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Mercantile Summary.

THE death is announced of Claude McLachlin, a member of the well known lumber firm of McLachlin Bros., Arnprior, Ont.

THE ratepayers of Niagara-on-the-Lake have passed a by-law granting a bonus of \$10,000 and exemption from taxation for twenty years to the Niagara, Queenston and St. Catharines Railway Company, who are to build an electric railway from St. Catharines to Queenston.

Two hundred town sites along the line of the Canadian Northern between Port Arthur and Edmonton have been purchased by Davidson & McRae, of Duluth, for \$1,000,000. Or, rather, we understand, they have been placed in their hands for disposal among actual settlers.

It is stated that the Frontenac Cereal Company, of Kingston, will shortly erect a large mill in British Columbia, at a cost of \$250,000 or over, probably either in Vancouver or Victoria. The demand for Canadian grain goods in Australia and the Far East is growing, and it is hoped by this step to take advantage of the fact.

B. F. WARD, of Bricton, N.S., now an elderly man, and long in business in the district, is reported insolvent. He was formerly in the milling line, but not very successful, at Melvern Square, and for some years has been conducting a stove business at present address.—C. C. Nickerson, a lobster packer, of Wood's Harbor, N.S., is also reported as having assigned.

It is reported that J. A. Michaud & Co., general merchants of Chicoutimi, Que., are asking a compromise at the rate of 50 cents in the dollar, cash, on an indebtedness of about \$7,000. Mr. Michaud, was, we are told, in the building and contracting line in Ottawa some years ago, and afterwards engaged in farming for a time before commencing storekeeping about eighteen months ago.

THE merchants of Gananoque have organized an association to protect themselves against "dead beats," and people of doubtful pay. Once a month they will have printed on a sheet of paper a list of those who run accounts and refuse to pay them. A copy is to be furnished every member, and a part of the agreement is that no one whose name appears on the list shall receive credit.

THE Ontario Agricultural College is branching out. C. A. Zavitz has been appointed to look after a plot of land which has been set apart for forestry near the Macdonald Institute building in the college grounds at Guelph. Some 30,000 seedlings will be planted, principally Norway spruce, white pine, white ash, basswood and sugar maple. These young trees are intended to be ready for distribution among the farmers in the spring of 1905 and 1906.

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