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|---------------|-----------|
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**SPRING** — 1897 1897

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#### Mercantile Summary.

THE town of Hull, Que., a short time ago issued \$73,000 forty years, four per cent. debentures for the purpose of paying off the debt on the court house and gaol, extending the waterworks and making improvements on the streets. These were offered for sale by tender, and there were fourteen applicants, La Banque Nationale becoming the purchaser at 35 per cent., equal to 7.09 premium.

THE Lindsay Post says that during the past winter Messrs. Carew & McDonald have purchased and shipped to the United States over 70 carloads of rock elm blocks for the manufacture of harness hames -a practically new industry for our northern farmers and timber jobbers. Shipments were made from Coboconk district, and from the Haliburton division of the Grand Trunk. Last year the firm shipped 60 carloads.

THE slate output of the United States in 1896 aggregated \$2,746,205 in value, according to a special Geological Survey report submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. This is an increase of \$47,505 over the previous year. Of the total all but \$482,457 was roofing slate. The value of product by Pennsylvania was \$1,726,-318; by Vermont, \$609,569; Maine, Virginia, New York, Maryland and Georgia contributing smaller portions.

A MUNICIPAL election has been held in the British Columbia town of Nelson. On Thursday of last week John Houston was elected mayor of Nelson by 307 votes to 212 over John Turner. The Houston ticket for aldermen was also elected by majorities ranging from 40 to 90. The aldermen elected are: A. Dow, F. Fletcher, J. A. Gilker, C. Hillyer, J. J. Malone and W. F. Teetzel.

HERE are a few Montreal commercial items F. Jacobie, a peddler of coal oil, has assigned to the court, with liabilities placed at \$6,900. An assignment has been made, on demand, by H. Bessette, grocer. -- J B. & L. Charron, coal dealers, owe about \$4,000, on which they have made an offer of 33 per cent. ---- A demand of assignment has been made upon Robillard & Gendron, hotelkeepers. - Joseph Guilbault, dry goods, Montreal, has assigned. The firm until lately was Guilbault & Frere, and the business is some time established, but has been of retrograde character for several years past.

Some time last month Wm. J. Johnston succeeded G. H. Helson, as a grocer, at Teeswater, investing about \$400 in the business. Already he has learned that farming does not qualify one for storekeeping, and that keeping a store does not necessarily mean making profit, and now he assigns. --- After making brick for a number of years, at Napanee, John Conger, in the fall of 1895, rented the Briscoe Hotel, which had been vacant for some time, and set up for a Boniface. Not knowing anything about the business, however, he got into difficulty, and is already compelled to assign .-About two years ago, Max Cohen came to Canada from New York, and opened a cigar store in Sudbury. He has just assigned. & F. Corbeil, lumber dealers, Ferris township, in the Algoma district, also assign. Owen Sound grocer, named J. K. Christie, has assigned. In Jan., 1896, he purchased the stock of W. A. Dodge, amounting to \$839. Of this sum \$200 was paid in cash, and a chattel mortgage was given Mr. McLaughlin for \$250 he had advanced, and to him the assignment has been made. Lately Christie has been too ill to attend to business.

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