

names stand high in the American business world—should have weight as showing the soundness of the position of those in Canada who have urged the Government to adopt an export duty.

ASSOCIATION OF CREDIT MEN.

The vice-president of the Fourth National Bank, of New York, Mr. James G. Cannon, has been in Kansas City, where he attended the convention of the National Association of Credit Men, of which he was elected president for the coming year. In referring to the gathering at Kansas City, Mr. Cannon said:

"We had a very satisfactory convention. The National Association of Credit Men [which means men who supervise the giving of credit] now has a membership of nearly two thousand representatives of the best mercantile houses in the country, nearly three hundred of whom were at the convention as delegates, each local association being entitled to a certain number of delegates according to their membership. Twenty-three States were represented in the convention, the delegates coming from as far west as Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles, Cal., as well as from St. Paul, Minnesota; Boston, Massachusetts, and New Orleans, La. Representatives were present from every large jobbing centre in the United States.

"A careful canvass of the delegates present indicated that the consensus of opinion was that the general business situation throughout the country was steadily improving. The price of merchandise is on a firmer basis, and merchants express the opinion that they will not be obliged to conduct their business on a falling market, as was the case last year. Crop prospects throughout the West are very encouraging, and cool weather, followed by abundant rains, together with warm growing weather, has brought everything rapidly forward.

"The members of the association were all hopeful of an early settlement of the tariff question, and were very much pleased with the remarks of Secretary Gage as to the policy of the Administration regarding financial questions. They were heartily in favor of the appointment of a currency commission, and a resolution to that effect offered by the Minnesota delegation, was unanimously adopted.

"Besides this a great many questions of interest to the mercantile community were discussed, among which were uniform statements. A resolution was adopted authorizing the preparation of such statement blanks for the use of the members of the association throughout the United States. Many other topics of like nature were considered.

"The association has a paid secretary, who devotes his entire time and attention to its affairs, and these matters will be brought before the membership at an early date. The merchants at Kansas City were exceedingly hospitable, and their entertainment was all that could be desired. Kansas City is rapidly recovering from its past depression, and there seems to be a marked improvement in business in that locality. I was agreeably surprised to find there was much less talk on the silver question throughout the West, and I come back feeling very much encouraged as to the business outlook.

—A herculean Scots Grey passed along Princess street, Edinburgh, one day, stopped at the post office, and called on a shoe black to shine his boots. The feet of the dragoon were in proportion to his height, and, looking at the tremendous boots before him, the arab knelt down on the pavement and called out to a chum near by: "Jamie, come owre and gie's a hand; I've got an army contract!"—*Answers.*

—The tobacconist was sitting on the front porch enjoying a quiet smoke when the census-taker came along. He obligingly gave the names of the members of his family and ended the list by adding the name "Bridget Mahone." "Is she a domestic?" enquired the census man. "No," said the cigar dealer, absent-mindedly, "she's imported."—*Chicago Times-Herald.*

—Butcher—"I need a boy about your size, and will give you 12 shillings a week." Boy—"Will I have a chance to rise?" Butcher—"Yes; I want you to be here at 4 o'clock in the morning."—*Tit Bits.*

—The by-law to grant \$25,000 to the elevator company was carried by a majority of 781 at Kingston.

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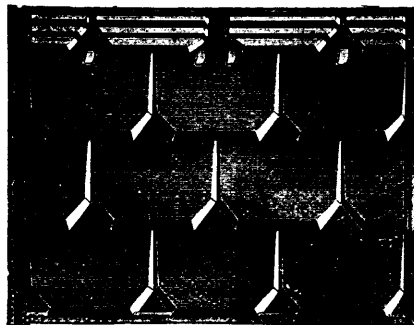
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