

WAR AND "GOOD TIMES."

To the unthinking, to the reckless and dishonest, and also to the merely speculative, war represents activity, chances for stealing or money-making, and in a word "good times." The wise and thoughtful take a different view. The New York *Herald* financial article says:—"That the fear of war had caused a general suspension of new enterprises became apparent some time ago, and its effects in the countermanding of orders to manufacturers, the diminution of trade and the slowing down of the march of prosperity have now become unmistakable." On all sides there is a "slowing down" process, in presence of the war spectre.

To take another point of view, the cost of war, even supposing we ignore the suffering and death among the combatants, the prospect may well appal. The civil war of the Union from 1861 to 1865 cost up to the end of the last fiscal year 7,000 millions of dollars. When all the pensions and interest are paid the amount will be swollen to 12,000 million dollars. The Troy, N.Y., Press points to three legacies left by that war over a generation ago. The first is a pension list of \$150,000,000 a year, a tax of \$2 per head on the total population of the United States. The second is the bondholding class, whose money was loaned to carry on the war. Third, the numberless army of tramps, largely the direct outcome of the war.

EDMONTON BOARD OF TRADE.

At the recent annual meeting of the Edmonton board of trade, retiring President Cowie, in his address, dwelt at some length on the purposes, constitution and objects of a board of trade, and asked for active co-operation of all its executive instead of leaving the labor to a few. In concluding his address he said: "Gentlemen, as the commercial custodians of the key to Canada's Northern mineral treasures we have before us most splendid opportunities of enriching ourselves, our district, our Dominion, and our Empire, by unlocking and making known and accessible to miners and capitalists the resources of the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains where lie dormant minerals, probably as valuable as any in the Klondyke. It is necessary that each member should be an active worker on any committee to which he may be assigned, and that permanent committees be appointed on each matter of importance. Before concluding, I desire to congratulate the board on the defeat of the Stikine-Teslin lake contract by the senate.

The following officers were elected: President, C. Gallagher; vice-president, W. J. Walker; secretary-treasurer, F. Fraser Tims.

Councillors: Messrs. Bellamy, Kinnaird, Strang, Willmott, Picard, Hourston, Lines, Johnson and Larue.

ARSENIC PRODUCTION.

The arsenious ores of Hastings County, Ontario, are to be made yield arsenic, whether they will yield the refractory gold or not. The *Tweed News* says:

"For the past few months Dr. Henry H. Eames, Ph.D., of Wine Harbor, Nova Scotia, a chemist and geologist of no small reputation, has been in this vicinity making an examination of the mining property owned by Joseph James, of Actinolite. Dr. Eames is the discoverer of a process for treating arsenical ores and, in fact, is the first man in North America who has ever been able to separate from its ores, the red arsenic which is by far the most valuable. Since his arrival, he has procured the apparatus for making his test, and had it erected, so that now there is in operation on the property a complete mill in miniature. The tests have been carried on ever since, not only with the ores from Mr. James' property, but also with ores from other properties in North Hastings. Mr. Eames has been perfectly astonished with the results of the test, and pronounces the ore to be the best for arsenic he ever touched. In some cases the percentage of arsenic taken from the ore is so large that the public would scarcely credit the results.

Mr. James and Dr. Eames have entered into an arrangement by which they intend not only to carry on operations on the property of the former, but also to extend the operation of the patents covering the process owned by the latter gentleman. They will proceed at a

moderate rate, erecting only a ten furnace plant. The plant has so far produced arsenious acid, chemically pure, commonly called white arsenic, realgar, which is yellow arsenic, and orpiment, which is red arsenic. The extraction of the arsenic leaves a result from which the gold can be obtained by amalgamation and the gold values in the ore have so far been highly satisfactory.

It is a well known fact that the arsenical mines of England, which practically supply the world's demand for white arsenic, are rapidly becoming exhausted, and, until now, no new mines have been in sight. Moreover, the arsenic produced by Mr. Eames' process is so pure chemically that it is only a matter of time until North Hastings shall have a world wide reputation, being placed on a level with, if not higher than, England and the Kingdom of Saxony in the production of these necessities."

BRITAIN HELD HER OWN.

Mr. S. Y. French, representative of the Sun Life Insurance company, in Japan, spent yesterday in the city with local officials of the company. Mr. French has returned to Toronto after an absence of two years in the Orient. He says that a clash of arms between European powers over eastern questions is not anticipated in the near future; but it is generally felt that there will ultimately be a conflict. Great Britain has maintained her position in China, in spite of Russian intrigues and Chinese corruption, and will, in all probability, gain ground in the future. Britain controls seventy-five per cent. of the trade with China, and will insist that all ports opened will be made free to the nations of the earth. Russian aggression, however, is very pronounced, and serious trouble will come when Russia is prepared for war on the Pacific. Mr. French says the military spirit is very strong in Japan, and the people are most friendly to the British. The Chinese have been robbed so systematically by the mandarins that they have not a spark of patriotism left. Corruption is everywhere rampant in the country, among the officials, but John is invariably honest in business transactions, more so even than the Japs. Mr. French says that Chinamen are not at all bad fellows socially, when they are known and understood.—Winnipeg Free Press.

