

# The Monetary Times

## Trade Review and Insurance Chronicle

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**A**S DID the Mrs Fezziwig of Dickens, To-day comes in like one vast substantial smile. Grandfather's Santa Claus came with Grenfellian reindeer and imagination's sleigh. Eighty-five years ago, he freighted the locomotive. The steamship, the auto and the forty-car train are now his servants. To-morrow, the buzz of the monoplane's propellers may break his spell of silence. Back fifty years, British North America was not charted in the Clausean map. Someone had told that Canada was wilderness sections cemented with snow, lined with ice, peopled with Indians. The chief population drew its Christmas from legend and recollection. This day seven millions welcome traditions, some openly but still, all.

Christmas annually jogs the cogs of the business man. It is good. That the spirit of Yuletide manipulates prices and on the twenty fifth chokes the tape in the ticker, brings the financier needed respite. The banker forgetting his responsibilities for twelve hours, does not hurt the commercial fabric. For three hundred and seven days, master and man have toiled. To make new records in railroad earnings, bank clearings, manufacturing output, mineral production and crop figures was the aim. They have succeeded. The statistical web woven is reflection of substantial progress and consequent prosperity. And it is Canada's.

These words are set to the music of the printing press, a polished, calculative, mechanical, businesslike individual, with a steel heart. He has thrown off the paper sheets this week, not wishing to break the record of forty-three years. Place the chronicle of finance aside till Monday. The printing press will forgive you. He knows, as Nicholas Nickleby said, that there is no room for a "demd, damp, most, unpleasant body" in the bright glow of To-day.