

Notes and Comments.

SEED grain, furnished to settlers, will be carried free of charge by the Canadian Pacific railway. This is a generous offer which will redound to the benefit of the company, for the crops raised from the seed will be handled by the railway in due time.

CALGARY merchants are organizing a retailers' association. The conditions at Calgary are somewhat different to those prevailing in Manitoba and the eastern portion of the territories. On this account the Calgary association will no doubt be conducted on somewhat different lines. Still there will be many subjects of common interest to the merchants of Calgary and those of other parts of the country, and it is to be hoped they will be able to co operate for the common good.

THE electric street railway recently put in operation at Victoria, B. C., has been received with such favor, that there is now talk of extending the railway into the rural districts. It is proposed to continue the road into the Saanich settlement, so that the farmers can take advantage of it to come into the city. Freight traffic would also be handled. A scheme is also on foot to build electric tramways connecting Vancouver and New Westminster with agricultural settlements in their districts. This is a new thing in the street railway line, and the outcome of the proposals will be awaited with interest. Eventually we may have railways running all over the country, operated by electricity.

THE city of New Westminster, B. C., though not as large a place as Winnipeg, held an exhibition last year, and it was such a great success, that the city has voted a large sum for improving the grounds and buildings, with a view of making the exhibition a permanent, annual affair. The idea to have a park and exhibition grounds combined. Winnipeg is without anything worthy the name of a park, and the plan of a combined park and exhibition grounds might be a good thing for this city. The city should have a good park, in a convenient locality. In this way, money spent upon the grounds would also serve the double purpose of providing a place of recreation for the citizens.

A DEPUTATION from the Canadian Marine Association and the boards of trade of Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Kingston and Port Arthur, waited on Sir John Macdonald at Ottawa last week and urged the immediate enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals to the same depth as the Welland. Sir John announced that the Government would enter into an active policy in this respect. In a few days he would submit to Parliament proposals regarding the St. Lawrence improvements. He announced they might rely on the enlargement being completed within three years. The enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals is a matter of inestimable value to Manitoba and all Western Canada. It is to be regretted the Winnipeg board was not represented in the delegation. The Port Arthur board certainly deserves the thanks of Manitobans for the energetic manner in which it has pushed this question. There is no question before the people of the west to-day really of greater importance than this one of improving the St. Lawrence route. This route affords a great natural outlet for the exportable products of the West, and were it so improved

that it could be used to its full capacity, the result would be a great reduction in the cost of transporting our grain and other exports to the seaboard, while a saving would also be made on our imports from the east. The enlargement of the canals to a uniform depth of say fourteen feet, would mean a saving of five cents per bushel on wheat to the farmers of Manitoba and the Territories.

PEOPLE who are not acquainted with the climate of Manitoba, have been heard to express doubts as to the adaptability of the country for stock, owing to the cold winter weather. Residents, however, know that stock do not require greater care here in regard to housing, etc., than in the east. The stock of the native half-breed settlers, it is well known, receive very little care, and are sometimes left out all winter. The steady climate of Manitoba agrees with domestic animals, and as a rule cattle are very healthy and free from disease. Those who have their doubts about stock running out all winter may read the following from the *Manitou Mercury* of last week: "Some of the Calf Mountain farmers have allowed a number of their horses to run at large in the wooded districts during the winter, and find that the animals are doing remarkably well and are apparently enjoying their life of freedom. Eleven horses, owned by Charles Sims, of Snowflake, which were reported stolen some time ago, have been running out all winter, and have been able to pick up a good living." This is the second report of a similar nature. A short time ago some cattle were discovered in Southern Manitoba, which had been lost since last fall, and they had stood the winter well. The winter has been one of the most severe in the modern history of Manitoba for stock to be out. The weather through January and February was very cold, and the snow has been unusually deep upon the ground, thus making it very difficult for animals to get food. If cattle and horses could live through last winter without feed, except what they could pick for themselves, and without shelter, they would certainly come through an ordinary Manitoba winter in fair condition.

Compromises.

An exchange speaks of compromises as follows: "A strict investigation of the causes of some of the so-called failures and the prompt ostracism from the mercantile ranks of bankrupts whose transactions were proven to be 'shady' would soon place the trade, upon a healthier footing. So long, however, as the wholesaler, to all intents and purposes, continues to place a premium upon dishonesty an incompetency in the shape of settlements at one-third or one-half of what is due him, he must expect to be taken advantage of.

"The wholesale merchant who permits such compromise settlements fails to see that he is twice the loser; he loses in the compromise, and loses the principal part of what neighboring trade he sold, until such a time as the bankrupt stock is closed out sufficiently to enable general business to resume its normal condition. As good merchants cannot successfully compete with prices 25 per cent. below jobbing rates, there must necessarily be a falling off in the average purchases, which acts directly upon the jobber. Failures occurring from other than legitimate causes are not entitled to recognition or leniency, and prompt action should be taken in such cases to protect the interests of general trade by repudiating all offers of compromise

from interested parties, even though a few cents more on the dollar be realized. Such a course would soon make retailers look a little more carefully before they make a leap, and failures would become less frequent."

To Fish Dealers, Butchers, Etc.

I am now prepared to ship fresh spring Salmon and all kinds of Salt Water Fish at lowest market prices.

I pack in specially devised boxes, well iced, and my shipments usually give the best of satisfaction.

Will ship per express COD unless otherwise specified.

R. V. WINCH,

Wholesale and Export Fish Merchant,

66 CORDOVA STREET,

VANCOUVER, B. C.

The Barber & Ellis Co'y,

Nos. 43, 45, 47 and 49 Bay Street,

TORONTO, Ont.

Manufacturers of ACCOUNT BOOKS, ENVELOPES, PAPER BOXES.

Importers of all Grades of Staple Stationery.

—DEALERS IN—

PRINTERS' SUPPLIES,

BOOKBINDERS' MATERIALS AND

BOXMAKERS' REQUISITES.

Gillies' Series of Pens.

NO.	DESCRIPTION.	PER DOZ.
202	Railway Pen, fine point	40c.
212	Peruvian Pen, medium point	70c.
222	Queen Pen, fine point	70c.
232	Ledger Pen, fine point	70c.
242	Beaver Pen, turned up point	65c.
252	Commercial Pen, medium point	60c.
262	Electric Pen, fine point	60c.
282	Public Pen, fine point	45c.
302	Falcon Pen, medium point	40c.
402	Lorae Pen, extra broad point	60c.
602	Windsor Pen, medium point	50c.

FOR SALE BY ALL STATIONERS.

WHOLESALE ONLY FROM

BUNTIN, GILLIES & CO.

Wholesale Stationers, Paper, Envelope and Account Book Manufacturers.

HAMILTON, - ONTARIO.

J. Kuhn & Son,

—DEALERS IN—

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS FLOUR AND FEED

And Produce Generally. Agents for the GOLD SPOON BAKING POWDER. Consignments of Produce and other Goods Sold on Commission and Prompt returns made. Catharine Block, Alexander St. West, WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.