

The Trading Stamp Company.

The Trading Stamp Company, of Montreal, refused to pay the usual transient traders' license at Woodstock, Ont., some days since, and at the police court there the case was decided in favor of the town.

The retail merchants of Galt have also bestirred themselves in regard to this scheme, and at a public meeting held in that town on Dec. 19th steps were taken to organize a Retail Merchants' Protective Association, in order to secure combined effort in thwarting the attempt of any concern such as the Dominion Trading Stamp Company from getting a foothold. The meeting showed a unanimous desire on the part of the merchants to withhold their support from the company, four merchants who had signed the agreement with the company, and which had been done, of course, with the intention of keeping competitors from joining, also expressing their desire to withdraw. The company's plan of doing business is as follows: They get one merchant in each department of business to go into the scheme—one druggist, one grocer, one jeweller, one hardware merchant, one boot and shoe dealer, etc.—and the company advertises these merchants to the exclusion of all others. These dealers give to every purchaser a coupon which entitles the purchaser to its face value in goods obtainable at a store which the company will open up. The merchant buys these stamps from the company, paying a good percentage for them. The idea is that the trade of the town will be converged into these respective stores.

In Brantford they are obliged to pay "transient traders'" license, an example which might well be followed in all municipalities where they purpose doing business, and the license, too, should be put at such a figure that the finances of the municipality may gain something should they succeed in getting a foothold.

Competition in business is keen, but it should not become so selfishly aggressive as to support any such scheme for the diversion of trade from one business-house to another.

Because a man cannot recover the golden moments wasted it is no reason he should waste others. The more time a man wastes the harder it is for him to succeed.

Prosperity comes to those who with perseverance pay for it.

Items of Interest.

Lord Iveagh (Edward Cecil Guinness) has presented the Jenner Institute with the sum of £150,000 in aid of scientific research in bacteriology and other forms of biology. The Jenner Institute includes most of the leaders in medicine and its allied sciences in Great Britain.

It is stated that Dr. Becquerel has announced to the French Academy of Science the discovery of a new chemical substance which has close affinity to barium. Its discoverers, MM. Currie and Bremona, have named it radium. It is so sensitive to light that it will take photographic impressions.

Mr. Frederick Stearns, of F. Stearns & Co., Manfg. Chemists, Detroit, Mich., has presented his collection of musical instruments, supposed to be the finest in the world, to the University of Michigan, to be placed in the University museum, where the public may have free access to it at all times.

After completely russifying the University of Dorpat (now named Jurjew) the Russian Government now has interdicted the publication in the German language of the *Pharmaceutische Zeitschrift fuer Russland*, founded and made famous by the late Dragendorff. Its name also has been changed, and this publication, hitherto frequently quoted in pharmaceutical literature, is not likely to be much heard from after this.

The steamer *China* just arrived from the Orient, carried the largest consignment of opium ever entered at the port of San Francisco. There were 660 cases of the drug, valued at \$500,000. The total weight of the opium is 27,000 pounds, and the duty on it amounted to \$162,000, at six dollars a pound.

A quack doctor in Dusseldorf, Germany, found guilty of selling nostrums for all kinds of disease and of advertising "cure-alls" and similar impositions, has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment, to pay a fine of \$710 and to a suspension of all his rights of citizenship for five years.

The Montreal (Que.) City Council have decided to place a tax of ten per cent. on departmental stores. The resolution, which was carried by a large majority, declares that a special tax not exceeding ten per cent. of the annual assessed value

of the entire premises in which departmental stores are maintained and carried on may also be imposed—for each separate and distinct department, after the first, that is that the principal branch of the business shall be exempt from the special tax, but all additional branches shall pay 10 per cent.

Hundreds of retailers were made happy January 1st by receipt of dividend checks from the Stirling Remedy Co., makers of the famous Cascarets and No-To-Bac. Within a little over two years, Cascarets has attained the enormous sale of 5,000,000 boxes a year, and at the present rate of increase it will soon have the largest sale of any proprietary medicine in the world.

Under the title of "Kodak, Limited," the Eastman Kodak Co., Ltd., have combined the business of their houses in the United States, England, France and Germany. The Company is capitalized at £1,600,000 and the prospectus will be issued in England this month. Mr. George Eastman and Mr. George Dickman will be Managing Directors.

An official notice published in the Montreal Postal Guide this month draws attention to the law which forbids the sale of postage stamps by unlicensed persons. Those who are in the habit of selling them commit a serious breach of the Post-Office Act, and are liable to a fine not exceeding \$40 for each offence. The Post-Office authorities are evidently waking up to the fact that cleaned-up stamps find their way into the market in ever-increasing numbers.

"The Ladies' Medical and Pharmaceutical Association, Limited," is the name of a company which has registered in London, England. The amount of capital is £3,500 in £1 shares, and its object is "to advance the interests of gentlewomen who are qualified to act as doctors, dentists, and chemists (by examination), or who are desirous of acting in one of those capacities, to form a preliminary school of pharmacy, to establish a registry or agency of and for gentlewomen seeking engagements as general, midwifery, and surgical nurses, to open consulting rooms where women may receive the advice and attention of gentlewomen duly qualified in medicine and dentistry, and to establish and carry on the business of pharmaceutical chemist, chemist and druggist in London."