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TORONTO, ONT., FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1899.

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TORONTO—Dundas Street, Corner Queen. "Market, corner King and Jarvis street. "Queen Street corner Esther street. "Sherbourne Street, corner Queen. "Spadina Ave.iue, corner Queen. "Spadina Ave.iue, corner College. Drafts on all parts of the United States, Great Britain and Europe bought & sold. Letters of Credit issued available at all points in Furone. Chin and Japan. "Brunone. Chin and Japan. "GEO. P. REID GEO. P. REID AGENTS—London, Eng., Lloyd's Bank. Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal. Bank of Montreal. Bank of Montreal. Bank of Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bay Co.'s Post, and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bay Co.'s Post, and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bark Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal. Bank of Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bark Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal. Bank of Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bark Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bark Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Montreal and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bark Ltd New York—Importers' and Traders' National Bank of Montreal and Montreal	Seaforth. Uxbridge. Winnipeg. Whitby.	Brantford, Colborne, Parkdale, Toronto Brighton, Durham, Picton,	Edmonton South, Alta. Winnipeg, Man.
"Sherbourne Street, corner Queen. "Spadina Ave.:ue, corner College. Drafts on all parts of the United States, Great Britain and Europe bought & sold. Letters of Credit issued available at all points in Furone. Chin and I apan. "New York—Imperters and I radets Authority and I radets of the United States, Great Britain All hondon, England—National Bank of Scotland. All banking business promptly attended to. Correspondence solicited. "New York—Imperters and I radets Authority and Commercial Company at St. Michael Company at St. Michael Corners on the Mackenzie, Peace, Liard and Athabasca Rivers and other Posts in the Northwest Terrories and British	Market, corner King and Jarvis street. Queen Street corner Esther street.	Campbelltord, Harriston,	Bank of Montreal Bank of America
and Europe bought & sold. Letters of Credit issued available at all points in Furope. Chin and Japan. GEO. P. REID GEO. P. REID and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bay Control on the Mackenzie, Peace, Liard and Athabasca Rivers and other Posts in the Northwest Terrories and British	"Sherbourne Street, corner Queen. "Spadina Ave.iue, corner College.	Montreal—Canadian Bank of Commerce	Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at agen-
Furone. Chin and Japan.	and Europe bought & sold. Letters of Credit issued available at all points in	All banking business promptly attended to. Corres	and Dawson City, and at the Hudson's Bay Co. Sivers
	Europe, Chin and Japan. R. D. GAMBLE, General Manager.		Columbia.

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Pald-up, £1,000,000

The Union Bank of London, The Bank of New York New England National Bank Bank of Toronto

BANKERS

Uncalled, £4,000,000 Reserve Fund, £1,000,000

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GEORGE B. HART, Secretary.

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All other Banking business connected with England and Sectland is also transacted.

THE MEYILDS DRUG III DAMADA	Canada Permanent	Western Canada Loan and Savings Co.
THE WESTERN BANK OF CANADA HEAD OFFICE, OSHAWA, ONT.	Loan & Savings Company.	INCORPORATED 1863.
Control Anthonized \$1,000,000		Subscribed Capital. 1,500,000 Reserve Fund. 770,000
Capital Subscribea 500,000 Capital Paid-up 885,000 Rest 118,000	Paid-up Capital 2,600,000	OFFICES, NO. 76 CHURCH ST., TORONTO,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.	OFFICE: COMPANY'S BUILDINGS, TORONTO ST., TORONTO	and Main St., WINNIPEG, Man.
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T. H. McMillan, Cashed	interest coupons attached, payable in Canada or in England. Executors and Trustees are authorized by law to invest in the Debentures of this Company.	WALTER S. LEE, - Managing Director DEPOSITS received and interest allowed thereon-
Whitby, Pickering, Paisley, Penetanguishene, and Port Perry. Drafts on New York and Sterling Exchange bought and sold. Deposits received and interest allowed. Collections solicited and promptly made.	MONEY ADVANCED on Real Estate security at current rates and on favorable conditions as to repayment. Mortgages and Municipal Debentures purchased. J. HERBERT MASON, Managing Director.	compounded half-yearly. Debentures issued for terms of 2 to 5 years, interest paid half-yearly. Trustees are empowered to invest in these securities. Loans granted on Improved Farms and Productive City Property.
Correspondents in New York and in Canada—The Merchants Bank of Canada, London, Eng.—The Royal a of Scotland.	Freehold Loan and Savings Co'y	HURON AND ERIE
LA BANQUE NATIONALE	DIVIDEND NO. 79	Loan and Savings Company. LONDON, ONT.
Head Office, - QUEBEC. Paid-up Oapital,	Notice is hereby given that a dividend at the rate of SIX PER CENT. per annum, on the capital stock of the company has been declared for the two months	
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.	ending 31st December, 1898, payable on and after the FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1899, at the office of the company, cor. Victoria and Adelaide Sts., Toronto.	Capital Subscribed \$5,000,000 Capital Paid-up 1,400,000 Reserve Fund 750,000
R. AUDETTE, Esq., A. B. Duruis, Esq., Hon. Judge Chauveau. V. Chateauvert, Esq. N. Roytler, Esq.	The transfer books will be closed from the 16th to 31st January, inclusive. Notice is hereby given that the General Annual	Money advanced on the security of Real Estate on favorable terms.
N. Rioux, Esq. J. B. Laliberte, Esq. P. LAFRANCE, Manager Quebec Office.	Meeting of the company will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February the '5th. 1899, at the office of the company, for the purpose of receiving the annual report, the election of directors, etc.	Debentures issued in Currency or Sterling. Executors and Trustees are authorized by Act of Parliament to invest in the Debentures of this Company. Interest allowed on Deposits.
Quebec, St. John Suburb. "St. Roch. BRANCHES Sherbrooke St. Francols N.E., Beauce St. Francols N.E., Beauce	By order of the Board.	J. W. LITTLE, G. A. SOMERVILLE, President. Manager.
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Prompt attention given to collections. Correspondence respectfully solicited.	Capital Subscribed	Subscribed Canital 2.000.000
THE TRADERS BANK OF CANADA INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT 1885.	Total Assets	Deposits received, and interest at current rates allowed Money loaned on Mortgage on Real Estate, on reason
Authorised Capital,	DEBENTURES for 3 or 5 years. Interest payable by half-yearly. Executors/and Trustees are authorized by	able and convenient terms.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.	Head Office—King St., Hamilton.	Hon. SIR FRANK SMITH, JAMES MASON, Managet
C D. WARREN, Esq., Presiden ROBERT THOMSON, Esq., Hamilton, Vice-Presiden John Drynan, Esq., C. Kloepfer, Esq., M.P., Guelph W. J. Thomas, Esq. J. H. Beatty, Esq., Thorold.	The London and Canadian	The London & Ontario Investment Co.
HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO		(LIMITED,) Cor. of Jordan and Melinda Streets,
H. S. STRATHY, - General Manager. J. A. M. ALLEY Inspector.	DIVIDEND NO. 55	TORONTO. President, Sir Frank Smith.
BRANCHES Aylmer, Ont Ingersoll, Ridgetown Drawton Leamington, Sarnia,	AT .: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Vice-President, WILLIAM H. BEATTY, Esq. DIRECTORS.
Dutton. Newcastle, Ont. Strathroy, Rimira, North Bay, St. Mary	tal stock of this company for the four months	Messrs. William Ramsay, Arthur B. Lee, W. Hamilton Alexander Nairn Henry Gooderham, Fred
Glencoe, Orillia, Tilsonbur Guelph, Port Hope, Windsor. Hamilton,	D ''	Money advanced at current rates and on favorable
BANKERS. Great Britain—The National Bank of Scotland. New York—The American Exchange National Bank.	15th January prox. By order of the Directors.	Money received from investors and secured by the Company's debentures, which may be drawn payable to the control of the contro
Montreal—The Quebec Bank. ST. STEPHEN'S BANK.	W. WEDD, Jr., Pro. Manager Toronto, Dec. 20, 1898.	current rates. Cor. Jordan and Melinda Sts., Toronto.
INCORPORATED 1836.	THE DOMINION	BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION
Capital,	0	
W. H. TODD, President. F. GRANT, Cashier. AGENTS.	LONDON, CANADA.	DIRECTORS. President, Larratt W. Smith, Q.C., D.C.L.
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Drafts issued on any Branch of the Bank of Monttea	Capital Paid-up 932,962 75 Total Assets 932,9693 45	8 OFFICE, COR. TORONTO AND COURT STREE! Money advanced on the security of city and farm pro-
La Banque Jacques Cartier. 1862 Head Office, Montreal 1898 Capital Paid-up		perty. Mortgages and debentures purchased. Interest allowed on deposits. Registered Debentures of the Association obtained opplication.
DIRECTORS Hon ALPH. DESJARDINS, President Mr. A. S. Hamelin, Vice-President M. Dumont Lavi)- -	
lette; G. N. Ducharme, ; and L. J. O. Beauchemin; M. TANCREDE BIENVENU, Gen'l Manager; M. ERNES BRUNEL, A-St. Manager; M. C. S. POWELL, Inspecto Hranches—Moureal—Point St. Charles, Ontari	r. 11011041141 54111105 4 2042 00	OSHAWA, ONT
St., Ste. Catherine St. East, Ste. Cunegonde, St. Henr. St. Jean Bie Beauharnois, P. Q. Quebec—St. Joh St., St. Sauveur. Fraserville, J. Q.; Hull, P.Q.; Valeyfield, P.Q.; Victoriaville, P.Q.; Ottawa, Ont.; Ed	LONDON, ONTARIO. 1 Paid-up Capital	Control Subscribed
leyfield, P.Q.; Victoriaville, P.Q.; Ottawa, Ont.; Edmonton (Alberta), N.W.T. Savings Department at Head Office and Branche	0.000.441	Capital Subscribed, \$300.00 Capital Paid-up. 300,00 Reserve Fund. 75,00
Foreign Ag-nis—Paris, France—Comptoir Nat d'Escompte de Paris, Le Credit Lyonnais, Londo Erg.—Comptoir Nat'l d'Escompte de Paris, Le Cred	DIRECTORS:	Deposits and Cap. Debentures 600,00
MOT COMMON NATIO ESCOMON OR PARE 1 & C PAR	1108. MCCOIMICK, I. Deaths, M.I.	Money loaned at low rates of interest on the souri
Lyonnais, Glynn, Mills, Currie & Co. New York—Bk. (Money advanced on improved terms and productive	re of Real Estate and Municipal Debentures
I vonnaie Glynn Mills, Chrrie & Co. New York-Bk.	Money advanced on improved farms and productive city and town properties, on favorable terms. Mor gages purchased.	to Deposits received and interest allowed

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Head Office, 23 TORONTO ST., TORONTO.

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OF LONDON, CANADA.

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Total Assets Total Liabilities	480,000
Total Assets	2,419,471

Debentures issued for 3 or 5 years. Debentures and interest can be collected at any agency of Molsons Bank, without charge. WILLIAM F. BULLEN,

London, Ontario, 1890.

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Vice-President
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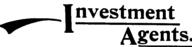
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DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW

An important judgment was given in Montreal last week, in the case of Lambe es qual. v. H. Austin, et. al. This was an action by the collector of provincial revenue for the recovery of a fine of \$160 on the ground that defendants had failed luring two years to take out their business license, as required by law. defendants pleaded that being merely was chousemen, and having no stock of their own, they were exempted from taking out any license, and consequently not subject to a fine on that ground. The Court held that under the terms of the statute, warehousemen and agents are obliged to pay the license fee. Moreover, in cases where the right of exemption exists, under the terms of the statute, such exemption is dependent upon the condition that a declaration be filed with the collector, and that condition was in no way complied with in the present case. Judgment must go in favor of plaintiff for the amount claimed.

WHAT strikes us as being about the most expensive and artistic insurance company's calendar received this season is the one issued by The New England Mutual Life Ins. Co. That of the Manchester Fire Assurance Company is a beauty, and Mr. Boomer is justly proud

THERE are four gold mines, said to be very promising ones, in the Boundary Country of British Columbia, the Idaho, the Brooklyn, the Rawhide, and the Stemwinder, the last-named of which adjoins the famous Knob Hill mine. Messrs. Wm. Mackenzie and Dan. Mann obtained control of these holdings some time since, and on Saturday last Hon. Geo. A. Cox, Mr. Robt. Jaffray and two other Toronto gentlemen, purchased one-third interest in them, from parties who had previously been part proprietors.

Essex county is determined to find a market for her home-grown tobacco leaf. It is learned, through Mr. C. C. James, of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, that Mr. J. W. Wigle, of Ruthven. has been appointed by the Essex Tobacco Growers' Association, representative to go to England, and endeavor to find a market for their tobacco. Last year Essex had 5,086 acres, and Kent 2,140 acres in tobacco, the two counties producing over 10,000,000 pounds of leaf. The figures quoted by Mr. Hackett, in his letter to this journal, last week, make an interesting addition to those given above.

According to the Railroad Gazette, all the contracting locomotive shops in the United States (that is, those outside of the railroad shops), built in 1898, 1,875 locomotives, against 1,251 in 1897, an increase of 624, or nearly 50 per cent. In fact, the increase comes within 71 of representing the total output in 1894, and is greater by 218 than the increase of 1895 over 1894, which increase was the largest since 1887. The total includes 12 electric and three compressed air locomotives. The building of locomotives for export continues to steadily grow, and the construction of railway cars in 1898 exceeded in volume any twelve months since the vear 1800.

JOHN MACKAY

Public Accountant, Auditor, Receiver and Trustee

Bank of Commerce Bldg., Toronto Tel. No. 2732. Cable Address: CAPITAL.

THE INSOLVENCY AND LIQUIDATION DEPARTMENT OF THE.

Western Loan and Trust Company, Limited,

W. Barclay Stephens

Manager of the Company.

Under the laws of the Province of Quebec the Company cannot be appointed directly to trusts, such as assignees, etc. Therefore, Mr. Stephens will act on behalf of the Company in all such cases, the Company assuming all responsibility and reliability in regard to any trusts which may be placed in his hands.

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Mercantile Summary.

A FIRE at Victoria, B.C., on the night of 29th December, destroyed property valued at \$25,000.

THE Dairymen's Association of British Columbia will hold an exhibit of dairy produce, cattle, feed and dairy apparatus, at Ladner's Landing, B.C., on January 26th and 27th

THE Canadian Bank of Commerce has advised the Dominion Government that it is sending officers to establish a branch of the bank in the Atlin Lake district, of the Klondyke country.

THE youngest son of the late Jay Gould. whose name is Frank, bought a seat on the New York Stock Exchange last week for \$30,000, the highest price paid for a seat on the exchange for some years.

A MONTREAL clothing man, Louis Shindler, who has paid his way very satisfactorily for the past ten years, and had established for himself a good general credit, disappeared suddenly a few days ago, and is supposed to owe some \$7,000 or \$8,000, while the assets apparent do not much exceed as many hundred.

THE traffic returns of eighteen principal English and Irish lines, for the current half-year exhibit an increase of £879,471, or 2.6 per cent., while on the Scotch lines, up to mid-December, there is a gain of £129,628, equal to 3.7 per cent. The latter are calculated from August 1st, instead of from July 1st, as in the case of the English and Irish companies.

Some of the western coal miners in the States are in a state of unrest. The men employed by the Carlinsville Coal Co., of Illinois, stopped work last week, claiming that they were unfairly treated in weighing the coal they raised, having lost, they say, 150 lbs. to the ton in some cases. And a despatch from Massillon, Ohio, says that the railroad companies are laying in large supplies of coal to bridge over a possible strike, which may result from the enforcement by miners of the Jones Anti-Screen law.

THE announcement of the suspension of the well-known Montreal wholesale clothing house of E. A. Small & Co., was a distinct shock to the Montreal trade. As yet, no very close data are available as to the position of affairs, but it is understood that the business has not been really making a profit for several years past, and the recent balance sheet showed up so poorly, that the firm considered it advisable, in the interest of all concerned, to suspend payment, the more particularly as they had a large amount of paper to take up on the 4th inst., for which they did not see their way clear to provide in a regular way. A meeting of creditors will not be called until stock is taken afresh, and in the meantime, Mr. Archibald W. Stevenson, accountant, is in charge, in the interests of creditors. The merchandise liabilities will foot up over \$200,000, it is expected, and the indirect liability to their bankers must be very considerable, as they have done a business at the rate of about half a million of dollars a year.

