

BOOKS AND STATIONERY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A THRIVING TRADE AND ENTERPRISING DEALERS

ALTHOUGH Victoria and Vancouver are the chief cities of British Columbia, they are not the only places in the Province with nice book, stationery and fancy goods stores. The report of a visitor in the West is that at all points where a bookseller and stationer had set up in business the stores would do credit to the trade anywhere. A notice of some of these will, therefore, prove interesting to the trade in Central and Eastern Canada. Before dealing with Victoria and Vancouver, it may be well to deal with some of the outside points.

CANADA DRUG AND BOOK CO., LIMITED,
NELSON.

This successful firm has stores in Regina (N.W.T.), Nelson and Revelstoke. It was originally centred at Regina, where, on October 10, 1896 the drug business of Robert Martin and the book and stationery business of P. Lamont were formed into a joint stock company, under the name of The Martin & Lamont Co., Limited, with a

capital stock of \$30,000. In the following May, Mr. W. G. Pettingell (drugs) and Mr. C. H. Black (stationery) were admitted to the company, and the name changed to The Canada Drug and Book Co., Limited. Letters of incorporation were taken out in British Columbia, and branches established at Revelstoke and Nelson. In May of that year Mr. Black's interest was purchased by the other members of the company, the officers of which at present are:

Mr. P. Lamont, president
Mr. W. G. Pettingell, vice-president.
Mr. Robert Martin, sec. treas.

These gentlemen are also the principal stockholders. Mr. Martin and Mr. Pettingell look after the Regina interests of the company, while Mr. Lamont is in charge of the British Columbia interests, and resides at Nelson. Mr. C. R. McDonald is manager at Revelstoke.

The progress of the business has been most gratifying, and far beyond the expectations of its promoters. The experiment of carrying, under one roof and manage-

ment, a complete stock of drugs, books, stationery, wall paper, fancy goods, etc., and the consequent saving in running expenses and the advantage of buying in large quantities have been factors in this success. The company owns its own stores at Regina and Revelstoke. At Regina, the large two storey and basement store is taxed to its utmost to accommodate the varied stock. In addition to the lines specified, a complete stock of staple and fancy crockery is carried, also sewing machines.

At Revelstoke, the store has just been enlarged to about twice its original capacity. Bicycles and assayers' supplies are carried as special lines at this point.

At Nelson, the large store on the corner of Baker and Stanley streets has been found too small to accommodate the increasing business, necessitating the opening of another store in the Opera House Block, in which are carried the musical goods, toys and fancy goods of the Nelson branch. The special line carried at this point is a complete stock of fishing tackle. At all the stores, photo supplies and sterling silverware of every variety are carried.

H. S. WALLACE, ROSSLAND.

Mr. H. S. Wallace established himself in Rossland in June, 1895, opening out in the

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1900
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