

Interchangeable mechanism refers to that class of articles in the manufacture of which the highest skill and workmanship is required, and includes sewing machines, fire arms, locomotive engines and agricultural implements.

Classes 6 and 7 include (a) pig iron, the basis of the iron and steel industries, and (b) other forms of iron and steel in the making of which skilled labor enters to a limited extent. They constitute the raw material entering into the manufacture of articles of iron and steel by Canadian workmen, and are, in addition to pig iron, bar iron rolled or hammered, boiler plate, steel bloom ends, rolled iron for horse shoe nails, steel for skates, files or saws, wrought scrap iron, etc., and parts of articles in other respects manufactured in Canada.

The foregoing statement applies only to Canada's imports from Great Britain and the United States, from which two countries came, in the three 5-year periods therein considered 98 per cent. 95 per cent. and 97 per cent. respectively of the whole imports of the articles alluded to.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Thomas C. Irving, who for a number of years has been Superintendent of Bradstreet's Toronto office, has been made General Manager for Western Canada. Mr. Irving has also been, we understand, added to the list of Executive officers of the Company. These promotions are well deserved in view of the efficient and satisfactory service that has always characterized his intercourse with the Canadian business community.

The Editor is in receipt of the following note from London which explains itself :—

DEAR SIR. — Lord Strathcona desires me to convey his thanks to you for a copy of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of October 6th which you were good enough to forward, and to inform you that he has perused the article by Mr. George Johnson with much interest. I am, yours faithfully,
J. G. COLMER.

The editor is also in receipt of a note from Mr. Johnson in which he says: "Kindly send me a few more copies of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of October 6th. I have received numerous applications from England and the United States, notably from Bradstreet's, which I can no longer supply as I have only one copy left."

There has been a remarkable demand for copies of this journal which contained Mr. Johnson's statistical article entitled "Canadian Exports of Manufactures—The Record for Thirty-one Years," and the edition is now exhausted.

Last winter the biggest poultry show ever held in America was held in Toronto, and the Toronto Poultry Association have resolved to duplicate that exhibition next month. The poultry industry is not only a large one, but one capable of great expansion. Last year it was worth \$5,000,000 to this Province alone, a single firm shipping no less than 60,000 turkeys to Great Britain. Under such circumstances, it is apparent that the poultry industry ranks next only to the live stock industry. For lack of a suitable building, the Provincial Christmas Fat Cattle Show is never held in Toronto, but it is to be hoped the poultry men will receive

such encouragement from citizens and the Council as will maintain this city as the chief centre of no great poultry interests. Dr. A. W. Bell, assistant manager of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, has the poultry show in hand, and is very enthusiastic over the prospects. He states that, as last year, when the entries were larger than had ever been at any similar show in America, so, this, a number of American poultry and pet bird organizations intend to hold their annual meetings in Toronto, thus making the exhibit a thoroughly international one. As liberal prizes are offered for pigeons and domestic pets, the show has an educational side for young people that should not be lost sight of.

Hon. George E. Foster delivered an address in Oshawa a few days ago in which he stated that there were then people in that town who were workers in iron, who could easily see how employment was given to their hands and brains by the demand for facilities to move the immense crops of the country. The allusion had reference to the prosperity of the iron industry in Oshawa under the Government of which Mr. Foster was Finance Minister. During Mr. Foster's administration the tariff duty on such iron goods as were produced in the largest establishment in Oshawa, or in Canada, was, we believe, rated at specifically twenty dollars per ton and twenty per cent. ad valorem. Is this the same Mr. Foster who, as Finance Minister, removed the specific duty? The iron workers of Oshawa no doubt remember that the big iron works there were out of operation a long time after that event. They are in full swing now.

Owing to Canada's vastly increased trade with Britain since the adoption of a preferential tariff there has been a great growth of shipping facilities between the Dominion and British ports, while the competition between Canadian and United States products has likewise greatly increased. During last year there were twenty-three steamers under contract or agreement, or by subsidy, plying between Canadian and British ports. Through the cold storage service in carrying butter, eggs and fruit, and the care on the part of the exporters, Canadian articles of the kind mentioned have achieved great popularity in the British market.

From an investigation of new patents and patent applications at Washington it is evident the inventors are turning largely to the attractive field of effort found in devices for the taking the place of ice. So successful are some of these that enthusiastic promoters already predict the passing of the ice-man. Devices for producing artificial cold are multiplying with great rapidity and while some of these are of but limited and costly utility others give promise of being able to meet common wants and necessities in the heated season. Even at present large business concerns have almost abandoned the use of ice for ammonia gas and other chemical devices, and it is predicted that before long it will be possible to moderate the heat of summer just as rapidly as the cold of winter is now regulated in houses by steam heat. In other words, that cold may be turned on at pleasure and a uniform temperature be maintained in city dwellings all the year. As yet, however, these glittering and pleasant promises are not in the way of immediate fulfillment. The expense of cold-generating