

During the year this Board has had several interviews as a body with persons of importance and influence. Amongst the Official Visitors of the Vancouver Board of Trade we may especially mention :—The Deputy Minister of Marine, Wm Smith. The Minister of Customs, Hon, McK. Bowell. Sir Fred, Middleton, Alex McD. Allan, President Ont. F. G. Association. W. C. Van Horne, President C. P. R., and others.

Each of these Officials have minutely dealt with the particular objects having welcome reference to their special Departments, and it is to be hoped that the representations made to them as to our City's wants will have the desired results.

As you are aware, The Street Railway is an accomplished fact, as far as the preliminary work is concerned and the next six or eight months will see this important means of communication in full working order, covering those parts of the City within its limits, which are the most frequented ones.

A good deal has been said, written and spoken about the Fortification and Defences of our harbor, and I feel confident that the efforts used in the interest of this question will soon bear fruit.

The subsidy which has been asked by both the Provincial and Dominion Governments for the construction of Railways, branching from the C. P. R. to the important mining districts of Nicola and Cariboo, have received due attention at the hands of all interested in these projects, and I am glad to be able to say that I am in possession of such reliable information as leads me to the belief, that we may look forward to the giving out of contracts for the construction of these lines at an early period of the year after the Sessions have been closed.

The bridge over False Creek, and the Road to the North Arm have been completed, and we may look now to a general increase in the importation of Agricultural produce into the City. In fact the whole farming Districts are now in a position to make our City their regular market, and as soon as our new market house and weighing scales will be completed, there is no doubt but every farmer, near and far, will be anxious to send his products to this convenient means of exchange.

In close connection with the development of our agricultural lands is the redemption of the Pitt River Meadows, by which extensive scheme fully 20,000 acres of very fertile land in near distance from the City will be gained.

After the territory has been obtained from the Dominion Government, it merely requires the working of this gigantic undertaking, which, being in competent hands and under able management, is fast nearing its entire completion.

I consider it the duty of this Board to continue the efforts made last year with regard to a display of our resources, products and industries at Eastern Canadian Fairs, and acting in this spirit I have thought it advisable to invite the Mayors