TRADE WITH TRINIDAD.

Canadian trade with this British island is but trifling in extent. It ought to be much greater. The comparative statement of the values of merchandise imported into Trinidad from the United States and Canada during 1897, compiled from official returns, shows clearly the small part taken by the Dominion in this trade. In the last year, the total of imports from the United States was \$1,604,874, and that of the Canadian was \$39,033, the proportion of United States to Canadian being more than forty-one to one. This disparity itemized shows in flour \$611,390, United States, to nothing Canadian; bread, \$43,195, to nothing; pork, beef, etc., \$206,563 to \$547; butter, twenty to one, and cheese fifteen to one. Surely it is worth our while to make an effort to get a decent share of this \$1,600,000 American trade.

A NOVEL LIQUOR CASE.

Charles McKenzie, proprietor of the Victoria Hotel at Megantic, was before Judge Mulvena on Saturday afternoon last, charged with having sold liquor to a person under the influence of liquor, under a clause of the law, which says: "That intoxicating liquors shall not at any time be sold to drunken persons or minors."

It appeared that when on the 15th of March last, Messrs. Gauvin & McKenzie bought this hotel at Megantic, the person to whom the liquor was sold (who in this case was a minister) was staying there, and was in a state of intoxication, and remained in that state until the 23rd of March, when removed from the hotel by friends and Foresters.

These friends paid a bill of about \$26 for the minister, out of which amount about \$14 was for liquor.

The evidence was very lengthy and conflicting, but the learned magistrate considered that the proof established that liquor had been furnished to the minister in question during the period from the 15th to the 23rd of March, and

therefore could come to no other conclusion than to fine the prisoner \$75 and costs.

The evidence established that the minister when rescued by his friends, was in a terrible state and was seriously threatened with delirium tremens.—Sherbrooke Record.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 20th, 1898

STOCKS	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Closing Prices.		
				Sellers.	Buyers.	Average price same date 1897.
Montreal	230	238	9	245	230	234
Ontario	104½	104½	11	110	100	83
Molson's				906	196	183
Toronto				235		236
Jac. Cartier				110	100	170
Merchants	179	179½	28	181	176	170
Commerce	137½	135	7	140½	135½	125½
Union	105	105	1	115	105	102½
M. Teleg.	177	177	7	178	175	166
R. & O. Nav. xd	9½	9½	75	100	89	80
Mont. St. Ry. xd	254	247	1580	248	247½	232
new do. xd	351	24½	100		254	153
Mon. Gas Co.	183½	178	800	180	177½	177
Can. Pac. Ry.	8½	7½	4801	76½	76	498
Land Grant bds				51		40
N.W. Land pref.				173		159
Bell Tele.						
Mont. 4% stock						

—Arrangement has been made in England for the purchase of two new steamers to be added to the Canada and Newfoundland Steamship Company. This will enable the company to give a fortnightly service between Halifax and Liverpool after retiring the "Barcelona." Mr. Brookfield also has secured capital to go on with the erection of cold storage plant and warehouses in Halifax.

—The St. John Telegraph is enthusiastic over the prospects of West Indian trade in connection with the Fielding preferential duties that the English press refuses to become elated over. A reduction of 25 per cent. in the duties on West Indian as compared with other sugar, will undoubtedly cause Canadian refiners and merchants to buy as much as possible of West Indian sugar; but it will not of itself cause a West Indian merchant to buy any more Canadian goods than he does now. The Fielding proposition is for a preference to, not for reciprocity with, the West Indies. Reciprocity would have given Canadian exporters advantages in the West India markets approximating those which are given to West India exporters in Canadian markets.—Montreal Gazette.

—Sir Thomas Lipton, of "Lipton's teas" and Lipton's stores, is a Scotchman, and but 42 years of age. Despite his hard-working life, he is tall, straight, athletic, always well dressed and well groomed, always unassuming. His father was a wage worker. When the son was 15 years old he sailed to America to seek his fortune. For two years he worked in the rice swamps of South Carolina. At the end of two years he had so little money that he stowed himself away on a steamer sailing from Charleston to New York, and was permitted to shovel coal. He went back to Glasgow and started a grocery store on £100 loaned him by his father. He says he has succeeded by advertising. His first advertisement was by two monster hogs, the biggest he could find. They were carefully scrubbed, decorated with ribbons and guided, waddling through the street to the store, with a banner over them "Lipton's Monsters."

—As an instance of the effect of the war scare the Wm. Davies Company, of Toronto, on Saturday sent out \$30,000 worth of bacon, 328,000 lbs., by way of St. John. In common with other big exporters this company has already begun to feel the pinch of the curtailment of transportation facilities by reason of the threatened war. The withdrawal of four big American liners from merchant service has already put Canadian exporters to inconvenience. The Davies Company, for instance, which makes a \$50,000 consignment nearly every Saturday to Liverpool, by way of Southampton, has experienced difficulty in obtaining accommodation. Other big exporters are in the same straits. One immediate result of the war scare, therefore, is that Canadian transportation companies reap the benefit of trade that hitherto has gone by way of New York.