

Mr. Van Horne in regard to the matter of rates, and obtained from that gentleman the promise, or statement, that "the policy of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company would be to carry lumber for the settlers' houses, and fuel for their consumption, at cost, and the grain which they produced, at but little over cost," he further added "you must then expect to pay a fair rate on your merchandise." The policy thus outlined was a very satisfactory one to your committee, and it was then stated to that gentleman that such was the case, and that we would be well satisfied to pay fair rates on our merchandise as the people of the country would then have the means which would enable them to stand it. Time and again your Board has endeavored to obtain the carrying out of the principle thus enunciated, but it is needless to say, that up to the present moment, it has not been successful.

HIDE AND LEATHER INSPECTION.

In carrying out the principle laid down by your Board your Council have taken up the major portion of the work which has been done during the past year. In the matter of hide and leather inspection, by drawing the attention of the public to the requirements of the Dominion Act, much has been done to bring the matter into prominence, and not without a result, though the benefits are yet only beginning to be felt.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

In the matter of postal facilities, it was equally to the service of this city, as to the country through which railroad communication was opened, that the utmost benefits of postal facilities should be extended, and the efforts of your Board in pressing matters of this sort on the Dominion Government have generally been crowned with success, and in this matter I may say much credit is due to the courtesy and aid extended by the inspector, Mr. McLeod.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

The importance of the matter of the Government's experimental farm was readily apparent to your Board, and I think too much can hardly be said in that respect, as in a new country like this it is of great moment to know exactly what can be done in the cultivation