

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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Proprietor

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. XXVI. No. 50.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1906

SINGLE COPY, - - 10c
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - \$2.00

The Metric System.

English manufacturers are reported to be greatly interested in the adoption by Kynochs (Limited), of the metric system. There is strong feeling both for and against making the system compulsory. The fact that the opponents of the metric system, appear at present to be in the majority must not be put down altogether to the conservatism which characterises British industrial methods, nor are the temporary inconvenience and great expense involved in so radical a change, the only objections. The greater part of the world with which Great Britain does business still clings to the British system. Then as Sir George Drummond pointed out recently, there seems to be something fascinating to the average men when making a bargain, about "splitting the difference" an arithmetical problem easily solved under the old system. Then the decimal system with all its merits, has its limitations. There are divisions which cannot be expressed without the use of repeating decimals and the use of the dot over the figure is simply an acknowledgment of the fact that precise accuracy of expression is unattainable.

The Scots Greys.

With army reform in the air of Great Britain as it has been ever since the South African war, we must expect the zeal of the reformers to be productive of some blunders. One of the worst blunders is the decision of the Imperial Government to withdraw the Scots Greys from Scotland. The announcement of this change has greatly offended Scottish national sentiment as it might naturally be expected to do. Utilitarian considerations are, of course, of more importance than sentimental considerations up to a certain point, but army reformers must not forget that sentiment and especially national or local sentiment is of great practical usefulness in military affairs. By changing the de-

signations and the characteristic uniforms of British regiments the War Office has managed to destroy in recent years a great deal of the *esprit de corps* of the British Army. The cherished traditions of British regiments cannot be too carefully conserved.

Cold Storage.

The Hon. Sidney Fisher has introduced a resolution in the House of Commons, providing for the granting of Government aid to encourage the establishment of cold storage, warehouses, to assist the trade in dairy products, fruits, fish, poultry and other perishable products. It is proposed to grant such enterprises bonuses to the extent of 30 p.c. on the capital invested, 10 p.c. on completion, and 5 p.c. per annum for four years. While there is much to be said in favour of private enterprise carrying out such undertakings upon a purely business basis, it can fairly be claimed for Government aided cold storage that it has been justified by results. Mr. Fisher's proposition is really a bonus granted to Canada's greatest industry, agriculture. When it has been demonstrated by means of the bonus system that there is money in this branch of the cold storage business it is reasonable to expect that the industry will become self-supporting. In any case the experiment should be highly beneficial to the Canadian farmer.

Port of Montreal.

The total number of ocean vessels arriving at Montreal during the season of 1906, was 816, with a tonnage of 1,968,979 against 833, with a tonnage of 1,940,056 in 1905. There were in 1906, 783 steamships of 1,957,615 tonnage, and 33 sailing vessels of 11,364 tonnage, against 786 steamships of 1,918,002 tonnage, and 47 sailing vessels of 22,054 tonnage in 1905. The inland vessels arriving in 1906 numbered 12,557 of 3,095,174