

INSURANCE CHRONICLE





 Yarmouth.
 Ontario – Arnprior, Berlin, Hamilton, Ottawa, Toronto,
 Guebec – Montreal, Paspebiac.
 Manitoba and N.W.T. – Winnipeg, Man. Edmonton and Strathcona, N.W.T.
 New Brunswick – Campbellton, Chatham, Fredericton, Moncton, Newcastle, Port
 Figin, St. Andrews, St. John, St. Stephen, Sussex, St. George, Woodstock.
 Prince Edward Island – Charlotte – Newfoundland – Harbor Grace and
 St. John's. West Indies-Kingston, Jamaica. St. John's. United States-Boston, Chicago.

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	BANK	ł	ent Discounts	80,000.
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HEAD	OFFICE .		IONTRE	AL
Way Morson	BOARD OF E MACPHERSON, Presider		WING, Vice-Pres	ident
W. M. Ramsay		arkland Molson,	LtCol. F. C	
Wm. C. McInt	yre. JAMES JAMES J. DURNFORD, Chief Ins	ELLIOT, General		
W. H. DRAPER, I		vood and W. W.		ss't Insp'r
Acton, Que. Alvinston, Ont.	Hamilton BRANC Hensall, Ont.		Sorel, P.	0. 's, Ont.
Arthabaska. Aylmer, Ont.	Highgate, Ont.	Morrisburg, On	t. St. Thon Toronto,	as, Ont.
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Chicoutimi, Que. Clinton, Ont.	" St. Catherine	Quebec, Que. Revelstoke, B.C	C. Victoria, Victoriav	B.C. ille, Que.
Exeter, Ont. Frankford, Ont.	St. Branch.	Ridgetown, Ont Simcoe, Ont.	. Wales, O Waterloo	nt.
Fraserville, Que.	Jacques Cartier Sq.	Smith's Falls, O		, Man.
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The Dominion Bank.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of TEN PER CENT. PER ANNUM, upon the Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the TWO MONTHS ending 31st December next, and that the same will be payable at the Banking House in this City on and after

Saturday, the Second Day of January Next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 21st to the 31st December, both days inclusive.

days inclusive. The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the Bank in Toronto, on Wednesday, 27th January next, at twelve o'clock noon. By order of the Board,

Toronto, 26th November, 1903.

T. G. BROUGH. General Manager.



tord BANKERS MONTREAL-Molsons Bank; Imperial Bank of Canada; NEW YORK-The Importers and traders National Bank LONDON, ENGLAND-The National Bank of Scotland.

794



Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of Four per Cent. for the current half-year, has been declared upon the Paid-up Capital Stock of this Bank (but on new stock to apply from date of payment only), and that the same will be payable at the Head Office and Branches on and after

Saturday, 2nd Day of January next.

The Transfer books will be closed from the 15th to the' 31st December, both days nclusive. By order of the Board.

Sherbrooke, 2nd December, 1903.

J. MACKINNON, General Manager. C. S Arthur Aylmer Beeton Bridgeburg Burlington Drayton Dutton Elmira Embro Glencoe

Rodney St. Mary's Sault Ste. Marie Saraia Schomberg Springfield Stoney Creek Stratford Strathroy Bankers-Great Britain-The National Bank of Scotland. New York-The American Exchange National Bank. Montreal-The Quebec Bank.

Grand Valley

Guelph Hamilton do East Ingersoll Kincardine Lakefield

Leamington Newcastle

Branch North Bay Orillia Otterville Owen Sound Port Hope Prescott Ridgetown Binley

Rip'ey Rockwood

Sturgeon Falls Sudbury Thamesford Tuisonburg

Toronto Totteuham Wind or Winona. Woodstock



London Ontario, 1903.





CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED		1.5	 	\$300,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP			 	300,000
CONTINGENT			 	25,000
RESERVE FUND			 • • • •	75,000
DEPOSITS AND CAN. D	EBENT	URES	 	523,751
	1	100		

Money loaned at low rates of interest on the security of Real Estate and Municipal Debentures. Deposits received and Interest allowed.

W. F. COWAN, President. W F. ALLAN, Vice-President.

T. H. MCMILLAN, Sec-Treas.

R. Wilson-Smith & Co. STOCK BROKERS

Guardian Chambers, 160 St. James Street, Montreal MEMBERS MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE.

Orders for the purchase and sale of stocks and bonds listed on the Montreal, Toronto, New York and London Stock Exchanges promptly executed.

JAMES C. MACKINTOSH Banker and Broker. 166 Hollis St., Hallfax, N. S.

Dealer in Stocks, Bonds and Debentures. Municipal Corporation Securities a specialty.

Inquiries respecting investments freely answered.

Incorporated 1794. Insurance Company of North America FIRE | Of Philadelphia | MARINE

 Cash Capital
 \$ 3,000,000 00

 Total Assets
 10,702,583.61

 Surplus to Policy-holders
 4,988,589.05

 Losses Paid since Organization, 111,857,073.92

ROBERT HAMPSON & SON, Gen. Agts, for Canada, Corn Exchange Building, Montreal. MEDLAND & JONES, Agts., Mail Bldg., TORONTO

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Between poor printing plates and the kind made by us. We have every facility for the production of good printing plates—and we succeed, too.

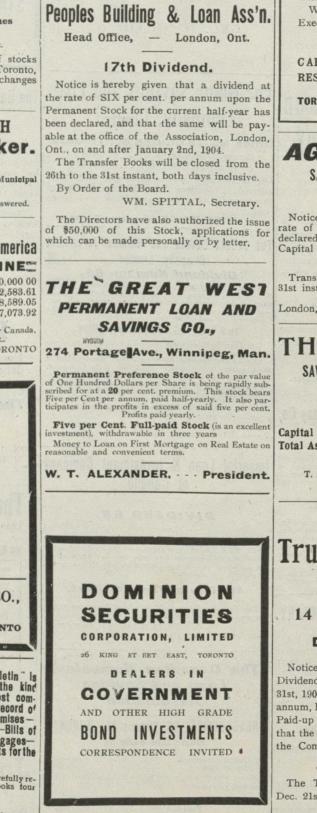
TORONTO ENGRAVING CO., 92-94 Bay Street, "Phone Main 2893. TORONTO



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CALC We issue carefully rereference books tour **R. G. DUN & CO.** Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, London and Cities in Dominion, U.S. and Europe. -A Yorkshire socialist, who was explaining to a friend the principles of socialism, remarked that all possessions should be shared equally. "If you had two horses," said the friend, "would you give me one?" "Of course," replied the socialist. "And if you had two cows would you do the same?" "Of course I should." "Well, supposing, now," said the friend, slowly, "you had two pigs, would you give me one of them?" "Eh! That's gettin' ower near home," said the other shyly; "tha' knows I've got twa pigs."

THE



The Toronto General Trusts Corporation acts as Executor or Administrator The Officers of the Corporation will be pleased to consult at any time with those who contemplate availing themselves of the services of a Trust Company. All communications will be treated as strictly confidential. Wills appointing the Corporation Executor are received for safe custody FREE OF CHARGE CAPITAL, - - - \$1,000,000 RESERVE FUND, -290.000 TORONTO. OTTAWA. WINNIPEG. AGRICULTURAL SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY. Dividend No. 63. Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of Six per Cent, per annum has been declared for the current half year, upon the Capital Stock, payable on and after 2nd January next. Transfer Books closed from 15th to the 31st instant. C. P. BUTLER, London, 30th Nov., 1903. Manager. THE DOMINION SAVINGS & INVESTMENT SOCIETY MASONIC TEMPLE BUILDING, (LONDON, - CANADA Capital Subscribed \$1,000,000 00 Total Assets, 1st Dec., 1900.. 2,272,980 88 T. H. PURDOM, Esq., K.C., President. NATHANIEL MILLS, Manager. THE Trusts & Guarantee COMPANY, Limited.

14 King Street West

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a half-yearly Dividend for the six months ending December 31st, 1903, at the rate of Five per cent. Per annum, has this day been declared upon the Paid-up Capital Stock of the Company, and that the same will be payable at the offices of the Company on and after

January 1st, 1904. The Transfer Books will be closed from Dec. 21st to Dec. 31st, both days inclusive.

Toronto, Dec. 1st, 1903.

T. P. COFFEE, Manager.

Debentures

Municipal, Government and Railway Bonds bought and sold. Can always supply bonds suitable for deposit with Dominion Government.

Stocks. New York, Montreal, and Toronto Stock purchased for Cash or on margin and carried at the lowest rates of interest

H. O'HARA & CO. No 30 TORONTO STREET

Members of the Fifm-H. O'Hara, H. R. O'Hara, W. J. O'Hara. Members Toronto Stock Exchange-H. R. O'Hara, W. J. O'Hara.

ÆMILIUS JARVIS & CO.,

ÆMILIUS JARVIS JOHN B. KILGOUR (Toronto Stock Exchange)

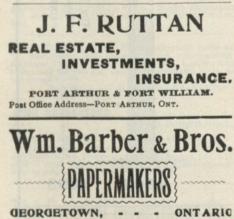
STOCK AND BOND BROKERS DEALERS IN INVESTMENT SECURITIES. Canadian Bank of Commerce Building, 19-21 King St. West, Toronto. Orders executed on all Stock Exchanges

CLARKSON & CROSS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, TRUSTEES, RECEIVERS, LIQUIDATORS Ontario Bank Chambers, 33 Scott Street, Toronto E. R. C. Clarkson, F.C.A. Established 1864.

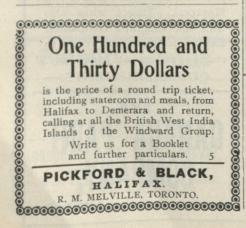
Clarkson, Cross & Helliwell Molson's Bank Chambers, VANCOUVER, British Columbia. (and at Victoria) Powers of Attorney to be issued to John F. Helliwell, F.C.A. (Can.)

Clarkson, Cross & Menzies Molson's Bank Building, 228 Portage Avenue, WINNIPEG, Manitoba. Powers of Attorney to be issued to John H. Menzies, F.C.A. (Can.)



MANUFACTURERS OF Book Papers, Weekly News, and Colored Specialties

JOHN R. BARBER



Mercantile Summary

"You should strive to appeal to the imagination and the human interest of your pupils," said the principal. "I do," answered the teacher, "but it is very hard to convince the boys that Hector and Achilles were as great men as Corbett and Jeffries."—Washington Star.

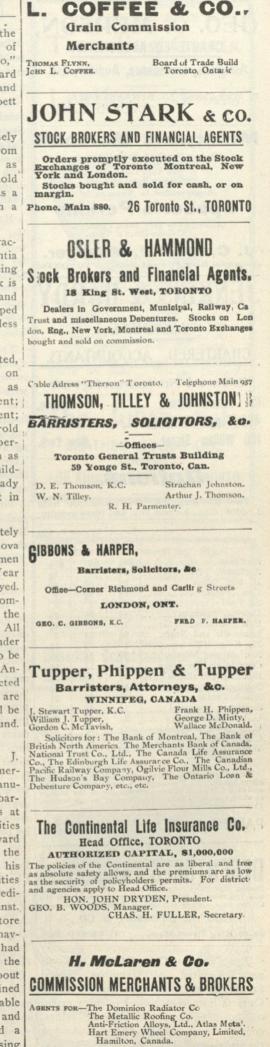
ANOTHER company, apparently closely connected with the above, judging from the list of its provisional directors as given in the Gazette, is the Freehold Realty Company, Toronto, which has a capital of \$250,000. It will carry on a real estate and mortgage business.

PLACENTIA WATER WORKS.—Contractor Ellis arrived in town from Placentia last night, where he had been overseeing the job at the water works. The work is now being rushed to completion, and over 100 men are employed. It is hoped to have the town fully supplied in less than three weeks.

THE Dominion Peat Products, Limited, held their annual meeting in Ottawa on the 15th inst., and elected officers as follows: Dr. D. Spencer, president; Edwin Tolton, M.P., vice-president; George C. Holland, secretary; Harold K. Pinhey, treasurer; C. F. Gray, superintendent of works, and Mr. J. Keith as auditor. The company which are building a factory at Newington, have already distributed samples of their product in various parts of Canada.

THE D.I.S. Company have completely closed down for the season. The Nova Scotia Steel Company have seventy men working at present, but after New Year expect to have about 250 men employed. They are now building a new air compressor and crusher, which mean the employment of a number of men. All the work this winter will be done under ground. One of the tunnels is said to be the finest in the world of its kind. Another, some distance, will be connected with the principal one. Ten drifts are now being opened, and six horses will be utilized this year working under ground. -St. John Telegram, 3rd Dec.

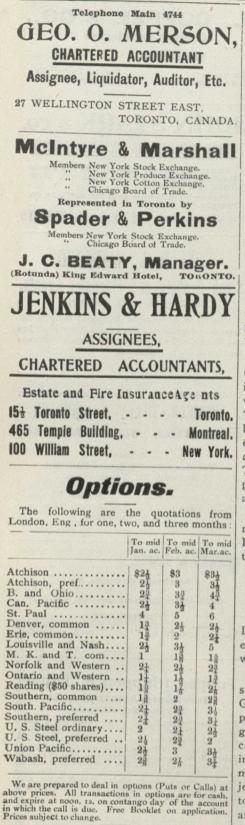
As long ago as 1877, Mr. Dan. J. Lynch began business as a general merchant, at Hagersville. About January, 1898, he became financially embarrassed and settled with his creditors at 50 cents on the dollar. His liabilities amounted to \$19,000. Shortly afterward he was appointed Indian agent and the store business was taken over by his wife. She now assigns, with liabilities of about \$12,000. A meeting of creditors has been called for the 16th inst. Z. REGIMBAL opened a general store at Azilda, near Sudbury, in 1901, having formerly been a farmer. He had no previous business experience. At the time of starting, he was worth about \$4,000 or \$5,000. He recently obtained an extension of time but was unable to meet the payments on same, and the Montreal creditors have placed a man in charge with a view to disposing of the assets.



706 Craig St., MONTREAL

799

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DEBENTURES "Municipal Debenture bought and sold. also Government and Railway and Insurance Companies, and for Deposit with the Government always on hand. — Telephone Main 2011

GEO. A. STIMSON & CO., 24-26 King Street West, TORONTO, Ont.

THE Canadian Consolidated Oil Company, Limited, of Hamilton, capital \$1,000,000, has been incorporated under Ontario laws, with power to carry on an oil business, and also operate mines, construct power works, etc., etc. Among the provisional directors are E. R. Clarkson, and T. Ramsay, of Hamilton.

Mercantile Summary.

THE Cleland block, a three-story building in Winnipeg, was partially destroyed by fire last week, at a loss of over \$13,000, fully covered by insurance.

It is believed that the Nova Scotia Steel Company contemplates the purchase of some valuable iron deposits in Cuba. The Cuban ore is already used to some extent by the company to mix with that from Newfoundland, as its addition does a great deal to improve the quality of the product.

MR. R. J. TRETHEWAY, representing the Vancouver Petroleum Syndicate, is carrying on extensive boring operations for oil in the neighborhood of Pincher Creek, Alta. Progress has been slow owing to the hardness of the rock, but indications are said to be good for the presence of oil in large quantities. One well is down nearly 1,300 feet.

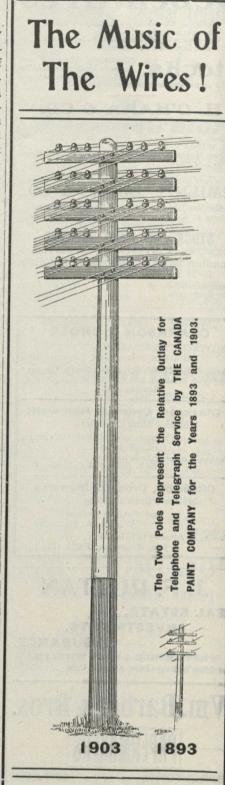
THE Northern Consolidated Holding Company, Limited, Toronto, has been incorporated under an Ontario charter, with an authorized capital of \$8,000,000. The company will buy, sell, and hold bonds, debentures, and other securities, engage in the financing of, and act as agent or manager of other companies. The provisional directors are five employees of the law firm of Blake, Lash and Cassells.

"And is the story true? Most true. St. John has never ceased to say: Love one another, all of you,

On Christmas Day and every day." It has also a story by John Knight, entitled The Widow's Son, the scene of which is Spruce Cove, Nova Scotia.

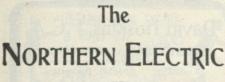
THE Dominion Government have issued a statement to the effect that the Grand Trunk Railway Company have deposited one million pounds of their guaranteed stock as security for the carrying out of the agreement entered into last session between the Government and the Grand Trunk Pacific, subject to ratification of their shareholders to a general meeting. These stocks are unquestionably good security, but we suppose that legislation will need to be passed to authorize their acceptance.

FROM the honorary local secretary of the Canadian section of the Society of Chemical Industry, Mr. Alf. Burton, we received notice of the second meeting of the session 1903-4 held in Montreal in the Lecture Theatre of the Macdonald Chemistry and Mining Building, on Tuesday, December 22nd, Dr. G. P. Girdwood delivered an address on "Chemical Education." All interested in chemistry and in the application of research towards furthering the development of the country's industries are invited to attend these meetings. The chairman of the Section is Prof. W. R. Lang, of Toronto University.



We receive a most excellent service from The Bell Telephone Company at Toronto and Montreal. Direct wires also with the telegraph companies. Expert salesmen are ready to receive orders at each wire. QUICK SHIPMENTS.





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MONTREAL

BANKERS

From the following list our readers can ascertain the names and addresses of banker who will undertake to transact a general agency and collection business in their respective ocalities:

MEAFORD-Grey County. C. H. JAY & CO'Y, Bankers, Financiers and Canadian Express Co. Agents. Money to oan

GEORGE F. JEWELL, F.C.A., Public Accountant and Auditor. Office, 361 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

COUNTIES Grey and Bruce collections made on commission, lands valued and sold, notices served A general financial business transacted. Leading loan companies, lawyers and wholesale merchants given as references

H. H. MILLER, Hanover

JOHN RUTHERFORD,

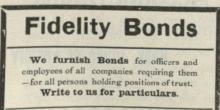
OWEN SOUND, ONT. Licensed Auctionect for County of Grey.

Lands valued and sold; Notices served; Fire, Life and Plate Glass Insurance; several factory and mill sites in good locations to dispose of. Loans effected Best of references.

The Grenfell Investment Co.

GRENFELL, N.W.T.

A General Banking and Financial Business transacted. Special attention given to collections on Neudorf, Hyde, Tiree, Mariahilf and Pheasant Forks. JAS. YOUNG-THOMSON, MGR.



LONDON GUARANTEE & ACCIDENT CO., (LIMITED), of London, Eng. D. W. ALEXANDER, - Gen. Mgr. for Canada. 42 King Street West, Toron.o.

