

in this particular, some development work being already done.

Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, assistant to S. H. C. Miner, of the Granby smelter and mines, returning on 18th November from visits to New York, Boston and Montreal, says, according to a special to the Nelson News, that "the outlook for copper is very encouraging. John Stanton, a director of the Granby Company, and who is regarded as the world's authority on copper, has been discussing the situation. He stated in the press that consumers of copper have been buying from hand-to-mouth, and that a continuance of the amalgamated curtailment for three months means 15 cent copper. A six months shutdown, Mr. Stanton added, would cause a copper famine. The demand for copper is firmer."

A meeting of the Greenwood Board of Trade was held the other day, at which Mr. Ehrlich, the president, was in the chair. Delegates were appointed to attend the annual meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade, which is to be held in Rossland on Wednesday, 2nd December. These delegates were Messrs. Duncan Ross, George R. Naden, and J. P. Myers-Gray.

CANADIAN ACTUARIES HONORED.

That our Canadian actuaries are appreciated outside as well as inside the institutions they serve is evidenced by recent events. The actuary of the Canada Life, Mr. Frank Sanderson, has been appointed chairman of the Board of Examiners for the Actuarial Society of America for the current year, having already served as one of the examiners for two years. We also observe the appointment recently of Mr. Sanderson to the Board of Governors of McMaster University. Mr. Thomas Bradshaw, actuary of the Imperial Life Assurance Co., was last week appointed consulting actuary of the Commercial Travellers' Association, in which capacity a good opportunity will be afforded him of rendering practical actuarial advice.

FREE-AND-EASY BUSINESS.

A bank manager in Ontario writes on Wednesday last, as follows: "You are always on the lookout for literary and business gems. Is not the enclosed (from a farmer lately turned business man), a worthy companion to the pretty picture" in your last week's issue." The enclosure is as under, written in a cramped, school-boy hand on a half sheet of cheap note paper, with no name or place mentioned, and with no signature attached:

november 27 1903

Dear sir

i resve your latter on nov 17 an j Wated hay
few Days to see Wether e Wood pay up or not if e
dont pay between now and next Wednesday notify
him once More very strictly
and if he dont
pay up Make
him pay
your sturley

We have seen letters from French-Canadian storekeepers struggling with the English language, and they did not contain any funnier spelling than is exhibited by this man who lives in or near an English town of southwestern Ontario, and is, by the way he drops his h's, an Englishman. The ignorant coolness with which, without putting any place on his letter, he addresses the manager of a bank, assuming that the banker knows where he lives; and the stupidity which allows him to neglect signing his name to his communication are surely rare. But one may expect all sorts of things from the farmer-storekeeper with limited brains and no knowledge of business procedure.

Sugar in the local markets remains at unchanged quotations, though a shade easier. In New York, however, refined sugars have dropped 10 per cent.

THE OTTAWA COLLEGE FIRE.

A serious fire took place in Ottawa on Wednesday last, by which the great range of buildings on the south side of Wilbrod street belonging to the Ottawa University were absolutely destroyed. Happily the Science Hall, which is across the street, remains intact. The fire was discovered between seven and eight in the morning, while the students were at breakfast, but from the speed with which it spread the opinion is formed that the fire, which first developed in the Music Hall, had started the previous night, and had been smouldering for hours. At any rate, the flames swept through the corridors, which acted as a series of funnels for their sweep, so quickly that many persons were penned up in the different stories, some having to jump from the windows to save their lives. The building, which is a series of wings, connected by corridors, is mainly an old one, that is, it has been added to from time to time for thirty years or more. It had no fire doors nor any of the modern protective measures.

Frightful is it to contemplate what might have happened if the fire had broken out at night, when the students, priests and professors were in bed. The interior woodwork of the place is heavy and old-fashioned, and made a tremendously hot fire. It is probably true that this University building was no exception to the rule in unwise construction, for most of our universities and colleges were designed and erected before the newer principles and practices of fire-proof building had become operative. This disaster, which has resulted in broken limbs and other serious injuries to several persons, might have been a calamity involving scores or hundreds of human lives. It should be a warning to our educationists to have in mind in the designing and occupancy of school and college buildings, the exposure to fire which they offer.

The loss is a serious one to the authorities of the college. In money it probably represents four hundred thousand dollars, but in interruption of their studies, in the loss of valuable books in the library, and the destruction of scientific apparatus, it is especially momentous. We see it stated, by the way, in the "Ottawa Evening Journal," that the walls of the chapel have been twice before visited by fire, and on this the third occasion they utterly collapsed. There is said to be \$200,000 insurance on the building and contents. We have only been able to learn definitely about \$150,000 of this which is in the following offices: Northern Assurance Co., \$20,000; Insurance Co. North America, \$20,000; Alliance, \$20,000; Economical, \$5,000; Equity, \$10,000; Anglo-American, \$10,000; Queen City, \$10,000; Scottish Union, \$30,000; Ottawa, \$10,000; London Mutual, \$10,000; Western, \$5,000.

THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS' EXCURSION.

SIXTH PAPER.

It has occurred to the writer of these papers that it would be a good thing, now that the trip of these 120 manufacturers across the continent is some weeks old, and time enough has elapsed to allow impressions to crystallize, to let our reader know how the visitors, or at least the official representatives of the visitors, were affected by what they saw. This paper will therefore consist, not of expanded notes of our own, but largely of the story written about "The Continental Tour" in the special western edition of Industrial Canada, and of extracts from the formal report made to the Manufacturers' Association by its officers who made the tour. Says the writer who describes the tour:

"With such an immense expanse of country, and a comparatively meagre population, we must cultivate acquaintance, and foster intercommunication between all the provinces in order to establish those bonds of brotherhood and that unity of interest which are so necessary in the building up of a great nation. It was the distinct aim of the Association to see the great Western country, to meet its people, to endeavor to grasp sympathetically their problems, and following this, to open up through practical business