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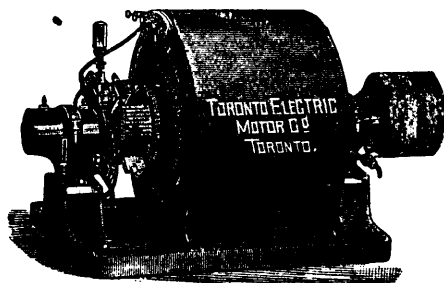
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ST. CATHARINES, Ont.

Mercantile Summary.

IN Winnipeg, B. J. McCullough, tailor, has assigned. Last December he succeeded the firm of Munroe & McCullough, when his creditors granted him an extension of time.

THE Eastern Exhibition is to be held at the charming town of Truro, Nova Scotia, in September next. From the 21st to the 25th inclusive are the days, and the amount of the prize list exceeds six thousand dollars.

WORD comes from British Columbia of extensive forest fires around Kaslo and Alberni, and also on Vancouver Island. Telegrams of yesterday say that the woods around Rossland are burning, and the town is in great danger.

THE city of Fredericton, N.B., last week opened tenders for \$13,500 city debentures. Of these debentures \$4,000 run for eleven years, and the balance of \$9,500 for thirty years. They bear interest at 4 per cent., which is payable half yearly at the city treasurer's office. H. H. Pitts was the purchaser at \$13,960. There were three other tenders.

AN old time trader of Portage du Fort, named John Coyne, is reported in business difficulties, and proposing a compromise at 40 cents, on liabilities of \$3,740; he also owes \$7,000 on mortgage; Mr. Coyne has been in business some 20 or 25 years, but with only a small measure of success. He made an arrangement with creditors some ten years ago, and again in 1891.—A small hotel man at Point Fortune, Que., J. Ladouceur, who has suffered some recent loss by fire, asks a settlement at 25 cents in the dollar.

COMPLAINT of undue preference is made by some of the creditors of Finch & Co., general storekeepers at Aylmer, who had a meeting here a few days ago. It appears that some of them have been paid in full. Mr. George Kerr is now investigating the matter and is to report to-day. The liabilities are about \$8,000.—Charles D. Girard, formerly a painter, bought the liquor stock of Jas. Mailloux of Sarnia, in January last, but unfortunately for himself he became one of his largest and most unprofitable customers. Now he assigns.

A. E. CATTLE, formerly of the firm of Cross & Cattle, tailors, at Simcoe, has been alone in business about three years without making any money. He has just assigned.—After being in the shoe business in Sarnia for nearly twenty years, Kenneth McInnes also assigns.—The bailiff is in possession of the premises of the Imperial Mineral Water Co., Ltd., Hamilton, for rent and taxes. Last April the company assigned to one of its largest shareholders, as we then noted. Since that date it has not paid its running expenses, and no doubt will now be wound up.—Two weeks ago we noted the assignment of N. Courtermanche, general storekeeper at Penetanguishene. Since then he has arranged an extension of time. His statement shows liabilities of \$7,000 with assets of \$13,000. Of the latter \$8,000 is composed of equities in real estate.

A NEW WESTMINSTER journal says that the C.P.R. people are considering a scheme for the shipping of frozen salmon to England on a large scale, and are now corresponding with a prominent English house on the subject. The exporters of New Westminster have built up a large trade in the product, but have hitherto sent it to the Old Country by way of Australia. It was placed in the cold storage chambers of the Canadian-Australian steamships, carried through the tropics to Sydney, and thence to London by the Cape of Good Hope. The producers claim that the freight on this long journey is cheaper than by the C.P.R. to Montreal

and Halifax, and by sea to England. The English houses engaged in the trade are now endeavoring to persuade the C.P.R. to give as low rates as those secured by the longer route.

IN 1890 George R. Jackson bought the tailoring and men's furnishing stock of J. C. Leask, Victoria, B.C., amounting to \$9,000, at 33 per cent. discount, paying \$1,000 cash, and the balance at the rate of \$250 per month. Evidently he was anxious to extend his trade too rapidly, and will be obliged to consult his creditors. His stock is now estimated at \$25,000. In the meantime he has suspended payment.

SAMUEL BROOKE, dealer in dry goods, of Thorold, left the town ostensibly on a business trip to Toronto and Montreal more than two weeks ago, and has not been heard from since by his creditors, to whom he owes over \$5,000. The town is full of all kinds of rumours as to the cause of his disappearance. Some say business difficulties was the reason. Others say this would not cause Mr. Brooke to leave his home, as he is a shrewd, capable business man, and knows how to cope with the difficulties business men expect to meet. In the meantime his principal creditor has taken possession and is now preparing a statement of assets, etc. It is feared that the estate will not be a good one, owing to heavy expenses and delay in disposing of it without the assistance of Brooke.

BOTH ingenuity and taste have been shown in the arrangement of the C.P.R. telegraph new offices in Toronto. They are the same suite of rooms in the Board of Trade building formerly occupied by the company's freight department. The entrance is on the corner of Front and Yonge, ground floor, the city manager's room on the left of the space allotted to the public, and the quarters of the clerical staff on the right. At the north end is the delivery department, which has exits to both Yonge and Front streets; and the placing of the receiving clerks between the public in front and the pneumatic tubes and messengers in the rear gives facility for rapid handling of business. Ash woodwork, glass partitions and bright coloring generally lend a cheerful aspect to the place. The office of Mr. Pingle, superintendent of the Ontario division, which used to be upstairs, is now on the ground floor, looking upon Front street.

SPORTING TENDENCIES.

"Did you hear about Villikins?" "No, what about him?" "Going to lose his situation along of speculating in the bucket-shops, and his mother will have to go to the Home for Incurables." The other party to the conversation replied that Villikins was in no worse luck than Merrylegs, who was cleaned out in the late slump of Postal and Cable stock, and if he did not lose his job, he would have to sell his bicycle and board, while his wife went back to her folks in Hamilton. What we have heard from Montreal of a like sort we can hardly reproduce, not alone because it is almost heart-rending in the privations it implies, but because it was given to our correspondent in confidence. Here are three instances, out of three hundred, perhaps three thousand, of men who were led away to speculate in stocks on margin. The market went the wrong way and their money was gone. Not only so, but their brokers called upon them for more margin. The agony of these young men at the prospect before them can only be imagined. If a youngster wants to go yachting, or canoeing, or bicycling, let him go, provided he does his work. But it is a poor sort of "sporting," to go betting on races or taking "flyers" in bucket