Mercantile Summary.

MR. J. F. RUTTAN, real estate dealer at Port Arthur, has the thoughtfulness to send us a pen wiper and calendar in red, blue and yellow cloth.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., December 18th.— The official estimate of the wheat yield of New South Wales is 28,570,000 bushels, an increase of 12,500,000 bushels compared with the record of the year 1901. About 18,500,000 bushels are available for export.

THE new year calendar for 1904 of the Imperial Bank of Canada takes the form of a condensed statement of the bank's position, its officers and agencies. Its first page bears the Imperial crown, the Canadian beaver, and the maple leaf, in vivid colors on an olive ground, with Christmas good wishes as a motto.

WE had occasion to notice, a few weeks ago, an ingenious machine for counting and wrapping in packets silver and copper coins, which merits the attention of banks, loan companies, street railways and other concerns. This machine can be seen in operation at room 451, King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

WORD comes from Halifax, under date, Saturday last, of the discovery of immense deposits of gold, silver and copper ores at Cheticamp, Cape Breton, which is confirmed by the Provincial Mines Department. One of the beds of ore is over three hundred feet wide, and continues for a mile. Dr. Gilpin, head of the department, expresses the opinion that from present indications the ledge of ore is among the largest in the world.

WILL advertisers never learn to come at the proper time in the week to have their ads changed ? It will take all the influence of all the clergy in town, and there are quite a large number in proportion to the population, to counteract the line of profanity into which compositors turn on being pestered with adsto-be-changed when about going to press. If this week's Spectator gets to our subscribers late, punish the advertisers by reading their advertisements and buying their goods.—Annapolis, N.S. Spectator.

It is stated by the Stratford News that what is claimed to be the first solid cement bridge of its kind in Ontario was that erected in August last, about a mile east of Tavistock, over a small creek on the boundary of Perth and Oxford counties. It has a span of thirty feet, with absolutely no support underneath between the abutments at each end, and yet the thickness of the floor is only fourteen inches. Seven days after this bridge was built it allowed the passage over it of a twentyton load without a tremor. The abutments at each end are 31/2 feet thick at the base and 21/2 feet at the top. Like the rest of the bridge, they are of solid cement. A railing about three feet high is also of solid cement. The bridge cost \$635.



802





Private Funds Wanted.

An Edmonton lawyer who could place out money on good security at 8% would like to communicate with private parties having money to loan.

Box 175, - Monetary Times.

THE Colonial INVESTMENT and LOAN COMPANY.

HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND.

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of three per cent. (3 p. c.) on the permanent preference stock of this company has been declared for the half-year ending. December 31st, 1903, and that a dividend of three per cent. (3 p. c.) upon the ordinary permanent stock of the Company has been declared for the half-year ending December 31st, 1903, and that the same will be payable on and after Saturday, the second day of January next.

The Transfer' Books of the Company will be closed from the 15th to the 31st December, inclusive. By order of the Board.

(Signed). A. J. JACKSON. General Manager. Dated Toronto,^{*1} 1st December, 1903.

TENDERS FOR Vancouver Debentures.

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned up to Saturday. Dec. 26th, 1903, at noon, for the purchase of Debentures, to the amount of \$99,000.00, bearing interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ % per annum, payable half-yearly; and \$50,000.00, bearing interest at the rate of 4% per annum, payable halfyearly. The whole of these Debentures extend over a period of forty years. Interest and principal are payable at the City Treasurer's office. The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders.

> THOS. F. McGUIGAN, City Clerk.

Vancouver, Dec. 3rd, 1903.

Mercantile Summary.

Several suits have recently appeared against Marchand & Co., dealers in lumber and grain, at Pont de Maskinonge, Que., and they have now filed consent to assign. Mr. Marchand was previously unsuccessful as a grist miller.

A DEMAND of assignment has been made upon J. A. Gayette, who keeps hotel at Iberville, Que. He only began in the spring of this year.—Mrs. Joseph Plante, in the millinery line at Sorel, Que., is seeking to make a settlement with her creditors at 50 cents.

J. BELLEISLE and his brother, of St. Stanislas de Champlain, Que., were both farmers. They began storekeeping in the spring of 1902, under the style of Belleisle & frere, without any business knowledge, and with the usual results in such cases, their assignment being now reported.

MR. N. M. CANTIN is at the head of a number of capitalists who propose to build an electric railway between Stratford and St. Joseph's, on Lake Huron. They are submitting to the Stratford council a proposition to build the road for a fifty-year franchise, reserving to the city the right to buy the road in twenty-five years. Exemption from taxation for a certain period is also asked. The route proposed will touch at Zurich. Hensall, Chiselhurst, Cromarty, Staffa, Fullerton Corners, Carlingford, and Avonton.

An expert examination has been made of the anthracite coal bed recently discovered near the National Park at Banff. It is stated that the depth reached was 600 feet, where a solid seam of the best anthracite was found. The seam ran about ten miles northerly, and varied in thickness from 6 to 10 feet. Analysis shows the coal to contain from 75 to 80 per cent. of carbon. The Canadian Facific Railway people are making preparations for developing the deposits and have already let contracts for a spur to the pit mouth, also for extensive sidings, coal chutes and sheds.

On the 14th inst., the town of Bathurst, N.B., was visited by a destructive fire, which, breaking out in Meahan's general store, destroyed eight or ten buildings before it could be extinguished. The opera house was saved after strenuous exertions, and this fact probably prevented the town from being altogether destroyed. The premises which suffered most severely were those of Miss Meahan, McKenna Bros'. livery stable, McLean's dry goods, Kent's general store, Doul Bros'. bakery, Pitre's and Gunning's harness shop, and the Great Northwest telegraph office. The loss is estimated at \$20,000, with insurance of about half. On the same day a fire took place in a building in St. John, N.B., owned by Mrs. Alexander, and occupied by W. O. Dunham, A. J. Lordly & Son, J. A. Tufts & Sons, and W. Cameron. The total loss is placed at \$15,000, mostly insured.





Position Wanted

By an Ar Experienced Business Manager, age a years. Of exceptional executive ability and talent, having held high positions of trust, such head accountant financier and correspon ent of expert accountant of strictly up-to-date methods, understanding thoroughly factory costing. Would prefer taking full charge of branch office or general managership of large manufacturing will accept moderate salary to commence, but must have scope to prove executive power and ability. Address. "W. M. C.,"

Monetary Times, Toronto, Ont.

B. NERON, engagea in storekeeping and lumbering at Metabetchouan, on the lower St. Lawrence, whose failure we lately noted, is offering his creditors 50 cents on liabilities of \$29,000.

An assignment has been made by A. W. Atkinson & Co., of Advocate Harbor, right through to Coteau. N.S., general dealers and lobster packers. They were recently reported as offering 50 cents on liabilities of about \$12,000.

A GENERAL store concern in Martinville, Que., John Duffee & Co., have as- Mr. D. T. Phillips, United States consul signed. Duffee is a harness maker by in Cardiff, the following is a comparison trade, and carried on that line of busi- of the coal outputs of the five main ness for some years at Moe's River, producing countries of the world in the where he is reported to have com- years 1902-3. United Kingdom, 227,promised more than once. He moved 095,000 tons, an increase of 8,048,000; to Martinville in 1894, where he subse- United States, 268,688,000 tons, an inquently went into general business crease of 6,814,000 tons; Germany, 107,-

under the cover of his wife's name, and getting credit, as too many such people do.

A. D. VIAU, of Montreal, who began in a dry goods store last fall, and who has just assigned, has had another unfavorable business record. He was formerly in the men's furnishing business, and was burned out in the spring of '08. The fire was investigated by the commissioners, and it is said creditors then received little. He was subsequently interested in a similar business carried on as A. & D. Viau, which came to an unfavorable termination in the spring of 1901.

J. E. BIGELOW, the proprietor of the business carried on at Truro, N.S., under the style of Bigelow & Hood, as manufacturers of aerated waters, met his creditors in Montreal some days ago. and made an offer of 50 cents on the dollar. Liabilities are estimated at \$28,-000. He is also the principal owner of the soda water business carried on at Halifax, under the style of Bigelow & Co., Limited, which concern is also said to be involved.

THE Canada Atlantic Railway during the past season brought into the port of Montreal 10,500,000 bushels of grain, which is an increase of 2,000,000 bushels. This line now has good facilities for handling grain. It has a thousand 70ton cars capable of handling 1,165 bushels each. In addition there are 500 cars of 1,000 bushel capacity. The low grades that exist over the entire line enable an engine to haul 27 of the big cars on the western section, and from 30 to 35 cars from the middle section

WORLD'S COAL PRODUCTION.

According to an estimate made by



Telephone Main 2732 John Mackay & Co. Chartered Accountants Canadian Bank of Toronto Commerce Building,

436,000 tons, a decrease of 1.103.000: France, 29,574,000 tons, a decrease of 2,060,000; Belgium, 22,769,000 tons, an increase of 556,000. The total known production of the world, it is stated, is now about 700,000,000 tons. ' Figures showing the number of employees in the coal industries in the five principal coalproducing countries are given as follows: United Kingdom, 787,700; United States, 458,554; Germany, 448,000; France, 159,957; Belgium, 134,092. The following figures are given to show the consumption of coal in 1902 in the countries named: United States, 265,-105,000 tons; United Kingdom, 166,698,-000 tons; Germany, 99,325,000 tons; France, 42,195,000.

-According to a correspondent of the New York Tribune, His Majesty King Edward, is taking an active part in securing the revival of the tobacco industry in Ireland. During the reign of Charles II., the growing of tobacco in England and Ireland was forbidden by law. In England the prohibition has always been maintained, although eighty years ago tobacco growing was permitted in Ireland, and for two decades its cultivation was successfully carried on. In 1830, when distress was great in Ireland, the only county that did not suffer was Wexford, where the cultivation of tobacco was an established industry. Finally, in Queen Victoria's reign, the English Government forbade the further growth of the plant, giving fiscal reasons and the difficulty of collecting the revenue. Through the influence and the initiative of King Edward, all restrictions are now about to be removed, and tobacco growing may once more become a flourishing industry in the Emerald Isle.

GRAIN STANDARDS.

A few days ago there was a meeting of the grain section of the Toronto Board of Trade, at which a strong resolution was carried, respecting the making of grain standards for the Province of Ontario. The making of grain standards for the guidance of Government inspectors in the grading of grain grown in Ontario has been performed annually for over thirty years. By the amendment to the Inspection Act made last session, no more standards will be set in future for the grading of grain in Ontario. The farmers of Ontario grew this year over 199,902,000 bushels, 'having a value of \$76,000,000, all of which is subject to Government inspection. Without any standard of samples set the grading of this vast quantity of grain will be left to the individual opinion of a few Government inspectors scattered over Ontario without any standard to



guide them, unless by themselves, and subject only to appeal to the chief inspector located in the port of Montreal, from whose decision there is no ap-The section held that in the inpeal. terests of all concerned the standards should be set annually as heretofore. The Dominion Millers' Association have also passed a resolution urging the Government to immediately fix the flour standards. In the past the flour standards have been fixed in October, and the delay has seriously incommoded those engaged in the export of flour, and also the Ontario mills shipping flour to Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.

WEST INDIAN TRADE.

Advices from British Guiana speak of the favor in which Mr. Chamberlain's preferential scheme is looked upon in that colony. An agent of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, in a recent letter, said that reciprocity having now been arranged between the United States and Cuba, it would mean the loss of former as a market to the British colonies. This, he says, has thrown a gloom over the whole colony, and the planters must look for markets elsewhere, or shut down. Canada may in time take all our sugar, but we must have a price that will pay not less than \$2 per 100 lbs. A Demerara paper, speaking of reciprocity, says: "If the oft-threatened happens and the American market is closed, the ships that bring the West Indian staple to Canada and the United Kingdom will not return empty. In this manner the Washington authorities may discover when too late that they have sacrificed a valuable market largely through their own selfishness." Mr. George Henderson, president of the Nova Scotia branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, who has just returned from British "The present time is Guiana, says: opportune for introduction of Canadian products on a larger scale, in view of the preference given by the Dominion to Great Britain and her other colonies. A closer reunion and wider commercial relations are what we earnestly desire. Take, for instance, our importation of sugar. During the first six months of this year we purchased from British Guiana 40,000 tons of sugar, as against about 800 tons the whole of the previous year."

-It has been calculated by the Dry Goods Economist, that the cost of doing business in New York, which seems to be increasing all the time, has now reached in the average departmental store of that city, something like 28 per cent, of the gross receipts. Our contemporary adds that in the competition for business this ratio is likely to become higher rather than to diminish. In this country, what with distant delivery systems, better accommodation for customers, and so forth, the expenses of retail store-keeping must be largely increasing also, though probably to no such marked extent as has been foreshadowed above.

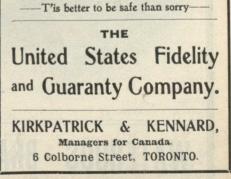


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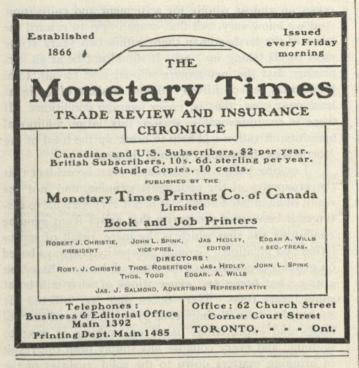
municipalities accept personal sureties, and defalcations occur, they rarely collect from the bondsmen.

Why not then pay a small premium and secure our bonds.



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TORONTO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25. 1903.

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A CHRISTMAS RESUME.

Another Christmas arrives to find Canada enjoying a period of prosperity almost unexampled. Elsewhere we have dealt with facts and figures indicating this increase. The day of Canada certainly appears to have come at last. Never before has this country, regarded either as a component part of the British Empire or as an individual entity, been the centre of so much respectful regard from the world at large.

At home, too, her people are possessed of a new spirit. Compare the Canada even of eight or ten years ago with the Canada of to-day. It is a comparison of the spirit of sober apathy with the spirit of buoyant hope and cheerfulness; and not only this, but instead of being as it were the centre of a stagnant pool, casting longing eyes occasionally to a more swiftly flowing current near by, we realize that we are even now on the up-whirl of the wave which is predestined to take us on to fame and fortune.

Our people are contented. Manufacturers have

been busy as never before. Western farmers, while not quite able to catch up to the record yields of last year, have yet received better prices. Traders and merchants have been hard put to it to keep up with the increasing demands of their enthusiastic circles of customers. Belief in the present and hope for the future have been a large ingredient of the very atmosphere which Canadians have breathed, and such an admixture of that mental ozone has caused all their ideas, not merely those pertaining purely to material needs, but those having for their object the ultimate well-being of the race, to expand most graciously. Results will show themselves in due course; with regard to the latter, perhaps in fuller measure than now we fancy.

True, there is another side to the tale of progress and unsurpassed prosperity. The accursed spirit of speculation in stocks has spread amongst our people, and many are the cases of baffled hope, of heartbreaking loss, of even ruin and hardly-averted disgrace, which have resulted from it. And, across the line there have been of late ominous signs of coming depression, which sooner or later we ourselves can hardly hope altogether to weather. But Canada, from present prospects, should have gained sufficient momentum to carry her safely through at least another year. At any rate, at this time of writing, let us make up our minds, not to worry until Christmas 1903, has become a part of history.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

CANADIAN BANK STATEMENT.

LIABILITIES.

Capital authorized Capital paid up Reserve Funds	Nov. 1903 \$97,046,666 78,398,733 50,374,087	Oct. 1903. \$97,040.066 78,286,682 49,989,361
Notes in circulation	\$67,425,586	\$70,480,611
Dominion and Provincial Government	1 08 1 6 26	6,996,436
deposits Public deposits on demand in Canada	4,984,636 120,098,903	118,070,088
Public deposits on demand in Canada	278,530,529	275,939 608
Public deposits at notice	32,040,968	. 29,101.329
Deposits outside of Canada Bank loans or deposits from other banks	against built to	
secured	765,878	573.006
Due to other banks in Canada	4,559,940	5 061 977
Due to other banks in Great Britain	2,644,917	3,334 191
Due to other banks in foreign countries	1,816,455	2,080 296
Other liabilities	10,147,883	9,102,714
Total liabilities	\$523,015,760	\$520,740.325
ASSETS.		
Specie	\$15,447,095	\$14.219.299
Dominion notes	30,464,185	29,980,289
Deposits to secure note circulation	3,130,844	3,130,844
Notes and cheques on other banks	21,675.636	19,162.359
Loans to other banks, secured	765.877	573,009
Deposits with other banks in Canada	6,064,417	6,548,608
Due from banks in Great Britain	14.017,106	11,354,474
Due from other banks in foreign		
countries Dominion or provincial Govt. debentures	11,225,292	13,489,646
or stock	10,660,750	11,135,704
Other securities	53,267,854	52,827,446
Call loans on bonds and stocks in Canada	39.109,610	40,728,320
Call loans elsewhere	33.221.069	30,585.526
the second second second second second second	\$239,049,735	\$225,735,524
Current Loans in Canada	380,688,701	380,823,162
Current Loans elsewhere Loans to Dominion and Provincial	21,208,965	23,939,637
Governments	2,144,135	1,965,964
Overdue debts	1,983,619	2,140,013
Real estate	747,402	775,645
Mortgages on real estate sold	724,143	716,339
Bank premises	8,895,399	8.748,055
Other assets	6.834,900	7,666,665
Total assets	\$662,277,180	\$660.520,201

The financial statement just received and published in the Canada Gazette extends only up to the 30th of November; consequently, though so near the end of the year, a full comparison cannot be made between this year and the last. But a comparison can be made in respect of two important items, which are almost certain to be the same in December as they were in November. There has probably never been a year in which such important additions to capital and rest have been made by Canadian banks as have been during the present year. The capital of the banks as a whole has been increased from \$71,900,000 to \$78,300,000. The total rest has increased from \$42,600,000 to \$50,300,000. We quote the latter for a purpose. It is well known to be of great importance when additions are being made to capital to avoid a diminution of the ratio between the capital and the rest. It is always a temptation to a bank when increasing its capital to put out the additional stock at as large a premium as possible. In view of this the Banking Act prohibits the premium being greater than the ratio that the rest bears to the capital at the time of issue. This is a wholesome provision. But, on the other hand, it is important that the premium shall not be less than the ratio that rest bears to capital; for then the proportion would be undesirably lessened. Yet this is what some stockholders in the Bank of Montreal desired to have done when the proposal to increase its capital by two millions was put before them. The good sense of the meeting, however, under the guidance of the president rejected this proposal. It is certain that this care to preserve a right proportion has been generally observed, for the ratio of rest to capital is greater now than it was a year ago. The proportion of rest to capital in November, 1902, was 59 per cent. The proportion at present is 64 per cent. It is evident, therefore, that the large increase of capital has been more than equalled by the corresponding increase in the rest. This is quite satisfactory to the public, who are so much interested in the stability of the banks.

