

has had practically nothing to do with the price of pig-iron for a long time past.

Lower Than Import Prices.

We have been selling pig-iron at \$2 to \$3 per ton lower than the price at which it could be imported. Hence, the competition takes place only among Canadian furnaces, and as all these are affected in equal proportion by Government bounties they will naturally adjust their prices as already explained by me."

Hence, it would seem that the fear that the cessation of the Government bounties would have the effect of a serious reduction in the profits of the companies, has not only been considerably exaggerated, but may have been groundless.

WINNIPEG INDUSTRIAL BUREAU.

At the monthly meeting of the Winnipeg Development and Industrial Bureau held last week, a record number of enquiries regarding Winnipeg were reported for six weeks since the previous meeting. Since that time 335 enquiries were received through advertisements in newspapers; 843 enquiries by mail from a circular campaign; 8,140 enquiry cards were handed in at the Toronto exhibit and 142 requests for information were received through the board of trade, city hall, and other sources, making a total of 9,460 actual applications received since last meeting. Classified, these enquiries were: 94 on manufacturing; 191 on investments; 167 on business opportunities; 9,000 on general information and literature.

It was shown that the bureau had been in touch with the operations of the big industrial merger in Toronto for the manufacture of counter-check books, etc., in which it is proposed to issue \$1,500,000 of capital stock to erect a factory in Winnipeg.

Among the prominent manufacturers who visited the bureau's office in the past month were the directors of a \$30,000,000 corporation who have been investigating for some months the possibilities of Winnipeg for a location. This industry will employ many hundred hands.

The management of the Canadian factory of one of the largest stove manufacturers in the United States, now located in Ontario, has practically decided on moving this plant to Winnipeg for the reason that their trade, which is chiefly confined to the West, is rapidly growing, forty car loads of their product having been sold this year in the three prairie provinces.

A visit was made to Winnipeg last month of a leading manufacturer of Illinois whose product is known the world over, and this visit is likely to result in the establishment of an important new industry here, and by advice received yesterday by Secretary Roland, the matter is to be decided on at a meeting of their directors this month. This also will be a big concern, as their present plant in Illinois is now employing over 800 men.

COMMERCIAL NOTES.

The total trade of Canada for the first half of the current fiscal year has been \$304,390,088, an increase of \$43,221,436, or about seventeen per cent., as compared with the corresponding six months of 1908. Imports, exclusive of coin and bullion, have totalled \$172,373,148, an increase of \$35,727,931 or over twenty per cent. The increase in customs revenue has been \$5,827,658.

Mr. John Hendry, the recently elected president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, has returned to Vancouver after a trip through eastern Canada. While in New Brunswick he inspected the port of St. John. After seeing the great need of facilities for the large transportation companies, he is of the opinion that the harbor of Vancouver should be set aside for the use of the railway. Special encouragement should be given to Canadian lines.

It is now definitely stated that the first section of the Montreal and Southern Counties Railway electric will be open for traffic on the first of next month. This railway will first carry passengers between Youville Square, in the city, and the town of St. Lambert, via Victoria Jubilee Bridge. The distance between these two points will be about 3½ miles, or about half the distance now covered by the steam railway between Bonaventure station and St. Lambert. The service will be extended, as soon as possible, to other municipalities on the south side of the river. The cars for the service are of a special type, being 49 feet 4 inches long, with capacity for 65 passengers, and are being built by the Ottawa Car Co.

A trust mortgage from the Salisbury and Albert. Railway Company to the Eastern Trust Company, dated September 2nd, 1909, to secure an issue of bonds for \$250,000, has been deposited in the office of the Secretary of State of Canada.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

First Complete Annual Report Regarding Operation of Act in England Has Been Published.

Some significant figures are given in the first volume of the new series of workmen's compensation statistics for the year 1908, published by the home office of the British Government. These figures are for the first complete year under the extending Act of 1906. They cover the compensation cases in seven groups of industries—shipping, factories, docks, mines, quarries, constructional work, and railways. The benefit of the Act to workmen is shown by the figures of compensation in these industries, which amounted to £2,080,672 paid to disabled workpeople and dependents of those killed in 1908.

These figures do not cover the whole field, for in the case of industries such as building, agriculture, sea fishing, and domestic service, all of which were made liable to compensation by the new Act, the scattered nature of the industry made it practically impossible to obtain complete returns.

Ten Million Dollars in Compensation

In the seven industries above quoted the returns are as follows:—

Total employed	7,512,753
Fatal accidents	3,447
Disablement cases	325,484
Compensation paid	£2,080,672

These figures divided among the seven groups of industries are as follows:—

	Deaths.	Disablement.	Compensation.
Shipping	371	5,877	£112,852
Factories	951	130,506	802,044
Docks	156	21,254	86,728
Mines	1,301	137,622	841,456
Quarries	88	5,284	34,798
Constructional work	119	6,805	51,928
Railways	458	20,649	150,511

What the increase of compensation has been under the new Act cannot be known, but the following summary of cases which came before the courts proves that it must have been very great:—

Total number of cases dealt with by county courts in England and Wales in 1908.....	5,358
Average annual number of cases in the previous five years	2,255
In 778 fatal cases in 1908 compensation was paid amounting to	£128,340
The annual average for the previous five years was 426 cases, with compensation.....	£ 78,097
Informal arbitrations registered in the courts in 1908 numbered.....	22,125
The annual average for the previous five years was	3,654

These figures only deal with a small proportion of the total number of cases in which compensation was paid last year, the greater number having been settled privately, but they are sufficient to indicate how great has been the increase of liability incurred by employers under the new Act.

Paid to Domestic Servants

How many domestic servants received compensation under the new Act it is impossible to say, but the statistics show that compensation was awarded in the courts in thirty-three fatal cases and 112 disablement cases, while agreements were registered in sixty-one fatal cases and 1019 disablement cases.

Workmen's Compensation in Manitoba.

As a result of an evening's sitting of the Manitoba Workmen's Compensation Commission, it was decided that the workmen's compensation bill which got as far as the law amendments committee at the last session of the legislature, should, with a few minor exceptions, represent the wishes of the workmen of the province in the matter of proposed legislation.

AYLMER BOILER EXPLOSION.

When the steam boiler in the Aylmer, Ontario, power plant exploded the other day, doing considerable damage to property and causing the death of the engineer, the question was immediately asked, "What insurance Co. is involved. The Canadian Casualty Boiler Insurance Co. controlled by the General Accident, Fire & Life Corporation, Limited, of Perth, was interested. Their payments to the city totalled \$6,000. A copy of a letter received by the company, and printed elsewhere in this issue, speaks volumes for promptness in insurance settlements.