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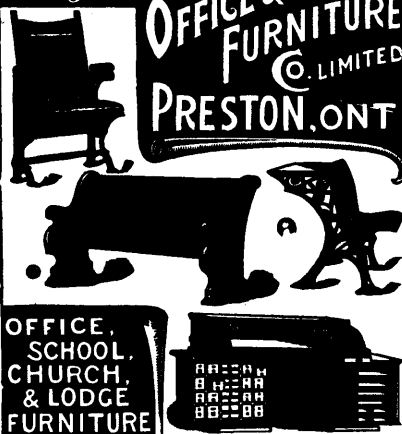
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Mercantile Summary.

THE Guelph city council has fixed the rate of taxation for the year at $21\frac{3}{4}$ mills on the dollar.

THE steamship, "Tiverton," from the Mediterranean, with fruit, went aground last week opposite Contrecoeur, Que. She sustained no damage.

EFFORTS are being made to induce the Manitoba Government to build a railroad through the municipalities of Daly and Woodworth, rather than allow the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to carry out their offer to construct one.

Two tanks of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company and their contents, about three hundred thousand gallons of coal tar, were on the 28th ult. destroyed by fire, which is supposed to have started from a locomotive spark.

CANADIAN mail for the Yukon and Atlin districts will henceforth be shipped north from Vancouver. For some months past this mail has been despatched from that city to Seattle, and there placed aboard northern vessels, which involved a certain amount of delay. It is now possible, also, to post mail matter aboard the boats.

A SATISFACTORY sale of London city debentures, amounting to \$115,300, has just been made. The Merchants' Bank bought \$30,000, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. debentures, at 3.75 per cent., and a lot of \$17,300, 4 per cents. at 3.79. The City and District Savings Bank of Montreal bought \$68,000 of consolidated debentures issued at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., at 3.85.

COLIN BLYTH, a sawmiller, at Orchardville, has assigned. Four years ago he was estimated worth \$18,000, but it was mostly in land, mills, etc., which were heavily encumbered. — In February, 1899, Albert Maynard succeeded Andrew Allison in the flour and feed business in Toronto, investing \$400. Since that date he found plenty of competition, and now he is compelled to assign. — After selling sewing machines in this city for some time, R. W. Fisher opened a grocery store, a year ago, putting into it about \$600 worth of goods. Now he assigns.

CAPITALISTS are taking up in earnest the subject of tobacco planting in Essex county, and the acreage planted this year will be very large. The syndicate, which is erecting the large warehouse in Leamington, has contracted with the farmers for nearly 2,000 acres on which will be grown the Zimmer-Spanish and Connecticut seed leaf varieties. This tobacco will be used for cigar filler, as the cigar manufacturers of Canada now have to import all their stock from the United States, and it is claimed the Essex product will fill the bill. There is no doubt that there will be from four to five thousand acres of tobacco cultivated in South Essex this year, which should average 1,200 to 1,500 pounds per acre. Mr. Lewis Wigle says that growing tobacco in South Essex is helping many men pay off the mortgages on their farms, while others are purchasing farms who could not do so were it not for tobacco.

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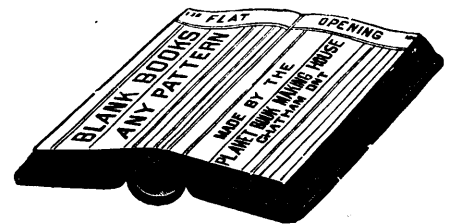
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Compiled by B. W. MURRAY

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