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Mercantile Summary.

THE main building of the Gardner Tool Works, at Sherbrooke, Que., were burned last week. Loss placed at \$20,000.

IT is understood that Dean & Shibley, brokers and bankers, of Providence, R.I., have taken charge of the arrangements to consolidate the paper manufacturers of the United States. The deal will involve about \$40,000,000, and will include the mills making writing paper, bond paper, wrapping, ledger, envelope and newspaper.

How the railway continues to chase and jostle the water-carrier everywhere is brought to mind when we read in a Detroit paper that, according to a letter from Houghton, in the upper peninsula of Michigan: "Practically every mine in the Lake Superior copper district is shipping copper by rail." But it may also indicate unusual demand for the metal both at home and abroad, for the active rail carriage of copper has not been known since the French syndicate cornered that metal vears ago.

WE have received a copy of the first and final dividend sheet of Cleophas Lacroix and Charles Lacroix, grocers in Satnia, who assigned last year, owing It is an interesting document, \$2,867. both as showing how many different concerns a small grocery firm can get credit from in this country, and as proving how legal proceedings swallow up much of what should go to creditors. The assignee realized out of stock and book debts \$315.40, which would have paid nearly 12 per cent. dividend. But out of this the lawyers had to get \$135.71, which went for "taxed costs on fi. fa.; costs of examination; costs of examination of debtors; costs of examination of wife; court fees; solicitors' costs," and so on. The inspectors were paid \$10; the care of stock and printing cost \$60, and the assignee got \$15.77-a very small amount, and a very uncommon assignee. Thus, there was left \$93.44, to divide among twenty-seven creditors, scattered over the ccunty of Lambton, and half a dozen of them as far off as London and Toronto. They receive 31/4 cents on the dollar of their claims. Each one, doubtless, will express his opinion, and his feeling, creditors \$93.44, on ordinary claims.

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Mercantile Summary.

An interesting meeting of ratepayers was held in the town hall. Fort William, 30th December, called by E. S. Jenison to discuss his water power scheme.

Morgan & Sons, pork packers, have assigned on demand of John Alex. McCoy, of Madoc, Ont., says the St. Thomas Journal. The total liabilities are \$14,000.

MR. E. F. STEPHENSON, chief of the crown land and timber agencies, has received a return of the quantity of lumber imported into Manitoba during the present year. The amount was over 30,000,000 feet, all from United States mills.

THE grocery and provision business of Richard Ross at Vancouver, B.C., has been closed by a local firm, who held a preference on the stock, which was removed. Besides this claim Ross owes about \$500 and has but little if anything to pay with.

As an indication of the diminution of drunkenness, Mr. Stewart. provincial license inspector for Ontario, says that ten years ago the convictions for drunkenness numbered 7,059. This year 2,465 convictions were made. Ten years ago, 4.700 people were committed for drunkenness. This year, 1.707 were committed in the province.

It was announced in Wall street on New Year's Day that beginning with the new year the anthracite coal companies will advance prices 25 cents a ton at tidewater. This follows a similar advance affecting western points. Beginning with the new year, it is stated, the output will be reduced to a greater extent than ever before. The collieries are to be worked only three days a week.

THE official receiver's report will show that Mr. E. T. Hooley's net loss in the flotation of twenty-six English companies was £190,000. Various offences will be charged, including insufficiency of assets to pay ten shillings on the pound, imperfect books, rash speculation, extravagance in living, and, possibly, more serious allegations in connection with missing books and papers.

THE Supreme Court of Pennsylvania held, in the recent case of Robb vs. Pennsylvania Company for insurance, that the fact that a bank depositor procured a rubber stamp which wou'd make a facsimile of his signature was insufficient ground for charging him with the loss when the bank paid a check to which his name was forged by a clerk who clandestinely obtained and used the stamp for that purpose.

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Gold Medals, Paris, 1878:1869.

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Birkbeck Investment Security and Savings Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act incorporating the Shareholders of the Company as a new Com pany under the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, with power to acquire the assets and assume the liabilities of the present Company and to carry on the business of a Loan Company in Canada, and with such powers with reference thereto as may be expedient. Dated November 24th, 1898.

> BLAKE, LASH & CASSELS, Solicitors for Applicants

DEBENTURES FOR SALE

Sealed Tenders addressed to the undersigned will be received up to the 23rd day of January, 1899, for the purchase, either en bloc or otherwise, of Debentures of the town of Selkirk, Manitoba, for sixty-two Thousand (\$63,0 w) Dollars with interest at \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent, per annum, payable annually.

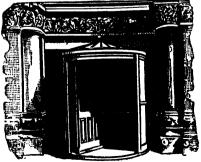
The term of the debentures is 30 years, ending A.D. 1928, and in each year there is rayable one debenture together with coupons for the interest on all subsequent debent res. The total pavable each year for the debenture and crupons is \$3, '06.83; the first debenture be ng for \$1,016.40, the second for \$1.062.14; the third for \$1,109.94, and the remainder for increasing amounts similarly calculated. The town assessment is \$545,060, and these are its only debentures.

(Signed), THOS. PARTINGTON, Town Clerk, Selkirk, Man.

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Mercantile Summary.

On Tuesday last, the Toronto Glass Company, Limited, suffered a serious loss by accident to one of their large melting tanks. The tank sprung a leak, and many tons of molten glass ran out.

AT Ottawa, on January 2nd, the bylaw to raise \$31,000 to establish a municipal electric street light plant was defeated by a majority of 210, and the by-law to rebuild the Kains and Fingal bridges of stone was carried by a majority of 665.

A COMPARATIVE statement of the customs revenue collected for the first six months of the fiscal years 1897-8, and 1898-9, shows increases in each month, as compared with 1897. The aggregate is \$12,559,820 in 1898, as compared with \$10,285,674 in the same period of 1897.

In the report for 1898 of the export trade of Moncton, N.B., only one item shows an increase over the previous year. This is plaster, the Albert Manufacturing Company, of Hillsboro, having forwarded 108 vessels, of 41,167 tons, and value \$90,-550, as compared with 112 vessels, of 36,-164 tons, and value \$76,598, in the previous year.

THE directors of Molsons Bank authorize, through Chief McRae, of the Winnipeg police force, a reward of \$10,000 to be offered in connection with the recent robbery from their branch in that city. For information that will lead to the conviction of any person or persons concerned as principals in the above robbery \$5,000 is to be paid and \$5,000 will also be given for enabling the directors to recover the stolen money, and in like proportion in either case should only part of the money be recovered.

HAVING been for several years in the shoe business in Petrolia, Arthur McDermand moved to Sarnia three months ago. But the change was not a profitable one, for we hear of his assignment with nominal assets of \$2,800, and liabilities of \$5,000. He is hoping to arrange a compromise with creditors.—It is now more than six years since Lang & Co. started the manufacturing of confectionery at Woodstock. They have always been slow in making payments and never did prosper, consequently their assignment now need be no surprise.

In Toronto, the proposals for an improved cattle market, and an enlarged St. Lawrence market, were carried by the rate-payers, last Monday. The market by-law received the most pronounced favorable vote. Merritton voted \$6,000 for an extension of waterworks, but refused to sanction \$20,000 for street improvement, and \$2,000 for a steam road-roller. At Prescott, the by-law to raise \$15,000 for a municipal electric light plant, was carried by 37 majority. St. Thomas defeated a by-law for a municipal lighting plant, but carried a by-law to raise money to build a couple of new bridges. Seaforth carried a by-law for a free library. In Stratford, by-laws abolishing wards and guaranteeing debentures of the Whyte Packing Company were carried by large majorities.

WE acknowledge receipt, from the Lang Tanning Co., Limited, of Berlin, of a calendar, with a view of their works. The illustration accompanying the Federal Life Company's calendar is that of the Ottawa Parliament Buildings.

LAST month, T. A. Kennedy, hotelkeeper at Wabigoon, was burnt out, and his loss was reported at \$4,000. He was insured for \$3,600, and payable to a loan company. Since then several of his creditors have sued him, and now he as--Wm. Hood started a general stere at Baysville, Muskoka, in 1891, and in May last, hoping to improve his position, by being able to collect his debts of \$2,000, he moved to Dwight. At this time his creditors agreed to accept 50 per cent. of their claims. Being unable to carry out this arrangement, he assigns.

Two years ago G. W. Mulligan opened a musical supply store in Peterboro, but as his chattels were mortgaged from the start, he could not succeed. Now the bailiff is in possession, and the stock will be sold.--E. I. Brown was formerly of the boot and shoe firm of Brown Bros., at Galt, who dissolved in 1895, and he continued the business. In the fall of 1897, he opened a branch store in Ridgetown. Then in June he disposed of his stock at Galt, and moved to that place. A short time ago one of his creditors sued him. and now he assigns.

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Twenty-five Annual Payments of \$200.00 each and one Payment of \$5,000.

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By paying a slightly increased premium the first \$5,000 can be made payable in fitteen or twenty instalments instead of twenty-five.

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GEO. GOODERHAM, President

J. F. JUNKIN, General Manager

THE Bank of Montreal is said to intend opening a branch in Fredericton, N.B. Mr. E. C. Jones, manager of the bank at St. John, was in the capital city last week, looking at several available buildings for banking quarters.

at Sandon, New Denver, and other B.C. points, from July to 24th December, from the Payne, Ruth, Slocan Star, Idaho, Queen Bess, and twenty other mines, amounted to 17,037 tons.

Shipments of ore from the gold mines WHILST more than one-half of the depositors in the French savings banks are women, says a contemporary, this fact does not indicate that they are the owners of the funds. There it is customary for the women to transact the business for the entire family, which includes the banking. It is somewhat the same in Germany.

W. H. Armstrong, grocer, farmer, boarding-house keeper, and section foreman on a railway, at Echo Bay, Ont., found his interests entirely too diversified, and now makes an assignment, although he was a stirring, hard-working fellow. -In June last, Albert Coulter, formerly a cheese-maker, succeeded to the general store business of W. Holbert, at Thomasburg. Owing to lack of experience and small capital, he finds himself now obliged to assign.

A SERIOUS fire occurred at Port Dalhousie on January 1st, when the factory at that place of the Toronto Rubber Shoe Manufacturing Company, was burned to the ground. The fire broke out in the boiler-room, then spread to the varnish room, and next to the main factory, fanned by a strong wind. But little is left of what was a busy industry. Not only this, but the flames spread to the wood grist mill and destroyed it. The grist mill is insured in the Hartford and Western for \$2,500 each. On the rubber factory, whose loss is probably \$100,000, there is insurance to cover \$40,000 in English and Canadian companies, \$48,000 in American companies, outside Canada.

Tobi Davis, widow of the late B. Kert, and doing business in Valleyfield, Que., under the style of N. Bloom & Co., has made an assignment. Mr. Bloom, for whose benefit the business has been carried on, is considerable of a rolling-stone, and his business record fully bears out the old saw. He has, in the past, carried on business in Randboro, Sawyerville and Cookshire, failing in the latter place some years ago, and again in Valleyfield in 1896.—T. J. Bourke, dry goods dealer, of the same town, recently reported in trouble, is seeking a settlement at 40 cents.—V. Ulric Fiset has been doing a small store and peddling business at Ancienne Lorette for the past two or three years, but has been unable to achieve success, and has assigned, owing \$723 in Quebec.—Phileas Graveline, of Canrobert, Que., already reported in trouble, and offering 40 cents, has now assigned, and the assignee will close out the estate.—Laplante & Frere, grocers, Lachine, Que., who failed several weeks ago, have been able to arrange a compromise at 10 cents, on liabilities of about \$2,000.

THE steamship "Gaspesia," of the Canadian Steamship Company, left Paspebiac, Que., some days ago on her return trip to Milford Haven. She called at Charlottetown, P.E.I., and took 500 tons of pressed hay, 15,000 bushels of oats, 100 tons of butter and cheese, 500 barrels of apples, 2,000 head of sheep and 100 head of cattle.

IT is proposed to reorganize the business of Alexander Gibson & Sons, of Marysville, N.B. A company is to be organized under authority of an Act passed at the last session of the Legislature, to be known as "The Alexander Gibson Railway and Manufacturing Company." The Act authorizes the company to issue 5 per cent. debentures to the extent of \$2,000,-000, to be secured on the entire property of Mr. Gibson, including his 200,000 acres of timber lands on the Nashwaak river, the town of Marysville, the cotton and lumber mills, and the Canada Eastern railway. The entire property of the company is valued at \$7,000,000. Mr. David Mc-Laren, of Liverpool, England, and Col. H. H. McLean, of St. John, have conferred with Mr. Gibson over the matter, and an organization meeting of the company has been called for January 7th.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made that the North-Western Lumberman and the Timberman have been from the first of the year, consolidated into one publication, to be issued henceforth under the name of The American Lumberman, of which J. E. Defebaugh will be editor and W. B. Judson, business manager. The publication offices of The American Lumberman will be in the Manhattan building, 315 Dearborn street, Chicago. We take this opportunity of saying that for many years we have admired and appreciated the qualities of The Northwestern Lumberman as one of our most valued exchanges, which covered with marked ability the field of the lumber industry of the United States and Canada. As to The Timberman, we have not had the same opportunity of judging; but we are satisfied that the journal which henceforth will take the place of the two we have named will serve with fidelity and skill the important interests to which its allegiance is plighted. Success to The American Lumberman.

MR. R. R. HEDLEY, manager of the Hall mines smelter, who spent several months examining Boundary Creek properties, and who last year told The Monetary Times what he thought of the ores of the Boundary country, now says: "Speaking of possibilities, I consider that they are far greater in Boundary Creek district. There the variety is greater, and a perfectly self-fluxing ore is obtainable. Once transportation is had, development will be pushed, and plants will follow, ores will be treated both by direct smelting for matte, and by previous concentration. Should the coal on development prove to be of good coking quality, and in sufficient quantity, a plant with a large capacity will treat ore as cheaply as anywhere on the continent. Even in bringing in coke at a cost of \$12 per ton, laid down, I have no hesitation in saying that a 250-ton plant—two furnaces—using steam power, will smelt at a cost not to exceed \$3.25 per ton."

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Municipal Debentures bought and sold, also Government and Railway Bonds. Securities suitable for Investment by Trustees and Insurance Companies and or Deposit with the Government, always on hand.

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for the better has been in view for some time, and is yet more so to many. Live managers are improving their facilities and getting their plant to a higher standard of efficiciency, one point they pay particular attention to is-prevention of waste.

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A poor steam trap wastes more steam and the equivalent in fuel in a month than would pay for a HEINTZ. The Heintz is a steam saving device-so simple and durable-lasts a lifetime. Booklet D tells you all about it.

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THE JAMES MORRISON BRASS MFG. CO.

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Engineers' Specialties.

TORONTO

Notice The Toronto Railway Co'y.

The general annual meeting of the shareholders of the Toronto Railway Company for the election of a Board of Directors and the transaction of other but iness connected with or incident to the undertaking, will be held at the head offices of the Company, Toronto R. ilway Chambers, Tronto, at noon, on Wednesday, the 18th day of January, 1899.

The transfer books will be closed from the 7th to the 18th day of January, 1899, both days inclusive.

J. C. GRACE, Secretary Treasurer

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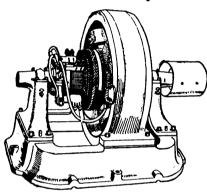
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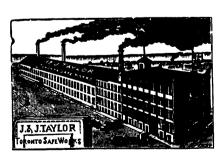
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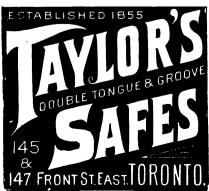


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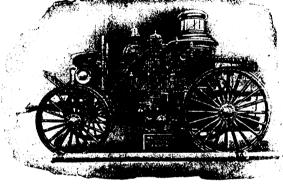
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ESTABLISHED 1866

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1899.

THE SITUATION.

