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Mercantile Summary.

AN official proclamation has been issued promoting the village of Hespeler into a town, on and after the first Monday in January.

ONE result of the construction of telegraph lines by the Canadian Government in the Yukon is the facilities it renders for the carrying out of President McKinley's proposition for an accurate determination of the longitude of that region.

SIR W. VAN HORNE, Messrs. C. R. Hosmer, R. B. Angus, E. B. Osler, W. D. Matthews and others are petitioning the Dominion Government for a charter for the Pacific Coal Co., limited, Montreal, with a capital of \$4,000,000. They will carry on the business of colliery proprietors, coal and coke manufacturers, smelters, etc., in the Northwest.

A VANCOUVER despatch states that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's steamship "Empress of China," from Vancouver, recently carried 50,000 barrels of American lager beer, consigned to the Philippine Islands. The despatch further stated that 75 different trains were employed to carry this large consignment of liquid refreshment from the centres of manufacture in the United States to Vancouver.

To the weekly list of insolvencies three cases are added from the Maritime Provinces: L. J. Morris, a grocer of some prominence in Charlottetown since 1884, is reported to have assigned, owing \$10,787.—Hiram Humphreys has long been a general merchant at McDonald's Corners, N.B., but with only a poor measure of success. Twice before has he been in financial straits, and now he is said to be seeking a compromise with creditors, offering 25 cents on the dollar, half cash and half at six months.—J. C. Hipson, a small general dealer at East Pubnico, N.S., in business less than two years, has assigned, owing \$1,500 or thereabout.

DURING next session of the Dominion Legislature the Columbia and Western Railway Company will apply for an Act assimilating its bonding powers west of Midway to powers already given to its lines constructed east of that point, extending the time to complete its railways, and authorizing it to build such branches from any of its lines not exceeding in any one case thirty miles in length. The Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Navigation Co., headquarters, Montreal, will apply for an Act extending the time to construct its railways and works, also authorizing the company to open and operate steam and other vessels on any route connected with its railways; and the British Columbia Southern Railway Company will apply for an Act extending the time to construct its railways, and to construct such branches from any of its lines not exceeding in any one case thirty miles in length.

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**Toronto and Central Ontario
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To Capitalists and Promoters

PUBLIC NOTICE—The Corporation of the City of Toronto desire to have an electric railway system constructed to run to and from new St. Lawrence Market, Toronto, for a distance of 100 miles east, west and north therefrom, said railway system to have six or more main lines, with branches and a total mileage for the present of 500 miles.

The said Corporation of the City of Toronto will assist to obtain a special Act of the Legislature to incorporate a company under the Electric Railway Act, the Acts respecting Companies to supply light, power, etc. (R. S. O. chaps. 199, 200 and 209), and with special powers.

All persons or corporations interested in the formation of such a company or in the construction of the said railway system by the said company may obtain full information from Alderman Daniel Lamb, Chairman of the Committee on Works, Toronto, up to the 31st day of December, 1900.

E. A. MACDONALD, Mayor.
Toronto, Canada, Nov. 22, 1900.

NOTICE
THE TORONTO RAILWAY COMPANY.
DIVIDEND NO. 18

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of one per cent. for the quarter ending the 31st day of December, 1900, being at the rate of four per cent. per annum, upon the capital stock of the company, has been declared payable on

Wednesday, the 2nd Day of January next at the Head Office of the Company, Toronto Railway Chambers, Toronto, to the Shareholders whose names appear as such of record on the books of the Company on the 17th day of December next.

J. C. GRACE,
Secretary-Treasurer

Toronto, December 6th, 1900.