

the foot and mouth disease amongst cattle or the cholera amongst hogs. If such people have no regard for their own lives they should at least be made to have some regard for that of their neighbors. Like all Ontario people we have nothing but sympathy for our fellow countrymen in Montreal, but we should like to see them wake up to the realization of the fact that this is the nineteenth century and that small-pox is a preventable disease if cleanliness and common sense are exercised.

A STRANGE CASE—Davis & Petty were a firm of jewelers doing business in the town of Lindsay, Ont. Mr. Davis, the senior partner, becoming tired of the business sold out his interest to his partner, who paid him part in cash and part in a patent right to sell the Culp Motor in a specified district of Ontario. Mr. Culp, who is a brother-in-law of Petty's, then took a chattel mortgage on the entire stock belonging to the business (which has since been carried on in Petty's name) as security for a previous account and the new liability incurred by the advances of cash and patent right made to Petty when buying out his partner's interest. At the time the above transaction was effected the firm of Davis & Petty owed money to several other wholesale houses besides S. T. Culp, and these jobbers have therefore found themselves out in the cold, Mr. Petty refusing to pay any money except to the holder of the mortgage. A few months ago these jobbers entered an action at law for the purpose of setting the mortgage aside as illegal, on the ground that the transaction although apparently between Davis and Petty was in reality between Davis and Culp. They contend that Mr. Culp had practically bought out Davis' interest and then sold it to his brother-in-law and thus constituted himself a partner in the business. The case was tried a few weeks ago and a decision rendered against Mr. Culp and in favor of the other creditors of the estate. This decision of the court we understand Mr. Culp has appealed against so that it has now to go before a higher court for a final settlement. The case is a very important one to the trade, and its decision will be looked forward to with a great deal of interest. We shall have something further to say about this when we know how the appeal has been decided.

ONE YEAR'S WORK AND ITS RESULTS.—Such is the heading of an open letter to the people of Lindsay, and recently published in the *Victoria Warder*, by Mr. George W. Beall, jeweler, of that town. After referring to the fact that it was just one year since he had lost his all from burglary, and that he never knew how many friends he had until his time of trial came, Mr. Beall tells how generously his creditors dealt with him and how staunchly his friends stood at his back and helped him through. This letter has the true ring about it, and we reprint the following extract from it to show not only that Mr. Beall has great cause for thanksgiving but that honest and upright dealing with the public is bound to bring its reward. He says: "The past year has been one of unusual anxiety to all business men. I have certainly not made a fortune, but I have great cause to be thankful for the moderate prosperity attending me, when so many wealthier and stronger houses have

barely held their own, and others failed and have been wiped out of existence altogether. I have gained confidence in myself. I have proved myself worthy of the confidence and trust reposed in me by my friends who helped and assisted me with the use of ample capital. I find my store filled with the finest and most valuable stock of watches and jewelry ever brought to this town. I owe no man an overdue account, no man has had to ask twice for his money." We are glad to be able to congratulate Mr. Beall upon his past success and future prospects, because we are satisfied he fully deserves them. When he was robbed he did not sit down and commence to whine, but faced the situation like a man and made up his mind to retrieve his fortunes as soon as possible. In the face of the fact that jewelers had a thousand miles from Lindsay, who have had no drawbacks of such a kind as he has experienced and are still unable to pay their honest debts, Mr. Beall's success seems like an emphatic endorsement of the old adage that "Honesty is the best policy," and we are sure that the trade generally will join with us in wishing him continued success.

SKIPPED.—Probably nothing in the jewelry trade has occasioned more comment than the closing up of the Woltz Bros. business and the skipping out of A. S. Collver, the late proprietor of that business. The facts of the case appear to be that Mr. Collver owed the firms of I. Joseph & Son, and Schwob Bros., both of Montreal, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$20,000, they having sold the business of Woltz Bros. to him for that amount last spring and taken his unsecured notes therefor. Finding that the speculation was not likely to be a successful one for himself, Collver opened negotiations with the firms above mentioned for the purpose of selling the business back to them. Failing to come to terms at once, Collver in the meantime, while negotiations were still going on with Messrs. Joseph and Schwob, sold the entire business to a distant relative of his, Mr. Frank L. Culver, of Bay City, Michigan, for the sum of \$9,000, and then discovered that he had important business across the line. If this sale is a legal one it leaves all his creditors out in the cold and is one of the sharpest things that has been done in Canada since we landed in the country. Messrs. Joseph and Schwob are hard at work at present fighting the validity of the sale and with apparent ground for success. They say that if there is law and justice in Canada they will see this case through if it takes all there is in the estate to do it. In the meantime the sheriff has possession of the business and will continue to hold it until the case is finally decided, which will probably not be before January next. While we have nothing to say about the present proprietor who may have bought the stock in all innocence of the true state of affairs, it must be confessed that on the face of it the whole thing looks like a job to do the creditors out of their money. Considerable sympathy has been expressed for Mr. A. S. Collver, on the ground that before he went into the Woltz business he was an independent farmer worth some \$60,000, and that he has lost it all in this very business by magnanimously giving up his security when

the Woltz Bros. failed. While this may be the case, and Mr. Collver has paid dearly for his experience, we cannot see how any honest person can condone such a palpable swindle on his creditors as this act of his undoubtedly is. We have no language too strong with which to characterize such conduct, and for the good of the trade generally, if for no higher motive we shall be glad to hear that the sale has been set aside, and that Mr. Collver has been made an example of.

WORKSHOP NOTES.

BOWS.—Whalebones can be reduced in strength or rendered more uniform by being filed with a fine rasp, or by scraping their surface with a piece of broken glass. If, instead of fixing a brass end with a hook to the bow, it is desired to form a hook of the whalebone itself, hold the extremity in boiling oil for a short time, when it will soften; then form the hook, maintaining the whalebone in the required position until sufficiently cool to set. Recently, a form of bow has been introduced that consists of a brass handle into which slides a steel wire bent into the requisite form; the strength of course, depending on the thickness of steel wire used.—*Saunier*.

PLASTER OF PARIS CASTS.—The article is copied in soft yellow wax. Then take gypsum flour, as much as you think necessary, and stir it with water into a liquid paste. Take a fine camel's-hair brush, and cover the cast first with a thin layer of this paste, then fill the cast full with it, and let it harden. If you do not take the precaution of first coating your cast, you will never have a clean copy; will always be full of air blisters and holes, originating from the confined air. Should the gypsum flour be old and refuse to set, add one or two drops of sulphuric acid, and it will act as if fresh.

TO TEMPER CASE SPRINGS.—Draw the temper from the spring, and fit it properly in its place in the watch, then take it out and temper it hard in rainwater, (the addition of a little table salt to the water will be an improvement), after which place it in a small sheet-iron ladle or cup, and barely cover it with linseed oil, then hold the ladle over a lighted lamp until the oil ignites; let it burn until the oil is nearly, not quite, consumed; then cover again with oil, and burn as before; and so a third time, at the end of which plunge it again into water. Main and balance springs may in like manner be tempered by the same process; first draw the temper and properly coil and clamp, to keep it in position, and then proceed in the same manner as with case springs.

TO TEST A BALANCE SPRING.—A correspondent writes: "I send you the following method for mounting a hair spring, which I think is as good as any I have ever seen or read. I select a spring of the proper size, fasten it on the upper pivot of the balance with a small piece of beeswax; then with my tweezers, taking hold of the coil that lies between the regulator, I vibrate the balance, resting the lower pivot on the glass top of the movement box, in which there is a movement running, the balance vibrates the same number of times as the one I am at work on. You will perceive the result. The going