

HEIGHT OF OCEAN WAVES.

Various means have been devised for measuring height and velocity of ocean waves. The Hon. Ralph Abercromby's method, recently employed by him on board the steamer Tongariro between Cape Otway, Australia, and New Zealand, was probably a new departure. For measuring wave height he used an aneroid with very open scale and a chronograph measuring time to one-fifth of a second. An aneroid shows a decrease atmospheric pressure of about eleven hundredths of an inch for each 10 feet of increase in vertical height. Hence, if in a hollow his aneroid showed 29.200 inches, and when on the wave-crest 29.244 inches, this difference of 0.44 inch of barometric pressure shows that the wave height was about 40 feet. Length and velocity were obtained by timing with chronograph the interval between two successive crests reaching the stern, or occupied by the first crest running the ship's length of 380 feet, the necessary correction for run being made. His maximum wave was 46 feet high 765 feet long, moving at the rate of 47 miles an hour, with a period of 16½ seconds.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

It has been announced that Hon. Theodore Davie will, on his way back from Ottawa, spend a short time at Chicago, and make arrangements for a British Columbia exhibit at the World's Fair. The people of this Province will no doubt be pleased to hear that the energetic Premier has taken this matter in hand. Already the Manitoba Government has made preparations for an exhibit which will show to the world the great possibilities of the Prairie Province. Premier Greenway says his Government has determined to erect another building, so as to secure a large amount of space beyond that which has already been apportioned to that Province. In the new building, which will be erected at a cost of \$10,000, will be placed a large quantity of No. 1 hard wheat, samples of which will be distributed to farmers visiting the Fair. The productions of the other Provinces of the Dominion will be well represented, and it is pleasing to note that Premier Davie will see to it that the great resources of this Province will be brought to the notice of the world at Chicago.

THE BARING LIQUIDATION.

The Baring liquidation cannot, it is thought, be completed within the next twelve months, as was originally contemplated, and it is expected some fresh arrangements will be made by which the time for completing the liquidation is extended in order to nurse the securities and minimize the shrinkage upon them. During the past six months ending Aug. 31st, the liabilities were reduced from \$35,085,000 to \$25,565,000, a decrease of \$9,520,000, while the assets during the same period have depreciated in value from \$51,000,000 to \$41,595,000 or a shrinkage of \$10,005,000. It will be seen, says the *Trade Bulletin*, that the decrease

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In the assets has been about half a million more than that of the liabilities; and if a realization of the former were ordered, it is recognized that they would shrivel up to a mere skeleton of their present volume. Even in the event of an extension of the liquidation all hope has been abandoned on the part of the guaranteeing banks, of escaping without a final loss. Of course, in the above assets are included securities that are known to be worth very little if put on the market to-day, and it is believed that a considerable portion of them would be liable to a heavy depreciation. To the immense amount of money locked up in these unrealizable securities is unquestionable due a great deal of the depression now manifested in financial and trade circles in England, and it is to be feared that this trouble will be a bugbear for some time to come. Every time a partial realization upon these Baring Argentine bonds has been attempted, the shrinkage in value has been almost unparalleled, and a lot of careful nursing for some time to come will be necessary in order to stay the wasting process of these consumptive securities.

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