We are so near the end of the year that we can indulge in a vein of congratulation upon the continued wave of prosperity that is in our midst, and of which the bank returns are giving such unmistakable signs. When we look at such figures as those of the present return, say of deposits, which are now \$441,000,000, with a \$100,000,000 more in savings banks and loan companies, we may well feel almost astonished that such figures have become possible. Bank deposits have increased \$28,000,000 since November, 1902, and circulation has increased also \$3,000,000; and this, as we pointed out last month, in spite of the fact that the money value of the North-West crop is certainly no more than it was last year. But we may expect, unless some drawbacks intervene, a very much larger production next year than there has been this. The immense influx of settlers into the western districts of the northern country must undoubtedly by next year have begun to tell upon the total amount of the harvest. The enormous areas of land that have been taken up have been

taken up almost wholly for settlement and cultivation. And we know very well that crops begin to reward the labor of the husbandman there within two years at the most of his taking up land. It would not be at all surprising that the newcomers should add to our total production ten or fifteen million bushels of grain at least next year; that is, under average conditions. If there is an unfavorable season, this large additional mass of cultivation will help to bring up the total of the North-West harvest to normal figures.

Looking back over the year it must be evident that the prosperity of the country is genuine, and not the result of an inflated boom. It is not very difficult to distinguish between a prosperity that arises from genuine conditions and that which is the mere result of speculation and inflation. Genuine prosperity is always based on genuine production of the time. A boom is based on nothing but hopes and expectations of what will be at some future time. Every boom that has afflicted the country has been distinguished by this feature of fanciful hopes and expectations based on nothing or next to nothing; and every collapse has simply been the, result of bringing matters down to the solid realities of the present. But it is the solid realities of the present that our year's prosperity has been built on (of course, with exceptions in the stock market, etc.); and if the commercial and financial community continue to conduct their business in view of present actualities from time to time, there is no reason to fear a revulsion, though undoubtedly there may be a change.

ABSTRACT OF BANK RETURNS.

Description.	Nov.30th, 1902.	Nov.30th, 1903.	In Month 1903.
Capital paid up	\$71,928,000	\$78,398,000	Inc. \$112,000
Circulation	64,497,000	67,425,000	Dec.3,055.000
Deposits Loans, Discounts and Invest-	413,876,000	441,775,000	Inc. 6,037,000
ments Cash, Foreign Balances, Net &	419,609,000	470,715,000	Dec.2,687,000
Call Loans	178,613,000	169.892.000	Inc. 6,102,000
Specie	12,710,000	15 447.000	" 1,228,000
Legals	21,055,000		
Call Loans	101,521,000	72,330,000	
Investments	61,358,000		
Government Savings Banks Montreal City and Distri Bank La Caisse d'Economie, Qu Loan Companies Bank Deposits	ct Savings		
		and the second sec	45,352,000
GOVERNME	ENT CIRCULA		.0,002,000
Large Small			463,000 156,000
		THE REAL PROPERTY AND A DESCRIPTION OF A	and the second of the second of the second of the
		\$ 40,0	622,000

OPENING FOR PLOWS IN FRANCE.

A correspondent of Commercial Intelligence, stationed in Paris, France, writes very interestingly of the state of agriculture in France, and incidentally suggests the fine field presented by that country for the importation of agricultural implements. As is known to many people in this country, the land in France does not belong as a rule to great proprietors, but is cut up into an astonishingly large number of small farms, each owned by a peasant proprietor and his family. There are no less than 6,653,000 "exploitations," as they are called, of not more than thirty acres each. It might be supposed under such conditions that the manufacture of agricultural implements would be a flourishing industry. This is not the case, however, for last year not only were there imported 50,000 large agricultural machines, such as mowers, drills and reapers, valued at about 20,000,000 francs, but it is stated that the small farmers have little use for any implement except the plow, and that even this has not been brought to a stage of anything like perfection, may be gathered from some remarks by a French agricultural expert.

"The implement indispensable to every cultivator is the plow," declared M. Plissonnier, "but the types are so varied that there exist nearly as many models as we have communes in France, that is to say, nearly 36,000 and on account of the infinite number of varieties of plows, the small manufacturers in France produce but a few implements, and these at a very high price." The same gentleman goes on to say that in France the plow is sold at about one franc the kilogramme (10d. for 2 lbs. in weight), whilst the same kind of implement, better made and more serviceable, costs far less in England, Germany, and America. Add to this, that our poor cultivators pay for the numerous spare pieces two or three times dearer than in those countries, and it will be seen that hundreds of millions of frances are lost without profit to anyone.

A good, cheap, serviceable plow is, therefore, wanted in France—a plow that can be sold at the rate of less than 20 cents for 2 lbs. weight. We would like to see the trade between France and the Dominion of Canada show a rapid increase, and, perhaps, here is an instance in which this end can be achieved. But to do this, as M. Plissonnier remarks with reference to British manufacturers, the article which we want to sell has to be shown and tested and worked with. The French peasant will never buy from a catalogue. What is needed is a course of practical, working experiments in the field.

BOILER INSPECTION.

We have had handed to us for perusal the report of the secretary of the English Board of Trade upon the working of "The Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890," for the fiscal year of 1902, and a summary of this report may well follow our remarks in former issues of this paper upon these enactments, and as illustrative of the scope of the enquiries.

During twelve months sixty-eight cases of explosions were enquired into. The number of lives lost during that period was thirty, and the number of persons injured fifty-five. The majority of explosions were caused by deterioration or corrosion, defective design, defective workmanship, construction or material, undue working pressure, defective safety valves or mountings, improper management by owners, ignorance or neglect of attendants, and other causes. In nearly one-third of the cases dealt with the failures occurred in steam pipes and boiler mountings.

In seventeen cases the enquiries were followed by formal investigations. In every case but one the causes of the explosions were clearly ascertained, and in no case was an explosion attributable to unavoidable accident. In the one case referred to, which related to the bursting of a tube in the water tube boiler, the court found that the explosion was caused by overheating. and, though they were of opinion that the overheating was probably caused by grease, they were, in the face of expert evidence to the contrary, unable to find that that was the actual cause.

In seven cases there was no proper periodical examination by competent persons, and the owners were found to blame for their neglect, and had to pay part of the costs of the investigation. In six of the seven cases the boilers were purchased second-hand, and worked without any proper examination by a competent person with a view to determine the pressure at which they could safely be worked.

In four cases persons who had been employed to examine the boilers were found to have neglected to make proper examination, and in two cases the examiners were incompetent. In each case the examiner had to bear part of the costs of the investigation.

In one case the court found that the explosion was due to the neglect of the bricklayer who set the boiler up in brickwork without using firebrick tiles with fireclay between them and the boiler. In two cases the boiler-makers were found to blame for neglect of their employees, and in another case a boiler-maker was blamed for giving unsound advice. In only two cases were owners found to blame for negligence on the part of their servants.

In nine instances the owners were ordered to pay costs running from \pounds 10 to \pounds 75. In two cases the vendors, second-hand boiler dealers, had to pay \pounds 2 and \pounds 50. In one case a bricklayer had to pay \pounds 2. In each case the investigations were most thorough. The care and attention bestowed on the boilers, both by owners and attendants, as well as the history of the boilers, were minutely enquired into. In one case the history of the boiler went back twenty-nine years.

In subsequent issues of this paper we propose to deal with individual enquiries and investigations under the English Acts which will show even more clearly than the above how extensive is their operation. The same causes of explosion which exist in England undoubtedly exist in this country, and in proportion to the number of boilers used there and here, the loss of life is probably greater in Canada. Surely, then, it is incumbent upon steam users and those connected with the working of boiler plants to unite in calling to the attention of the Legislatures of our different Provinces the necessity of passing an enactment which will give the greatest protection against loss of life from boiler explosions.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE THREAD COMBINE.

The practical combine which was formed in Great Britain when the amalgamation took place of the J. & P. Coats, the Clark and the Kerr sewing thread companies is often given as a standing example of the fact that it is not only in highly protected countries that a trust can be powerful and have baneful effects; indeed, this is often placed on a par with the Standard Oil and United States Steel trusts. Every now and then the irritation caused by its workings in this country comes to a head, general complaint is in order, and dire threats are made to remove the cause. What galls many wholesalers and jobbers is the way in which they are tied up in the matter of dealing with one of the most necessary articles of trade. That which the combine orders, that jobbers have to do. They have to debar themselves from dealing in any thread but that made by the combine upon pain of losing a fairly substantial discount at the end of each six months. They are not allowed to buy even from the combine itself more than enough to last for their hand-to-mouth requirements, a big order for speculative purposes being strictly tabooed. Indeed, we have heard of cases where an order for, say, five hundred gross of spools has been cut down, before being executed, to less than half of that quantity. Then the combine sells to the retail trade just as advantageously as it does to the wholesalers. Finally, at the prices it sees fit to charge there is no profit in the business to any one; that is, except to the members of the combine themselves, who lately, we are told, have been reaping dividends at the rate of 40 per cent. This is the substance of the argument from the Canadian dry goods merchants' point of view.

A Toronto newspaper, waxing wroth over these things, speaks in favor of the establishment of a Canadian sewing cotton industry, and, in order to enable such to have its birth and grow lustily, calls for Government interference in the shape of an increased duty.

From what we gather among the trade, however, we judge that such an industry would stand but a feeble chance of ever outgrowing the period of infancy. Some people ask why legislation cannot be used to restrict the all-powerfulness of such a combination as now certainly does exist. But the question occurs: How? We are aware that Parliament has a certain power to offset the action of illegal trusts in commodities by taking off the duty on such commodities. But such action would hardly help in this instance because, duty or no duty, there is no competition in sight from other countries. The manufacture of thread is carried on in the United States, but practically even there is in the hands of the Britishers. Some small quantities come in from Belgium and Germany, but even in these cases the consumer plays into the hands of the combine, for he (or more usually she)has used Coats', or Clark's, or Kerr's for years, and has a prejudice against other untried makes.

The other alternative, that of raising the Canadian tariff so as to admit of sewing thread being manufactured in this country, presents to the eyes of people capable of judging, an equally hopeless prospect. If the promoter of such an undertaking were in possession of millions of dollars capital and could afford to "buck up," as the phrase is, against a concern which not only does not believe in opposition, but has an ancient high-class reputation behind it, there might be some chance. But what would prevent the combine from establishing a rival factory here in Canada (it already has a winding establishment in Montreal, at which the hanks of yarn made in Great Britain are placed on the spools), and, with all its wealth and prestige and experience behind it, using all a trust's tactics to render the domestic concern's position untenable. Experience shows, too, that it is managed by remarkably clever men, who know well how to keep within the letter of the law. Another consideration which may be urged against the adoption of a high tariff is the fact that sewing cotton may be looked upon in some measure as raw material, any enhancement

in the cost of which would act detrimentally to the interests of several classes of manufacturers.

As to the question of prices, it is true that they have been raised within a comparatively recent period from \$3.50 to \$5.40 per gross of spools, but we believe that before the amalgamation was effected they were almost as high as they are now. It should be remembered also that the cost of raw cotton is almost prohibitive, and might almost warrant the charging of even higher prices than exist to-day. Another point which may be touched upon is this: we think it a fact that the combine has not exercised the privileges of its monopoly very hardly upon this country individually. That is to say, the prices charged here are by no means high compared with what they are in Great Britain. It is claimed. indeed, that at certain periods the cost price of sewing cotton in Canada has been actually less than it was at the same time in England, plus freight, duty, and necessary charges.

These considerations, we are aware, do not remove the root of our merchants' trouble, nor give much encouragement toward the building up of a home industry. Frankly, however, admit though we may the actuality of the burden complained of, we do not discover any very promising course for its mitigation in sight. In some places, in Britain itself, we understand, some restrictions have been imposed at the instance of retailers upon the unhindered working of the designs of the combine; we are open to suggestion as to any that can be placed here.

THE LUMBER TRADE.

Lumbermen report very little change in the situation since last report. Prices for pine are steady to firm, a tendency which is likely to show some increase owing to the reported comparatively light cut in various parts of Ontario. As to hard woods, no actual advance has been made, so far as we are aware during the past month or so, but the feeling is and has long been in favor of still higher prices than those prevailing.

Speaking of the Liverpool, England, market, the Timber Trades Journal of a recent date made the following remarks: "The pine season is over, and it finds us with light stocks, upon which we must congratulate the happy holders. Buyers up the country, who have not yet realized what we have already pointed out in these columns, will feel themselves left. They have not realized the fact that the Canadian pine production does not depend upon this country alone, as many of them seem to believe. They have never realized the enormous wants, not of the Dominion alone, which are ever growing, but the demand from the United States, who are huge buyers of pine deals, etc. The prices of the present day may appear unduly high to the old-fashioned buyer, but he has not awakened to the changed condition, and the sooner he is aroused the better it will be for him." Referring to spruce, the same paper says that the market keeps upon a level bottom without any particular sway to either side. During the week ending 12th December, four steamers discharged timber at Manchester, the import being about 4,000 loads. One of these was the "Manchester City." from Montreal and Quebec, which discharged about 500 standards, the principal parcels including 130 standards Quebec spruce, mainly 21/2 by 7, 50 standards 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quality pine deals and ends, 30 standards 11 by 3 3rd pine deals, about 50 standards 2nd and 3rd pine deals, and parcels The "Manchester Importer" discharged of pine sidings. about 600 standards in all, including pine and spruce sidings and deals.

The following particulars are taken from Farnworth & Jardine's (Liverpool), wood circular, dated 1st December,

The arrivals from Canada during the past month 1003: were 10.893 tons' register, against 11,734 tons' register during the corresponding month last year, and the aggregate tonnage to this date from all places during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903, has been 436,804, 453,344, and 464,464 tons, respectively. There has been a quiet trade during the past month. The arrivals show a considerable falling off, and the import season drawing to a close, but the deliveries have been disappointing, and stocks generally are ample. There is little change in values to report. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Spruce and Pine Deals .- The arrivals during the past month have been considerably in excess of the corresponding month last year, viz.: 5,660 standards, against 2,320 standards in 1902; the deliveries have been rather disappointing, but prices are fairly steady; stocks here and in Manchester are quite ample. There is no improvement in the demand for pine deals to report. Of birch logs, the import has been small, there has been a fair consumption, and stocks are moderate; prices are firm. Planks have arrived more freely, the deliveries have been fair, and although stocks are in a moderate compass there is little improvement to report in values, which remain low. The importation of United States staves during the past month has again been on a moderate scale. There have been no arrivals of British Columbian and Oregon pine; the deliveries have been fairly satisfactory, but stocks are heavy. As to prices, birch planks were early this month quoted at from £6 10s. to £6 15s. per standard, ex-quay. Spruce deals fetched, St. John, £7 125. od. to £7 15s. per standard c.o.f., according to specification; lower ports from £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. per standard.

OUR SAINT JOHN LETTER.

Announcement is made to-day that Russell Sage, Levi P. Morton, and the other New York capitalists who own the New Brunswick Southern Railway, running eighty miles along the Bay of Fundy shore from St. John west to St. Stephen, intend to put it in first-class condition for through business. Mr. Matthew Neilson, C.E., late manager of the St. John Street Railway Company, has been ordered to make a report at once on the work necessary to fit the road out. The proposed move is said to be in consequence of the acquisition by the Maine Central Railway of the Washington Counties line, which runs from Calais to a point on the Maine Central. By the construction of a bridge across the St. Croix river, the two lines can be connected at St. Stephen and Calais, and a new rail route from St. John to Portland and Boston secured, shorter by some fifty miles than that at present operated by the Canadvan Pacific, Maine Central and Boston and Maine Railroads. The managers of the New Brunswick Southern and the Maine Central are said to have agreed on this connection, and it is further stated that instead of running to West St. John that a branch will be built so as to swing the line into Fairville, whence it can come into St. John proper over the tracks of the St. John Bridge and Railway Extension Company, now used by the C.P.R., and all three railroads to the city will use same station, that of the Intercolonial. The changes, if carried into effect, and Col. H. H. McLean, president of the company, says they have been determined on, will prove The New Brunswick Southern runs a great convenience. through a good country, and if put into proper shape and well operated should develop a splendid trade. Some of the finest fishing and hunting resorts in New Brunswick are along this line, and there are also sea beaches that cannot be excelled anywhere along the Atlantic coast.

The folly of merchants not insuring is shown to-day in the announcement of the failure of Mrs. E. McLean, of Bathurst. She carried on a successful general store there, but was one of those wiped out in last week's fire. Without insurance, she finds it impossible to meet her liabilities, and is offering to compromise at 20 cents on the dollar.

Miners are being imported into New Brunswick from Belgium to work at the Minto mine, in Queen's County. S.S. "Lake Champlain," which arrived on Saturday, brought fourteen, and others have come by different boats. The

coal found in this mine is of a fine quality, and the operations are being slowly but steadily extended.

Messrs. T. McAvity & Sons, hardware merchants and brass founders, have purchased the J. A. Whelpley skate factory, at Greenwich, King's County, together with the stock on hand. This concern got into financial difficulties. The Messrs. McAvity have not yet made any announcement of their plans with reference to the factory, but it is likely that they will operate it or will bring the machinery to St. John and manufacture here. The stock of skates, which was purchased at a low figure, will enable them to place skates on the Maritime market at low prices.

The Bank of British North America building, in this city, is now in the hands of carpenters and builders, who have torn out the old-fashioned fittings and have made the interior into a modern bank office. An addition in the rear gives a new room for the manager, and his former quarters have been thrown into the clerks' rooms, giving much more space for the previously crowded staff. New furniture has been put in by the Canadian Office and School Furniture Company, of Preston, Ontario, and the bank quarters, when all improvements are completed, will compare favorably with any in the city.

St. John merchants report that they are doing a splendid Christmas business, better, perhaps, than in any previous year. It would have been better still had not the heavy rains of a few days ago taken away all the snow, making it almost impossible for country men to get to town.

The City of St. John to-day accepted and paid for a new and modern fire alarm service, which has been just installed by the Gamewell Company, of Boston. The new system cost about \$8,000, and is thoroughly up-to-date.

The Young Men's Christian Association has commissioned G. Ernest Fairweather, a local architect, to prepare plans for the new \$60,000 building, which the Association is to build next summer, and Mr. Fairweather is going to the United States to inspect some of the most modern Association buildings, so as to determine how St. John can get the best for its money.

Saint John, N.B., 21st Dec., 1903.

THE UNITED STATES' TRADE WITH JAPAN.

BY WALTER J. BALLARD.

Says Mr. Walter J. Ballard, of Schenectady, N.Y., in an article which we find in "Japan and America," a monthly published by Hajima Hoshi, 203 Broadway, New York:

We are better customers of Japan than Japan is of us. For the past three years the commerce between the United States and the "Chrysanthemum Empire" is represented by the following figures:

	U.S. SALES TO JAPA	IN.
1901		\$19,000,640
1902		21,485,883
1903	The second second	20,924,862
	U.S. DUDCHASES FROM	TAPAN.

