

The beet-root sugar companies of the Province of Quebec, seem to be all in hot water. A *saisie arret* for \$32,000 odd has just been issued against the Pioneer Beet-Root Sugar Company of Coati-cooke.

John McGregor & Son, of Detroit, have purchased the Salter property, fronting the river just above the Essex mills, and will erect a large machine shop and boiler works on it.

A new pork factory is shortly to be built in St. Thomas for Mr. J. Griffin. It will be of brick 40 x 70 feet, two stories and basement, and will cost perhaps \$3,500. It is intended to employ 10 to 15 hands cutting up the dead hogs purchased.

The new writing-paper mill of the Toronto Paper Company, at Cornwall, Ont., is expected to be in active operation before the end of August. The promoters are negotiating with the Government for a lease of water power.

Good progress has been made, says the New Glasgow Herald, in the construction of the Nova Scotia Steel Works. The stone foundations of the buildings have been laid, the frame of the main shop is erected and two sidings have been built, connecting the premises with the I. C. B. There are six large steam boilers of steel now in course of construction. The manager, Mr. Graham Fraser, is in England, visiting the different steel works and negotiating for the purchase of the rolls and other machinery.

The Canada Salt Association has received at their head office in Clinton 15,000 sacks, to be used in their lower Canadian Trade.

The manufacture of woollen goods is exceedingly destructive of the machinery used. Every twenty years, says the Philadelphia Record, the equipments of a woollen mill must be entirely renewed. Over nine thousand sets of woollen machinery are in use in this country, and of these 450 must be replaced every year. The cost of replacing the "mules" alone is placed at \$1,200,000 annually. Various portions of the machinery, of course, last much longer than the average. A set of cards, carefully used, will last fifty years. The "mules" wear out on an average in fifteen years. Machinery for woollen manufacturing has become wonderfully complicated of late years, since the introduction of new styles of good has required new processes, which in turn demand new machinery. In all there are 35,640 different processes employed, each with its separate costly machinery.

#### WINNIPEG BOARD OF TRADE.

##### FIRE LIMITS.

A special meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade was held last week to consider the important matter of a by-law whose passage was contemplated by the city council, amending the regulations as to fire limits. Mr. G. F. Carruthers, president, occupied the chair, and Messrs. L. M. Lewis, secretary, W. H. Lyon, George Wishart, R. McKenzie, A. G. B. Bannatyne, Col. W. Osborne Smith, Hon. Gilbert McMicken, C. J. Brydges, J. H. Brock, J. H. Ashdown, W. Higgins and T. H. Carman were present. Aldermen Wilson, Bathgate and McMicken were present for consultation as members of the city council.

On being asked by Mr. Lyon the reason assigned for the proposed reduction, the president answered that it was thought the growth of the city was being retarded, through people not being allowed to build in wood and not being able to build in brick. Mr. Ashdown pointed out the inconsistency of keeping the by-law in force from March until July, when brick could not be obtained, and then relaxing it just as the material was coming into the market. Messrs.

Brydges, McMicken, Brock and other gentlemen continued the discussion, Mr. Lyon making the important observation that only Main street had as yet sewerage such as was needed for the foundation of solid brick buildings. It appears from that gentleman's statement that any one who wishes to erect such a building elsewhere in the City of Winnipeg, must either provide sewerage at his own expense or run the risk of seeing the foundation of his house give way.

On motion of Messrs. Ashdown and Bannatyne, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

That in the opinion of this Board, the fire limits, as at present defined by the existing by-law, should not be diminished; that the rapid growth of buildings renders it most important that in those parts of the city where buildings are being constructed so close together, and where the main business of the city is being carried on, there should be the greatest possible security against the spread of fire; that this security cannot be obtained if the fire limits are reduced; and that this Board strongly protests against any limitation of the existing fire limits as at present defined.

The mover alluded to the difficulty of obtaining bricks as only one of those difficulties that were to be expected at the outset. He opposed the retrograde movement contemplated. In passing the by-law, the city council had had the approval of the board of trade and the great majority of the citizens. At that time not 1000 bricks could be obtained; but before the end of the season a considerable quantity could likely be got. It was only by putting in force such a by-law that the production of the required supply of bricks could be brought about. He concurred in what had been said as to the importance of the city council taking immediate steps in the matter of drainage.

To a certain extent, the city is being squeezed between a difficulty and a danger: the difficulty of getting building brick, and the danger of building in wood. But the worst thing that could happen would be a retrograde movement on the fire limits question.

