

have advanced money on long-date notes as collateral security. This means that on a \$120 implement the manufacturer has been losing in three years time about \$20, without counting cost of collection, bad debts, etc., which always accompany the credit system. Some of the lines of credit given to agricultural implement makers by the banks of Canada are a source of wonder to those in other departments of industry, but there is reason to believe that the facilities thus granted have led some, if not all, of our manufacturers to expand and produce a greater quantity than the market demands, the result being a glut and heavy loss. Three years credit without interest would ruin any industry in the world, even if it were a Grit newspaper run on Commercial Union principles.

WOMAN'S opportunity for the study of mechanics is not sufficient to develop to any great extent the faculty of invention, but sometimes within her own sphere she has made valuable contributions in labor saving devices. A lady in Minnesota has thought out a self-threading sewing machine needle, and a number of her wealthy neighbors have thought it of sufficient merit to form a joint stock company, with a quarter of a million or more of capital to put it on the world's markets. Patents have been applied for in Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, the Australian Colonies, Canada and the United States, and already secured in some of these countries. The American patent has been in litigation for some time because an unscrupulous person who saw a sample needle filed a claim in the Patent office in Washington, and several thousand dollars have been expended so far in the contest. We learn that the details of the device and its preparation for the market are being worked out in Paris, Ontario, where the only sewing machine needle manufactory in Canada is located. We hope the lady and her enterprising friends will meet with success.

THE *Canadian Manufacturer* continues to call loudly for an export duty, not only on the crude ore, but on its semi-manufactured form as "matte." It is certainly most desirable, it is almost imperatively necessary that the manufacturing process should be completed in the Province. The question is, will not the enlightened self-interest of those who may control the mines insure this, without either the objectionable export duty, or the Government bonus asked for by Mr. Ritchie? To the uninitiated it seems as if the cost of carriage, on the one hand, and of fuel and other raw material needed, on the other, should settle the question. The first is, of course, wholly in favor of home manufacture, and it is scarcely possible, one would think, that the second could counterbalance it. There is, of course, no reason why labor and the cost of living should not be wholly favorable to manufacture in Ontario. These are questions for capitalists and experts, but they should be decided before Government aid is sought in either of the ways mentioned. At the same time it seems clear to us that, if either an export duty or a bonus of some sort be proved to be a *sine qua non* of home manufacture, the argument, on *protectionist principles*, in favor of such duty or bonus would be stronger than that in support of almost any form in which a tax for protection is now imposed.—*The Week*.

THERE is a man in the civil service of the Ontario Govern-

ment named O'Donoghue who draws his salary with great regularity. This man is also chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council, and in that capacity is constantly endeavoring to stir up strife and discontent between employers of labor and their employees. One of his latest efforts in this direction is to demand the enforcement of the Ontario Factories' Act, which requires that not less than one hour at noon shall be allowed for meals to all women and children employed in factories. The merits of this particular matter are discussed elsewhere in this issue. It is not conducive to pleasant feelings on the part of manufacturers to observe that a man who is in the civil service of the Government should be always a mischiefmaker and an incendiary, whose great object is to create ill feelings and distrust between employers and employees. It may be said that he is a crank who represents the views of none beside himself—that he is harmless. This is a mistake. He has so forced himself upon certain unthinking ones that they cannot rid themselves of him; and he has a following of men who are never so well pleased as when they are creating discontent and stirring up strife. He is a mischiefmaker who ought to be suppressed. Being in the pay of the Ontario Government common decency demands that he should be made to conduct himself with propriety or be given the grand bounce.

THE learned Prof. Holden, of Lick University, has discovered in the moon parallel walls, metallic in appearance, with tops two hundred feet thick and not more than twelve hundred yards apart. If these walls are of aluminum or nickel ore, it is a great pity that they are too far away to be serviceable in building new ships for our navy.—*St. Louis Stoves and Hardware*.

Some children cry for the moon, and others cry for the imaginary mountains of nickle that are supposed to exist there. No use in crying. Canada has mountains of nickle ore, and whatever nickle Uncle Sam may need in manufacturing armor plates for his war vessels will of necessity be drawn from Canadian mines. But he should be made to pay Canada for it say fifteen cents per pound, that being the duty he imposed upon it before the McKinley land slide. Impose the duty.

An experiment was made a few days ago by naval officials of the United States at Annapolis, Maryland, to ascertain what effect cold will have on nickel armor plates. A Holtzer six-inch projectile was fired at a nickel armor plate which had been frozen to a point four degrees below zero. The plate was reduced in temperature by a packing of ice and salt at its back. The shot, the seventh projectile fired at the plate, was the same in character as those used in the tests several months ago. The projectile penetrated the plate about the same distance that the previous shots did, but did not go through it, and, as far as could be observed, had no greater effect upon the plate than when it was at normal temperature. Cold weather, it is held, therefore, will not render the nickel-steel armor of war vessels easier to penetrate.

THE advocates of an export duty on nickel ore say that it would be far more profitable for Canada to refine the nickel and sell the finished product than simply to sell the ore or the matte. This is begging the question. What is denied is not the profitableness of refining and manufacturing nickel, but the power of the Government to create such an industry by means of an export duty. The state of the iron industry