U.D. I ORCHINDED I ROM	ALL CONTRACTOR
1901	\$29,229,543
1902	37,552,778
1903	44,142,652

These totals prove that while our sales have remained practically stationary for three years, our purchases show an aggregate increase of \$23,000,000 in 1902 and 1903, fiscal years over 1901. In the past five years we have bought more of the products of Japan than any other country, and more than all Europe; yet Great Britain and British India each sell more to Japan than do we. We have some encouragement, however, in the fact that our sales increased 13 per cent. last year, as compared with 1901, while those from most European countries fell off.

In	the fisc	al year just	closed	our	chief	sales w	vere:
		engravings					
Wheat	flour .						2,247,199
		(Increase o	ver 100	2 of	\$067 3	17)	

* * *

Cycles and parts of	447,677
(Increase over 1902 of \$176,947.)	
Cars, passenger and freight	134,052
(Increase over 1902 of \$176,947.)	
Clocks and watches	148,641
Raw cotton	7,434,718
(Decrease from 1902 of \$623,572.)	
Cotton cloths	23,685
Electrical appliances (not machinery)	263,940
Builders' hardware	138,444
Electrical machinery	428,427
(Increase over 1902 of \$298,650.)	
Sewing machines	42,998
Locomotives, thirty-two in number	275,062
(Increase over 1902 of 18 for \$145,690.)	
Typewriting machines	16,003
Sole leather	220,571
Naval stores	27,732
Refined mineral oils	3,472,708
(Decrease from 1902 of \$1,910,722.)	
Paper, and manufactures of	339,721
Paraffin and paraffin wax	471,393
Butter	69,782
Cheese	8,939
Tobacco, unmanufactured	413.337
Cigars and cigarettes	116,454
(Increase over 1902 of \$115,518.)	
Lumber	33,524
Furniture	27,306

The decrease of nearly \$2,000,000 in refined oils raises the fear that Russian oil is supplanting ours in the Japanese market. As all but \$926 of the \$116,454 item for cigars and cigarettes is increase, it is evident that our makes have found favor. The sale of 32 instead of 14 locomotives is encouraging, but we ought not to have fallen off \$1,623.572 in raw cotton, in view of the fact that our total export of that staple to all countries was \$316,000,000, an increase of \$26,000,000 over 1902. The increase of nearly \$1,000,000 in wheat flour is particularly encouraging, especially to our Northwest and Pacific coast interests. Japan does not figure in our export of meat products.

[It is noticeable that the large items in Japan's purchases from the States are wheat flour, mineral oil, and raw cotton. But the above list confirms what Mr. Nosse told us in the interview in last week's issue.—Ed. M. T.]

Our chief purchases from Japan were:

Books, etc.,	\$19,666
Coal	37,992
Cotton cloths	56,139
Other cotton manufactures	86,401
China and porcelain ware	519,392
Raw silk 24	
(Increase over 1902 of \$3,916,111	.)
Silk manufactures	3,961,379

(Decrease from 1902 of \$758,471.)

The increase of \$3,916,111 in raw silk bought by us from Japan, together with the decrease of \$758,471 in manufactured silks, shows what our protective policy is doing for our silk factories. The \$2,000,000 increase in tea evidences the growing American fondness for the cups that cheer but not inebriate.

We lead all other countries in our sales to Japan of electrical appliances and electrical machinery; fire engines and pumps, flour, sole leather, kerosene oil, lubricating oil, parafin wax. cardboard, leaf tobacco, timber, other than oak, bicycles and tricycles, and electric-light wire. In 1903 we took the lead, for the first time, in steam boilers, engines, and telephones, but we are losing ground in paper, spinning and weaving machinery, watches, iron nails, wire and small rod iron, telegraph wire, steel, other than mild steel, and glazed or fancy paper.

There are some articles which Japan imports largely,

and which we ought to compete more strongly in selling. These are lifting machines, drilling and boring machines, turning lathes, machine tools, rails and fittings, iron pipes, tubes, belting, and hose for machinery, railway freight and passenger cars, and condensed milk.

Canada's sales to Japan at present are only I per cent. of the value of ours, but the fine showing made by Canada at the Osaka Exhibition (which we so lamentably neglected), may do us greater damage later on. Canada's chief export is flour. So far the United States has been furnishing about 96 per cent. of Japan's flour importations. As Mr. James J. Hill recently and appropriately said, it is only the want of American ships which prevents our entire surplus wheat crop being shipped to and sold in the Orient, mainly in the form of flour. Will Congress please note that point? The winners, in the order named, in our last year's sales to Japan, were raw cotton, kerosene oil, and wheat flour.

THE TORONTO CLEARING HOUSE.

The Toronto Clearing House occupies the first floor in the handsome new building of the Bank of British North America, and was formally opened on the 9th inst., in the presence of several bank managers, other financiers, and some members of the press. The "House" is admirably fitted up with receiving and delivery wickets and counters, arranged in horse-shoe shape, for the officials, and in a central position is the manager's dais, occupied by Mr. G. W. Yarker. Light, space, quiet and solidity are the marked features of the very fine room.

There are nineteen banks in Toronto, with twenty-nine branches, making in all nearly fifty offices in the city, and as an evidence of the work and importance of the Clearing House, as well as a striking illustration of how thoroughly commercial business is served in this city, it may be stated that the paid-up capital and reserve of the nineteen banks is nearly \$110,000,000; and this immense sum does not include deposits and circulation. Of course, the capital and reserve mentioned is not all limited to Toronto, yet there are eight head offices of banks in the city.

As a fair illustration of the utility and saving of time through the working of the Clearing House, it is only necessary to say that the nineteen banks can exchange all their parcels in this room with each other in about the same time that it would take, for instance, two officials of the Molsons Bank to deliver its one parcel to the Bank of Toronto. Then, besides, the interest and continuity of important statistics are kept up by a Clearing House.

To make the daily exchanges thirty-eight bank officials —two from each bank—and the manager of the Clearing House meet at the "House" at 10 a.m. Nineteen of these gentlemen are settling clerks; the other nineteen are delivering and receiving officials. The clerical work commences and closes at a signal from the manager, and takes a little over half an hour to complete, including the time taken up by the manager in summing up and certifying vouchers for the Clearing House Bank to pay to, or receive from, each bank. The manager, however, remains for some time to tabulate certain statements and round off the final work of the clearings.

The suggestion has been made that it would be interesting to compare the clearings and finances of Toronto with United States cities of a similar size. At the same time it would be difficult, because of the different character and basis of the United States banking system. The capital of the United States banks is comparatively small and they have a small secured circulation, but are compensated by very large deposits; whereas, on the other hand, Canadian banks are largely capitalized and have a great circulation.

A despatch of Monday last from Trenton, New Jersey, states that James H. Edge, the bank teller who embezzled about \$110,000 of the funds of the First National Bank of Paterson, N.J., was on that day sentenced to imprisonment of seven years in the penitentiary.

HOLIDAY READING

MUNICIPAL TREASURERS: THEIR WORKS AND THEIR WAYS.

An unexpected reward sometimes does comethough it is but rarely-to a writer who has to delve in blue books. A reward, I mean, over and above the satisfaction he obtains from finding facts and figures and opinions where he expected to find them. Great is the delight of a man who is something besides a Dry-asdust or a machine, to learn that a public official, who is often dreaded as a Rhadamanthus, can show in his reports to superior officers a spark of humor or a real literary flavor-sometimes ability of grasp which reaches far beyond the four walls of his office and beyond the limits of his particular metier. Such a man we have in the compiler of the bulletins of the British Columbia Bureau of Information-such a man we have discovered among the subordinate officials of the Province of Quebec-such a man, too, we have in the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario. But this threatens to become a lengthy digression, so I close the paragraph by saying that the municipal auditor of the last-named province has dared to admit, even in his printed report to the Attorney-General, a glint of humor among his criticisms and his occasional severe judgments.

For years the book-keeping of Canadian municipalities had been faulty. So troublesome was it to the authorities of the Province that they resolved a few years ago upon an attempt to correct the evil. A provincial auditor of municipal accounts was appointed in the person of Mr. J. B. Laing, and he was given power to investigate the books and accounts of treasurers, their methods, and their securities. How he found things in township or village or county offices we have occasionally told in these pages in previous years. Taking up now the report of this official for 1903:

A very common expression, among the details given of the auditor's visits to 162 township, town and village treasurers in Ontario, is that the books are "fairly well kept." This is a somewhat lukewarm phrase-we are sure it is not, in the mouth of Mr. Laing, an attempt to "damn with faint praise" any of these officials. But he gives praise where it is especially deserved, as for instance, of the treasurer of the town of Perth, (assessment value, \$1,250,000), who gets a salary of only \$75. "His books and balances were quite correct: and I would consider double the present figure nearer the proper figure than what he now gets." Of the village of Thamesville, we find the books described as "correct and well kept," though all they pay their treasurer is \$35 a year; the town of Bothwell and the township of Zone, both of which are in the same county, and both have about the same amount of taxes to look after, give their treasurer \$50 and \$85, respectively. As to Wallaceburg, the treasurer of that place is described as experienced and able.

Mentioning the township of Percy, Mr. Laing says: "The treasurer of this municipality has been in office for twenty-five years, so it is evident his fellow-ratepayers find no fault with him. I have gone over his books and accounts and found them correct, and I am not going to find any fault with him either, but the reverse. I would be inclined to raise the standard salary in his case a little higher."

Things are not always found at ease in the financial Zion of a country treasurer's office, however, and Mr. Laing

has of course to say so. He or his assistants have found out defalcations, and have been the means of getting de-faulters punished or outlawed. There was the treasurer of Essex, Shambleau by name. He was himself a skilled accountant, and had manipulated the county finances in the most rascally manner, until his whole game was exposed by a Government audit in the township of Romney. It was the sidelight thrown on his nefarious schemes by this audit that led to the exposure of his villainy. He appears to have spent the money almost entirely in dissipation. Races, women, gambling, etc., etc. He was supposed to be dying in Chatham Hospital, when the compromise settlement was made with the County Council, but we are told that in May last he was then living in Wallaceburg in good health. His shortage was first placed at \$14,000 or \$16,000, but further investigation disclosed the fact that the proper figure was The County Council appears to have settled the \$23,000. matter for \$8,000, not without being warned by the accountant in charge of the audit (Mr. McPherson, of Windsor), that the audit was not completed and that there was more But it is understood that \$8,000 was all that to come. Shambleau's relatives and friends could raise and that in any event nothing more could be had than the amount accepted.

Sometimes this officer has to condole with treasurers instead of complimenting them; sometimes he is able to do both. Here is what his report says about the treasurer's office of the County of York, which has been so long in the gloomy building on Adelaide Street, near Church Street, in Toronto, which is being, as we write, modernized and added to:

- County of York.—Treasurer in office 37 years—affairs administered by a deputy. "Everything in the office appears to be up-to-date, with the exception of the office itself, which, being in the old county buildings, is badly ventilated and as a matter of fact not fit to work in."
- Village of Millbrook has a good accountant; his books and accounts all right for 1901. For some reason the cash book for 1902 was not produced. While the auditor says he has "no reason to believe that there was anything wrong, still it is always better to have books written up to date: in fact, this should be insisted on in all cases."
- Township of Dalton, Victoria Co.—\$60 salary. His books are poorly kept: the year 1902, when I was there in October, had not been written up at all.

Other instances which are fitted to attract attention are the remarks of the auditor on pages 33 and 34 relating to the affairs of Sault Ste. Marie, Shuniah Township and Fort William. From the last-named we quote two sentences: "The auditors' statement for the year was an elaborate production. I notice those gentlemen receive \$100 each as their fee, which is gratifying to see, when in not a few cases of wealthy corporations the auditors' fees are almost nominal."

The good folk of South Elmsley Township, in the County of Leeds, may be supposed to be thrifty and intelligent, since they live so near prosperous towns like Perth and Smith's Falls. Yet one finds the following memorandum in the auditor's report concerning this place, with nearly half a million assessment: "The treasurer keeps his books fairly well, but does not get much encouragement to do better. His salary is \$15 per annum, and he has been in office for four years."

Up in the largely German County of Waterloo,

where is to be found so much intelligence combined with economy, is the village of New Hamburg, whose collector's roll is \$6,140, and the salary of whose treasurer is \$25. In the neighboring village of Elmira "one of the solid men of the village" is the treasurer, for all he gets is \$25 per annum. But down at Newboro, on the Rideau canal, is a treasurer who must like his work, since he has done it for six years for \$10 a year. "Evidently a labor of love," says Mr. Laing.

The remark ought not to be omitted that the system of uniform book-keeping introduced by the Treasurer's Department of Ontario in recent years is doing much to improve the systematizing of municipal offices.

SOME THOUGHTS ON ADVERTISING.

Many of our readers may have heard of the enterprising tradesman who put a card in his window bearing the following inscription, "Don't go across the street to be cheated—come in here." That man meant well enough—had something to say, but did not know how to say it.

The advertising spirit permeates our business life of to-day. Someone long ago declared that "Competition is the soul of commerce"; we go further and say "Advertising is the soul of competition." There is no longer any room for question that, other things being equal, the man who uses printer's ink judiciously will do a larger volume of business than the man who does not.

The magnitude, too, of some of the modern advertising' campaigns is remarkable. There are many departmental stores on this continent which spend from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 a year in advertising. Some baking powder makers in the United States spend each enough every season to start a dozen small banks. Patent medicine manufacturers exhaust dictionaries in trying to find words with which to suitably exploit the virtues of their drugs, expending millions of dollars in order to keep their names before the great reading public. Then there are those who make, and are determined to sell, breakfast foods, soaps, cosmetics, etc. It is estimated that the money spent for advertising purposes alone in the country to the south of us is about \$600,000,000 per annum.

The great insurance companies, trust companies and banks are not slow to the merits of advertising as a lever to success. The insurance companies are in front in this respect. It may be pertinent to say something about the growth of financial advertising. This class of advertising has received its share of attention in the past, but it has been more or less of an infant compared with other lines until the last year or two, during which time bank and trust company advertising have increased vastly in the United States. Canadian bankers are, as a rule, less disposed to ordinary advertising. The time, however, is coming when it will develop rapidly over here, too. Canada is entering upon a period of prosperity; the country is growing; it is safe to assume that the people will in the future have more money than ever they had before; institutions that hold it and use it must prosper accordingly, and the live advertising bank or trust company will get the greater share of the business. New methods of attracting business must be evolved just as new channels of investment must be found. More and more the advertising department of our financial institutions will become recognized as a very necessary part of this equipment.

Large accounts of business houses and wealthy people are like kisses—they go by favor, but the accounts of the average man and woman are likely to be secured and held by the bank which reaches them through its advertising.

The wise advertiser knows the value of repetition. One sees the same phrases used over and over again regarding certain commodities that they become a very part of us: "A food, not a fad," "It floats," "A perfect food," are all phrases which by the laws of association of ideas at once suggest the different articles with which they are connected. We are also familiar with "The Rock of Gibraltar" in life advertisements in the United States, and with "Prosperous and Progressive," as well as "Solid as the Continent," in Canada.

That all advertising is not apt is shown by the following. It is stated that of late the Salvation Army has been responsible for a great deal of perturbation among patrons of the railroad running from King's Cross, London, to the north. Facing the railway line north from Hatfield the Army have erected a huge board with the following inscription thereon:

PREPARE TO MEET THY DEATH, FOR IT IS COMING.

This does not read pleasantly at the commencement of a long railway journey, and we wonder that the railway people allow it.

However, the fact remains that the individual or firm which hopes to get a slice of the business that is going must take into consideration the matter of advertising. The whole subject may be summed up in the following trite verse:

> The man who has a thing to sell, And goes and whispers it down a well, Is not so likely to collar the dollars, As he who climbs a tree and hollers! (But he must holler wisely.)

Behind all advertising, no matter what form it may take, there must be honest goods and right business methods. Artemus Ward once said, "I like a rooster for tew things: first, for the krow that is in him; second, for the spurs he has to back that krow up with." So is it with him who would do advertising with permanent success. He must have behind it all the right goods.

AN UNACCUSTOMED GUEST.

Among the incidents of the first Riel uprising in Manitoba-far more exciting at the time to us, the dwellers in the East, than young people of to-day can understand-was one which some friends to whom I one night rehearsed it thought worth the telling in print. Doctor Schultz, whose then recent death as Sir John Schultz, K.C.M.G., ex-M.P., ex-Senator, ex-Governor of the province, drew much popular attention to the great work he did for Canada in his life time, had, at the date of my story, just reached Montreal aft r his escape from the clutches of Louis Riel. The stalwart doctor had broken the bars of his prison at Fort Garry, and in the attempt to let himself down from a window by strips of Buffalo hide, fell to the ground, injuring his thigh. Lame as he was he climbed the wall of the Fort, and walked backward half a mile in a circuit through a blinding snowstorm in order to deceive possible searchers, and then struck northeast, finding some miles away among the Scotch settlers

of Kildonan shelter from the emissaries which Riel soon sent out to find him. His secret was well kept, however, and he was never again captured by the arch rebel. I have heard him narrate how in that Scotch settlement he lay for hours in a huge grain bin in a settler's premises with half a dozen bags of oats on top of him, while the patrol of armed men scoured the house to find him.

By the assistance of sympathizers, word of the doctor's plight was conveyed to a Scotch halfbreed guide named Joseph Monkman, who had traversed the plains with Schultz on some trading trips in former years and knew the country Upon being asked to accompany the doctor thoroughly. on a snowshoe tramp to Lake Superior and thence eastward to let the people of Ontario know the true state of affairs in the Red River Settlement, Joseph loyally assented. Having been provided with all the pemmican they could carry, in addition to their arms, etc., the two started for the southern end of Lake Winnipeg about the middle of February, making a detour eastward through Lake of the Woods and Rainy River, then southward, and finally westward, tramping on their snowshoes day after day, through swamp and forest, over lake and hill, eating the flesh of rabbits or birds, often feeding on berries, until near the close of March they reached the western end of Lake Superior. A strange pair, stranger than Crusoe and his man Friday, they must have seemed to the people of Duluth when, gaunt and ragged, snowblind and crippled, they told their story in that town. Schultz had lost thirty-six pounds in weight on the trip, and suffered tortures from irost-bite and from the pain of his wounded thigh.

