

bid for the business. They have one, uniform rate which, if it does not pay them, it is to a great extent their own fault, as there are too many companies to divide the profits. It is admitted that there was in former days a certain degree of compensation as the tax had the effect of discouraging other companies from coming in. It would be a very simple matter for the companies who have joined the combine to shut off competition by reducing the number of offices established here. Why, in order to enable agents and companies to maintain what are unnecessarily numerous staffs, should Victoria be cinched? On a previous occasion we objected to the corporation taking an uncompromising position in regard to the companies, but urged that the situation be amicably discussed. As it is, however, the companies seem to go in for blood, or they would, while maintaining their rates, if they choose to do so, see to it that the profits were divided between a smaller number of companies. The Board, as organized, is well nigh all powerful, let it show a conciliatory disposition and there need be no difficulty. It is idle to pretend that whatever the losses they are due to deficient fire protection. On the contrary, the infrequency of fires and the promptitude and efficiency of the Victoria brigade are remarkable. It said that the yearly statement of claims to 30th September for Victoria city and district was over \$25,000, which is three times as much as the average of the few years before 1892. What has the city of Victoria to do with the number of fires in the district, and as for the losses themselves should the greater part of them be in Victoria, is not the city much larger, and do not the companies obtain a proportionately larger revenue from premiums?

#### EDITORIAL COMMENT.

An important departure has been made by the farmers of the Cowichan district, in the formation of the Vancouver Island Lockmasters' Association, whose object is to protect and encourage the sheep farming industry. Each member is to report on the month of June on the printed forms supplied by the association particulars of his flock, showing details of breeds, lambs, deaths, etc., during the year, to report any outbreak of disease and to report losses by wild beasts and dogs. We like the idea of giving the association a general name, such as has been adopted, and that the farmers of other sections will join in and form sister or branch associations. By united action on the part of all the farming districts the best results are possible of attainment. As has often been said in this paper, too little attention seems to have been paid to sheep farming, which is everywhere else so important a department of agriculture.

At the late Congress of Underwriters, held in Chicago, Dr Hanill, of the Provident, submitted a statement with reference to the applications for life insurance which had been rejected by his company and as far as circumstances

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

### IMPORTS.

The following is a summary of the quantity, value and duty on imports at the port of Victoria for the month of October, 1893:

ARTICLES.	VALUE.	DUTY.
Ale, beer and porter.....	\$ 5,779	\$ 1,727 04
Animals.....	6,847	2,019 80
Books, pamphlets, etc.....	1,157	304 84
Brass and manufactures of.....	805	157 20
Breadstuffs—grain of all kinds.....	2,841	670 42
Flour.....	3,115	777 03
Meal, corn and oat.....	270	41 70
Rice.....	3,312	2,261 64
Other breadstuffs.....	8,532	1,754 48
Bicycles, Tricycles, Velocipedes and parts of.....		
Cars—railway and tram.....		
Coal, bituminous.....	78	3 60
Copper and manufactures of.....	67	21 30
Cottons, bleached or unbleached: not dyed, colored, etc.....	287	63 15
" bleached, dyed, etc.....	1,814	554 61
" clothing.....	1,274	464 94
" thread not on spools, yarn, warp, etc.....	49	10 38
" thread on spools.....	2	50
" all other manufactures.....	1,034	233 05
Drugs and medicines.....	32,083	12,509 17
Earthen, stone & Chinaware.....	1,423	171 70
Fancy goods & embroideries: Bracelets, braids, fringes, etc.....	513	152 30
Laces, collars, nettings, etc.....	430	129 15
All other fancy goods.....	877	289 60
Fish and products of.....	1,589	355 28
Fruits and nuts dried.....	1,027	1,015 91
Green, oranges and lemons.....	575	41 50
All other.....	5,624	2,015 75
Furs, manufactures of.....	86	21 50
Glass, manufactures of—: Bottles, jars, etc.....	1,251	383 55
" Window glass.....	1,111	230 75
" Plate glass.....	403	151 06
" All other manufactures.....	15	3 00
Gunpowder & explosive substances.....	553	187 30
Gutta percha, manufs of.....	3,051	847 55
Hats, caps, and bonnets, beaver, silk or felt.....	1,128	338 40
" All other.....	1,090	313 00
Iron and steel and manufs of: Band, hoop, sheet, plate.....	1,219	229 26
" Bar iron & railway bars.....	6,118	1,883 50
" Cutlery, hardware, etc.....	5,259	1,590 64
" Machines, machinery, etc.....	718	227 80
" Stoves and castings.....	1,177	353 10
" Tubing.....	378	149 72
" All other manufactures.....	5,559	1,487 95
Jewelry & watches & manufs of gold and silver.....	983	304 05
Lead and manufactures of.....	125	54 94
Leather, all kinds.....	380	71 76
" Boots and shoes.....	786	196 50
" All other manufs.....	108	27 40
Marble & stone & manufs of.....	110	37 35
Metals and manufactures of.....	404	123 06
Musical instruments.....	169	47 75
Oil, mineral and products of.....	7,073	2,288 39
" Flaxseed or linseed.....	156	40 87
" All other.....	1,064	374 79
Paints and colors.....	580	121 15
Paper, envelopes, etc.....	3,008	800 84
Pickles, sauces, capers.....	334	183 10
Provisions, lard, meats, fresh: and salt.....	7,326	1,929 06
" Butter, cheese.....	573	103 29
Seeds and roots.....	266	32 70
Silk, manufactures of.....	6,779	2,072 60
Soap, all kinds.....	690	213 78
Spices, ground & unground.....	280	50 85
Spirits, all kinds.....	7,821	10,107 15
Wines, sparkling.....	1,068	552 15
" other than sparkling.....	1,368	953 78
Molasses.....	57	25 00
Tobacco and cigars.....	1,167	1,619 01
Vegetables.....	1,040	321 28
Wood, manufactures of.....	1,723	515 75
Woolens: Carpets, Brussels and tapestry.....	1,138	284 50
" Clothing.....	3,967	1,222 40

