

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are in receipt of the initial number of "Industries," a South African journal of engineering, mining, quarrying, shipping, planting, wool-growing and other colonial industries, published monthly, under the patronage of the Natal South African Government, by Robert Dives, who is also editor. The lines of merchandise looked after by "Industries" are machinery of all sorts, engines and boilers, mining plants, etc., also shipping, the mining interests, export and import trade, etc.

The manufacturers of the United States are the most active among the importers at the present time. In the month of February manufacturers' materials amounted to almost one-half of the total importations.—American Artisan.

At a recent meeting of the Railway and Transportation Committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association it was decided to put up a big fight for the abolition of the privilege granting railways the power to charge extra freight rates when goods are not shipped at owner's risk. Circulars have been issued to the manufacturers inviting them to present their views on the subject and any complaints that they may have to make.

Do Canadian tanners desire to participate in this trade:— There were imported into Japan during 1899, 1,528,419 cattiees, 2,002,229 pounds of sole leather. The amount imported at Yokohama was 976,030 cattiees, 1,278,599 pounds; at Kobe and Osaka, 543,691 cattiees, 712,235 pounds; and at Nagasaki 2,955 cattiees, 3,871 pounds.

The Toronto Board of Trade and the Toronto Retail Merchants' Association have joined forces in asking the Ontario Government to appoint a commission to report on Municipal taxation, but as the Canadian Manufacturers' Association are not participating in this important matter, it is to be presumed that it has escaped the attention of the managers. They should never let their chances, like the sunbeams, pass them by.

Last year when Mr. Crawford introduced an obnoxious bill into the Ontario Legislature, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association were quick to send delegations to protest against the enactment of it into a law. That was well. We notice that at this time Mr. Latchford is endeavoring to work a bill through the Legislature compelling arbitration in labor disputes, which certainly contains many objectionable features, very much against the interest of manufacturers, but we do not observe that the Association are doing anything to defeat it. We notice, too, that the Trades and Labor Council are taking active measures to prevent the introduction of manual training in the public schools, but we do not notice that the Association are endeavoring in any way to counteract that influence, although it is in the interests of manufacturers to have the youths in the schools taught the rudimentary principles of applied mechanics.

Mr. J. O. Thorn, a representative of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association, states that he had recently applied to Mr. H. J.

Hill, the secretary and manager, for a copy of the by-laws of the Industrial Association which was promised him. Later, when Mr. Hill was requested to produce the copy, he stated that it had been prepared, but in the interval the directors had held a meeting, at which he had been instructed not to give Mr. Thorn the copy. Later still, Mr. Hill said that he had mentioned the matter to Dr. Smith, the president of the Association, who replied that in view of the action of the directors, no copy of the by-laws should be given to Mr. Thorn. We do not notice that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association or any of its officers have protested against the indignity shown Mr. Thorn, one of its representatives, by the directors of the Industrial Exhibition Association, although Messrs. R. W. Elliot, George Booth and W. K. McNaught are members of the Board.

Gen. Breckinridge, editor of The Lexington, Ky., Morning Herald, who attended the Anglo-Saxon Union banquet in Toronto the other day, thus writes of Canada: "Canada is as loyal as Yorkshire; she holds herself to be as much an integral part of that world-wide empire as London. Victoria is her Queen, she is sister to Australia and every British colony. There was some years ago a strong party in Canada in favor of some form of organic union with the United States; that party has disappeared. There is a wider, deeper, sincerer friendship for the United States, but it is no longer mixed with any desire to form part of the United States. They believe their form of government, their institutions, are freer and stronger than ours; that law is more impartial and better administered, and the spirit of party and its passion not so dangerous. They respect us; they are our friends; they desire amity and good relations with us. They express these feelings with sincerity and warmth; but they also are anxious, we should understand, that it is wholly free from any desire of union; friends, allies, well-wishers, but not partners or fellow-citizens."

Every humane man will wish that no American woman should have to labor for more than sixty hours a week. But we should suppose there is some doubt if the law in this free country may properly forbid a woman to work for sixty-two hours a week if she chooses to do so. A court in Pennsylvania has decided that the law has this right of prohibition, and the court has inflicted penalties upon an employer who permitted a woman-worker to toil beyond the sixty-hour limit. Where a child is concerned, the right of the government to meddle with the matter is indisputable, for a child is unable to protect itself from unkind parents or indifferent employers. But an adult is a responsible being, having, it may be supposed, not only power to take care of herself, but an incontestible right to use her time, her labor and her intelligence in any manner not involving trespass upon the rights of others. From what source does a law-maker obtain authority to limit and restrict the privilege of an adult to work as long as he pleases? It would be hard to discover a satisfactory answer to that question. But, if a penalty for working overtime must be inflicted upon somebody, why not put it upon the adult person who is guilty, rather than upon the employer who simply permits or connives at the act which is alleged to be wrong? No employer in this country has any woman wage-earner by the throat so firmly that he