

The Co-operative Assembly of Working Shoemakers, Montreal, in connection with the Knights of Labor, have passed resolutions refusing to work more than ten hours a day.

Toronto leather merchants say that the country jobbing trade is extremely quiet, but that during the week increased enquiries for sole have been received from eastern manufacturers. All agree that black leathers are slow of sale.

As a result of the World's Fair a Chicago firm received an order for sheepskins from Paris. It is a long distance to come for sheepskins, but the fact that a second order has been received, and for 20,000 skins, would indicate that the experiment has proven a success.

Advices from England show some anticipation of recovery from the prolonged dulness in the leather trade. Values, as yet, however, have shown no improvement.

Cold and wintry weather, with heavy falls of snow, have increased the demand for rubbers and warm lined goods. The jobbing houses are very busy filling their orders, which extend to all kinds of goods.

Laced boots have been gaining in favor for the last three winters. This season the outdoor boot par excellence is made of calfskin, says the *Boston Post*. They are made with narrow, square toes, and the patent leather tips still hold their own, wing tips being the favorite. For skating the calfskin boot is laced up the front; the sole is of medium thickness, with the low heels known as the "Common Sense." French heels will not be worn by women of good taste.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

Application will be made says the *St. Thomas Journal*, to incorporate the Northern Life Insurance Company of Canada, with head office at London.

Walkerville has purchased a fine new fire engine, weighing 6,500 pounds. "With plenty of firewater" says an exchange, "the town is well protected."

J. R. Grant has been appointed cashier of the Federal Life Assurance Company for Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

Victoria's fire loss has so far totalled this year the very modest sum of \$17,000.

The People's Life Insurance Company has added to its board of directors, Rufus S. Hudson, superintendent of the Canada Permanent Loan Company, and Walter H. Perran, manager of the Wilkinson Plough Company.

J. D. Campbell, former manager of the Commercial Bank, at Carberry, has been appointed general agent for the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, for South Dakota, with headquarters at Sioux Falls.—*Winnipeg Free Press*.

The Truro Board of Trade, by resolution, have appointed a committee, consisting of William Cummings, R. F. Black, Dr. D. H. Muir, C. M. Blanchard, T. G. McMullen and G. A. Hall, to gather information and statistics on fire insurance, there recently have been a raise in rates there, and proceed to Halifax, to interview the underwriters, and see if better rates could not be secured for Truro.—*Halifax Chronicle*.

We learn from the *Woodstock Sentinel-Review* that about 300 of those holding fire policies in the North Dumfries and South Waterloo Fire Insurance Company have decided to withdraw from the company and

form one of their own. David Goldie was elected chairman and John Black, secretary. Messrs. David Goldie, William Oliver and William Wilkinson were appointed trustees. Some 95 men, whose policies will aggregate \$385,000, will withdraw on December 30th at noon.

The *St. Paul Pioneer Press* says that the general and special agents of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, of New York, in Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Manitoba are at the Windsor, St. Paul. A dozen gentlemen were present, including G. F. Brophy, of Winnipeg; F. R. Sherman, St. Paul, and agents from Fargo, Deadwood, Grand Forks, Mitchell and Austin.

Geo. E. Robbins, who represents at St. Paul the Great Northern Insurance Company, of Winnipeg, has gone to Winnipeg, says the *Pioneer Press*, to endeavor to induce his company to come into the United States.

Mr. D. R. Jack, general agent of the North British and of the Manchester at St. John, writes: "Business with us has been fairly good. New Brunswick, generally, had a most severe experience as regards fire losses during the earlier half year, but the present half year, if it is not too soon to judge, appears to be slightly better."

We are told that an order has been taken by the Brussels Steam Fire Engine Works for one of their standard size improved new style chemical fire engines from the town of Springhill, N. S., whose handsome Presbyterian church was burned the other day. Mr. Ronald adds that he has sold his World's Fair first prize fire steamer to Regina, N.W.T., but finds cars so scarce that he has been unable to get it sent on.

