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Mercantile Summary

An explosion took place last Monday in the Ottawa Carbide Company's works, at Victoria Island, whereby one man was killed and another injured, and nearly \$10,000 worth of damage to property was caused.

WE observe with pleasure that Mr. A. E. Ames, president of the Toronto Board of Trade, has accepted an invitation to attend the fifth annual dinner of the Canadian Society of New York at the Waldorf-Astoria, on 7th November.

MANY will hear with regret that Colin, McArthur & Co.'s wall paper factory, in Mentreal, was this week practically destroyed by fire. Loss, \$50,000. fires during the week were at the London, Ont., Tobacco Company's works; loss, \$25,000; insurance, \$12,000; and at Minota, Man., where Breen's general store was destroyed at a loss of about \$20,000.

WE learn from the Vancouver World that the catch of the Behring Sea fleet is expected to total about 13,000 or 14,-000 fur seals, and with the coast catch of 7,000, the 22,000 taken on the Pribyloffs, the 10,000 taken off the Copper Islands, and the Japanese catch, the world's catch of fur seals this year will amount to about 54,000 skins, which means that there will be from 10,000 to 20,000 seal skin sacques available for the ladies out of this year's catch.

SAYS a Vancouver paper of 21st Oct.: There have been some heavy shipments east of British Columbia product lately. On Friday five carloads of lumber and shingles were shipped to Northwestern and Ontario points by local sawmills. On Saturday four carloads of canned salmon and six of lumber were shipped east over the C.P.R., from this city. Two carloads, 170 barrels, of salmon oil, were brought up from the "Oilery" on Saturday morning by the steamer "Transfer," also for shipment by the C.P.R. to England.

THE Consumers' Gas Company held their 53rd annual meeting in Toronto on Monday last. The receipts during the year were shown to be \$786,814, and the expenditure \$503,977. Out of the profits, dividends amounting to \$174,606 were paid. It was stated that the consumption of gas for illuminating purposes had fallen off somewhat, owing to the increasing use of patent burners, gas regulators and reflectors; the whole consumption however, totalling up to about as much as usual owing to the greater use of gas for heating purposes. The old board of directors was re-elected, as follows: A. W. Austin, J. L. Blaikie, Henry Cawthra, Vice-President George R. R. Cockburn, M.A.; Isaac C. Gilmor, Geo. Gooderham, James Henderson, M.A., D.C.L.; Thomas Long, E. B. Osler, M.P.; President L. W. Smith, K.C., D.C.L.; A. J. Somerville, and Thomas R. Wood. At a subsequent meeting of directors, Mr. Larratt W. Smith was reelected president, and Mr. G. R. R. Cockburn, vice-president.

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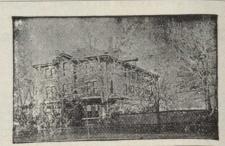
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