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THE TANNING INDUSTRY .- A healthy condition of trade has existed in the tanning industry during the past year, according to the report of Mr. W. J. Bickell, chairman of the tanners' section of the Board of Trade, presented at the annual meeting of the section held last week.

Not many fluctuations, Mr. Bickell states, had been experienced in the tanning industry the past year. The prices of harness leather were somewhat demoralized until after the meeting of the section held in July last, since which time prices advanced to a higher level, but the close of the year leaves the tanuer with little or no margin of profi at the prevailing prices.

The principal feature of the trade in sole leather had been a change in the demand from light to heavy leather. The export trade in sole as well as black leather, particularly splits, had been very good, although on a small margin of

profit.

The part which the tanners took in connection with the war in South Africa was commented upon by Mr. Bickell, who remarked that thousands of sides of our leather were made into saddles and other military accoutrements, as well as considerable quantities of boots, leggings, etc., and as far as we can learn proved entirely satisfactory. We should feel proud that we can manufacture leather. and that we have connected with our trade men who can build military accoutrements that will pass the strict examination of the military authorities at Southampton. Instances have been cited in which shoes made in Canada have seen a full year's service in South Africa, and returned in fair condition. Similar reports have been made by different officers regarding the saddles and other military equipment of Canadian manufacture, which gave universal satisfaction to the troops.

The election of officers for the current year resulted as follows: — Mr. C. G. Marlatt, Oakville, Ont., Chairman; Mr. F. T. Daville, Mayor of Aurora, Ont., Vice-Chairman; Mrs. Agnes C. Gray,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Executive Committee—Messrs. A. G. Beardmore, Toronto; George C. H. Lang, Berlin, Ont.; A. R. Clarke, Toronto; John Welsh, Hastings, Ont.; Jas. Newton, Newtonville, Ont.

Inspection and Arbitration Committee -Messrs. C. J. Miller, Orillia, Ont.; L. J. Breithaupt, Berlin, Ont.; Geo. McQuay, Owen Sound, Ont.; S. R. Wickett, and W. D. Beardmore, Toronto.

CANADIAN BANKS.—Note circulation of Canadian banks at end of November:-1896.....\$35,262,599 1897...... 40,143,878 1898...... 42,350,948 1899..... 47,839,506 1900..... 51,947,269 1901..... 57,741,566 Legal limit of note circulation. 66,176,941

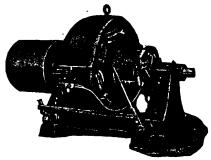
by banks at end of Novem-

ber, 1901..... 8,435,375 Increased business activity has taxed the capacity of the Canadian banks to the

utmost, and in the case of many their note circulation has practically reached the legal limit. Last month with a capitalization permitting the issuing of notes to the total of \$66,176,941, the Canadian banks had at one time notes in circulation amounting to \$60,397,097, and at the end of the month the note circulation amounted to \$57,741,566, or within \$8,435,375 of the legal limit. Of this surplus amount \$3,605,185 was held by the Bank of Montreal. Many of the banks have put practically all their available notes into circulation, and have at times paid cheques in any bank notes they chanced to ave on hand. In some cases, knowing their notes were practically all out and earning interest, no attempt was made at the banks to separate the notes,

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