

Mercantile Summary.

The Queen City Plate Glass and Mirror Company, Toronto, had its premises badly damaged by fire last week, with a loss of some thousands of dollars. Insured.

The Winnipeg Electric Railway Company are engaged in the work of electrifying their Selkirk and Lake Winnipeg branch. Electric cars are already running as far as Kildonan.

The Canadian Westinghouse Company has been granted authority to increase its capital from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000, while the Mexican Consolidated Electric Company has been authorized to increase its capital stock from one to eight million dollars.

Joseph St. Amand, of Cabano, Que., which is near the New Brunswick line, was formerly a laborer, and for the past four years has been doing a limited business in a general store. He is now reported failed. He has been unsatisfactory in payments for some time past, and made an offer of 30 cents on the dollar about a fortnight ago.—Elie Falardeau, a carriage-maker, of St. Gabriel de Brandon, Que., a comparatively young beginner, has assigned, with small liabilities.

An offer of compromise at the rate of 50 cents on the dollar has been made by C. D. Dunfield, who is a general dealer of Bay Verte, N.B. Dunfield would appear to be something of a rolling stone, having served for a time in the British army in Egypt. He returned to New Brunswick, his native Province, about six years ago, but shortly afterward started storekeeping at Advocate, N.S. In 1902 he opened at his present address in a boot and shoe business, which he closed out in the course of a year or so, and in the spring of 1904 bought out the general store business of J. J. Brownell. He appears not to have shown much steady application in business matters, and his success as a storekeeper has always been regarded as problematical.

DEBENTURES
FOR SALE.

Sealed tenders marked "Tender for Debentures" will be received by the undersigned up to 5 o'clock p. m. on Friday May 18th next, for the purchase of \$132,410.26 of City of London four per cent. Local Improvement Debentures.

Forms of tender giving full particulars of the debentures can be secured on application to City Treasurer.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

JOHN POPE,
City Treasurer.

JOHN FORRISTAL,
Chairman Finance Committee.

[FIRE]
German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
\$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
5,841,907
ASSETS
12,980,705
AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.

Unless the Government fails to complete its section of the Grand Trunk Pacific between Winnipeg and Lake Superior Junction, Mr. Morse says, that line will inaugurate its regular freight and passenger service between Edmonton and Winnipeg by the close of next year. Rails, ties and other accessories have already been purchased for this section, and every mile is now under contract, and material has been ordered for 1,000 miles of telegraph line to Edmonton. No definite conclusion has yet been arrived at in connection with the company's Winnipeg terminals.

Upon the demand of the Gault Bros. Co. an assignment has been made by J. E. Z. Plamondon, dry goods retailer in the city of Quebec. The liabilities are shown at \$15,831, with assets nominally \$15,200, consisting mainly of stock in Quebec and at St. Romuald.—Madame L. Noel & Co., in the millinery line at Quebec, has made a voluntary assignment to Lefaire & Taschereau. She owes but little.—F. X. Boisvert, machinist, in Quebec, is reported as compromising at 35 cents on the dollar.

The Ontario Government has decided to grant \$3,000 per mile for twenty-five miles, to the Bruce Mines and Algoma Railway, to begin about twenty-five miles north of Bruce Mines. The object is to assist in the opening up of the copper mines in the Bruce Mines district. A grant of \$5,000 per mile also is to be made to the Canada Central Railway Company for a line from Little Current to a point thirteen miles from Sudbury, where it will connect with a line already laid, a distance of fifty-three miles. This line would give Manitoulin Island easy access to the mainland.

The Ontario Government is understood to have expressed its willingness to give E. J. H. Pauley, of Toronto, a large free site on the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, between Cobalt and North Bay, on which to erect a smelter and refinery at a cost of \$600,000. They are expected to be in operation by October. The coke required will be brought to the north shore of Georgian Bay and shipped in by rail. So far the mine owners at Cobalt have been met with the difficulty

of how to smelt the ores without wasting one or other of the metals or minerals contained. Silver, cobalt, arsenic and nickel are all present generally in considerable quantities, and the mine owners were getting nothing for some of the products at the smelters in New Jersey. Saxon ores have been successfully treated which contain cobalt, arsenic and silver. The process is a secret one, but an arrangement was come to by which a license is granted to carry it on in Canada on condition that the process shall be in charge of two German experts to be sent out by the Royal Geological Institute of Berlin. It is quite possible that at a not very distant day the arsenic will be utilized in the manufacture of plate glass and a factory erected.

At a committee meeting in the Dominion House, held to consider the bill to incorporate the Hamilton, Waterloo and Guelph Railway, one member took the ground that the proposed railway would cross a Government canal and two railways, and, therefore, the Ontario Legislature would not under the circumstances have control of the road. Dr. Sproule also insisted that the Dominion Government should not take from the control of the Local Legislature what was purely a provincial railroad. Mr. R. G. Cede appeared on behalf of the Ontario Government, and said he had received instructions to object to all such bills, which invaded provincial jurisdiction.

Messrs. Keating & Duncan announce the opening of offices at the Home Life Building, Victoria Street, Toronto, where they intend to carry on business as civil engineers, special attention being given to hydraulic, municipal, electrical and industrial undertakings. They will, we understand, prepare plans, specifications, estimates and reports on enterprises and concessions, either foreign or Canadian. Mr. Keating is a competent engineer and a gentleman of excellent reputation. He formerly acted as city engineer in Halifax, and for some years held the like position in Toronto, subsequently entering the employ of Mackenzie & Mann. Mr. Duncan has been city engineer at Port Arthur, and is highly spoken of.