

improvement is still to be desired in the lumber, coal, and fishing interests, the increased activity in the mining districts is having a stimulating effect on trade generally."

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, William Godfrey; vice-president, S. Oppenheimer; council, R. H. Alexander, H. O. Bell-Irving, Wm. Skene, W. F. Salsbury, J. C. McLagan, C. J. Marani, C. E. Tisdall, F. C. Cockburn, Wm. Murray, A. Jukes, C. Gardiner-Johnson, E. Evans, Campbell Sweeny and W. H. Ker. On motion the six first named and the six last named are to form the board of arbitration. Mr. Skene was unanimously re-elected honorary secretary for the new year.

EMERSON BOARD OF TRADE.

At the business men's convention, held in the city of Winnipeg recently, it was suggested that boards of trade be formed in the different towns of Manitoba. A meeting of the business men of Emerson was held in the town hall, on the 5th inst., to take into consideration the formation of a board of trade. The meeting proceeded to business by calling Mr. J. W. Whitman to the chair. Mr. Whitman gave an account of the discussion that took place at the Winnipeg convention, pointing out the objects that might be attained by such an organization in Emerson, and the methods to be pursued. A resolution then followed: "Moved by Mr. E. Casselman, and seconded by Mr. F. S. Bell, that we form an association to be known as the 'Emerson Board of Trade.'" The motion was carried and the organization completed. The following officers were elected: President, J. W. Whitman; 1st vice-president, George Christie; 2nd vice-president, W. W. Fraser; secretary and treasurer, T. E. McGirr; board of directors, Messrs. J. Sullivan, F. S. Bell, D. McArthur, G. Pocock and G. Cumming.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Twenty-six carloads of turnips were shipped from St. George to the United States in the past few days.

The Trades and Labor Council of Brantford claims that the bread sold by a number of the bakers of that city is under the standard weight.

The London *Free Press* says it is estimated that the cancelling of the cheap market tickets has caused one hundred less persons to visit London on Saturday.

The Bridgetown, N.S., Cheese and Butter Company are making arrangements to put in a butter-making plant, and operate it with their present cheese plant.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company proposes to build a \$100,000 elevator at Windsor, capable of holding a quarter of a million bushels, and asks a bonus from the city of \$25,000.

A Toronto firm are offering in New York for export selected Canadian dried apples packed in barrels of about 250 lbs. gross. They are also offering choice evaporated apples in 50 lb. boxes.

The steamship "Miowera" carried 1,700 tons of Canadian flour to Australia on her last trip. The shipments were made by two firms, The Lake of the Woods Co. and the Ogilvie Milling Co., Montreal.

Latest mail advices from Liverpool report a firm but quiet market for Sultana raisins. Arrivals from the beginning of the season to Feb. 23rd were 588,588 packages, against 608,186 packages for the corresponding time last year.

A private letter from Patras, Greece, states that there remained on February 23rd about 14,000 tons of currants, which quantity is said to be sufficient to supply usual requirements for only two months. The fine grades of currants are reported to be exhausted in the primary market.

Preparations were made by both retail and wholesale grocers in Canada, for a good demand for both fish and dried fruits during Lent. Thus far in the self-denying season, it seems, that trade has not developed to the extent expected. Both Montreal and Toronto dealers have found a slackness of demand for fish, and yesterday's Montreal letter says that there has not been the Lenten demand for dried fruits that was expected.

In their last circular received here, J. C. Houghton & Co. say of the position of Brazil nuts in that market: "The first new (about 160 tons) are to hand per 'Gregory.' The nuts are small (Para) but fresh, and of good quality. About 35 tons have been disposed of at 28s per cwt., mostly in retail lots, as buyers are acting with exaggerated caution, and their action suggests that the year by year earlier inauguration of the season is hardly a welcome change to them."

Fruit men in South Essex differ in opinion concerning the prospects for this year's peach crop. Some assert that it will be a complete failure. Others find that their trees have not been injured in the least, and consequently look forward to a good crop. The injury

which has been done was caused, not by the extreme cold of a few days, but by the long, severe winter. Some orchards, which were sheltered, were not hurt, but no doubt the crop on the whole will be very much below the average of the past three years.

