

The Exhibition By-Law.

The by-law to raise \$30,000 by debentures in aid of an annual exhibition at Winnipeg, was voted upon last Wednesday. The vote polled was a very small one, only 638 votes having been given for the by-law and 38 against it. This shows great apathy on the part of the citizens, and if the by-law is defeated, it will be through sheer carelessness. A very large majority of the electors were certainly in favor of the grant, but they did not take sufficient interest in the matter to go to the trouble of recording their votes. It is not yet known whether the by-law has received the number of votes sufficient to make it legally carried. The clerk is at present engaged in making up the voters' list to ascertain the situation. If the by-law is defeated it will be due to the disgraceful carelessness of the electors. If this is all the interest the citizens of Winnipeg take in the welfare of their city, the outlook for the future is not promising.

Five Months' Imports.

The statement of imports into Canada of metals and hardware for the five months ended May last, as compared with the same period of last year, is given below. The total imports were valued at £418,737, as against £465,133 last year, a decrease of £46,396. In hardware and cutlery there is a decrease of £4,129. The imports of iron, etc., show decreases of £21,436 in pig, £17,800 in railroad, £2,083 in bar, £4,361 in cast and wrought iron, and £1,411 in unwrought tin. There are increases of £4,507 in tin plates, £3,189 in steel, £2,139 in lead and £815 in hooks, sheets, etc.; with regard to machinery steam engines are responsible for a reduction of £1,615, but other descriptions were imported to a larger amount by £5,801. We reported last month copper ore to the value of £2,000, but none was exported previously to May this year, and up to the end of May in 1889 we sent out no copper at all.

Five months ended May	1889.	1890.
Iron, etc.—		
Pig iron	£ 23,363	£ 6,032
Bar, etc.	20,705	18,024
Railroad	105,196	87,396
Hoops, Sheets, etc.	45,036	45,841
Tin Plates	73,785	63,278
Cast, Wrought, etc., Iron	43,703	39,348
Steel	39,072	42,861
Lead	17,746	19,885
Tin, Unwrought	12,092	10,631
Machinery—		
Steam Engines	5,120	3,505
Other Descriptions	20,902	32,703
Hardware and Cutlery	46,752	42,623

—Toronto Hardware.

The Fur Trade.

Business is progressing quietly and favorably, and considerable orders have been secured; fashionable articles are firm in price, and in fairly active demand. Prices generally are satisfactory, and are certainly lower than they will be when the season fully opens. It is a favorable feature that jobbers hold no stock carried forward from last season, as they will in consequence purchase early.

Seal continues to hold the leading place; As-trakhan, wool seal, beaver, skunk, and fine Persian lamb are in good request, and will do well; other furs, with few exceptions, are quiet. —*New-York Fur Trade Review.*

A New Electric Coal Cutter.

The Thomson-Houston Motor Company, of Boston, has put in operation an electric coal-cutting machine which has attracted a good deal of attention from mining men throughout the country. The machine is in practical operation near Osceola, Pennsylvania. The plant consists of a seven-horse power steam engine belted direct to a seven-horse power generator. The electric current is conveyed through the mine to the coal-cutter, by a wire suspended along the roofs of the chambers. The cutter in this case is nearly a mile from the generating plant. A five-horse power motor operates it, and is compactly placed on the same bed-plate with the machine. The cutter itself consists of an iron frame twenty-four inches high; eight feet six inches long, and thirty-six inches wide. Nine augur-shaped drills, similar to those now used in mining drills, are placed in the lower part of the frame. Between each drill is a steel-cutter bar which cuts all coal left between the holes drilled by the augur bits. On the under side of each cutter-bar are attached several scrapers which hang loosely, and pull all the coal back as fast as it is cut or drilled, keeping it out of the way and making the opening clear. All coal taken out of this cut is coarse and none is wasted.

The height of the cut is four inches. The machine makes two cuts in five minutes, and it is easily handled and needs only to be pushed along the breast by lever bars. The switches and the controlling devices are so placed that one man easily operates the cutter. The machine is provided with twin wire cable which is long enough to extend along any ordinary chamber and does away with the need of permanent wirings except in the headings. A suitable truck is provided for the cutter upon which it may be carried around the mine with ease. An ingenious device is to be provided on future machines, by means of which the motor will pull itself and the cutter off and on the track as required. The weight of the complete machine is a little over one-half a ton. One strong point in favor of this machine is the readiness with which it accommodates itself to varying hardness of the strata. The motors are wound for but 220 volts pressure, so that all danger from high potential currents is done away with. The capacity of the machine is 180 tons of coal per day, of ten hours, in a four foot vein. Several improvements on the first machine will be embodied in the regular apparatus which is now being manufactured at the Thomson-Houston Motor Company factories in Lynn, Mass. —*Black Diamond.*

General Notes.

The Dairy Bulletin for July from the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has been issued. This number is a special one for cheese makers. Dairy men can obtain a copy free, printed in either English or French, by addressing the Dairy Commissioner, Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The Canadian Pacific earnings for May, 1890, were: Gross earning, \$1,319,423; working expenses, \$854,721; net profits were \$380,599, and for the five months ending May, 1890, the figures are as follows: Gross earnings, \$5,555,316; working expenses, \$3,968,291; net profits, \$587,025; for five months ending May, 31st, 1889, the net profits were \$1,419,960.

Application has been made for the incorporation by letters patent of the Eagle Sulky Harrow Company, (limited). The capital stock is fixed at \$100,000, and Brantford is to be the chief place of business.

An English syndicate is negotiating with the shirt and collar manufacturers of Canada with a view to establishing a trust to take over that industry. The syndicate is anxious to secure the control of three large factories in Montreal, two in Toronto and one in Berlin, Ont.

Action is being taken by the Dominion Government to obtain from the city of Toronto a rebate of 50 per cent. on water rates, which was to be allowed if paid within a certain time. Toronto contends that the Dominion Government is not entitled to the rebate as it pays no taxes on its public buildings.

The fire loss in the United States and Canada for May as compiled by the *New York Commercial Bulletin* was \$8,838,100 showing that the gratifying reduction in the waste of the National resources over the two preceeding years continues. The loss in May, 1889, was \$9,915,300 and in 1888, \$9,188,500.

At a meeting of the Provincial Natural Gas and Fuel Company, of Ontario, held in Toronto recently, it was reported by the general manager that the total production of the company's wells was 12,000,000 cubic feet per day more than what was required to supply St. Catharines, Thorold, Merrilton, Welland and adjacent places. It was decided to run a pipe to Buffalo to dispose of the surplus gas.

... TO THE ...

Lumber * Trade.

As Red Cedar is the proper name for the timber of this province that has been commonly called cedar, without the qualifying word RED, I will hereafter designate my shingles and lumber manufactured from this timber as

Red Cedar Shingles --

—AND—

-- Red Cedar Lumber.

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3 000,000 .: RED CEDAR SHINGLES
100,000 Ft. RED CEDAR LUMBER

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G. F. Slater,
VANCOUVER, B.C.