scene and worked heroically, though hampered for the time by the poor supply of water. The fire seemed to have started near the centre of the building and had attained great volume before it was noticed. It was soon seen that the block must go, and so great was the heat that the Eau Claire block on the east side, occupied by the Calgary Clothing company, and the Norman block, on the west, occupied by Glanville & Robertson for their immense dry goods business, were also ablaze.

The block was full of tenants, and much anxiety was felt for a few minutes as to the safety of those in the third storey. Miss Dodd, who has rooms in the block, and who had just returned from midnight service, was the first to notice the smoke. She immediately, with great presence of mind, went from room to room and aroused all the occupants. All escaped, though nothing whatever from the upper storeys was saved. A slight wind was blowing from the west, and the firemen soon turned their attention to saving the Eau Claire block. After a long struggle, in which the inside of the building was completely destroyed, the flames were mastered, but the fire burned for several hours and streams of water were poured on. In the meantime a crowd of willing workers were carrying out from the Norman block on the west the immense stock of men's furnishings, carpets, furs and other stock of Glanville & Robertson. Through a sealed window between the two blocks the heat made its way and this handsome new block suddenly burst out in flames, though a constant stream of water had been playing upon it. In a few minutes the inflammable material was aglow and sheets of flame and smoke burst from the roof and the upper storey. The firemen redoubled their efforts and confined the fire and, though this new block was also completely gutted.

The loss will be enormous, over \$100,000. Senator Loughheed, who built and owns both the Clarence and Norman blocks, is the chief loser. Besides the buildings themselves, both handsome stone structures, the latter just completed last week, the senator loses the whole of his magnificent law library and papers. The Calgary Wine and Spirits Co. had just got in an immense stock of liquors which added

no little to the fury of the flames, which finally secured an entrance to the Norman block. The Alberta Music company lost their large stock of pianos and organs, the Watts company, cigars, was one of the first to go up in smoke, Mr. G. H. Mitchell's stock of groceries and chinaware lies in ashes, the Calgary Clothing company's splendid stock is destroyed; Glanville & Robertson lose very heavily. They were just removing to new premises and fortunately the bulk of their stock was still in the old store in the next block east. Crispin E. Smith and H. W. H. Knott lose their extensive law libraries and many other volumes and papers. Dr. O'Sullivan's well equipped dentistry parlors were among the first to suffer. Mr. Evans, Mr. Dodd and a number of others lose their household effects.

Most of the sufferers have some insurance though not at all commensurate with the loss. The firemen worked on the Norman block all morning to prevent the fire spreading further west and as the wind did not spring up succeeded. Fortunately no one was seriously burned or injured, though many times the firemen were ordered back from dangerous traps. A curious incident occurred while the flames were sweeping through the Alberta Music company's instruments. As the intensity of the conflagration increased the heat suddenly burst out the immense plate glass window into the middle of the street. An immense harmonica was in the window. This instrument was carried to a place of safety not a whit the worse for its sudden expulsion.

The Clarence block was valued at \$35,000; the Eau Claire at \$8,000, and the Norman block at \$20,000. The Oddfellows hall was in one of the burnt structures.

C. P. R. Plans for the New Year.

Manager Whyte, of the C. P. R., returned from Montreal on Monday. Mr. Whyte stated that he had been on his annual trip to Montreal to arrange with headquarters the year's appropriations for the work to be done. It was definitely decided that no new extensions would be built in the province next season and there will be little work done that materially affects Winnipeg.

A large expenditure would be made improving the main line roadbed across the prairies, and substantial gravel ballast will be put in on the entire transcontinental system. During the past year \$125,000 has been expended on this work and about as much more would be needed for the work during 1901. By the end of next year the line from ocean to ocean will be built on sound gravel roadbed and increased speed with safety will be obtained. The C. P. R. will be the only transcontinental line thus equipped.

