

to participate because the prime factor in its prosecution is the ability to land the catch in convenient harbors and there gut, clean, pickle and barrel them for export. The Americans have no landing rights on any part of that coast where herring resort, and they only enjoy the liberty of entering some of the waters where these fish are taken. Consequently, if the deep-water habitat of these fish can be located and the shoals of herring are as abundant as expected, an industry will be set on foot which should be of a very profitable character. It may also be said that there is an almost unlimited market for Scotch-cured herring in the United States, which usually has to depend on left-over stock from Europe.

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#### SAINT JOHN BOARD OF TRADE.

We received on Monday last a copy of the report for the year 1905 of the Saint John Board of Trade, a pamphlet of seventy-three pages, with six illustrations, very well done, showing the water-front of the city, Queen Square, the railway bridges and reversible falls, and different views of the harbor. The council's report to the board gives in full the paper read by Mr. S. Schofield before the Transportation Commission, referring in the main to the harbor, its advantages, and the expressions of opinion by important men of the resolve that Canadian products should go seaward from Canadian ports. Steel shipbuilding, West India trade, and a fast Atlantic steam service were other matters considered by the board. The delegates from St. John to the annual meeting of the Maritime Board of Trade, which was held at Yarmouth, N.S., in August, were W. S. Fisher, E. N. Abbott, H. C. Tilley, L. G. Crosby and J. N. Sutherland. Among the resolutions introduced at that meeting by the St. John Board of Trade and adopted was this:—

"That in the opinion of this board the time has arrived for a union of the three Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and that a memorial to this effect be forwarded to each of the Governments that they be urged to arrange for a meeting of representatives from each Government at an early date."

Evidently the Tourist Association of St. John was an effective handmaiden of the Board of Trade, for it received and answered a thousand letters, and there were nearly another thousand strangers registered at its Information Bureau. It secured besides excursionists to the number of 200 to 300, consisting of the Michigan Press Association, which brought them, some days or weeks afterward, some seventy-five written different descriptions of the attractions of St. John.

The president's report, giving a brief account of his stewardship, remarks that the council has taken steps to determine whether cheap power for the manufacturers of the city and neighborhood can be developed at the falls of the St. John. There are abundant statistics embodied in the report, embracing comparisons of exports for different winter seasons, total imports and exports, annual shipments of lumber from 1888 to 1904, grain and live stock shipments, etc.

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#### PARAGRAPHS FROM OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

South Australia is rejoicing in harvesting a record number of bushels of wheat—twenty-one million for the State. The yield equalled 11½ bushels per acre, which is a phenomenal one for that dry country.

United States exporters are complaining of the advantages given to Canada in the reduction of duty on interior freight on goods shipped via Vancouver. So far it has not resulted in anything, but it is presumed that the complaint will be taken up by the United States Government.

In spite of the Compulsory Arbitration Act three strikes are now under weigh in this State. The trouble between capital and labor is varied every now and then by strife between the sundry unions. Though the Act has not prevent-

ed strikes, yet it is probable that the strikes are not as severe as they would be were there no Act. The existence of a measure for settling industrial strikes has brought public opinion to bear against strikers and that goes a good way towards repression. In New Zealand the Court has recently not only refused to increase wages but also refused to give preference to unionists. Should there be many such decisions as that the value of the Act in that colony will be tested, which it has scarcely hitherto been.

A previous letter told of the disappointment of a number of Canadian farmers who came here from the Northwest in the hope of finding a better climate and of obtaining land on better conditions than it could be had in Canada. They have gone back to Canada by the steamer that carries this letter. They came to Sydney and found the climate of this city to be too warm for them, and when they read that it was twenty degrees hotter in the farming districts of the country than in the city they came to the conclusion that the Australian summer would be harder to bear than the Canadian winter. They went to Tasmania, where

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