

The Relationship of the "Ledger" to a Successful Business Man.

The ledger should be neat, clean, clear, carefully written; the entries should, as far as possible, explain themselves; settlements should always show settlement. The close of the year should always mark the time for closing accounts and for bringing down balances.

The noblest virtue of a ledger is truth; for in this one word truth is the gist of the matter. For example, on the first day of any month every account on the ledger should show, so far as the owner or keeper of the ledger has exact knowledge, the exact and complete truth. Any other kind of a ledger is a source of vexation, trouble and sometimes of expense and litigation. Some one may say that this is all theory, that nothing in the world is or can be perfect. Because a thing cannot be perfect shall we then have no desire, no purpose, make no effort to do it well? Such a notion if permitted to prevail would fetter knowledge, foster ignorance and destroy progress. Deception is always bad enough, but self-deception is of all kinds the worst. If one cannot trust in, believe in, rely upon, his own books, the situation is awkward and tortuous. A correct ledger is a faithful guard, silent sentinel of safety. The following suggestions regarding the ledger may not be amiss:

1. There should be such an arrangement and grouping of the accounts as will enable one to know well and easily the state of affairs. For instance, in one group should be the property accounts, in another group the various expense accounts. For most kinds of business the accounts with customers will be best kept alphabetically, while for certain other kinds of business they would be best kept by localities—as by provinces, or cities or towns. The system should always be based on good reason.
2. Each customer's account should show plainly the post office address and the terms of sale.
3. Every entry should be made promptly. Collect pay for your goods or charge them; pay you debts or credit them.
4. Every error should be corrected as soon as known. This is a part of honesty.
5. A statement of every unpaid account should be sent out at stated times. This helps to keep the ledger correct and the accounts alive.
6. Use your ledger. Examine it often. Learn to heed its warnings and to profit by its lessons. Many a merchant, banker, capitalist, has found that it has cost dearly to ignore his ledger.—*Commercial Exchange.*

British Columbia Brief Business Notes.

- T. H. Sturgeon, fruits, Vancouver, is dead.
- B. Williams, tobacconist, Nanaimo, is dead.
- Sullivan & Savage, furniture, Kaslo, have assigned.
- McArthur & Harper, general dealers, Kamloops, succeed A. S. McArthur & Co.
- H. J. Blaise & Co., Vancouver, have assigned to Sheriff Hall.
- W. H. Wheeler, an Australian architect, has opened a school of design in Vancouver.
- R. T. Williams, bookbinder, Victoria, proposes retiring and offers business for sale.
- Quintard & Packard, electrical supplies, Victoria, contemplate opening a branch in Vancouver.
- R. L. T. Galbraith, general merchant, Fort Steele, has sold out to Carlin, Lake & Co., of Golden.
- The F. R. F. P. & B. Association contemplate the erection of a large salmon cannery on the Fraser.
- McInnes & McInnes, barristers, have opened an office in Nanaimo. They are sons of senator McInnes.
- Capt. Edwards, of the Manor House, Vancouver, has assigned to Capt. Scott, of Scott & Hughes. The house will be kept open.

G. R. Major, of the firm of Major & Eldridge, Vancouver, pork packers, took a trip through the Okanagan country buying hogs for his packing business. He only succeeded in procuring 300.

Wilson Bros., wholesale grocers, Victoria, have opened a branch in the Van Horne block, Vancouver, the premises formerly occupied by G. F. & J. Galt. They intend carrying a general stock of staple goods.

At the next session of the legislature R. B. Kerr, Cornelius Gething, Angus Molanis, James Delaney, W. C. Archer and William Tomlinson will apply for the incorporation of the New Denver Telephone Co.

Nanaimo's coal shipments for September were much smaller than usual, though larger than those of the month previous. The total amounted to 23,462 tons, East Wellington adding a further quota of 1,955 tons.

The Hudson Bay wholesale warehouse plans for Vancouver have been filed. The structure will be three storeys high, facing on Water street, extending to the railway track; 124 feet deep; frontage, 80 feet.

It is reported that the recording office at Rock Creek, B. C., has taken in \$145 in a half day on records in the new gold district. Over \$2,000 of nuggets was brought into Rock Creek and exchanged there by Chinamen.

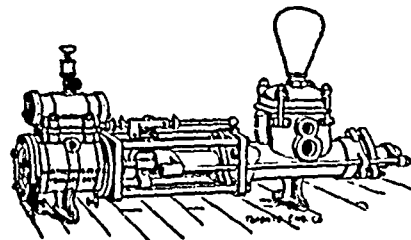
The collections during September for inland revenue division No. 37, Victoria, are as follows:—Spirits, \$3,335.66; malt, \$2,116.04; tobacco, \$2,250.51; cigars, \$394.30; bonded warehouse license, \$20; inspection of petroleum, \$114.80. Total, \$13,731.31.

C. F. Yates, who has for many years been connected with the insurance department of the Vancouver Loan and Trust Company, has resigned his position with that company and has entered into partnership with Charles McLachlan under the style or firm of McLachlan & Yates, formerly Shannon & McLachlan, as insurance and real estate agents.

The crops in the Saanich district have been ruined by the recent rains. S. Sandover, one of the pioneer farmers of Saanich, said to day that three parts of the crops have been completely ruined. Many farmers have lost their whole crop, while others were lucky enough to get part of them housed before the rains commenced. It is hard to estimate the loss, but it is enormous. The spring was a late one, but the crops were nevertheless good.

It is reported from Victoria that a novel insurance society has been organized in Cowichan district, on the line of the E. & N. Railway, which traverses a part of Vancouver island, as a result of the continued depredations committed by panthers among the sheep ranches. The association is to be known as the Cowichan Mutual Insurance Society, and the plan of operation is similar to that of other mutual insurance organizations, an assessment being levied on each member to meet payments when claims are made and authenticated. The three chief objects of the association's existence are (1) to indemnify members for loss of sheep by wild animals and dogs; (2) to encourage the breeding and training of panther dogs by means of

annual prizes and (3) to endeavor to influence parliament to give more liberal encouragement to the destruction of beasts of prey, panthers being particularly referred to.



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