But to the story I set out to tell, which has nothing to do with either history or suffering. Joseph and the doctor after a sort of triumphal procession through Ontario cities, reached Montreal in the spring and put up at the St. Lawrence Hall. After dark one day they were called upon by a deputation of French-Canadians, prominent among whom was M. Provencher, who had spent some time in the Red River Territory, and knew Schultz. These invited the two heroes of the snowshoe tramp to a convivial gathering that evening. Schultz replied that they had taken tickets for the theatre, and had invited me to accompany them. With winning grace Provencher suggested that the seance should take place after the theatre, and begged that I would be of the party. It was so arranged, and about half past ten behold us, a dozen in number, seated in a private room at Freeman's restaurant on St. James street. Provencher sat at the head of the table, Schultz on his right, and then Joseph, who was attired in the Hudson's Bay overcoat, without which he never appeared. He was a tall man, this guide, with swarthy skin and high cheek bones. Indian-like as to eyes and hairboth black; Indian-like, too, in the erect carriage and turnedin feet, but with a large and smiling mouth which gave his face an aspect of confiding sweetness and simplicity. Simple he was, too, in matters of city life and custom, but he had excellent sense, the manners of one naturally a gentleman, while of woodcraft he was a past master. His confidence in Schultz was absolute.

The first course of the supper was oysters on the shell. Monkman had never seen or ters before, and watched with smiling but dignified *aplomb* to see how they were to be disposed of, asking the doctor, in his low tones, the name of these curious things, and being told to his amazement that they were fish. Following the custom of the other guests he made away with the bivalves, and while he was so engaged, Schultz leaned over and whispered to him:

"Preserve the shells, Joseph. They are valuable. The proprietor keeps them and grinds them up to feed them to his French-Canadian ponies. They make excellent horsefeed."

Joseph, nothing doubting, made a little pile of shells on his plate, bowing an acknowledgment to Schultz of the suggestion. As the other courses followed he partook sparingly and in sedate silence of the soup and fish, lightly of the hors d'oeuvres (which were as much a puzzle to him as Chinese dishes are to us), and "laid himself out" on the joint Pastry had no charms for him; and as for the wines, which succeeded one another in the order prescribed by the excellent taste of the repast, a glass of good old Hudson's Bav

rum would have done him more good than the whole of them. When not gazing straight in front of him this child of the prairies, swart of face, impassive in demeanor, sat between courses, on this convivial occasion, erect, with his hands clasped before him on the table in attendant silence, replying to the sallies of his right-hand or opposite neighbor with a French or English monosyllable, a broad smile or an occasional grunt—I do not use the term offensively, but I do not know any other word to describe the curious expression of assent that he was accustomed to make from his throat

The petit souper went on. The talk was charming, the badinage incessant. I was learning for the first time how delightful a half dozen of cultivated Frenchmen could be when bent upon entertaining their guests and themselves around the social board. And the scene laid the foundation in my mind of a respect which has continued ever since, for the educated class of French-Canadians. Reminiscences of Manitoba from Schultz and Provencher, songs and recitations in French and English from some bright young members of the press or bar, anecdotes, quotations, allusions and the playfully intimate rallying of one another, that is only There is a French proverbpossible to good fellowship. which says: "Confidence does more for conversation thanwit," and so it seemed on that evening, though wit was not wanting.

The convivial surroundings, the accompaniments of the little supper, from the colored wax lights on the table to the flaring gas jets of the room, were all strange to our untutored guest, whose eyes wandered like a boy's from the dainty jellies and "tiny kickshaws" on the table to the loud-popping and creaming champagne, beakers of whose "blushful hippocrene" came to surprise his vision and his palate. The cigarettes, too. seemed to amuse him, and the curiously-twisted Mexican cigars. But he was too warily watchful to commit the solecism of drinking out of his finger-bowl, as a Washington senator is alleged to have done, or taking both hands to lift a champagne glass to his lips, as we have seen done by a legislator much nearer home.

Coffee was brought, and most of the party made a gloria by pouring into spoon or cup the little glass of brandy which accompanied the cup and saucer and then setting fire to it. This operation was novel to Monkman, who, when his right hand neighbor started with a wax match the blue flame that presently wavered over the top of his own cup, and then politely offered to do the same for Monkman, the latter pushed back his chair with a muttered "Oogh!" and said something in French about there being the devil in the thing. Turning to Schultz as he always did when an explanation of anything was wanted, the doctor calmed him by saving:

"It is all right, Joseph; no danger. There is no magic in the thing; it is only a queer custom of some of these oldcountry Frenchmen. Take your coffee without the fire if your want to, but don't offend your young neighbor, who only wanted to be polite. See how distressed he looks!"

Instantly reassured, and only anxious to repair what had seemed an alarmed incivility-so instinctively courteous was this child of Nature-the quaint figure in the long capoted overcoat rose from his chair and with an entreating gesture of both hands, graceful and indescribably naive, asked pardon of the young Frenchman, and then bowing to the chairman, and casting a questioning glance at Schultz, like a timid boy resumed his seat. Tickled as these bon vivants were at the evidences of delighted surprise given from time to time by their prairie-reared guest, they were yet civilly careful not to offend his composure by any brutal practical jokes; leaving it to Schultz to mystify Joseph by such harmless fables as the story of the uses of oyster shells or the mysterious origin of ice-cream, which, he was assured, was a most rare dish fabricated especially for this occasion, in honor of the deliverance of the two snow-shoe travellers from the clutches of Kabibonokka, the North Wind.

Monkman returned to the Red River Settlement, after having been made much of in the East. Through the influence of Schultz, who was elected to Parliament and afterwards became Senator and Governor of Manitoba, Joseph was made a fishery inspector or supervisor on Lake Winnipeg. He lived to a good old age, and doubtless often regaled his simple-minded listeners with stories of the sights he had seen and the queer adventures he had had among those crazy city folks in the East.

Toronto, December, 1903.

J. H.

A LESSON FOR PRICE-CUTTERS.

The following story is told of the fate which overtook a certain business firm in Dusseldorf, Germany, which persisted in cutting its prices for a certain brand of soap powder. The soap powder manufacturers informed this firm, upon representations being made to them by competing stores, that, as the stuff was being sold at 37 pfennigs for three packets, the minimum selling price, according to the terms of the manufacturer, being 45, no more powder could be delivered. Whereupon the proprietor got his supply indirectly, and went on selling as before, but not for long, since five oil and color warehousemen, who were being badly hit, brought an action against him on the strength of a paragraph in the Code of Civil Law, which says that "whoever wilfully does another an injury in a way offending against good manners, is bound to compensate the other for the damage," and, what is more, got the verdict. The court sentenced the seller to pay the plaintiffs £60, together with four per cent. interest, calculated from the time when the action was begun, mulcted him in all legal costs, and made it known that he would be fined £75 for each future case of selling below the minimum price. Commercial Intelligence, of London, commenting on the case, remarks what a thumping compensation some foreign firms would get if only this section of the German Civil Code could be invoked in their favor.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES.

Apologies are due to a number of enquirers or other correspondents, replies to whom are, for various reasons, belated. Some replies are weeks, others are months, overdue. But where such correspondents do not find answers to their queries, they may conclude either that we are unable to furnish the information desired or that the questions are too trivial for notice. There are some questions sent to this office so often, from different quarters, that one smiles a little in answering. Such a stock question is: "What is the meaning of a fiscal year?" and we answer for the sixteenth time that it is a financial or Government year, which begins and ends at a different date from the calendar year. For example, the fiscal year of Canada begins on 1st July one year, and ends on 30th June the next year. The United States fiscal year is the same. Another stock question is: "What is the amount of the savings of Canadians deposited in banks and elsewhere?" This is answered every time we summarize the monthly Bank Statement. At the close of October last they totalled \$539,484,000; namely, \$435,738,000 in the banks, and \$103,746,000 in loan companies, Government and other savings banks.

W. E. H., Vancouver.—(1) You will find the figures in your Provincial Government publications: see No. 6, no need to refer to Ottawa. (2) Thank you for the hint. The little pamphlet you speak so kindly of, "Little Memories of a Great Jaunt," was for private circulation only, and but a few hundred were printed by Mr. Hedley. Get the connected story of that trip in "Industrial Canada:" it is very well done: or see the McLean commercial weeklies or the Monetary Times in October and November.

W. T., St. John, N.B.—Much interest was taken in peat fuel in this province last year. Will send you a pamphlet on the subject prepared by the Ontario Bureau of Mines. Marl is found in various parts of this province, overlain by peat. E. H. A., Annapolis Royal.—Papers received with thanks. Shall have occasion to refer to the subject.

J. T., City.—Impossible to say where the story originated. We found it in a Boston paper. It may have been the same school to which little Freddy went. An old-fashioned aunt asked him one day what he knew about Achilles, the hero of Homer's Iliad. His reply was: "His mother grabbed him by the heel and ducked him in the river Stinks, and he became intolerable."

Reader, Galt.—We have no figures on the subject later than 1900, in which year the quantity of wood-pulp exported from Norway and Sweden was 675,870 tons, valued at \$13,-616,561.

A. M., Stratford.—A dictionary definition of communism is that it is "a theory of social order according to which property is held as a common trust, and the profits arising from all labor devoted to the general good." A wit put his opinion of communism into the following rhyme, some 60 years ago in England:

What is a communist? One who hath yearnings For equal division of unequal earnings. What is a communist? One who is willing To put down his penny, and take up your shilling.

R. R., Peterboro.—Yours is a fair-to-middling pleasantry, if there were any means of expressing it in type. But therein lies the difficulty. It reminds one of the earnest, but unliterary, youngster in a book-shop to whom was confided the making of a catalogue. He got things mixed in a ludicrous way. For example, to take books, pamphlets and music sheets indiscriminately, he labored on and not being imaginative could not see what a hash he was making of things. His spelling was poor, but he used "ditto" very freely, as thus, under the letter L:

> Lead, Kindly Light—Newman. "Pipe—McGregor. "Manfacture—Standard. Patti Oyster—Pamphlet 8 vo. "Adelina—with portrait, 2s. Morgan Pierpont—Life of "attic, Marriages in Europe.

PEACE ON EARTH, 1903.

Now comes the Yuletide of the year Ordained to friendship and good cheer---

Though Russia, on the Manchu plain Is drilling troops with might and main;

The while the Jap just aches to have A deadly tussle with the Slav;

While frightened Mongols in Manchu Observe their exit P. D. Q.

While England's streaking overland To enter Thibet, sword in hand;

While angry Colon yells, "Ha, Ha! Just let me get at Panama!"

The while the Turk perfects a plan To slay the Macedonian;

While Uncle Sammy stuffs his jeans With bullets for the Philippines-

Poor Santa Claus will bring, I fear, A stocking full of guns this year,

Unless the Angel comes again With "Peace on earth, good will to men." —Wallace Irwin in New York Commercial.

THE INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES' EXAMINATION.

Announcement is made that the annual examinations of the Institute of Actuaries will be held in the Colonial centres --Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Brisbane, Wellington, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, and Cape Town, on the 15th, 16th, 18th, and 19th of April, 1904. The local examiners at the points mentioned will fix the hours of the examinations and inform the candidates thereof, and of the address at which they will be held. Candidates must give notice in writing to the honorary secretaries in London, England, specifying the particular examination for which they desire to enter, and the centre at which they propose to present themselves, and pay the prescribed fee of one guinea not later than 31st January, 1904. The local examiners for the three Canadian centres are as named below:

Montreal-T. B. Macaulay, F.I.A., Sun Life Assurance Company.

Toronto-T. Bradshaw, F.I.A., Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada.

Ottawa-A. K. Blackadar, F.I.A., Government Life Insurance Department.

Any information concerning the Institute's examinations will, we are assured, be gladly supplied by any of these three gentlemen.

NORTHWEST COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association of Canada was held on the 19th inst. The retiring president, in his address, dwelt upon several satisfactory features of the year now closing. The association had prospered both numerically and financially, the total membership at the present time being 1,241, which means the large increase, compared with any previous year's work, of 267. The British Columbia branch had shown satisfactory progress. It was noted with gratification that steps had been taken by the Manitoba and Territorial Governments to improve the sanitation of hotels and other public houses. The gross income of the association for the year was \$13,669, against \$11,445 a year ago, and its available assets now amount to \$51,713, of which \$38,692 is credited to the Mortuary Benefit Fund.

FIRE INSURANCE MATTERS.

Insurance Manager, Montreal.—Your point is well taken. It would have been better to say at the foot of page 778, in our article last week on Acetylene Lighting—there are thirty or forty kinds of acetylene machines recognized by the underwriters; instead of, as we did say, "there are thirty or forty acetylene machines recognized."

The year 1903, so near its close, has been a fairly satisfactory one to fire underwriters in Canada, though not, of course, so profitable as the quite abnormal twelve months of 1902. Still, if the Fire Fiend can be kept in his lair for seven days more, there will be a balance on the right side of the ledger. In the United States, the fire insurance managers are also rejoiced over the prospect of a year with a moderate profit. All are supposed to be praying that no conflagrations shall characterize this month.

The Toronto offices of the Guardian Assurance Company, Limited, of which Mr. H. D. P. Armstrong is the general agent, are to be removed in a few days from 56 King street East. to the Leader Lane, just opposite the Union offices, of which Mr. Badenach is the agent. Mr. Armstrong will have, in his new quarters, more room and better light, They have the advantage, too, of being only a stone's throw from his previous location.

The Investigator directs attention to the spread of the labor union movement among firemen in the United States. "The fact is that this much abused class of public servants is in the intolerable position of suffering from evils from

which there is apparently no means of redress. If these men have a grievance they cannot meet to decide upon some plan of action without being accused of a breach of discipline. And they have grievances galore. In some towns they are subject to dismissal for no other cause than that they are political appointees. Even in Chicago, some of the best men in the department are debarred from promotion because they have not had the opportunity of acquiring the education necessary to pass a civil service examination. The consequence is that they are superseded by less competent men. What is needed is the adoption of a system of promotion by merit and the establishment of greater harmony between the chief and the rank and file."

In his report to Washington recently, the Consul for the United States at Turin, Italy, describes that city in a way to make fire underwriters' mouths water. There is no structure of wood in its whole area; 95 per cent. of the houses, "These whether dwellings or shops, are built of bricks. are burned exceedingly hard so that in handling they give forth a metallic sound. . . Their color is mostly bright red, and they are used in the inside of buildings, as well as the facing of walls." Tiles are used for floors. As a result of this construction, there have been no fires worth mentioning in Turin for thirty-five years. Reading this impels us to ask, why cannot we in Canada make a move towards less combustible dwellings and stores? Surely we have lots of material for fire-proof bricks. What are the brick-makers of Ontario doing to furnish non-combustible building material. Take Mr. Robert Davies, of the Don Valley Brick Works, as an example, has he nothing of the kind to propose to builders or householders? Surely it can be brought about that a sensible householder, a shrewd architect, and a competent brick-maker, can combine to produce an ideal house.

LIFE ASSURANCE PARAGRAPHS.

A graceful way of sending its Christmas greetings is adopted by the North American Life Company, whose officers send their good wishes in an envelope containing a prefty card, tied with purple ribbon.

We hear from Detroit that Mr. Thomas H. Bowles, who has long been with the Mutual Life of New York, as general agent for Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, Louisiana and Mississippi, has been made manager of the Equitable for Lower Michigan. Mr. Bowles will have headquarters at Detroit. The appointment dates from 1st January, 1904.

At the banquet of the National Association of Life Underwriters, held at the Hotel Rennert, Baltimore, the other day, a roll call was made to ascertain the amount of life insurance carried by members and guests present. It was found that there were 193 persons all told and that the total amount of life insurance carried amounted to \$5,795,000, an average of \$30,000 each.

Some of the big American life offices are adopting the branch system. The Chronicle says that the Mutual Life has put in at Chicago a branch office, under Manager Carlile, equipped with a medical director and an assistant actuary, from which all policies for amounts not exceeding \$30,000, upon lives of persons within the district, are to be issued henceforth. It is said that the New York Life has the same thing under consideration.

We have received from Mr. W. Harvey, B.L., resident director and manager for Manitoba of the Excelsior Life Assurance Company, a copy of the large and striking calendar for 1904 issued by that company. The artist has represented the youth bearing the "banner with the strange device, Excelsior," as leaving a wide and smiling landscape below him and striding upward not "amid snow and ice," or impending avalanche, as in the poem, but doing some well-dressed and rather easy climbing over mossy rocks, with no tear whatever in his determined, bright blue eye.

