

Mercantile Summary.

BRANDON has been made a port of entry for raw leaf tobacco.

WORK has been begun on the Amherst, N.S., waterworks system.

THE Toledo *Market Record* says that of good wheat representing flour and food the crop this year is not to exceed 400,000,000 bushels.

A LARGE quantity of hemlock and elm timber is being cut at the Rathbun mill, Lindsay, for use on the Lakefield section of the Trent Valley Canal.

THE Haymarket Produce Bank, Chicago, has made an assignment. The assets are \$160,000 and the liabilities about the same. Mr. Arthur J. Howe is president.

LETTERS patent have been issued incorporating the McGregor, Gourlay Company of Galt, the Quickcure Company of Quebec and the Callender Telephone Exchange Company of Ontario.

ACCORDING to the Chatham *Planet*, Mr. Archd. Lamont, pork packer, has decided to erect a building and go into the cold storage business himself. The plans have been prepared.

PROF. ROBERTSON and Mr. Dillon have visited the cheese factories at Grand River, Egmont Bay, Kensington, Dunk River and Hampton, and the creameries at Tryon and Crapaud, on Prince Edward Island.

THE committee of citizens and the city council at Moncton has recommended that the city donate \$1,000 to the Johnson cold storage company for a site for a building, give free water and light and exempt from taxation.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway Company will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, on Sept. 21.

It is said that Americans are underselling the Germans in barbed wire and wire nails in Japan. Hamburg importing houses are forced to buy the American wire because their customers have begun to purchase it directly from the United States.

MR. JENKINS, superintendent of the C.P.R. Telegraph Company, says that from his own observations and reliable reports sent in, he believes that the wheat crop in Manitoba will reach twenty millions of bushels and nearly all of it of good quality.

IN referring to wheat production in the Northwest, the *Minneapolis Tribune* says: Last year's figures were 185,000,000 bushels for Minnesota and the Dakotas; an average year is about 125,000,000, and this year's figures will probably range about 110,000,000 bushels.

THE past half year has been the most profitable period for English railways for many years. The increase in the gross receipts of the twelve chief lines is £1,920,000 (\$9,600,000), more than six per cent. compared with the same period of 1895, while the expenses show only a moderate increase. This result is largely due to good weather, which encouraged holiday traffic, stationary prices for supplies and no coal miners' strikes.

THE report for 1896 of the Elora Board of Trade boasts that that place has "the fourth largest public library in Ontario, the finest museum in the province outside of Toronto, water-power galore, the only Brussels carpet factory in Canada, a furniture factory, an organ factory, a boot and shoe factory, a woolen mill, flax mill, oatmeal mill, flour mill, foundry, planing mill and saw-mill."

THE annual meeting of the Insurance Commissioners of the various States of the American Union is to be held in Philadelphia, on September 22nd. It has already been hinted that one of the matters to be agitated at the convention is the absurd stand taken by Auditor Park, of Colorado, that it is "an evidence of insolvency for life insurance companies to state that the free coinage of silver would reduce the value of life insurance policies by forcing a settlement in silver."

MR. J. T. BULMER, representing the Nova Scotia Bar, is in Montreal for the purpose of conferring with the Bar in regard to the formation of a Canadian Bar Association, a project which has been warmly endorsed by the Bars of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. Mr. Bulmer will also proceed to Ottawa and lay the project before the Bar there. It is intended, if possible, to have a meeting in Montreal of delegates from all parts of the Dominion about the 15th prox., and an effort will be made to get Lord Russell to address the same.

THE trade returns for July show that the trade of the country is in a prosperous condition, the total of imports and exports for the month being \$2,130,802 in excess of July last year, which was itself an exceptionally good month. The figures for the month are \$12,842,402 exports, and \$10,720,272 entered for consumption, an increase of \$1,715,782 in the former and of \$415,030 in the latter. The Customs revenue for the month was \$1,572,183, an increase of \$58,216 over same month last year. The deposits in the Post Office and Government Savings Banks for July were \$1,084,282, withdrawals \$866,325. The amount at credit of depositors on 31st July was \$47,017,283.

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