

ever before." Taking into account the increased visible supply mentioned above, the journal named considers it safe to say that the sugar crop year begins with a probable excess of production of about 400,000 tons which after making liberal allowance for invisible stocks, a normal increase of consumption on account of low prices, increase of population, and the general prosperity of consumers, will prove more than sufficient for the world's requirements. Under these circumstances it is difficult to foresee that sugar will be other than a cheap commodity for at least some months to come.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

At the meeting of delegates from Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal held, as we noted last week, in the last named city on the 9th inst. the constitution, as finally amended, was adopted, and a provisional committee appointed to secure members and report to a meeting to be held on the 11th of January next, in Montreal. The following were nominated as the provisional committee:—Mr. T. C. Keefer, C.M.G., Ottawa, chairman; Messrs. F. Perley, W. P. Anderson, Robert Surtees, of Ottawa; Prof. Bovey, John Kennedy, P. A. Peterson, P. W. St. George, of Montreal; Col. Gzowski, A.D.C., Kivas Tully, W. T. Jennings and Alan Macdougall, of Toronto. The gentleman last named is the Secretary.

BANK OF OTTAWA.—This bank has just held its twelfth annual meeting, the report submitted at which showed very good earnings, an addition of \$50,000 to Reserve, making that fund twenty-six per cent. of the capital, an increase in circulation and an enlargement of discounts by \$660,000. Deposits, which a year ago stood at \$1,690,000, are now over two millions. The balances due from Britain and the States are considerably greater, and we now find also among the assets an investment of \$123,000 in Dominion Government debentures. While loans and discounts have gone up from \$2,790,000 last year to \$3,450,000 now, this greater volume of transactions has resulted in no proportionate increase of overdue loans, though real estate securities to the value of \$20,000 have passed into the hands of the bank. The showing is creditable, indicating enterprise combined with good banking. The thanks tendered to the directors and officers appear to have been well-deserved.

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It is by no means sufficiently known, nor even when known, is the fact adequately appreciated, that contagious diseases have not seldom been carried into dwelling-houses by means of books. Attacks of illness therefrom have sometimes occurred, and occasionally with fatal results.

As is well known, the various disease-germs are diffused and conveyed in all kinds of ways, and it is hardly necessary to say that books from a public library are peculiarly liable to become the instruments of such mischief, going as those books must often do, into houses having sufferers from the class of diseases referred to. Hence persons taking books from public libraries, to a house having in it any infectious or contagious disease, should be required, under legal penalty, to give notice of such fact to the librarian, so that the latter may have the book properly disinfected upon its return to the library, before being replaced upon the shelves or re-issued.

According to the *Medical News*, this wise course of disinfection is being pursued at Aberdeen, by order of the city's health authorities; and that it is a precaution worthy of universal adoption, will scarcely be disputed. We commend the hint to our own Public Library authorities with the hope that it will be duly acted upon.

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—Protection is a misnomer. It implies superiority elsewhere. Superiority over any great industry of ours does not exist on the face of the globe. It implies infants here and adults elsewhere. Such is not our reputation. It implies that amid competition, universal where the fittest survive, we shall pettish. But whenever we shall release ourselves from bad laws and enter that competition unmanacled rivals will be distanced and our primacy established in the market and commerce of the world.—*Secretary Manning.*

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

We beg to notify the Trade that at the beginning of the year we shall REMOVE to the HANDSOME NEW WAREHOUSE on

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