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Mercantile Summary.

EMPLOYEES of the Continental Tobacco Company, at Louisville, Kentucky, to the number of 1,700, went out on strike last Saturday.

ON the 28th ult., the Furness Line vessel, "Evangeline," sailed from Halifax for London with 20,000 barrels of apples, besides a large quantity of pulp, canned goods, etc.

A STRIKE is on among the coal miners of Picton County, N.S., who want an increase of pay, equal to twelve per cent. from 1st January, and 10 per cent. from 1st May, prox. The men are offered the first advance but not the second. About 1,000 were out on Monday.

IN Boston, last week, a conference took place of the leading pulp manufacturers of the United States and Canada, at which it was decided to reduce the price in the United States of low-grade pulp for paper-making. No decision has, so far as we understand, been made respecting the prices in Canada.

ACCORDING to mail advices by the steamship "Miowera," terrific heat waves have swept across the inland districts of New South Wales, starting bush fires of vast extent. Sheep farms and settlements miles in extent have been swept by the flames, and many lives are reported lost. The fires are pronounced to be the worst experienced in thirty years. Disastrous cyclones and dust storms have followed the fires in many districts. The loss of cattle is said to be heavy.

A STARTLINGLY sudden death was that of Mr. Alexander Jardine, of Toronto, president of the Pure Gold Manufacturing Co. He was found lifeless in his bed on Sunday morning last, having had, so far as is known, no premonition of illness, and having only reached his 63rd year. Mr. Jardine came to Toronto about 1870, from Brockville, where he had been in business. He was for some years of the firm of Sloan, Jardine & Mason, in wholesale groceries, which firm he left to establish the business of which he was president, and which has proved very successful. He was a conscientious merchant and a good citizen.

AFTER arriving at middle age, occupied as a farmer, Eugene Guay, of St. Jerome de Chicoutimi, Quebec, became imbued, a year or so ago, with mercantile ambitions, and opened out as a storekeeper. His estate has already passed into the hands of V. E. Paradis, assignee, Quebec, and Mr. Guay will probably turn his hand again to the plough, with shattered ambitions, and impaired fortune.—Almost as brief a business career has been that of A. D. Denis, a storekeeper, at Farnham, Que., who began business in the spring of 1899. He had some advantages over the insolvent above referred to, having clerked some years with his father, we are told, and he is also reported to have had some assistance from a well-to-do father-in-law, but notwithstanding this, his assignment is now reported.

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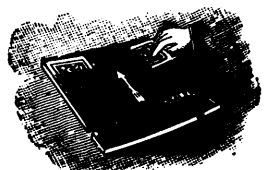
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