There seems now to be a probability that the Newfoundland difficulty arising out of the Anglo-French treaty will be settled by compromise between the contracting powers. Taken by itself, this trouble was not felt to be great enough to risk a collision between the two parties to the treaty. But when, in course of time, other difficulties arose between them, the gravity of the situation called for a supreme effort to arrive at a settlement. To France, her Newfoundland treaty rights have lost much of their value: several years ago, officers of the French navy expressed the opinion that, as a recruiting ground, this station had lost most of its utility. It is not the treaty rights, fairly interpreted, that have given trouble; it is the persistent attempts to extend them, under specious pretences, that are responsible for the mischief. England, her energies taxed to a greater extent elsewhere, and obliged to waste her energies on questions that would not wait, found it convenient to temporize. France misinterpreted this action and persuaded herself that England would stand a little more pressure, here and there. of thing could not go on forever; the time came when England found it necessary to take a stand and ask a general settlement. That settlement may be made on principles perfectly equitable, so that neither party will suffer and both will gain, by release from the ultimate danger of war, which began to loom up, an unwelcome spectre to both nations. According to one account a money compensation for the treaty rights of France in Newfoundland is thought to be possible; but whether that or a cession of British territory in Sierra Leone, West Africa, which has been named as a possible alternative, it matters little, so that a final removal of an ever present source of trouble is made.

Almost ever since the first sitting of the International Commission at Quebec, there have been observable attempts to create the impression that England is pre pared to sacrifice the interests of Canada in the negotiations. This fear has a traditional basis which is not strictly true. In every country there is a party which is inimical to almost every treaty which the governing party for the time is able to make. Faults must be found in it as

a means of discrediting the party in power. When England made any treaty concerning Canada, the opposition party at home, was bound to pick holes in it. The cry thus raised was readily echoed in Canada, often by persons whose only knowledge of the merits of the treaty was confined to a review or newspaper article, and who on the strength of the knowledge thus obtained set up for authorities. It does not require a profound acquaintance with the facts on which the negotiations turned to convince any candid enquirer that the critics built their conclusions on unstable grounds. Some errors have been made: but it is not true that treaties dealing with Canada are a series of blunders and follies. There were generally as good reasons for making them as there have been for making others. The prejudice which assumes that England is prepared to sacrifice the interests of Canada, so far as its supposed historic basis goes, may be dismissed as unfounded. If any treaty be made now, it will be with the entire consent of the Canadian Government. The fact is there are interests in Canada which do not want reciprocity with the United States, and they are doing all in their power, by indirect means, to prevent it. But this does not account for all the suspicions that the interests of Canada may be sacrificed if any treaty be made.

While some of his own party are crying out for the abolition of the Senate, Sir Wilfrid Laurier tells them he is opposed to that measure; he believes, as experience abundantly proves, that two Chambers are necessary. His impeachment of the Senate is that it is irresponsible. This is true in the sense that it has no constituents to call it to account. Sir Wilfrid does not propose to make the Senate elective. His plan is that whenever a conflict arose between the two bodies there should be a joint vote of the two Chambers. This would not alter the constitution of the Senate, but would put a check upon it in certain cases The check might not always work. If the majority in the Senate outweighed that of the House, the effect of the joint vote would be to make the House a party to the Senate's views. In such disagreements there must be a possibility of the Senate being in the right. It will not do to ignore this possibility, to assume that the House of Commons must, in case of conflict, be always in the right and the Senate always in the wrong. Opinion is divided on the merits of the Senate's votes on the plan of extending the Intercolonial to Montreal and on the Lake Teslin railway. There is no reason to suppose that the Senate had any idea of doing more than what appeared to it as its duty. Senate may be far from perfect now, as the critics who seek its destruction affirm, but it scarcely adds to its usefulness to compel it to vote with a rope round its neck. Sir Wilfrid does not join those who seek the destruction of the Senate; his reform is a change of methods, which would clip its wings until the Administration feathers grow strong enough to cope with those of the Opposition. Whatever is done care should be taken not to attempt to punish the Senate for doing what it may reasonably have conceived to be its duty.

England has at last recognized that the State has a duty in connection with the inebriate. A law has just gone into force under which an individual, after a fourth conviction for drunkenness is to be treated as an habitual drunkard and confined in a reformatory at the expense of himself or his friends, if they be able to pay, or at the cost of the State if necessary. This ought to prove an effective method, as far as it will reach. It will not reach the secret inebriety of the well-to-do; it is difficult to see what would. It does not interfere with the liberty of third

parties, who are innocent; and its object is not punishment, but reform. Drunkenness is a disease, and the determination to treat it as such is the only rational method. When prohibition fails humanity need not despair when remedial methods are at hand. If a permanent cure is impossible, drunkenness will at least henceforth not be the only disease which no rational attempt to treat is made. Narcormania in which chloral, morphine, chlorodine, sulphonal and other narcotics take the place of spirits is a danger, as well as alcoholism, and as such needs to be guarded against.

It can scarcely be said that the Toronto mayoralty election, in the distribution of votes, was a surprise. There was something in the air that told that Macdonald, if he did not win, would poll a large vote; That he might win was deemed not impossible by his most implacable foes. He was not trusted; against his chief opponent no charges Many who almost of a serious nature have been proved. shuddered to think of the possible success of Macdonald half wished at times that he would succeed. The hope was that he would unearth wrongs in connection with a corporation which had had dealings with the city, a glimpse of which had already been obtained and the desire to discover what is behind was strong enough to hush the voice of prudence in voting for a man not fully trusted. And this was the more astonishing as Macdonald, when he had the chance of making the discovery, sold out to the enemy: a poor security for his future fidelity. But, in fact, he promised to do a great many things which were quite im-The time when anyone could have been prosepossible. cuted for any wrong doing in connection with the transfer of the Toronto Railway franchise has passed and nothing less than an ex post facto law could revive the opportunity. Mr. Macdonald, it is true, said he would, if elected, obtain legislation to get from the railway company the difference between the value of the concern and what was paid for the charter; but he must have known that he could not get legislation to give the city what it has no right to. The bargain with the city was, commercially considered, not a bad one; in fact it was an exceptionally good one, for the The bad thing was the cortime at which it was made. ruption which accompanied it. The danger to be guarded against is a repetition of that wrong when the term of the contract with the city expires. Meanwhile, what is the company doing? Was its hand felt in the contest of Monday? If so in what form?

POSTAL ARRANGEMENT.

The reduction of the Canadian internal postage from three to two cents is not universally welcomed. From those who stand to profit by the change, thanks to the Postmaster-General are due; others, a much larger number, to whom it is likely to mean loss, say nothing in its praise. Considering the great distances which Canadian mail matter has to be carried, a three cents postage is relatively lower than a penny postage in England. In a small island, swarming with an active, energetic population, the reduced rate did wonders, even from the evenue point of view; here, two-cent postage may increase the number of letters, but it is not likely to do so sufficiently to prevent a loss of revenue. A good rule in Government enterprises is to make them self-sustaining. Until all expenses are returned there is no surplus in the shape of profit. Whether a tax should be added, if the operation be final, ought to depend upon its incidence. If it were proportioned to the ability to pay, equity

would recommend it, though it would not determine whether this particular tax ought to be collected. There is reason to fear that the present reduction of postage will cause a deficit which must be filled by a new tax. If those who benefit by the reduction could be made to pay exclusively no harm would be done, but this is impossible, and we shall have two results from the change; some persons will receive benefits paid for out of the public treasury, and the void thus made in the cash will have to be filled by others who are not specially favored. Here are two forms of injustice, one in the shape of favoritism incidental to the operation of the law, another in the form of payment by those who do not benefit, as a consequence of the exemption of those who do. No one pretends that payment for such services can, in all cases, be exactly adjusted; this is impossible, but a broad line of distinction can be drawn. The sender of many letters gets a premium on his correspondence when they are carried at less than cost, and this premium has to be paid by the drinkers of tea or the users of whatever article the tax is put on to make up the deficiency falls. A thousand men and women will be chagrined for every fifty who are gratified.

The Premier, speaking at Montreal, limits the deficit which the reduction of postage to two cents will occasion, to \$200,000, in amount, and, in time, to two or three years. If this estimate be realized, the act will go far to produce its own justification. The prediction will be remembered whether the hopeful view be realized or not. The post office reform on which Mr. Mulock has entered will cause his administration to be remembered. But there is yet work to be done in the Department, by doing which someone will, one day, win new laurels. The master abuse of the Department is the carrying of an enormous weight of newspapers at the public expense. There is no more reason why people should have newspapers delivered free than anything else necessary to the comfort and convenience of civilized men. If anything is to be carried free the most necessary would have a prior claim; food and fuel would both come before newspapers. The chief defenders of the exemption are the publishers, by whom two pleas are put forward: one in the name of education, the other in the name of religion. There must be some point in the age of man at which state education shall cease; as for religion, Parliament pledged itself to cease to charge itself with the propogation of the peculiar views of any denomination when in secularizing the clergy reserves, it made the declaration that all semblance of connection between Church and State ought to be abolished. The trouble is that the newspapers are powerful, and like other people, are selfish, and no minister likes to brave their opposition. From the economic point of view, one of the most essential things for Canada to do is to put such services at the post office on a self-sustaining basis. This could only be done as a whole; there must be some small post offices that will not pay, but even these should not be unduly increased. The ideal aim should be to make all such services pay, not necessarily a revenue, but their own cost. If this were done in the post office and forced on the newspapers, they would in time acknowledge the justice of the rule, and aid in its extension to other services similarly situated, if such could be found.

We do not object, as some do, to making journals pay the post office for their carriage. But we do object to the empirical way in which it is proposed to discriminate in favor of some local journals by allowing them to select the area which their circulation shall cover. The making of a free zone for a certain class of papers works injustice in this respect, that it frees almost entirely local papers throughout the country, while it imposes nearly the whole

burden of the tax upon papers of a wide general circulation. We know of one instance where a journal having a circulation of 4,500 would, by the operation of this act, benefit to the extent of only 110 copies. On the other hand, a paper having a local circulation of an equal number would pay no postage at all. Mr. Mulock, we are assured, will see the injustice of such an arrangement.

THE YEAR 1898 IN THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

The year 1898 must be pronounced an uncommonly satisfactory one to the average wholesale dealer in dry goods. This testimony is general among Montreal houses as well as Ontario houses. When asked for particulars, however, the experience of different houses shows variation. For example, one house says that its sales have increased by nearly \$200,000 over the previous year, and the proportion of its customers who took discounts for cash is much increased. But another house, in another city, says we have not increased our sales much, if anything, but we were better paid and got a better margin of profit in 1898.

One thing is very marked, the decrease in failures, which, as we show elsewhere, is in the proportion of nearly thirty per cent. less than in 1897. Then again, prices of textiles have been generally maintained throughout the year. This is perhaps the case more markedly in woolens than in cottons. Very few opportunities were afforded by Canadian textile mills of offering job lots or overflows during the twelve months last past. Indeed the mills have been so busily engaged that they had no chance or occasion to offer jobs. At various times throughout the year, indeed, it was difficult to get delivery of orders for domestic stuff, and in imported woolen goods, especially dress goods, there was frequently delay in getting orders filled, while prices showed a constant tendency to advance.

It is not an uncommon experience that the cash receipts of the year, either in improved payment of biils or in cash over the counter, were larger than for years. In this respect probably the dry goods trade was not exceptional. A considerable increase in volume of sales is announced by houses in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and London in various lines of merchandise.

Retailers, so far as we are able to judge, have also had a generally satisfactory year. They have paid better as a rule, and therefore must be supposed to have been better paid by their customers. A good holiday trade was done, and profits were, if anything, better than in some former years.

Manufacturers of textiles have shown better conditions, perhaps, in woolens than in cottons. Knitted goods, while not by any means showing satisfactory results, have certainly not suffered from untoward conditions to the extent of some former years.

MERCANTILE FAILURES IN CANADA AND THE STATES.

Twelve months ago, when writing on this subject, we said that both wholesale and retail merchants might find some comfort for the future in the fact of a lessening in failures during 1897. This lessening is even more pronounced in the year just closed. The failures of 1898 for Canada will not be given by Dun & Co. until next week. We therefore adopt those of Bradstreet. The failures in the Dominion of Canada this year number 1,427, against 1,907 a year ago, while the liabilities involved aggregate only \$9,644,000 this year, indicat-

ing a decrease of 24 per cent. in number and of 85 per cent in liabilities. This is indeed the smallest number and liabilities involved reported for at least seven years past in Canada. It is significant of a much improved state of mercantile affairs that not only were the failed liabilities very greatly lessened, but the proportion of assets to liabilities, which was 39.4 per cent. in 1897, had increased to 42.8 per cent in 1898. The failures by provinces are as under:

	No. of failures		Liabilities	
	1898	1897	1898	1897
Ontario	633	866	3,832,697	5,201,159
Quebec	500	669	3,910,782	5,599,743
New Brunswick	7 8	62	417,666	380,667
Nova Scotia	125	181	650,415	976,729
Prince Edward Island.	4	10	35,900	84,292
Manitoba	29	43	329,486	470,397
Northwest Territory	6	10	57,000	78, 342
British Columbia	52	66	410,154	356,600
Totals	1,427	1,907	9,644,100	13,147,929

It is seen that every province but two shows a decrease in 1898 compared with the previous year. These two are New Brunswick and British Columbia. A decrease in the average liabilities per failure of from \$6,894 each in 1897 to \$6,758 last year:

In	1895	1,876,	owing	\$15,347,000
**	1896	2,179,	**	16,208,000
"	1897	1,907,	**	13,147,929
**	1898	1.427.	**	9.644.120

According to the figures furnished by the Mercantile Agency of R. G. Dun & Co., the failures of 1898 in the United States were 12,192 in number, with liabilities amounting to \$148,684,251, which is a great decline from 1897, when the aggregate of failures was \$182,581,771, and in preceding years even greater. Bradstreet's tabulation makes the number of failures last year somewhat less, viz., 11,638 and their aggregate liabilities \$141,187,000, as compared with \$156,166,000 in 1897. Correspondingly, every preceding year since 1892 had shown larger liabilities than 1898. The difference between the aggregates of the two agencies for the United States is not serious, being but five per cent.

AMALGAMATION OF LOAN COMPANIES.

Negotiations have been going on for months having for their object the amalgamation of some of the mortgage loan companies in Toronto. Competition for mortgage loans had become excessive, not only among such companies themselves, but among insurance companies and private lenders, while the rate of interest upon mortgages had been steadily falling for years. This rate has now reached a point where the margin between the interest at which money can be borrowed on debenture in Great Britain and the rate at which it can be loaned on land here is too small to yield a sufficient profit after expenses of management are paid and allowance made for possible losses on loans. Hence it was thought, by influential shareholders of several leading loans companies, to be the part of wisdom to lessen both competition and expense of management by making one company out of several. The scheme, as at first proposed, intended the amalgamation of only two, the Freehold and the Western Canada, but within the past few weeks its scope has widened, and on Wednesday last, at a meeting of representatives of all four, it was agreed that the interests of not only the companies mentioned, but of the Canada Permanent and the London and Ontario should unite.

The consolidation of these four into one will result in

a large strong company with approximately six millions of capital paid up, thus:

Canada Permanent\$2,600	,000
Western 1,500	,000
Freehold	,100
London and Ontario 550	,000
Total capital paid up	,100

Application will at once be made for a charter for the new company, probably to the Dominion as well as to the Provincial authorities, since concurrent legislation is deemed desirable in such a matter. It may be pointed out, besides, that while the three larger companies were incorporated under the Building Societies' Act of 1859, the London and Ontario was incorporated under a private Act.

All four of these companies lend money in Manitoba as well as in Ontario. Two of them are forty years of age or more, the Western thirty-five and the London and Ontario twenty, and they are well-known to the farming community of both provinces, who have been their clients for years. We give a brief resumé of the assets and liabilities of each:

Canada Permanent.

