

Mars, E. H. Heward, Ed. Arpin, Geo. H. Wilkinson, Alp. F. Gervais, D. Godin.

Members of the Board of Arbitration—D. Macdonald, C. R. Cousins, William McNulty, M. Guillet, J. A. Lomme, James O'Cain, F. Payette, Joseph Lavoie, C. Meunier, J. W. Racicot, N. J. Gregoire, O. Normandin.

These gentlemen were necessarily selected from the chartered members under the Act respecting the formation of Boards of Trade, and will remain in office till the first annual meeting to be held in March next.

#### TRUST AND LOAN COMPANY OF CANADA.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of this company was held in London on November 29th, for the purpose of declaring a dividend, the president, Mr. Charles Morrison, in the chair. The statement of the chairman was to the effect that the company declared a dividend at the usual rate of 6 per cent., after doing which the sum of £7,392 was carried forward, an increase of £250. In accordance with the charter, certain sums were credited to the reserve fund, which now amounts to £182,581 10s. 4d., whereas at the beginning of the half-year it was only £179,332 13s. 11. Much stress was laid by the chairman upon what he called the desperate price of wheat, and its effect upon Manitoba borrowers from the company. In that province, he told them, the farmers are realizing that they cannot with profit grow wheat alone, and they are growing barley, and have also gone in for dairying—indeed, for what is called the mixed style of farming—a statement which evoked "hear, hears" from his auditory. He moved that the report and accounts be read and adopted. In answer to Mr. Dawson, who said he had noticed in the report a considerable sum (£20,000) set down as overdue interest, and wished to know whether they had sufficient explanations for that interest being overdue, the chairman declined to express any opinion as to how much of that sum of £20,000 might be lost. "It depends on the price of wheat." Resolutions were carried adopting the report and declaring a dividend of 6 per cent.

#### FOR GENERAL DEALERS.

The man with a past is not in it with the man with a present.

A writing portfolio of black morocco, with lining of buff calf, with compartments for photographs, calling cards, envelopes, paper, is an attractive Christmas present for a person who travels much.

Ladies' travelling bags are more than ever necessary now-a-days, when ladies place their pockets in such awkward parts of their clothing. Pretty silk satchels or shopping bags are fitted with portmonnaies, scent-bottles, mirrors and such necessities of life, so that a lady may be comfortable.

"Oh, Weather-man!" said Santa Claus,

"I never saw the like;

I think I'll sell my deer and sleigh

And buy myself a 'bike.'"

—*Philadelphia Record.*

Simplicity of life is a virtue, but when it is carried out generally it affects store trade in a variety of ways. When the richer people curtail their spending hundreds and thousands of the poorer feel it at once. The Canadian farmer who does not attend church can economize and get through a whole summer with a suit of cotton overalls, if he be content to live on his farm. Dame Fashion has helped the farmer's wife and daughter also to economize in some respects, because it was cheap and easy to get a cotton waist and wear out the old skirts and underclothes. Something has to be done when eggs only fetch 8 cents or 10 cents, and when wheat and barley are so low.

#### HARDWARE AND METAL TRADE NOTES.

Sir Frederick Abel, chemical director of the British Government works at Woolwich, recently pointed out that nickel steel offers to the engineer the means of nearly doubling boiler pressure without increasing weight and dimensions.

The leading men of Oshawa are moving in an effort to have the malleable iron works which were burned recently re-established.

The Rathbuns propose building an electric railway from Oshawa to the lake shore at a cost of \$100,000.

The Canada Screw Works, Hamilton, closed on Saturday for the annual stock-taking. About half the staff was laid off, and the rest of the men are engaged on the stock. The works will probably be opened again by the new year.

The Gould Coupler Company, whose works at Depew, N.Y., are among the largest of the kind in the world, may establish a branch factory on the Canadian side of the river near Buffalo, to accommodate the Canadian trade.

