

not know of. The world is, however, likely to know of them. Before we forget it may we add that the secretary to the Preference League is William Wallace, 20 Freehold Loan Building, Toronto, who will be glad to enroll members, and that there is no rule against voluntary contributions for the purposes of the body.

#### ONTARIO CROP RETURNS.

A report is issued by the Government of the province of Ontario as to the crops and live stock of the province, based on information sent in under date 1st November. We make room for the figures and percentages of crop acreages and yields for 1902. The following are the final estimates of the product of the 1902 crop, computed from returns of actual yield made by threshers, and an extra staff of correspondents. In most cases the yields exceed the forecast of August, the most noticeable falling being in peas, where one-third loss was realized upon August expectations:

Fall Wheat—748,592 acres, 20,033,669 bushels, or 26.8 per acre. The yield for 1901 was 15,943,129 bushels.

Spring Wheat—308,115 acres, 6,048,024 bushels, or 20 per acre. The yield for 1901 was 5,498,751 bushels.

Barley—661,622 acres, 21,890,602 bushels, or 33.1 per acre. The yield of 1901 was 16,671,070 bushels.

Oats—2,500,758 acres, 106,431,439 bushels, or 42.6 per acre. The yield of 1901 was 78,334,490 bushels.

Rye—189,318 acres, 3,509,332 bushels, or 18.5 per acre. The yield of 1901 was 2,545,268 bushels.

Peas—532,659 acres, 7,664,679 bushels, or 14.4 per acre. The August average was 21.3, and the crop of 1901 was 10,089,173 bushels.

Buckwheat—93,324 acres, 1,911,683 bushels, or 20.5 per acre. The crop of 1901 was 1,757,071 bushels.

Beans—53,964 acres, 670,633 bushels, or 12.4 per acre. The average crop for 21 years was 672,406 bushels.

Potatoes—144,734 acres, 12,942,250, or 89 per acre, against a crop of 18,116,637 bushels in 1901, an average year.

Mangel Wurzel—76,553 acres, 39,140,924 bushels, or 511 per acre. The crop of 1901 was 29,683,324.

Carrots—8,625 acres, 3,227,161 bushels, or 374 bushels per acre, a small increase over 1901.

Turnips—136,725 acres, 71,740,204 bushels, or 525 per acre. There were 68,287,467 bushels in 1901.

Corn for husking (in the ear)—371,959 acres, 20,512,194 bushels, or 55 per acre, against 77 in 1901, which yielded 24,838,105 bushels.

Corn for silo and fodder (green)—209,859 acres, 2,611,334 tons, or 12.4 per acre; in 1901 at 11.9 the crop was 2,359,514 tons.

Hay and Clover—2,646,202 acres, 4,995,438 tons, or 1.87 per acre. The average of the 21 years being 1.43 tons per acre.

Apples—48,185,125 bushels, or 6.86 bushels per tree of bearing age. This is 7,000,000 in excess of the August estimate.

Tobacco—3,070,717 pounds, a trifle less than 1901—3,113,580 pounds.

The crop of red clover seed is 283,840 bushels and of alsike 182,382 bushels. In 1901 the crops were 262,232 and 112,010 respectively, but the area in 1902 shows an increase of about 50 per cent. in each crop.

#### NOVA SCOTIAN FINANCIAL NOTES.

Some time ago the Halifax Electric Tramway Co. purchased from the People's Heat & Light Co., of Halifax, the gas plant at the Northwest Arm, and so obtained control of all the electric and gas lighting facilities of the city. One might expect an oppressive monopoly to arise out of such a condition, arguing on the common supposition that where monopolies exist, they exist for the purpose of squeezing money out of the people. As a matter of fact, however, it seems that it will be the aim of the H. E. T. Co. to supply better gas at a lower price, and in order to do so the company will proceed, we are told, to erect two new gas plants,

one to produce water gas, and the other coal gas. The present gas works at the Arm will be abandoned, and the new plant established at the old gas works near Freshwater, where for a great number of years the gas that lighted Halifax in times gone by was made. The Halifax Electric Tramway Co. is a very well managed concern, and its earnings have shown increases steadily through the year, both in the passenger and lighting receipts.

The amalgamation with the Union Bank of Halifax of the Commercial Bank of Windsor having at last been sanctioned, the position of the former institution is now greatly strengthened as The Monetary Times indicated some time ago. The authorized capital of the Union now becomes \$1,705,900; the paid-up capital, \$1,205,900, and the reserve fund, \$775,000. The bank has thirty branches and illustrates very well the enterprise of "the Garrison city" in matters financial.

The Robb Engineering Co., limited, of Amherst, is a company that has achieved great success in its department of production, for it has found entrance into every market of the world with its steam engines. In Canada it has done a large business in other lines as well, and particularly in the Robb-Mumford boiler. In order to manufacture to advantage for the United States market it has been found advisable to erect a manufactory for that purpose in the United States, and the Robb-Mumford Boiler Company of the United States has accordingly been incorporated with D. W. Robb, president; John F. Stairs, vice-president; R. E. Harris, J. J. Stewart, of Halifax, and J. A. Mumford, of New York, as directors, and W. M. Aitken as secretary.

A Halifax broker, Mr. F. B. McCurdy, has been elected a member of the Montreal Stock Exchange, and is now occupying his seat there. It is only a couple of years ago since Mr. McCurdy opened an office in the Metropole Building, having left the Halifax Bank to do so, and though only a very young man, has been more than ordinarily successful. A week or so ago Mr. H. R. Metzler was admitted a partner in the business and will have charge of the Halifax end of the business, while Mr. McCurdy occupies his seat on the exchange in Montreal. The firm have moved into new quarters on Hollis street.

It is unlikely that the Canadian Bank of Commerce will open a branch in Halifax, though it is expected it will soon do so in Sydney, on account of business relations with the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. It was rumored at one time that the Canadian Bank of Commerce would fit up an office in the Murdoch Nephews Building in Halifax, but that building has since been purchased by the Bank of Montreal. Besides, there would seem to be no very good reason why the Commerce should open in Halifax.

The Bank of Nova Scotia is doing considerable in the line of building. The new structure which it is erecting in Toronto will be one of the finest bank buildings on King street. A new office premises has just been completed for it in Sydney, C.B., which is spoken of by the Sydney papers as being very handsome and having very tasty fittings.

The Trinidad Electric Company, which is composed of Canadian capitalists, several of them being Nova Scotians, opened one of its electric lines in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on Nov. 10th. Port of Spain is a city of the same size probably as Halifax, and is the capital of a very flourishing colony. The outlook for the company would seem to be good. People remember the success of the Sao Paulo Electric Company, a concern opened by practically the same people, and whose stock made such a rapid advance in value this year.

#### FINANCIAL MATTERS.

We have seen some of the five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred dollar Metropolitan notes, which are certainly very handsome. Their face is tinted in old rose and chocolate, and the reverse side is green with a picture of the royal arms. The most conspicuous feature of the design is a cupid-like child representing a young country (or is it a young bank?) holding lamps which illuminate, on either side, reclining female figures in gracefully flowing robes representing literature and industry.

A purchase has been made by the Bank of British North