

Herrings are classed as "dry or smoked fish," and will be dutiable as laid down in the tariff.

A British Columbia letter dated the 16th inst. says: "The run of cohoes continues so light that several of the canneries have decided to close down. Little hope is now entertained that a heavy run of cohoes will enter the river, while in handling the present catch there is little or no profit. Not more than 25,000 cases of cohoes in all have been put up since the pack began. The demand for canned salmon continues brisk, and prices being satisfactory, there is great inducement to keep the establishments running as long as possible."

METALS TRADES.

The first car load of machinery for the Hamilton smelting works arrived this week.

The Dominion Coal Company has shipped almost three-quarters of a million tons of coal so far this year.

An attempt is being made in Truro, N.S., to form a joint stock company, with a view of testing the lead deposits in Colchester county, Nova Scotia.

Efforts are being made to retain the axe factory of Messrs. E. Broad & Son, in St. Stephen, N.B. It is proposed to operate the factory under a joint stock company.

The work of substituting steel ties for wooden ones on the Mexican (Vera Cruz Railroad) is going on actively, and the entire line and branches will be laid with metal ties. Some 50,000 steel ties are being received yearly from England.

Probably the greatest quantity of coal ever raised in one day from a mine in Cape Breton, says a Maritime Province exchange, was taken from the Reserve colliery, when within two cars of 1,400 tons was raised from the mine, and the average quantity of coal raised for the same week was 1,280 per day.

The following items respecting iron and steel industries in the United States are mainly derived from the *Iron Age* of New York, and the *Marine Review* and the *Trades Review* of Cleveland:—

Bridge orders have been the most encouraging feature of late from the standpoint of Western mills. Chicago reports that the local steel works is well sold up on billets for the balance of the year.

The situation as to foundry iron is as noted last week. Here and there \$11 at furnace for No. 1 is being shaded. On No. 2 one producer in particular has made a low price in the week, \$9.75 at valley furnace being shaded in this instance; \$10 is the general quotation.

F. B. Stevens makes this comment on the market in Detroit for Lake Superior charcoal and Southern coke irons: "In these latter days of depression it does one good to chronicle the sale recently made here, of a round lot of Lake Superior charcoal pig iron. The quantity was 1,000 tons, and the price was \$13.

The tables of the *Iron Age* show in blast October 1 in the United States, 22 charcoal furnaces, with 4,889 tons weekly capacity; 30 anthracite, with 16,265 tons weekly capacity, and 118 coke, with 138,575 tons weekly capacity. Total, 172 active furnaces, with a total capacity of 159,729 tons.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

J. L., George st., City, asks to be informed about Single Tax. "What is Single Tax, any how?" he says, and "can you refer me to any book that will inform me directly on the subject?" In reply we would say that a good book to give information on the subject is "Who Pays Your Taxes," edited by Bolton Hall, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1892, and to be had at the Toronto Public Library. Also, Wallace on Land Nationalization.

S. J., Montreal, writes on the subject of trade discounts on dry goods, and wants to know what discounts for cash are given by United States jobbers in that line. In reply we would say that a gradual increase of cash discount had come into practice among American jobbers for some years previous to 1892, until it had reached 3% ten days on net goods, 7% ten days, or 6% thirty days on regular goods. But these were found excessive, and in July, 1892, New York and Philadelphia leading importers to the number of twenty or thirty signed an agreement that they would not allow any customer greater discount than 2% ten days or 1% thirty days on net goods (no discount at sixty days), while on regular goods the discount would be 6% ten days; 5% thirty days; 4% sixty days. Off carpets and oil cloths 4% ten days, 3% thirty days.

—We are informed that a branch of the Union Bank of Canada will be opened on or about November 1st next at Virden, Manitoba. Mr. H. J. Pugh has been appointed manager of the new agency.

BOOK AND STATIONERY NOTES.

We regret that we were wrongly informed in stating last week in this column that the envelope plant of Barber & Ellis Co. was sold to go to Denver, Colorado. The facts were that a gentleman from Colorado asked if the plant would be sold, and was told that it would at a certain price. He declined to pay any such price, and the negotiation ended. What the Barber & Ellis people did sell him was one envelope machine. With respect to the business doing, the factory never made so many envelopes, we are told, as it is making now.

The Canadian curator of the Imperial Institute, London, England, intends to publish a monthly journal, one of whose principal features will be, it is said, an accurate and up to date report of the markets of the various portions of Her Majesty's dominions. The curator thought it best to apply for commercial information to the leading boards of trade of the Dominion. But the council of the Montreal Board of Trade considered that the desired information respecting the markets and conditions of trade could be obtained from the various newspapers and journals published in Canada.

CLEARING-HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing-houses for the week ended with Thursday, Oct. 25th, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Oct. 25.	Oct. 18.
Montreal	\$12,966,646	\$12,269,585
Toronto	5,498,647	5,650,008
Halifax	1,206,572	1,201,500
Winnipeg	1,477,891	1,421,324
Hamilton	688,575	729,368
Total	\$21,838,331	\$21,271,785

Aggregate clearings this week, \$3,209,473; last week, \$3,005,157.

—When the Deep Waterways convention met in Toronto the Board of Trade refused to join in asking for the enlargement of the canals to 21 feet, contenting itself by asking the completion of 14 feet enlargement, which has been going on for some years. With this the Deep Waterways men were not satisfied, and a few days ago they made a special effort to obtain from the Toronto Board of Trade endorsement of their scheme. The event showed that it was easier to get members to sign a call for a special meeting to reconsider the matter, than to get them to attend and back up the views of the promoters. Their good natured complaisance did not go beyond aiding the promoters to get the special meeting they desired. The object of the latter failed entirely, and a resolution was passed affirming the resolution previously passed in favor of completing the enlargement now in progress. The new loan now being negotiated in London will provide means of continuing the work.

—A gentleman who has spent some months in British textile markets tells us that manufacturers over there have long complained of a want of orders. They have seriously felt the want of the usual quota of orders from the United States, which were hindered by the delay in adopting the Wilson tariff. Now that this has been adopted more movement has already begun, although there are certain lines of goods on which heavy imposts will not be relaxed until 1st January next. The Scotch linen factories, for example, many of which had been running at half time, were all on full time within a few weeks after the settlement of the American tariff question. The feeling is general in the Old Country that better times are at hand in the textiles trades.

—Not alone the St. Stephen's Bank, but many interests in St. Stephen have suffered a loss in the death of Dr. W. H. Todd, the president of that bank, which took place some ten days ago. A resolution passed by the board of the bank speaks in strong and feeling terms of his services to the bank during a period of fifteen years as director and nine years as president. At a late meeting of the directors Mr. Frank Todd was elected president and E. H. Balkham was chosen a director of the institution in the place of the late Dr. W. H. Todd. Mr. John D. Chipman was appointed vice-president of the bank.

—This is the time for declaration of bank dividends. The following banks have declared the usual half-yearly dividend shall be paid on the dates set opposite their names:

Montreal	5 per cent.	1st Dec., 1894
Merchants	4 "	1st Dec., 1894
Ontario	3 1/2 "	1st Dec., 1894
Traders	3 "	1st Dec., 1894
Hamilton	4 "	1st Dec., 1894
Union	3 "	1st Dec., 1894