A decision denying the request of members of fifteen lodges of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Connecticut for a special meeting of the grand lodge to repeal

LIABILITIES

CAPITAL

STATEMENT OF BANKS acting

under Dominion Gov't charter, for the month ending November 30 1903.	Carital authorized	Capital Sub- scribed.	Capital paid up	Amount of Rest or Reserve Fund.	Rate per cent. of last Dividend declared.	Notes in circulation.	Bal. due to Dom. Gov. after deducting advances.
1 Bank of Montreai 2 Bank of New Brunswick 3 Quebec Bank 4 Bank of Nova Scotia 5 St. Stephen's Bank 6 Bank of Nova Scotia 5 St. Stephen's Bank 6 Bank of Pritish North America 7 Bank of British North America 7 Bank of Toronto 8 Molsons Bank 9 Eastern Townships Bank 10 Union Bank of Halifax 11 Ontario Bank 12 Banque Nationale 13 Merchants' Bank of Canada 14 Banque Provinciale du Canada 15 People's Bank of Canada 16 People's Bank of New Brunswick 17 Bank of Yarmouth 18 Union Bank of Canada 19 Canadian Bank of Canada 20 Merchants' Bank of Prince Edward Island 21 Dominion Bank 22 Merchants' Bank of Canada 23 Marchant' Bank of Canada 24 Standard Bank of Canada 25 Banque de S	\$14,000,000 500,000 3,000,000 2,000,000 2,000,000 4,866,666 4,000,000 3,000,000 1,500,000 1,500,000 1,500,000 1,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000 4,000,000 4,000,000 2,000,000 2,000,000 2,000,000 1,000,000 2,000,000 1,000,000 2,000,000 1,000,000 2,0	\$14,000,000 500,000 2,500,000 2,000,000 200,000 200,000 2,900,000 2,940,000 2,487,656 1,339,650 1,500,000 6,000,000 871,537 1,000,000 6,000,000 870,000 2,500,000 8,700,000 2,500,000 3,43,619 2,236,100 1,000,000 500,200 2,000,000 504,600 2,492,100 3,000,000 504,600 2,000,000 1,300	\$13,987,340 500,000 2,500,000 200,000 200,000 200,000 200,000 4,866,666 2,954,430 2,897,710 2,432,960 1,320,700 1,500,000 1,500,000 6,000,000 823,332 992,065 180,000 2,497,250 8,700,000 2,935,750 2,997,225 343,619 2,209,461 1,000,000 265,379 2,000,000 329,515 2,471,310 2,992,265 434,889 1,966,867 1,300,000 1,000,000	$\begin{array}{c} 750,000\\ 900,000\\ 3,000,000\\ 45,000\\ 1,898,000\\ 3,154,430\\ 2,720,778\\ 1,450,000\\ 899,620\\ 500,000\\ 400,000\\ 2,900,000\\ 0,000\\ 2,900,000\\ 1,000,000\\ 2,900,000\\ 1,000,000\\ 3,000,000\\ 2,964,457\\ 2,997,225\\ 235,523\\ 1,878,042\\ 925,000\\ 10,000\\ 1,050,000\\ 75,000\\ 2,389,179\\ 2,650,000\\ 175,000\\ 450,000\\ 325,000\\ \end{array}$	Nıl.	1,956,180 1,231,235 588,037	24,219 20,084 19,361 30,644 42,450
Total	97,040,066	79,219,222	18,398,133	50,574,087		67,425,586	2,479,722

ASSETS

				P	133613						
BANK	Specie.	Dominion Notes.	Deposits with Dom. Gov. for security of note circula- tion.	Notes of and Cheques on other Bankş.	Loans to other banks in Canada secured.	Dema nd deposits or at notice or on a fixed day with other Banks in Canada.	Balance due from agents of Bank or from other banks, etc., in United Kingdom.	Balance due from agents of the B'k or from other Banks or agencies abroad.	Dominion Govern- ment deben- tures or stocks.	Public and Munic. se- curities not Canadian.	Can- adian, British and other Rallway securi- ties.
1 Bank of Montreal 2 Bk. of New Bruns'ck 3 Quebec Bank 4 Bank of Nova Scotia.	3,796,219 139,145 301,170 1,474,963	3,418,142 187,316 400,805 1,886,623	454,634 25,000 97,060 101,126	2,328,396 124,724 473,075 1,067,580		14,537 110,551 59,383 25,391	3,372,052 20,798 195,013 1,051,423	3,491,622 166,562 144,887 807,906	435,697 172,201 150,633 293,340	343,055 82,243 127,655 866,556	7,342,457 186,571 618,324 2,442,358
5 St. Stephen's Bank 6 Bk. of Br. N. America	15,499 812,817	$13,100 \\ 1,661,227$	$ 10,242 \\ 146,276 \\ 122,000 $			29,160 26,742 90,540	$ \begin{array}{r} 1,001,423 \\ 159 \\ 206,713 \\ 230,849 \end{array} $	23,009 494,923 674,970	1,045,897 237,936	1,419,256	332,555
7 Bank of Toronto 8 Molsons Bank 9 E. Townships Bank	624,590 484,869 154,401	1,508,546 1,117,954 553,107	124,000 85,000	1,121,163 371,283		235,592 166,450	$315,601 \\ 270,864$	541,853 323,784	376,244 167,073	33,606 1,025,010 305,948	2,436,306 1,513,107 87,262
10 Union Bk. of Halifax 11 Ontario Bank 12 Banque Nationale	175,857 114,641 82,072	$\begin{array}{r} 453,143\\358,466\\424,447\end{array}$	67,124 70,000 75,000	263,173 533,867 397,093		$276,942 \\ 42,093$		8,196 51,751 104,738	644,937 50,000	280,047 143,424	279,000 1,024,809
 13 Mer. Bk. of Canada 14 Bk. Prov. du Canada 15 Peop's Bk. of Halifax 	502,323 10,963 82,811	2,134,466 38,128 227,069 25,069	$236,000 \\ 40,987 \\ 40,000 \\ 0,000$	197,118		5,100 150,655 26,994	12,179	34,577 24,149 24,169	653,450 119,895	785,086265,20245,892	222,149 21,531
16 People's Bk. of N.B. 17 Bank of Yarmouth 18 Union Bk. of Canada	7,105 19,370 238,640	37,963 15,011 1,957,736	9,000 4,315 112,000	13,228 899,395	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	26,017 15,904 132,439 18,905	86,353	18,264 8,128 117,460	36,327 19,400	5,000 43,771	$19,662 \\ 14,250 \\ 57,642$
19 Canadian Bk. of Com. 20 Royal Bk. of Canada 21 Dominion Bank	2,249,334 634,448 1,060,090	3,367,241 1,017 385 1,562,700	391,400 101,844 140,000 14,000	965,611 1,592,164		18,905 112,536 625,137 92,193	1,015,645 94,216	$913,772 \\ 403,705 \\ 864,888 \\ 10,606$	2,060,434 385,000 94,296	419,079 972,782 671,123	
 22 Mer. Bk of P. E. I 23 Bank of Hamilton 24 Standard Bk. of Can. 	28,994 367,113 222,771	37,746 1,392,520 510,809 15,419	14,000 100,000 50,000 7,136	644,873 541,099		720,116	12,905	10,000 195,124 156,883 2,020	129,311 579,654	1,804,662 1,649,663	494,638 741,023
 25 Banque de St. Jean 26 Banque d'Hochelaga 27 Ban. de St. Hyacinthe 28 Bank of Ottawa 	$9,448 \\159,343 \\12,596 \\628,753$	15,419 563,511 56,578 1,128,334		699,540 19,390			128,843	2,020 339,932 25,637 208,698	767,958	260,125	303,000 661,408
 28 Bank of Ottawa 29 Im. Bk. of Canada 30 W. Bk. of Canada 31 Traders Bk. of Can 	$\begin{array}{c} 628, 753 \\ 724, 822 \\ 26, 990 \\ 197, 373 \end{array}$	2,843,064 27,822	125,000 140,000 21,655 75,000	1,234,501 57,785		488,318 547,072 975,349 340,375	593,020	208,098 764,886 21,679 108,400	840,843 127,758	1,464,996 495,459	1,089,434 219,948
32 Sov. Bk. of Canada 33 Metropolitan Bank	37.783 49,782	367,280 114,941	37,749 6,036	278,786				63,587 84,527		4,044	714,021 275,106
Total	15,447,095	30,464,185	3,130,844	21,675,636	765,877	6,064,417	14,017,106	11,225,292	10,660,750	14,672,614	38,595,240

Return of Canadian Bank of Commerce. Amount under heading "Other assets no included under foregoing heads," includes gold bullion. Return of Bank of British North America. Amount under heading "Other assets not included under foregoing heads," includes bullion. The figures for the Dawson City Branch are taken from the last returns received, viz: 14th Nov., 1903.

				L	IABILITIE	Contraction of the second	A CARLENDER	AND		
Bal. due to Provincial overnments.	Deposits by the Public payable on demand	Deposits by the Public payable after notice or on a fixed day.	Deposits elsewhere than in Canada.	Loans from other banks in Canada secured.	Balances due to other Banks in Canada in daily exchanges.	bank, or to	Bals, due to bank agencies or other banks or agencies out of Canada or Britain.	Liabilities not included under foregoing heads.	Total Liabilities.	Directors' liabilities.
111,898	729,850	2,466,307			181.796				91,275,675 3,901,498	1,025,000 371,085
100,283		En aller and a state of the					209,583		9,127,806 22,979,949	617,125 413,322
	6,307,185 97,016				1,019		9,373	367	434,076	42,741
12,550	Contraction of the second states of the	and the second							29,046,008	Nil
2,787 53,943 14,002	4,960,863	12,692,482		••••••	109,250				$\begin{array}{c} 19,003,356\\ 20,756,529\\ 10,516,106\end{array}$	987,583 421,812 154,228
4,567 171,097	867,890 2,380,473	4,468,604 7,673,559	215,260		177,833	823,228 81,464	195,024 120,000	24,674	8,047,893 11,894,233 7,400,186	484,315 25,319
72,447	1 1 1 1 Y X 1 2 2 3 1 0 5 1 5 4				A Designed of the second s	21,320		211,034	7,490,186 31,844,179	810,113 520,233
1,595 50,000		18,711,951 1,629,705 2,136,345	31,266	765,878	1,203,514 209 121,405			100,181	3,630,610 3,988,678	Nil 196,96
1.246,197	118,244 49,806	282,573 287,218			1,461 20.847			289	547,865 443,431 17,398,237	99,73 45,06 914,00
2,727	16,943,746 3,363,604	37 738 783	7 034 623		138,820		367,407 343,882	305,898	71,476,330 18,706,241 28,804,872	1,531,263 268,60 425,50
$ 10,712 \\ 345,348 \\ 24,403 $	582,904 4,492,245	536,447 12,334,877			64,516	736,786	9,643	550	1,433,920 19,984,664 12,703,158	168,223 114,993 404,820
15,425 50,502 8,680	10,843 2,204,887	289,015 6,103,593			1,457	39,226	23,441	402 178,510	$\begin{array}{r} 448,250 \\ 10,403,763 \\ 1,049,203 \end{array}$	36,36 494,39 36,79
13,305 74,121	5 3,386,726 6,901,357	10,495,691 13,892,460			11,790		654		16,355,543 23,966,376 3,846,917	293,42 142,56 Nil
15,974		9,579,173			2,971				14,256,454	73,89
$15,312 \\ 86,627$									5,791,850 1,461,904	89,88 107,10
2,504,914	120,098,903	278,530,529	32,040,968	765,878	4,559,940	2,644,917	1,816,455	10,147,883	523,015,760	11,316,46

			11-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1				ETS	Constanting of the		124 A 12 3 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1			
Call Loans on Bonds and Sto cks.	Call and Short Loans else- where than in Canada	Current Loans	Current Loans elsewhere than in Canada	Loans to Provin- cial Gov- ern- ments,	Overdue debts.	Real Estate owned by bank not bank premises	Mort- gageson real estate sold by the Bank.	Bank premises	Other assets not in- cluded under the fore- going heads.	Total assets.	Average amount of specie held during the month	Average amount of Dominion Notes heid during month.	Greatest amount of Notes in circula- tion at any time during the Month
859,768 1,708,134	17,464,849 175,000 50,000	2,505,893	9,309,300 315,815 100,000	1,094,671 24,794	287,229 9,412 25,347		3,000 30,454	600,000 43,307 227,359	$242,541 \\ 1,353 \\ 63,299$	116,738,517 5,150,460 12,765,822	3,471,579 140,069 299,653	4,216,303 197,629 504,685	11,575,458 494,546 2,358,429
2,270,825 2,290,409	2,485,704	9,161,943 513,425	4,033,074	133,763	23,557 12,419 101,060	53,651		253,660 12,000 701,489	14,672 5,176,486	28,394,473 692,748 38,600,440	1,429,048 14,685 866,413	1,871,716 13,719 1,674,355	1,965,820 141,300 3,585,820
1,446,202 2,003,537 808,676		16,715,772 16,867,461 17,256,579 10,763,725			860		45,507 57,944	338,000 300,000 332,703	8,755 25,483	25,364,410 26,744,186 14,567,059	622,610 444,185 154,573	1,162,867 922,479 583,879	2,929,700 2,839,387 2,198,135
372,211 699,383 346,994		7,357,369 10,676,574 7,691,111	346,306		38,207 11,033 60,779	4,950	1,251 11,007	112,158 145,867 199,055	8,587 127,895	$10,479,457 \\14,196,600 \\9,604,359$	165,348 117,000 68,500	$\begin{array}{r} 421,090\\ 335,400\\ 468,500\end{array}$	1,291,742 1,449,621 1,479,169
3,457,384 1,456,261 154,441	2,347,471	19,350,112 1,921,538 4,416,107	185,033		307,862 19,119 34,617	10,882	49,483 7,149 51,844	843,986 130,000 71,260	$99,230 \\154,746 \\4,206$	40,964,928 4,537,083 5,532,475	491,246 14,616 80,715	2,519,845 37,745 221,957	5,374,000 815,945 948,350
566,169		747,837 666,276 16,191,844		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	7,732 19,803 65,424	4,793		13,500 8,000 589,644	480	938,400 808,480 21,118,918	7,121 20,204 241,563	28,038 15,720 1,520,560	$\begin{array}{r} 147,171 \\ 75,724 \\ 2,417,555 \end{array}$
2,942,127 1,747,170 4,277,962	6,966,463 642,522	47,870,283		247,136 180,187	353,474 45,986 30,805	$167,307 \\ 4,625$	166,056	1,000,000 318,136 425,000	389,659 10,000 9,028	$\begin{array}{c} 83,341,889\\ 24,897,511\\ 35,662,899\end{array}$	1,747,000 597,333 1,055,000	2,948,000 1,046,000 1,633,000	7,973,000 2,698,000
1,930,592 309,739		1,795,786 15,862,514 9,722,305	134,704	·····	11,832 45,539 19,310	335 11,834	30,463	$\begin{array}{r} 425,000\\ 21,132\\ 555,552\\ 100,000\end{array}$	19,959 118,705 113,757	2,076,599 24,538,267 14,925,749	30,011 349,000 222,140	32,789 814,500 498,320	$332,294 \\ 2,112,000 \\ 908,935$
872,546		642,558 8,849,487 1,218,544			21,509 76,965	28,876	8,848 8,573 39,900	14,170 196,756	$ \begin{array}{r} 10,523 \\ 112,710 \\ 54,736 \end{array} $	755,099 13,571,105	8,000 161,609 12,934	$ \begin{array}{r} 12,500 \\ 476,147 \\ 53,071 \end{array} $	174,463
1,423,037 2,897,014		13,709,803 16,056,242	50,000	84,627	$ \begin{array}{r} 13,271 \\ 59,909 \\ 19,040 \\ 0 \\ 222 \end{array} $		5,124 27,814 88,681	22,500 300,418 553,212	4,181	21,458,770 29,984,980	622,348 725,898	967,284 2,685,095	2,416,731 2,982,856
2,026,158 1,618,263	·····	2,464,719 10,251,491 4,219,040 1,748,259	29,100	92,268	1,672 2,343 12,676	6,044	14,155	$ 18,230 \\ 180,000 \\ 48,721 \\ 010 $	38,137 8,553	16,904,112 7,448,161	42,665	225,949	1,961,180 1,255,505
627,308 9,109,610	33,221,069	1,748,352 380,688,701	21.208.965	2 144 135	17,542			219,584	6 834 900		The second		

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J. M. COURTNEY, Deputy Minister of Finance

the laws relating to assessments, has been given by Hugh A. Keenan, of New Haven, grand master workman. In the decision, dated 18th inst., it is declared that the grand lodge of Connecticut, having adopted the new assessment rates, cannot now rescind its action without the consent of the Supreme Lodge.

The desk calendar of the Crown Life Insurance Company, head office, Toronto, is a little gem of harmonious color. It bears the patriotic motto: "Keep your money in Canada."

The London Review has received word of the intended retirement, on the 31st inst., of one of the veterans of the insurance profession in the person of Mr. J. J. P. Anderson, so long known as secretary of the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society. In April, 1844, about sixty years ago, Mr. Anderson entered the office of the Scottish National Fire and Life Insurance Company, as an apprentice under its manager, the late Mr. Holmes Ivory, who was also professional accountant and actuary. He went to London in 1854.

Who that has met them at the actuarial gathering in New York, or in Toronto as they were hurriedly passing through, but was charmed with the bright and suave intelligence of the continental members of the Actuarial Congress this year? We have seen in two United States insurance journals extracts from a translation of Mr. Loewenberg's remarks about his trip to America in the Oesterreichische Revue. Speaking of Canada, he says: "I can give only a few details, as there is not much new to say." This Austrian gentleman asserts that "the great British fireinsurance companies predominate there as in the United States," and adds, that with them "few local companies come into competition." The Hotel Metropole, "on the Hudson Bay" and the Sun Life Company are both spoken of in terms of praise. Now can any one tell us what hotel he means? Was it the Chateau in Quebec, or the Windsor in Montreal, or the King Edward in Toronto? True, there is a hotel Metropole in Toronto, but we do not think the Herr stopped at it.

—The Manitoba Government has chosen and purchased a site for the proposed new agricultural college and experimental farm on the outskirts of Winnipeg. It consists of about 117 acres, and its purchase price was \$15,000. The provincial estimates provide for a further expenditure of about \$100,000 in buildings, etc.

—Arrangements have now been completed, we understand, for the construction of the proposed floating dry dock in Vancouver harbor, B.C. The Dominion Government's subsidy will be 3 per cent. on the total cost of the dock for a period of twenty years on an amount not exceeding \$1,000,000. The dock is to be 500 feet long and its lifting capacity in the neighborhood of 11,000 tons. Work is to be started on May 1st next, and to be completed within two years from that time.

Action has been taken by the Ontario Government in the matter of the People's Loan and Deposit Company. The registry in Ontario of this company has been under date 15th inst., cancelled by the Registrar of Loan Companies. The company was really an amalgamation of two companies, whose managers were convicted of carrying on an illegal business. It formerly carried on an independent business, but became insolvent, and its assets were disposed of at 40¼ cents on the dollar.

—The final report of the Toronto Works Department, issued by the City Engineer, shows a total expenditure for the year just passed of \$1,212,444, or an increase, compared with last year, of about 10 per cent. The items are approximately as follows: General and special works, \$367,807; local improvements, \$592,275; street railway track allowance, pavements, \$37,251; Island, \$7,136; Property Department. \$7,357; waterworks, \$200,615. Some of the larger expenditures were: Street cleaning, \$40,274; asphalt cleaning, \$21,439; scavenging, \$86,096; street watering, \$34,879; asphalt repairs, \$16,863; snow cleaning \$4,584. The cost of local improvement was divided as follows: Pavements, \$393,796; sewers, \$2,091; concrete walks, \$159,500; wooden walks, \$17,887.

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It is not to be wondered at that companies transacting this kind of business (the insurance of debts), do not take a cheerful view of it. The tradesman, shopkeeper, or wholesale dealer knows his customers, and he is not in the least likely to insure against loss from those who he knows thoroughly well can and will pay. But the company is under the painful necessity of taking what is left, and we all know what the result of that is likely to be.—London Review.

-The following, Grace Before Meat, is from one of the delightful Essays of Elia, by Charles Lamb: "I own I am disposed to say, grace upon twenty other occasions in the course of the day besides my dinner. I want a form of invocation for setting out upon a pleasant walk, for a moonlight ramble, of thanks for a friendly meeting, or a solved problem. Why have we none for books—those spiritual repasts—a grace before Milton, a grace before Shakespeare, a devotional exercise proper to be said before reading the Fairy Queen?"

THE COUNTRY STORE.

Far out beyond the city's lights, Away from din and roar, The cricket chirps of summer nights Beneath the country store. The dry goods boxes ricked around Afford a welcome seat For weary tillers of the ground Who here of evenings meet. A swinging sign of ancient make And one above the door Proclaim that William Henry Blake Is owner of the store. Here everything, from jeans to tweed, From silks to ginghams bright, Is spread before the folk who need From early morn till night.

Tea, sugar, coffee (browned or green) Molasses, grindstones, tar, Suspenders, peanuts, navy beans And homemade vinegar; Fine combs, wash wringers, rakes, false hair, Paints, rice and looking-glasses, Sidesaddles, hominy, crockery ware And seeds for garden grasses. Lawn mowers, candles, books to read, Corn planter, household goods, Tobacco seed, salt, clover seed, Horsewhips and knitted hoods. Canned goods, shoeblacking, lime and nails, Straw hats and carpet slippers, Prunes, buttons, codfish, bridal veils, Cranberries, clocks and clippers.

