

real, "who by his interest in all matters affecting the section, his experience and intelligence, and his kindly disposition was a valued member of the committee and had endeared himself to his fellow-bankers." The resolution was signed by A. M. Crombie, chairman, and Arthur Weir, secretary. A copy was ordered to be sent to the widow of deceased.

#### BARRIE BOARD OF TRADE.

The desirability of a Board of Trade for Barrie had long been street talk there, but it was not until a month ago that the initiative was taken by Mayor Wells, who called a public meeting to discuss the formation of a board to look after matters of importance relating to the trade of the town, and in some cases to advise or consult with the town council. The enthusiasm of that meeting was kindled afresh a few evenings later by Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, Toronto, who happened to be in town over night. He addressed several prominent business men on the exceptional natural advantages of Barrie. He instanced the claims of Barrie to a large share of summer tourist business, and spoke of the health and beauty, and geographical situation, respectively, of the town, as attractive to manufactures as well as summer travel. In due time the Board of Trade charter applied for was received from the Dominion Government, and at a largely attended meeting of business men the following officers were elected, the various lines of trade being well represented on the board:

President—Mr. Mortimer Atkinson, manager of Bank of Toronto.

First vice-president—Mr. A. W. Wilkinson, grain merchant.

Second vice-president—Mr. James Vair, dry goods merchant and grocer.

Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. J. H. Bennett, insurance agent.

Council—George Livingston, boot and shoe merchant; George Reedy, dry goods merchant; C. A. Perkins, grocer; P. Kearns, provision merchant; S. Wesley, publisher; H. J. Grasett, manager Bank of Commerce; H. H. Otton, hardware merchant; George Ball, manufacturer; John Rogerson, general agent, fire and life; Alex. Sinclair, tanner; J. J. Brown, grain and seedsman; R. E. Fletcher, contractor.

A constitution and by-laws were to be adopted at a meeting on Tuesday night last, and the board will consider manufactures, a communication having already been received from a furniture firm desirous of locating in the town. Better freight rates will also receive due attention.

#### FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The prospects of a fair peach crop in the Essex district are now reported in spite of the damage by frost this spring.

An Ottawa exchange: The fruit trade this season is nearly double what it has been in any previous year. The trade of the surrounding country and towns for 100 miles is all supplied from Ottawa now.

The feature of the canned vegetables market just now may be said to be Indian corn. A report reaches us that a speculator has placed orders for no less than 80,000 cases. If this should turn out true some factories will not be able to supply their regular customers.

There are some hundreds of barrels of prime P. E. Island potatoes now in port, the owners of which find it difficult to dispose of them at the price now demanded. This clearly shows that the frost of last winter did not damage local stocks to the extent reported.—St. John's, Nfld., News.

An earnest of the much to be desired growth of the Canadian creamery butter system to much greater importance as an element in our exports to Great Britain is found in the figures of spring shipments of butter from Montreal. The quantity which has gone forward up to Saturday is practically double that of the previous spring, the figures being 22,407 packages this year, against 11,638 at same date last year.

Not much appears to be doing in "long sweetenings," such as honey and maple syrup. A Montreal report of Tuesday says that the market for maple product in that city continues quiet on account of the small offerings. We quote: Syrup, in wood, 5¾ to 6c. per lb.; and at 65 to 70c. per tin. Sugar sold at 8½

to 9c. per lb. In honey business was dull and prices unchanged. Quote: White clover comb, in 1-lb. sections, 8 to 9c.; dark, 6 to 7c.; white extracted, 7 to 7½c. and dark, at 4 to 5c. the pound.

Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere was on the 8th inst. waited upon by Mr. J. C. Ford, of Oakville, Ont., and Mr. G. W. Hunt, of Ottawa, who desired to enter a protest against the clauses of Mr. Penny's bill, enacting that the standard of measure for buying and selling strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants and other small fruits shall be the quart, which shall contain, when full, 67 cubic inches, and that the inside measurement of the standard quart basket shall be five inches and one-quarter on each side at the top, and four inches and three-eighths on each side at the bottom, and two inches and seven-eighths deep. Mr. Henderson, M.P., introduced the deputation. The speakers said the enactment of these provisions would upset the trade and make a new sized crate necessary for shipment of small fruits by rail.

On Friday last at Trenton, New Jersey, the American Pastry and Manufacturing Company was incorporated with an authorized capital of \$3,000,000. One-third of the stock is preferred, with 7 per cent. cumulative dividends. The company is to make and sell wholesale pastry. The incorporators are all Jersey City men—a dozen of them. Pie by the acre may be expected to be the outcome of such deals as these. The San Francisco Examiner of Friday last states that the Pacific Coast Biscuit Company, otherwise known as the Cracker Trust, has collapsed. Julius Brownstein, secretary of the Standard Biscuit Company, declares that the promoters of the combine could not sell the stock, and he thought that the scheme of consolidation would not be revived. It is as well to note that the Union Biscuit Company has been incorporated at St. Louis this week, with a capital of \$50,000. W. W. Moore, a Chicago capitalist, is the principal stockholder. Although the company is incorporated for only \$50,000, it is said there is a large sum of money behind the venture.

The San Francisco Country Merchant does not relish the idea of a combination of grocers in that city, and has this to say about modern tendencies: It is universally held by economists that the tendency of profits is to a minimum, or in other words for the world's work to be done cheaper and cheaper. No one can doubt the truth of this principle that has his eyes open to what is going on around him. Even the trusts have been obliged to reduce prices and margins right along. What hope, therefore can there be for the reversal of this natural process in the grocery trade, which is and must always be, open to everybody? Have our readers ever considered upon what principle it is that the number of people in the grocery business is determined? It is simply the greatest number that can continue in it and make a living. Is it not, therefore, clear that if by any means profits are increased the number of people in the business must be correspondingly augmented, and the trade to be done further divided. \* \* \* Indeed the increase of profits and of the number of stores will make competition for business all the more keen; and when eventually prices break and return to their former level, as they invariably do, the conditions are so much the worse that everybody must lose until the people who are in excess in the business are frozen out and the standard conditions are once more re-established?

#### CHEESE IN NEW YORK STATE.

"New York was for a long time the premier state in dairy production," says The Chicago Record, "but of late years this position has been disputed by other states. New York is still the premier state in cheese production, about one-half the cheese produced in the Union being made in that state. New York also still leads in butter made on farms. But in co-operative butter-making, that branch of dairying which at present is making most advancement and which holds out the best prospects to the dairy farmer, New York is greatly exceeded by Iowa. In this respect it is exceeded, too, by Illinois and Pennsylvania, and it is rivaled by Wisconsin and Minnesota. New York state has always been the great seat of co-operative cheese-making in our country, and, under the advantageous operation of that method of manufacture, it early won and has ever since held the principal place in the manufacture of cheese. The following table shows the percentage of the total cheese product of the