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Mercantile Summary.

THE Colonial Fruit Oil Refining Co. have opened up a factory in Owen Sound. They will manufacture fruit butter, kitchen shortening, etc.

A COMPOSITION is reported to have been effected, at the rate of 50 cents in the dollar, by J. B. Allard & Fils, manufacturing confectioners, Quebec.

S. RACICOT, Montreal, formerly a clerk with a leading wholesale grocery house, started business for himself, in the spring of 1899, as a retailer, but has now thrown up the sponge and assigned. He owes about \$2,000.

IN 1808, J. D. Lalonde started a general store business at St. Benoit, Que., on limited capital. Being joined the following spring by a brother from the United States, the firm became Lalonde & Frere. They have shown a tightness in finances all along, and have now assigned.

MR. W. J. WHITE, inspector of immigration agencies, states that the American settlers who went into the Canadian Northwest last year took with them cash and effects valued at \$6,000,000. Between 14,000 and 15,000 settlers from the United States crossed the Canadian border last

THE letter carriers of Hamilton and other places are petitioning the Postmaster-General, setting forth that the cost of living has increased since the inauguration of the free delivery system in 1874, and asking for an increase of 20 per cent. in their pay. They begin at \$360 a year, and work up to \$600. The increase asked for would bring the maximum to \$720. The hours of labor are from eight to ten per

CONSENT to assign has been filed by Mrs. J. J. Atkinson, general dealer, L'Avenir, Que. She has been quite a lengthy period in business, having first started during the lifetime of her first husband, one Candlish, some twenty years ago. In 1884 she became Mrs. Atkinson, the business being managed by her husband until about ten years ago, when he died, and she again resumed the management. She has hitherto always paid her way in full.

CHARTERS of incorporation under the Joint Stock Companies' Act of the Quebec Legislature have been granted to the Brome Lake Electric Power Co., Waterloo, capital \$50.000, to furnish electricity for lighting and other purposes; and the Beaver Rubber Clothing Co., Montreal, capital. \$60,000, to acquire and carry on the business at present belonging to E. L. Rosenthal in that city.

THE British Yukon Railway Company is applying for an act authorizing it to construct a railway from the line of the White Pass and Yukon Railway, and across the Lewis branch of the Yukon River, and thence to the Hootalingua River, and thence to the Big Salmon River, and to construct branch lines to any points in the valleys of the Hootalinqua and Big Salmon and their tributaries; also to construct and maintain telegraph and telephone lines along the line of the said railway.

