

Prominent Topics

Manufactures of the Dominion. The Dominion's manufactures have almost doubled in five years. A bulletin has been issued by the census bureau on the result of the manufacturers' census, which was taken a short time ago. In the calendar year 1905 the value of the manufactures in Canada produced by works employing five persons or more was \$712,664,835, while in 1900 the value of the output was \$481,053,375.

Total values by provinces are as follows, Canada not complete:

	1900	1905
Canada (incomplete).....	\$481,053,375	\$712,664,835
British Columbia	19,447,778	38,013,515
Manitoba (incomplete)	12,927,439	27,609,268
New Brunswick	20,972,470	22,133,681
Nova Scotia	23,592,513	32,545,939
Ontario (incomplete)	241,533,486	365,092,144
Prince Edward Island	2,326,708	1,851,615
Quebec (incomplete)	158,287,994	217,224,073
The Territories (incomplete) ..	1,961,987	7,594,600

For the leading cities of Montreal and Toronto the totals are given as follows:

	1900	1905
Montreal	\$71,099,750	\$99,746,772
Toronto	58,415,498	84,689,253

The Gas and Electric Light Question.

The gas and electric light problem remains practically in the same position it has been. The sliding scale idea seems to meet with some favour, although we are afraid that its meaning is not quite clear to the majority of citizens. We are still of the opinion, that the best settlement of this vexed question would be found on the lines suggested in this journal, that is for the city to become a partner in and get its fair share of the profits of the business. At the present time, owing to the ten years' limit on any franchise that can be given, the M. L. H. & P. Company would seem to be one ahead, for it will be readily understood that investors will not put their money into a rival concern on such a limited franchise. It practically kills serious competition. The company evidently had its friends at Quebec.

Newfoundland. At the dinner given in London to Sir Robert Bond, there were two significant incidents. One was Mr. Chamberlain's letter urging that the Island should enter the Dominion. The other was Sir Robert's own admission that while he was not prepared to recommend immediate action in this direction neither was he prepared to deny that the permanent welfare of Newfoundland depended upon the Ancient Colony blending its interests with those of Canada. Newfoundland has everything to gain by combining her destinies with Canada.

The Payne Mine which was once **The Payne Mine.** such a very promising proposition, and which like a great many other mining industries proved not to be the bonanza which the unfortunate shareholders anticipated, was sold by public auction, by Messrs. Fraser Bros., and was acquired by Senator Forget for \$60,000. The bidding started at \$800 and jumped up to the above mentioned price, when it was awarded to the senator.

A civic reception is to be given **Civic Reception to** on Saturday at two o'clock, to **Prince Fushimi.** General H. I. H. Prince Fushimi, G.C.B. There cannot be too general recognition of the cordial relations existing between Japan and Great Britain, nor of the certain development of great and close business relations between Japan and Canada. We feel sure that Prince Fushimi's reception in Montreal will be a cordial one.

We are sorry to see that our **Degeneracy in Athletic Sports.** athletic sports are degenerating and that in these days it is not unusual for players to be brought before the courts and charged with assault. To all those who take an interest in athletics, and their name is legion, it would seem that some stop should be put to this unsportsmanlike condition of affairs. Cannot our clubs combine to clear the atmosphere? Let us have good wholesome sports not slaughtering matches.

Winnipeg is to have a distillery **Winnipeg's New Industry.** and judging from the combination of interests announced it is evident that the distillers look forward to the transaction of a big business in this western city. Judging from results, there is one thing to be said for distilling and that is that it is about the best money-making business known.

The Imperial Conference, according to the official reports, was most **The Imperial Conference.** harmonious, everything being carried on in the most cordial and courteous manner. Nevertheless the sensational newspapers managed to get in their oar. However, the sensational part has been found to have no more substantial foundation than a lively imagination.

British consols on the 5th instant, **Consols.** reached the lowest record in sixty years, namely, 82½. The price yesterday was 83 13-16.

As was anticipated the Irish Bill, **The Irish Bill.** about which there has been so much talk, has been dropped. It pleased nobody apparently.