CANADA PERMANENT.	
Assets.	
Mortgages on real estate	10,605,658
Municipal debentures	150,965
Office buildings, Toronto and Winnipeg	194,133
Cash	301,025
Other assets	133,055
Total assets	11,384,836
Liabilities.	
Deposits	\$ 936,73 4
Debentures and deb. stock	6,505,964
Capital paid	2,600,000
Reserved funds and other	1,342,138
Total líabilities	\$11,384,836
WESTERN CANADA LOAN COMPANY.	
Assets.	
Mortgage loans	\$6,343,338
Office premises, Toronto and Winnipeg	129,848
Cash on hand and in banks	294,160
	\$6,767,346
Liabilities.	
Deposits	3 782,497
Debentures	3,651,431
Capital paid	1,500,000
Reserve funds and other	833,318
	00 505 040
FREEHOLD LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY	\$ 6,767,246
	•
Assets.	
Mortgages, etc	\$5,125,811
Office building	200,000
Cash	261,069
Total assets	\$5,586,880
Liabilities.	
Deposits	\$ 439,288
Debentures	3,447,216
Capital paid	1,319,100
Reserve and other	381,276
Total liabilities	
London and Ontario Investment Comp.	
Assets.	ANY.
	40 650 707
Municipal debentures	
Other assets	84,529
	26 ,920
Total assets	\$ 2,771,236
Liabilities.	
Debentures	
Capital paid	
Other	177,395
Total liabilities	

In compiling these statistics we have taken the latest available figures of each company. The fiscal year of the Western and the Canada Permanent closed on December 31st, 1897; that of the Freehold on the 30th April, 1898, and of the London and Ontario on 30th June, 1898. Here is an aggregate of \$24,784,544 loaned on mortgage by the four companies, whose joint capital paid up amounts to \$5,969,100. The debenture liability of these companies is not far from \$15,000,000, and it is desirable that the new company shall be at once in such shape as to ensure the confidence of British debenture-holders, who are by far the largest creditors. This, we should think, is eminently likely to be secured by a strong company whose capital will be fully paid up and whose executive will be composed of a group of the best known and most capable men in Ontario.

Another feature of the new arrangement is this, that besides reducing expenses and lessening competition, it is hoped to secure greater scope for the new concern in the way of increasing its powers of doing business in other directions. A new act introduced last session by Hon. Mr. Mills, confers enlarged powers on land loaning companies, for both borrowing and investing. These may be availed of by the amalgamated companies, a name for which has not yet been chosen.

The names of the gentlemen selected to act as officers of a provisional board are as follows: President, George Gooderham; vice-presidents, J. Herbert Mason and Wm. H. Beatty; manager, Walter S. Lee. The name of Mr. Gooderham is synonymous in this country with wealth, good sense and honorable dealing. Mr. Mason has long been acknowledged to be at the head of the loan company managers of the province, Mr. Beatty is a shrewd business man and a successful lawyer. Mr. Lee, as the management of his own company has shown, is possessed of good financial judgment and powers of administration.

While we are not able to go into details at present, we know enough to enable us to congratulate debenture holders, depositors and shareholders alike, on the outlook, as it is evident that their vested interests will not only be well conserved by the arrangement proposed, but their security itself cannot reasonably fail to be greatly strengthened.

MARINE INSURANCE—LOSSES ON THE LAKES.

The season of navigation last past was one of the most disastrous to steam and sail craft ever known on the Great Lakes of North America, and the insurance losses by the numerous wrecks were very serious. Three millions of dollars is probably a fair estimate of the value of property lost. Neither the owners of ships nor the insurers of them seem quite satisfied as to the cause of the increased ratio of loss, and the subject has caused both classes some enquiry and discussion. The opinion has been hazarded, however, that poor seamanship and inadequate crews have a good deal to do with many of the modern wrecks. And in this connection it is a significant fact that a lake underwriting syndicate is offering, through its manager, prizes to lake captains and mates who pass the best examination in the course given at the Chicago nautical school.

The subject of modern poor seamanship on the lakes and its effects is discussed in a recent issue of the Chicago Investigator, which reminds us that the number of men in the crew of a lake boat averages, to-day, one half the number employed twenty years ago. "A certain reduction was perhaps warranted by a change of rig, but in the opinion of competent authorities lake vessels are now generally

undermanned, and many of the so-called sailors employed have very little more knowledge of their adopted profession han a porter on South Water street. There is also a tendency at present to pitchfork into the command of lake craft men who do not possess the proper practical requirements. A nautical school for lake captains and mates is a good thing, but no seamanship taught at a nautical school can replace a knowledge acquired by practical experience before the mast." The following instance of how a real sailor can manage a sailing vessel and a land lubber can mismanage a steamship in the same storm, is given. "Only a few weeks since during a storm on the lakes, a tow rope broke and a fine steamer and her consort parted company. The captain of the steamer ran his ship before the wind and wrecked her on the rocks of a lee shore while, as he explained, looking for his consort. The captain of the consort (which had no steam) being a sailor and having good sails, kept his boat up to the wind and finally brought her into port."

Seamen are often reckless, indeed they are proverbially so. But when their recklessness gets them into trouble in bad weather their sailorly skill can be exercised to get them out of it. The sham sailor, on the other hand, if he should indulge in recklessness in imitation of the real sailor, has not the skill and experience of the latter to help him out of the scrapes he gets into. It seems indeed, as if both ship owners and marine underwriters are getting, of late years, to despise the dangers of these great lakes of ours, from 200 to 500 miles in length, each. People who own steel steamers of 4,000 tons or who are called on to insure them, scorn to regard a trip from Duluth to Buffalo, even in December, as implying any serious danger to a splendid 300 foot, 16-mile steamship. But there are forces in nature which one is not taught how to combat by going so many weeks to a nautical school.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINES ABROAD.

In referring last week to the fact of a reference to the Western gold fields of Canada by Mr. A. J. Wilson, in the Investor's Review, of London, England, we stated that for once that erratic individual had said nothing abusive of Canada, but had come perilously near praising her as having, he is compelled to admit, some gold ores really worth attention. Since then we have seen what is of much greater importance, and that is a lengthy report upon The Mines of British Columbia, by a special mining commissioner of the London Economist. It is generally admitted that any opinion expressed editorially by the Economist is worthy of consideration. We may be equally sure that the opinion of anyone chosen by that journal as a special mining commissioner is likely to be of value. And the importance to Canada of a favorable opinion upon her mines from such a source is quite apparent when the influence of that journal in English financial circles is borne in mind.

This gentleman has made, his report tells us, a tolerably comprehensive inspection of Rossland Camp, the neighborhood of Nelson and the Slocan district and an odd mine here and there elsewhere in British Columbia. And this has fully convinced him that "that country may be included amongst the great mineralized areas of the world." He explains that his remarks apply principally to the Kootenay district, "throughout large areas of which gold, silver, lead and copper, either by themselves or in association, are found in great, though not necessarily payable, quantities." And he goes on to say that this rich mineral area continues south over the boundary into the State of Washington, which also is a great mineral State.

But while admitting that "the outlook for the country (Kootenay) for the next two or three years is indeed a bright one," especially when the Crow's Nest Pass and other roads are finished, this writer does not see much in it for English capital. The reason he gives is that "most of the mines and prospects are owned and entirely controlled by Canadian and American shareholders," and therefore English capital cannot benefit here as it did in Africa or Australia. That is to say, the Englishmen not having got hold of the mines or prospects at first hand are not so likely to take hold of them at all. Our readers may believe as much of this as they please, but we are scarcely convinced by the writer's logic.

Another thing which detracts from what the Economist's commissioner calls the "theoretically pleasing outlook" is that the English-floated British Columbian companies to date are a poor selection; and further, that the Athabasca and Ymir, two promising mines recently floated, are absurdly over-capitalized, that the hydraulic worked placer mines are all disappointments, and that "in fact there are hardly any London-floated B.C. companies which have been successful." A tolerably dismal summary this. But in the very same paragraph he concludes by saying that "the prospects for the country are very promising."

What does he mean? our readers may ask. Does he mean that the English shareholders in these concerns have had worthless properties foisted on them, or merely that the prices paid for these properties were excessive and hence they are unremunerative; or can he mean that the methods of management, some of them English methods, have been faulty? Not having an answer ready to our mind we leave the writer in his quandary, for he declares that, great as the country's future as a mineral producer must be "how that future is in practice going to benefit the English financial or mining world is to the writer somewhat of a mystery." This is in effect saying:

If she be not fair for me What care I how fair she be.

And yet we don't think it is exactly English, this attitude of avowing that while the country is rich in minerals and must have a great future we Englishmen will let it severely alone because Americans and Canadians got the first finger in the pie. What has become of the English enterprise, the English skill, the English pluck we used to hear about?

Still, there is a portion of the letter with which we can agree heartily. We shall quote it in full:

"Several other unfavorable features in connection with British Columbian mines remain to be notified. The population, as is usual with a new mining country, has an exceedingly hazy and exaggerated view of the value of any given mine or district. These hazy utterances and opinions find their way by the hundred into the local Press, where they are again magnified and written up out of all recognition. From here all this rubbish finds its way to England, where it no doubt does a lot of harm, and the actual facts about the country and the mines are totally lost sight of. Even the local papers that profess to be of a semi-official nature, and devoted entirely to mining, fill half their columns, issue after issue, with pure hearsay and irresponsible gossip. The American methods of share speculation in vogue in British Columbia do not tend to introduce financial soundness. The absurd tendency to capitalize the least prospect with a capital of 1,000,000 \$1 shares gives everyone an exaggerated idea of true mining values; so much so, that many of the more soundlybalanced engineers representing exploration and mining

corporations advised their companies to have nothing to do with the country until people there have come to their financial senses."

MERCHANTS THEIR OWN UNDERWRITERS.

A subscriber who had read the quoted article on the necessity of merchants keeping well insured, Monetary Times, Dec. 30, page 873, sends us a clipping from an American journal quoting the address before the Fire Underwriters' Association by Mr. Higginbotham, a prominent wholesale dry goods merchant in Chicago. Said that gentleman:

"I frequently find a customer or would-be customer without insurance arguing that he had a right to insure himself, sometimes because the building he occupies is isolated or specially well constructed, and sometimes for the reason that the buildings are poor and the rate is too high and he cannot afford to pay it. I have always advised against such a plan, and not infrequently have been compelled to decline or restrict the amount of credit because the customer persisted in carrying his own insurance."

And the comment of the American journal agrees with what many in Canada have found, that self-insurance, wholly or in part, has often proved to be a broken reed on which the business man has sought to lean; and the creditor has had ample occasion to become wise after the event. Insurance is a bulwark against unforeseen disaster which no business man can safely ignore in these days. . . . Prudent banks and wholesale merchants are alive to the importance of insurance—reliable insurance—as a basis of credit, but not all of either class are prudent and are likely sooner or later to pay for their imprudence.

STEEL TRADE ACTIVITY.

A good deal is heard of late from American sources about the growth of exports of iron and steel goods from the United States. And many American journals, who take no pains to understand the true state of the case, boastfully say that the great United States is licking all the European creation in iron and steel. Doubtless the resources and abilities of the Americans are very great in this direction. But they have not surpassed all the European nations just yet. Here is something from The Iron and Coal Trades Review, of London, on the subject; which shows a quiet confidence and a by no means waning trade:

"Both as to quality and value, our exports of iron and steel this year fall below the records for last year and for 1896 Inerhans by reason of shrinkage in prices, and yet on all sides and from all sources we learn that our manufacturers are and have been throughout this year more actively employed than they were in 1897 or 1896. We are able to view with equanimity the contraction in our exports, seeing that it is a fact that the home demand for iron and steel has been so great that the surplus available for export has been limited. This week we learn that a contract has been concluded with the Carnegie Company of Pittsburgh for the supply of 32,000 tons of steel plates for shipment to Perth, Western Australia, for the Coolgardie waterworks. This contract, we shall be told, proves that our manufacturing supremacy is gone, and that America can heat us in our own markets. Our explanation is that all our makers of steel plates have their mills blocked with work, and no one here would undertake to give delivery within the required time. Mr. Carnegie has talked about his surplus make and his intention of dumping it on our markets. Fortunately, we have not at present, nor are we likely to have for many months, any surplus make to dump in Mr. Carnegie's or anyone else's mar-The full quantity of steel required for the Coolgardie contract is 70,000 tons, and the whole will not be needed for two or three years, and if it should happen that the boom in the steel trade has spent itself before the second half of the contract is placed, it is more than likely that the business will

Here is another instance, extracted from The Birmingham Hardware Trade Journal, which will bear reading. Says that paper: "It is a remarkable thing, but it is true, that in our

largest Sheffield establishments American machinery for the manufacture of war material is being increasingly used every month. At one of the establishments the representative of our contemporary was informed that the principals would gladly prefer British-made machinery, but that they simply could not get it, and in one case where a heavy order had been equally divided between English, Scotch and American manufacturers. the only machines delivered were those from America-a fact which has led the firm to place further orders with the same people. This evil, it will be well to remember, began with the engineers' protracted strike. Then all our British machine makers fell into heavy arrears, and the Americans, sharp enough to take advantage of the occurrence, stepped into the breach, have kept hold of the market, and are doing a bigger and better business every day. Thus, the evil that strikes do lives after them. Still, it is not easy to understand why British firms cannot increase their facilities of output so as to make deliveries on a greater scale than they do. It is notorious that at this moment thousands upon thousands of pounds' worth of good work is going abroad simply because British manufacturers. who would prefer to place the work in their own country, cannot get what they want on this side."

GROWTH OF THE WESTERN CATTLE TRADE.

A very significant statement of the growth of the cattle ranching business in Assiniboia is given in The Medicine Hat News. That paper shows by comparisons that the Cypress Hills ranching district is forging ahead. Every branch of the business for 1898 has shown increases when compared with other seasons. The increase over 1897 exceeds 80 per cent. The following figures are interesting. They are arranged from data gathered from several sources. The superintendent of N.W.M.P., Maple Creek; Stock Inspector Bray, Stock Inspector Douglas, C.P.R. Agent McLean of Maple Creek: manager of the Canadian Land and Ranch company's sheep farm at Swift Current, and from others:

CATTLE,

CATTLE.	
Exports from Medicine Hat, 4.131 head	\$156.97 ⁸
Exports from Maple Creek, 4,032 head	153,216
Exports from other points, 714 head	27,132
Slaughtered for home consumption, 751	28,538
	\$365,864
HORSES.	
Exports from Medicine Hat, 43 head	\$ 2,150
Exports from Maple Creek, 242 head	12,100
Exports from other points, 32 head	1,600
	\$ 15,850
SHEEP.	, ,
Exports from Medicine Hat, 5,450 head	\$ 17,690
Exports from Maple Creek, 6,434 head	
Exports from Swift Current, 4,365 head	14,186
Slaughtered for home consumption, 1.000 head	3,250
	\$ 56,249
WOOL.	, ,
Exports from Medicine Hat, 120,000 lbs	\$ 10,800
Exports from Maple Creek, 194,100 lbs	
Exports from Swift Current, 69,228 lbs	6,230
SUMMARY.	\$ 34,499
9,628 cattle at \$38 per head	
317 horses at \$50 per head	
17,249 sheep at \$3.25 per head	
383,328 lbs. wool at 9c. per lb	
Hides shipped	
Ranch and creamery products, butter, eggs, etc	. 25,038
i .	

In figuring out the values of the different classes of ranch products very conservative figures were taken; \$38 per head for cattle, \$3.25 per head for sheep, \$50 per head for horses, 9c.

per pound for wool. These prices, The News thinks, are well within the mark.

Four thousand six hundred and forty head of cattle were brought into the district during 1898; 567 head of horses, and 161 head of sheep. Of the cattle 62 head were thoroughbreds for breeding purposes and the balance stockers. Among the horses were a number of well-bred animals. All the sheep imports were thoroughbred bucks for breeding purposes.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada held on the 29th inst. its twenty-sixth annual convention in this city. The president, Mr. R. J. Orr, occupied the chair, and a number of prominent business men were on the platform. After an address from Mr. Blaney Scott, on the advantages of insurance in the benefit association: Mr. P. H. Burton, of Totonto, dealt at some length with the subject of frauds upon the Customs, closing his remarks by moving the following resolution, which was adopted:

"That the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada. in annual meeting assembled, hereby declare that it has become a matter of common notoriety that the frauds upon the Customs by producing for Customs purposes false invoices in which the true value of goods entered is much underrated, so as to pay less than the proper amount of duty, have frequently been practised to the detriment of honest importing; that the niembers of this association, while competing against one another for business, seek to do so in a friendly spirit, and above board, and do not want to be stabbed in the back by unfair competition; that this is a matter affecting all trades, because of the principle involved and the precedents likely to be established; that the Government have enacted certain laws for the protection of the revenue and for proper punishment of all such frauds, so that those who commit these frauds do so with their eyes wide open as to the risks they run; that this association. representing 4.399 members, engaged in the various trades and industries of the country, knowing well the conditions and difficulties of business, desire most emphatically to say that in their of inion no compromises should be made, but that the decision of all such cases should be left to the court of justice, thus affording all parties an opportunity of being publicly heard."

