

outlays by the Pennsylvania and New York Central for accommodation of New York traffic give some idea of what is being done in this direction. Evidently these gigantic corporations have unlimited faith in the future of New York city, or such vast outlays which cannot be immediately profitable would not be undertaken.

FRAUD IN REAL ESTATE SALES.

An important bill of wide public interest passed its third reading in the Alberta Legislature last week. The bill is entitled "An act to prevent frauds and perjuries in relation to real property in the province," and was introduced by Mr. Simpson, (Innisfail). Its effect will be to prevent real estate dealers from selling land on verbal authority, and then demanding commission. Cases have been cited of men verbally consenting to "list" their land with several individual dealers, who have, after a sale has been made by one of their number, sued for their commission, causing trouble and expense even when the land sharks lost their case and often bluffing the owner into paying "peace money" to save litigation. By the provisions of the bill written and signed authority must be given by the owner before the sale can be collected by the real estate agent. The Attorney-General expressed a wish that in passing this legislation the public should be warned of the danger of placing their signatures to any written or printed paper presented to them pertaining to be a form of permission to sell, which might afterwards be found to contain dangerous clauses.—Saskatoon "Capital," May 12th.

A WESTERN PIC-NIC.

Nearly a column of a Saskatoon newspaper is taken up in describing the advent at that very enterprising town of a party of Bostonians, some thirty in number, who had become interested enquirers about the Canadian North-West last year, held meetings during the winter about removing to it, and were finally persuaded to come to Saskatoon, through the influence of W. E. Lawton, of Alameda, Sask., who was in Boston all winter. The party received a grand send-off when leaving Boston, about 1,000 friends and a brass band joining in the farewell. In characteristic American style they paraded through the depot to the train with a banner inscribed, "Saskatoon or Bust." The trip to their new home was made in a special tourist car. The party, or some of them, claim to be descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers, and they will call their town "Nowcomal." A committee was chosen to look for homesteads, and after seven and a half days' search, found a whole town site, about 130 miles south-west, which was open for entries. While waiting for returns from Regina, the party spent their

time in purchasing cattle and implements. Some thirty more persons are coming up from Boston in June to join these colonizers, and they will be welcome, too.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, May 23rd, 1906.

Chemicals, Drugs, etc.—Opium and quinine, and the other staples remain unchanged as to price, while in volume of business it cannot be described as very large. In fact, for the moment, trade is rather dull. Carbolic acid is rather on the easy side. New York advices speak of dullness of trade prevailing during the last few days. The Baltimore chemical market is quite active. English reports say the home trade is being carried on briskly, and that prices are steady.

Dry Goods.—The firmness in staple woolens and cottons, more particularly the former, continues unabated. Nevertheless, the demand is good. Dress goods are selling more than usually briskly for this time of the year. Linens continue very strong. Samples of fall millinery are now arriving from Europe. Ribbons are said to be very prominent among the decorations. Veilings are popular. There was good bidding at the London wool sales, and prices in general were higher, so there seems to be no probability whatever of a fall in woolen prices. Both merinos and crossbreds had an upward tendency. In dress goods, plain and fancy mohairs, also homespuns and grey worsteds are in favor.

Flour and Grain.—While no very large movement is reported either in flour or

wheat, the prices of both seem to have taken on a rising tendency. This perhaps is more in sympathy with Chicago conditions than due to anything intrinsically in the Canadian market. In flour, exporters are bidding \$3.15 for ninety per cent. patents, but not much is selling at this figure.

Groceries.—The movement in sugar is by no means brisk, but no changes have been made in quotations since our last report. Teas are doing a more satisfactory business this week. No quotable changes can be reported, but in some grades, the tendency is towards higher prices. Canned fruits and vegetables are held very firmly, particularly corn and tomatoes. There has been another advance in Valencia raisins.

Hides and Skins.—While no further change has transpired in hides, they are still rather strong in price. A fair trade is passing. Tallow is normal. Leather is normally active, with an average trade being done at good and steady prices.

Provisions.—Butter is in good demand, especially grades of really choice quality, which are not altogether plentiful just now. There is a good trade passing in cheese, which continues firm. Eggs continue very high-priced for the season, selling at 17c. for new-laid. Nothing is doing in poultry. Hog products and smoked meats are very firm, in sympathy with live hogs.

Seeds.—The demand for clover seeds has passed almost away, and the season is practically over. Farm seeds, however are moving well.

Wool.—No further change has taken place since our last report, and prices remain very firm and steady.

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