

artist for a design for its cover. But there is no pleasure in knowing that the committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association having in charge the management of Industrial Canada, its official organ, should pass by all Canadian talent and choose for front page adornment of the organ the design of an American artist.

In reply to an enquiry for the names of past and present officers of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, we would state that, as shown by the records of the Association, Mr. James Watson, of Hamilton, was the first president, succeeded in rotation as follows: W. H. Howland, Toronto; Robert McKecknie, Dundas; Thomas Cowan, Galt; Edward Gurney, Toronto; R. W. Elliott, Toronto; W. H. Storey, Acton; Bennett Rosamond, Almonte; W. K. McNaught, Toronto; John Bertram, Dundas; W. H. Law, Peterborough; A. E. Kemp, Toronto; D. W. Karn, Woodstock; J. F. Ellis, Toronto; P. W. Ellis, Toronto, and Robert Munro, Montreal, the present incumbent. The first secretary was John Maclean, succeeded in rotation by A. W. Wright, W. H. Fraser, Frederic Nicholls and J. J. Cassidey. These were executive officers, but the present incumbent, T. A. Russell, is not such. The first treasurer was Edward Gurney, who was succeeded by John Cosgrave, and he, in 1885, by George Booth, who is now in the seventeenth year of his incumbency.

The Executive Committee of the Canadian Electrical Association, while in session in Montreal last week, entertained Mr. Marconi, of wireless telegraphy fame, at a luncheon, as a token of appreciation for what he had done in advancing electrical research work. Referring to his plans, Mr. Marconi said: "I shall begin work upon my Cape Breton station immediately. Canadian material will be used in constructing the power station, which will be more powerful than the one already erected at Cornwall, but not quite as powerful as the Cape Cod station. Canadian labor will be utilized, but experts will be sent out from England to superintend the work shortly after my arrival there. The station will be definitely located in Cape Breton. The plans, when ready, will be submitted to the Dominion Government, and will be passed upon by that body."

The next convention of the Canadian Electrical Association will be held in the city of Quebec in June.

Upon the application of the Dominion Government, the British War Office has intimated its willingness to allow the shipment of Canadian merchandise on steamers chartered to carry supplies to the British Army in South Africa. Steamers carrying such supplies leave Halifax or St. John about once a month, and as there is usually more or less freight room to spare, the Government have very considerably allowed it to be utilized in the manner indicated. The rates of freight have not yet been announced, but will be at an early day. If this arrangement should be of long continuance it will give Canadian export trade to South Africa a boom that will be of the greatest advantage to our manufacturers.

A number of Canadian manufacturers are taking steps to make a bid for a share of the West India trade. On January 27, Mr. Robert Munro, Montreal, and several other gentlemen representing Canadian manufacturing concerns, will sail by the steamer Orinoco from Halifax for the West Indies, where they will investigate the conditions relating to their

own particular lines of business. On the same steamer will go Mr. E. M. Wilcox, representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, who will make a six weeks tour of the islands, investigating the conditions existing in each, with a view to obtaining full information as to the articles imported into them which can be produced in Canada. His visit will include Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbadoes, St. Vincent, Granada, Tobago, Trinidad, British Guiana and Jamaica. Mr. Wilcox is a recent honor graduate of Toronto University and the historian of the Association. He has acquired considerable information as to the requirements of manufacturers since his recent connection with the Association, particularly as supervisor of the distribution to the members of the trade enquiries received at its office; and it is in this way, as Industrial Canada tells us, that he is well acquainted with the views of the members in the development of our export trade.

It is announced that Mr. Frederic Nicholls, manager of the Canadian General Electric Co., has offered a prize of \$500 to be devoted to some competition which shall tend to advance and encourage original research work in electrical science.

An important move in the extension of the import and export trade of Canada will be the establishment of a regular line of steamers between Rotterdam and Montreal next season. The Canadian Forwarding & Export Co., already known in connection with their inland fleet of barges and propellers, have made arrangements for a fortnightly line of large freight carriers to run between these ports, and the first steamer is expected at the opening of navigation. The grain, lumber and wood pulp trades have long felt the need of direct communication with Rotterdam, which, owing to the Rhine navigation and network of railways terminating there, is the most convenient port for Western Germany, as also, of course, for Holland; and there is every reason to expect that this line will have to greatly increase and facilitate Canada's growing exports to these countries. For return freights the line will depend to a great extent on imports of German iron and steel, which is also more conveniently shipped from Rotterdam than from other ports.

President Roosevelt, in the opinion of the old Bourbon element in the United States, is an iconoclast who takes counsel with any whose opinion is worth having. A few weeks ago he absolutely invited Mr. Booker Washington, a representative of the colored race, to dine with him, and only last week he extended the same courtesy to representatives of organized labor including Messrs. F. P. Sargent, Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; E. E. Clark, Grand Chief Conductor of the Order of Railway Conductors; P. H. Morrissey, Grand Master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; H. B. Perham, President of the Order of Railway Telegraphers; and A. B. Youngson, First Assistant to P. M. Arthur, Chief of the Order of Locomotive Engineers.

It is said that when Postmaster-General Mulock was in Australia attending the opening of the Commonwealth Parliament, he had a preliminary talk with Premier Barton with reference of preferential trade between that country and Canada. A few weeks ago Sir Wilfrid Laurier intimated that that proposition was under consideration, and it is to be most devoutly wished that it may eventuate. Trade between the United States and Australia is already large and is rapidly increasing, and should Canada be accorded a preferential tariff