

# THE CANADIAN GROCER

& GENERAL STOREKEEPER

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.  
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Published in the interest of Grocers, Canners, Produce and Provision Dealers  
and General Storekeepers.

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## SPECIAL TO OUR READERS.

As the design of THE CANADIAN GROCER is to benefit mutually all interested in the business, we would request all parties ordering goods or making purchases of any description from houses advertising with us to mention in their letter that such advertisement was noticed in THE CANADIAN GROCER.

## OUR MONTREAL OFFICE.

Our Montreal Office is located at 115 St. Francois Xavier St. Our representative, Mr. G. Hector Clemes, will be pleased to have subscribers and advertisers call upon him there. He will also pay special attention to gathering business items and attending generally to the interests of this paper.

## NOTICE TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

Of late, owing to the greatly increased circulation and number of pages of THE CANADIAN GROCER, we have to send part of the paper to press two days earlier than in the past. We would, therefore, ask our advertisers to have all changes of advertisements reach this office not later than Tuesday afternoon in order to insure insertion that week.

Another dairy bulletin has been issued from the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa. It was prepared by the Dairy Commissioner, Prof. J. W. Robertson. It contains forms of by-laws, rules and regulations suitable for a basis on which to organize joint stock companies or associations for the manufacture of butter or cheese. It is no collection of rough-hewn suggestions, but is a carefully studied, detailed scheme, in which are taken in all the considerations that will present themselves in any particular case. Such a manual removes one of the impediments that have heretofore lain in the way of putting the production of butter on a co-operative footing. The disposition to establish creameries has been held in check

somewhat by ignorance of the right mode of procedure. It will no doubt facilitate the growth of co-operative manufacture to have a model in the hands of everybody concerned. It is desirable also that all the cheese and butter factories should be directed in accordance with uniform principles of organization. It will help to equalize the conditions of production, and results can be better studied for the benefit of the dairy industries.

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The alleged purchase of a half-year's output of the St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery by Davidson & Hay, was referred to a week ago in these columns as a matter "commonly reported." The report turns out to be unfounded. Due allowance was not made for the improbability of it at the time the paragraph was written, the aim of the reference being to direct attention to an effect that was independent of the truth or falsity of the rumor. That effect was the conceiving of a mistrust among outside retailers, that there was collusion between the firm in question and the local retail association, as the resolution of the latter body corresponded with the rumored purchase of the firm. The rumor was not a fact, but this effect of it was, and attention was attracted entirely to the latter. The St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery continues to supply sugar to all the wholesale trade whose orders it receives, and is not prevented from doing so by any purchase which any house has made.

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It is unfortunate that the Retail Grocers' Association of this city could not see its way to adopt Wednesday afternoon as a weekly half holiday for its members. The difficulty presented by the fruit trade is undoubtedly very hard to get over, as most of the grocers handle fruit, and to close up shop on the day when stock was perhaps most marketable

would be wrong. The objection urged from the attitude of self defence was also strong. Grocers not in the Association would perhaps consider the adoption of Wednesday afternoon as a half holiday a very good thing for business, as on that day the stress of competition would be lessened by the recess taken by the traders in the Association. The fine opportunities for enjoyment that the summer season in this city yields to those who have the leisure for an occasional spell of pleasure, will have to go unimproved by the grocer unless he avails himself of them at the sacrifice of working hours. There are no holiday hours.

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The destruction by fire of a large part of the thriving village of Alliston draws the attention of business men forcibly to the importance of being insured. If they are insured their creditors are more or less secured from loss, and will be the more likely to hold out a helping hand when the sufferer by fire tries to get on his feet again. Where the bulk of the business men are insured the standard of a town is also likely to be raised in the scale of insurance, and the fire protection is likely to be adequate. It seems to be the case always that where insurance is not general, the facilities for quenching fires are poor. In Alliston the consequences are most ruinous to business men. One hundred and thirty buildings were consumed, and the majority of them were for trading purposes. Not a grocery nor dry-goods store was left standing. If Alliston had ranked in even the middle class fire towns, say in D, it would probably have escaped with no more than the loss of one or two houses. But it was in the lowest grade, namely, F. If it had ranked one grade higher there surely would have been appliances sufficient to prevent the fire from crossing the street and burning a whole row of buildings.