

# The Canadian Courier

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### Topics of the Day

**A**T the present moment, it would appear probable that Canada will export less wheat during the next twelve months than during the past twelve. In 1906, the exports were 47,293,000 bushels; in 1907 the amount will probably be nearly the same, because much of last year's crop did not go out until this year; in 1908, the figures will likely be smaller.

Mr. F. W. Thomson, of the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., has made some accurate forecasts in the past. He estimates the Western wheat crop this year at 70,000,000 bushels, or almost twenty million less than last year. He also states that the wheat will grade lower because of the lateness of the harvest. As the crop in the East is also smaller than last year, it is a safe prediction that Canada will have much less surplus to send abroad. The price realised may equal the average of the past few years because of the higher prices now being obtained. The pause will not hurt us.

Mr. Thomson adds another interesting statement. He believes that practically all the high grade Western wheat produced this year will be ground in Canada because of the large foreign demand for Canadian flour. This will further reduce the export of wheat.

There is a consolation in knowing that the increasing export of flour will make up for the decreased export of wheat. Indeed, it will please many people to see the wheat ground here instead of being sent to mills in the United States and Great Britain. Such a situation means an increase in Canada's wage-bill, while putting but a small additional strain on Canadian capital.

The various builders' exchanges throughout Canada have organised a national association, with Mr. J. O. Deslaurier of Montreal as the first president and J. Herbert Lauer of Montreal as the general secretary. This body should be as influential as the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, if it is as wisely conducted.

Mr. Henry M. Whitney and Mayor Quincy of Boston have been visiting Canada and talking about reciprocity. There is little value in this, seeing that the people of the United States are holding firmly against any lowering of their exorbitant tariff.

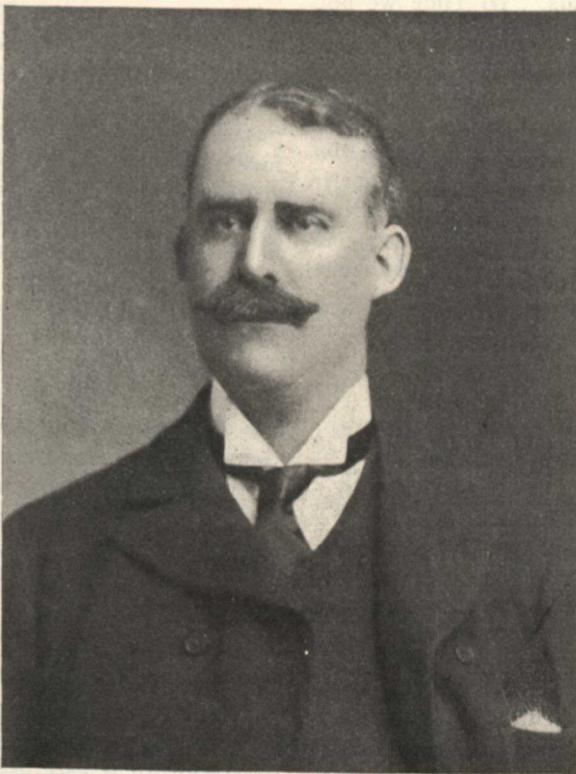
The increase in the pay of the small postmaster will be a comfort to many people. If it increases the efficiency of that department of the service, the public will not object. The post-office is a great public service, and it is in constant need of betterment. The public will expect improvements to follow this increased expenditure.

No one who knows the Hon. J. S. Hendrie will begrudge him the honour recently conferred on him by His Majesty, who has made him a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. The immediate reason was his atten-

tion to the British artillery team and his services in connection with the competitions which recently took place at Petawawa and Halifax. He is president of the Canadian Artillery Association.

Col. Hendrie has spent an active life in public service while devoting due attention to business. At fifty years of age he is still hale and hearty, though he recently had a severe illness. He began his life's work as a railway engineer, his father being a contractor. He is now president of the Hamilton Bridge Works, a director of the Bank of Hamilton, of the Great West Life, of the Ontario Jockey Club and various other businesses and organisations. He has commanded the 4th Field Battery of Hamilton and is now in command of the Second Brigade of C.F.A. He entered the Ontario Legislature in 1902, and is a member without portfolio in Mr. Whitney's government.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Hendrie's activities are varied and his success in life noteworthy. The lovers of the horse will be glad to know that he and his brother hope to see the racing colours of their late father maintain their prominence in sporting circles.



Col. J. S. Hendrie.

It is perhaps too much to expect that all of Canada's industries can be prosperous all the time, so, while many of them are revelling in good times, it is unfortunately true that the salmon fishing and packing season just closed in British Columbia, is the most disastrous in the history of the province. Probably the most disappointing results come from the Fraser River where but 55,000 cases were packed. The total of all the canneries was but 285,000 cases of sockeyes, made up as follows:—Skeena River, 110,000 cases; Fraser River, 55,000 cases; Rivers Inlet, 87,000 cases; Naas, 14,000 cases; other points, 19,000. While it is possible that there may be a late run of sockeyes, it is not likely that they would be packed because of their poor condition.

The bad season means a loss of many thousands of dollars to canners and fishermen, the former for fixed charges expended before the season opened and the latter for two months of practically lost time.

Prominent business men down by the sea have been meeting in St. John recently and have placed on record in the form of resolutions, the views that are believed to be generally entertained by the business men of the Maritime Provinces in regard to several important matters that have engrossed their attention for the last few years.

Summarised, the more important of these declarations were in favour of:—(a) prohibiting the export of pulpwood; (b) consolidating the work of technical education; (c) the acquisition of branch railroad lines by the government; (d) a Fisheries Board to act under the department of Marine and Fisheries for the purpose of regulating the Atlantic fisheries.