The annual report of the board of directors was then submitted and read by the secretary. It stated that the total membership on November 30th, 1897, was 4.253; the present number is 4,399, an increase of 146. During the year 35 mortuary payments had been made. The accident bonuses amounted to \$1,173. The report also outlined an insurance scheme for increasing the funds of the association, which was explained more at length by Mr. M. C. Ellis. The report recommended that the maximum mortuary benefit for 1890 be fixed at \$1,000.

The financial statement was then read by the secretary. It showed that as a result of the year's business a balance of \$12,608 had been placed to permanent reserve, which now makes that fund \$285,543. The assets are \$291,543. The relief fund statement showed that \$615 had been paid in claims, leaving a balance of \$117.

The report of the scrutineers was then read and the following officers who had been ballotted for declared elected:

Second vice-president, Wm. Caldwell; Toronto Board, S. M. Sterling, Thomas McQuillan, L. A. Howard, Thomas Blake, G. West, Geo. A. Henderson, Arthur Hatch, W. T. Smith, H. Godman; Hamilton Board, Jas. Hooper, H. G. Wright, F. T. Smythe, T. P. Allan, W. G. Reid, J. H. Herring; Berlin Board, M. A. Whiting, A. Foster; Kingston Board, M. S. Sutherland, W. S. Murch. A discussion occurred on the proposition to reduce the salary of Secretary Sergeant from \$1.800 to \$1,500 a year. The motion was finally defeated, only two members voting for it.

The by-law fixing the number of members of the Board of Directors at three was amended to read five.

Messrs. R. J. Orr, C. C. Van Norman and John Burns were appointed on the Industrial Exhibition Board.

Mr. C. E. Kyle, the new president, and Mr. M. C. Ellis, the new first vice. who were both elected by acclamation, were then installed, and made short addresses.

THE BOUNDARY DISTRICT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

It has been common to hear strongly favorable accounts of various newly exploited districts in a mining region. have heard most rosy accounts of certain finds of ore in Ontario and British Columbia which longer experience has not altogether justified. But the favorable opinions formed of the mineral riches of the Boundary District in West Kootenay, B.C., two or three years ago, have been repeatedly confirmed. Our readers have learned that three banks have within the last few months established branches there, confident of great activity and growth as a consequence of railway communication by means of the Crow's Nest Pass road and its extension. the Kettle River road. A former resident of Toronto, Mr. Richard Armstrong, who has been spending the Christmas holidays in Ontario, states that already there is a population of 1,000 at Grand Forks, the chief town of the district. It is situated at the junction of the North Fork and Kettle rivers. The mineral deposits throughout the district consist largely of gold and coal. The famous Knobb Hill. Ironside, Stemwinder and Winnipeg mines are near Grand Forks. But more than this, he declares that there is capital farming land around it, and he describes crops of 100 bushels of oats and 500 bushels potatoes per acre as being grown close by. Fruit grows abundantly out there, and owing to the situation in the valley the winters are short and but little cold ever comes. Mr. Armstrong is president of the Board of Trade of Grand Forks.

WHITHER DRIFTING?

BY D. A. HEALD,

President Home Insurance Company.

The following interesting paper, by an acknowledged authority in the field of American fire underwriting, is taken from the anniversary number of The United States Review. There are several more valuable contributions to that admirable issue, which we should like to reprint:

That the great interests of fire insurance have begun to drift away from the principles and safeguards that have always been regarded by sound underwriters as essential to success, cannot be denied. To act upon the assumption that the average of fire losses characterizing the past three years could be reasonably expected or safely calculated upon as the basis for a general and sweeping reduction in rates was in utter violation of fundamental principles and wholly unjustified by the history of our business and the lessons taught by the admitted results of that business. While it is true that the rates of these three years yielded a fair average profit, and if the average fire losses of these years could have been counted upon to continue in the future, might have been safely reduced for improvements and quality of risks, there certainly was no data for a general reduction, taking the results of the last seven years, including the past three favorable years as a basis on which to adjust such medification. The results of all the companies doing business in the State of New York in 1891 to 1897, inclusive, gave a net profit of 2 16-100 on the fire premiums, irrespective of the unearned liability which was increased somewhat, and would thus far have reduced the percentage of profit.

Now, this was the experience of 131 of the largest and oldest companies, and certainly cannot be considered an undue profit. or one, all things considered, as justifying a general reduction on all classes without reference to quality or the experience of classes or risks. If we take the results of 148 companies doing business in the State of New York, from the date of their organization up to and including 1890, we shall find a larger profit; being for that longer period, 3 47-100 as against 2 16-100 for the seven years. The law of average is inexorable in our business, and no permanent calculation can be safely based on the results of a single year or the apparent average of a few years of favorable experience. We must expect a period of years to bring out its average for the whole time, however it may be reduced for a year or a lesser term, so that to disregard the law and base our action upon an exceptional term would seem to be as unwise as it is unsafe. Now, admitting the rates as being too high, considering the exceptionally low average of losses for three years, how should the subject be met? By a sweeping clean cut of 25 per cent. or 30 per cent. on all risks, good, bad, or indifferent, or by a careful examination of each risk, or class of risks, and adjusting a new rate, moderate and adequate to meet the character of each risk and the results of previous underwriting of each class, which might have been done easily by the Boards of Underwriters and the machinery at their command?

This mode of reduction was so excessive and illogical in its operation that it failed altogether of its purpose, to reduce rates to a safe, intelligent, and satisfactory adjustment to actual condition and hazard of property. The evil of competition which it sought to cure was increased thereby, and within a short time all rates were declared open or disregarded if held at all, and instead of modifying rates, if too high, they were thrown to the winds, and a ruinous scramble for business at almost any rate was entered upon to a very considerable extent, though not universally. The door once opened could not be kept within its limits, but has been opened wide and to an extent that has excited the alarm of the insured and the ridicule of all respectable underwriters.

Thus far has this fatal and false step drifted these great interests, and it may be well to enquire whither this strong current of demoralization will carry us, unless the fatal action is recalled with a return to a reasonable tariff of rates based upon the average fire costs of a series of years, and adjusted with This drift will be intelligence to each subject of insurance. fearfully increased when the inadequacy of the reinsurance reserve calculated upon these low rates is shown to be wholly unable to meet the average of losses sure to attach to pending risks. If taken at once, the fearful result may be remedied before the evil has grown so great as to become incurable from united action. To a prudent underwriter the drift for the past eight months has been portentous of serious results, and he only will be worthy of his profession if he can check the current by united efforts with others, or, if alone, has the courage and ability to stand for the principles of sound underwriting.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS DINE.

When several commercial travellers meet to dine a good time is assured, but when one hundred and thirty of these gentlemen sit down at the banquet table a feast of wit, oratory and good things is generally certain to follow. The Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association banqueted at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, on the evening of January 29th. Mr. Max Murdock, the newly elected president of the association, presided, making a very efficient chairman. On rising to speak he was vigorously applauded, and had to wait while the company pronounced him "all right." Mr. Murdock read a telegram of regret from Mr. Jas. Croil, the vice-president, who had been delayed six hours on his way to the city. Mr. Murdock thanked the members for the honor conferred in electing him to the highest office in the association. He was pleased to say that the affairs of the association had been handed over to the new directors in good condition, to the great credit of the retiring There were several things Mr. Murdock wanted to There exists an iniquitous law in Prince Edward Island, viz., the tax on commercial travellers, which should be abrogated. Better terms should be obtained from the railway companies-a two-cent rate with the privilege of carrying five hundred pounds of baggage would please the travelling fraternity. A large field for effort and improvement exists, he declared, in the hotels all over Canada. These homes of the commercial traveller might be improved and made more comfortable in many ways-better sample-room accommodation is also required. In this respect a lesson may be learned from the Canadian Wheelmen's Association, which has, by united effort, secured the best accommodation for a reduced price in most of the good hotels. Mr. Murdock closed by proposing the health of Her Majesty the Queen, which was loyally supported. The following list of toasts, spoken to by the gentlemen named. was then proceeded with:

Our Commercial Interests—Mr. J. B. Rolland. Dry Goods Trade—Mr. Kearney.

Hardware—Mr. Brewster.

Groceries—Mr. Laporte and Mr. Chaput.

Boots and Shoes-Messrs. Robertson, Colvin and Lefaivre. Drugs and Chemicals-Mr. David Watson.

Commission Agents-Mr. S. Woods.

Clothing-Mr. Wilkins.

Bicycles-Mr. T. T. Cartwright.

Millinery and Fancy Goods-Mr. N. Tucker.

Paints and Oils-Mr. LeSueur.

We regret that lack of space prevents us from giving a more detailed account of this most successful banquet.

AMALGAMATION OF TRUST COMPANIES.

On Friday last the shareholders of the Toronto General Trusts Company and those of the Trusts Corporation of Ontario, met to consider the amalgamation of these two concerns. The result was the ratification of the deed of amalgamation. There was no dissenting voice. Shareholders to the extent of \$870,000 out of \$1,000,000 in the Toronto General Trusts Company were represented; while out of \$1,000,000 of the Trusts Corporation, those present represented \$785,000. It only needs now that the legislature confirm the union by an Act of Parliament, which will be asked for at the coming session.

The provisional directors number 27, but it has been arranged to reduce them to 15, as soon as circumstances will permit. The board consists of John Hoskin, Q.C. LL.D., Hon. S. C. Wood, W. H. Beatty, Samuel Alcorn, John L. Blaikie, W. R. Brock, B. Homer Dixon, J. J. Foy, Q.C., George Gooderham, H. S. Howland, Aemilius Irving, Q.C., Robert Jaffray, J. J. Kenny, J. W. Langmuir, A. B. Lee, Thomas Long, W. D. Matthews, E. A. Meredith, LL.D., E. B. Osler, Sir Frank Smith, J. G. Scott, Q.C., T. Sutherland Stayner, B. E. Walker, Toronto; John Bell, Q.C., Belleville; J. W. Digby, M.D., Brantford; William Hendrie, Hamilton; and Hon, Peter McLaren, Perth.

The deed of amalgamation provides that John Hoskin, Q.C., shall be the first president of the amalgamated company; Hon. S. C. Wood, 1st vice-president, and W. H. Beatty, 2nd vice-president. Mr. J. W. Langmuir is to be the managing director, Mr. A. E. Plummer, 1st assistant manager, and Mr. A. D. Langmuir second assistant manager.

The new company has it in view to extend its business, and negotiations are on foot to open a branch in Montreal. When the amalgamation is approved of, the present offices of the Toronto General Trusts Company will be enlarged to accommodate the business of both, and the present premises of the Trusts' Corporation will be vacated.

The new company is to have a capital of \$1,000.000, all paid up, with a reserve of \$250.000, and a contingent fund of about \$200,000. The present capital of the Toronto General Trusts Company is \$1,000,000, of which 25 per cent, is paid up. Of the Trusts Corporation's capital of \$1,000,000, 20 per cent, is paid up.

In a previous issue we foreshadowed what would probably be the course of procedure. We are told that the securities of each company were carefully scrutinized by committees selected from each, and where any doubt existed as to the value of the security, the properties were visited. As the result of this examination, it was found that the setting apart of about \$170.000 would meet all losses, and this sum was provided for.

The directors believe that the fact of the capital of the new company being fully paid up will be a feature of strength in the new company, recent events in connection with the Farmers' Loan Company having shown that the liquidators of that concern were unable so far to collect a considerable portion of the unpaid liability on the stock. The consent of the Legislature to the amalgamation is all that is now required to complete it. and that, it is believed, will be readily secured.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

In a circular issued a week ago three great New York city thread manufacturing concerns announced that after January 1 their business will be handled by the Spool Cotton Company, which has just been incorporated under the laws of New Jersey.

Boston wool sales for the year 1898 to December 30 foot up 146,422,000 pounds, compared with 377,328,500 pounds last year and 136.625,500 pounds during the year 1896. Boston's stock of wool in dealers' hands at the close of the year was

60,689,000 pounds domestic and 18,793,000 pounds foreign, footing up 79,482,000 pounds, against 56,847,000 pounds domestic and 19,373,000 pounds foreign a year ago. The stock in Boston's bonded warehouses November 30 was 19,748,559 pounds No. 1 and 14,339,472 pounds No. 3, against 3,194,449 pounds No. 1,858 pounds No. 2 and 3,137,287 pounds No. 3 at same date last year.

One of the oldest and largest woolen concerns in the United States has failed. It is the Assabet Manufacturing Company, Boston, and its liabilities exceed \$3,000,000 with nominal assets nearly equal in amount. In August last it mortgaged property to the extent of \$450,000 to pay maturing debts and furnish additional working capital, but the money was partly used to pay new obligations. In view of existing conditions the company, tired of carrying its load, makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors. Its capital stock is a million dellars

It has been a most remarkable year for this product of the Southern States, says Dun's Review, speaking of cotton. Middling uplands was quoted \$5.94 at the beginning of January, and advanced steadily, reaching \$6.44 on April 23rd. Chief among the supporting influences was the sudden demand from spinners abroad, who feared the war might bring blockaded ports and no cotton. Army buying of mules also advanced the price of this plantation necessity, and speculators at this city seized the various rumors to force option quotations, although conservative men expected no interruption of transportation by the Spanish fleet. The high figure was not long maintained, and by September 26 the price had declined to 5.31, the lowest ever recorded since the present methods of grading were adopted. The crop year ending Sept. 1st gave a yield of 11,200,ono bales, according to the best authorities, which was far in excess of any previous record. The official statement of the crop, issued last week, was about 300.000 bales less than these figures, but limited faith is placed in the Government publication. What the current crop will be is still a matter of conjecture, although some idea may be formed from the amount already in sight, which is 350,000 bales larger than at the corresponding date in any previous year.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The steamer "China" arrived last week at San Francisco from the Orient, having on board the largest consignment of opium ever entered at that port. There were 660 cases of the drug, valued at \$500.000. The duty on it amounts to \$162,000.

The pack of Indian corn in the United States and Canada for 1897 and 1898 is given by the American Grocer as under: Number of cases of two dozen tins each; year 1897, U.S., 2,786,902 cases; Canada, 121,836; year 1898, U.S., 2,264,813; Canada, 133,750.

A deficit in the German beet-sugar crop of at least 350,000 tons is figured upon by United States Consul Diedrich, at Magdeburg. The estimate of the beet-sugar crop for the world, considered in Germany as quite accurate, is 4.775,578 tons, Germany leading with 1,847,018 tons and Cuba being set down as producing 300,000 tons, against 2,537,571 tons in the previous scason.

Mr. J. T. MacDonald, of the Dominion Government creameries of the Northwest Territories states that the butter turned out at the creameries this year has been shipped to British Columbia; 13,000 pounds had been supplied to the Northwest Mounted Police in the Yukon and the remainder to British Columbia merchants; the Parsons Produce Company had purchased nine car-loads or about \$45,000 worth of the butter since June last.

The figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics show that the coffee importation of the past year has been the heaviest in the history of the country and the tea importation the lightest in many years. The importation of coffee in the calendar year 1897 was over 800,000,000 pounds and the 1898 figures will be about the same as those of 1897. In no earlier year were the importations ever as much as 700,000,000 pounds. The total importations of tea for the calendar year will be about 68,000,000 pounds, while in past years they have ranged upwards of 90,000,000, those of the fiscal year 1897 being 113,000,000 pounds.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

It is not easy to predict what avenues of enterprise the Salvation Army will next attempt. It is doing life assurance in Great Britain. The Commercial World of London gives the income and expenditures of the life insurance branch of the Salvation Army for four years, 1894 to 1897, inclusive. Five years ago the Army took over the business-a very small businessof the Methodist and General Assurance Society and has since been pushing its life insurance branch, with the result that for the four years while the receipts from premiums, exclusive of annuity business, were \$349.450, the expenses of management were \$291,855, and the claims paid \$57.825, making expenses and claims \$349,675, or more than the premiums. The receipts from interest and dividends were only \$11,315. For share capital and "guarantors' contributions" \$120,000 were received, and yet the "funds" at the close of 1897 were only \$70,170 more than in 1894.

