

The street railroad system of Oakland is very comprehensive, all of the streets of present or prospective importance being covered by a franchise; but there are only two companies that have expended any money or shown any signs of vitality. The Oakland Railroad Company's franchise covers Broadway from the water front to the charter line, and thence by the most direct route to Berkeley. The road is built and provided with rolling stock. It is five and one half miles long. Thirteen one-horse cars run regularly, and, when occasion requires, six two-horse cars and six flats are added. Fifty-one horses are kept in the company's stable at Temescal. The San Pablo Avenue branch of the Oakland Railroad Company extends to a point near the Oakland Trotting Park, a distance of two miles. Three cars run regularly every fifteen minutes during the day.

The Oakland, Brooklyn, and Fruit Vale Railroad is completed from the crossing of Broadway and Seventh streets, in Oakland, to the central portion of the town of Brooklyn, a distance of two miles, and the business transacted is about sufficient to pay current expenses and interest on the investment. It is contemplated to extend this road to the County Court House, a distance of several blocks from its present terminus. Trips are made every half hour.

Some progress has been made in the construction of the Alameda and Piedmont Springs Railroad. The track has been laid a short distance from Alameda.

The street railroads projected promise to be remunerative enterprises. The benefit of such improvements is very great, a population of several hundred persons having been drawn to the vicinity of Temescal through the influence of the Oakland Railroad. As communication between different parts of the city is made convenient and cheap, its growth will be accelerated, and the value of real estate, in every locality, will be enhanced.

Rides, Drives, and Pleasure Resorts.

The smooth macadamized streets within the limits of the city afford many miles of pleasant driving, and if there were no other resort, Oakland would be unusually attractive. There is a network of well-made roads through the Oakland Valley centering at Berkeley. The Telegraph and San Pablo avenues are the great drive-ways to the north of the city, and from them radiate numerous roads that lead into the hills. A fashionable and beautiful drive is that leading to Piedmont Springs, five miles from Oakland. From the Piedmont Springs Hotel, which offers every attraction for the comfort and enjoyment of its patrons, "perhaps the finest and most complete view of the Bay and its surroundings is obtained, while the "Bushy Dell" hard by, a ravine filled with a luxuriant growth of shrubbery and trees, is a most delightful and romantic spot, with excellent made walks running through it. In this dell the Sulphur Springs are situated, the waters of which are strongly impregnated with sulphur, mag-

Three powerful Fire Insurance Companies operating conjointly in California; BABER & ROFF, Agents, Oakland.