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Mercantile Summary.

It is announced in Montreal that a new asbestos manufacturing company has been formed, with Mr. Wm. Sclater as manager, he having resigned the presidency and managership of the Canadian Asbestos Company.

At the annual meeting of the Rubber Boot and Shoe Jobbers' Association of Canada, held in Toronto, the following officers were elected: President, William Garside, Toronto; secretary, Osler Wade, Toronto; treasurer, Charles Bournick, Toronto. Mr. D. D. Hawthorn is chairman of the Ontario Executive; Mr. Pride, of Amherst, of the Maritime; Mr. Erskine, of the British Columbia Executive; Mr. Autlike, of the North-West. The next annual meeting will be held in Montreal on the third Tuesday of January, 1905.

THE announcement of the failure of the old-established grocery and liquor firm of G. M. Wilkinson & Son, of Kingston, Ont., came as a surprise to many. The business was founded something like a half century ago by the late G. M. Wilkinson, who left quite a substantial estate, and his son, H. J. Wilkinson has been the sole proprietor of late years. He is reported to have sunk considerable money recently in running the British American Hotel, as well as in some other speculative ventures. His merchandise liabilities are said to be only about \$5,000, but the Ontario bank is a creditor for some \$22,000.

ON demand, an assignment is made by M. Desilets, of Grande Merc. He is a young man, who began in the grocery line several years ago with the assistance of his father. Latterly he has been attempting something of a jobbing business, with apparently poor results. As he claimed a surplus of \$12,000 last August, explanations of how this margin had disappeared might prove interesting to creditors.—J. O. Giroux, of Nicolet, was formerly a bank clerk. Having longings towards trade, with the help of his father, he established himself in the boot and shoe line in 1900, but he has failed to command success, and has placed his affairs in the hands of the assignee.

ON the 15th inst., there was a very disastrous fire in Calgary. It started in the furnace room of the Norman Buildings which comprises the new Norman Theatre, and completely gutted that block. The loss is divided as follows: Senator Loughheed, owner of the property, \$50,000; J. A. Glanville's dry goods store, \$30,000; Wm. Robertson's clothing store, \$25,000; Sale's clothing store, \$12,000; Kerr and Terrell's grocery store, \$8,000; D. J. Young, books and music, \$15,000. On the same day a fire took place in the building used as a storehouse of the Brussels wool mills, and an implement warehouse occupied by Frost & Wood, at Brussels, Ont. Loss on building and contents, though the implements were partially saved, about \$5,000, insured.

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