

opened 30th ultimo, and settlements are 16,000 boxes. First shipment is expected in London about July 10.

The Woodstock, N.B., *Dispatch* says that Carleton county, in New Brunswick, is rapidly coming to the front as a cheese-making centre; the showing now made is small to what it will undoubtedly become in another decade. A competent authority informs the *Dispatch* that the nine cheese factories now erected in the county will turn out this year 180 tons of cheese.

Grocers are often blamed for adulteration of goods and light weights, and, unfortunately, there are often good reasons for complaint. But the following from a Guelph paper shows that they are not the only sinners in this respect. Our exchange says: "The chief constable came down on the butter vendors on the market this morning. As soon as he commenced weighing the parcels at one end there was a general stampede at the other. Nearly a dozen women caught up their baskets and proceeded to attend to urgent business elsewhere. The chief weighed twenty-five parcels and found seven light."

SHOE AND LEATHER ITEMS.

There is a growing tendency toward lightening the soles of children's shoes, even in the school wear. The good effect otherwise obtained by the sensible spring heel has often been destroyed, in great measure, by the thickness of the soles, in which there was too little flexibility for the good of the foot.

The stock of the W. D. Hepburn Co. will soon be open for subscription in Guelph. The company is formed to buy the Preston business of W. D. Hepburn and remove it to Guelph.

Notwithstanding an improvement in the weather, wholesale houses report business as extremely quiet. The unseasonable weather of May and of the opening week of the present month has set trade back to a position from which it will recover only with great difficulty.

A novelty in shoes worth mentioning, says a St. Louis exchange, comes from England, and is nothing less than a "bicycle" shoe. It is a sort of roller skate, and has affixed under the sole of each shoe, which is fastened to the foot by straps, two pneumatic wheels, built in precisely the same manner as those used in cycles. Locomotion on street sidewalks, by means of this invention, is said to be quite comfortable and rapid, a speed of seven to eight miles an hour being easily attained after a little practice. Quite a number of these roller shoes are already reported in use, their cost being about \$28 a pair.

The variety of tennis and sporting shoes is greater than ever. In the cheaper sorts the material is canvas and other textile fabrics and cheap leather. These differ more in color than in material; the shades are in black, white, brown, checks and stripes. Shapes and trimmings vary considerably; the lace is the popular fastener in all of them.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter*.

Mr. Gaspard Rochette, tanner and carrier of Quebec, is making a change in his business. He intends to abandon the making of black leather, for the purpose of inaugurating the making of sole leather, which will be the first industry of the kind in Quebec city. Mr. Rochette will employ about the same number of men as at present, but it is said will invest

\$50,000 additional capital in the new enterprise.

Leather merchants have a difficult task in attempting to look pleasant when speaking of the business done during the last several weeks. But a change for the better will undoubtedly take place soon, as all the factories will be working on fall orders shortly.

More trees are sold each succeeding year, which argues the increase of wisdom and taste. A boot-tree will do for both boots and shoes, and when kept on trees they retain their beauty and shape to the last; while they are at once easier to the feet and easier to clean. A fair substitute for these holders is cotton batting. Boots, therefore, allowed to dry empty are always heavy and stiff, and stock, instead of wearing, cracks.—*Shoe and Leather Review*.

Toronto fur buyers have just returned from Haliburton, where the annual spring meeting with the trappers was held. Among the pelts brought in there was one wolf skin. The trapping and hunting had extended over a district of more than 100 miles square, and although there is a large bounty for the production of wolf scalps, only one hide was brought in. It is clear that the wolf is nearly extinct.

TEXTILE NOTES.

The Exeter woolen mills were recently entered by burglars, and a considerable number of blankets, tweeds, stockings and yarns taken.

Last week we noted that the New Brunswick mill of the William Parks Company would be ready to start operations on May 31st. However, some of the employees in the warping and dressing departments refused to accept the wages offered, and are still on the strike.

Mr. Field, architect, of the Nonatuck and Corticelli Silk Company, is in St. John's, Que., planning the extension of the factory in that town.

