

bags, f.o.b., represents the asking price for this early fruit, although sellers hesitate to name a price. At this time last year considerable business was reported. The first car of new apricots for the season of 1897 went forward on June 18th, and buyers were paying $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents in sweatbox for new fruit.

According to the wish of the Minister of Agriculture, says a Maritime Province exchange, Superintendent Sharp has provided cold storage transit accommodation on the Prince Edward Island Railway, and on Wednesday of each week cold storage cars will run from Tignish and Souris to Charlottetown. This will give exporters a chance to ship fresh fish, fresh meat, poultry, butter, fruit, and perishable products of various kinds, to Charlottetown, and connecting there, if so desired, with the steamer "Halifax," leaving every Thursday for Boston.

The following particulars about the creamery at Frelighsburg, Que., near the Vermont line, may be interesting. The creamery has paid its patrons for the last half of May, which compares with the same time in 1897, as follows: The average price for 1898, 16 23-100 cents; 1897, 16 80-100 cents per lb. for butter. It took 24 96-100 lbs. of milk to make a pound of butter with an improved "Laval" separator in 1898, against 24 68-100 lbs. of milk with an old Danish separator in 1897. The same quality of milk netted the patrons .54 04-100 cents per 100 in 1898, against .57 91-100 cents in 1897. There was a ready sale for butter in 1898 against a dull market in 1897.

The tea circular of Messrs. Wisner & Co., Shanghai, June 11th, says: "Black Teas—Our advices from Hangkow extend to 7th instant, and report an active market for any good teas, also for common grades; medium quality teas have been neglected, and some of these have sold at prices which showed serious losses to teamen on producing cost. The two crack chops of Ichang tea sold at 65 tls. per picul, against 55.50 tls. last season. The lowest quotation is now 0.85 tls. On this market only seven small parcels of Wenchow have been shown: they have found buyers at prices ranging from 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 20 $\frac{1}{4}$ tls. Green Teas—The first muster of new Pingsuev teas were shown on the 6th instant; to date only six chops have been put up on the market: the teas are of very good cup quality, but somewhat lacking in style. The average cost to the teamen is some three or four taels over last season: tael prices asked are some 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over last season's opening prices. Wenchows will be shown next week. Country teas are expected in about three weeks: prices of leaf are said to be 4 to 8 taels higher than last year."

INSURANCE ITEMS.

The annual convention of the fire brigade chiefs of America is to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, from the 18th to the 21st October.

You might as well attempt, says Commissioner Fricke, to conduct a bank and ignore interest and the financial standing of your customers, as to attempt to conduct the business of insuring lives and ignore the teachings of the laws of mortality.

The following is stated to be from an address of Bishop Fallows, of Chicago: "Now, gentlemen, I said I was going to mix up the church and life insurance together. It is told us that the saints will possess the earth. There are four saints that are going to possess this earth, as they have never possessed it in the past. That is written in God's Book of coming history for saints. They are: St. Patrick, St. Andrew, St. George—three saints of the British flag, and then St. Jonathan, the best saint of them all."

The Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors holds its next meeting in Montreal this week, at the Windsor Hotel. Dr. Pabb. of Richmond, Virginia, occupying the chair. Among those present are mentioned Dr. Tuck, vice-president of the New York Life, N.Y.; Dr. Vanderpool, Dr. White, Dr. Emery, Dr. Grant and Dr. Brennan, all of New York; Dr. Northcote, Portland, Me.; Dr. Webb, Waterloo, Ont.; Dr. Shepherd, Hartford; Dr. Devenden, Detroit; Dr. Burrage, and Dr. Holden, of Newark, N.J.; Dr. Rex, Philadelphia; Dr. Frank Wells, and Dr. Homans, Boston; Dr. Clark Davin, Cincinnati.