It was resolved, on motion of Messrs. Bannatyne and Brydges,

That this board presses upon the earnest attention of the city council the urgent importance of proceeding with the sewerage of the city without delay, not alone as a sanitary measure of extreme urgency, but as important in the erection of substantial buildings within the fire limits.

Mr. Bannatyne emphasized the importance of providing for proper foundations for buildings of the better class, and referred also to the necessity of sewerage for sanitary reasons. After the vote had been unanimously given, the board adjourned.

[No serious difficulty about drainage ought to exist. The building of sewers is certainly possible and should in all well-governed cities precede anything like compact building, or building anywhere except at a considerable distance from the centre.]

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

B. C., London.—For information as to the meeting and the subjects under discussion, address. "The Secretary American Bankers Association, New York."

INSURANCE—Brigden.—"Will you kindly define the term 'blanket policy,' and enable us to settle a dispute?" [Blanket policy embraces in one item, property which in other policies thereon is divided into different classes, with a separate amount insured upon each class. For example:—A policy which reads "On stock-in-trade, machinery, and fixtures, \$2000," is a "blanket" policy; where another policy would read: "On stock-in-trade, \$1000; on machinery, \$750; on fixtures, \$250."]

SUBSCRIBER, Bradshaw P. O. "I am insured in a certain Insurance Company, and I have lost faith to a great extent in its desire to deal honorably with Policy-holders in case of loss, Query—Have I the right to cancel and claim a rebate of unearned premium?"

[You have that right; the rebate to which you are entitled being the balance of premium after deducting short-date rate, or 'tenths'].

ST. CROIX COTTON MILL.—The work on this mill was commenced on the 24th June, 1881, and exactly a year from that date the water was turned on and the machinery set in motion. The dimensions of the main building are 417 by 98 feet, four stories high and a basement. Picker house 82 by 103 ft., two stories high and connected with the main building by a two-story annexe, 37 by 18 ft. The dye house is 135 by 62 ft.; the boiler building 75 by 62 ft.; and the wheel house 95 by 32 ft. When in full operation this will be one of the most complete and extensive mills in the Dominion for the manufacture of plain and coloured cotton goods. With the machinery all in place there will be 40,000 spindles and 700 looms—sufficient of these are now set up to commence operation. The enterprising management is entitled to its full shade of success.

—The Federal bank authorities have decided to open a branch in Montreal, and have been fortunate in their selection of a manager in Mr. Wm. J. Ingram, formerly connected with the Merchants' bank in New York, and lately the assistant general manager of that institution. Mr. Ingram possesses undoubted ability and an intimate knowledge of monetary affairs, to which may be added a familiarity with mercantile and insolvency law which have been of advantage. In the enlarged business which the Federal bank will now be likely to do, with its increased capital and branches in Winnipeg as well as in Montreal, the extended experience of Mr. Ingram in American as well as Canadian banking centres cannot but be valuable.

—Mr. J. L. Searth, late Inspector of the Quebec Bank, who recently left, as we have said, the service of that Bank to assume the joint managership of a new land company, was presented by the chief accountant and staff of the bank in Quebec with a sterling silver tea and coffee service of elegant design. We also learn that Mr. Woodman, ex-Manager of the Ontario Bank at Ottawa, who is to become a member of the well known firm of Dennis & Sons, was presented with an address and a purse of money at the Russell House by some prominent Ottawa business men.

—We give below a comparison of the averages of the New York banks for the last two weeks:—

|  | July 8.       | July 15.      |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Loans.....   | \$326,679,900 | \$324,806,206 |
| Specie.....  | 64,283,600    | 65,929,800    |
| Legal tenders ..   | 23,601,000    | 25,081,600    |
| Deposits.....  | 318,329,100   | 321,603,800   |
| Circulation ....   | 18,420,800    | 18,206,800    |
| The relation between the reserve and the liabilities may be thus shown:— |               |               |
| Specie .....   | \$64,283,600  | \$65,929,800  |
| Legal tenders ..   | 23,602,000    | 25,081,600    |
| Total reserve....  | \$87,885,600  | \$90,960,900  |
| Reserve required agt. deposits..   | 79,592,275    | 80,400,900    |
| Excess above legal requirements..  | 8,303,325     | 10,559,950    |

—The British Canadian Loan & Investment Co., Limited, declares a dividend for the half-year ended with June, at the rate of six per cent. per annum.