

A Chicago furniture company will establish a branch factory in Winnipeg, employing 150 hands.

Lewis Bros. & Co., wholesale hardware dealers, of Montreal, have secured a site in Winnipeg on which to erect a large branch warehouse.

After another short term of operation the Belleville rolling mills again closed down on the 11th ult. The city made a seizure for taxes which the company resisted.

The coke blast furnace at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., one of the two furnaces built to supply pig-iron for the steel plant was started up on the 18th ult., and the charcoal furnace is getting ready for operations.

The John Bowman Hardware Co., of London, Ont., assigned last month with liabilities of \$112,901, and assets of \$96,234. Montreal, Toronto, New York, and other United States firms are the principal creditors.

The Crowe & Nicholls chair factory, in Stratford, is just about completed. It is the first building in that city constructed of cement. The Stratford Mill Building Co. installed the boiler and engine.

Certain shareholders of the Cramp Steel Company have brought a claim for \$300,000 against the officers and directors. Plaintiffs call for the cancellation of three hundred thousand dollars' worth of shares on which the directors voted for transfer, also for an injunction to prevent the transfer of assets to the Northern Iron and Steel Company.

Prof. Prince, Commissioner of Fisheries, has visited the fish reduction works at Boston, Portland, and other Atlantic coast ports, to get information for the purpose of establishing similar works in Canada, where the manufacture of fish and fish offal costing two or three dollars per ton into products worth \$25 or \$30 a ton can be carried on. Of three plants to be erected, the site of one has been fixed at Canso, N.S.

The coke oven plant to be erected at Sault Ste. Marie by the Lake Superior Corporation will have a capacity of about four hundred tons daily. Some 350,000 tons of coke will be handled annually and about 300 men will be employed. Construction work will be started in the spring. All the coke will be taken by the Lake Superior Corporation for use in the blast furnaces on the Canadian side of the river.

The Dominion Iron and Steel Co., Sydney, N.S., have closed a contract with a German firm for installing a plant for the manufacture of pig iron from waste iron ore. This process, which was discovered a few years ago by Bruck, Kretsham & Co., Germany, reduces the cost of the production to not over 75 cents a ton. The plant will have a capacity of 75 tons per day, and this will be enlarged should the process do all that is expected.

The Stirling Company, Limited, of New Jersey, have obtained judgment at Osgoode Hall against the Nickel-Copper Company, of Hamilton, for \$68,231. The plaintiff company about two years ago advanced \$65,000 to the Nickel-Copper Company on options, but the latter company were unable to fulfill their obligations in the deal, hence the suit to recover the money and interest. The Stirling Company will not be able to realize on the judgment for some time, as Mr. McConnell of Ottawa comes in first with a mortgage for about \$200,000 on the Nickel-Copper Company's property. Recently the Hoepfner Refining Company, of Hamilton, which is comprised of some members who are officers in the Nickel-Copper Company, seized the latter's property for about \$48,000 rent, alleged to be owing to the Hoepfner Company. In this matter a sale has been hanging fire since the seizure, and it is doubtful if the sale will now take place.

—The Pittsburg Meter Co., manufacturers of water meters and gas meters, East Pittsburg, Pa., have been awarded the gold medal by the international jury at the World's Fair, St. Louis. This is the highest award given to any meter company at the Exhibition.

—The Electrical Development Co., of Toronto, has awarded contracts amounting to \$120,000 on the sub-station for the Toronto and Niagara Power Co., at Niagara Falls. The concrete and brick work went to Thomas Mumford, Niagara Falls, for \$40,000, the steel work to the Canada Foundry Co. for \$45,000, and the galvanized iron work to Wheeler & Bain, Toronto, for \$3,600.

RAILWAY NOTES.

Much of the machinery has been removed from the C.P.R. shops, in Perth, to the Montreal shops, and the Perth shops will be used only for repairs.

The Grand Trunk Railway contemplates extending its shops at Point St. Charles, Montreal, at a cost of \$200,000, and employing a couple of hundred more men when they shall have been completed.

G. A. Mountain, engineer of the Government Railway Commission, accompanied by Joseph Hobson, chief engineer of the Grand Trunk, is investigating the recent railway accident at the Sarnia tunnel.

The Egerton Tram Co. has completed an electric line connecting New Glasgow, Trenton, Stellarton, and Westville, N.S., "the city of the four towns." The line was formally opened on October 14th.

Col. John McNaughten, railway promoter and builder, of New York, has under consideration a line of railway from Grand Forks, B.C., up the north fork of the Kettle river for a distance of fifty miles.

The location of the C.P.R. Toronto-Sudbury line has been completed as far as Craighurst. The point nearest Barrie is about six miles out. A line has been obtained shorter and easier than the one passing through that town.

Fire broke out in the boiler room of the T. H. & B. shops in Hamilton on October 4th. The blacksmith, the machine shop, the car repairing shop, and the interlocking switch tower were destroyed, besides some rolling stock. The loss is estimated at about \$35,000, fully insured.

The C.P.R. is considering a scheme for reducing the grade over the Selkirk Mountains at Rogers' Pass, by a tunnel three miles long through the mountain, between Glacier station and Bear Creek. It will be a heavy work, but it is thought that the reduction in the cost of haulage would justify the expense.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company has awarded an order for twenty-five engines of the Richmond compound mogul type to the Kingston Locomotive Works. The new engines are for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad, and will entail an expenditure at the works of \$400,000. The engines will be forwarded within the next eighteen months.

The Victoria, B.C., Terminal Railway Co., from Victoria to Sidney, now controlled by the Great Northern, may be operated as an electric road. A branch from Oliver siding to New Westminster Bridge is now being built. This will give a direct route from Port Guichon to Vancouver through New Westminster. The Sooke water supply is being examined as a source of power.

The Chronicle reports that the contract has been signed by the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway Company with Edmund Conway, for the branch line from St. Gabriel Station, on the Jacques Cartier river, to the township of Gosford. This line will follow the old route of the Gosford wooden railway for a number of miles and will give access to the magnificent hardwood lands of the township of Gosford, which abound in maple and birch. Mr. Conway expects to have three miles of track laid this fall to a point near the Riviere aux Pins.

In response to a circular from the Railway Commission, railways of the Dominion have agreed among themselves to draft a uniform set of rules to govern the operation of trains. All roads will be compelled to introduce block safety systems wherever business is heavy enough to make it necessary. Automatic switching devices will be insisted upon, so that semaphores will first denote danger before a switch is opened. Hand and light signals will be made uniform on all roads, and a rule will be introduced that no train hand shall work more than a specified number of hours each day, whether he wants to or not.

The Canada Foundry Co. turned out its first locomotive last month, and for the present will turn out one new one per week. The new locomotive is of the consolidated type, compound cylinders, high pressure, 23-inch diameter, and low pressure 35-inch diameter; 26-inch stroke, with four coupled driving wheels on each side, each 57 inches in diameter. The combined weight of the engine and tender