

Mercantile Summary.

THE Royal Crown Soap Company are erecting an extension to their factory at Winnipeg.

A. McKILLOP & SONS' large grist mills and bent goods factory at West Lorne, Ont., were last Saturday destroyed by fire. Loss nearly \$25,000 with small insurance. The mills are to be rebuilt at once.

A BY-LAW is to be submitted to the Winnipeg city council providing for the imposition of a high license upon transient traders. Transient dealers in manufactured furs will be charged \$700 for a license to do business here and those handling other lines \$500.

A PERMANENT exhibition is to be established at Delagoa Bay, South Africa, and it is recommended by corresponding members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association as a very good medium for Canadians to introduce their goods on the South African markets.

THE first convention of the Canadian Master Bakers' Association was held in Toronto this week, over 150 representative bakers, employers of labor, from all parts of the Dominion, being present. Some useful papers of a technical nature were read, but the chief discussion took place on subjects appertaining to labor unionism. Objection was not raised so much to workers organizing, but it was agreed that employers, in order to retain their liberty of action, should do the same. The chief danger to trade comes from ignorant and poorly-led unionists. One of the most interesting papers was read by Mr. George Weston, of Toronto, the subject being "Book-keeping for Bakers."

A MINNEAPOLIS paper states that the grinding of Canadian wheat in bond is certain to become a profitable and extensive department of the milling of that city. Experiments made by the Washburn-Crosby Company demonstrate the entire practicability of the plan. They show, it says, that Canadian wheat can be ground in Minneapolis at a profit to the millers sufficient to assure the building of elevators and mills for exclusive handling of bonded wheat.

THE German customs authorities have announced their decision to require certificates of origin for grain coming from the United States. This is no doubt directed against Canada, it being the custom of United States warehousemen to mix Canadian with their own wheat for the purpose of improving the latter's quality. The German Government has for some time levied a retaliatory duty of 15 per cent. against Canadian wheat owing to Canada's preferential treatment of Great Britain, but unless they adopt this plan of wanting a certificate of origin from the United States, this enactment loses much of its force. The difference now existing between the duties on Canadian and United States grain averages about 5 cents per bushel, which practically excludes the former from the German market.

THE annual meeting of the Chartered Stenographic Reporters' Association was held in Toronto on Saturday afternoon. The reports of the council and secretary-treasurer proved the association to be in a highly flourishing condition. The incoming council was authorized to continue the negotiations undertaken by last year's council looking towards the affiliation of the junior shorthand writers' organization, and the establishing of an examining board for granting credentials of qualification to teachers. An address was delivered by President Tyson, who assured the young stenographers present that there is room at the top in the stenographic, as in other occupations. He also dwelt upon the fact that there is a lack of young stenographers coming forward whose efficiency is such that they give promise of being competent to fill important positions in the higher grades of the profession. The two subjects in which candidates for the diploma most frequently fail are speed and English.

IMPORTANT FOR OUR DAIRY INTERESTS.

It is shown by Government statistics that during the last fiscal year the total consumption of butter in Great Britain and Ireland was 256,000 tons, of which the colonies, including Canada, supplied only 25,000 tons, or but little over 10 per cent., indeed less than 15 per cent. of the total import. From foreign countries Britain imported 150,000 tons while the home production is placed at 80,000 tons. Canada and the Antipodean colonies did better in cheese, the total Colonial import during the year amounting to 80,000 tons, or 80 per cent. of a total consumption of 266,000 tons, and 60 per cent. of the quantity imported. During a recent visit to the Old Country, Mr. A. F. MacLaren, M.P., made a practical inspection of the market conditions there. He declares that the great drawback to Canadian trade in dairy produce is the lack of proper facilities for storing and handling our butter and cheese upon its arrival in British ports. He points out that cold storage during transportation is valueless unless the product is placed into cold storage immediately upon its arrival, and means taken to have it reach the British dealer and consumer in prime condition. To this end he recommends the appointment of a Canadian commercial representative in Great Britain, with agents under him at the several ports of discharge.

TRADE MATTERS.

John Macdonald & Co. are now showing a full assortment of "Crescent" brand dress goods, Seabelle serges, "Diamond" shirts, Belwarp worsteds and serges, fancy wool knitted goods, ready-to-wear goods and some special lines in every department.

We are informed that Mr. W. J. Cassidy has retired from the Toronto book-

binding firm of Wilson, Munroe and Cassidy, and that the business will be carried on in future under the name of Wilson, Munroe & Company. All accounts will be payable to the new firm, who also assume all liabilities.

The W. R. Brock Co., limited, Toronto, report an exceptionally heavy rush of business this week. From present indications it looks as if it will beat all previous records. This house recently published a handsome little book, giving lists of special goods which they were offering for Exhibition visitors. Many have taken advantage of the bargains offered.

The Union Petroleum Co., of Canada, Limited, Toronto, has elected Mr. A. E. Lewis, its president; A. C. Woodman, vice-president; F. M. Van Zant, secretary-treasurer. This is the company which the other day took over the Canadian business of the Atlantic Refining Co. It is affiliated with the Union Petroleum Co., of Philadelphia, and they control the output of refineries with an aggregate capacity of 30,000 barrels per month.

The business heretofore carried on in Montreal, under the name of the Lindsay-Nordheimer Company, and formerly as the private enterprise of Mr. C. W. Lindsay, is to become a joint stock company, under the title of C. W. Lindsay, Limited, with a capital stock of \$400,000. Mr. H. H. Godfrey, the well known song writer of Toronto, will second Mr. Lindsay in the management of the new company, which will handle Heintzman & Co.'s pianos, and act as agents for the Chickering piano, of Boston.

UNITED STATES FINANCES.

Messrs. Henry Clews & Co., New York, in their circular, under date of August 30th, 1902: The stock market has been dominated by a series of somewhat conflicting influences, such as good crops, the coal strike, monetary restrictions, reduction of Reading and Southern dividends and the manipulation of specialties by a few powerful operators. A strong undertone prevailed, and a real courageous bear on the situation it is impossible to find; but thus far there are no signs of genuine activity on the part of those best able to lead a bull market and likely to command a public following. With the return of many wealthy men from vacations there is naturally a growing activity; and while stocks are so tenaciously held it is comparatively easy for those with sufficient backing to mark their favorites a few points or even to record-breaking prices. Such operations, however, create little enthusiasm; they serve rather to create distrust because of their evident artificial character. The controlling element in the situation is, of course, the crops. While the outlook in this respect is less brilliant than a month ago, it is nevertheless certain that we shall have large crops of wheat, corn, oats and hay. This