Umbrellas, candies, scythes and hats, Caps, boots and shoes and bacon, Thread, nutmegs, pins and rough-on-rats

- For cash or produce taken. Bird seed, face powder, matches, files,
- Ink, onion sets and more Are found in heaps and stacks and piles Within the country store.

-Atlanta Constitution.



Sold by all leading wholesale houses.

UNITED STATES FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

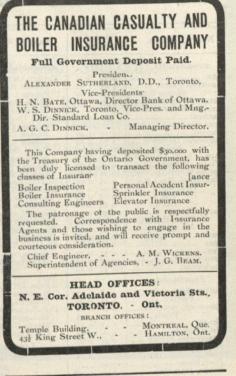
Henry Clews & Co., New York, in their special circular dated December 19th, 1903, say: The upward movement in stocks received somewhat of a check this week from free realizing sales and from unsettled conditions in the steel trade. No change, however, could be detected in the undertone of the market, which has plainly improved owing to the conviction that the worst of liquidation is over and that prices must recover from the abnormally low level induced by that liquidation. A very fair recovery had already taken place, but the pace seemed too rapid to last and was confined to only a few stocks. There has been in consequence a good deal of profittaking, also a disposition to invest in stocks which thus far have not proportionately shared in the advance. Affairs in the steel trade have been an important factor, not merely because of

United States Steel securities, but largely because of the great importance of that material in the industrial situation. Iron and steel are still the best business barometer, this industry more than any other being influenced by new enterprise and growth. As the country develops the demand for iron and steel expands also; and fortunately there are no indications of this growth being arrested; on the contrary, there is every indication that that growth is to continue for some time to come: The chief obstacle has been that in 1903 we were going ahead too fast. Nothing could check that record-breaking pace except prohibitive prices; hence the extraordinary high levels of prices, profits and wages. There is still a large demand for iron and steel products at a price, but not at recent figures. General business is fairly active for the season Clearing house returns and railroad earnings show only slight reactionary tendencies, generally explained in the first case by lessened speculation and in the latter by smaller iron shipments. The West seems to be enjoying uninterrupted prosperity, and the South is particularly exuberant over the high price of cotton and the consequent prosperity of planters. The burden of dear cotton falls with special severity upon the mills, some of which may be forced into temporary curtailment, but the South as a whole is likely to have more money to spend in 1904 than ever before.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 22nd December, 1903.

Ashes.—With no stock in store, and little or nothing coming forward, the potash market is a strong one, though the present demand is limited. Local dealers are quite disposed to pay \$6.10 for No. I pots, while seconds are figured at about \$5.50. Owing to the low prices of late years, many of the old makers have gone out of business, and closed their asheries, but if the present high prices continue, as local dealers claim that they will for some time to come, it would probably pay some persons to resume operations.



Cements and Firebricks.—Business is now very quiet in these directions, and there will practically be nothing doing for the next several weeks. Quotations are steady as follows: Belgian cement, \$1.80 to \$2.05; English, \$2.15 to \$2.25; German, \$2.15 to \$2.35. Firebricks, \$18 to \$24 per M.

Dairy Products.—In cheese there is no movement of any consequence, only a light business being reported in Novembers at 9¼ to 93%c., and Octobers at 10 to 103%c. There is no English demand. For butter also there is no export enquiry, and the local demand is just moderate at the moment. Finest late makes quote at 20 to 20½c. per pound.

Dry Goods.—The wholesale warehouses are now comparatively quiet, as most travellers are off their routes. Retailers continue to report active holiday trade, and general remittances are favorably spoken of. On Saturday last the Canadian Colored Cotton Co., gave notice of a withdrawal of all quotations, in view of the continued advance in raw

Insist on Valves Bearing the J. M. T. Trade Mark.

The very fact that over a million and one half of "J. M. T." Valves are giving the highest satisfaction in daily use throughout the Dominion stamps them as superior. They have won their way to this general acceptance because they represent the best in Valve Construction. We are beadquarters for everything in Steam Fitting Appliances and Specialties.

The James Morrison Brass Mfg. Company, Limited, TORONTO, ONT. 821

Toronto Prices Current.

Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.
Breadstuffs.	TENELDANY.	GroceriesCon.	\$ c. \$ c.	HardwareCon	77 1003	Canned Fruits.
Manitoba Patent	\$ c. \$ c. 4 45 4 50	Ceylon, Or'ge Pekoes Broken Pekoes	0 35 0 50 0 24 0 32	GALVANIZED IRON : Gauge 16	\$ c. \$ c.	Pineapple-Extra Standard doz \$2 50 2 75
" Strong Bakers Patent (Winter Wheat)	4 30 0 00	Pekoes	0 22 0 24	" 18 to 24	4 00 4 25 4 05 4 25	" Standard " 2 25 2 50
Straight Roller	3 30	Pekoe Souchongs Souchongs	0 21 0 25 0 18 0 20	" <u>26</u>	4 25 4 75 4 30 5 25	Peaches_alle " as a so
Oatmeal Bran per ton	360 3 80	Indian Darjeelings Orange Pekoes	0 22 0 55 0 28 0 35	Case lots less 10C 100 lbs WIRE :	+ 3- 0 -0	" 2 lbs" 1 60 1 85 Pears—2's
Shorts Cornmeal, Domestic	17 00 17 50	Broken Pekoes	0 28 0 35	Brass. Copper Wire	0 23	" 38" " 2 40 2 50 Plums—Greengage 2's" 1 20 1 25
" ground RAIN	3 80 4 25 30 00 32 00	Pekoe Souchong	0 20 0 24 0 19 0 21	Galvanized Coil chain § in	0 28 3 45 5 00	" Lombards 2's " I oc I 15
Winter Wheat	0 76 0 77	Souchong Kangra Valley Oolong, Formosa ToBACCO, Manutactured	0 18 0 20 0 20 0 35	Barbed Wire	2 00	Apples—Gal. Cans 2 00 2 20
Spring Wheat	0 72 73 0 93 0 95	Oolong, Formosa	0 35 0 65	Iron Pipe, 2 in Screws, flat head	12 55	Blueberries_2's " 0 85 0 90
Man. Hard, No. 1 g. i. t Nort. No. 1 " No. 2 "	0 91 0 92	American Tobacco Co		" r'u head	0 822	Cherries—White 2's
" " No. 2 "	0 83 0 89 0 85 0 86	Derby, 3's,4's, 8's, 16's Old Chum, cut, 1/10	o 65 o 85	Boiler tubes, 2 in " 3 in STEEL : Cast	0 15 0 17 ¹ / ₂	Strawberries
Barley No. 2. No. 3 Extra	0 39 0 40 0 37 0 38	Empire Tobacco Co. Cur'ncy, 6's, 10's, 10's	0 47	STEEL : Cast Black Diamond	0 121 0 14 0 08 0 10	Canned Vegetables.
Oats No. 3	0 35 0 35 0 28 0 29	Empire, 3 ¹ / ₂ 's, 5's, 10's. Bobs, 5's, 10's	o 39 o 44	Boiler Plate, 1 in	2 10	Beans—2's Wax and Refugee doz 0 85 0 95 Corn—2's, Standard " 0 90 1 10
Peas	0 60 0 61	McAlpine Tobacco Co		" " 3/16 in " & th'kr		Peas-2's
Rye Corn Canadian	0 51 0 52 0 44 0 45	Beaver, 9's B't'h Navy,6's, 150z " 10'S,	o 73 o 39	Sleigh Shoe CUT NAILS :	2 10 / 2 25	Tomatoes—3's, Standard " 1 00 1 10
Buckwheat	0 43 0 44	Macdonald's	0 40	30 to 60 dy 16 and 20 dy	2 45	Fish, Fowl, Meats-Cases. lb tin
Provisions. Butter, dairy, tubs	0 18 0 19	Prince of W.,8's,16's Napoleon, 8's	o 66 o 68	to and 12 dy 8 and 9 dy	2 45	Mackerelper doz \$1 10 Salmon—Cohoes " 1 35
" Prints	J 19 0 20	Brier, 8's G.E.Tuckett & SonCo	0 70	6 and 7 dy	2 55	" Sockeye " 1 60 1 75
Cream ry, boxes "Prints	0 21 0 22 0 22 0 23	Mahogany, 8's	0 62	4 and 5 dy	2 65	Lobster-XXX *s flat
Cheese Dried Apples	0 11 0 114	Myrtle Navy, 4's Cut Myrtle, 1/10	o 74 o 86	2 dy Wire Nails, basis	3 35	Sardines—Alberts, $\frac{1}{2}'s$ per tin 0 20 0 21 " $\frac{1}{2}'s$ " 0 14 0 16
Evaporated Apples	0 05 0 00 0 18 0 21	Liquor		Rebate	2 55 0 10	Sardines—Alberts, 1's per tin 0 20 0 21 "Sportsmen, 1's, key opn'r "0 14 0 16 "Sportsmen, 1's, key opner "0 13 0 14 "Control of the state
Hops, Canadian New Beef, Mess	12 00 12 00	Pure Spirit, 65 o. p	in b'd dy pd 1 26 4 80	Monarch	dis 50-10	French, † S. Key opener 0 20
Pork, Mess Bacon, long clear	0 9 0 94	" 50 0. p " 25 u. p Family Proof Whis-	1 14 4 37 0 60 2 22	Peerless Horse Shoes, 100 lbs	dis. 50-7 ¹ / ₂ 3 80	" " ¹ / ₂ S " 0 20
" Breakt'st smok'd Hams	0 13 0 14	Family Proof Whis- key, 20 u. p	0 66 2 40	ICANADA PLATES all dull	2 80	"Canadian, 1's" " 0 04 0 04 Chicken–Boneless Aylmer, 1's
Rolls		Old Bourbon 20 u. p.	0 66 2 40	Lion ½ pol Full Pol'd TIN PLATES IC	3 60	2 dozs per doz
Lard Picnic Hams	0 09 0 09	Rye and Malt, 25 u. p. Rye Whiskey, 4 y. old	0 62 2 25 0 85 2 60	WINDOW GLASS:	3 85	Turkey, B'ls Aylmer, i's, 2 doz " 2 25
Eggs, @ doz. new laid "Pickled	0 25 0 30 0 21 0 22	G. and W	1 15 2 90	25 and underdis 10%	3 80	Pigs' Feet—Aylmer, 12's, 2 doz " 2 50 2 50 Corned Beef—Clark's, 1's, 2 doz " 1 55
Beans, per bush Groceries.	1 60 1 80	Special 1887	3 00 6 45 5 25 8 70	41 to 50 "	4 50	" " Clark s, 2's, 1 doz " 2 70 Ox Tongue–Clark's, 1 ¹ 2's " 7 50
OFFEES		Leather.	5 25 0 10	61 to 70 "	4 75	" Clark's, 2's " 8 25
@ lb., green	0 24 0 35	Spanish Sole, No. 1	29 0 31	ROPE : Manilla basis Sisal	····· 0 142	Lunch Tongue— " 1's, 1 doz " 3 15 3 25
Rio "	0 08 0 10 0 20 0 24	" " No. 2 Slaughter, heavy	02) 031	Lath yarn	011 011	Chipped Beet—1's and i's, p'r d'z " 1 65 2 75
Mocha	0 20 0 28	" No. 1 light " No. 2 "	0 20 0 29	Single Bits	6 75 7 00	Soup-Clark's, i's, Ox Tail, 2 d'z'' 1 00 "Clark's, i's, Chicken, 2 doz " 1 00
Ruit : Raisins, Malaga	2 25 6 00	Harness, heavy	······ 0 27 0 30 0 32	Double Bits	11 00 12 00	Fish-Medium scaled Herring. " 0 16 0 17
" Valencias " Sultana	0 07 0 08	Upper, No. 1 heavy.	0 22 0 28	Cod Oil, Imp. Gal	# 75 I 20	Kippered Herring—Domestic " 1 05 1 10
" California	0 08 0 12	" light & medium Kip Skins French	0 20 0 40	Palm, # lb Lard, ext	0 064	Ales, Etc. White Label \$1 00 0 70
Currants, Filiatra "Patras	0 06 0 06	" Domestic . " Veals	9 50 0 60	Ordinary	05 060	India Pale 0 90 0 60
" Vostizza Calif. Apricots		Heml'k Calf (20 to 40)	0.60 0.80	Linseed, raw	0 51 0 50 0 52	Amber 0 90 0 60 Jubilee 0 90 0 60
Prunes, 90—100	0 04 0 05	French Calf Splits, & lb Enamelled Cow, & ft	I 15 I 50 0 20 0 23	Linseed, raw Spirits Turpentine Olive, #Imp. gal Seal pale S.R Amer'n Family Safety	0 84	XXX Porter 0 90 0 66 Half and Half 0 90 0 66
·· 70-80	0 062 0 075	Enamelled Cow, @ ft Patent	0 18 0 23 0 18 0 22	Amer'n Family Safety	0 55 0 60 0 17 ¹ / ₂	Sawn Pine Lumber, Inspected, B.M.
50-70 50-60	0 08 0 08	Pebble	0 11 0 15	Photogene Petroleum.	0 17 0 172	CAR OR CARGO LOTS AT MILL.
4050 30-40	0 081 0 09	Grain, upper Buff		F.O.B., Toronto	I.m. ma	1 in. pine No. 1, cut up and better \$35 00 40 00 11 and 2 in. No. 1, """ 50 00 55 00
Tarragona Almonds Peanuts, green	0 (2 0 00 0 (9 0 lo	Russets. light, # lb Gambier	0 061 0 071	Canadian, 5 to 10 bls. Can. Water White	Imp. ga 0 22	1 inch flooring 21 00 26 or
" roasted Grenoble Walnuts	0 10 0 11 0 14 0 15	Saddlers Russets Sumac	0 08 0 10 0 05 0 06	Amer. Water White	0 27	1x10 and 12 dressing and better 26 00 36 00
Filberts, Sicily	0 09 0 10	Degras	0 67	Pennoline, Bulk Paints, &c.	0 18	1 1X10 and 12 dressing 26 00 31 00 1X10 and 12 common 19 00 21 00
Brazils Pecans Shelled Walnuts	142 0 15	Hides & Skins. Cows, green, No. 1	0 00 0 073	White Lead, pure		13 00 14 00 1 inch dressing and better 26 00 31 00
Shelled Walnuts " Almonds	0 28 0 30 0 25 0 30	Steers, 60-90 lbs. No 1	0 00 0 003	in Oil, 25 lbs i White Lead,	5 10 5 35 5 75	1 inch siding common 16 00
Fine to choice	0 013 0 023	Steers, 00-90 108. NO 1		Red Lead, genuine Venetian Red, B bright	4 50	I inch siding mill culls 12 00 13 00
Pale	0 03 0 032	Cured and inspected . Caltskins, green	0 07 0 09	Yellow Ochre, French	I 50 2 25	Cull Scantling 12 00
OLASSES: W. I., gal New Orleans	0 30 0 50 0 22 0 50	Sheep & Lamb skins Tallow, rough	0 82	Vermilion, Eng Varnish, No. 1 furn	0 95 1 00 0 90 1 00	dressing and better
ICE: Arracan Patna, dom. to imp	0 031 0 04 0 051 0 06	Tallow, caul	0 03 0 00	Varnish, No. 1 Carr Bro. Japan	I 50 I 75 0 60 0 80	XXX Shingles, 16 in 3 oc
Japan """ Genuine Hd. Carolina…	0 05 0 061	Tallow, rendered Wool.	0 042 0 05	Whiting ordinary Putty, in brl per 100lbs	0 65 1 00	XX Shingles, 16 in
PICES : Allspice	0 10 0 10 0 18 0 20	Fleece, combing ord	0 17 0 18	Drugs.	1 00 2 00	Lath, No. 2
Cassia Cloves	0 20 0 30 0 20 0 25	" clothing Pulled, combing	0 19 0 20	Alum lb	1 90 2 50	2x4, 6, and 8 common 16 00 17 00 2x10 and 12 common
Ginger, ground Ginger, root	0 20	" super	0 19 0 20	Blue Vitriol Brimstone	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 06\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 07\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & 00 & 2 & 50 \end{array}$	Hard Woods - #M. ft. Car Lots
Nutmegs	0 35 0 60	CALLA	0 21 0 22	Borax.	0 04 0 05	Ash white 1st and 2nd1 to 2 in \$28 00 35 00
Mace Pepper, black ground	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Hardware TIN:	\$ c. c.	Camphor		" $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 in 35 00 40 00 black, " t to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in 22 00 30 00
" white, ground	0 78 0 30	Ingot	31 00 32 00	Castor Oil Caustic Soda	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 35 & 0 & 45 \\ 0 & 09\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 03\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 05 \end{array}$	Birch " 1 to 4 in 25 00 28 00
Cut Loat, 50 s	4 78	COPPER : Ingot	21 00	Cream Tartarlb Epsom Salts	0 27 0 30	" Red, " I to 13 in 25 00 28 0
" " 100's Extra Granulated	4 68	LEAD: Bar Pig		Extr't Logwood, bulk	1 50 1 75 0 12 0 13	Basswood " I to 12 in 15 00 38 00
Acadia Beet Granulated	4 03	Sheet Shot, common	0 05 0 051	Gentian	0 10 0 12	" " <u>11</u> to 2 in 20 00 25 00
Phoenix	3 38	Zinc sheet	6 00 6 50	Glycerine, per lb Hellebore	0 10 0 22	" " to 3 in 25 00 35 00
No. 2 Vellow	3 83	Antimony	8 00 9 00 0 19 0 21	Iodine	3 75 4 75 0 28 0 30	Cherry " $1 \text{ to } 1\frac{1}{2} \text{ in } 48 \text{ oo } 55 \text{ out}$
	3 53	Solder, Standard BRASS : Sheet	0 19	Insect Powder Morphia Sul	I 60 I 75	" 2 to 4 in 60 00 100 00 Elm, Soft, " 1 to 1½ in 20 00 25 00
CEAS :	and the set	IRON: Hamilton Pig	. 22 00	Oil Lemon, Super	4 50 4 75	" " " 2 to 3 in 22 00 26 00
Japan, Yokohama Japan, Kobe	0 20 0 35 0 22 0 36	Refined Horseshoe	2 40	Oxalic Acid Paris Green 1 b pkts	D IO 0 12	"" " " $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 in 20 00 25 50
Japan, Sittings & Dust	0 00 0 11	Hoop Steel Swedish	2 90	Potass. Iodide	2 75 3 00	Hemlock, " to in 12 00 12 00 Hickory, " 11 to 2 in 28 00 30 00
Congou, Monings Congou, Foochows	0.00	Bar, ordinary Lowmoor	. 1 85 1 95	Saltpetre Ib	0 39 0 42	Maple, " I to 11 in 16 00 20 00
Yg. Hyson, Moyune Yg Hyson, Fuchow &	0 20 0 65	Hoops, coopers	2 90 3 00	Sal Rochelle	0 28 0 30	" 2 to 4 in 25 oo 28 or Oak, Red Plain" I to 1 ¹ / ₂ in 35 oo 40 or
	0 20 0 50	Band Tank Plates	. 2 50	Sulphur Flowers	0.02 0.02	"White Pl'in" 1 to 11 in 35 00 40 0
1g. Hyson, Pinosnew		Daily D' + 1 +		Doda Ach	. 0 02 0 03	
Yg. Hyson, Pingsuey Gunpowder, Moyune Gunpowder, Pingsuey	0.18 0.64	Boiler Rivets, best Russia Sheet, per lb	· 4 50 5 00 . 0 10 ¹ / ₂ 0 11	Soda Ash. Soda Bicarb, ₩ keg Tartaric Acid	2 25 2 75	" Quartered " 1 to 2 in 85 00 95 0

cottons. The Dominion Cotton Co., and the Colonial Bleaching & Printing Co. have made a further advance on some lines of prints, etc.

