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#### Mercantile Summary.

THE Australian Government is said to be arranging the details of a railway, which it is planned to construct across that continent, over 1,000 miles in length. Here may be a chance for Canadian steel manufacturers and others.

Or late, a good deal of improvement has been done on the Halifax, N.S., barracks by the Imperial Government. Now we understand that the military authorities are considering spending a good deal of money in remodeling the South Barracks there, occupied by the Royal Engineers.

SIR WILLIAM MACDONALD is heaping up educational benefits! He has now, it is announced, decided to give a further sum of \$45,500 towards the erection and furnishing of two buildings for manual training and domestic science at Guelph. This makes altogether \$170,000 which Sir William has donated to the Guelph Agricultural College.

According to a report of Mr. W. E. H. Carter to the Ontario Bureau of Mines, the Belmont gold mine in Hasting's County is showing an improved quality of ore on the lower levels. The company proposes doubling its present output, and putting in thirty more stamps, thus utilizing the whole of the 1,300 horse-power at their disposal.

Toronto citizens were agreeably surprised this week to be notified of a reduction in the net price of gas from 90c. The reduction applies to the to 8oc. Island also, the residents of which will receive gas for 8oc. per 1,000 ft., as compared with \$1.10 formerly. The present price is said to be the lowest in the Dominion, and, with the exception of three or four places in the coal districts, the lowest on this continent.

On the 19th inst. two fires of some magnitude took place. One, in Montreal, did damage to the extent of \$50,-000 to Peck, Penny & Co.'s cut-nail and horse-shoe factory. The rolling mill, on the western side of the factory, was saved from destruction by a heavy fire wall. The property was insured among various companies, probably to the full amount of the loss. The other fire was at P. J. Cote's dry goods store in Quebec. Loss, \$15,000; insured.

THE E. W. Gillett Company, Limited, manufacturers of yeast and baking powder, held their second annual meeting last week, Mr. William Dobie, the general manager and treasurer, acting as chairman in the absence, through illness, of Mr. Gillett, the president. The financial statement proved entirely satisfactory. Two dividends, amounting in all to \$12,000, were declared for the eight months between May 1st and December 31st, besides a large amount being expended in machinery and additions to plant. The following officers were elected for 1903: Mr. E. W. Gillett, president; Mr. Wm. Dobie, general manager and treasurer; Mr. George Hepburn, secre-

## The Toronto General Trusts Corporation,

59 Yonge Street.

#### Trust Investments

Investments made on behalf of Trust Estates are registered in the Corporation's books in the names of the Estates to which they belong and are kept separate and apart from the assets of the Corporation.

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J. W. LANGMUIR, Managing Director.

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