

stricted fall trade. It may be that both of these influences are at work. The recent railway strike in Chicago and similar industrial disturbances in the United States have probably done much to lessen our imports.

Following is a list of dutiable imports for the month ending 31st July, and also a comparative list for the same month a year previous:—

	July, 1894.	July, 1893.
Cotton goods .....	\$ 63,543	\$ 86,477
Fancy goods .....	48,228	46,329
Hats and bonnets .....	11,390	13,559
Silk goods .....	86,769	118,509
Woolen goods .....	270,831	386,451
<b>Total dry goods .....</b>	<b>\$480,761</b>	<b>\$651,325</b>
Brass and manufactures of .....	\$ 4,196	\$ 8,510
Copper, " .....	126	921
Iron and steel, " .....	77,469	142,247
Lead, " .....	2,829	3,369
Metal composition, etc .....	9,485	13,342
<b>Total metal goods .....</b>	<b>\$ 94,105</b>	<b>\$168,389</b>
Bicycles .....	5,934	.....
Books and pamphlets .....	15,607	24,572
Coal, bituminous .....	11,472	33,128
Drugs and medicines .....	17,842	14,513
Earthen, stone and chinaware .....	18,981	28,508
Fruits, green and dried .....	8,559	12,483
Furs and fur skins .....	9,853	14,310
Glass and glassware .....	21,765	31,171
Jewellery and watches, etc. ....	25,475	24,841
Leather and manfrs. of .....	11,979	15,525
Musical instruments .....	6,833	10,936
Oils of all kinds .....	7,485	9,703
Paints and colors .....	7,941	7,473
Paper, envelopes, etc .....	25,409	26,621
Spirits and wines .....	4,646	7,129
Wood and manufactures of .....	10,208	13,473

In looking over the above list it will be observed that 21 items out of a total of 25—bicycles, which were not in the 1893 list, being excluded—show a reduction in the quantities imported as compared with our foreign purchases a year ago. Some of the more noticeable reductions are in cotton, silk, and woolen goods, books, earthenware, fruits, and glassware. Metal goods show a decrease in every line, but it must be borne in mind that many of these goods, which were formerly dutiable, are now on the free list.

In order that our readers may see clearly what items are affected by additions to the free list, which change serves to give the impression that there has been an enormous falling off in imports, we give the following list of free goods received, with values as for the month of July, 1894:—

Coal, anthracite .....	\$111,324
Fruits, bananas, pine apples, &c. ....	17,869
Furs and skins, not dressed .....	7,628
Metals, brass and copper .....	13,477
" iron and steel .....	4,700
" tin and zinc, and others .....	12,204
Oils, vegetable .....	2,490
Wool, &c. ....	1,796

The exports were a good deal less than a year ago. The chief items were, as with the previous month, horses, dead meats, iron and wood. The following list speaks for itself:—

	July, 1894.	July, 1893.
Produce of		
The Mine .....	\$50	\$46
" Fisheries .....	96	422
" Forest .....	4,458	55,372
" Field .....	1,502	14,566
Animals, etc. ....	117,811	118,794
Manufactures .....	70,843	71,135
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$194,760</b>	<b>\$260,335</b>

#### AUGUST.

Divine Providence intended the present month to be a period of rest for the busy toilers in the world of commerce. In many branches of trade quietness is holding sway almost supreme. Commercial and banking houses, insurance and brokerage offices are in part deserted; their occupants have stolen away to revel in the beauties of nature.

"The quiet August noon has come,  
A slumbrous silence fills the sky,  
The fields are still, the woods are dumb,  
In glassy sleep the waters lie."

Canada is a veritable paradise to the pleasure seeker. Mighty rivers,

shady streams, inland seas and peaceful lakes are all enfolded within Canadian domain, while those who find most pleasure in the rolling surf may have their hearts' content on either our Atlantic or Pacific coasts. The past year has been a trying one, and although improvement is confidently looked for in the approaching fall, every one should make the most of the holiday season, gaining strength to meet the uncertainties of the future.

