

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

THE annual general meeting of the Hudson's Bay company was held in London, England, on the 17th instant, at the City Terminus hotel, Sir Donald A. Smith presiding.

The Governor, in moving the adoption of the report, stated that, including £17,763 brought forward, there was a profit of £89,116, compared with £50,253 in the previous year; and, after paying a dividend of 12s. a share—which would require £60,000—as against 6s. 6d. a share for the previous year, they would carry forward £29,116, compared with £17,763. This improvement was to a considerable extent owing to the increased price of furs at the last sales in January and March, but it was only fair to say that the profit had also been materially increased by the economies which had been effected in London and Canada. They hoped, too, that there would be still further considerable economies in the near future. The valuation of the trading goods in the inventory on May 31, 1891, was £449,499, and in 1892 the figures were £535,291; but the advances up to May 31, 1891, were £336,589, while in 1892 they were only £238,863. There were always goods in transit, and those which arrived in the country before the books were closed were taken in the inventory; otherwise they would appear as advances in London. There was £27,000 more in outstanding advances last year than in the year before, but that was owing to the increased amount of business done; and consequent on the facilities of transport, there had been a much larger turnover than in the former year. With regard to the future, the indications of the collection of furs in the country, so far as they had been made aware of up to the present time, were that they would be at least equal to those of last year; and as regarded the shop sales, they hoped that there would be even an increase over those of last year, although, looking at the whole condition of trade, they thought that the shows had done very well in the past year. They believed that in the near future the shareholders would reap a greater benefit from this property than they had hitherto; and looking forward still further they felt certain that it could not fail to be an estate of the greatest value—worth, he believed, a great deal more than the whole capital stock of the company. They had lands along every railway that was now or might be constructed in the fertile belt. In every township, too, they had their sections of land, and as the country progressed and prospered so would their company.

UNDERWEAR AT THE FAIR.

IN the British section R. Walker & Sons, Leicester, make a fine display of undergarments for men, women and children, chiefly made from Scotch lambs' wool. All the garments are tastefully trimmed and show superior finish. The Cartwright & Warner Company, Loughborough, exhibit goods of a similar character. William Lewis & Sons, London, show bright silk, natural wool, merino, cashmere, balbriggan and Lisle thread undergarments for men, women and children, of great excellence and beauty. None of them are cheap goods. In their price list one grade of silk undershirts is marked \$28, while the drawers to match cost \$30.50. This house manufactures shirts and drawers from the wool of the Amrisfer goat, which are retaining the absorbing qualities of wool. A shirt of this material costs \$13.50 and drawers to match \$15. If these goods are not cheap they are certainly excellent. Near this exhibit is that of E. & H. Hummel & Co., which consist of silk garments in

brilliant colors. The case is fitted up so as to attract Americans, as articles of red, white and blue colors are ranged in succession.

In the Canadian section very large displays of heavy and serviceable underclothing are made by the Coaticook Woolen Mill, Coaticook, Quebec; Jonathan Ellis, Port Dover, Ont., and J. B. Henderson, Thorold. All these articles are of good material and well made. They show that the wants of a people living in a cold climate have been studied and provided for.

The French display of underwear is not what would be reasonably expected of a country making such fine exhibits in other kinds of clothing. M. Mauchauffee & Cie., Troyes, show silk, cotton and woolen undergarments for men, women and children, some of which are embroidered, but otherwise they are unattractive. Poorer displays are made by C. Bonbon & Cie, of the same city, and Verdier & Schultz of Paris. Elegance and excellence seem to run to outer garments in the French section of the Exposition.

By far the finest exhibit of woolen underwear is in the gallery of the German section. It is made by G. Loeb, of Stuttgart. The garments are all of the finest wool and are trimmed or embroidered with silk. Many of these intended for ladies are trimmed with linen, silk or woolen lace. All these articles are well worthy the attention of manufacturers and dealers who desire the highest degree of excellence in this class of goods. In the pagoda of the Manufacturers' Association of Chemnitz, Saxony, which is on the main floor, is a fine exhibit of cotton, woolen and silk underclothing. Some intended for warm weather and hot climates is knit so as to resemble netting, and the articles for ladies' use are highly ornamented.—Commercial Bulletin.

THE BUYER.

When the drummer is a-drumming he has troubles like the rest,
And it's sometimes quite a wonder if his spirits stand the test.
To travel like an Arab isn't always thus the thing,
To fill his soul with gladness or to make the drummer sing;
But of all the deep-dyed troubles when a man sets out to drum,
The worst thing that can happen's when the buyer's feeling glum.

Maybe upon the night before he's been up very late,
And tried to buck a full house, when he only had a straight;
Maybe the races he had played in hopes that he might win,
And put his money on a horse that has not yet come in.
Then how the drummer's soul is tired, and how he longs for
some
Propitious thing to happen when the buyer's feeling glum.

Sometimes the drummer's not himself, yet he has got to work,
For, from the obstacles he has, it will not do to shirk;
He's got to laugh, and smile and joke, and keep a happy face,
No matter even if there is a woman in the case.
But of all the things that happen when a drummer's on the drum,
The worst thing that can happen's when the buyer's feeling glum.

—Tom Masson, in Clothier and Furnisher.

From Berlin it is reported that there is want of help in the textile industry; manufacturers are preparing unusual stocks in anticipation of the breaking down of the American protective tariff.