Referring to the decline in the cheese export trade of the United States, the St. Louis *Interstate Grocer* says: "The first cause is found in Canadian competition. Canadian cheese has earned a good reputation in Europe. In exports Canada is to the United States as 5 is to 2. That is doing pretty well for a strip of cold country. The Canadians seem to have settled the problem of successful cheese making. Another cause of the decrease in exports is found in the fact that Australian and South American beef and mutton are now sold cheaply in London and England markets generally, through the use of refrigerator ships. There is more fresh mutton and fresh beef consumed in England, and less cheese accordingly. The decline of consumption has fallen on the United States cheese, because the Canadian cheese has the better reputation."

ABOUT DRY GOODS.

Paris is favorable to ribbons this season and likes them in two extremes, either very narrow or very wide.

Retail merchants are making preparations for their spring millinery openings, which will, from all appearances, be very brilliant this year.

According to the statistics of the *Bolletino of Sericoltura*, of Milan, the total visible supply of raw silk of the world on January 31, 1897, was 2,853,261 kilos, against 2,992,691 kilos on January 31, 1896.

In the opinion of English retailers, habit cloths are promising to have a good run, and in a variety of delicate tints of blues, greens and fawns in more expensive classes, are regarded as a safe stock for the first two months of the season.

The following are the Canadian arrivals during the week:—Mr. G. B. Fraser, S. Greenshields, Son & Co., Montreal; Mr. W. D. Ross, Moses & Ross, Yarmouth, N.S.; Mr. R. L. Smith, Macaulay Bros. & Co., St. John, N.B.—*Drapery World*, March 6th.

Silk goods are quiet, says an English journal of 5th March, the principal producing centres having been affected by the crisis in the East. Political disturbances of this nature affect silk perhaps more than any other fabric. Large crops and low prices of raw material have not removed silks from the category of articles of luxury.

A "Made in Canada" window would be an interesting object lesson to the public, and might prove not unprofitable to the merchant. Try it. There is plenty of material on hand with which to fill a window with goods made in Canada. There are many sceptics as to the progress made by Canadians in the arts of manufacture. Help to educate them.

A letter from Leeds, Eng., says: "For overgrown stocks there had here been a good chance of putting up prices. Values, however, are kept under all round by the want of foreign trade. Continental orders are severely scarce. Canada for the present is placing no further orders. Prices keep pretty strong of silk corduroys and mixtures and covert coatings. Large quantities of Scotch wool costume cloths have realized but moderate prices. The blanket and rug trades are rather quieter. Yarn spinners fairly well employed."

At Nottingham the demand for plain nets, light tulles and mosquito nets is good, and prices are firm, with an upward tendency. In some qualities of silk nets and tulles the demand exceeds the supply, and there is considerable temporary pressure for orders. Manufacturers of silk and cotton veilings are also well employed. Only a moderate trade is doing in millinery laces, though Valenciennes edgings, laces and insertions are selling well in white, ivory and tints, as are also Oriental laces. Guipure entredeux for trimmings sell well in tones and white, and there is a shipping demand for Maltese and torchons.

A number of the merchants of Winnipeg are protesting against the early closing by-law in force in that city. At a meeting recently held to consider the matter, it was pointed out that a large number of the city stores, especially of the smaller class, were largely dependent on the evening trade to enable them to pay their rent, taxes and expenses, and that to compel them to close at an early hour simply meant the loss of their legitimate profits and the ruin of their business. The smaller merchants claim that the whole movement had been inaugurated by large places of business, who by their situation in the central part of the city are able to do all their business during the day time.

We learn that some of the London creditors of Messrs. John D. Ivey & Co., wholesale milliners, of Toronto, met together at the Chamber of Commerce, 145 Cheapside, on the 26th ult., for the purpose of discussing affairs appertaining to the carrying into effect of the resolution passed at a meeting of the creditors held in London at the latter end of last year. A list of the creditors and other particulars appeared