

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

THE RUBBER COMPANY COMBINE in the States is in trouble, water-logged apparently.

THE DUKE OF CORNWALL will be asked to lay the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Bridge, across the St. Lawrence, over Isle Ronde.

THE ECONOMIC MARINÉ INSURANCE COMPANY has been organized in England, of which Sir Christopher Furness is chairman. The business will be according to the title.

THE QUEBEC BANK'S net profits last year were \$199,502, out of which two ½ yearly dividends were paid at a rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The sum of \$137,797 was written off previous estimates of the value of timber limits and real estate.

THE CANADA SALT CO., capital \$800,000, has been organized to take over and carry on the business of the Windsor Salt Co. The report that Lord Strathcona was president of the company was unauthorized.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE CITIZENS' organization for the reception of their royal highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, selected Mr. James Crathern and Senator Dandurand as joint chairmen, and Mr. James Aird, of the Bank of Mont real, as treasurer.

LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. On page 757, in a notice of this Company, the premium receipts last year are stated to be \$778,529 which should be \$4,778,529, as is quite obvious the by next few words. The error arose from the figure 4 becoming mechanically displaced.

LOSSES by the Antwerp fire are reported to the New York Journal of Commerce as follows: Royal, including Lancashire & Kent, \$250,000; Norwich Union, \$125,000; Patriotic, \$110,000; Phœnix of London, \$100,000; National of Ireland, \$70,000; Union, \$15,000, Northern, \$15,000; Western of Toronto, \$10,000.

THE PASSAGE THROUGH CANADA'S CANALS of American vessels laden with grain for Germany presents a spectacle somewhat humiliating to this country. These cargoes pass a number of Canadian ports, from not one of which is it practicable to ship grain, owing to the discrimination against Canada. Canada has spent 80 millions of dollars in providing a free water-way for a rival country. It is aggravating to see a neighbour's goods passing our doors to a market closed to us.

MESSRS. FETHERSTONHAUGH & Co.—Patent Solicitors, Canada Life Building, furnish us with the following complete weekly list of patents granted to Canadians in the following countries. Any further information may be readily obtained from them direct.

Canadian Patents.—J. W. Falls, air compressing machines; T. F. Van Luven, axle bearings; N. Lessard, manure distributors; J. Couture, latches; W. Thompson, extension slides for tables and other purposes; C. C. Alouisi, plaster compounds; C. G. Stackhouse, curtain stretchers; W. J. Linton, hydraulic air compressors; H. Guertin, road cleaning machines; J. W. Williams, lace fasteners; G. S. Chapman, weeding machines; W. J. Witham & J. Bryne, fire escapes; J. Chabot, F. Tousignant, and E. Loisselle, vehicle springs; W. H. Weaver, wagoed brakes; C. Brash, ore washing and concentrating machines; S. Knight, grain choppers; W. Gibson watch makers' eye-glasses.

American Patents.—John Clark, grain conveyer; H. Derrer, lathe for turning irregular forms; T. H. Duncombe, acetylene gas generator; J. E. Forfar, apparatus for teaching musical scale construction; John Lewis, machine for cutting shank pieces; A. E. McCormack, guard; A. Meuschel, speed regulators for prime motors; L. Parry, compound of matter for artificial fuel; W. Stephenson, tongue socket for seed drills; D. Walker, price denoting scale; J. T. McLaughlin, holder for soda water glasses; Ida B. Urquhart, shoe and flexible gaiters.

AN EXHIBITION OF APPLIANCES FOR PROTECTION against fire is being held this month and next in Berlin, Germany. The Imperial Government is giving every possible help to this enterprise. The North German Lloyd and their shipping companies offer to carry exhibits free, they will also be entered free of duty and carried without charge by the State railways. Insurance Engineering gives full particulars of this exhibition, reports of which will excite much interest.

THE METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE COMMITTEE of the London County Council has received \$163,100 from the fire insurance companies, London, England, towards the expenses of the brigade 1901-2. A full list of the contributions from 66 companies is given in the "Insurance Observer." We note that "The Western, Toronto," is down for £1,19.4, about \$9.60, an assessment on £56,306, or \$231,530, "gross amount insured in 1899." It seems a picayune business to be collecting money from insurance companies for a public service like fire protection.

PORTRAIT OF KING EDWARD VII.—The Montreal "Herald" has favoured us with a copy of the portrait of King Edward, which has been specially executed for presentation to its subscribers. The King is represented in civilian dress, the "Herald" having thought that Canadians would like to see their King as a man of affairs, as the man rather than the King, illustrations of the latter usually giving prominence to military regalia." It is said to be a copy of the only life like photograph taken of the King, and is now published for the first time. The picture is exceedingly well executed and bears evidence of being an excellent likeness. The "Herald" has our thanks for the portrait.

(See also page 803)