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Mercantile Summary.

NORWICH ratepayers have carried a by-law to exempt the Norwich Milling Co. from taxation for twenty years.

THE Ohio Northwestern Development Co. have taken over the Black Prince mine, near Slocan City, on a two-year lease, with payments aggregating \$65,000, distributed over that time. The property consists of six claims.

THE Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company have purchased W. Horne's mill property, at Pottle's Lake, near North Sydney, and may at a future date construct a large reservoir there. The price paid was about \$18,000.

THE hardware and plumbing firm of A. C. Thompson & Co., North Sydney, has been reorganized as a joint stock company, with a capital of \$100,000. It is their intention to largely extend their wholesale business, especially with Cape Breton and Newfoundland.

THE suspension is announced of E. J. Blouin & Freres, manufacturers of soap, vermicelli, etc., at Quebec. Only a year ago they succeeded their father, who had made the business a profitable one, and who appears as a leading creditor. Liabilities are \$6,600.

A UNITED STATES syndicate is negotiating for a site in London, Ont., upon which to erect a large new hotel.

S. H. SMITH's general store and five other buildings, at Acadia Mines, were destroyed by fire on the 4th inst., and the rest of the town only narrowly escaped. The loss is considerable, as there was but little insurance.

MR. E. TIFFIN, the traffic manager of the Intercolonial Railway, announces that a branch line is to be built from Riviere Ouelle Station to Riviere village opposite Murray Bay, and a steamer will ply on the river to connect with trains. This will be a great convenience to holiday Montrealers, who go in such large numbers each year to Murray Bay.

THE St. John Log Driving Company held their annual meeting in Fredericton last week. As a result of last year's operations, over 100,000,000 feet of lumber was driven in, and rafted at Fredericton and Springhill at an expense of \$50,000. The officers elected for the ensuing year are: President, A. H. F. Randolph; secretary-treasurer, J. F. Gregory; directors, F. H. Hale, E. N. Murchie, R. A. Estey, Donald Fraser, jr.

THE sheriff is reported in possession of the premises and stock of J. McK. Beattie, stationer, at Pictou, N.S. Mr. Beattie has been long in business, but has never achieved much success, and we believe failed in the early eighties. Joseph Ethier, tins and stoves, Weymouth, N.S., has assigned. He is quite an old-timer, but was nearly always in a chronic state of embarrassment. He is stated to have failed in 1888, and again a few years later.

Debentures.

Municipal Debentures bought and sold, also Government and Railway Bonds. Securities suitable for investment by Trustees and Insurance Companies and for Deposit with the Government, always on hand.

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