

commerce of the Dominion a highway within our own country, one may plainly read between the lines a very grave apprehension on the part of our government that Brother Jonathan intends to tighten the screws on us rather than relax them.

With regard to new legislation very little is promised. That cumbersome, costly and much-belabored and belinkered old parliamentary parish—the Franchise Act—is promised another carthartic to see if its system cannot be purged of some more of its iniquity. The Civil Service Act is going to be amended, presumably with the intention of cutting down the already inadequate pay of the subordinate and increasing the fat salaries of the chiefs and deputies. That, with the exception of some remedial legislation for the North-west territories, about constitutes the amount of work that the 215 worthy burgesses of the Canadian House of Commons, and their 80 sleeping partners in the senate propose to grapple with this session.

And a lively session is anticipated. With mugwumpism rampant in Toronto, Dalton McCarthy, an avowed Independent, and prepared to fight to a finish on the Manitoba school question, and tariff reduction, and J. Israel Tarte after Caron with a tarred stick, the new premier will have a hard row to hoe for the next three months. No one doubts his ability to fill the position,—his intellectual equipment is of the best, his personal character is stainless, his fearlessness is admitted by all. It only remains to be seen if these qualities can withstand the combined onslaught of religious bigotry, the tireless siege of an able opposition, and the duplicity to be alas! naturally expected of some on his own side of the house in the hour of trial. Verily, the fight will be a very pretty one! It will have an Homeric flavor about it.

Ottawa.

BY-STANDER.

BOOK GOSSIP.

The Ladies' Home Journal is attired in the dainties of Valentine covers in shades of buff and brown, and its contents are as usual extremely good. J. Macdonald Oxley fills the place of honour with a capital story of Canadian life, "Mademoiselle Angeline." A clear-sighted article on American Girls and Titles is contributed by Vera Bernardine, and many subjects pertaining to the welfare or the beautifying of the home are well discussed. A short paper on "The Art of Being Entertained" is especially worthy of note. Published by the Curtis Publishing Co., Philadelphia. Single copy, ten cents.

Scientists and young people who have just begun to cultivate a scientific taste will be alike delighted with the February issue of *The Popular Science Monthly*. Among the most absorbing articles we would give special preference to "Science as a Factor in Agriculture," and The Discovery of Sexuality in Plants."

The third number of "Childhood," that for February, will convince its readers that the new magazine has come to stay. A wide field for observation and reflection has been opened, and many leading doctors and teachers are putting some of their best work into its pages. "The Life of the Unborn Child" and the bright paper on "The Realities of Childhood" are full of interest to all who care for the little ones. Every mother and teacher will derive both comfort and instruction from its pages. Published by A. L. Chatterton & Co., 78 Maiden Lane, New York.

Parents who are anxious to put good reading matter in the hands of their children should subscribe to *St. Nicholas*. The bright and helpful serial story of "Polly Oliver's Problem" will awaken a keen interest in life in the hearts of many impressionable girls, while the lads will sit for hours enthralled by the stirring stories of adventure. A clever poem in the February number will interest many younger readers, who will smile over the comic pictures and quaint rhymes of *The Vrow that Lives by Harlem Lake*.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

PICTON FOUNDRY COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the Pictou Foundry Co. was held recently, and the old directors were re-elected. Patriotic Nova Scotians who rejoice in the prosperity of our home industries will be pleased to hear that last year's business was very satisfactory. The earnings were the best yet, and would have enabled the company to pay its shareholders a handsome dividend. It was thought better, however, to leave the money in the business this year. A couple of thousand dollars will be spent this year to increase the facilities of the boiler and machine shops.

SMOKERS TAKE NOTE.—Mr. L. J. Roy has commenced operations in the new cigar factory at Yarmouth, and those who have tested the production of Yarmouth's latest industry pronounce the "L. J. R." cigar to be of exceedingly fine flavor.

YARMOUTH TRUNKS.—E. D. Maulton and Fred Utley having entered into partnership are about to establish a trunk factory in Yarmouth.

AN AMHERST INDUSTRY.—The Robb Engineering Company, Ltd., of Amherst, N. S. inform us that some of their mills are this winter sawing thirty two thousand feet of lumber daily. This firm now have all their departments running full blast and are prepared to fill orders for all kinds of machinery, in the manufacture of which they have excelled.

NOVA SCOTIA CREAMERIES.—The farmers of Nappan and surrounding country at a meeting recently held, unanimously decided to erect a combined creamery and cheese factory at Nappan, guaranteeing the milk of 300 cows.

The building of the creamery and cheese factory will be commenced as soon as the spring opens, and will be in operation about the first of June. At Belmont, in Colchester county, a creamery building is already under construction, and the milk from 300 cows promised by the farmers of that district. The farmers of Minudie are also unanimous in establishing a creamery at that place. The farmers of Crapaud, P. E. I., are also talking of starting a creamery in their district. Dairy Commissioner Robertson, who has returned from England, says that butter and cheese from the Maritime Provinces, sold on account of farmers who furnished milk and cream, have realized good profits.

N. B. LUMBER.—The *Sussex Record* furnishes the following notes from some of the lumber camps of New Brunswick:—The firm of C. & S. Goggin of Egin, intend cutting about four million in their three stream mills. This enterprising firm is giving employment to a large number of men and horses. A correspondent writes from Queens county, that the prospects for the lumber business there are very bright. The big flat about three miles northwest of Summerville presents a busy scene this winter. In a space of half a mile square there are no less than four lumber camps owned respectively by Abram Goggin, Warren Folkins, Alfred Taylor and Messrs. Schofield and Patton. All the hard wood got in the flat will go to Byron's mill. The soft wood will be driven down Millstream. James Byron has purchased a portable steam saw mill in Ontario which he will put in operation here this winter. The mill will be placed on the grounds of Edward Goggin, close to the Millstream road, which will render the shipment of lumber very easy. Statements received from some of the larger lumber firms in Albert county indicate that the cut this winter throughout the county will considerably exceed that of last year, and of many previous years. Alexander L. Wright & Co., up the river, will get out between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000, being 1,000,000 in excess of last year's output. James W. Smith, of Albert Mines, has contracted to get out nearly 1,000,000, about the same as last year, the increase if any being in hardwood. The Albert Manufacturing Co. of Hillboro, in addition to their immense plaster and general business, will cut a quarter of a million of spruce. Turner & McLean, of Riverside, have several crews in the woods and will get out over 1,000,000, and J. W. Carnwath of the same place, who has a steam mill in Caledonia, will cut half a million. C. & J. Prescott's output on the Crooked Creek will be 2,500,000, and Geo. J. Vaughn at Point Wolf will get out 4,000,000. Mr. Vaughn operates on 50,000 acres of territory. Kinney & Co. at Hopewell Hill expect to cut half a million, and a score of small mills in this vicinity will put through from 100,000 to 500,000. The Alma L. & S. company will probably get out several millions on the Salmon river. Albert Wood on Turtle Creek, Erastus Steeves of Shonstone and Nelson Smith in Coverdale will each get out a large amount. The hauling is good outside, but in the woods more snow is desirable.



Clifford Blackman

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