

7. Appointments to the office of Inspector to be made by the Board of Trade, and to be open to public competition.

At the special general meeting above referred to the following resolution was passed, viz. :—

“That, in the opinion of this meeting, an Act should be obtained with respect to the Inspection of Ashes which shall simply provide for the full and complete control of the Board of Trade over the office, in a manner similar to the Flour Inspection Act; and the Council be requested to prepare and endeavor to secure the passing of such a Bill in the present session of Parliament.”

In accordance with which, the Council have prepared a Bill, which will be submitted to the Legislature on the first day if possible of the next session, the late session having been suddenly terminated before the Draft was ready.

In the meantime, the Bill which the Board declined to adopt has, we learn, been introduced into Parliament, at the instance of a member of the Ashes Inspection Committee.

A letter was addressed to the Chambers of Commerce of Liverpool and Glasgow, suggesting an alteration in the practice of the trade there in the matter of tare, by deducting actual tare instead of 14 lbs. per cwt., as at present.

The stock of Pot and Pearl Ashes in charge of the Inspectors in this city is insured against fire to the extent of \$200,000 by a floating policy issued by the Royal Insurance office, that Company receiving monthly as premiums from the Inspectors the whole of the sums charged for insurance in the inspection bills.

OTTAWA AND HURON NAVIGATION PROJECT.

This subject was referred to a committee of the Council, who reported that, in their opinion, the time had not arrived when the project could be entered upon with the prospect of commercial success. The Report of this committee is recorded in the minutes of the Council.

PORT WARDEN.

It is a matter of regret that the late esteemed Port Warden found it necessary to resign his office, chiefly on the ground that the emoluments were not sufficient. The office has been found so beneficial to the trade of this Port, that Merchants interested in the shipping trade have expressed their willingness to pay extra fees in order that the income of the office may be rendered such as to secure an efficient man. A Bill with this object in view was prepared by the Examiners, but the sudden prorogation of Parliament prevented its introduction during the recent session. It is proposed to fund the fees and pay the Port Warden a fixed salary.

THE INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864.

The Insolvency Act went into operation on 1st September last. The time which has since elapsed has been too short to enable the Council to form a decided opinion as to its value and efficiency. It appears, however, that in Canada West, executions in Sheriffs' hands previous to assignment or issue of writ of attachment, hold priority to the assignment. A Bill to amend the existing Act in this and other particulars has been introduced into the Legislature, by the Hon. Mr. Abbott,