

brutal and cowardly drivers are most insolent so that many citizens are loathe to interfere although they would dearly love to see the evil practise ended.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is doing a most laudable work in hunting down and punishing brutal drivers. These men, however, cannot be everywhere and unless citizens report cases to them and are willing to go into court and give evidence the evil will go unchecked. In this connection we must recommend the attitude of Mr. Recorder Semple who shows a disposition to take the word of the ordinary citizen against that of the brutal and cowardly bully who is up for ill-treating his horse. His Honour rightly concludes that a business man who takes sufficient time from his work to lodge a complaint and appear in court against a brutal driver should be believed in preference to the man charged with the offence. In practically every case these men will endeavour to save themselves by deliberately lying which, after all, is only to be expected from a cowardly brute who will beat a defenceless horse. We hope that the Recorder will deal with these cases as severely and relentlessly as the Law will allow and we also hope that citizens who are interested in seeing poor dumb animals receive kind treatment will co-operate in putting down the present inexcusable brutality.

THE DEPARTMENTAL STORE.

The opening by the Hudson Bay Company of a monster departmental store at Calgary calls fresh attention to the part departmental stores are playing in the economic life of the people to-day. The opening of the store in Calgary by this Company is the first of a series which they expect to open throughout the West. It also marks a new departure for this old established concern which for some hundreds of years have been engaged almost entirely in the fur trade of the country. The cost of the Calgary establishment, including land, building and goods, is \$3,000,000. The company is now building a store in Vancouver to cost \$4,000,000 and another in Victoria to cost \$1,250,000. After this, stores in Winnipeg to cost \$7,000,000, and in Edmonton to cost \$1,500,000 will be built as well as stores in a dozen other small centres. In so far as this company is concerned, the passing of the fur trade probably forced the directors into the retail business. Previously, their retail operations were carried on with Indians at trading posts; now, they are catering to the people of our largest western cities.

Economists, who have studied departmental stores and their work all agree that the stores of the future will be fewer in number but of larger dimensions. The departmental store is

a creation of the present generation. It is believed that the departmental store of the future will establish chains of smaller stores or branches in the smaller cities and serve the public through one central buying and distributing centre. This would seem to be the policy which is being put into practice by the Hudson Bay Stores in the West. In a measure the same is true of all large departmental stores both in Canada and the United States. As soon as a store is firmly established in a large city, it establishes branches in other cities.

The growth of the departmental stores has been remarkable. Last year the sales of one Chicago Mail Order house exceeded \$90,000,000 an increase of \$13,000,000 over the sales for the previous year. It is estimated that from Chicago mail order houses alone that over 9,000 tons of catalogues will be sent out this Fall. In the United States, the parcels post is proving a very profitable innovation for the departmental stores and a very large increase in their business has taken place as the result of the change. In Canada, the departmental stores are also strongly in favor of the establishing of a parcels post. This country, although with a population less than 8,000,000, has a large number of very excellent departmental stores, some of whom have several thousand employees. The spread of these stores is causing considerable hardship to the small retailer in small places. Probably the change is working hardships to him, but all economic changes cause a certain amount of hardship and readjustment. The only thing the retailer can do is to take a leaf out of the departmental stores policy and advertise and in other ways carry on a more aggressive campaign than he has done heretofore. Despite this, however, it looks as if this was the age of consolidation and of big things and as the result the influence of the departmental store is likelier to increase rather than decrease.

WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF COAL AND OIL.

In connection with discussion of increased use of oil as fuel, it has been estimated that the world's production of oil in weight is about equal to 4% of production in weight of coal. A British estimate of production of oil and coal in the world is as follows, in metric tons:

	Coal	Oil
1901.....	789,000,000	19,940,000
1902.....	803,000,000	22,868,000
1903.....	881,000,000	26,232,000
1904.....	887,000,000	27,993,000
1905.....	940,000,000	27,096,000
1906.....	1,000,000,000	28,250,000
1907.....	1,114,000,000	34,718,000
1908.....	1,065,000,000	37,184,000
1909.....	1,099,000,000	39,988,000
1910.....	1,151,000,000	43,455,000

The coal estimates include 110,000,000 tons of lignite of low thermal efficiency. The usual calculation is that 13 tons of good coal are equal in caloric power to 10 tons of oil.