

bank—now in every one's mind—has suggested that, instead of the inspector of a bank being under the authority, in any way, of the general manager, he should report to the directors instead of to the manager (which is now done in the case of at least one bank in Ontario), but, having once been appointed, an inspector might only be dismissed by a vote of two-thirds of the directors. This would make his position stronger and tend to insure a more reliable and searching report. That more stringent legislative provisions and better protection to the public are required, few will question, in view of the three recent lamentable failures in Canadian banking institutions.

A Government measure of considerable importance is entitled "An Act to regulate the manufacture, storage and importation of Explosives." The title sufficiently indicates the purpose. The bill will be made to apply to all factories and explosives other than those the property of the Crown or the Government. The British Act has been largely followed. There are strict provisions as to inspection of explosives and the factories where they are made, as well as of places where they are stored. The many serious accidents in recent years caused by the unauthorized or careless use of explosive materials is more than sufficient justification for this legislation, which is under the control of the Minister of Mines, who may direct inquiries to be made into the cause of explosions.

Legislation affecting particular trades is not common, but an instance this session is a bill to compel railway companies to give better protection and accommodation to carpenters employed on the railway.

Some bills of commercial interest should be noticed. One by Mr. Lewis, based on the United States law, would limit the time within which food may be sold after being in cold storage. It may be difficult to determine this time, and the fitness of an article for food must depend largely upon the efficiency of the cold storage plant. The other bill referred to requires that when flour or meal is sold or offered for sale by the bag there shall be plainly marked or stamped on the bag the name of the manu-