

meeting recently held in London, Dakota does not offer a very promising field for investment. Many of the company's borrowers in that State have been seriously crippled by the drought of last season, and albeit no great ultimate loss is expected to accrue in the opinion of its local advisers, the result has been detrimental to the present interests of the shareholders. It has been deemed prudent to forego the usual dividend, in order to make provision for possible loss from this source. In Manitoba, on the contrary, a fair measure of success has attended the business of the company, and it is safe to predict that this latter field of operations will, in future, be more cultivated by this and other associations who, in the past, have been attracted to the North Western States by promises of greater gain.

A MINING MANUAL.—It is the intention of the Government to publish, in connection with the census, a mining manual, with the position of each worked mineral marked on a series of sketch maps by provinces, in one style, and the known but not developed deposits marked in another style, in order to extend the knowledge of our vast mineral wealth. For this purpose the enumerators of the census have been supplied with a schedule, which, when filled, will furnish the necessary data for the proposed compendium. A list will also be added containing the names of all companies, firms and individuals engaged in mining pursuits; and an appendix will give all necessary information as to the mining laws of the several provinces. In compiling the required data, the reports of the Geological Survey will be made use of. The co-operation of the census and the Geological Survey ought to result in the production of a manual that will be of great value to the whole community. Of recent years, the Geological Survey has published a statement of annual production of the mines of Canada, which has been very acceptable to the country. The proposed plan will extend the practical side of the Survey.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.—The act abolishing imprisonment for debt in Nova Scotia comes into force on 1st May. Provision, however, of a very stringent character is made to meet cases where persons who really are in a position to pay will not pay. Under the new law, when a judgment has been obtained against a person, the creditor has to secure an order from a commissioner, judge, magistrate or justice of the peace, to have the debtor arraigned. The order is served on the debtor to appear on a certain day.