Since writing our notice of last week, about the gathering at Detroit of the National Association of Life Assurance

Agents, on July 15th and 16th, we have received further particulars about the programme for that occasion. After the president's address, the roll-call of states, and the reports of committees, on Friday will come a paper on "Overhead Writing," by C. T. Goodrich, of Newburg, and a discussion thereon, then three other addresses and papers. On Saturday morning will come Mr. Whitney's paper on "The Company and the Agent," then a discussion upon National Supervision, and one upon the Local Agent's Interest. In the afternoon will be an excursion on the noble Detroit river.

On the morning of July 5th, an ugly fire broke out in the Gale Manufacturing Co.'s establishment, on Mincing Lane, off Wellington St., Toronto. The destruction was great in these premises, and some of the neighboring warehouses suffered slightly. Mr. Scott, builder, of Bloor St., is appointed adjuster of the loss on the Gale building, and Mr. Edwards adjuster of the loss on the stock and machinery. The insurance on the buildings and stock is as follows: The Gale building—North British & Mercantile, \$8,000; Lancashire, \$2,000; on the machinery, Lancashire, \$2,500; Sun, \$1,500; on stock, Sun, \$5,000; National, \$5,000; North America, \$5,000; Lancashire, \$5,000; Connecticut, \$2,000; Phoenix of Hartford, \$2,500; Northern, \$5,000; Royal, \$3,000; total, \$43,500. Alexander & Anderson have \$78,500 insurance; their loss has been settled for \$1,000. The Cowan-Ramsay Co., is insured in a number of non-tariff companies for \$20,000. Three of them are the Queen City, Economical and Merchants, in all of which companies the policies are for \$5,000.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

PENNSYLVANIA NUMBER.—Instead of its usual dainty salmon color, The Insurance Monitor now comes to us in red, white and blue. On the front cover is Independence Hall, and inside are pages of illustrations of historic and patriotic scenes and persons. It is a very handsome number, evidently designed to appeal to the national spirit which is now so much aroused in the States. Accompanying this is a map of Cuba and other West India Islands, three feet by two, evidently from Spanish sources, since the names are in Spanish.

ONTARIO BUREAU OF MINES.—The present issue is the second part of volume vii. of the Report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines. It contains notes on the Petrology of the Province; Dr. A. P. Coleman's report on the West Ontario Gold Region and something about the geology of base and meridian lines in Rainy River District. Also the report of A. B. Willmott, M.A., on the Michipicoten mining division, which is particularly interesting because of the excitement which some months ago led so many prospectors and miners to hie them away to that remote shore of Lake Superior and pitch their tents around Wawa Lake. The illustrations of this region are very attractive; in fact, the maps and illustrations scattered all through these later Bureau reports add greatly to their value.

WOLFVILLE.—A book of "wild west" stories which is illustrated by Frederic Remington, and whose characters bear such names as Old Monte, Doc. Peets and Texas Thompson, is at once attractive to a certain class of readers. To another class, this book of the Old Cattleman's reminiscences may seem to contain just a little too much of revolvers, poker, and chain lightning, and to be monotonous in its almost uninterrupted dialect. Still it is to be said that the dialect is unusual, often strong, for the Old Cattleman's talk is a queer mixture of the language of a circuit rider, the slang of a cowboy and the softness of a good woman. However, if one does not read too much of it at once, but takes it in small chunks at intervals, Alfred Henry Lewis' story of "Wolfville," its thanksgiving, its founding and its visitors, may while away some otherwise wearisome hours, and will make three men out of four laugh. Geo. N. Morang, Toronto, is the publisher.

—Intelligence came on Friday last that the first through train on the railway across Newfoundland had made its way across the island in twenty-four hours. We are told that the train left St. John's, the eastern terminus, at night, arriving at Port aux Basques, the western terminus, covering the distance of 548 miles in 24 hours. At Port aux Basques the ferry steamer "Bruce," with a speed of 17 knots, takes passengers for Sydney, C.B., landing them there in six hours, and connecting with the railway system of Canada and the United States. These trains, and the trips of the boat, are intended, we understand, to be tri-weekly.