

THE Scotch iron and steel foundries have formed themselves into a federation with a view to dealing with questions which may arise between masters and workmen. The federation is on the same lines as the engineering employers' federation, and the Executive Board is representative of the leading employers. It is intended to form an alliance with the English employers.

We are informed that Mr. J. B. Giffen has been appointed general manager in British Columbia for the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co. His time is intended to be equally divided between the Victoria, Vancouver and Nelson offices, the latter having but recently been

opened. This promotion is a result of the recent visit of Dun's Toronto Superintendent, Mr. W. C. Matthews, to the West, and is a worthy tribute to a deserving officer.

ACCOUNTS of the Ontario apple crop are very conflicting. Authorities in the Southwest say that the trees are entirely bellying the rich promise of their blossoms, but farther East and in the Niagara district accounts are more favorable. It is much the same story in Nova Scotia as in Ontario; the display of blossoms was abundant, but the fruit did not sell well, owing to cloudy skies and rain. Mr. C. S. Nixon, president of the Kentville, N.S., Board of Trade, tells a contemporary that he estimates from the present outlook that the crop of the province will reach about 250,000 barrels, and a very fair quality.

To a Winnipeg reporter, the general traffic agent of the Northern Pacific Railway stated that the excursion on that road from Dakota towns to the Winnipeg Industrial Fair this year carried 3,000 people, as against 1,600 in 1897. On the first section of the train alone, 225 came from Pembina, 239 from Grafton, 69 from Cashel, 306 from the little town of Drayton, 23 from Pittsburg, 64 from Bowmont, and 31 from Joliet. These are Dakota towns and villages from ten to fifty miles south of the Canadian boundary; and these people traveled therefore from 70 to 120 miles to get to Winnipeg.

ONTARIO WHEAT.

Harvesting operations in the province of Ontario are now active. The weather in most districts has been all that could be desired. In the Western part of the province threshing has already taken place, and if the yield of wheat is as good as the early samples received in Toronto, it will, to use a grain merchant's expression, "beat anything on record." The opening price for the new wheat was about 70 cents, West. When the first samples of last year are recalled the contrast is remarkable. The wheat marketed at the opening of the 1897 season was sprouted and weighed from 58 down to 50 pounds per bushel. Only the shortage in Europe and the Leiter manipulation found a market for this crop, the bulk of which, under circumstances that have existed during the past several years, would have been fed to the pigs. Many samples this year will weigh 64 pounds to the bushel, and, when authorities talk of an average yield of 25 bushels to the acre, it will be seen that Ontario farmers have good cause to feel satisfied with their prospects. Much of the wheat, however is not yet in a place of safety, and wet weather might still work serious injury to its quality. Rains are still needed for the full development of the spring wheat plant, barley and the root crops. An enormous yield of excellent wheat may be of little value to a country unless it can be converted into money at a good price per bushel. What price the new harvest will bring is the problem at present most interesting those in the grain trade. Old Country importers are strongly urging their friends on this side of the Atlantic to work with caution, and advise them that buyers who purchase new wheat at high rates stand to lose by their venture.

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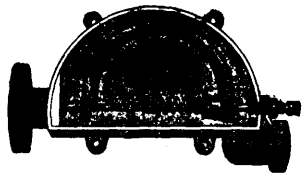
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MILITIA.

SEALED TENDERS for the supply for the Permanent Force and Active Militia, of Necessaries, Barrack Stores and Camp Equipment, consisting of Boots, Socks, Underclothing, Shirts, Razors, Brushes, &c.; Mops, Corn Brooms, Marquees, Saddlery, &c.; will be received up to noon Tuesday, 26th July, 1898.

The tenders are to be marked on the left hand corner of the envelope, Tender for "Militia Store Supplies," and are to be addressed to the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence.

Printed forms of tender containing full particulars may be obtained from the undersigned at Ottawa, and at the offices of the District Officers commanding at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton, Halifax and Winnipeg.

Patterns or samples of the supplies to be furnished may be seen at the offices of the District Officers commanding at Toronto, Montreal, Quebec and Halifax, and at the office of the undersigned at Ottawa, but this does not apply to Boots, Camp Equipment, Saddlery, which will be on view at Ottawa only. Samples will not be sent to parties desiring to tender.

No tender will be considered unless made on the printed form furnished by the Department, nor if the form is altered in any manner whatever. Parties must state in their tender what facilities they have for executing a contract if one be awarded them, and give the names of two responsible parties as guarantees of their ability to perform such a contract.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted chartered Canadian bank cheque, payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence for an amount equal to ten per cent. of the total value of the articles tendered for, which will be forfeited if the party making the tender decline to sign a contract when called upon to do so. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. BENOIT, CAPT., Secretary.

Department of Militia and Defence,
Ottawa, 9th July, 1898.

No newspapers inserting this advertisement without previous authority from the Department will not be paid for it.

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