

manufacture of gasoline stoves in Canada, and of gasoline, too, goes on with considerable and increasing vigor. The people of Canada want these things and will have them. Inflexible, frozen and musty conservatism must yield to the logic of events or be made to stand aside.

We call the attention of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association to the fact that on April 24th, in the city of Hamilton, Ont., a building was set on fire by the explosion of a barrel of coal oil. At least such is the report telegraphed from that city. It was not a gasoline stove that exploded, nor even gasoline, but simply coal oil. The insurance companies embraced in the association place no restrictions upon the use of coal oil, but still explosions of it occur and destructive fires result.

THE business men of Paris, Ont., are feeling that a serious blow has been given to the prosperity of their town by the proposed removal of an extensive agricultural implement works to St. Mary's, Ont., which latter town has recently offered the factory people a bonus of some \$30,000 as an inducement to make the change. The bonusing business is bad, and should not be encouraged, particularly when used to induce the removal of an industry already established to another location. It does not create wealth, but destroys it. It costs money to move a factory.

THE aggregate losses by fire in the United States last year amounted to \$119,000,000, defective flues and the careless handling of coal oil being chargeable with more of the fires than all other accidental causes. As usual, the fires resulting from the use of gasoline stands low on the list, although there are hundreds of thousands of gasoline stoves in constant use in that country. Will the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, and our respected contemporary, the *Monetary Times*, assimilate and digest this item?

THE *Hamilton Spectator* says that if the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union there have decided that the members shall not be allowed to work on the new City Hall, because Buscombe is employed by the city building street drains, the City Hall will have to be built by non-union labor. Correct. The city authorities there, and the contractors, are awake to the fact that, if public or private buildings are to be erected in Hamilton, it must be by those who do not favor imposing fifty dollar fines on men because they work for a city which employs Buscombe. Buscombe will stay.

WHEN the father of the Father of his Country, in interrogating his hopeful Knight of Labor son, George, regarding a burning question affecting the consistency of his professions as a member of a labor organization, asked him if in cutting down the historical cherry tree he had boycotted Buscombe and the Hamilton City Hall, because Buscombe was not a member of the Bricklayers' Union, the truthful George became very indignant and said: "Father, I cannot tell a lie, a labor organization wouldn't do such a thing. Don't lay it on us, the other fellows did it."

THE question has been asked, How can Canadian cotton mills manufacture cotton fabrics for the Chinese market at 19

cents a pound, when they cannot sell for consumption at home for less than 23 cents? It is stated in reply that the goods for the China trade is made of very coarse yarn, which can be spun and woven very much quicker and easier than that for domestic use. Another feature of the business is that the transactions are for cash, while wholesale merchants who buy for the Canada trade require long credits, and to realize spot cash for the goods thus sold implies a discount which of itself is a good profit on the business.

IN a previous issue of this paper there appeared, in an article entitled "Wealthy Paupers," certain personal observations which might be held to reflect upon Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, president of the Young Men's Christian Association. It was not our intention, and we regret that Mr. Caldecott's name should have been used, even unintentionally, in any way that should lead him to suspect that we entertain other than feelings of the highest respect for him or the good work he is engaged in. We objected to the application for free water from the city as a matter of policy, but had no intention of imputing unworthy motives to those making the application.

WE have it on the authority of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the country, that the production of gasoline in Canada is increasing of late with much more rapidity than the ordinary demand for the article in the arts and trades warrants. This, in connection with the other fact that the manufacture of gasoline stoves in Canada is a growing industry, indicates that as between paying double premiums to old foggy fire insurance companies or being deprived of the privilege of using gasoline stoves, the people of Canada will assume their own risks. Perhaps, however, there may already be some live non-association companies which accept gasoline risks without extra charge. If any such there be, they ought to let the fact be generally known.

THERE is no duty imposed upon tin in bars, blocks, or pigs imported into the United States. The quantity of such tin imported into that country last year amounted to 13,100 tons, valued at \$6,021,948. There is a duty of one cent a pound upon tin plates; and the quantity of such imported into the United States in 1887 amounted to 283,836 long tons, the duty upon which was \$6,367,926. Tin plates, or, properly speaking, tinned plates, are composed of thin sheets of iron coated with tin. One cent a pound duty upon this article is not sufficient protection to induce its manufacture in the United States, and manufacturers there claim that if the duty was raised to about two cents that country would produce all the tin plates required, which, as is shown, amounted last year to 283,836 tons. If this were done employment would be given to millions of capital and thousands of skilled workmen at home, and at the same time reduce the revenue to the extent of over \$6,000,000 a year.

RECENTLY a number of Canadians from Nova Scotia, who had gone to Boston and other New England ports to ship as crews for certain Yankee fishing vessels, have been sent back home by the customs officers, under authority of the United States law which forbids the importation of labor under contract. Of course the bluenoses threw up their contracts, but