Besides this work the expenditure will be for the filling in of bridges, strengthening bridges with steel superstructures and abutments. A new tunnel will also be built at the loop on the west slope of the Rockies. The British Columbia lines will also be extended, as the development among the mines requires.

Speaking of the new bridge over the Red river to replace the Louise, Mr. Whyte said that the tenders had not yet been awarded for the work but he expected that by the end of this week the awards would be made.

Asked as to proposed improvements in the Winnipeg yards, Mr. Whyte said that nothing definite was decided on. Mr. Murray is now en route to New Orleans to inspect the new yards of the Illinois Central railway, which have just been completed and are said to contain all the modern equipments for a busy centre and ideas will be picked up from this by Mr. Murray to be used when the work is started in Winnipeg.

As to the new hotel and subway matter, Mr. Whyte did not wish to speak. He expressed extreme regret that the subway by-law had not received sufficient votes in favor and in doing so spoke as a citizen of Winnipeg and one wishing Winnipeg's advancement rather than an employee of the C. P. R. He could not understand how the citizens would be so blind to the good that a first-class hotel here would do the city.

The reporter mentioned the fact that a number of citizens considered that the difficulty could be easily overcome by building of the depot on the west side of Main street, but Mr.

Whyte pointed out that the idea was utterly impracticable. Princess and King street would be closed up and the entire yards would be totally disorganized. Application has been made to the railway committee for increased trackage.

Roseland Mine Shipments.

Roseland, B. C. Dec. 23.—Appended are the ore shipments for the past week and the year to date:

	Week.	Year.
Le Roi	3,718	159,355
Centre Star	20,010	39,032
War Eagle		10,278
Le Roi No. 2		2,022
Iron Mask	160	2,773
Giant		633
I. X. L.		552
Evening Star		428
Monte Cristo		273
Spitzee		153
Iron Coll.		80
Totals	23,908	216,411

Ontario Fruit Growers Meet.

The Ontario Fruit Growers' Association held its annual meeting in Brantford last week. The two most important discussions were upon the proposed Dominion bill to regulate the packing and branding of fruit for export and the San Jose scale. Opposition to the government's inspection bill developed among the packers of apples on the ground that the bill should be made to cover other kinds of fruit as well. A committee was appointed to discuss the bill which finally reported recommending the adoption of its principles, but extending its scope to other fruits as well. Two grades are provided for, and it is provided that all packages shall bear the name Canadian stamped upon them. The two grades provided for were "A No. 1" and "No. 1," and it was provided also that every package of any fruit should bear the name "Canadian" as well as the name of the packer. To be grade "A No. 1" 90 per cent. of the apples or pears in a package had to be free from scabs and worm holes, while "No. 1" grade had to have 80 per cent free from scabs and worm holes. On each package is to be stamped the minimum size of the fruit contained in it. Fraudulent packing is designated as that which makes more than 15 per cent. of the fruit in a package of worse quality than is indicated by the brand or than is shown in the fact when opened. The bill is made to apply only to closed packages, and a closed package is defined as one in which the fruit is concealed and which to examine causes injury to the fruit. A packer is defined as the person on whose behalf any fruit is packed.

Prof. Loughheed, bacteriologist of the Agricultural college, delivered an address on the San Jose scale. He stated that this disease had now extended in the orchards of Ontario to such an extent that it could not be exterminated without great loss, but that it can be kept in check if proper means are used. He recommended spraying with whale oil soap or crude petroleum.

Iron Ship Building in Nova Scotia.

That iron ships will be built in Nova Scotia at some future day seems certain. When and where has yet to be determined, but the men who are dreaming of the project can be relied upon to launch any enterprise they believe in.

In the meantime, more money is required for the purposes of the Dominion Iron and Steel company, and it is stated that the amount has been promptly underwritten by those who are already interested in the big Nova Scotia industry.—Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

Canadian Enterprise.

