

BIG INDUSTRIES TO COME TO CANADA

Chairman Tanner's Section of Board of Trade Predicts Brighter Future.

The report of the J. Sinclair, chairman of the tanners' section of the board of trade, was read last night at the meeting at the National Club. The report for 1920 follows:

Gentlemen: At the last annual meeting of this section of the Toronto Board of Trade many new conditions were pointed out as well as many obstacles which confronted our industry at that time. These we have had to meet and overcome as best we could along with many new and unforeseen difficulties which developed from time to time throughout the year.

The year 1920 will no doubt be an outstanding one in the minds of all tanners in this country. Never before in the history of the trade have we been confronted with such high costs on the one hand and such fluctuations in prices on the other, nor have we ever been called upon to exercise keener judgment on the trend of the market. During the year we have been faced with steadily declining prices for hides and leather until many competent authorities consider that today we have reached lower levels than the circumstances would justify.

On the other hand manufacturing costs, labor, fuel, freight rates, etc., increased in leaps and bounds while efficiency of labor decreased until today we find that production costs are about 50 per cent. higher than what would appear from the actual increase in wages.

Heavy Cancellations. In the spring of this year we were faced with heavy cancellations, due largely to the retail shoe trade cancelling orders and returning shipments to the manufacturers who, in turn, cancelled unfilled orders with the tanners. This spread like an epidemic to other branches of the leather trade, consumers stopped buying, the adverse exchange situation has prevented our seeking foreign markets, and curtailment has since been the order of the day.

Our neighbors across the line are perhaps in an even worse plight. It is almost a characteristic of theirs to be either walking on the ridge of the road or peering down the abyss. The banks have brought pressure to bear in many quarters, with the result that tanners and jobbers from across the line have been dumping their stocks in Canada at prices ruinous to themselves even on replacement values, a practice which should be discouraged as it tends only to demoralize our markets and prolong our period of reconstruction and in the end all are losers.

Land of Optimists. However, this gloom of ours is a land of optimists. While we are passing thru this period of reconstruction which we have all looked forward to is no time for pessimism. Values of all commodities will soon be on a sterner basis; the public at large will have more confidence in the market and the world shortage which exists today our people will produce profitably and at far greater volume than we have seen in the past. Our country has been prosperous and at the present time the eyes of the whole world are on Canada. One can see in the near future a vast immigration of moneyed interests to our country, a new and greater development of our natural resources, our minerals will not only be mined but smelted and refined at home rather than in other countries, and the effect will be a decided stimulus to both manufacturing and agricultural pursuits.

G. A. W. V. FESTIVAL. G. A. W. V. enthusiasts met in secret last night at the armories, when the festival was at its height. Numbers were drawn for the prizes. The winners: No. 1555, \$25.00; No. 1556, \$25.00; No. 1557, \$25.00; No. 1558, \$25.00; No. 1559, \$25.00; No. 1560, \$25.00; No. 1561, \$25.00; No. 1562, \$25.00; No. 1563, \$25.00; No. 1564, \$25.00; No. 1565, \$25.00; No. 1566, \$25.00; No. 1567, \$25.00; No. 1568, \$25.00; No. 1569, \$25.00; No. 1570, \$25.00; No. 1571, \$25.00; No. 1572, \$25.00; No. 1573, \$25.00; No. 1574, \$25.00; No. 1575, \$25.00; No. 1576, \$25.00; No. 1577, \$25.00; No. 1578, \$25.00; No. 1579, \$25.00; No. 1580, \$25.00; No. 1581, \$25.00; No. 1582, \$25.00; No. 1583, \$25.00; No. 1584, \$25.00; No. 1585, \$25.00; No. 1586, \$25.00; No. 1587, \$25.00; No. 1588, \$25.00; No. 1589, \$25.00; No. 1590, \$25.00; No. 1591, \$25.00; No. 1592, \$25.00; No. 1593, \$25.00; No. 1594, \$25.00; No. 1595, \$25.00; No. 1596, \$25.00; No. 1597, \$25.00; No. 1598, \$25.00; No. 1599, \$25.00; No. 1600, \$25.00; No. 1601, \$25.00; No. 1602, \$25.00; No. 1603, \$25.00; No. 1604, \$25.00; No. 1605, \$25.00; No. 1606, \$25.00; 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No. 2243, \$25.00; No. 2244, \$25.00; No. 2245, \$25.00; No. 2246, \$25.00; No. 2247, \$25.00; No. 2248, \$25.00; No. 2249, \$25.00; No. 2250, \$25.00; No. 2251, \$25.00; No. 2252, \$25.00; No. 2253, \$25.00; No. 2254, \$25.00; No. 2255, \$25.00; No. 2256, \$25.00; No. 2257, \$25.00; No. 2258, \$25.00; No. 2259, \$25.00; No. 2260, \$25.00; No. 2261, \$25.00; No. 2262, \$25.00; No. 2263, \$25.00; No. 2264, \$25.00; No. 2265, \$25.00; No. 2266, \$25.00; No. 2267, \$25.00; No. 2268, \$25.00; No. 2269, \$25.00; No. 2270, \$25.00; No. 2271, \$25.00; No. 2272, \$25.00; No. 2273, \$25.00; No. 2274, \$25.00; No. 2275, \$25.00; No. 2276, \$25.00; No. 2277, \$25.00; No. 2278, \$25.00; No. 2279, \$25.00; No. 2280, \$25.00; No. 2281, \$25.00; No. 2282, \$25.00; No. 2283, \$25.00; No. 2284, \$25.00; No. 2285, \$25.00; No. 2286, \$25.00; No. 2287, \$25.00; No. 2288, \$25.00; No. 2289, \$25.00; No. 2290, \$25.00; No. 2291, \$25.00; No. 2292, \$25.00; No. 2293, \$25.00; No. 2294, \$25.00; No. 2295, \$25.00; No. 2296, \$25.00; No. 2297, \$25.00; No. 2298, \$25.00; No. 2299, \$25.00; No. 2300, \$25.00; No. 2301, \$25.00; No. 2302, \$25.00; No. 2303, \$2