THE moulding shop of the Kingston foundry was, a few days ago, destroyed by fire. Loss, $5,000; only partially insured.

A LARGE portion of the Hewson & McCartney block in Niagara was last week damaged by fire to the extent of about $12,000; insured.

INTEREST in the project for making Canada a great sugar-growing country is being manifested in all parts. Now it is at Newmarket that efforts are being made to create a beet industry.

A COMBINE, with a capital of $10,000,000, is in process of formation in the United States of all the tin-can factories. The promoter is said to be Mr. W. H. Moore, of Chicago, who has managed other similar enterprises.

THE Dominion Government has given a contract to the Polson Iron Works, Toronto, for a large modern hydraulic dredge, to be used for clearing the channel through Lake St. Peter. It will cost $250,000, and will be 160 feet in length, 12½ feet deep, with a 40 foot beam.

WE see in the Stratford papers accounts of the amalgamation of Dufton & Tilley, dry goods merchants and men's furnishers, with the Stratford Clothing Co. A joint stock company's charter has been applied for to carry on the business under the name of the Stratford Clothing Co., Limited, with a capital of $40,000.

THE Real Estate Owners' Association, of London, are said to be perfecting plans for the proposed purchase of the Ronald Steam Fire Engine works, at Brussels, with a view of bringing the factory to London. It is proposed to capitalize the company at $50,000. The company will also manufature fire alarm boxes, fire ladders, steam rollers, water meters and do a general repairing business.

THE Citizens' Light and Power Company, Montreal, held its annual meeting this week. A satisfactory report of the business of the company was presented, and dividend, at the rate of five per cent. per annum was declared, payable on the first of March. The following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Messrs. W. McLea Walbank, J. H. Burland, R. Wilson-Smith, Peter Lyall, L. H. Henault, G. B. Burland, and M. P. Davis, who afterwards elected the following officers: W. McLea Walbank, president; J. H. Burland, vice-president; and Robt. Whyte, secretray.

DURING the Bryan silver scare, David Scotten, a rich tobacco manufacturer, of Detroit, deposited some $900,000 for safe keeping in branches of Canadian banks at Windsor and London, Ont. In 1899 he died, and the administrators of the estate contested the Attorney-General's claim for succession duties. However, on appeal, the court adjudged that as the money could only be drawn out by an administrator appointed in Ontario, it consequently came under the succession duties act. The case will probably go before the Supreme Court. The amount involved is $45,240.