

ACCORDING to a statement, prepared by the comptroller of Montreal, the city's debt on December 31st, last, stood at \$26,527,453. Since that date, however, outstanding bonds have been redeemed to the amount of \$659,960, leaving the funded debt at present \$25,867,493. This and other reductions, which have been made during the last year or two, are looked upon as showing a comparatively satisfactory condition of affairs in Montreal.

#### GOOD ORE IN CENTRE STAR. O

A well-authenticated report has it that a most important strike has been made in the Centre Star mine. The statement is that in the east drift on the 600-foot level the face broke into a fine body of ore, large in size and of unusually high grade. Further, that the same ore body has been encountered in the shaft, and that it promises to come in there also. The Miner has no authority from the management to give the report publicity, but reproduces what is talked of on the streets.

The foregoing, provided it is accurate, means much for the Centre Star. As indicating that the lower levels of the mine possess high grade ore bodies, the importance of the strike can hardly be overestimated, and Rosslanders will appreciate its significance fully. The statement has been made that after passing through the ore bodies of better grade in the upper levels the workings passed through for some distance a zone of ore wherein the values were low. It was believed that by continuing the workings to a deeper level further bodies of high grade ore would be encountered, and, apparently, this belief has been justified.

With high grade ore bodies in its lower levels, the Centre Star mine will be in a most desirable condition. — Rossland Miner.

—“You cannot stay this movement toward labor consolidation and centralization. It is a natural evolution. The commercial spirit is taking advantage of the wonderful facilities given by steam and electricity. Injunction against strikers will not stop it; legislation against trusts will not. Attempting to stay the movement of the chariot wheels by injunction or statute is lunacy, compared with which Dame Partington's effort to stop the Atlantic with a mop was supreme wisdom.”—U.S. Justice Brewer.

—New competition is now growing with sufficient rapidity to be a factor in the industrial shares, says Henry Clews' New York circular. New plants and enlargements are being constantly started and others projected. At present the demand for commodities seems sufficiently active to keep all establishments fully employed; but price concessions are being made, and coming reports are likely to make less favorable balance sheets than last year. The statement of the United States Steel Corporation, though a good one, was not so satisfactory as expected.

#### Commercial.

##### MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 22nd Jan., 1902.

Ashes.—The market is dull and without change. Offerings are very light. Quotations remain at \$4.45 to \$4.50 for first quality of pots; seconds, \$4 to \$4.05; pearls, nominally, \$6.50 to \$7.

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“ accepted and policies issued . . . . .	4,071,669
“ WRITTEN IN CANADA . . . . .	4,035,169

Total business in force, Dec. 31, 1901 . . . . .	\$31,725,479
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ROBERT MELVIN,  
PRESIDENT.

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