

THE VANCOUVER PROVINCE says: "The Nicola Valley and the Similkameen are now in the eye of the investing public more than any other part of British Columbia, more than any other new part of Canada.

"In order to build through the Similkameen district, the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern Railway Company seeks from the Parliament of Canada re-enactment of its charter legislation, and has stated its intention of building from Grand Forks to Princeton this year. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has decided to build through these rich valleys from Spences Bridge to Midway, the first portion of which from Spences Bridge to Nicola, will be completed this year. This portion of the C. P. R. system will, when built, close the gap in the Crow's Nest road, and give through communication from Montreal to Vancouver. Besides avoiding the heavy grades on the main line, this will shorten the trans-continental ride about two hundred miles.

"A direct Coast-Kootenay road will give coast merchants a three-hundred-mile haul to Boundary and Kootenay mining camps, instead of a roundabout six hundred miles as at present. In addition it will open some of the richest lands in British Columbia.

FINE RANCHING LAND.

"The ranching, farming, and fruit lands of Southern Okanagan, and Similkameen now being eagerly sought and settled at prices ranging from \$100 to \$500 per acre, are unsurpassed for soil and climate. The broad grazing lands of the Nicola Valley have brought wealth to their fortunate owners; here graze some of the largest herds of cattle and horses in Canada; from two to four and a half tons of hay per acre, a usual crop, and two, while in some cases three, crops of hay are cut each season. Here also apples and similar fruits grow to perfection.