PACIFIC SECTION.

(Continued from Page 275.)

An agreement has been arrived at between the Government and the Grand Trunk Pacific in respect to the land in the Prince Rupert townsite. This being effected will facilitate the placing of the site on the market. The work of survey well be proceeded with at Prince Rupert with all expedition, and it is thought the lots will be on the market in the spring.

The Grand Forks Board of Trade has been reorganized with the following officials: President, A. B. Hood; Vice-President, J. B. Henderson; Secretary, S. T. Hall; Council, Dr. Kingston, Messrs. Hodges, J. C. McDonald, John Temple, G. M. Fripp, P. T. McCallum, George Clark, George Gull, N. D. McInnes, G. Hammar, G. Chapple, Ed. Davis, J. McKie, D. Whiteside and E. Spraggett.

REINFORCED CONCRETE.

Best All-Round Building Material Yet Devised—Some Striking Proofs.

It has been stated with some truth that the average insurance man has a prejudiced idea respecting concrete. He has been told that it will collapse, that it is liable to crumble under fire, and that it is not reliable as a first-class building material. Mr. J. P. H. Perry some time ago delivered a stereopticon lecture to the Insurance Society of New York on reinforced concrete which, he declares, is practically without equal at the present time.

It is probably the best all-round building material yet devised by man. Such conflagrations as those in Baltimore and San Francisco, and numerous smaller fires, such as those in the Huyler candy factory, on Eighteenth Street, Manhattan; the Pacific Coast Borax Company's Bayonne plant, and that in the works of the Dayton Motor Car Company, in Dayton, Ohio, have demonstrated pretty conclusively the ability of reinforced concrete to come through fires, of sufficient intensity and prolongation to fuse copper and melt brass, without material injury to the building proper.

"Particularly interesting along this line is the fire in Dayton, Ohio. The Dayton Motor Car Company erected an addition to their plant of reinforced concrete throughout, six storeys high, and about 100 feet square. This new building adjoins a five storey brick and mill construction factory. The building being new, automatic fire doors had not been installed to protect the openings between the old brick building and the new concrete building. The sprinkler system in the concrete addition had not been connected up with the water supply. A fire started on the fourth floor of the concrete building.

"The local fire department upon its arrival at the fire decided at once that the concrete building was thoroughly capable of protecting itself and consequently they devoted their entire attention to saving the adjoining brick building. The fire in the concrete building raged for several hours and was of sufficient intensity to melt some of the sprinkler pipes and to completely gut the floor. Meanwhile, it had spread through the unprotected openings into the brick building and in spite of the efforts of the local department this first-class brick and mill construction factory was practically ruined. The roof and three floors fell in and the walls were badly cracked.

"This comparison between brick and first-class mill construction and reinforced concrete under disadvantageous circumstances is perhaps as good evidence of the ability of reinforced concrete to protect the owner against serious loss from fire that has yet appeared."