

combination. If they did, however, Messrs. Coats would no doubt revert to the same policy as when fighting Messrs. Chadwick, which resulted in bringing down the price of 200 yards cotton from 17s. 9d. to 12s. per gross.

Within the past several years remarkable strides have been made by Canadian manufacturers of women's cloaks and mantles. It used to be the opinion of the trade that Canadian-made jackets and capes were old-fashioned, and not articles in which a profitable trade could be done. With new blood in the business and the employment of adequate capital and modern methods, this has been changed, and to-day Canadian productions are serviceable, stylish, and very attractive. Messrs. John Northway & Son, Toronto, who are winning an enviable reputation in the trade, report that the newest feature in styles is the Russian blouse, with either a loose or tight back. In the beginning of the season jackets were rather long, 28 and 30 inches being the popular lengths, but 27 inches is now considered a more fashionable length, and the whole tendency of styles appears to be towards shorter lengths.

BOOT AND SHOE PARAGRAPHS.

The boot and shoe stocks of the estate of Quigley & Co., of Guelph and Berlin, were sold at Suckling's auction rooms; the Guelph stock, invoiced at \$10,000, was bought by D. R. Rowan, of Guelph, for 70 cents on the dollar, and the Berlin stock by N. B. Gould, of Port Hope, for 54½ cents on the dollar.

Some of the sufferers by fire in Quebec months ago, are rebuilding. At the corner of Crown and Prince Edward streets the following firms hope to resume business by December: the Dominion Shoe Company, Blouin & Co., and Messrs. St. Pierre and Lapointe. The council will not exempt the factory of Mr. St. Pierre from taxes, as requested.

The claim is made by the United States Rubber Company that it has lost \$100,000 a year through the action of the municipal reformers, who secured the removal of mud and snow from New York streets. Was not this an abandonment of the American policy of protection? The mud and snow would have given work to a great crowd of rubber makers, for people would have had to don rubber shoes to get through the slush. Maybe the U.S. Rubber Co. contemplates an action for damages.

The Moseley Shoe Leather Company, to whom the council of St. Henri, near Montreal, agreed to advance a loan of \$20,000, commenced last week preparations for the erection of their proposed manufactory. They will erect a two-story pressed-brick building, 170 x 40 feet, with two wings 25 x 40. The contract has been awarded, and it is expected that everything will be ready to commence manufacturing in January next.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

ONTARIO GAME AND FISHING LAWS is the name of a little book recently issued by A. H. O'Brien, M.A. For the sportsman, this book, containing a complete digest of the whole law on the subject, Provincial and Dominion, is invaluable. All true sportsmen are desirous of observing the regulations that have been made for the preservation of fish and game. The statutes are so numerous and scattered, that until Mr. O'Brien completed this little work ignorance might, outside of the courts, be offered almost as a sufficient excuse for their occasional violation. Published by the Canada Law Journal Company, 59 Victoria street, Toronto. Price 25 cents.

YEAR BOOK OF CANADA.—It may be remembered that the statistician at Ottawa, Mr. George Johnson, F.S.S., deemed it necessary last year to almost apologize for having issued a Year Book which was too large. This year he is under no such necessity, for so far as memory serves, the present volume—this is the twelfth year of issue—is the smallest of the series in bulk. But it contains 464 well-filled pages, besides a dozen pages of index. Fifty pages are devoted to minerals, giving the production in three year periods, and a resume of the mining laws; 70 pages to trade and commerce; 63 to currency, banking and finance; smaller spaces to agriculture, education, insurance, temperance, etc., etc. We miss some things that were interesting in the compact summings up of certain subjects in former Year Books. But we can quite understand that there were weighty reasons why, as the compiler puts it, "compression has been the primary principle adopted in the preparation." The Government Printing Bureau has done the typographical work well.

—Not long ago the entire mineral product of British Columbia went to the United States in the form of ore. When smelting works were built in the province later, the silver-lead and the copper matte were still sent to the States for refining and further reduction. But now, the products from the earth are turned out in a higher state of completion. The works at Trail Creek have a refinery, and are ship-

ping gold in fine bars; the Hall Mines Company is converting its product into blister copper, which goes direct to Wales. The *Engineering and Mining Journal* remarks that American ore-buyers will have to look sharply to their business since they have to meet the competition of a Welsh firm in Vivian & Sons, of Swansea, who are offering better prices for copper ore than hitherto paid by Americans, and will besides, advance 75 per cent. of the Vancouver assay value of consignments. They get a freight rate of \$8.50 per ton from Vancouver to Swansea.

CLEARING-HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Oct. 21st, 1897, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Oct. 21.	Oct. 14.
Montreal	\$13,463,878	\$14,259,128
Toronto	7,678,463	8,887,831
Halifax	1,317,248	1,305,226
Winnipeg	3,080,572	3,005,830
Hamilton	657,907	703,888
St. John	542,060	573,868
	\$26,740,228	\$28,735,771

Aggregate balances this week, \$4,549,795; last week, \$4,513,667.

—Mr. Edward Hooper, owing to advanced age, has decided to retire from the vice-presidency of the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company, of which he is one of the oldest shareholders. Mr. Hooper has been continuously a member of the board of directors of that company from the year 1862. On the retirement of the late Mr. Joseph D. Ridout, Mr. Hooper was elected president of the company, a position which he held for three years. When he retired from that position he was elected vice-president and has been elected to that position ever since. Mr. Hooper still remains a member of the board, and Mr. W. G. Gooderham, of the firm of Gooderham & Worts, Limited, has accepted the position of vice-president. Mr. Hooper was born in London, England, in 1808, and is consequently in his ninetieth year. Although physically somewhat infirm he retains his mental faculties unimpaired, and it is to be hoped may continue to do so for many years yet. During a long residence and a successful business career in Toronto, he has always had the confidence and the respect of the community. The business he established on King street west still bears his name.

—Montreal people may not relish, but they are likely to be stimulated, by the reflections cast at the shipping and elevating facilities of their port by recent writers and observers, Mr. Girdlestone, of Bristol, among them. We observe what is stated about the Prescott Elevator Company having contracted for three large steel tow barges to be used in conveying grain from Fort William to Montreal. These barges will have a capacity of 40,000 bushels each, but when the canals are deepened to 14 feet, the company will have barges constructed with a carrying capacity of 80,000 bushels. It is, besides, preparing to have floating elevators made for use in Montreal harbor, so that open steamers can be loaded with the greatest economy and expedition. The company has satisfied itself that grain can be sent to England by way of Montreal more cheaply than by New York. But it is doing more, it is taking steps to show the shippers that this can be done.

—The idea that it pays to secure good roads appears to be taking firm hold of many minds in Ontario. It has been stated recently by the provincial instructor in road-making, Mr. A. W. Campbell, that he has at the present time in hand more than fifty applications from rural municipalities, asking him to inspect and report upon the best way of improving their highways. This is good news, for the economy of good roads being once demonstrated and measures adopted to secure them, the whole community will feel the benefit. A remarkable fact in connection with the movement is that close upon \$50,000 has been spent in road-making machinery throughout Ontario the past year. This looks as if the people were in earnest.

—In the city of Montreal and the suburban town of Westmount the transfers of real estate for the month of September last were 157 in number, amounting to \$669,350 in value, as compared with 98 transfers and \$306,009 in value in September previous. According to *Simpson's Real Estate Record*, there has been more interest manifested in real estate by a number of enquiries for properties of different kinds. In other respects also the month's business has been of an encouraging character. The volume is greater than in the corresponding month of any previous year, and the business has been widely distributed over the whole range of properties—investments, vacant and residential.