#### DOMINION MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday last a large number of prominent millers assembled at the Toronto Board of Trade building on the event of the annual meeting. The president, A. H. Baird, Paris, occupied the chair. The treasurer's report for the year showed receipts \$1,458.18, with the balance from last year of \$223.11, making a total of \$1,681.29. The disbursements were \$1,479, leaving a balance now on hand of \$202.29. This report was adopted.

Among the subjects that received attention was that of export freights. Underbidding, fraught with so much mischief, was reported to have been nearly stamped out. Probably the most important matter before the meeting was the question of freight rates. The grievance is that railways do not allow the same rate for export on flour as they do on wheat. It is claimed that as a result the farmers of Ontario are not in so good a position as those of Michigan. On the contrary, the railways contend that while the steamships charge a higher rate for flour than wheat, the matter cannot be remedied.

The president in his annual address stated that: "Whilst the year just ended has been exceptionally trying, still the Canadian millers had much to be thankful for since the country has been free from the financial disasters which visited other countries. With reference to the crop prospects for this year, they were very good. He drew attention to the fact that foreign governments were encouraging the milling industry. In Germany the miller can import any quantity of foreign wheat and escape paying duty by exporting a like quantity of native grain. Thus they are enabled to obtain any desirable quantity of foreign wheat for grinding or mixing purposes free of duty. A similar rule obtained in Portugal, Italy and France."

Mr. James Goldie, of Guelph, read a very interesting paper on chattel mortgages on farmers' grain. He gave his experience in a suit he had with a farmer, and where he would have had to pay for the wheat twice except for a technicality in the mortgage. As the law stood at present, the man who had a mortgage on the wheat could make the buyer pay for it even if the farmer had been paid.

An interesting paper was read by Mr. M. McLaughlin on our export trade. In the discussion that followed Mr. Plewes said that there was no use in Canadian millers trying to export flour at a profit as long as they paid New York prices for wheat. The millers were paying far too much for their wheat, and the farmers were getting all the benefit out of the tariff. He advised the millers to pool together so as to be able to make large shipments of flour at one time. On small lots they had to pay excessive freights.

In the evening session some discussion took place about grain buying. A number of papers were also read, after which the election of officers took place, which resulted as follows: Mr. Harold Barrett, Port Hope, president; Mr. Alexander Dobson, Beaverton, first vice-president; Mr. James Hood, Stratford, second vice-president; Mr. William Galbraith, Toronto, treasurer.

Executive Committee—Messrs. J. L. Spink, Toronto; J. D. Saunby, London; A. H. Baird, Paris; M. McLaughlin, Toronto; James Hood, Stratford; John Goldie, Guelph; Robt. Noble, Norval.

Following is the personnel of the Arbitration Committee—J. S. Stark, Paisley; W. D. Galbraith, Allandale; J. Goldie, Ayr; J. C. Vanstone, Bowmanville; W. H. Baldwin, Aurora; A. Wolverton, Wolverton; G. Hamilton, Toronto.

#### THE JULY FIRE LOSS.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada during July, as compiled from the records of the *N.Y. Journal and Bulletin of Commerce*, aggregates the enormous sum of \$16,307,000. The following table of losses by months demonstrates how unusually serious the July losses were:—

	1892.	1893.	1894.
January .....	\$12,564,900	\$17,958,400	\$10,568,400
February .....	11,914,000	9,919,900	11,297,600
March .....	10,648,000	16,662,350	9,147,100
April .....	11,559,800	14,669,900	11,540,000
May .....	9,485,000	10,427,100	10,777,800
June .....	9,265,550	16,844,950	8,282,300
July .....	11,530,000	12,118,700	16,307,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$76,967,250</b>	<b>\$98,101,300</b>	<b>\$77,920,200</b>

It will be noted that the losses for the first seven months of 1894 exceed those for the same period of 1892. There were 283 fires in July