

Prosperity has attended us during the past year, and now that the Christmas season is almost here again, the poor and helpless little sufferers should be participants of it. Inasmuch as we do for these children we are doing the will of the Great Giver of all good.

The persistence with which some of the officers of the Canadian Manufacturer's Association deny that the association is not a purely Toronto organization is very remarkable. According to *The Montreal Star*, Mr. Russell, the secretary, while in that city a few days ago, while congratulating the local committee of the association upon a gratifying increase of membership since the annual meeting in November, said that some people had come to regard it as a purely Toronto organization, but this was a mistake, as its scope embraces the whole Dominion. The meeting in Montreal, he said, had done a great deal to interest the manufacturers there in the aims of the association, and that when it is understood that Montreal had three manufacturing establishments to Toronto's one, the importance of the association in guarding the interests of that city could be understood. The records of the association show that Montreal manufacturers have always been, ever since its organization, an important factor of it. And not only Montreal, but other manufacturing centres, not only of the Province of Quebec, but also of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia, have for years supplied liberal quotas of members, making it absolutely national in its character, aims and objects. Indeed soon after the organization of the Association, owing to this very fact, its name was changed from the Ontario Manufacturers' Association to what it now is. We cannot see that any good can result from this persistent effort to discount the past value of the association.

The first issue of *THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER* occurred on the first Friday of July, 1880, ever since which time it has been published regularly on the first and third Fridays of every month. It is devoted to the manufacturing industries of Canada, and goes into about every manufacturing establishment in this country.

In a recent issue of this journal we made mention of the seventeenth annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada which occurred in Brantford, Ont., in September. The proceedings of the convention were of an exceedingly interesting character, and the Secretary, Mr. P. M. Draper, has been busy since then preparing a souvenir of the occasion, which, we understand, will be issued on or about the middle of this month. It will contain the proceedings of the convention, portraits of the officers and others prominent in labor circles and other interesting matter.

We have before us a specimen of woollen knitting yarn such as is used in the homes of Canadian people for making hosiery, etc., which is sold at retail over the counter in town and country stores at five cents per ounce. The paper wrapper containing the yarn in question has printed upon it the cabalistic words "Made in Germany." There is something incongruous in the fact that Canadian yarn mills do not supply the demand for such yarns.

The G. & C. Merriam Co., Springfield, Mass., have issued a new edition of Webster's International Dictionary which brings it abreast of the growth of the language and makes it at once a popular and highly scientific work which will be found invaluable for constant reference and reliable data.

Great changes have taken place in the English language since the first edition of this excellent work was available to the public, and the aim of the publishers has been to include in the supplement the thousands of new words that have come into literary use, the old words that have changed their meanings, and the obsolete words that have been revived. In this the best scholarship and expert knowledge have been employed in building up the supplement so as to make it equal in every respect to the main vocabulary. It should be in every counting house, on the desk of every teacher and the companion of every student in Canada.

The fifteenth annual banquet of the Canadian Association of Stationary Engineers—Toronto Section No. 1—occurred at the Walker House, this city, November 27, and was a most enjoyable affair, as all such re-unions of the C.A.S.E. are. The details of the festival occasion were in the hands of Messrs. H. E. Terry, Chairman, and James Bannan, Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. J. W. McRae, a prominent business man of the city of Ottawa, accidentally shot and killed himself in his office in that city on November 29. Mr. McRae was a man of remarkable business energy, and was identified with many commercial enterprises. He was associated with the starting of the Ottawa Electric Street Railway, and for some time after its inception was President of the company. He was also for a period President and Manager of the Ottawa Electric Co. Within recent months he had assisted in establishing the Consumers' Electric Co., and was Vice-President of the company. At the time of his death he was President of the Canadian Railway Accident Insurance Co., Secretary-Treasurer of the Ontario Graphite Co., and a shareholder in numerous other concerns. In politics he was a Conservative, and took a keen interest in the party organization. Mr. McRae was about fifty-two years of age, and leaves a widow and three sons and two daughters, with whom great sympathy is felt.

It is a matter of not unreasonable surprise in Great Britain that Germany has practically monopolized the manufacture of Union Jacks. This is sarcasm with a sting, but the end is not yet. It has come to light that the enterprising Teuton has gone into the coronation medal business, and is already shipping the same to all parts of the British Empire for the historic event of 1902. The old-time Birmingham medalist is left in the cold, as he cannot compete with German prices. These facts are bones in the throat that have to be swallowed. The question suggests itself as to how it is that the Briton can be so cleverly outwitted even in his own balliwick. If "Made in Germany" is becoming a national nightmare, it is time for the sleeper to wake up.—*The Age of Steel*.

There can be no ground whatever for the familiar contention that another nation will buy from us only as we buy from it. This theory might be rejected even if experience were not against it, because every one knows that no sentimental or political considerations have large influence upon trade operations. England, Germany, and other foreign countries purchase our food products in vast quantities, not because they love us, not because we favor their productions, but because our prices are lower than prices offered elsewhere, quality for quality. If we buy more coffee from Brazil than England buys, the Brazilians are not impelled by gratitude to buy manufactured stuffs from us if they can make a better bargain for themselves in England. Probably we should not sell in the Argentine a dollar's worth more of our