ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIERS.

T. R., City.—If you look up the figures of former years you will conclude that the figures of New Zealand's exports, as given in Mr. de Schryver's letter, in our last issue, about $75,000,000, are not exaggerated. The exports of 1900 from that colony were $66,280,000, and the imports $53,230,000. In 1901, according to the Almanach de Gotha, the exports were £12,888,000 sterling, and the imports £11,817,000. The total trade of the colony was thus £24,705,000 sterling, equal to $123,525,000. These are remarkable figures for a community of 823,400 souls—for that was the population according to the census of 1901. Of the trade in that year, £16,763,000 worth went to Great Britain, and £1,521,000 to the United States. The principal items of export are, wool, £4,749,000; meats, £2,228,000; gold, £1,440,000; cereals, £1,049,000; butter, £741,000; kauri gum, £622,000; hides and skins, £406,000; tallow, flax, woods and cheese.

F. J. C., Windsor.—We can find nothing later than 1900, in which year, according to vol. 1, Commercial Relations of the United States, the value of exports from San Domingo was $6,005,864, and the imports were between three and four millions. The main items in the export list are sugar, tobacco, cocoa, coffee, beeswax, bananas, mahogany, cedar, and espanilla wood.

DAUPHIN BOARD OF TRADE.

A well attended public meeting was held at Dauphin, Man., on April 29th, for the purpose of organizing a Board of Trade. Officers were elected as follows: President, J. G. Harvey; vice-president, Samuel Code; secretary-treasurer, H. P. Nicholson; auditors, W. Blackadar and G. L. Irwin; council, Messrs. Hedderly, J. A. Campbell, Sutherland, Lilly, Munro, J. Shaw, C. F. Turner, Cameron; arbitrators, Robert Argue, T. Shaw, Wallace, Leach, Irwin, Nix, Dr. Gunne, Hoy, Macneill, Brown, McPherson, T. T. Malcolm.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Said the Householder—There's something wrong with this bill. It's too big! Answered the Grocer's Clerk—That's why the boss sent me to collect it.—Brooklyn Life.

Last report to hand from London stated that new Canadian butter would have been on that market sooner, but that the Montreal strike had delayed shipments. They looked for arrivals very shortly, however. Last year at this time it was sold at 96s. to 102s. per cwt. Canadian cheese at last reports was being bought only to fill immediate requirements, in the expectation of prices coming down any day. For new season's choicest, prices, both for white and colored, ranged from 61s. to 62s. per hundredweight.

At the instigation of Prof. Ruddick, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, an important meeting was held in Montreal on the 2nd inst., of members of the Montreal Produce Association, and several cheese and butter makers and buyers of the province of Quebec. Its aim was to bring about a better undertanding of the conditions required for the production of dairy products which may be classed as "finest." The dairy industry is one which is making great strides in Denmark and Russia, and if Canada is to improve or even hold her position in British markets, a general improvement is necessary in methods of manufacture and of inspection before marketing.

FOR DRY GOODS DEALERS.

The Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Co. held their annual meeting in Montreal last week. The annual statement, speaking of 4 per cent. dividend, and a surplus of $4,000, which had been carried over to next year was deemed very satisfactory. The old board of directors was re-elected, as follows: D. Morrice, Sr.; D. Morrice, Jr.; E. S. Clouston, and Hon. Geo. A. Drummond, Montreal; C. D. Owens Providence, R.I.; and T. King, Boston. At a subsequent meeting of the new board, Mr. D. Morrice, Sr., was re-elected president, and Mr. C. D. Owens, vice-president.

The Montreal Cotton Waste Company's factory was on the 28th ult. gutted by fire. Loss, $40,000, covered partially by insurance. We hear that this is the seventeenth time that this property has been damaged by fire.

Messrs. Henry Morgan & Co., the owners of the palatial general dry goods store in Montreal, are about to extend and improve their premises very materially. Their present building will be given a new facade on St. Catherine street, and be carried two stories higher.

As a result of an investigation of the acreage planted in cotton this season, the New York Journal of Commerce says the total acreage under cultivation is increased by about 1 per cent., while an apparent decrease of 16.9 points is noted in condition. The 1 per cent. increase in acreage means an increase of 224,422 acres, while the crop's average condition is 75, comparing with 91.9 reported last year. The season is two or three weeks late also.

—We are advised that the Bank of British North America has opened a sub-branch at Longueuil, Que., under the temporary management of Mr. G. Wyllie Murray.

—The Port Arthur Board of Trade held its annual meeting on May 28th, and elected officers, as follows: President, T. L. Matthews; vice-president, W. H. Nelson; secretary, H. A. McKibbin.

—At the beginning of the week there was a general reaction on the local exchange, from the heavy drop in values of Thursday and Friday last, and though prices kept weak, a more hopeful feeling prevailed, and the volume of trading accomplished was fairly large. Yesterday, however, there was another small-sized slump in New York, in sympathy with which C. P. R. went down to 124¼, Dominion Steel held comparatively steady.

—It has repeatedly been remarked in these columns that mechanics and laborers going on strike for weeks or months imposed a grievous burden on grocers, bakers, butchers, milkmen, and the like, who were expected to keep the families supplied vith the necessaries of life, while the strikers loafed round street-corners. We now find the part which the retail merchant plays in the prolongation of strikes strikingly demonstrated by an occurrence of the week in Evansville, Ind. The Economist thus describes it: Since April 1st, eleven furniture factories in that city had been closed down for lack of operatives. The strikers, not content with suspending work, declared a boycott. And, with that lack of logic which often characterizes the actions of "Labor," this boycott was extended to the very storekeepers who were then aiding the strikers by letting them have goods on credit. The merchants naturally thought this an unfair, as well as foolish course, and after several meetings had been held, an agreement was reached not to sell on credit to any of the strikers. When the men or their wives applied for goods on credit, they were told by each merchant that he could not afford to carry people who were trying to ruin his business. As a result, the strikers soon found themselves on short rations, and within a week several hundred of them applied for work.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures for Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, June 4, 1903, compared with those of the previous week.

Cities	June 4, 1903	May 28, 1903
Montreal	$27,231,250	$23,575,298
Toronto	18,660,171	15 059.058
Winnipeg	5,081,389	4,112 778
Halifax	2,073,843	1,599,717
Hamilton	1,163,221	794,369
St. John	925,499	773,894
Vancouver	.. ..	1,075,761
Victoria	578,274	316,218
Quebec	2,003,671	1,562,583
Ottawa	2,277,538	1,567,375
London	859,895	630,520
	$..........	$52,708,000