James Watson & Co., Glasgow, write under date of 7th inst.: "We have to report an active market in Scotch pig iron warrants this week and a large business done. Quotations for shipping brands are rather easier in most cases than they were a week ago."

During the eleven months ending November 30th, over 1,110,000 tons of coal were exported from Cape Breton. Of this total 891,000 were the output of the mines of the Whitney syndicate and 220,000 from the General Mining Association. This was an increase of 77,000 tons for the Whitney syndicate and 30,000 tons for the General Mining Association over the corresponding period last year.

The effects of dear coal on the gas stove industry have been remarkable, and the appliances for cooking and heating by gas are being improved upon and diversified from week to week. All the works in Birmingham and the Midlands engaged upon these classes of produce are in full operation, and now that gas stoves are brought within reach of almost the humblest householder, the demand is likely to be large and expanding for a long time to come.—*Hardware Trade Journal, London, Eng.*

#### FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Warm weather has caused severe depression in the oyster trade.

Stocks of Jordan almonds in London, Eng., are reported heavy.

Irish farmers have been experimenting in their potato fields with Canadian imported tubers and report excellent results.

Berlin butchers claim that the council of that town should not increase competition in the meat trade by building more stalls in the market building.

Of the 14,000 boxes Sultana prunes arriving in New York per "Belgravia" last week, about two-thirds of the total quantity was destined to Canadian markets.

Mr. Wm. Rand, of Canning, N.S., who represents the fruit house of Frank Rand, London, England, is in the city arranging for a shipment of apples to the other side. Mr. Rand says the apple crop this year amounted to between 250,000 and 300,000 barrels, and that about 100,000 still remain for shipment from the fertile valley.—*Halifax Echo*

Advices received from Aden to December 22nd report stock of Mocha coffee on hand at 185 bales. The market was reported active, with arrivals light. Quality of new crop very satisfactory so far and active competition looked for during season. Quoted at equal to 25½c. ex wharf here for good current grades and 25¾ to 26½c. for superior.—*N.Y. Journal and Bulletin of Commerce.*

A large baking firm in Halifax who for some time have supplied the army and navy at that port with bread, lost the contract this year. In order to keep their machinery going—for the lost contract called for nearly 1,000 loaves per day—prices have been reduced in order if possible to increase the output. Bread is offered to dealers at 15 cents per dozen loaves less than the former price, or for 3½ cents per loaf of two pounds.

On Friday last a meeting of lobster packers and others interested in the lobster industry was held in Moncton, N.B. Mr. R. A. Chapman, local inspector, was appointed chairman, and Hon. O. J. LeBlanc, of Buctouche, secretary. The lobster regulations were fully discussed by Prof. Prince, Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa, Henry O'Leary of Richibucto, W. S. Loggie of Chatham, Tanner of Pictou, Sproul of Digby, O. M. Melanson of Shediac, and others. It is to be hoped that the result of the meeting will be greater unison between the packers and the Departmental authorities.

Some time ago Messrs. Merritt Bros. & Co., says a St. John exchange, sent out to Dominica thirty-three crates for the purpose of packing bananas in. This idea was not carried out, and instead the crates were filled with oranges. The fruit came by the "Taymouth Castle," and this morning, when discharged from the steamer, it was found to be in splendid condition. The crates are a little larger than the ordinary orange box, and are made by means of two ends and slats. This allows the air to freely circulate among the fruit and keeps it sound. The above is the first shipment of oranges in crates to St. John.

#### MUNICIPAL MEMORANDA.

Petrolea is to be lighted by electricity early in January.

Taxable property in London has been increased by \$250,700.

The corporation of Montreal has succeeded in renewing the old loan of \$1,000,000 for six months at 3½ per cent. net. It was negotiated by the Banque du Peuple.

Mr. J. B. Laing has been appointed to investigate the affairs of Arthur village and report upon them. There appears reason to conclude that the accounts of the municipality are in a state of confusion, a number of the ratepayers having petitioned the Government to have this investigation made.