ARTICLES.	VALUE.	DUTY.
" Cloths, worsteds, etc.....	903	287 30
" Dress goods.....	2,089	789 88
" Knitted goods.....	1,811	621 40
" Shawls.....	777	194 25
" Yarns.....	229	79 30
" All other manufs.....	1,644	686 95
All other dutiable goods.....	31,402	7,229 90
Total dutiable goods.....	\$204,251	\$70,835 08
" Free goods.....	24,017	
Grand total.....	\$228,268	\$70,835 08

The following are the free goods entered at the port of Victoria for the month of October, 1893:

FREE GOODS.	VALUE.
Articles for use of Army and Navy.....	\$ 4,050 00
Coffee.....	2,715 00
Cotton waste.....	29 00
Dyes, chemicals, etc.....	2,315 00
Fish and products of.....	9 00
Fisheries, articles for, nets, seines, etc.....	10 00
Fruits, bananas, olives, pineapples, etc.....	1 00
Hides and skins.....	1,000 00
Metals—Iron and steel, all other.....	444 00
" Tin and zinc.....	661 00
" Other.....	1,252 00
Salt.....	1,198 00
Settlers' effects.....	3,875 00
Sugar.....	2 00
Tea.....	1,811 00
Tobacco leaf.....	3,013 00
Wood, cabinetmakers, etc.....	30 00
All other free goods.....	1,602 00
Total.....	\$ 24,017 00

### EXPORTS

From the port of Victoria, for the month of October, 1893—the produce of Canada:

THE MINE.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Coal..... tons.....	386	1 900
Gold dust, nuggets, etc.....		30,495
THE FISHERIES.		
Fish of all descriptions.....		396,292
Furs or skins of creatures living in the water.....		187,561
THE FOREST.		
Lumber—planks, boards, etc.....		14,763
ANIMALS AND THEIR PRODUCE.		
Other animals.....		3
Cheese..... lbs.....	21	10
Other articles.....		16,254
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.		
Other articles.....		6,306
MANUFACTURES.		
Iron—pig and scrap, castings, hardware, etc.....		1
Sewing machines.....	1	45
Other articles.....		1,090
Grand total.....		\$ 584,840

Goods, not the product of Canada, for the month of October, 1893:

	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Manufactures—		
Iron—pig and scrap, castings, hardware, etc.....		2,796
Sewing machines.....	5	180
Wood m's of all kinds.....		229
Other articles.....		8,890
Miscellaneous articles.....		63,737
Total.....		\$ 77,431
Coin—gold.....		4 00
" —silver.....		130
Grand total.....		\$ 77,565
Total exports of all kinds.....		\$662,405

permitted what had become of them. Between 1888 and 1892, both years inclusive, the numbers rejected had been 13,025, of which 1,632 were already dead. The ages at death were under 21 years, 190; between 21 and 30, 243; between 31 and 40, 234; between 41 and 50, 284; between 51 and 60, 400; over 60, 281. The average age at death of those rejected was 43

years and 7 months. The fatalities which most strongly confirmed the medical forecast were caused by consumption and bronchitis, 25 per cent. of those rejected for these causes having died within four years from date of examination. The largest number of rejections was of those affected with heart disease, who numbered 22.30 per cent. of the whole.