lines of business there is a tendency to let all interest in one's work cease with the afternoon closing of the office. One valuable feature of the Institute is that it animates them to pay attention to the principles of underwriting as well as the minutiae of its working; to read, to study, and to observe.

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DEATH OF R. W. ELLIOT.

On Sunday afternoon last Mr. Robert W. Elliot, head of the firm Elliot & Co., Limited, manufacturers and wholesale druggists, passed away, after an illness of some months, having nearly reached the age of 71 years. Mr. Elliot had a long and creditable business career in Toronto. While still comparatively young he succeeded to the drug business established by his father, the late Wm. Elliot. In the year 1879 he was elected president of the Board of Trade. He was a pronounced protectionist and it was during his term of office that the board took up the question of tariff and made suggestions to the Government on the subject. He was also instrumental in getting the board to suggest to the Government the appointment of a Railway Commission. He took an active part in the work of organizing and pushing to a successful completion the Nipissing Railway, and was for many years a valued member of the board of the Industrial Exhibition. Mr. Elliot was the first president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and being a strong believer in mutual fire insurance, was vice-president of the Fire Insurance Exchange Corporation. He was a capable chemist and a good all-round business man, and from his travel and wide knowledge was able to render valuable services to the community.

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DOMINION COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

On Saturday last was held in Montreal a meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association, which was well attended. The president, Mr. J. S. N. Dougall, presented a very satisfactory report, which showed an increase of 380 members during the year, making a total of over 5,000 on the roll

The following officers were elected: Vice-president, E. D. Marceau; treasurer, R. C. Wilkins, both by acclamation; directors, E. S. Bois, J. B. Gilles, J. A. Thompson, R. Forman, W. J. Cleghorn, J. W. Prescott, Arthur Terroux, C. H. Shaw. The presidency will be decided at a future meeting. The candidates nominated are Fred. L. Cains, of Prophy, Cains & Company, and W. Egan, of the W. R. Brock Company. A vote of confidence was passed endorsing the action of the directors during the past year, and the fixing of a date for the annual dinner was left in the hands of the committee.

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ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

R. G., Chatham, Ont.—There is no exaggeration about it. If you write to Washington you can ascertain the actual figures; but within the recollection of the writer of last week's article the United States Government has spent \$20,000,000. Here are the figures, which we take from an American paper, of one year's expenditure on rivers and lake harbors, \$3,521,000 "The annual report of the Chief of United States engineers includes the following estimates for continuing contracts on the Great Lakes for the fiscal year 1907: St. Mary's river, at the falls, \$6.0,000; Hay Lake channel, \$1,000,000; Detroit river, \$700,000; Cleveland harbor, \$550,000; harbor at Duluth, Minn., and Superior, \$150,000; Huland harbor, \$110,000; Sandusky harbor, \$175,000; Huron harbor, \$200,000; Black River harbor, Ohio, \$46,000; total, \$3,521,000."

Trader, Montreal.—We have usually based our articles on prices of commodities in the main on the tabulated comparisons of Dun's Review, of New York, and the Economist, of London. You will find an informing discussion of the subject in the article "Prices" in McCu'loch's Dictionary of Commerce, pages 1135 to 1141.

A. B. Diplock, Vancouver, writes: Noticing an article in your issue of October 27th headed, "Economy in Wood Waste," I should esteem it a favor if you could put me in communication with the parties who obtain extracts from the wood offal in logging operations. I am heavily interested in clearing land, and any means of reducing the cost of clearing the heavy timbers of our Western country is a step in the right direction.

[Yours is the third enquiry we have had about that article. It was not original with The Monetary Times, but was copied from the Chicago Tribune, to whom credit was given for it. Should advise your applying to that journal, for we are unable to give you the names of the parties who effected the economies mentioned.—Ed. M. T.]

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—The appeal of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union against the recent verdict giving the Meta'lic Roofing Company the sum of \$7,500 damages for a boycott instituted against the company's goods has been dismissed, the judge holding that both the union and the individual members of the union who were sued are liable for that full amount.

—The lumber mills of the Far West have reached a determination to do something definite to cure what they have long contended are the unremunerative prices of sawn lumber. A special despatch to the "Globe," dated 13th instant, states that thirty-five lumber mills in the British Columbia association have decided to advance prices on all kinds of lumber shipped east two dol'ars per thousand feet.

—A company is being organized in Vancouver, we learn, for the object of utilizing the refuse from the saw mills and obtaining therefrom pitch, turpentine, charcoal and other products. This is a natural and sensible proceeding, for it is high time we began to economize our forest products, which in both the United States and Canada are so generally wasted. This announcement reminds us that letters from three persons in different parts of Canada have come to this office asking for further particulars about an item copied into The Monetary Times from the Chicago "Tribune" a few weeks ago respecting the economical use of wood offal. It gave the experience of a company in that direction.

—A little time ago we expressed the suspicion that our blatant trades unionists, in the resolution at their recent Trades and Labor Congress in Toronto to sympathize with the alleged attitude of their fellow-unionists in the Mother Country against Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal schemes, were talking with more "bigness" than understanding. The confirmation of this now comes to hand in the shape of a long manifesto addressed to the president of the Trades and Labor Congress at Montreal from over 1,500 more or less prominent trades unionists residing in nearly all the leading industrial centres in Great Britain, and it which are stated several cogent reasons why British unionists and British workmen very largely support Mr. Chamberlain in those schemes.

-The somewhat extraordinary announcement is made in Vancouver that, impelled by a desire for the ideal of journalistic independence and fairness, a number of local men have joined together to publish a weekly newspaper presenting both sides of public questions. The new paper will be appropriately named the "Two Voices," and its leading editorials will be written by two men, one a Liberal and the other a Conservative, each giving his own party view, though neither will be absolutely hidebound. To further delineate both points of view the best editorials appearing during the week in the papers supporting both parties will be reproduced, with the best speeches from both sides of the House when the Legislature is sitting. No advertisements will be solicited, and it is a fundamental principle that it is to be free to criticize everybody, even those contributing to its support. Verily, this is a fascinating scheme, which, however, cannot be expected to last. Something very like it was out-lined not long ago in one of Elliott Flower's short stories. And even the novelist could not make it work.

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