

terests" and "The Directors," all of which were enthusiastically responded to. One of the features of the evening was the presentation to Mr. Henry Sutherland (the first secretary-treasurer of the association, and more recently its vice-president, but who, on account of his recent retirement from active official work in life insurance, is no longer a member of the association), of a gold watch and chain, for past services rendered by him.

Such gatherings as these cannot but result in improvements in the life insurance business in Canada by lessening the too prevalent antagonisms of companies, and the too bitter rivalry of agents. Furthermore, there is reason to believe that still further good may be done when the United States life companies doing business in Canada become affiliated with the association.

#### STRATFORD BOARD OF TRADE.

As briefly mentioned in last issue, a vigorous attempt is being made to resuscitate the Stratford board of trade. On Friday last there was a largely attended meeting to elect officers, discuss the reorganization and to do other business. Among the questions which came up for discussion were the proposed radial railway, the poor lighting facilities of the city, municipal ownership of waterworks. The proposed by-law to give tax exemption to the Globe-Wernicke Furniture Co., of Cincinnati, to establish a factory in Stratford was approved. The result of the election of officers was as follows: President, Mr. Geo. McLagan; vice-president, Mr. D. M. Ferguson; secretary, Mr. Jas. Steele; council, Messrs. W. J. Ferguson, E. T. Dufon, Wm. Preston, J. R. Macdonald, G. H. Douglas, Thos. Ballantyne, jr., Wm. Maynard, I. W. Steinhoff, John Whyte, jr., E. K. Barnsdale, C. E. Dewey, John Welsh.

#### INDUSTRIAL MATTERS.

Port Elgin has voted a loan and bonus of \$10,000 to the Dominion Harness Company, who propose to erect a factory there.

W. J. Arbuthnot, lumberman, of Winnipeg, is about to start a planing mill at a point on the south side of the Assiniboine river, near the Canadian Northern track.

Citizens of Alameda, Man., are offering a bonus for the erection of a flour mill there with a capacity of 100 barrels, and an elevator with a capacity of 30,000 bushels.

Seneca township council is preparing a by-law to grant the Caledonia Electric Railway right of way through three miles of road in that municipality, and exemption from taxation for twenty-one years.

The Ontario Beet Sugar Company has signed a contract with Messrs. E. H. Dyer & Co., Cleveland, for the erection of a 600-ton sugar refinery in Berlin, to be ready for operations by October 10th next.

The Gurney Foundry Co., Toronto, are about to erect a \$30,000 factory in Toronto Junction to employ at least 75 men. The council of the latter place has passed a by-law exempting the building from taxes.

The Toronto Junction town council is pushing through a by-law to renew the exemption of the Comfort Soap Works from taxation, in consideration of their erecting a large addition to their present building. Will it also exempt other manufacturers?

What is declared by experts to be a strike of a coal seam of great importance has been made by the Dominion Coal Company, near Butler's Lake. This means that the company's paying property is practically doubled, which makes it, it is stated, the largest coal area in the world.

Mr. T. G. McCulloch and others, of Chicago, are applying to the town of St. Henri (Montreal), for a bonus to assist them in establishing a linseed oil mill there. They propose forming a company with a capital of \$500,000, to be known as the International Linseed Oil Co. (Limited).

—Members of the Montreal stock exchange have decided to have a building of their own, and a committee has been appointed to prepare the requisite plans.

—A branch of the Bank of Hamilton is to be opened on the 2nd of April at the village of Niagara Falls, South. We are not yet informed who will be in charge.

—We are informed that a branch of the People's Bank of Halifax has been opened at Bathurst, Gloucester county, New Brunswick, under the management of Mr. R. H. Macdonald.

—Mr. R. W. Douglas, secretary of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company, states that arrangements are almost complete for the transmission of power from the Falls to Montreal. The company has decided to use aluminum wires instead of copper, which means that all the material for transmission will be manufactured in Canada.

—Montreal board of trade is about to petition the Dominion Government for improved transport facilities in different parts of Canada, and especially for encouragement of railroad development north of Lake Superior and the Northwest Territories. They will also ask the Government to encourage by subsidy the investment of capital in an enlarged Canadian marine.

—Having to go to press on Thursday of this week, instead of Friday, by reason of the statutory holiday, this issue is without our Montreal markets, Halifax banking quotations, etc., for the week. Our usual Financial Review is delayed also. Clearing House returns, which are made up on Thursday afternoon, are perforce wanting, but these will be published next week, to preserve sequence.

—An insolvency bill is now before the Nova Scotia legislature, which is modelled along the same lines as the one in force in Ontario, its object being to obtain compulsory assignments. The principle of the bill is that when judgments are obtained, and executions issued and not satisfied, and the goods not sold, provision is made for other creditors to come in and file an affidavit of claim within a limited period after the sheriff's levy has been made. The object is to obtain pro rata distribution among the creditors. Real estate is excluded from the bill, being covered by the existing law.

—We have received, just as we go to press, a letter from Mr. J. A. Jamieson, engineer and contractor, Montreal, complaining of a reference to him in our article of 14th instant on the Montreal Harbor Elevator. The article said: "If, however, wood construction is decided upon, Mr. Jamieson will have a show." Mr. Jamieson construes this into a reflection upon him, an implication, indeed, that he is unable to design or build steel elevators. Such was never our belief or meaning. We had no intention of reflecting, and consider that we have not reflected, upon Mr. Jamieson's ability to design steel elevators or anything else; indeed we had always heard of him as a very capable elevator constructor. And we have not the slightest objection to say so, if it will afford him any satisfaction.

—Among the enquiries that have come to us respecting "Trade Opportunities," as given in these columns, one from Moncton, N.B., last week, and one from Quebec this week lead us to think that others than these two enquirers have misunderstood our editorial note of 14th instant. What we wish to convey is this, that if anyone wishes to know, for example, what English firm asked the High Commissioner's office about roofing shingles on 21st February, we will tell him by letter, if he sends a stamp. Again; if a Canadian desires to know what London house applied to the Imperial Institute on 27th February for names of New Brunswick lumber exporters, we will inform him, for we have lists of names of such enquirers sent to us from London weekly. But we are not permitted to send the whole list to anyone, nor may we print it.