The *St. Croix Courier* says that weavers are going from the cotton mill at St. Stephen, N.B., to the western provinces.

Some time ago the woolen mill of Jas. Sheene at Pennfield, N.B., was burned. It is now stated that Mr. Sheene contemplates rebuilding on the old site.

The Brantford cotton mills have started operations after being shut down three weeks. They have on about 175 hands, which is nearly the full complement.

The cordage works in Brantford will again resume operations if sufficient reduction be made in their taxes, which they regard as too exorbitant.

The Moncton, N.B., cotton mill resumed operations a week ago, and will run full time. The accumulated stock has been sold out.

The T. H. Taylor Company have now completed the rather extensive improvements which they have been making to their woolen factory at Chatham. Owing to the sliding of a treacherous creek bank on which stood their large brick chimney, it had to be taken down. This has been substituted by a 27-inch steel smoke stack 76 feet in height.

The C.P.R. telegraph authorities received word on Wednesday from Vancouver that the water is rapidly subsiding; that the worst is now over, and that there would be no difficulty in keeping up regular wire communication.

INSURANCE ITEMS.

"The Indicator's" Chart for 1894 of Canadian life insurance companies and foreign companies doing business in Canada, is just received. It shows the condition of these companies at the close of 1893, and the amount of business done for the five years ended with last year. Price 25 cents. Send to The Leavenworth Co., Detroit.

If any one wants to secure in a handy form the statistics showing, for example, the amount of money paid to policy-holders of fifty-five "old line" life companies of the United States, he can find it in "The Indicator's" Chart, just published, price 50 cents, 120 pages, Detroit, Mich. In 1889 the figure was \$83,179,000; by 1893 it had risen to \$106,821,000, and last year it was \$114,833,000.

The fire commissioners of Montreal held an enquiry on Tuesday last into the circumstances of the fire in Messrs. Evans & Sons' establishment on Sunday morning. The evidence went to show that it was caused by spontaneous combustion.

St. Henri is getting a new Bangor ladder to add to its fire appliances; it will have two Babcock engines attached.

The last report of the Insurance Commissioner of Pennsylvania takes strong ground as to assessment life assurance. The Commissioner calls for a law fixing a standard by which the assets of all companies can be measured. Mutual assessment companies, he says, "ought to be required to have on hand at all times in available assets at least the maximum amount named in their certificates, and failing in this, they ought to be adjudged insolvent and prohibited from doing business."

A meeting of the leading mutual fire insurance companies was held at the offices of the London Mutual Fire Co. in London, on Wednesday last, to discuss matters relating to insurance. The following insurance men were present: Hugo Kranz and W. Oelschlagel, Economical Mutual, Berlin; C. M. Taylor and John Killen, Waterloo Mutual, Waterloo; R. S. Strong and J. N. McKendrick, Gore Mutual, Galt; Charles Packert and A. Carmen, Perth Mutual, Stratford, and John A. Ross, Inspector, Wellington Mutual, Guelph. The London Mutual Fire Insurance Co. was represented by T. E. Robson, president; D. Black, vice-president; Angus Campbell, Richard Gibson, Robert McEwen, John Geary and C. C. Hodgins, directors; D. C. Macdonald, manager, and L. Leitch, inspector. Mr. Gibson occupied the chair.

A fire company is being organized at Sebringville, so says a western exchange.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIFE UNDERWRITERS.

The meeting for 1894 of the National Association of Life Underwriters of the United States will be held in Chicago on Tuesday the 19th inst. These gatherings have always been memorable, and evidently the coming one will prove no exception. Arrangements for the entertainment of the numerous delegates are progressing, and the life insurance men who attend will have something to look back upon for many a day. A banquet will be tendered the delegates on the evening of Thursday, the 21st, at which the following gentlemen will speak: John K. Stearns, president Chicago Life Underwriters' Association; Major Joseph Ashbrook, manager insurance department of the Provident Life and Trust Company, Philadelphia; Judge W. G. Ewing, Chicago; Mr.