



A NEW OPTICAL COURSE.—The Canadian Ophthalmic College have in deference to numerous and repeated requests arranged a correspondence course in optics, the announcement of which appears on another page of this issue. The fact that the new course is in charge of the old staff and that the same illustrations and lectures that are used in the regular course are available is a guarantee that the results will be entirely satisfactory. While a course of this kind is less desirable than a personal course, it is certainly far more desirable than attempting eye work without any instruction whatever, and the scale of charges enables the students to avail themselves of any subsequent regular course without extra charge.

MR. W. H. KERNEY, jeweler of Renfrew, Ont., was burned out for the third time in seven years, on the 12th of last month. The fire originated in a shoe store next door and spread so quickly that Mr. Kerney's place was soon ablaze, and although he managed to save his stock, the building was completely destroyed. The store was owned by Mr. Kerney, who had an insurance on it of \$1,000, while the loss on the stock will be covered by the insurance. As if to accentuate his loss and prove the truth of the old saying "that misfortunes never come singly," the shock to his wife was so great that she died the day after the fire, from heart failure. Mr. Kerney will have the sincere sympathy of the entire trade in the afflictions through which he has been compelled to pass.

IS THIS YOURS?—As an illustration of how mistakes sometimes happen in business we publish the following which explains itself: "Some months ago the Goldsmiths' Stock Co., Limited, of Toronto, received through the mails a 14k hunting 16 size B. W. C. Co., gold case, No. 167389, and in the same package a sterling movement, No. 2328124. No correspondence accompanied this, nor was there any way by which the sender could be identified. They are desirous of hearing from the rightful owner, as it is more than likely some serious misunderstanding has arisen from these articles going astray." It is more than probable that the sender of this watch has been wondering what on earth has become of his watch, and whose fault it is that it has gone astray. We trust that this item will be the means of restoring the property to the rightful owner.

BURGLARY.—The hint we gave our readers a couple of months ago regarding the danger of loss by burglary appears to be only too true if we can judge by the large number of them that are being reported from day to day by the press. In the majority of these cases, the stores have been broken into and only such goods that are left outside of the safes have been stolen, showing that the work is that of tramps and not that of skilled burglars. All the same it often entails serious loss, and our readers, especially in the smaller places, cannot be too careful about how their premises are secured and guarded. The inexpensive precautions, recommended in **THE TRADER** on more than one occasion, such as lights in the store and a good watch dog on the premises are simple and easily effected and many a burglary would have been avoided had they been taken. We cannot too strongly impress the importance of this matter upon our readers as the jeweler's store in any town or village is always a mark for the would-be robber.

MR. E. C. FITCH, president of the Waltham Watch Company, spent a day in Toronto last month en route to Chicago, during which he visited the principal jobbing firms and looked up the condition of the Canadian watch trade generally. Mr. Fitch is well pleased with the business done by his Company in Canada, more particularly with the fact that the trade are demanding a higher grade of watches on the average than in former years. This, he thinks, will grow, on account of the heavy demand from railroad employees for high grade goods, and be of much advantage to the jewelry trade generally. His Company are increasing their capacity as fast as possible consistent with turning out a first-class product, and he is well satisfied with the business outlook. Mr. Fitch says that the new labor saving machinery during the past couple of years has been so great as to have almost revolutionized the trade in some departments, and has enabled them to turn out high grade goods profitably at the remarkably low prices they have been selling them at.

DEATH OF MR. C. B. DOHERTY.—On the 3rd November there died in Toronto after a long illness Mr. Chas. B. Doherty, senior member of the firm of Nerlich & Co., wholesale fancy goods dealers. Mr. Doherty was born in Ireland, and came to Canada when a lad. He was connected with the firm of Nerlich & Co. for forty years, and during his life time was a license commissioner and a justice of the peace. He was a Liberal in politics and a regular attendant at St. Michael's Cathedral. He was also a member of several Catholic societies. He is survived by six sons and two daughters. Although not directly connected with the jewelry business, Mr. Doherty was well known to the majority of the Canadian retail jewelry trade on account of the large line of fancy goods they handled that were used by jewelers generally. He was an excellent man of business and exceedingly popular with the firm's customers, and those of the trade who knew him personally, and they were many, will hear of his demise with much regret. His funeral was largely attended by leading citizens of Toronto.

THOSE BIG BELLS.—The bells for the great clock in the tower of Toronto's new City Hall reached here about the middle of last month, but there has been considerable delay about getting them hoisted into position on account of their great weight. The large bell, "Big Ben," weighs nearly seven tons, and has a hammer 824 pounds in weight; the second bell weighs nearly two tons, with a hammer 440 pounds in weight; the smallest bell of the three weighs about one ton, and has a hammer weighing 70 pounds. The cost of these bells is estimated at about \$4,000, and they paid a duty of \$730 on entering the country. At present these musical monsters are lying in front of the new City Hall, awaiting a hoisting apparatus strong enough to yank them up to the great clock tower, 220 feet above the pavement. The only machinery in Ontario fit for the job seems to be that used by the constructors for the stone work of the City Hall, and we understand the English firm of clockmakers, who have under their contract to place clock and bells in position, are negotiating for its use. They expect to have the clock installed and going, and everything in readiness to ring out the old century and usher in the new one.

IN A DILEMMA.—As our readers are aware, by the system adopted by all the railways in Canada and the United States, the country is divided into "time belts," the difference between each of them being exactly one hour. As the time in each belt is the same all over, our readers can readily understand that at the divisional lines between the belts there must be a straight jump of exactly one hour, and that in certain places this arrangement tends to complicate matters. Thus at the St. Clair River, which is the dividing line between two time belts, the City of Windsor in Canada on the Eastern side has its time exactly one hour faster than that scheduled for the City of Detroit just across the river. Of course this is an arbitrary arrangement, seeing that their solar time is both the same. However this has raised quite a lively discussion in Windsor, the citizens of which city are divided over the question of adopting standard time. Some favor the course of following the example of Detroit, since the council of that city will likely adopt the slow time. There are others who think Windsor should change to eastern standard. The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific run on fast time and the Michigan Central on standard, which is one hour slower. Windsor is half way between, or sun time.

AN OLD FRIEND IN A NEW GUISE. It is like old times for **THE TRADER** to welcome back into its advertising pages the Hemming Manufacturing Co., of Toronto. Few firms in Canada are better or more favorably known than the Hemming Co. For sixteen years their jewelry cases were sold from one end of Canada to the other, and many were the expressions of regret from their customers when some eighteen months ago they disposed of their case business to the J. Coulter Co. For the past year and a half, the company have been quietly working up a business in the manufacture of jewelry which bids fair before long to be one of the strong firms of the Dominion in this line. They appear to have spared neither time nor expense in procuring plant and factory facilities generally, while their aim is to turn out only the best grade of goods in such lines as