

the seed required. The price of the seed becomes a lien on the land of the purchaser. The loan must be paid in two years.

The pipe foundry at Londonderry iron mines has been re-opened, and the blast furnace will begin operations about the middle of May. The heavy snow of the past winter has interfered seriously with the operations of the company, but it is believed that the experimental stage is now passed, and success is assured.

After years of farcical operation under the Halifax liquor license law the Provincial Legislature has at length made a change. The law has been that no liquor might be consumed on the premises where sold, and no one might buy less than a quart! In a city where there are 120 licensed premises there was, of course, no attempt made to keep such a law, and it was also broken flagrantly in regard to selling on Sundays and after the legal hours. The new Act does away with the above-mentioned ridiculous clauses, and further provides that the hours shall be 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays, and 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on all other days excepting Sundays, when no liquor shall be sold except to guests to be consumed at meals in the public dining-room between 1 and 3 and between 5 and 7 o'clock in the afternoon. License fees have also been increased considerably, hotels of seventy-five rooms or over paying \$500; shops, \$200; wholesale licenses, \$500. Unless the new laws are enforced by the Halifax police it is probable that the Legislature will appoint a commission to deal with the matter. The better class of liquor dealers show a desire to have the new law observed. The new laws will mean about double the revenue to the city now received from this source.

A bill to tax the Halifax Tramway Company four per cent. on its gross earnings has been killed in Committee in Council after passing in the Lower House. This was due chiefly to an error in the bill. The tram company now pays on its tram earnings, but not on its lighting earnings, although the city formerly derived a revenue from the lighting company, which has since been amalgamated with the tram company.

The labor trouble at Springhill had scarcely been arranged when another and more violent disturbance broke out at the coal mines at the Acadia mine, Westville, Pictou county, where the men have been out for a couple of weeks now. The trouble arose over a dispute between a stableman and a manager regarding the cleaning of a horse. The manager discharged the man, and the man's lodge of the Provincial Workmen's Association ordered a strike. It need hardly be said that there is not much sympathy with the men who go on strike for a cause such as this. Should the engineers and fanmen be called out, the matter would become serious, as the mine would probably fill with water and be ruined.

The secretary of the Sydney Board of Trade has received a communication from a large shipbuilding concern at Bath, Maine, relative to the prospects for starting a plant and drydock at Sydney.

Extensive alterations have been going on at the Dominion Coal Co.'s mines, and the coming summer the entire seven pits will be working in full swing. All the bank-heads have been lowered several feet to secure larger coal. A great deal of new machinery has been installed, and shearing will be much employed instead of blasting. The company's fleet will consist of fifteen large steamers.

Pretty nearly all the boards of trade in the Maritime Provinces have considered and endorsed the proposal from Prince Edward Island that a tunnel should be built between that island and the mainland. It is considered perfectly feasible, and undoubtedly necessary.



#### HALIFAX BOARD OF TRADE.

At the quarterly meeting of the Halifax Board of Trade on April 11th, the last meeting in the old quarters, which the board has occupied for over twenty years, was held. The president, James Hall, reviewed some of the work done

in the past three months, which has already been touched on from time to time in this correspondence. Since the first of February fifty-two new members have joined. The Retail Merchants' Committee is now organizing a Merchants' Week, to be held during the Musical Festival, from May 13th to 20th. The members, at the conclusion of the business meeting, the last in the old rooms, joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne" in hearty fashion. The board is now in the new rooms, above the I.C.R. ticket offices, on Hollis Street. The rooms have been constructed especially for the occupancy of the Board of Trade, and are admirably fitted and furnished. The new quarters will undoubtedly give a great impetus to the work of the board, which, since the "Forward Movement" has been started, has vastly increased in usefulness, popularity and membership.



#### GUELPH BOARD OF TRADE.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trade of Guelph, took place on the 18th inst., the attendance of members being quite satisfactory. The old officers were re-elected, as follows: G. B. Ryan, president; J. W. Lyon, vice-president; James Watt, secretary-treasurer. The question of advertising the city for manufacturing and other requirements came up and was fully discussed, and a committee was appointed to take the matter in hand more earnestly. It was resolved, as the city's contract with the Bell Telephone Company expires next July, that it was not expedient for the contract to be renewed, seeing that a committee of the Dominion Parliament is now enquiring into all the facts connected with telephone ownership, operation, cost of service, etc., and that other cities are finding out the advantages of municipal ownership. The secretary-treasurer's report showed that a very satisfactory degree of interest had been shown by Guelph business men during the year in the meetings of the Board. He stated, too, that the Board's efforts on behalf of better efficiency in the railroad freight service had been rewarded frequently by success.



#### PRESTON BOARD OF TRADE.

The first annual meeting of the Board of Trade of Preston, Ont., took place on the 17th inst., the chairman being Mr. George Pattinson, M.P.P. Some encouraging reports were read and adopted. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: President, George Pattinson, M.P.P.; vice-president, C. Dolph; secretary, A. D. Pringle; treasurer, Frank Moss. The council is composed of F. Clare, C. E. Yates, S. J. Cherry, F. Moss, C. R. Hanning, Otta Homuth, Z. A. Hall, J. K. Hall, and H. J. Kindson. The various committees of the Board were re-elected.



#### NAPANEE BOARD OF TRADE.

Napanee business men have felt for some time past the necessity for organizing some body, the duty of which will be to look after the commercial interests of the town. Therefore, they met together on the 10th instant for the

## The Ontario Bank.

### Dividend No. 95.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of THREE PER CENT. for the current half-year, being at the rate of Six per cent. per annum, upon the Paid-up Capital Stock of this Institution, has been declared, and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches, on and after

Thursday, the 1st Day of June next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st May, both days inclusive.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the Bank, in Toronto, on Tuesday, the 20th day of June next. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock noon. By order of the Board,

C. MCGILL, General Manager.

Toronto, April 20th, 1905