

creditors, "Resolved, that it is the opinion of this meeting that, if possible, every dollar of principal due to such creditors should be paid, and that only as to time of payment and rate of interest should reorganization be attempted." The Brandon Board of Trade, it seems, has been the mover in the proceeding which brought out this resolution. To the Board of Trade, therefore, we would point out that the resolution has an ugly sound. If by "reorganization" is meant a hoped for pacific arrangement, under which creditors shall agree to take a reduced rate of interest, and an extension of time to pay it, the resolution should say so. But to speak of the town's paying its debts, "if possible," is too like a suggestion of repudiation to be palatable to bondholders or creditable to the municipality of Brandon. The credit of Manitoba, as well as of Brandon, would be smirched if that city squirmed out of its just debts, and the protest of the Winnipeg bankers is timely.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The past month has witnessed a remarkable movement of cheese and butter to the United Kingdom. For October, Canadian exports of butter to Great Britain were 42,849 cwts., as against 22,154 cwts. the same month in the previous year. Large as this increase is, it is unimportant when compared with the phenomenal increase in cheese exports. In the case of butter, this increase has been sufficient to bring the total movement of the year up to a point much in excess of that of previous years, viz.: 115,182 cwts., as against 92,968 cwts. in 1897, and 69,351 cwts. in 1896. The butter demand in Great Britain has been very good, and of late shipments of butter from France have been smaller than usual, and other sources of supply have been drawn upon. The weather in Argentina has been very unfavorable to the production of butter, while currency difficulties have also stood in the way of export trade from this country. The total cheese shipments for the nine months ending 31st October, are less than the same period of 1897, being 1,170,769 cwts., as against 1,218,166 cwts. to the same date in 1897. The movement in this last year was exceptionally large, however, as only 986,669 cwts. were sent to date in 1896. The total imports of cheese in the United Kingdom during the present year have been less than those of the past year.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Advices have reached the Department of Marine and Fisheries that the Brazil market for Canadian fish has never looked so favorable as it does at present. It is stated that the shipments to date are several thousand quintals ahead of last year.

It is predicted that the rise of a class of men with expert knowledge of the dairy industry, acquired as government experts, will soon lead to the destruction of the co-operative system of cheese and butter making. These men are gradually leaving the government service, and going into business on their own account.

The authorities at Ottawa announce, as a result of the past season's experiments with fruit, that a good market exists in England for Canadian pears. Two-thirds of the shipments of fruit this season have consisted of pears, which invariably arrived in good condition, and gave remunerative returns. This is a class of fruit of the tender variety, upon which Canadian growers will have to concentrate their attention principally. The peach shipments cannot be said to have been a success, because that experience has not yet shown the exact time the fruit should be packed. Sometimes the shipments would be too ripe, and in that event would be spoiled before arrival in Liverpool. At other times, they would not be ripe enough, consequently the fruit would be tasteless. Professor Robertson therefore inclines to the belief that it will not be advisable to ship either peaches or grapes. In regard to the latter, a taste for Canadian-grown grapes has to be acquired, and reports to hand state that it was difficult to find purchasers for them in the Old Country.

According to advices, the first shipments of new crop Persian dates to the United States and Canada, via Southampton, will be made on the 26th inst. The steamer to London from Bussorah arrived there on Saturday last.

The new factory at Letang, N.B., established this year by J. Sutton Clark, with G. K. Wetmore, of Deer Island, as superintendent, began operations last week. The factory is equipped with machinery imported from France by a company who intend to operate a factory near Quebec, to produce an article as near as possible to the French pack, but as the raw material could not be secured in sufficient quantities where the plant was established, the project was a failure, and business ceased.—Eastport Sentinel.

According to the Boston Fish Bureau, receipts of mackerel this week are considerably smaller in quantity, and the demand has fallen off considerably. Receipts of foreign in Boston have been 546 bbls., of which 370 were Irish, and the remainder Canadian. The Irish continue to be the same in quality, and are quoted at \$19 per bbl. The Canadian receipts are principally large 3's, which are in good demand at about \$13 per bbl. ex-steamer. No more mackerel receipts of any account are looked for this season from Canada, as the season is over at the Magdalen Islands and Prince Edward Island.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

R.C.D., London.—The new charter for the city of Montreal is still being discussed by the Council, and many of the influential citizens take a deep interest in the proposed measure, which will, of course, have to run the gauntlet of the Legislature at Quebec. The committee appointed to investigate the civic affairs of Montreal is composed of aldermen Ames, Beausoliel, Pagnuelo and McBride.

HOLDER, Acton.—"I was reading your article on the Select Knights, and the way they mostly acted, that you said was wrong. Now, I want to know if a man can't quit when he wants to off such a society. And if he can what is it that he ought to do, for to do the square thing?"

[We reply that members of mutual societies of the kind, if they want to cease membership, should pay up every assessment and all dues up to the time they leave. Then they should give up their certificates to the society, and give notice in writing, as the Insurance Act orders. This is the proper way to get rid of future liability. Ed. M. T.]

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

ROSSLAND in 1898.—This is a forty-four page quarto, filled with descriptions and illustrations of the city of Rossland and its neighborhood; facts and figures about the city's development; a sketch of the geological formation of the district and the progress of the mines. The Board of Trade of Rossland has got out this handsome book, in part with the object of sending it out in reply to the numerous enquiries which come from Great Britain. It will make interesting reading, for it describes the efforts and achievements of a rarely vigorous community.

THE WINNIPEG DISTRICT.—A pamphlet issued by a committee of three bodies; the City Council of Winnipeg, the Board of Trade, and the Retailers' Association, of the same city. It informs the reader, not only about the city, but as to the farming districts near it. There are illustrations and maps.

THE YELLOW DANGER.—The threatening aspect of affairs in the East, and the unwonted excitement over certain movements in the direction of European armaments which late days have witnessed, lends interest to this book, whose scope reminds one in some respects of "The Final War." The author of "The Yellow Danger," imagines an incursion of hordes of Chinese into Europe, and a combination of Japan and China to crush European nations by means of the numerical preponderance of the Chinese, assisted by clever management of the Japanese fleet. Yen How is the demon of the play, but he is checkmated by the singular ability of a young Englishman, John Hardy. The book is a marvel of ingenuity and naval information. The sea-fights are splendidly described;