

all the departments. Whether one is showing a traction engine, a thoroughbred horse, or a dainty piece of embroidery, entries can be made and display arranged for by application at this central office. Exhibitors in several different sections, who, through lack of accommodation, have been compelled to go from one point to another to arrange for their reservations, will particularly appreciate this movement of the management to minimize their difficulties.

A large number of workmen employed in factories and industrial establishments in Montreal have organized under the name of "The Made in Canada Club." The object is set forth in the following resolution: "That the objects of the association shall be to further in every legitimate manner possible the revision of the tariff in Canada until it is sufficiently high to protect all Canadian industries, whether farming, mining or manufacturing, in such a manner as will insure, first, our own home market, and, secondly, safeguard us against the competition of cheap foreign products and surplus products of the United States in all articles or goods we can produce in this country." The pledge of membership is as follows: "I hereby agree to become a member of 'The Made in Canada Club,' and promise to support by my vote and influence, irrespective of party politics, the principal of tariff protection for all industrial pursuits in Canada, and at all times, when making purchases, to give a preference to articles made in Canada, and to aid, as far as in my power lies, in keeping Canadian manufacturing institutions as fully employed as possible with Canadian labor."

The Minister of Finance gives notice of resolutions for the imposition of an excise duty of \$1.90 a gallon or less on alcohol manufactured from sugar, syrup, molasses or other saccharine matter, and a duty of 2½ cents a pound on malt flour or malt imported into Canada and ground. The duty on alcohol distilled from molasses will be the same as that on alcohol distilled from grain. Malt flour is used by the brewers in substitution for malt.

The report of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's tariff commission on the iron and steel trades arrives at the conclusion that the decline of the British iron and steel industry is due to the fact that the manufacturers of the United States and Germany have secured control of the home markets by means of high tariffs and an organized system regulating their export trade, that they are in a position to dump their surplus products on the British and other markets irrespective of cost, and that the dumping could not be carried on except for the British system of free imports. The commission expresses the opinion that the situation can only be remedied by a system of tariffs arranged as follows: 1. A general tariff consisting of a low scale of duties for foreign countries admitting British wares on fair terms. 2. A preferential tariff, lower than the general tariff, for the colonies, giving adequate preference to British manufactures and framed to secure freer trade within the British empire. 3. A maximum tariff consisting of comparatively higher

duties, but subject to reduction by negotiation to the level of the general tariff. The report, which is signed by fifty-eight commissioners, is very bulky and gives the evidence of British manufacturers, the evidence given before the United States Industrial Commission on Iron and Steel Industries, the organization and working of German Kartells, and a vast amount of statistics, etc.

The Montreal Directory for 1904-5 states that the population of the city proper is 294,000, and with the outskirts 373,000. The figures indicate a steady increase in population.

The Montreal City Council have voted to grant \$10,000 to aid in the establishment of a permanent exhibition in that city. The city, if the exhibition is established, will be the owner of the grounds and buildings, and control the finances. A much larger government grant will be asked for by the promoters, who are known as the Montreal Industrial Exhibition Association.

Many countries are directing attention to the advantages of alcohol as a source of power. They have the raw materials from which it can be produced, and it appears to be inevitable that the future will witness a development of engines of the explosive class in which alcohol shall take the place of petroleum, petrol, or gasoline. It would be of interest, therefore, to obtain from commercial representatives abroad some account of the laws regulating the production and sale of alcohol for industrial purposes in different countries.

A large and influential delegation of gentlemen living along the line of the proposed Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal waited upon the Prime Minister and other members of the Government a few days ago to urge the Government to assist and support the construction of that enterprise. Sir Wilfrid informed them that in his opinion the construction of the waterway would be of great advantage to the country, but that the terms upon which the promoters of the enterprise wanted Government aid were too onerous and unacceptable; and if the canal was to be built, it would be by the Dominion Government.

Our exports to British Africa last year amounted to \$1,931,541. For the calendar year 1902 the imports via the Cape of Good Hope were \$166,000,000. Via Natal for the same year the imports were \$76,000,000. The United States sent in via the Cape of Good Hope in 1902 goods to the amount of \$16,000,000. By way of Natal the value of the goods from the United States was \$6,000,000. The class of goods we export to South Africa are bicycles, flour, chairs, agricultural implements, cotton, lumber, doors, sashes, and blinds, household furniture, dairy products, musical instruments, carriages and harness, hay, condensed milk and provisions. With the aid of the preference and the direct line of steamers established by the Ottawa Government between the Dominion and South Africa, Canada ought to enjoy considerably the best of it in commercial competition with the United States.