—The press of British Columbia is desirous that the merchants of its western cities should be up and doing with regard to the development of trade with the Atlin Lake district and the Yukon country generally. Says The Province: "The resolution passed at the meeting of the Board of Trade yesterday dealing with the extension of the White Pass and Yukon railway to Atlin Lake will be endorsed by every business man in Vancouver. The necessity for easy means of communication with the great northern gold fields is vital, both in order that prospectors may be able to get there easily and that there shall be no shortage in food supplies."

—Last Saturday's proclamation made the postage from place to place in Canada two cents per ounce instead of three, beginning with the new year. This removes the anomaly under the apprehension of which people were growing restive, of carrying a letter from here to India for two cents while from Ottawa to Arnprior three cents was charged. It also relieves the feelings of those who could not bear that we should be behind the United States in cheap postage. As to its effect upon the postal revenue, that must show, for a long while, a heavy decline in consequence. We shall know soon how the Government proposes to make up the deficiency.

—The second annual meeting of the Good Roads' Association of the District of Bedford, is to be held to-day in Sweetsburg, Que., Mr. Campbell, the road commissioner of Ontario, gave a lecture to that body a year ago and intends being present at the meeting to-day. The farmers of that part of the Eastern Townships have been aroused to the economic importance of improved country roads, and the association is to be congratulated on its good work and upon the prospects of steady improvement in a needed direction.

—We are further informed, with respect to the branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia to be opened in Boston, that the premises will be on the corner of State street and Devonshire place, a very prominent site. Mr. W. E. Stavert, formerly manager at St. John's, Newfoundland, will be in charge of the branch, and it is expected to be open on the 20th January. Mr. J. A. McLeod, assistant manager of the Chicago branch of the bank, has been appointed manager at St. John's, Newfoundland.

CLEARING-HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing house: the week ended with Thursday, Jan. 5th, 1899, compared with those of the previous week

CLEARINGS.	Jan. 5th, 1899.	Dec. 29th, 1898,
Montreal	\$13.643,831	\$11,849,821
Toronto	. 11,396,579	7,308,177
Winnipeg	. 2,095,818	1,814,738
Halifax		1,034,286
Hamilton	. 630,405	630,405
St. John		507,408
	\$ 29,813,130	\$ 23,144,835

Aggregate balances this week, \$4,162,262; last week \$3,384,394.

Meetings.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of proprietors was announced to be held within the bank's head office in Edinburgh on Wednesday, the 21st December, 1898, when the following report was submitted:

REPORT.

The directors submit herewith the certified balance-sheet and profit and loss account of the bank as at 1st November last; and have pleasure in reporting that an exceptionally favorable year's business shows the following results:

After making full provision for all bad and doubtful

debts, the net profit remaining amounts to£243,551 9 5 The undivided balance

brought forward from last 23,060 7 year was

Together£266,611 16 8 To which sum there has

been added accumulated profit arising from the realization of sundry temporary investments, a-mounting to

58,091 18 6

Giving a total of.....£324,703 15 2 This amount the directors have resolved to apply as

follows, viz.: To the payment of

ordinary dividend at the rate of

13 p. c. perannum £130,000 o o

And an extra dividend or bonus, at the inc r e a s e d

rate of 5 cent. per

per annum. 50,000 0 0 To the re-

serve fund 120,000 o o And to carry

forward to

next year. 24,703 15 2

£324,703 15 The dividend and bonus will be paid to the proprietors in equal parts on 10th January and 11th July next, free of in-

Exclusive of the sum of £180,000 set aside to meet the full year's dividend and bonus now declared, and of the unappropriated balance of £24,703 15s. 2d. carried forward, the reserve fund is now equal in amount to the paid-up capital of

the bank—i.e., £1,000,000.

The directors have to announce with much regret that, after a connection with the bank as a director extending over a period of thirty years, their esteemed and valued colleague, Mr. T. A. Hog, of Newliston, has, on account of the state of his health, felt called upon to resign his seat at the board. To fill the vacancy thus caused, as well as that resulting from the retirement, in the ordinary rotation, of the senior director, the Hon. James W. Moncreiff, the directors recommend the election of Mr. Robert Stewart, of Kinlochmoidart, and Mr. James Mylne,

The directors have also to record, with sincere regret, the death, since the date of their last report, of Sir Windham Carof their last report, of Sir Windham Carmichael Anstruther, Bart.. one of the members of the board of extraordinary directors of the bank. To fill vacancies in that board, they recommend the proprietors to elect Mr. Thomas A. Hog. of Newliston, the Hon. James W. Mon-

creiff and Sir Windham Robert Carmichael Anstruther, Bart.

It will be necessary for the proprietors to It will be necessary for the proprietors to appoint auditors for the current year. Mr. George Todd Chiene, C.A., Edinburgh, and Mr. John Macdonald Henderson. F.C.A., London, the present auditors, offer themselves for re-election.

James W. Moncreiff,
Chairman of Board.

The National Bank of Scotland, Limited, Edinburgh, 13th December, 1898. Balance Sheet of the National Bank of Scotland, Limited, at 1st November, :8081

Liabilities.

Capital stock of the bank.£1,000,000 o o Reserve fund 1,000,000 0 D i v idend of 13 p.c.£130,000 o o Extra divi-dend, or bonus, of

50,000 0 0

180,000 0 0 936,379 16 Note circulation Deposit receipts, and current account bal-

Acceptances by the bankacc't

On acc't of banking cor-respond-

5 p. c...

ents£308,295 19 2 On acc't of other c u stom-

348,644 11 6

Balance of profits carried forward

656,940 10 8

24,703 15 2

£19,122,035 13 5 Assets.

Gold and silver coin, notes of other banks, and cash with the Bank

of England and other London bankers£1,380,398 16 4 British Government securities (£880,700), and loans at call and

4,916,796 8 8 short notice in London Bank of England, Metropolitan board of works, the bank's (£3,066 ros. at par), and other stocks and investments 2,220.576 8 2,758,804 17 Bills discounted

oans on railway stocks and other securities for short periods 2,588,032 4 5 Advances on cash credit and current account... 4.153,486 *7* 656,940 10 Acceptances, per contra.

ank buildings at head office, London office. and branches
Heritable property yielding rent

£19,122,035 13 5 Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ending 1st November, 1898:

173.000 0 0

274,000 0 0

To charges of manage-ment at head office, London office and 109 £144.133 3 5 tra dividend, or bonus

180.000 0 0 120.000 0 0 To balance carried forward to next year.... 24,703 15 2

Вy

By balance brought forward from last year...
y gross profit, after
making full provision £ 23,060 7

£468,836 18 7

for all had and doubtful debts; deducting interest due but not paid, rebate on bills current, Income tax, license and stamp duty; and applying a sum of £10,-166 16s. 5d. in reduction of cost of heritable property and of altera-By profit arising from the realization of sundry temporary investments

387,684 12 10

58,091 18 6

£468,836 18 7

James W. Moncreiff, John Cowan, W. S. Davidson and Wm. Houldsworth. directors; T. H. Smith, general manager.

WHY MINES DON'T SELL.

One of the principal reasons that more mining property does not change hands is the unreasonableness of so many owners, says the Mining and Metallurgical Journal. Capital is constantly seeking opportunities for investment; but in a majority of instances, runs up against the sales i.e., the man who has millions in prospective, but only hundreds in sight. Why a capitalist should take any more chances in mining than in any other business proposition is hard to discount Hadden ness proposition is hard to discern. Hardly a claim, prospect or mine is on the market to-day, that is not placed high above its actual value, said a prominent buyer recently. The difficulty arises from the owner's ignorance of a mine's value. The sooner it is understood that claims The sooner it is understood that claims and prospects are not mines, and even where ore has been developed, that investors will not generally pay for more than there is in sight, the sooner will more transfers be made. This leads up to what is termed "ore in sight," upon which point so many have little idea. Ask some miners what they have in sight and you miners what they have in sight, and you will probably meet with the response that they have a shaft down about 40 feet. and, as close as they can estimate, about 40,000 tons of ore in sight. Now by what method of calculation this is arrived at is hard to determine. Another will claim is hard to determine. Another will claim to have, say, in figures, about \$50,000 worth. Ask him what he will sell for, and he will tell you there is no doubt as to the ore going through to China, and he thinks that \$100,000 would be about the right figure. He gives no consideration to the fact that values contained in the ore in a mine and bullion returns are matters to be considered. That it takes money to erect mills, develop water, build roads, etc. In other words, it takes money to erect mills, develop water, build roads, etc. In other words, it takes money to mine. While legitimate mining, as a rule, pays a better interest on the money invested than any other business, it is neither just nor right to expect impossibilities. Oftentimes a mine, from which every available pound of ore has been stopped, will be placed on the market at a high figure and the builties are ket at a high figure, and the bullion reket at a high figure, and the bullion returns will be shown of past productions. As well might a merchant pay a high figure for an empty store, simply because in days gone by it has done a good business. Let the mine owner consider these matters. Let him be truthful of what he has to sell. For the investor will take account of stock and if his shelves curate account of stock, and if his shelves are not empty, and his price is in keeping with what he has to sell, he may dispose of his property.

-The state of North Dakota tried to compel the railways to reduce freight rates, but in the legal contest that followed, the railways have come out ahead. The decision is to the effect that capital has a right to proper remuneration, and North Dakota failed to show that the railroad rates do more than yield a proper income on the capital invested.

THE YEAR ON THE EXCHANGES.

The year that is just ending will leave behind it many favorable records and indications of business prosperity. These records and features may be summarized as follows:

I.—Largest aggregate sales of stocks on the New York Stock Exchange since 1882, when this year's total was exceeded by about 3,000,000 shares, and in 1881, when it was exceeded by about 4,000,000 shares

2.—Largest aggregate sales of bonds on the Stock Exchange.

3.—Largest aggregate bank clearings of

any year.

4.—Largest aggregate earnings of rail-

roads throughout the country. 5.—Largest aggregate exports of bread-

stuffs of any year. 6.—Largest aggregate exports of manu-

factured goods of any year.

7.—Largest aggregate exports of pro-

duce and merchandise of any year. 8.—Largest cotton crop of any year.
9.—Smallest number and liabilities of

failures for at least five years.

It may be here noted that the aggregate sales of stocks, listed and unlisted. are 113,466,333 shares, comparing with 78 millions last year, and exceeding all years except 1881 and 1882, when the sales amounted to 117 millions and 116 millions, respectively. The sales of State and railroad bonds are the largest on record.— N.Y. Journal of Commerce.

An average of sixty tons of smelts are shipped daily, says the Cape Breton Advocate, over the Canada Eastern railway from Loggieville to Boston and New York.

RAILWAY BUILDING.

Not less than 3,018 miles of new rail-road have been built in the United States during the year 1898. These figures are based on official returns received at this office, and indicate that the predictions made by the Railway Age, nine months ago, were not far wide of the mark. In our issue of April 1st last, it was stated that it would not be surprising if the total that it would not be surprising if the total new mileage of the year should exceed 3.000 miles, while it was considered improbable that the figures would fall below 2.500 2,500 miles. At that time work was just being started on the greater part of the mileage, and as it progressed it became more anidate that our estimates would be more evident that our estimates would be realized when the final returns for the year had been received. During the first six six months of the year, 1,182 miles of new road were built, and in next three months 1,000 more miles were added, leaving but a little during October, November and December, to bring the total up to 3,000 miles.

Had it not been for the almost unprecedently bad weather of the fall and early winter which seriously retarded

early winter, which seriously retarded work in many localities, we should now be able to report a considerable excess of 3,000 miles. As it is, our compilations based on the official returns, show that not less than 3,018 miles have been constructed during the year, on 222 lines, in 45 states and territories. 45 states and territories.

Record by States.

As we go to press, tracklaying is still As we go to press, tracklaying is stin in progress or just beginning on a number of lines, which makes it impossible to receive absolutely complete returns until after the close of the year. This will make necessary some slight changes in the following forces showing the mileage the following figures, showing the mileage constructed by states, but it may be considered certain that the total amount will be increased to the diminished, be increased rather than diminished, when the final returns have been gathered:

Albama	Miles. 154 20
Alaska	154
Arkansas	20
	157

Arizona	99
California	118
Colorado	36
Connecticut	6
Delaware	2
Florida	50
Georgia	III
Idaho	21
Illinois	12
Indiana	32
Indian Territory	58
lowa	48
Kentucky	15
Louisiana	158
Maine	124
Maryland	15
Michigan	97
Minnesota	250
Mississippi	40
Missouri	119
Montana	39
Nebraska	
New Jersey	2
New Mexico	162
New York	43
North Carolina	121
North Dakota	77
Ohio	91
Oklahoma Territory	147
Oregon	58
Pennsylvania	105
South Carolina	ıŏ
South Dakota	11
Tennessee	8
Texas	182
Utah	39
Vermont	2
Virginia	50
Washington	14
West Virginia	38
Wisconsin	4 8
Wyoming	7
Total, in 45 states and territories	3,018
Canada	427
Mexico	442
T1	

The new mileage of the present year is greater than of any previous year since 1892, when 4,192 miles were built, and is 1,138 miles in excess of the new road added in 1897, when 1,880 miles were constructed. The following table shows the construction of the last eleven years:

	Miles.
1887	 12,983
1892	 4,192
1894	 1,949
1896	
1897	
1898	 3,018

Many miles of logging roads have been built this year, which are not included in the above figures.—Railway Age, Chi-

THE NICARAGUA CANAL AND ITS INTEREST TO BRITISH BONDHOLDERS.

Apart from the political aspects of the Apart from the political aspects of the project for the construction of a canal across Nicaragua, now being favored by the United States Government, there is a phase of the matter which is of considerable interest to English holders of Nicaragua bonds. That is the possibility of the question being either directly or indirectly reflected in the Stock Exchange prices of the same. For one thing, it is sufficiently obvious that if the canal were constructed, Nicaragua would be a gainer, and any improvement in her position ought to improve the bondholders' security. But what is of much more importance and direct interest to bondholders is that with the prospect of the canal being built, it would be an advantage to have in close proximity to it a line of railway. The construction of such a railway has been commenced, and parts of it finished; but its completion has been delayed and stopped for want of funds. Nicaragua owns those portions of this railway at present in project for the construction of a canal want of funds. Nicaragua owns those want of funds. Nicaragua owns those portions of this railway at present in working order, and wants to lease or sell the same, and negotiations have been carried on with an American syndicate

with this object. Thus far these negotiations have come to nothing, but the present renewed interest in the canal may lead to a corresponding renewal of in-terest in the railway scheme. Before, however, the Nicaraguan Government can lease these short lines of railway, they must deposit with the Council of Foreign Bondholders £200,000 nominal of their own bonds for cancellation. As Nicaragua's external debt only totals £281,200, the mere knowledge that such a scheme was on the tapis would be sufficient to send up prices very considerably, especially in view of the fact that for some years Nicaragua has faithfully met her obligations, as funds sufficient the next January coupon are already in hand, the next payment of interest is assured, and as at present prices the yield is about 12 per cent. The railway system which is in two sections of 58 and 32 miles respectively, was built in 1885-6, and is of narrow gauge, and, according to an inventory taken in 1893, the railway, boats, and docks, etc., were worth about £360,000; but it is estimated that in order put the line in good condition, it would be necessary to expend another f20,000, to be used in purchasing rolling-stock and improving the permanent way. The Government has expressed its way. The Government has expressed willingness to sell the line for £500,000, a sum which would suit them nicely, as they would have about £400,000 clear to themselves, after buying off bonds to the amount of £200,000 nominal, which are at present quoted about 50. Even should bonds, however, rise another 25 per cent., the country would then be able to complete the transaction, and pocket a clear £300,000 to £350,000. The net complete the transaction, and pocket a clear £300,000 to £350,000. The net earnings of the railway during the nine years 1886-95, were £115,794, or an average of £12,866 per annum, which works out at about 2½ per cent. on £500,000. This, of course, would be perfectly inadequate to tempt any body of capitalists to purchase the railway; but it must not be forgotten that during the past pine. forgotten that during the past nine years the railway has been worked by the Government, and it is well-known that a concern which could give a return of 2½ per cent. under official Central American rules would easily give a higher yield under capable private management. Besides, there is no doubt that Nicaragua could be persuaded to accept a considerably lower price than £500,000.—Econo-

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, 4th Jan., 1899.

