

PACIFIC SECTION

NOTES FROM THE PACIFIC.

Some Views on the Situation—Lumber Industry Wants Protection—Grain-growing Experiments.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Vancouver, Sept. 22nd.

Still another bank manager comes to the West and sounds a note of optimism for the future. This time it is James Eliot, general manager of the Molsons Bank, who came to the coast accompanied by W. Molson Macpherson and H. Markland Molson, directors of the institution. Mr. Eliot spoke generally, but his interview was suggestive of confidence in the future, and the fact that branches were to be opened up in various localities was a sufficient intimation of the good times about to come. He would not predict that interest rates would be reduced, as he stated that the increasing population made a greater demand for money, and this in turn created a greater volume of business which the country had to finance.

Along with the pronouncements of those in connection with the monetary institutions, who are in a position to feel the stronger pulsation of improving conditions, is the remark of a gentleman in railway circles that business in that line is picking up very rapidly. When the stringency came into effect, the railway lines were among the first to feel it, and it is only reasonable to presume that they should be in a position to indicate a better trend. It was stated to the Monetary Times that the present business of the C.P.R. was almost equal to that of the good times of a year ago, and while the earnings might not yet show it, they would very shortly. The moving of the wheat crop would mean a continuation of good business, and when that was out of the way it was confidently expected that the amount of business would be fully up to the normal.

Dumping Ground for Americans.

The woolen manufacturers of the East are finding themselves in something of the same box as the lumber manufacturers of the Coast. A few years ago, when American lumber manufacturers were dumping their lumber into the North-West, the sawmill men in British Columbia called loudly for consideration on the part of the government, but no assistance in the way of a little protection was forthcoming. The Middle West, it was argued, required cheap lumber, and the industry in the far West would have to suffer. At the meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association on Wednesday last, L. Simpson, general manager of the Montreal Cotton Company, of Valleyfield, had something of the same complaint to make. He declared that the Middle West was trying to cut the throats of the East. Mr. Simpson will be able to feel for those in the lumber industry on the Pacific Coast, which follows second only to mining, and if he meets John Hendry at the meeting of the association, that gentleman will be able to sympathize with him too. Mr. Hendry has been in the lumber business here for thirty years and knows conditions perhaps better than any other man from the West. He, with Mr. Simpson, might easily ask if protection is decided upon by the government, why it is not apportioned with fair discrimination to all industries, giving each an equal and fair consideration?

The G.T.P. has purchased a piece of valuable waterfront in Victoria, and while plans are not made public, it is believed that this means that a branch of the railway will find a terminus in the capital. The transaction has had the effect of stimulating the realty business there, and there has been more inquiry of late than for some time past.

New Westminster Exhibition.

What the Industrial Exhibition at Toronto is to the East, the Provincial Exhibition at New Westminster is to the West, and as this year the Fraser Centenary will be commemorated at the same time, the occasion will be a noteworthy one. The exhibition will open on Tuesday, September 29th, and will close on the following Saturday, October 3rd.

More than one "Harry Williams" is at work in the Old Country press. It will be remembered that a person of this name wrote from Nelson, B.C., trying to point out that there may be worse places than this province, but they were hard to find. A contributor, signing himself "Prospector," writes in the Yorkshire Post, defaming British Columbia. Perhaps it is all for the best, anyway. To bring the virtues of this province before those interested, no better way could have been found, for since these letters have appeared, other people who have been here have hastened to our defence, and have pointed out that men of the "Harry Williams" and

CABLE ADDRESS "FINANCIERS." CODE WESTERN UNION

Canadian Financiers Limited

Promoters, Brokers, Financial Agents

Local industrial and financial shares bought and sold

VANCOUVER, B.C.

"Prospector" type are an impracticable kind that would find it difficult to get along in any country where men are treated according to their worth, and every opportunity is given to those who are vigorous, energetic and self-reliant.

Large Investments in Fruit Industry.

It is estimated by officials of the provincial board of horticulture that the amount of money invested in the fruit industry in British Columbia is now over \$15,000,000, and that in the next five years, at the present rate of increase, it should be almost doubled. Maxwell Smith, Dominion Fruit Inspector, who has returned from a trip through the interior fruit districts, states that the progress in the Boundary, Kootenay, and Okanagan is remarkable. One indication is the very large shipments of fresh prunes which are shipped in carload lots from Victoria for the North-West.

The visit of C. E. Saunders, of Ottawa, who has charge of that department of the government engaged in testing seed varieties, may be productive of increased interest in grain-growing in the province. Arrangements are being made to conduct grain-growing experiments in the dry belt, which includes a great part of the arable land in the lower portion of British Columbia. Mr. Saunders thinks a good quality should be grown. There is no reason to the contrary, as on the other side of the line large quantities of wheat are grown in the dry belt of Washington State, and because of the continued heat, the harvest occurs early in the season.

Wealth in the Black Sands.

J. N. Lewis, of Detroit, Mich., who is in the business of manufacturing mining machinery, with offices in New York, Toronto, Buffalo, and Denver, is associated with capitalists of Portland, Ore., in a black sands proposition at Wreck Bay on the west coast of Vancouver Island. On numerous previous occasions, efforts have been made by machine inventors to secure something that would recover the gold and platinum values in the black sands to be found in British Columbia, but profitable operations have not yet been established. Mr. Lewis thinks that he has an apparatus, which, when perfected, will about meet requirements. He is very enthusiastic over the mineral possibilities here and especially of the black and ruby sands on Vancouver Island. If the values can be recovered, it will mean big money for the successful operators.

William Mackenzie, president of the Canadian Northern, who was here a few days ago, had little to say of what the Canadian Northern would be doing on the coast. He would go only as far as to state that they expected in time to reach tide water, but his visit here is taken to mean that active work in the province is not far in the future.

A minor line is to run from the Head of Howe Sound to Anderson Lake, plans having been filed by the Howe Sound, Pemberton Meadows and Northern. It is stated that work will be started this fall. When constructed, it will give transportation facilities to a section rich in timber, mineral and agricultural resources.

STOCKS MUNICIPAL and RAILROAD BONDS INSURANCE

WILFRED SHORE & CO.

BROKERS

619 HASTINGS ST

VANCOUVER, B.C.

Cable Address. Crehan, Vancouver.

CREHAN, MOUAT & CO.

Chartered Accountants and Auditors

Offices { 27 Imperial Building and } VANCOUVER, B.C.
 { 237 Pender Street East }

Powers of Attorney to be issued to M. J. CREHAN, F.C.A.
TRUSTEES and LIQUIDATORS