

MAY HAVE TO FIGHT FOR LANDS.

Central Railway of Canada Positive of Their Claim,
but Ontario and Quebec Governments May
Oppose It.

Matters still appear to be indefinite in connection with the claim of 1,300,000 acres of land in Ontario and Quebec made by the Central Railway Company of Canada, which recently placed a bond issue of \$5,000,000 in the London and Paris markets. The Hon. A. J. Matheson, provincial treasurer of Ontario, says that the terms under which the grants were made in the Acts of 1854 and 1861 to the Carillon and Grenville Railway Company, the original charter holders, were not fulfilled. He thinks the grants thereby lapsed.

In an interview, Senator Campbell, president of the company, said: "We made sure that our grants had not lapsed before we placed the bonds on the market. We took the charter over from the Carillon and Grenville Railway several years ago, and we have had that charter and all the papers dealing with the matter looked into by four eminent counsel in Montreal and Ottawa. More than that, before the underwriters took over the issue they employed counsel to examine the charter, and they were quite satisfied."

Difficult to Answer.

At a meeting of the company's directors, held on Monday at Montreal, Mr. W. D. Hogg, K.C., of Ottawa, was added to the board. Mr. Hogg, asked by an interviewer what lands were claimed, said it was difficult to answer the question precisely. They were to be selected along the line built by the Carillon and Grenville Company, and if enough Crown lands were not available there, additional property was to be selected from Crown lands in the watershed of the Ottawa River and its tributaries. As the larger portion of the proposed railway line will be in the Province of Ontario, that province will be called upon to contribute the larger share of land to make up the grant claimed.

May Oppose Claim.

Both Quebec and Ontario will likely be called upon by the Central Railway Company to contribute to the land grant and it is said that both provincial governments will oppose the claim.

The Carillon and Grenville Railway Company had been incorporated by the old parliament of Canada to build from Montreal to Ottawa and beyond, and were to receive proportional grants of land as each twenty mile section was completed. The Central Railway Company of Canada, incorporated a few years ago, has acquired the charter rights of the Carillon and Grenville and are prepared to build a railroad from Montreal to Georgian Bay on a route between the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Old Parry Sound.

The company claimed to have acquired the right of the Carillon and Grenville granted by the old parliament of Canada to a proportion of four million acres of Crown lands, the portion being 1,300,000 acres.

Preferred to Fight.

The company claims that its rights to the land grants were not terminated by the legislation of the old parliament of Canada, and is prepared to build and to establish in courts its right to lands in question.

The Vancouver Timber and Trading company has purchased from the Red Cliff Lumber company of Duluth thirty thousand acres of Crown granted timber lands on Vancouver Island. The timber on this tract is estimated at close on two billion feet. Two million dollars was paid for the property.

The editors of leading agricultural papers in the United States paid a visit to Prince Albert recently. They stated there that at that point conditions generally were further advanced than in any other point of the West they had visited. They were interested with the large amount of mixed farming carried on in the district and the fine quality of stock raised there.

The Calgary Board of Trade have received a letter from Mr. Hutchings, suggesting that the board concur with the recent action of the Lethbridge board in recommending to the provincial government that insurance of farmers' crops against hail be raised from the four dollars an acre now in effect to twelve dollars an acre. Mr. Hutchings is of the opinion that this would be a means of safety not only to the farmers, but to merchants, banks, and the province in general, as loss of crops by hail is not hard on the farmer alone but on the whole community. A committee will report on the matter.

PERSONAL.

Mr. John T. Hall, publicity commissioner of the Lethbridge, Alta., Board of Trade, is seriously ill.

Messrs. D. Lorne McGibbon and Fred N. Beardmore have been elected directors of the Eastern Trust Company.

Mr. W. G. Sleeman of the London Illustrated News is at present on a visit to the West.

Mr. W. D. Scott, superintendent of immigration at Ottawa, has been appointed chief controller of Chinese immigration.

Mr. George H. Allen, general manager of the Travellers' Life Assurance Company of Canada, Montreal, was in Toronto this week.

Mr. Frank P. Jones, general manager of the Canadian Cement Company, was in Winnipeg recently regarding the erection of their new plant in that city.

Mr. Rodolphe Forget has resigned as a director of the Duluth Superior Traction Company, and Mr. F. H. Deacon of Toronto has been appointed in his stead.

Mr. Andrew Miller, Calgary's energetic Industrial Commissioner, has had to answer many enquiries at the Toronto Exhibition regarding the rising Albertan city.

Mr. A. T. Kerr, of the department of railways and canals, Ottawa, has been appointed advisory engineer for Alberta and British Columbia. Mr. Kerr will locate in Calgary.

Mr. S. E. Bushe, inspector, with the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Company, Winnipeg, has accepted a position with the Adanac Securities Corporation, Saskatoon.

Mr. A. P. B. Williams, of Messrs. Meredith & Company, has been appointed secretary-treasurer, succeeding Hon. L. G. Guest, who will take over the management of the company's London office.

Messrs. Fuller Brothers, contractors for the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, builders of New York and Montreal, were recently awarded the contract to build the "Selkirk," the new G.T.P. hotel on Broadway, Winnipeg.

Mr. J. H. Grisdale, director of Dominion Experimental Farms, has just returned to Ottawa from a tour of Canada East and West, during which he visited all the experimental farms under his control.

Mr. E. Blake Robertson, assistant superintendent of immigration at Ottawa, is to be assistant chief controller of Chinese immigration, and Mr. J. H. MacGill, immigration agent, to be controller of Chinese immigration at Vancouver.

Mr. Guy Ridpath, of Messrs. Rhodes, Kitchen & Company, London; Mr. Stern, banker, of London; and Mr. Woodward, Dr. Crouch and Mr. Arkwright, prominent in London financial circles, are at present on a tour through Western Canada.

Mr. Lansing Lewis, for twenty-seven years with the Caledonian Insurance Company—during twenty of which he acted as manager—has decided to retire shortly. Mr. Lewis is one of the senior members of the Canadian Fire Underwriters Association.

Mr. R. R. Martin, formerly of the Canadian head office staff of the Norwich Union Fire, Toronto, has been appointed inspector for Ontario of the Atlas Assurance Company, in succession to Mr. C. E. Sanders, who has been appointed manager for the Atlas in the West.

Messrs. John Campbell, S.S.C., of Edinburgh, Scotland; A. B. Campbell, W.S.; H. H. Hudson and wife, of the Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation, Toronto, and Melville Massey, son of the joint manager of the corporation at Winnipeg, are in the West investigating conditions with a view of investing considerable Scotch capital.

Mr. L. Lukes, associated with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, has faith in Mexico as a good country for investors. Mr. Lukes, who has resided in Mexico for many years, says that the Mexican Government has exhibited an exceptionally friendly feeling for Canadians, and he thinks the trade between Mexico and the Dominion is sure to attain large proportions. A good start has already been made with subsidized steamships running north to Vancouver and to Montreal and Halifax. If foreigners in Mexico simply attend to their legitimate business and obey the laws, as any good citizen does in his own country, they will be protected, no matter what conditions prevail.