				Clos Pri	Closing Prices.	
STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average, 1898.
Montreal	2493	249	25	255	246	236
Ontario				٠	114	99
Molsons	2013	202	10	2042	202	204
Toronto	•••			250	243	228
Jac. Cartier	••••		 	' 	1104	981
Merchants	1401	1792	126	182	179	1775
Commerce	145	145	16	147	1444	134
Union					110 1	101
M. Telegraph xd	175	173	177	178	174	1778
R. & O. Nav	1041	1021	1663	1031		107
Street Ry	294	288	1635	295		2352
do. New	260	286	475	292	29 I	233
Gas	210	208	2761	2093	2098	190
C.P.R	861	85	2670	86€	86 š	817
Land Grant bds		•••••	 		110	
Bell Telexd do. new	173	1723	122	173	172	172
N. W. Land pref				561	55	51
Mont. 4% stock					*********	

AMERICAN TRADE WITH CANADA.

An interesting comparison of the trade of Canada in certain articles with this country and Great Britain is furnished by U.S. Consul, General Bittinger, of Montreal, in a communication to the Treasury Department. The watch and jewelry trades are especially noticeable in this comparison. The increase of the imports of watches and cases from the United States in 1897 over 1893 was \$110,700, while the decrease in the imports from Great Britain in the same period was \$8,300. In jewelry the increase of United States imports was \$74,000, the decrease from Great Britain being \$32,000. This shows, with striking clearness, that in the last five years the United States has been gradually but steadily capturing more and more of the Canadian trade, while the manufacturers of Great Britain during the same period have been losing their hold.

What effect the International Commission, now sitting at Washington, may have on the trade between the two countries it is not easy to prophesy, and the Censul, while giving this encouraging report, sounds a note of warning to our manufacturers to avoid presuming upon the advantage they have acquired by indifference to the quality of the goods they send to Canada, by less careful packing or by neglecting to keep in close and constant touch with importers, whose ideas as to local tastes and requirements should be carefully studied, and, as tar as possible, met. Although the present tariff in favor of British goods is not sufficient to change the current of trade, to any marked extent, from the United States to Great Britain, a much greater reduction of the duty on British goods might have some effect in that direction, especially if British manufacturers should awake to the necessity of catering more skillfully to the needs of the Canadian customers. The possibility of such changed conditions arising needs to be considered by our manufacturers, who will show wisdom in preparing to meet a more active competition from British made goods, that may arise in the near future.—N.Y. Jewclers' Review.

TORONTO STOCK TRANS-ACTIONS.

This week has been a repetition of the last, as regards the amount of business on the Toronto Stock Exchange, there being two days on which no meetings were held. Generally, stocks continue firm. The feature of the market has been the advance in the prices of mining stocks. War Eagle selling from 306 up to 320, closing at 318. Cariboo has also made a gain from last week's quotation of 138 to 150, selling at the close at 147½. C.P.R. has been dealt in quite freely, with little change in price. Loan companies' shares have been more active, and with the announcement of the amalgamation of four of the companies, the prices of the stocks of these companies should advance. Following are the transactions:

or tnese companies snould advance. Following are the transactions:
Bank of Commerce, 48 at 145½-146;
Imperial Bank, 43 at 212-213; Dominion Bank, 43 at 258; Standard Bank, 8 at 189; Traders' Bank, 5 at 108½: British America Assurance Co., xd, 35 at 1295%-130; Western Assurance Co., xd, 457 at 169-169¼: Imperial Life Assurance Co., 120 at 142-143; Consumers' Gas Co., 81 at 226½; Montreal Gas Co., 25 at 2093%: Dominion Telegraph Co., 41 at 134-135; Ontario & Qu'Appelle, 18 at 55; Canada N.W. Land, pref., 10 at 55½: C.P.R. Stock, 1.987 at 85%-861%; Toronto Electric Light Co., 18 at 138; Canadian General Electric Co., 85 at 143-144; Commercial Cable, 100 at 183¾-184; Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co., 426 at 102-103%: Toronto Railway Co., 310 at 109¼-110; Hamilton Electric Light Co., 10 at 80: London Electric Light Co., 54 at 124½-126; War Eagle Mining Co., 22.850 at 306½-320; Cariboo (McKinney), Mining Co., 24.900 at 142¾-150; National Trust Co., 160 at 125½-128; Canada Permanent Loan Co., 16 at 107; Canada Permanent Loan Co., 20 per cent., 27 at 88-92: Canada Landed & National Investment

Co., 16 at 87; Dominion Savings & Loan Co., 130 at 75%-75½; Freehold Loan Co., 20 per cent., 65 at 60; Manitoba Loan Co., 20 at 30; Western Canada Loan, 20 at 119.

BLASTING WITH STEAM.

It is proposed by Mr. H. Schaw, in a paper read by him before the British Institution of Mining Engineers, to blow out coal or ores in mines by means of high-pressure steam, instead of by using inflammable explosives. Mr. Schaw's paper appears in The Engineering and Mining Journal (December 3rd). He says:

"A disastrous explosion in a coal-mine at Brunnerton, New Zealand, in 1897, attended with great loss of life, which was caused by a shot-hole loaded with gunpowder having blown out its tamping and ignited the coal-dust in its vicinity, led the writer to think that high-pressure steam might be used instead of dangerous explosives in fiery coal-mines.

"The writer made of pure when the force set at liberty would break down the coal."

"The writer made an experiment to ascertain whether it would be possible to boil water by the heat produced by a current of electricity passing through a platinum wire similar to that used for firing mines immersed in water, and found that it was successful."

Mr. Schaw is of opinion that at the moment when the boiler bursts the wire will fuse, and the electric circuit will be broken, and no risk of ignition of firedamp or coal-dust will remain from the heated wire.

Commercial.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 5th, 1899.

There has been a very light all-round movement in trade here this week, in fact, in some lines no movement at all worth speaking of, and prices generally show scarcely any quotable change. A most satisfactory feature in the situation is that the outlook for the coming season is an unusually good one, a tone of hope and confidence exists among our business men, while the state of trade now is so much better than was the case a year ago, as to scarcely bear comparison.

Breadstuffs.—Wheat, which has fluctuated somewhat during the week, is firmer. Supplies are small, owing in part to the bad state of the roads in many districts. Red winter wheat is quoted here at 69 and 70c.; white wheat is quoted at 70½c. West; No. 1 Manitoba hard is worth 79 to 80c. at Toronto; No. 1 Northern is worth 74c.; goose is firm at 71c. There is little doing with flour; cars of straight roller in bond sell for \$3.25 to \$3.30 (Toronto freights); Ontario patents (bags), are worth from \$3.60 to \$3.75. Milleed is firm, and wanted at from \$15 to \$16 for shorts, and from \$12 to \$12.50 for bran, West. Barley is easier at from 46 to 47c. for No. 1 West. White oats are worth 29c. West, and are easy at that. Rye is steady at from 51 to 52c. Buckwheat is firm at 48c. East and West, and 46c. North. Canadian corn is steady at 35½ to 36½c. West; American corn is easier at 44½c. for old, and 43 to 43½c. new, here. Car lots of rolled oats (bags), on track here are worth \$3.50; in barrels, 10c. more. Car lots of peas are steady at 66 and 67c., North and West.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Cheese is dull, and the demand very slight, new is worth 9½ to 10c. per lb. In butter business is quiet at about steady and unchanged prices. Large rolls are worth from 13 to 14½c.; creamery will fetch 20 and 21c., or 19 to 19½c. for packed. Stocks are small, and the demand has increased during the past two or three days.

DRY GOODS.—Travellers are mostly on the road again now, but orders are scarcely yet being received. The wholesale houses here are engaged in clearing out accumulations of stock (usually at considerable reductions in prices), to make room for shipments of spring goods, which are en route. The coming season we expect to be an excellent one.

GROCERIES.—For this time of year there has been a good movement this week in tea, coffee, sugar, and a few lines of canned goods, still we can only call the present market a holiday one, and no all-round form and movement will occur for a week or two. Prices are steady, and well maintained, with practically no alterations in the general list. Jobbers prices for sugar here (Toronto), per 100 lbs., are as follows: Redpath, granulated. \$4.58; St. Lawrence, \$4.58; Acadia, \$4.58; Paris lumps, 50's, \$5.68; Paris lumps, 100's, \$5.58; Cream of Phoenix, \$4.38; extra bright (coffee), yellow, \$4.28; bright yellow, \$4.08; No. 3. yellow, \$3.98; No. 2, yellow, \$3.88.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Hides are in sufficient supply, and are quoted at 8½c. for No. 1; 7½c. for No. 2; and 6½c. for No. 3. Calfskins, we quote No. 1, 10c. No. 2, 8c; very little demand. In tallow but little is doing; rough tallow sells at from 1½ to 2¼c. per lb., and rendered from 3 to 3½c. Pelts are worth from 70 to 85c. each.

LEATHER.—Except a little enquiry for harness, there is scarcely any movement; but prospects are reported as more than usually reassuring for the early spring trade.

LIVE STOCK.—The live stock trade, after the usual Christmas dullness, is beginning to show signs of revival. Receipts to-day were larger, and prices steady and unchanged. Shipping cattle are worth from 4 to 4½c. per pound. Cables from London and Liverpool quote cattle strong, at 5d. to 5¾d. per pound, and sheep at from 5 to 5½d. (dressed weight). Sheep here are worth from 3 to 3½c. per pound, and lambs are in ample supply and easy at 3½ to 4c. per pound. Milkers, calves, stockers, and springs, are quotably unchanged. Hogs are steady at \$4.25 to \$4.37½ per cwt. Soft weather may temporarily weaken the market for cattle, but the tendency is for better prices, and a more active trade.

PAINTS AND OILS.—Except a slight movement in window-glass, there is nothing doing this week. Turpentine is quoted at 65c. per gallon, net cash, in the city.

Provisions.—There is not much doing and prices are fairly steady at little change. Dressed hogs are quoted here at \$5.50 to \$5.15 for cars. Canadian mess perk is worth \$15; short cut 15 to \$16, and clear mess from \$14 to \$14.50. For car lots of long clear bacon, the price is 7½c., and in smaller quantities, 7½ to 734c.; good breakfast bacon, 10½ to 10¾c.; choice hams, 10 to 10½c.; rolls are worth 8½ to 8½c. Lard, in tubs, is quoted at from 6¾ to 7c. per pound.

SEEDS.—There is not much coming in.

SEEDS.—There is not much coming in, and we have little enquiry just at present. Red clover is from \$3.50 to \$4, and Alsike, \$4 to \$4.50, and timothy \$1.25 to \$1.40 per bushel.

Wool.—Practically unchanged, and not much going on. Fleece is quoted at 15c.; pulled wools are worth from 20 to 21c. for extra, and 17½ to 18½c. for super; unwashed is quoted at 10c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 4th Jan., 1899.

Ashes.-Values have declined quite notably, in fact ashes do not seem to be wanted, and the only transaction reported since last writing was a small lot of No.

I pots, at \$4.05. On this basis, seconds would only fetch about \$3.70 to \$3.75. Pearls are very dull, and nominal at about \$4.75 to \$4.90 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Some moderate jobbing business is reported in firebricks for the usual winter repairs in large manufacturing establishments; prices are very firm at \$18 to \$24. Cements are seasonably dull, but values are steady, from \$2 to \$2.10 being asked for Belgian; \$2.45 to \$2.50 for English,

FISH.—Thre is a fair demand for salt fish, and values generally are steady, with a tendency to advance in green cod, supplies of which are really light. Fresh fish plies of which are really light. Fresh fish in better supply, and prices easier. We quote: No. 1, green cod, \$5.50; No. 1 large, do., \$5.75 to \$6; N.S. salmon, \$15; B.C. salmon, \$13; dry cod, \$4; Nova Scotia herring, \$4.50 to 4.75; No. 2 mackerel, \$14 to 15. Lake trout, \$4.50 a keg. Sea trout, \$9.50 to \$10. Haddies, 6½ to 7c.; smoked herrings, 8 to 10c. a box; bloaters, \$1 to 1.10. Oysters, \$5 to \$6 for choice hand-picked Malpeques. Fresh haddock, 6c.; fresh cod, 5c.; fresh herrings, haddock, 6c.; fresh cod, 5c.; fresh herrings, \$2 to \$2.50 per hundred.

FURS.—The market is a quiet one, and will probably continue so until the results of the London sales, to be held this month, be known. We quote: Mink, \$1 to 6; 1.75; marten, \$1.50 to 2.50; fisher, \$4 to 6; lyny garden. lynx, \$1.50 to 2; otter, \$5 to 13; red fox, \$1.25 to 1.60; cross ditto., \$3 to 7; silver ditto., \$20 to 60; skunk, 20 to 75c.; coon, ditto., \$20 to 60; skunk, 20 to 75c. 20 to 80c.; fall rats, 5 to 10c; winter, 10 to 14c. The catching or buying of beaver is still illegal in both Ontario and

GROCERIES.—Business CIRCLES.—Business in wholesate circles is seasonably quiet, and there is really little of interest to be noted. Sugars are very dull, there being little demand, and the local refineries are shut down. in wholesale down, as is usual about this season. There has been no further weakening in local quotations, which are from \$3.70 to \$4.20 for values. for yellows, and \$4.40 for standard granulated, but outside markets are all weaker, and granulated declined a sixteenth in rather a peculiar position, as while single gal. by houses in the Guild generally, round lots cannot be bought below 32c. from first hands, it is claimed. Some tea importers report that they find a better demands for good medium demand springing up for good medium Japans, but business in this line is far from brisk. Dried fruits are dull, with stocks reported somewhat large for the season, and there is some tendency to weakness in values.

HIDES.—Business has been very dull HIDES.—Business has been very unithe past fortnight, the demand being light, and receipts small. Calfskins are lower, 9c. per lb. being now the figure for No. I, as paid by dealers; beefhides are unchanged at 9c. per lb. for No. I, and lambskins 7oc. each. The association of lambskins 7oc. each. The association and lambskins 70c. each. The association of leading hide dealers, which it was announced some weeks ago would be dissolved at the state of the year has been resolved at the close of the year, has been renewed, and even extended in its sphere, as the principal wool and sheepskin dealers will be included in the new organization.

LEATHER. dull, but the shoe factories will get actively to work after this week, on spring feetings and in looked for. -At the moment business is fcotwear, and good demand is looked for.
The English market is more active and stronger, and a large local sole leather house, as well as some Western men, have received very fair cable orders at good prices, and parties predict firmer values.

We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 24c.; No. 2, 21½ to 22½c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 20 to 21c.; No. I slaughter, 26 to 28c.; No. 2, do., 24 to 25c.; common, 20 to 21c.; waxed upper, 25c.; common, 20 to 21c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; do., heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 32 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; Western splits, 21 to 23c.; Quebec do., 16 to 18c.; juniors, 16 to 17c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calfskins, (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 24c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskins linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; c to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebble cow, 11½ to 13c.; polished buff, 12 to 13c.; glove green 12 to 13c.; glove-grain, 12 to 121/2c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

OILS, PAINTS AND GLASS.—Travellers are out again, and business is expected to soon show revival from the holiday quiet. The feature of the trade is the continued upward climb of turpentine, which was again advanced 3 cents a gallon the end of last week, and which is expected to go still higher before new crop is available about the end of March. Linseed is firm at quotations. association meets on the 5th inst., but no dry leads are very firm in Britain, with manufacturers not anxious to book orders. We quote: Single barrels, raw, and boiled linseed oil, respectively, 50 and 53c. per gal.; two to four barrels, 49 and 52c.; 5 to 9 barrels, 48 and 51c.; net 30 days, or 3 per cent., for 4 months' terms. days, or 3 per cent., 101 4 months. Turpentine, one to four barrels, 65c.; five to nine barrels, 64c., net 30 days. Olive oil, machinery, 90c.; Cod oil, 34 to 36c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 37½ to 40c. per gallon. Castor oil, 8½ to 9c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 37½ to 40c. per gallon. Castor oil, 8½ to 9c. in quantity, tins, 9½c.; machinery castor oil, 7½ to 8c.; Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only), \$5.62½; No. 1, \$5.25; No. 2, \$4.92½; No. 3, \$4.50; No. 4, \$4.12½; dry white lead, 5c.; genuine 4, \$4.1272, ary need do., 434 to 5c.; No. 1 red lead, 4½ to 434c.; Putty, in bulk, bbls., \$1.65; kegs, \$1.80; bladder putty, in bbls., \$1.80; smaller quantities, \$1.95; 25-lb. tins. \$2.05; 12½-lb. tins, \$2.30. London washed whiting, 35 to 40c.; Paris, white, 85 to whiting, 35 to 40c.; Paris, white, 85 to 90c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2. Window glass, \$1.80 per 50 feet for first break; \$1.90 for second break.

