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M. C. DICKSON, D.P.A.,

Toronto.

Mercantile Summary.

WINNIPEG has a new gas plant. The big tank holds 300,000 feet of gas.

THE Kaslo, B.C., Board of Trade was to meet last week to elect officers.

THE smelter at Pilot Bay, B.C., is to be blown in again when the Crow's Nest Railway reaches Kootenay Lake.

THE Star Loan Company has declared a dividend at the rate of six per cent. per annum for the half year ending July 31st.

OVER eleven million feet of deals, etc., cleared at St. John last week for transatlantic ports. The exports to the United States were very small.

THE directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway declare a dividend of two per cent. on the preference stock, and two per cent. on the common stock for the half year ended June 30th, last, payable Oct. 1st.

MR. MENIER is greatly interested in Canada's growing pulp wood industry, and as he has large quantities of forest available for the purpose on Anticosti, he proposes erecting a mill on the island and manufacturing pulp.

A VOLUNTARY assignment has been made by J. A. Bussiere, a Quebec grocer, who, until a few years ago, carried on business in partnership with his father, a man of some moderate means. He has not done well alone, and shows liabilities of \$3,000, with apparent assets of \$2,250.

THE Lake Erie & Detroit River Railway slip dock at Port Stanley is to be ready for use some time next week. It is the intention of the company to run car ferries from Cleveland to Port Stanley. The cars will be loaded with coal for different points in Ontario.

REFERRING to the report that the British Government proposes to increase the dry-dock accommodation at Esquimalt, Mr. I. Oppenheimer, of Vancouver, writes to one of the newspapers of that city, suggesting that instead of enlarging the dock at Esquimalt, a new one be built at Vancouver.

REDUCTION of telegraph tolls, which came into force on Aug. 1st last, will affect messages sent from Kootenay points to any of the coast offices of the C.P.R. Telegraph Co. The day rates are reduced from 90 cents per despatch of ten words to 60 cents, and the night rate from 60 cents to 40.

As a specimen of freight-carrying capacity in lake steamers, the "John Fritz," took a cargo of ore out of Duluth the other day which weighed 6,959 gross tons. Her draft of water was 17 feet 1 inch. Her consort, the "S. F. B. Morse," launched at West Bay City, July 31st, will probably carry 7,200 tons.

It is estimated that 4,000 harvest hands from Ontario and Quebec will be needed this month to gather in grain in Manitoba and the Territories. The C.P.R. will run special harvest excursions on the 16th, 18th, and 23rd August from Toronto, Sharbot Lake, and Montreal; fare to go \$10; out and back, \$18. From the Maritime Provinces one will leave Aug. 16th, rate \$14 each way.

ACCORDING to the Hamilton Times, a furniture dealer of that city, A. L. Stares, is in business difficulty. He has controlled two stores, one on King William street, and the other on James street, North. On Saturday night the James street stock was seized on an attachment by the Gold Medal Bed Spring Co., of Toronto. A Mount Forest furniture concern is also said to be heavily interested. On Monday night a bailiff took possession of the King William street premises. Mr. Stares has since assigned.

THE coal shipments from the Dominion Coal Company's collieries show a decrease for the past six months as compared with the corresponding period last year. The figures of the output at the different mines are as follows:

	1898.	1897.
Gowrie	14,645	
Caledonia	102,011	96,534
International	38,089	
Dominion	72,823	94,273
Old Bridgeport	46,733	61,808
Reserve	85,336	66,075
Victoria	40,793	
Hub	35,544	23,707
Total tons	435,974	377,021

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