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## Mercantile Summary.

The Velvet Portland Mine, at Portland, B.C. has now started up a compressor plant.

The Western Ontario Cordage Company, Limited, of London, has been incorporated with a share capital of \$300,000. Messrs. D. C. Cowan, and T. H. Purdom are among the incorporators.

The Royal Canadian Yacht Club's building in Toronto, was on Monday last destroyed by fire, which broke out during the progress of a dance. The loss is placed at \$15,000

The Dominion Brass Works last week inaugurated their new factory at Port Colborne, Ontario, with a luncheon and entertainment of that town's leading citizens, after which the machinery was set in motion by the manager.

The Dominion Government has awarded the contract for the construction of a new steel tug to a Victoria, B.C., machinery concern, the price to be about \$30,000. It will be 85 feet long, 17 feet beam, and 12½ feet deep in the hold. The indicated horsepower will be 280, and the speed about 11½ or 12 knots.

A man of importance in the commercial and financial affairs of St. John's, Quebec, Mr. Louis Molleur, died in that town last week. Mr. Molleur was born in L'Acadie, in 1828, and moved to St. John's, to reside there, in 1867. He was the leading spirit in the establishment of the St. John's Bank, of which he was president till last year, and he built the St. John's waterworks in 1872. He represented the County of Iberville in the Legislature of Quebec from 1867 to 1881. The deceased gentleman was a man of much energy and business capacity, and maintained his strength until late in life, for he was 76 years of age when he died.

The following is a list of patents recently secured through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal and Washington: 88,600, Eduard C. Carstens, Oldenburg, Germany, extension tables; 88,636, Wm. R. Bawden, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, Clinostat, for surveying deep bore holes; 88,649, Evence Coppee, Brussels, Belgium, coke ovens; 88,657, John Glover Nicol, Worcester, Eng., gloves; 88,734, Niels G. Sorenson, Stockholm, Sweden, manufacturer of boards from round logs of wood; 88,769, Stanislas M. Barre, Winnipeg, heating and pasteurizing apparatus; 88,790, Frederick Wm. Bursill, Marlborough, N.Z., means of securing fencing wires in standards, swingers, etc.

From Sydney, N. S., we learn of the following recent mercantile failures. James A. McLean, a grocer, writes his creditors that owing to the strike at the steel works, and prevalence of smallpox in the town, he is unable to pay in full, and proposes that his creditors shall release him on payment of 25 per cent. of their claims, amounting to about \$1,500.—The assignment is

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reported of W. E. Barron, originally a miner, who started as a retail grocer about three years ago. A suit for some \$400 instituted by a Montreal house, several weeks ago, apparently brought matters to a focus.—Max Wener, formerly a peddler in various districts of the Province of Nova Scotia, but for some little time settled in the clothing business at Sydney, is offering his creditors 30 cents on the dollar.—B. Kanter, who used to do dry goods business in the name of his wife, Sarah Kanter, but has been operating in his own name since September 1901, has had suits and judgments recorded against him of late by Montreal firms, and has now assigned.