

\$184,099. We advise him to apply to Dr. Oronhyatekha for it—after the Bay street illuminations for the Duke and Duchess are over. He can easily explain away a little thing like that.

Whether the Canada Life office is coming here or not, and we think it is, is not very material in one sense, says the Review, of London, England, except that the more competition we have in this country the more will the energetic offices be pleased, and the more will the lethargic ones be forced into amalgamation or honorable liquidation. We have too many life offices at present, and, as in the fire business, amalgamation and concentration are the order of the day.

An English exchange thinks it startling that the British postoffice has only issued insurance policies for £1,250,000 to something under 20,000 policy-holders. It adds: "We do not think the postoffice is likely to be successful in this branch of finance. Life assurance can only be effectively expanded by personal influence, and this is what a state department is quite unable to provide. On the other hand, there are 8,000,000 depositors in the savings bank, the postoffice now holding £130,000,000 to the credit of the depositors."

That the people of Magog, Que., or at least their representatives, are open-eyed, sensible people is evident from the efforts they are making to protect themselves from the ravages of fire by providing adequate fire appliances. Doubtless they had heard of the Waterous steam fire engines, and one of these, the smallest size, was ordered. It was submitted to a test at Quebec on Saturday last, while en route from Brantford to Magog. The mayor and many aldermen of Quebec were present; so were Chief Dorval of the Quebec Fire Department, and the chief of the Levis department. The appearance and modern mechanism of the machine were admired by all, and when it began to play, taking water through a suction tube from a basin 14 feet below the level upon which it stood, quiet admiration changed to applause. In two minutes from the lighting of the fire 5 lbs. of steam was raised; in 4½ minutes, 10 lbs.; in 6 minutes, 18 lbs.; in 9 minutes, 70 lbs. There were two streams laid from the coupling joints of the engine, each 1,000 feet in length, and these streams threw the water a horizontal distance of 100 feet, and a perpendicular distance of about 60 feet in height. The wind was blowing very strong at the time which affected the latter, it is claimed, to an extent of at least 15 feet.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Americans interested in the fisheries have decided to establish salmon hatcheries on the Fraser river, it being not feasible to propagate the sockeye in their own waters.

The outlook for higher prices for prune growers on the Pacific coast is fairly bright, owing to a shortage in the crop, compared with last year, and a general shortage in many other lines of fruit.

It is stated that many instances of the pernicious system of "facing" in packing cases and baskets of fruit have been discovered, and that the Government has taken the names of several offending parties, and will warn and perhaps prosecute them.

Considerable interest has been manifested in a recent shipment of British Columbia fruit to Manitoba, considerable complaint having heretofore been made regarding the manner in which it has been usually packed and shipped. This consignment referred to was sent under direction of the Provincial Government, and is stated to have arrived in excellent condition, which goes to show that all that British Columbia fruit needs is thorough care and attention to the details of transportation.

The Montreal Retail Grocers' Association met last Friday, when the chief business was the election of officers, which resulted as follows: President, Ald. Turner; 1st vice-president, Mr. N. Chartrand; 2nd vice-president, Mr. J. E. Manning; secretary, Mr. J. P. Dixon; hon.-secretary, Mr. N. Lapointe. Directors, Messrs. A. O. Galarneau, H. Macy,

J. O. Leveque, J. B. Deschamp, M. de Repentigny, P. O'Brien, A. D. Fraser, O. Champagne, H. A. Laniel, P. Daoust, J. Poirier and E. W. Farrell.

The demand for Canadian cheese continues to show few signs of briskness, and buyers are not to be seduced into confidence in the future by Canadian attempts to raise c.i.f. values. There is no doubt but that the holdings in retailers' hands here are very small, and consequently when buying commences there is likely to be brisk business. Stocks too on this side in wholesale hands are not large, so that the statistical position here is very strongly in favor of a considerable amount of buying before navigation closes about the middle of November, but it is possible events will not justify expectations.—Liverpool Report.

The Department of Inland Revenue sent out a circular to 4,384 medical men, asking whether any cases of illness apparently attributable to the use of tinned goods had come under their notice within recent years. Out of 1,313 replies received, 1,059 answered in the negative and 254 in the affirmative. Judging from these replies, the number of cases of disease would average about 138 per annum in Canada. Only fifteen cases terminated fatally. The Department recommends the adoption of a few well known precautions in the interests of public health, and suggests that the sale of canned goods should be prohibited after a certain lapse of time from the date of their manufacture.

Thoughtful people have been anxiously watching the conditions under which this year's remarkable grain crop of Manitoba has been harvested, and fearing lest its great promise might prove disappointing. Mr. F. W. Thompson, general manager of the Ogilvie Milling Company, says "that the recent unfavorable weather has not altered the position of the crop so far as the quantity of wheat to market is concerned, and the yield will, I think, be fully equal to my earlier predictions of an average of 23 bushels to the acre in Manitoba and the Northwest. There has been no depreciation in quality by the wet weather and though a portion of the crop has been reduced in grade there has been no damage to speak of from sprouting." He still believes that \$25,000,000 will be realized from the crop.

It appears that France is disturbed at present over a deficient and inferior wheat harvest. United States Consul Haynes at Rouen says that the price of wheat already has risen in France 48c. on every 100 kilograms (220 pounds), and the price of bread has advanced one cent on each loaf. The amount of wheat which France must have for home consumption between now and October next is reckoned at 317,850,000 bushels. How much of this the present harvest will supply is uncertain. Some authorities believe that on a pinch this year's harvest will suffice, but that next year, unless there is a wonderful harvest, France will have to apply abroad for foodstuffs. Some estimates place this year's crop at 247,000,000 bushels, leaving 99,000,000 needful from abroad.

Despite an increase in the output of Indian tea amounting to nearly 10 per cent., the profit per lb. has fallen to nearly one-half of what it was last year, the working cost being little under that of 1899. There is, however, one encouraging feature. There is evidently a disposition on the part of the planting companies, however, to follow out the principle of reducing acreage individually. A glance at the figures representing the acreage shows that the increase in the area planted is only a little over 1 per cent., hardly sufficient to counterbalance the natural yearly depreciation of the gardens.

Ontario cheese won the only gold medal awarded for the best exhibit of cheese by any state or province in Canada or the United States at the Pan-American Exposition. The Ontario exhibit consisted of 140 boxes, chosen by a committee of the Western Dairymen's Association. It was also decided by the Pan-American authorities to award a certificate for all exhibits which tested up to 94 per cent. in quality, and out of the August cheese sent from Ontario only one case fell below this high standard, while one registered 99½ per cent.

It is satisfactory to learn from the weekly report of W. Weddel & Co., Liverpool, that the fancy Canadian butter being received just now is so fine in quality that—at any rate