Perhaps we have been paying too little attention in this country to the opening up of a new grain route through Canada. Less than a month ago trains began running from Pelly Sound on Georgian Bay to Quebec, where a grain elevator of a million tons capacity has been erected, and has already been employed to transfer grain from the cars to the ocean steamship. There is no doubt about the shortness of the route, it is claimed to be 500 miles less from Chicago or Duluth to Liverpool than by this city. The grain is not rehandled any oftener than the grain that comes to Buffalo by lake, and thence to the ocean steamer by rail. The land and water carriers are brought closer to-

gether near Quebec than at this port, except at one point here. But, on the other hand, there is far less shipment at Quebec than here, and the navigation of the St. Lawrence can never be so rapid or so safe as that of the ocean into which New York harbor opens. We are not especially afraid of the new route, but it will get some business that might come to American ports, and we congratulate the Canadians on their pluck and enterprise.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

A Banner Year.

Mr. Will J. White, inspector of Canadian Emigration agencies in the States, says that immigration for the year 1900 makes a splendid showing as compared with former years. In 1899, about 11,000 settlers came from the United States to Canada, mostly all being farmers or farmer's sons. This was considered a good year. "Last year," said Mr. White, "we sent to Western Canada from the states fully 13,000 and nearly 14,000 people. This represents as well about six or seven million dollars of effects which they brought with them." Mr. White also anticipates a continued influx of settlers from the states of Nebraska, Iowa, and even from Kentucky, and lower Michigan. From Nebraska alone last year Mr. White states that 1,500 people came to Canada. The class of settlers now leaving their homes are not farmers who have failed to succeed. They are largely the sons of well-to-do farmers, the high price of land keeping the latter from extending their farms.

The Twentieth Century Farmer.

The Christmas number of the Farmer's Advocate begins with a study in human progress, based on the history of the 19th and previous centuries, followed by contributions from many of the brightest minds on the continent, like Principal Grant and Hon. J. W. Longley, recounting the great achievements of the past one hundred years and indicating the course of future success. J. J. Gunn writes on "Manitoba 100 Years Ago," J. W. Mitchell on "The Northwest Creameries," J. A. Turner on "The Conditions of Ranching," Jean Blewett contributes some beautiful lines on "The Master's Poor," and J. W. Bengough turns the X rays on the wonderful 20th century farmer, that will put the whole country in good humor. Another feature out of the usual routine is Frank Lawson's splendid review (illustrated with fifteen portraits) of Canadians who have added lustre to 19th century literature. Old and new types in stock breeding are discussed in an illustrated article, "No. 1 Hard Wheat," by Mr. Angus McKay, is an interesting subject. D. E. Smith describes the wonderful Chicago Stock Yards and Packing Houses. Richard Gibson writes on "St. Tatton Sykes and his Times"; Prof. Shaw, "The Field for 20th Century Improvement in Farm Crops"; Rev. John McDougall, "My First Buffalo Hunt"; Archibald McNeillage, of Scotland, "A Century of Horse Breeding"; Alfred Mansell, "The Evolution of Sheep Breeding"; Mr. F. S. Peir, "Moose Hunting in Nova Scotia"; S. A. Bedford, "Farming Before the Railway," and several other valuable contributions.

Poisonous Drinks.

The French Chamber of Deputies has passed the following amendment to the new law for the regulation of the sale, manufacture and taxation of beverages: "The manufacture, importation, or sale of all intoxicating liquors, alcohols or drinking mixtures declared injurious by the academy of medicine, or containing substances so declared in any quantity whatsoever, is hereby forbidden." Absinthe, largely used in France, is the principal thing on the black list of the academy of medicine. "American mixtures known as gin fizz, cocktail and sherry slip," are also on their list. The last report of the academy of medicine says: "Government permission to sell morphine and poisons in general without restriction could not produce ravages comparable with these compounds."

Wine, beer, cider and pure brandy and whiskeys are not condemned.

A report from Dawson, Yukon, says prices went down Dec. 14 on all commodities, lower than summer prices.