

PROBING.

The business of the committee was to find whether or not a combine existed and their conclusion was that the two retail associations in the central provinces constituted virtually a combine. But a combine is necessarily illegal and action on the committee's report was unavoidably delayed in Alberta until the Attorney General's department examined the evidence to see what action, if any, was called for. The conclusion has been that the public has a good

ARCHITECTS OF CALAMITY.

THE COST OF LIVING.

The time was, not so long ago when living was as cheap in most Western towns as in similar communities in Eastern Canada. That has gone, and the cost of supporting a family in the city west of the Great Lakes is generally higher now than in cities of similar size in the older settled provinces. To some extent this is due simply to the fact that the Western towns have become cities. In a multitude of ways the development from town to city conditions increases the demands on the household purse. The installation

THE CONDEMNATION OF THE BANKS.

may result in a shrinkage of real estate values, but that they formed provided the means whereby the expansion and inflation of those values was made possible. That the banks could have most powerfully opposed against undue inflation no man's knowledge of the situation can

CANADA'S RIGHTS RESPECTED

even to free themselves from a bothersome caller. Had the Imperial Government really undertaken to

ON THE SIDE

"TOO GENEROUS."

"seems to us, reasonable. The pre-emption law will also directly favor those parasites on our western life, the men who have homesteads and exercise remarkable ingenuity in evading the improvement requirements. There are great stretches of land withheld from men who are ready to go in on them and carry out a genuine settler's duty by homesteaders who persistently evade their residential qualifications. Men of this ilk contribute absolutely nothing to the upbuilding of the country, and are indeed an actual drag on it; yet they are to receive the benefits of Mr. Oliver's bill and be made by act of parliament still greater participants in the easy liberality of government. It is not right, on the face of it, and on this and other grounds strong positions may be looked for when it comes up again."

It is now reported that Orchard must repudiate his "confession." He should do the repudiating from a specially erected platform designed to hasten his exit from this world. If his story is true, he should be hanged for what he has done; if it is false, he should be hanged for what he tried to do.

be refunded. The question of whether Smith had been absent because of leave of absence was brought up for discussion and it was decided to allow him one month's extension. The Seventh Day Adventist made application for a license to canvass for the new book without paying the usual license fee. The matter was referred to the city commissioners to report to the Council.

E. Percy Blythe made a report to the Council that he had completed the quarterly audit of the accounts. He found everything in the factory with the exception of the vouchers for the accounts of the Strathcona Telephone Exchange, which he recommended should be looked into. The extension of