

having on board 210 land seekers from the United States, going to various points in Alberta and Saskatchewan. It is estimated that each man on the train commanded in ready money a minimum of \$5,000, while some of them ran as high as \$25,000. So that this one trainload of landseekers probably means the investment on the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific of capital to the extent of at least a million dollars.

The other day, among permits which went through the Winnipeg building inspector's office, were three aggregating \$150,000 in value. They were for the Canadian Pacific's new shops to cost \$65,000; the plant of the Henderson Manufacturing Company to cost \$50,000 and a store and apartment building on Jarvis Avenue between Main and King Streets to cost \$35,000.

Progress in Vancouver.

The Western Steel Corporation intends to build a big plant in British Columbia, including steel works for working up pig iron into steel and rolling mills for the manufacture of every variety of steel rails as well as bar iron and structural steel of every description. Allowing for a yearly increase of 10 p.c. in the consumption of iron and steel in British Columbia and the prairie provinces, the Corporation has enough iron ore in British Columbia to last over two hundred years.

The company has made an interesting arrangement with a Chinese iron and coal company at Hankow, which is virtually controlled by the Chinese Government. It has agreed to take from the Chinese Company a minimum of 36,000 tons of pig iron and a maximum of 100,000 tons of pig iron annually. This will be worked up into steel in the proposed British Columbia mill and at another plant the company has working in the States, and as the plant will be too large for domestic requirements, the bulk of the product will be sent to the Orient—to Japan and to Northern China which is relatively nearer to Vancouver than the Chinese plant mentioned. The company expects to be able to undersell all competitors in those markets.

An order in Council has been issued reserving from settlement or occupation the entire eastern slope of the Rocky mountains from the international boundary northward to a short distance north of the 54th parallel of latitude. This reserve will be administered entirely with a view to the proper utilization and reproduction of the forest, the protection of the water supply of the Prairie provinces and other related objects. The total area is about 14,400 square miles and adjoining it to the South is an area of 1,400 square miles similarly reserved by the United States Government.

Vancouver is busy with preparations for a record apple show to be held at the beginning of next November. The promoters confidently expect to get two million apples to Vancouver and with them, to quote an enthusiastic supporter of the project, "all the people that will come to exhibit them, to see them and to buy British Columbia lands on which to grow more of them." All the Canadian provinces and several of the American States will be represented. The idea is to give fruit lands in British Columbia a big "boost," as there are at present only about 125,000 acres plant-

ed in fruit in British Columbia out of a possible two million acres. The total value of the fruit products of the Province in 1900, barring unforeseen mishaps, will approach \$1,500,000, but at present the province supplies only about 15 p.c. of the fruit consumed in the Prairie provinces.

Sir Ernest Shackleton and Canadian Minerals.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, the well-known explorer, interviewed in Winnipeg this week, stated that he had plans for investigating the mineral resources of the Dominion. "I believe in future" he said, "there will be great mineral developments in Canada. I will not say they have been neglected in the past; but they have been eclipsed by agricultural and placed somewhat in the background. Agricultural needs are what have been most considered in the past, but you must not forget there is a mineral side. I believe the country possesses the materials it requires for most of its own manufactures, and before very long we shall be getting in this country most of the material we are at present importing from other countries." Sir Ernest went on: "I have got no definite plans yet, but I have got hopes, and when I have got hopes, such as I have in regard to this matter it does not take me long to make up my mind. Of course, I know the places and districts where this mineral wealth is to be found" But he declined to state where they are.

REBATING PROHIBITED BY THE NEW INSURANCE ACT—HEAVY PENALTIES.

The Sections of the Act on the subject of the prohibition of rebates are as follows:

Section 87.

"Nor shall any agent of any such company assume to 'make any contract of insurance, or agreement as to such contract, whether in respect to the premium to be paid or otherwise, other than as plainly expressed in the policy issued; nor shall any such company or an officer, agent, solicitor or representative thereof pay, allow or give, or offer to pay, allow or give, directly or indirectly, as inducement to insure, any rebate of premium payable on the policy, or any special favour or advantage in the dividends or other benefits to accrue thereon, or any advantage by way of local or advisory directorship where actual service is not bona fide performed, or any paid employment of contract for services of any kind, or any inducement whatever intended to be in the nature of a rebate of premium; nor shall any person knowingly receive as such rebate of premium or other such special favour, advantage, benefit, consideration, or inducement; nor shall any such company or any officer, agent, solicitor or representative thereof give, sell or purchase as such inducement, or in connection with such insurance, any stocks, bonds or other securities of any insurance company or other corporation, association or partnership."

Section 88.

"Each and every person violating the provisions of the last preceding section shall for a first offence be liable to a penalty of double the amount of the annual premium on the application or policy in respect of which such violation took place; but in no case shall such penalty be less than One Hundred Dollars, and for a second or subsequent offence such person shall be liable to a penalty of double the amount of such annual premium, but in no case less than Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars."

"The penalties provided for in this section shall be recoverable in any court of competent civil jurisdiction at the suit of any person suing as well for His Majesty as for himself. One half of any such penalty shall, when recovered, be applied towards payment of the expenses of the Department and the other half to the person suing."