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The Winnipeg Traffic Club held its first
annual supper at the union station
restaurant, Mar. 17, A. Syme being in
the chair. The feature of the evening
was an address on the railway ticket
business by A. Calder, who was referred
to as Winnipeg's pioneer ticket agent.

Rate Increases in Western Classi- fication Territory.

The Interstate Commerce Commission gave a decision at Washington, D.C., Feb. 8, which is summarized as follows: Proposed increase from 30,000 to 40,000 lbs. in the minimum carload weight on grain products and from 40,000 to 50,000 lbs. in the minimum carload weights on wheat and rye found justified. Following 1915 Western Rate Advance Case, 35 I. C. C., 497, 603-611, proposed increased rates on bituminous coal from Illinois mines and other points to points west of the Mississippi River found justified. Cancellation of present interstate commodity rate on gas coke in carloads from St. Charles, Mo., to St. Louis, Mo., found justified. Proposed increased rates on broom corn from points in Kansas and Oklahoma to points in Colorado and New Mexico not justified. Proposed increased rates on wheat and corn between Arkansas stations on the St. Louis & San Francisco Rd. and Memphis, Tenn., justified.

War Purchasing Staff.—In addition to E. Fitzgerald, Assistant General Purchasing Agent, C.P.R., who is Purchasing Agent for the British War Office and the Imperial Munitions Board, with office in Union Bank Building, Ottawa, W. H. Stewart, until recently Assistant Superintendent, C.P.R., Farnham, Que., has been "loaned" to the Imperial Munitions Board and is assisting Mr. Fitzgerald. L. C. Thomson, General Storekeeper, Canadian Northern Ry., Toronto, has also been "loaned" to the board and has been appointed its Superintendent of Transportation, attending to all products handled by it. The British War Office Purchasing Department, known as the War Office Service, which was established at 114 Windsor St., Montreal, under Mr. Fitzgerald, in May 1915, and moved to Ottawa a few months ago, has been removed back to its former location in Montreal where it is in charge of K. K. Donnelly, of the General Purchasing Department, C.P.R., representing Mr. Fitzgerald.

Special Rates for Farm Laborers.—A press dispatch says that Canadian railways have granted the Dominion Government's request for a passenger rate of 1c a mile in Canada for United States farm laborers, who are expected to come over in considerable numbers as a result of the Interior Department's campaign being carried in the U.S. We are officially advised that the Eastern Canadian Passenger Association considered the conditions so urgent that they acceded to the Government's request and will issue tickets practically on the basis of 1c a mile to farm laborers. Tickets will be sold to points in Ontario from Niagara Falls, Bridgeburg, Windsor and Sarnia from Mar. 21 to May 21 inclusive.

Cost of National Transcontinental Ry.—The commissioners' 11th annual report, just issued, covers the year ended Mar. 31, 1915, and is signed by Hon. F. Cochrane, Minister of Railways and Canals, as commissioner. The total expenditure during the fiscal year was \$9,834,746.75, which brought up the total expenditure, from the organization of the commission in 1904 to Mar. 31, 1915, to \$152,802,745.77. Up to that date there had been laid 2,352.58 miles of track, distributed as follows: Main line, 1,803.44 miles; double track and line from bridge to Quebec, 19.61 miles; sidings, yards, pit spurs, etc., 529.53 miles.

Telegraph Efficiency on the C.P.R.

George Bury, Vice President, C.P.R., has issued a circular to the company's various telegraph offices, reading as follows: "The company having undertaken the transmission of telegrams for the public over its wires, it is of the highest importance that this service be performed in a thoroughly efficient manner, and the most careful attention to this business is enjoined upon every one connected with the telegraph service. Celerity in transmission and delivery, accuracy and privacy, are of the first importance and no shortcomings in these particulars will be tolerated. It must be remembered that no person, not excepting the highest officer of the company, has the right to know the contents of any private telegrams entrusted to the company for transmission, except that telegraph superintendents, inspectors and others designated by the proper authority in the Telegraph Department have the right to examine the telegraph business to check up transmission and delivery, or other defects in service. The greatest care must be taken to prevent private telegrams from being seen by persons for whom they are not intended and any employee of the company divulging the contents of such a telegram will be punished by immediate dismissal. General superintendents are requested to co-operate with the Manager of the Company's Telegraph every possible way to secure the desired efficiency, and to see that all persons connected with the telegraph service on their respective divisions fully carry out his instructions concerning commercial telegraph business."

National Transcontinental Ry. Grain Shipments.—Replying to questions in the House of Commons Mar. 1, Hon. J. D. Reid, acting Minister of Railways, said 20 cars of wheat had been shipped on the 6c per bushel rate on the N.T.R. from Armstrong to Montreal, and 80 cars had been shipped at the same rate from Armstrong to Quebec. The rate for grain from Armstrong to St. John, Halifax, and Portland, Me., was 14.22c a bushel, for export. The rate from Armstrong to Montreal for domestic consumption was 12c a bushel, and from Armstrong to Quebec, for domestic consumption, 15c a bushel.

The Vancouver Transportation Club was organized in Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 10, with an initial membership of over 100 and the following officers: President, J. W. Faulds of D. E. Brown, Hope and Macauley; First Vice President, E. J. Burns, Great Northern Ry.; Second Vice President, C. E. Laing, C.P.R.; Secretary-Treasurer, H. W. Schofield, C.P.R.; other directors: C. E. Jenney, G.T. Pacific Ry.; A. A. Whitnall, Great Northern Ry.; J. W. Nott, Allan Line Steamships; J. E. Archer, Great Northern Express Co.; C. A. Whitlock, Donaldson Steamship Line. The club has been formed for local purposes.

Railway Lands Patented.—Letters patent were issued during February, covering Dominion railway lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, as follows:

	Acres.
Alberta Central Ry.95
Alberta & Great Waterways Ry.68
Calgary & Edmonton Ry.	3,037.00
Canadian Northern Ry.	640.00
Grand Trunk Pacific Branch Lines Co.	14.43
Qu'Appelle, Long Lake & Saskatchewan Rd. & Steamboat Co.	6,566.43
Total	10,259.49