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Mercantile Summary.

A JOINT-stock company has been formed in Medicine Hat, in connection with the local agricultural society, for the purpose of holding an annual exhibition.

THE Dominion Government has ordered 25,000 tons of steel rails for use on the Intercolonial Railway at a cost of \$32.50 per ton, from the Sault Ste. Marie Steel Co.

FOLLOWING a seizure for rent, an assignment has been made by Miles Birkett, hardware dealer, Ottawa. He began business on limited capital in 1896, and was obliged to ask an extension in the fall of 1899.

The embarrassment is reported of Scott & Lawton, planing mill proprietors, St. John, N.B. The partners have apparently not been agreeing together, and a meeting of their creditors has been called. Liabilities are estimated at about \$7,000.

W. A. Coleman, a grocer of the same city, is trying to settle liabilities of about \$1,800 at 30 cents on the dollar.

THE Keewatin Power Company has succeeded in establishing a water-power plant at Tunnel Island, on the west branch of the Winnipeg river, at a cost of about \$500,000. The company will shortly erect a pulp and paper mill with up-to-date equipments, capable of turning out 40,000 tons annually, and they expect to expend on this work something like \$1,500,000.

A REPORT from New York has it that arrangements are being made for the consolidation of a number of the chief gas, light, traction and water-power companies in Canada and the United States. Behind the scheme is said to be Mr. Emerson McMillan, a prominent stockholder in the East River Gas Co., now in close connection with the Consolidated Gas Company. The combined capital of the corporations at present interested is about \$35,000,000.

H. BEAUREGARD, of St. Hyacinthe, Que., formerly a hotelkeeper, but for the last seven or eight years dealing in boots and shoes, has made an assignment, and his affairs are expected to turn out badly. He is said to owe about \$9,000, and to show assets of only \$1,400.—Payette & Brosseau, grocers at St. Johns, Que., since the spring of 1898, have gone into insolvency.—The affairs of F. Paquette, general merchant, Paquetteville, Que., have recently been undergoing investigation by a Montreal accountant, and a meeting of creditors called. He is one of the oldest merchants in that comparatively new locality, but has not always been successful in the past, having compromised in 1891. Of late years he has been in indifferent health, the management devolving mainly on a son, and the account has been found a slow one for some time past.—The assignment is reported of F. A. Cantwell, general store, Franklin Centre, Que. The business is old established, and in the hands of the father of the present owner was a leading one in the district, and prosperous.

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REMOVALi

The Law (Offices of Thomson, Henderson & Bell have been removed to the General Trusts Bdg., [59 Yonge Street.

Toronto, 12th January, 1901.

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