Furs .- We note nothing specially new since last report on this subject. At the Hudson Bay sales opening in London on the 25th of January, it is expected the offerings will probably be smaller than usual, owing to the recent loss of one of the company's vessels on her way to London, with a cargo of raw furs. We quote prices here for prime skins as follows: Beaver, \$5 to \$6.50 for large; medium ditto, \$4 to \$4.75; No. I choice bear, \$15 for large, \$10 for medium, and \$6 for small; badger, 30 to 50c.; fisher, No. 1, dark, \$5 to \$6; ditto, brown, \$4 to \$5; pale ditto, \$3 to \$4; red fox, \$2.25 to \$4; cross fox, \$5 to \$10 for No. I, as to color; wolverine, \$2.50 to \$5; lynx, \$4 to \$8 for No. 1; marten, \$2 to \$3 for Ontario and Quebec skins; fine B.C. and Northwest pelts bring higher prices; mink, \$2 to \$4 for No. 1; fall rats, 8 to 17c.; winter ditto, 15 to 20c.; otter, \$8 to \$12; fine Labradors and Northeastern would bring \$12 to \$20; coon, \$1.50 to \$2.50 for No. 1 black, and from \$1 to \$1.75 for No. 1 dark; prime skunk, \$1.50 for No. 1, all black; short stripe, \$1.10; long stripe, 6oc.; and broad stripe, 20c.

Groceries .- About the only noteworthy feature in this line since last writing is a decline of 5c. a cental in hard sugars, standard granulated being now quoted at \$4 at the factory; yellows are unaltered. Molasses is firmly held at 40 to 42c. in a jobbing way. The auction sale of dates to have taken place on the 21st has been postponed, owing to delay in arrival of the goods. The currant market rules easy. Stocks of Valencia raisins are exhausted in Spain, but considerable supplies are available in London at reasonable prices. Loose Muscatel Malaga raisins are in good demand. Nuts of all kinds are very firm, notably almonds both whole and shelled, and walnuts.

Hides .- A further decline of half a cent per pound is noted in beef hides, dealers now quoting 8c. for No. 1. The kill is said to be unusually large this winter, and as tanners in this Province continue to be very light buyers, stocks in store show further accumulation. Calfskins and lambskins are unaltered in price.

Leather .- The month has been a quiet one in so far as the local demand for sole is concerned, but the export movement in that line is described as very fair for the season of the year. Now that the Quebec boot and shoe factories are getting to work again after a long series of strikes, some respectable sized orders are reported for dongola and fancy leather, findings, etc. Black leathers are very quiet, but fairly steady in price.

Metals and Hardware.-There is little news of an interesting character to be noted in these lines. The Dominion Hardware Association had a full session here last week, but the business trans-

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Drop a post-card, giving your age next birthday, to the Head Office, Toronto, and get a copy of the pamphlet regarding their "Guaranteed Investment Plan."



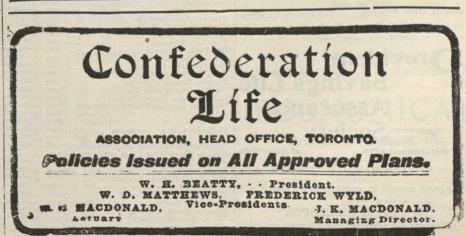
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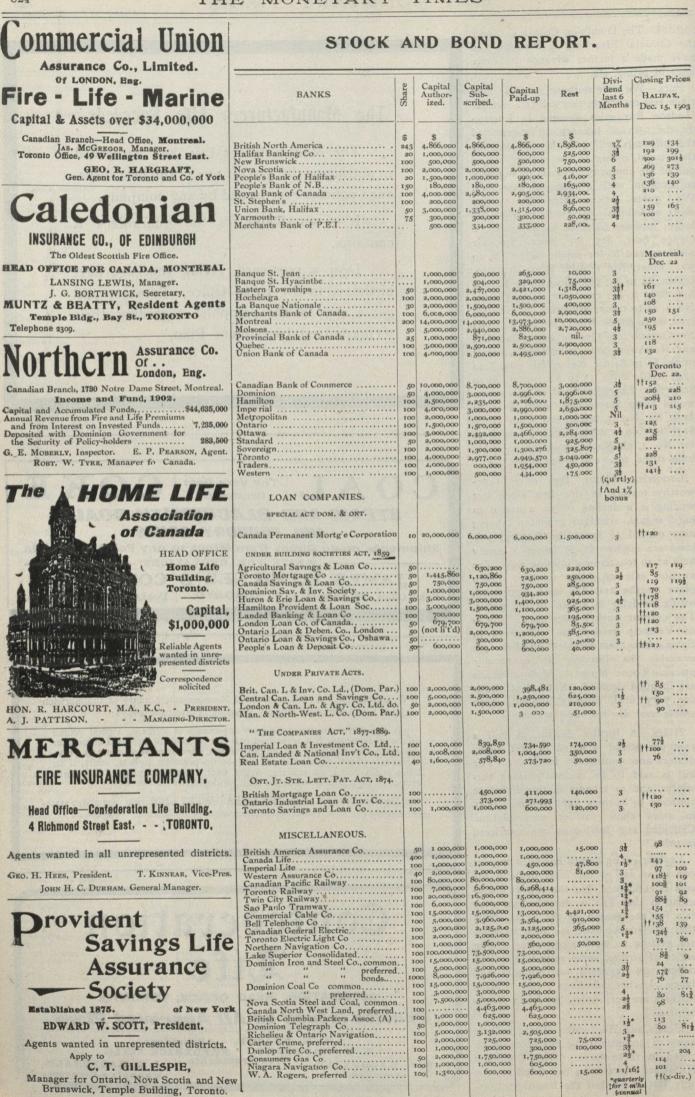
The Very Best

J. J. W. Deuchar, F.F.A., F.I.A., General Manager and Actuary of the Norwich Union Life Assurance Company, speaking of investments says

"It may serve to indicate the great importance of obtaining a good return on the investments, if it is realized that one per cent, of increased interest on the funds of a company will, on the average, have as great an effect as a sav-ing in expenditure equal to 10 per cent. on the premium income, while, if an office could count on realizing 5 per cent. interest in place of 3, it might reduce its premiums some 30 per cent., or double its bonuses."

Mr. Deuchar does not name THE GREAT-WEST LIFE; but the above statement exactly describes the happy position of its policy-holders.





W. C. A. LAMBE LLOYD'S AGENT FOR ONTARIO.

Surveys and Appraisements on goods damaged by salt water attended to at all points in West-ern Ontario. Certificate from Lloyd's Agent of damage is accepted by British Insurance Companies.



Results of 1902.	
Business in force	4,898,538 00 11 per cent. \$182,171 45 15 per cent \$705,516 60 14 per cent. \$137,969 30 \$6,854 00
JAS. INNES, President. THOMAS HILLIARD, Managing Dir	ector.



SCOTT & WALMSLEY, ESTABLISHED 1858

Managers and Underwriters.

acted was altogether of a routine cha acter. With regard to prices, the on changes reported are a slight decline iron pipe, inch being reduced from \$4.3 to \$4.75, and ingot tin as rather firm at 31c. for Straits.

Oils, Paints and Glass,-A holida quiet pervades the wholesale warehous in these departments, and little will done for the next two or three week The only change in prices we hear of a slight advance in turpentine, which now generally quoted at 84c. per gal. V quote: Single barrels, raw linseed oil, to 48c.; boiled, 50 to 51c., net , days, or 3 per cent. for four month terms. Turpentine, 84c., single ba Olive oil, machinery, 90c. \$1: cod oil, 35 to 40c. per gal.; steam fined seal, 50 to 55c. per gal.; ting and brown ditto, down to 35c.; cast oil, 8 cents, for machinery; pharm ceutical ditto, 81/2 to 9c.; lead (chen



All Policies Guaranteed by the LONDON A LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

INSURANCE COMPANIES

ENGLISH (Quotations on London Market)

No. Shares or amt. Stock.	Yearly Divi- dend.	NAME OF COMPANY	Share par	Amount	La: Sa Dec.	le
250,000 50,000 200,000 35,862 10,000 89,155 24,5,640 30,000 110,000 53,776	% 8 5 5 20 171 24 90 30 05 5 35	Alliance	20 50 10 25 10 25 Stk 100 25 50	21-5 5 5 12-2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 5 5 5 5 5 12-5 2 2 2 2 2 2 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	94983 920 446 37 22	101 509 1 509 2 1 509
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RAILWAYS	Par value ¥ Sh.	Lon Dec	
Canadian Pacific \$100 Shares, 3% C. P. R. 1st Mortgage Bonds, 5% do. 50 year L. G. Bonds, 34%	\$100	122 110 102	1 1
Grand Trunk Con. stock 5% perpetual debenture stock do. Eq. bonds, and charge 6%	100	158 133 123	•
 do. First preference 5 do. Second preference stock 3¹/₂ do. Third preference stock 	10 	110 97 452	1
Great Western per 5% debenture stock Midland Stg. 1st mtg. bonds, 5% Toronto, Grev & Bruce 4% stg. bonds,	100		The second
securities.	1 100	Lon	
	E. Car		

	Dominion 5% stock, 1903, of Ry. loan	IOI
	do. 4% do 1904, 5, 6, 8	IOI
Ì	do. 4% do 1910, Ins. stock	104
1	do. 31% do. Ins. stock	101
1	Montreal Sterling 5% 1908	
4	do. 5% 1874,	100
	do. 1879, 5%,	ICO
	City of Toronto Water Works Deb., 1906, 6%	99
	do. do. gen. con. deb. 1920, 5%	108
	do do. stg. bonds 1928, 4%	100
	do do. Loca Imp. Bonds 1913, 4%.	99
	do. do. Bonds 1929 32%	97
	City of Ottawa, Stg. 1904, 6%	100
	City of Hamilton Debs. 1934 5%.	
	City of Ouebec, con., 1905, 6%	103
	do. do. sterling deb. 1923, 4%	102
	City of Vancouver, 1931, 4%	99
	do. do. 1932, 4%	99
	City of Winnipeg, deb 914. 5%	104

	THE & ACCIDENTS
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in 81	Lloyds Plate Glass
er	INSURANCE COMPANIES
	Issue Specially Attractive Policies covering Accident Accident and Sickness Combined, Employers', Elevator, General and Public Liability.
ay	Elevator, General and Public Liability. Plate Glass.
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be	3 Toronto Street, TORONTO
KS.	The local state for the second of the
is is	The London Life Insurance Go.
Ve	Head Office, LONDON, Ont.
47	JOHN McCLARY, President A. O. JEFFERY, O.C., LL.B., D.C.L., Vice-President.
30	Every desirable form of life insurance afforded on as
ns'	favorable terms as by other first-class companies. MONEY TO LOAN on Real Estate security at
to	lowest current rates of interest. Liberal Terms to desirable agents.
re-	JOHN G. RICHTER MANAGER
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or	The London Mutual
na-	
ni-	Fire Insurance Co. of Canada
9	Established 1859.
875]	Losses Paid, \$3,250,000 00
0	Business in force, over - \$66.000,000 00
C	Assets \$628,690 16
-	HON. JOHN DRVDEN, President. GEO. GILLIES, Vice-President
ND	President. Vice-President H. WADDINGTON, Sec'y and Man. Director.
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	Established 1824
	The MANCHESTER FIRE
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	Assets over \$13,000,000
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50	TAC DOOMED Manager
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9 10	JOHN FENNELL, President. GFORGE C. H. LANG, - Vice-President.
	JOHN FENNELL, President. GFORGE C. H LANG, Vice-President. Wr. Scrimal J. Mer. Scriptary.



life companies doing business in Canada in the NET AMOUNT IN FORCE GAINED OVER all its competitors during the past five years, as shown by the Government' Reports.

cally pure and first-class brands), \$4.50 to \$4.60; No. 1, \$4.25 to \$4.35; No. 2, \$4 to \$4.50; No. 3, \$3.80 to \$3.90; No. 4, \$3.60 to \$3.75; dry white lead, 41/4 to 41/2c. for pure; No. I ditto, 4 to 41/4c.; genuine red ditto, 4 to 41/4c.; No. I red lead, 4c.; putty in bulk, bbls., \$1.80; bladder putty in barrels, \$1.90; ditto, in kegs or tins, \$2.65; London washed whiting, 45c.; Paris white, 75 cents; Venetian boxes, \$2.40; 23-lb. tins, \$2.55; 121/2-lb. red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2; Paris green, 14c. in bulk, and 15c. in 1-1b. packages; window glass, per 100 ft., \$3.25 for first break; \$3.45 for second break, and \$4.20 for third break; per 50 feet, \$1.70 for first break, and \$1.80 for second break.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, December 24th, 1903.

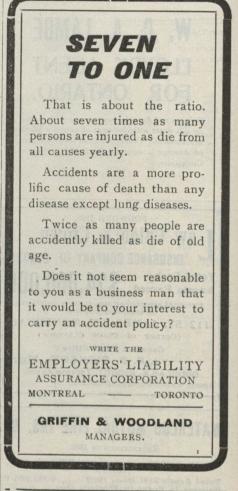
Chemicals, Drugs, etc.—Trade has been normally active for this season of the year, but no special features have developed. Prices keep steady. Quinine and opium keep in about the same position, English advices speak of trade being on the dull side for home consumers, but some lines in pretty brisk demand for export.

Dry Goods .- As is natural, the wholesalers have had a less busy week, so far as the Christmas trade is concerned. It is believed to have been in more than usually large volume this year. Travellers have been out on spring samples lately, and report everything moving out well with bright prospects for the coming season. The Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Company, which advanced prices only a few days ago, have now issued a circular which withdraws all quotations until further notice. Additional advances are looked for by the trade, to whom it looks as if the upward movement will never stop. The demand for all kinds of staple goods, both cotton and woolen continues active.

Flour and Grain.—A steady market prevails for ninety per cent. patents, which sell at \$3.05 in buyers' bags, middle or east freights. Manitoba flour is steady. Bran and shorts keep steady. Ontario wheat continues at about the same figure as last week. Oats are a cent higher. Buckwheat has gone up a fraction. Other grains remain unchanged. Not very much business is being done.

Fruits and Vegetables .- A long week has been experienced by the fruit dealers, as is usually the case the last few holidays. days before Christmas Oranges are plentiful, and fetch reasonable prices. Apples are in steady demand. Quotations follow: Cocoanuts, \$4 per sack; oranges, Floridas, \$3 to \$4 per case, \$2.75 to \$3 per box; Jamaica, \$5 per case for 200's, \$3 to \$3.50 for 360's; California, \$4 to \$6; Valencia, \$3 to \$4; bananas, 8's, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bunch; 1st, \$2 to \$2.50; sweet potatoes, \$3 to \$3.50 per barrel; celery, 20c. to 40c. per dozen; cranberries, \$9.50 to \$10 per barrel, \$1.25 per basket; Spanish onions, \$2.75 to \$3 per large case, and \$1 for small; Malaga grapes, \$5 to \$6 per barrel.

Hardware.-The condition of trade remains very much as it was last week. We have heard of no price changes, and values may be described as fairly firm. The trade is quite active, especially in articles of a particularly seasonable character, such as skates, sleighbells, snow-shovels, etc. Metals continue in normally active demand. The following clipping should prove of interest as showing the way in which our manufacturers are regarded on the other side of the ocean. It is taken from the London Economist: "In 1901 Canada sent 53,000 tons of iron to this side of the water, the whole of it being landed in the Clyde, and in the early part of last year they shipped, on old contracts, 50,-500 tons (46,000 tons to the Clyde). From now onwards it is admitted that the shipments will be regular, for the makers get a bounty of over \$2 a ton on all they export; and as the bounty



declines year by year, it is to their interest to force the pace, and dump as much as possible. How does the new Imperial fiscal policy stand to this proposition? The Canadian iron will enter into direct competition with Cleveland, of which large quantities are now sent into Scotland, and is lower in price, the lowness being regulated by the exigencies of the home sellers."

Groceries.—Trade in general groceries may be described as having been very active, but probably not much more so than is usually the case at this season. Dried fruits have naturally been in good request. Sugars have displayed no striking points, but have been characterized by a fair movement. Teas are still firm in prices, but the movement cannot be said to be particularly large.

Provisions.—Really choice butter is scarce and wanted, while for inferior grades the market drags. Cheese is a little on the dull side. The strong position of eggs continues unabated, but new-laid are very scarce. Poultry has been coming into the local market more freely, but much of it is poor stock. Chickens are quoted at 9½ to Ioc. per pound; geese, 9½ to Io½c.; turkeys, 14 to 15c.; ducks at 9 to Ioc. The market for hog products continues very good, at firm prices.

Wool.—Nothing new has developed under this heading. Pulled wools are in fair demand from the domestic mills, but for fleece there is practically no call for export, with the result that the trade is very dull.



BRANCH OFFICES IN CANADA

Hamilton, Canada—Canada Life Building—cor. King and James Streets—W. C. Niles, Supt.
 London, Canada—Masonic Temple Bldg., cor. Richmond and King Streets—John Rothwell, Supt.

John Rothwell, Supt. Montreal, Canada-Afro St. Catherines Street-Chas. Stansfield, Supt. "Provincial Bank Bldg, 7 Place D'Armes-H. H. Decelles, Supt. Ottawa. Canada-Metropolitan Life Building, Metcalfe and Queen Streets-Charles F. Cardinal, Supt. Quebec, Canada-Metropolitar Building, 39 St. Johns St.-E. J. Payette, Supt. Toronto, Can.-Confederation Bidg., Yonge St.-J. E. Kavanagh, Supt. "Dominion Chambers, 449 Spadina Ave.-Henry Downing, Supt. Chairman Canadian Board :

89.7

The Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

General Manager for Ganada:

HAL. BROWN.

В.