The office of the Manchester Fire Insurance Company has been removed from No. 16 Wellington street east, in this city, to No. 3, on the opposite side of the same thoroughfare. Mr. Boomer may now be congratulated on having adequate room for his staff, which he had not in his former quarters.

ADDITIONAL SUMMARY.

In 1882, Sutherland Bros. succeeded their father, who had just failed, as a general storekeeper at Newmarket. In August, 1887, they found that they had lost money and compromised with creditors at 60 per cent. In 1891 they were again compelled to assign. This time their creditors were more liberal, and accepted 40 per cent. To-day they occupy a similar position, but should not expect a continuance of past favors. Unsecured creditors need not expect much out of this estate.

At Colborne, we find W. W. Knapp, a dealer in cheese and produce, in financial difficulties. Not content with what cheese he could make himself, he has been buying from the makers, to whom he owes a good deal. A meeting of creditors is called for the 29th inst. In the meantime, Mr. Knapp, not to be caught napping, has left for parts unknown.

WM. CAVERLEY, harnessmaker, of Whitby, has made a living for years, but now, owing to hard times, finds himself unable to meet maturing obligations and has called a meeting of his creditors, to be held next week.

We have already announced the suspension of Ellis & Keighley, dealers in spices, coffees, etc. Now we hear of their assignment to E. R. C. Clarkson. At a meeting of creditors, held on Wednesday, they offered 25 per cent. cash. This not being satisfactory a thorough investigation will be made into their affairs. —A few years ago the Perfection Hoop and

Veneer Company commenced operations in Eugenia under the management of one Bennett. A short time ago they moved to this city and endeavored to form a joint stock company. Failing in this they now assign.

It is pretty well known by this time that Quebec city is to have a carnival this winter, and a picturesque city it is for such a scene. The officers of the Winter Carnival Committee had a meeting last week with some railway representatives who decided that they would give single fares to Quebec from points as far west as Toronto and as far east as Halifax. Tickets will be good to leave Toronto on the 26th and 27th January, and return on the 5th and 7th February. The carnival is to begin on the 29th January, a curlers' bonspiel being the first thing on the official programme. Dufferin Terrace heights land toboggan slide will be illuminated, so will Montmorenci Falls. A sham fight on snow-shoes is a feature, while skating, hockey, and various other races are promised. Saturday, 3rd February, is to be the last day.

AUSTRALIAN BUTTER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Efforts are being made to introduce Australian-made butter into British Columbia. The trade for the most part would be necessarily confined to the months of December, January, and February, Australia's summer and Canada's winter. To prove that trade is practicable exporters furnish the following estimate: First cost value of butter, 16 cents; duty, 4 cents; freight, with refrigerator advantage, 4 cents; commission, 2 cents; other charges, wharfage, stamps, etc., 2½ cents—total, 28½ cents. The *Vancouver World* of Dec. 6th quotes the price of butter at 30 to 35c. per lb. on the retail market.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

C. H.—In October, or thereabout. Have not heard from Mr. Troop, except through a marked paper, or seen him since his visit to Australia. He is stated to have gone to the southern continent in the interests of the Dominion Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway.

One of the principal exports from Canada to Australia, Mr. Troop says, will be lumber for building purposes, but there is also a large market for agricultural implements, machinery, hardware, fish, slate, cement, boots and shoes, apples, furs and furniture, which could be sent with profit from Canada.

WAITING SUBSCRIBER, St. Catharines.—The subject was certainly treated some weeks ago under the heading, "The Situation," which, however, you say you "don't read regularly." If you don't, the loss is yours. Read *The Situation* this week, and then say whether you have changed your mind. You will find something about insolvency there, too.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

A PRACTICAL PLAN OF BANKING AND CURRENCY.—A paper read at a meeting of the American Bankers' Association at Chicago, 18th October, 1893, by George A. Butler, president of the National Tradesmen's Bank, New Haven, Conn. Printed by the *Evening Post*, New York. We have already quoted from this paper. [See *MONETARY TIMES* 27th October, page 511.]

THE PHILADELPHIA RECORD ALMANAC.—A very convenient 100-page compend of informa-