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Mercantile Summary.

SHERBROOKE Board of Trade banqueted ex-president W. R. Webster, on his retirement after three years' tenure of office.

SUMMERSIDE, P.E.I., Board of Trade is communicating with steamship companies with a view to securing a direct line from that port to Sydney, C.B.

THE Stuart-Arbutnot Machinery Company has been incorporated with a capital of \$49,000, of four hundred and ninety shares. The head office is at Winnipeg.

FIRE destroyed the Academy of Music, Quebec's leading theatre, last Sunday morning. Mr. Charlebois, the owner, places his loss at \$80,000, and the insurance amounts to only \$13,000. The insurance companies interested are the North British & Mercantile, the Royal, and the Imperial.

MR. J. A. AULD, M.P.P., of Essex, states that there are now twenty-five factories handling Canadian tobacco leaf. This means he says, that \$600,000 a year, that used to go to the United States, now finds its way into the pockets of Canadian farmers. The consumption of the home grown weed is growing rapidly, and last year it amounted to 9,000,000 lbs., or nearly one-third of the entire amount of tobacco consumed.

ONE of the most important suggestions embodied in the report of the general committee on revision of customs laws, appointed by the Merchants' Association, of New York, which report has been presented to President McKinley, is, briefly, that hearings before the general appraisers shall be open and public, and that all testimony shall be reduced to writing, and subscribed and sworn to by the witnesses who give it.

A BUSINESS carried on at Yamaska East, Que., under the style of F. M. Tourigny & Co., and on a sort of co-operative basis, has evidently not proved a success, and is to be liquidated, a Montreal accountant being in charge, and preparing a statement. The business, a general one, was conducted as a special partnership, Mr. Tourigny being the general partner and manager, under salary, while sixty odd farmers contributed capital to the amount of something over \$6,000. It is hoped that one hundred cents will be realized to the creditors, but alas! for the money of the farmers.

A DESCRIPTION of the Greenwood, B.C., electric company's plant is interesting. The plant consists of one 250 h.p., high speed, McEwen engine, made by the Waterous Engine Works Co., of Brantford. Of the three boilers, two were supplied by the Waterous Co., and one was made in Montreal. The electrical machinery consists of one 150 kilo-watt Stanley alternator and exciter, with switchboard for 3,000 lamps; also a switchboard and step-up transformer for lighting the town of Phoenix, four and one-half miles away, transmitted by three copper wires. The bulk of material has been supplied by a construction company, in Nelson.

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References—Bank of New South Wales,
Sydney; J. S. Larke, Esq., Canadian
Gov't Trade Commissioner, Sydney

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