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ANOTHER BIG MERGER.

Seven Canadian wholesale hardware houses are to amalgamate. The capital of the new company is to be \$5,000,000. Messrs. Jenkins & Hardy, Toronto, and Mr. E. W. McCarthy, New York, are understood to be the prime movers in the deal. Mr. G. Caverhill, of Caverhill, Learmont and Company, will probably be chief executive of the new organization.

Applications have been made to the London Stock Exchange to list £1,543,200 Canadian Northern Railway 5's, \$4,500,000 Mexican Northern Power 5's, £30,000 Canada Cement 6's, and \$13,500,000 common stock; \$600,000 Mexican Light & Power 7's, and £267,000 Spanish River Pulp 6's.

Because the 16-year-old, weak-minded son of Mr. Zephire Cheff, merchant of Dover East Township, set fire to the granary of Mr. Ambrose Thilodeau, the father must pay \$570.40 damages. The farmer sued for \$1,500. "The liability in this case, if any," says Mr. Justice Britton, "is because of the defendant not taking care of a dangerous human being—a dangerous animal which the defendant was harboring. As man is an animal, I may use that word in reference to the son of the defendant. This boy had the habit of smoking tobacco to excess, and of using lighted matches in places where damage would likely result. The defendant encouraged the son in the use of tobacco; that was contrary to law."

Mr. Oliver Cox, charged with burning the barns, stock and implements of his employer, Mr. Frank McNeil, of Ekfrid, some days ago, was found not guilty and dismissed.