

A test of the town of Glace Bay's recently installed water-works system was made not long since, in the presence of Mr. Fahie, Secretary of the Maritime Board of Fire Underwriters. Mr. Fahie expressed himself as well pleased with the efficiency of the service.

Since its formation at the opening of the coal mine in the seventies, the town of Springhill has suffered through lack of a proper water supply. Owing to its altitude, the installation of a water supply can only be accomplished at an expense hitherto considered beyond the resources of the mining town. As a consequence, insurance rates ruled high, and during the summer months as a consequence of insufficient water, there has also been a high rate of mortality, especially among children. At last the citizens have decided to introduce a complete system of water-works. The source of supply is between seven and eight miles distant from the town, on the South Branch of the Maccan River, and the estimated cost is in the vicinity of \$100,000.

It is stated that life assurance policies to the amount of more than ten thousand millions of dollars are to-day carried in the United States. An authority on life insurance matters has been gathering some striking statistics on the subject of insurance policies and payments. In 9,333 cities and towns in the United States during the year 1902, the total distribution to policy-holders and their beneficiaries exceeded \$320,000,000. In the distribution of this sum among the larger cities, New York holds first place, \$22,945,475 of the total sum having been distributed here in 1902. Philadelphia follows the Metropolis with a record of receipts aggregating \$8,926,089. Chicago holds third place with a record of \$6,922,457. In each case these figures show an advance over those of the preceding year.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The D. Wade Co., Limited, have erected a pork-packing factory at Leduc, N.W.T., which is reported to have a splendid plant and good prospects of success. The president of the company is Mr. T. R. Glanville, and the manager, D. Wade.

A railroad official estimates next season's California orange and lemon crop at 35,000 carloads, which would be considerably the largest on record. This is rather a premature guess, however; so many things may happen. So far this season the product shipped out has amounted to 20,217 carloads, with about 2,000 more to go out.

Old currants, raisins and prunes, or samples which have lost freshness or grown dusty by exposure in the show-window, can be made to look quite new by being shaken up in a coarse meshed sieve, after which they should be sprinkled with a solution of one-third molasses and two-thirds water, and again shaken together until they look as good as new.—Exchange.

From a London letter, written at the end of June, we learn that the Imperial Cold Storage Company had an opening at Nottingham of the first store it had built, and another store was to be opened in a few days at Chesterfield. The letter adds: "We are now already receiving goods at our Poplar warehouses in London, and I hope to be able to give you some further news from time to time, which might be of interest to your numerous readers."

The result of the labors of the Dominion Government analysts, in testing various canned meats, has, on the whole, been satisfactory. Altogether, there were analyzed ninety-nine samples, and of this number two samples were found to be quite spoiled, three others slightly so, and the remaining ninety-four were in good condition. One of the slightly-spoiled samples contained boric acid, but with this exception all samples containing preservatives were found to be in good condition. The only preservative discovered was boric acid, and in no case did the quantity of the same acid exceed the limit fixed by the British Parliamentary commission, viz., .05 per cent., and in most cases it fell markedly below that amount.

Considerable improvement is apparent in the movement of sugars, the recent all-round advance having evidently stimulated the demand.

The combined sections of the Retail Merchants' Association, of Toronto, held a monster picnic in the Exhibition grounds on Wednesday last, at which over 6,000 people were present. It was a great affair.

For a few days early this month there was a strike among the salmon fishermen along the Fraser river in British Columbia. The canners' terms have now been accepted, however, and everything promises to go on smoothly during the season.

The shipments of cheese from Montreal last week were large; they amounted to 136,894 boxes, which quantity is in excess of the corresponding period last year by 50,350 boxes. These shipments went to London, Bristol, Liverpool, Glasgow and Leith.

The gross profits of the Lipton Tea Company, London, for the year ending June 30th, 1902, were £226,915, with expenses of management at £45,559. The directors have recommended a final dividend for the year on ordinary shares at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. The sum of £10,000 was placed to reserve, and £4,814 carried forward. For depreciation, the sum of £19,630 was written off.

A recent report from London stated that the market in the United Kingdom for Canadian butter could not be called brisk, but there was a steady demand and a fair amount of business passing. Prices are slightly easier, and "choicest" brands of salt might then be bought at 94s. on spot, while saltless of fine quality brought 96s., and in extra fine samples even 97s. per cwt. Imports for the two weeks ended July 3rd showed increasing quantities, although far below the corresponding period of last year. The arrivals of Canadian cheese, although much in excess of last year, were not sufficient to cause an accumulation and consequent falling prices, nevertheless values showed no signs of advancing, and it seemed very probable that c.i.f. quotations for "choicest" quality might soon be in the "forties." Spot prices might be quoted as 52s. to 53s.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

Of the cotton mills in Fall River, Mass., which possess a total of about 2,800,000 spindles, about one-eighth of this number have closed down.

The Alaska Feather and Down Co. give notice of advances of from 7½ to 10 per cent. in the price of cushions, pillows, cosies, etc.

Nothing new has developed in raw silk conditions. These point to a fairly strong market in Lyons, Milan and other European centres.

The recently-developed weakness in raw cotton continues, and the New York market continues very easy, in sympathy with bearish crop reports. Prices for near delivery have declined several points.

Mr. B. N. Fraser has bought the premises of the Manitoba Felt and Yarn Works, at Brandon, and will convert them into a woolen mill, under the name of the Brandon Woolen Mills Company.

A company in which Messrs. R. Millichamp and Dr. B. Nesbitt, of Toronto, and C. Kloefer, of Guelph, are interested, has been formed for the purpose of erecting a linen factory in Bracebridge, the surrounding country being considered a good flax-growing region.

The offerings at the London wool auction sales on the 14th inst., numbered 13,116 bales. Competition was spirited and prices were firmer. Crossbreds were bought freely by the home trade. Half-bred combings and scoureds were in strong request for France. Scoureds were in active demand for Germany. Broken wools sold at the highest prices of the series. Cape of Good Hope and Natal grades were in better demand. Several lots of medium slips and half-bred lambs were taken by American buyers.