

## TORONTO WHOLESALERS.



THE annual meeting of the dry goods section of the Toronto Board of Trade, was held in the council chamber of the Board on January 12th. Mr Stapleton Caldecott, who was in the chair, submitted a report dealing with the work of the section during the past year. He congratulated the members in entering upon 1892 in a much better condition and with better prospects for business than in 1891. This was largely due to the abundant harvest in Ontario and the North West. Should 1892 fail to result profitably it would be owing more to defective business methods than to any want of purchasing power in the community. During the year the section had taken up several practical questions, the chief being on municipal taxation as bearing on the interests of merchants and manufacturers. An effort had been made to induce the wholesale trade to reduce credits and to make cash discounts, but so far little practical progress had been made on this point. The wholesale grocers of the city and country had set an admirable example in this respect. A tribute of respect was paid to the memory of Mr Geo. Gillespie, who died last year. In conclusion, the president said it was cheerful to note that the trade prospects for this year are good. The members were advised to embrace the opportunity to make a good use of the chances, not in foolish efforts to extend trade unduly and sell without a fair return. The report was adopted.

The Business Tax Committee reported having had a petition prepared for submission to the Attorney General, calling attention to the fact that for municipal taxation a municipality could tax realty and personalty, and that the mode and rate of assessment on realty was alike to all classes of citizens. When personalty assessment is dealt with the Act allows the assessor the option of taxing either on income or capital. Attention was called in the petition to the circumstances in Great Britain and all other civilized countries in the world, as far as known, except in certain sections of the United States, where there is no taxation on personalty allowed for local taxation, his privilege and power being reserved to the State. The petition concluded by asking that the municipal Act be so amended that if the personalty tax is to be continued it shall be based on income to all citizens alike. The petition had been forwarded to the merchants in Ontario and signed by many of the most prominent. It will be presented to the Local Legislature next month. In the meantime a pamphlet, which deals more fully with the question, had been placed in the hands of the printers, and will be circulated among the members of the Local Legislature for their information. The case will be championed in the Local House by Mr J. Tait, M. P. P., who is thoroughly in sympathy with the petitioners. The report was adopted without amendment.

The report of the Fire Insurance Committee, which was also adopted, stated that they had conferred with the Toronto Board of Underwriters in reference to a reduction of rates on stocks of dry goods. They had been assured by the president of the Board of Underwriters that the matter would be brought before their annual general meeting this month.

The following are the names of the new Executive Committee—Messrs S. Caldecott, P. Campbell, J. S. McMaster, J. Knox, Hamilton, W. Blackley, A. Darling, F. O. Anderson. The Executive Committee met after the adjournment of the general meeting, and elected Mr S. Caldecott as chairman and Mr J. S. McMaster deputy chairman, Mr E. A. Willis being re-elected secretary.

## Business Chance.

**WANTED PARTNER IN GENERAL STORE,** 1st March. Best town in Southern Manitoba. First class stone building and good trade. Young man preferred, with good references and practical knowledge. Capital from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Address F. O. Box 54, Brandon, Manitoba, or A. A. Allan & Co., Toronto, Ont.

## PERSONAL AND GENERAL NOTES.

The dry goods store of Geo. Craig & Co., Winnipeg, Man., was damaged, to the extent of \$7,000, by fire on New Year's morning.

The woollen mill at Golden Grove, N.B., owned by Mr. A. Willis, was totally destroyed by fire on January 2nd. The loss was about \$9,000; insured for \$5,000.

Robert Spittal, of Spittal, Burn, & Gentleman, and George Priddis, of Priddis Bros. of London, Ont., have gone on a purchasing trip to the British markets.

The building at the south-east corner of Barrington and Sackville streets, Halifax, N.S., occupied by the Misses Burns, milliners; Mrs. Roddin, dressmaker; the Misses Wright, fancy goods, etc., and F. Kaiser, furrier, was badly gutted by fire on January 8th.

The members of the London, Ont., police force were made glad on New Year's morning by receiving a present of \$50 from Mr. George Robinson, of Robinson, Little & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants. The city street car drivers also benefited by Mr. Robinson's generosity to the extent of \$30.

January 4th, 1892, will ever be memorable amongst the dry goods merchants of Ottawa, it being the inauguration of the 6 o'clock closing. By law. In the future all dry goods stores will be closed at that hour, and employes as well as employers will be given an opportunity to spend an evening in the midst of their families.

Andrew F. Gault, David Morrice, sr., Robert L. Gault, all of Montreal; Theophilus Laing, of Boston, and Charles D. Owen, of Providence, Rhode Island, are asking incorporation as the Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Company, limited. The proposed capital is \$100,000, and the headquarters of the company are to be at Montreal.

On New Year's morning the fur store of Mr. Christmas, 2,266, Notre Dame street, Montreal, was broken into. The burglars made a good haul, taking away among other things, two seal wedge caps, two seal hussar caps, six Persian lamb caps, two beaver caps and collars to match, one grey lamb set, two grey lamb hoods, and one beaver muff.

Mr Bennett Rosamond has been elected to represent the North Riding of Lanark, Ont., in the Dominion House of Commons. Mr. Rosamond is president and managing director of the Rosamond Woollen Company, of Almonte, managing director of the Almonte Knitting Company, and a director of the Cobourg Woollen Company, Cobourg, Ont.

The Toronto Fringe & Tassel Co., have removed from 27 Front street west to more extensive and commodious premises at No 19. Owing to the rapid increase in their business they have had practically to double their accommodation as they now occupy two large flats instead of one. They have put in a lot of new and improved machinery and expect to more than double their output this year.

An enjoyable evening was spent on January 7th, at the residence of L. Cleghorn, 34 Lansdowne avenue, Toronto, the occasion being the presentation of a valuable gold watch and chain to Mr. Cleghorn by Mr R. H. Gray, as a reward of faithful service during the year as representative of R. H. Gray & Co. There were a number of friends present, including members of Mr. Gray's family and several employes of the firm. A musical soiree closed the pleasant event.

The employes of John Calder & Co., wholesale clothing manufacturers, Hamilton, Ont., held their seventh annual dinner on Dec. 23rd, when about forty sat down to an excellent spread. C. S. Finch occupied the chair and James R. Hadall the vice chair, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and responded to—that of the firm being received with much enthusiasm, reference being made by the speakers to the steady growth of the business and the close of a most prosperous year. Songs and recitations were given by Messrs. Rae, Bedwell, Drake, Goodere, Schwendean, Patterson, Fannerby, Marriott, Suman and Weiss, and a pleasant evening was brought to a close shortly after midnight.