WOOL.—The market has been a dull one for the past fortnight, but values show no weakening, and for desirable grades of Cape wool the range is from 15 to 16½c., Natals about 18c., and B.A. scoured, 33 to 36c. A cargo of Cape wool is about being loaded for this market, but it will be at least a couple of months beforc it reaches here.

ELECTRICAL RULES.

At the sixth annual meeting of the Electrical Committee of the Underwriters' National Electric Association, the rules embraced in the national electric code were slightly modified.

The matter of specifications for tests on approved rubber covered-wires and other questions were referred to a committee, comprising W. H. Merrill, Jr., Chicago, E. V. French, of the Factory Mutual; Wm. McDevitt, of Philadelphia; A. M. Schoen, of Atlanta, Ga.; J. C. Forsyth, of New York; James E. Cole, of the Rector for department and Mr. Elli of the Elli-Beston fire department, and Mr. Elli-cutt, of Chicago, who are to meet at Chicago at an early date.

In view of the fact that the committee is of the opinion that the publication of the list of approved electrical fittings by the National Board of Fire Underwriters has been of great value, and that its usefulness can be largely increased if it is more uniformly enforced, the following resolutions were adopted:
"Whereas, the attention of members of

the sub-committees, in consulting with

manufacturers, has been repeatedly called to the fact that the establishment of standard specifications and the publication of our list of approved fittings and materials, which is intended to be, and if lived up to, is capable of being of great value and assistance not only to the insurance interests, but also to the electrical manufacturing supply and construction interests, becomes, if not lived up to, as great an injustice to the last-named parties, as it might have been a benefit.

Whereas, we believe it to be the duty of insurance interests, in justice to such persons as are engaged in the manufacture and distribution of such devices and materials, to give them our easiest support when they endeavor to furnish the market with reliable goods; and

Whereas, the uniform support of all of the inspection departments in approving only such devices and materials as properly designed for the use to which they are put, is the quickest and surest way of ridding the market of poor and undesirable articles: and

Whereas, it would seem that the strict enforcement of the list of approved fit-tings and materials will be of benefit to and is desired by not only the insurance interests, but also by all reputable parties connected with the electrical interests, and that it will work no injustice nor hardship to any interested parties:

Therefore be it resolved, that it is the sense of this meeting that on and after July 1st, 1899, all inspectors should re-fuse to accept any devices or materials on new work not enumerated in the edition of the list of approved devices and materials of the above date.

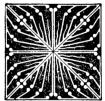
Resolved, that the secretary committee be instructed to correspond with the various underwriters associ-ations, asking that they agree to adopt the above resolutions.

Resolved, that we, each and all, pledge ourselves to urge upon our respective as-sociations the prompt adoption of these resolutions

Resolved, that the secretary of this committee be instructed to give these resolu-tions the greatest possible publicity by furnishing them to the electrical and in-surance press, and by furnishing copies of the same to all inspectors for distribution in their respective territories.

They will please you

d afterwards-and all the time



Our Metallic Ceilings and Walls

Are taking the place of all other styles of in-terior finish because they are more beautiful, last longer, and are fire-proof, sanitary and easily

We make artistic patterns to suit all needs—and our prices are moderate,

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TORONTO PRICES CURRENT.

	lesale	Name of Article	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.
Breadstuffs.	\$ c.	Groceries.—Con. Syrups:Com. to fine,	\$ c. \$ c. 0 00 0 00	Hardware.—Con.	\$ c. \$ c 00 to 37½	Canned Fruits. PINE APPLE— Extra Standard doz. \$ 0 00 2 50 Standard
Manitoba Patent	4 25 3 80	Fine to choice	0 00 0 00 0 03 0 03½ 0 30 0 50	Galvanized Coil chain 🖁 in Barbed wire	00 to 30% 2 75 4 65 1 80 0 00	CITRON—Flat tins
Straight Roller	14 00	New Orleans	0 25 0 35 0 037 0 04	Iron pipe, to 2 in	0 0210 16	PEARS—2's
GRAIN:	,	Patna, dom. to imp Japan, " " Genuine Hd. Carolina SPICES: Allspices	0 05 0 06 0 06 0 06 0 09 0 10 0 14 0 15	Screws, flat head	873 00 80 00	PLUMS—Greengages, 2 lbs
No. 3 0 64	0 67	Cassia, whole per lb Cloves	0 25 0 40 0 18 0 35 0 25 0 28	Boiler tubes, 2 in	0 114 0 00	Canned Vegetables. 0 00 0 75
" No. 3 0 63	0 64	Ginger, root Nutmegs Mace	0 20 0 25 0 60 1 10 1 00 1 10	Boiler plate, ½ in	2 10 0 00 2 00 0 00	PEAS— 2's, " 000 0 80 PUMPKINS—3's, " 000 6 90 TOMATORS—3's, " 0 00 6 90
. No. ¥ 0 81	0 80	Pepper, black, ground "white, ground	0 15 0 16	Sleigh shoe		Fish, Fowl, Meats—Cases. 2lb. tins
" No. 2 0 44 " No. 3 Extra 0 40 Oats, 0 28	0 41 0 29	Sugars Montreal f.o.b. Redpath Paris Lump	5 45 5 55	30 to 70 dyA.P. 16 and 20 dyA.P. 10 and 12 dyA.P.	0 00 1 80	" Horse Shoe, 4 doz " 1 30 0 70
Peas 0 55 Rye 0 52 Corn 0 44	0 53 0 45	Extra Granulated Extra Bright Coffee No. 1 Yellow	4 45 0 00 0 00 4 15 3 85 0 00	8 and 9 dyA.P. 6 and 7 dyA.P. 4 and 5 dyA.P.	0 00 2 05	LOBSTER—Noble XX tall
Buckwheat 0 45 Provisions.	0 40	No. 2 Yellow TRAS: Japan, Yokohama	0 19 0 40	3 dy	0 00 2 40	SARDINES—Alberts, 4'sper tin 0 12 0 00 0 12 0 00 0 0 12 0 00
Butter, dairy, tubs 0 13	0 15	Japan, Kobe	0 13½ 30 0 14 0 19½ 0 37 0 09	Horse Nails: Toronto Acadian	dis 50% 50/20 3 25 0 00	"Sportsmen, 18, key opener 0 211 0 00
Creamery, tubs 0 00 " Prints 0 21 Cheese 0 10	0 20 0 22 0 101	Congou, Monings Congou, Foochows	0 10 0 60	CANADA PLATES: MLS Lion & pol Full pol'd	2 25 0 00 2 85 U 00	" Canadian, ½'s 0 04 0 44 Сніскен.—Вопеless, Aylmer, 12ог., 2 doz
Evaporated Apples 0 00 Hops. Canadian 0 00	0 00± 0 00 0 15	Tienkai, com. to cho't	1 - I	TIN PLATES: IC	6 00 6 25	Duck—Boneless, I's, 2 doz
Beef, Mess	14 00 2 0 00	Gunpowder, Moyune Gunpowder, Pingsuey, Ceylon, Broken Orange,	0 18 0 65	Window Glass:	200 000	CORNED BEET—Clark's, 1's, 2 doz "0 (W 2 90 1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Hams 0 00 Rolls 00	0 10½ 0 08	Pekoes Ceylon, Orange Pekoes, Broken Pekoes	0 35 0 45 0 35 0 45 0 22 0 30	25 and under	3 30 0 00	Sour-Clark's, 1 s, Ox Tail, 2 doz "0 00 1 40
Lard, compd 0 00	0 261	Pekoes		ROPE Manilla, basis Sisal, Lath yarn	0 11 0 00	FISH—Medium scaled Herring "0 14 9 80 Chippen Beer—4's and 1's, per doz. 1 70 0 00
Leather.		Broken Orange Pekoes Orange Pekoes Broken Pekoes	0 22 0 55 0 28 0 35 0 28 0 35 0 28 0 35	Axes: Montana Keen Cutter	5 50 5 75 7 75 8 00	SMELTS-60 tins per case
Spanish Sole, No. 1 0 23 " No. 2 0 22 Slaughter, heavy 0 24	0 24 0 23 0 26	Pekoes	0 18 0 22	Lance Maple Leaf	9 25 9 50 10 25 10 50	Manurial Chemicals. Nitrate of Soda—f.o.b. Toronto, 100 lbs. \$3 75 0 00
" No. 2 " 0 00 Harness, heavy	0 24	Southong	0 35 0 65	Oils. Cod Oil, Imp. gal		PHOSPHATE THOMAS (Rd), car lots, per ton 21 00 0 00 POTASH, MURIATE, f.o.b. Toronto, 48 00 0 00
" light 0 25 Upper, No. 1 heavy 0 30 light & medium. 0 35	0 28 0 35 0 40	Tuckett's Black Dark P. of W	0 00 0 62 0 00 0 62 0 00 0 65	Palm, # lb	0 60 0 70	" KAINIT, " car lots, " 21 00 0 00 " 140 00 0 00
kip Sk	0 60	Myrtle Navy	0 00 0 65	Linseed, raw f.o.b Olive, & Imp. gal Seal, straw	0 51 0 00 1 30 1 40 0 46 0 50	Superphosphate 12%, 16%, car lots, delivered
Heml'k Calf (25 to 30) 0 45 French Cali	1 40	Rough and Ready, 9's. Honeysuckle, 9's Crescent, 8's	0 00 0 71	" pale S.R Petroleum,	0 65 0 00	CAR OR CARGO LOT. 1 in. pine & thicker, cut up and better 11thin. """ 31 00 34 00 31 00 36 00 11thin thicker cutting up
Patent 0 18 Pebble 0 13	3 0 282	Napoleon, 8's Laurel, 3's Index, 8's	0 00 0 67 0 00 0 68 0 00 0 60	F.O.B., Toronto Canadian, 5 to 10 bris Can. Water White		1½ inch flooring
Russets, light, # lb 0 40 Gambier 0 00	0 14 0 0 45 5 0 00	Lily 7's Derby Liquor	0 00 9 63	American Water White	0 20 0 21	1x10 and 12 mill run
Sumac 0 03	3 0 00 3 0 04	Liquor Pure Spirit, 65 o. p 60 o. p 25 u. p	1 14 4 03	White Lead, dry Red Lead, genuine	4 75 5 75 5 10 0 00 0 00 0 00	1x10 and 12 mill culls
Mides & Skins. Pe	er lb.	Family Proof Whiskey 20 u. p Old Bourbon, 20 u. p	0 66 2 22	Venetian Red, Eng Yellow Ochre, French Vermilion, Eng	1 50 2 00 1 50 2 25 0 80 0 90	1 inch siding mill run
Steers, 60 to 90 lbs 0 09 Cured and Inspected 6 09 Calfskins, green 0 10	9009 <u>}</u>	Rye and Malt, 25 u.p Rye Whiskey, 4 y. old "5 y. old	0 62 2 08 0 85 2 40 0 95 2 50	Varnish, No. 1 furn Varnish, No. 1 Carr Bro. Japan	1 50 2 00 0 65 0 90	1 inch siding mill culls
Tallow, rough	0 0 01 <u>1</u> 0 0 02 <u>1</u> 0 0 03 <u>1</u>	Hardware. Tin: Bars per lb Ingot	0 183 0 00	Putty, per brl. of 100 lbs Spirits Turpentine	1 85 2 00	1 inch strips, common
Sheepskins	0 85	COPPER: Ingot	0 154 0 16	Drugs.	200 000	Lath, No. 2 100 000
	0 0 15	Sheet	. ດ ດ 4 . ດ ດ 6	Blue Vitriol	0 021 0 03	Hard Woods—#M. ft. Car Lots. Ash white, 1st and 2nd—1 to 2 in \$24 00 26 00 28 0
Tub Wash	0 0 15 5 0 15 9 0 00	Solder, hf. & hf Solder, Standard	0 04 11 0 131 0 14 0 114 0 137	Campnor	0 31 0 40 0 11 0 13	Birch, " 1 "4" 20 00 2" 0
extra 0 24 Groceries.	0 0 21	IRON: Pig	0 00 00 00 00	Cream Tartarlb	b. 0.25 0.30	" " " " 2 " 4" 32 00 35 00 15 00 15 00
Coffees: \$ c 0 \$ c	4 0 33	Bayview American . No. 2 Soft Southern . Foundry pig	00 00 00 00 18 50 00 00	Epsom Salts Extract Logwood, bul "boxe Gentian	0 10 0 13	Butternut, " "1½" 2" " 18 00 19 00 1
Rio " 0 0 2 2 Mocha 0 2	29.026	N. S. Siemens Ferrona Bar, ordinary	19 00 19 50 1 45 1 55	HelleboreIodine	4 00 5 00	Chestnut, " 1 "2" 48 00 55 00 Cherry " 1 "11" 48 00 00 00 00
ARUIT: Raisins layer 20	06 6 00 MA 0 05	Lowmoor	· 0 054 0 06	Morphia Sul Opium Oil Lemon, Super	2 ⁰ 0 2 10 4 75 5 00 1 50 1 60	Elm, Soft, " 1 "11" 16 00 16 00
Valencias 0 0 Sultana 0 0 Currants Filiatra 0 0 " Patras 0 0	03g 0 009 09g 0 11 05g 0 06 05 n n≤	Tank Plates Boiler Rivets, best. Russia Sheet, per lb.	9 25 0 00 4 50 5 00	Oxalic Acid Paris Green Potass Iodide	0 171 0 19 3 50 3 75	Hemlock, " 0" 0 " 0 0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Vostizza	06 0 07 20 0 30 121 0 13	GALVANIZED IRON: Best No. 22	n 0 06 0 06	Saltpetre	ь. 0 07 0 09 0 26 0 30	Oak, Red Plain" 1 "11" 26 00 28 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Peanuts, green 0 C	09 0 10 07 0 08 114 0 12	14 94 14 96	0 031 0 03 0 031 0 03	Soda Bicarb, W keg	0 03 0 04 0 02 0 03 9 75 3 00	"WhitePlain" 1 "14" 90 00 30 00 0
Filberts, Sicily				Tartaric Acid	0.88 0.40	Walnut. 1 8 " 00 00 04

THE WORLD'S SHIPPING.

"The figures, which have been published under the direction of the Bureau Veritas, under the direction of the Burcau Veritas, dealing with the mercantile marines of the world, are interesting," says the Pall Mall Gazette. "They show that the number of sailing vessels of fifty tons and over now in existence is 28,885, with an aggregate net capacity of 8,893,769 tons. The number compares with 29,315 ships and the capacity with 8,894,732 tons twelve months ago, being a reduction of 430 vessels and 963 tons. This does not show that sailing ships are going out of business with the rapidity of which we have been told, but that the tonnage is business with the rapidity of which we have been told, but that the tonnage is being maintained by the substitution of large for small vessels. Of steamers of 100 tons and over, the number is given as 11,576, against 11,271 a year ago, and the gross measurement as 18,887,132 tons, against 17,880,006 tons, an increase of 305 vessels and of nearly 1,000,000 tons. We are the steam of the gross measurement as 10,000,000 tons. vessels and of nearly 1,000,000 tons. are by a long way the leading maritime nation, having now 10.008,111 tons of the steam steam tonnage, compared with 10,552,498 tons in 1897, and 2,010,565 tons of the sail aggregate, compared with 3.098.618 tons. meaning that we are going more and more into steam, to the partial exclusion of sailers. Second to us—and a very poor second, too—in the matter of steam tonnage, is Germany, with 1.625,521 tons, against 1.462,530 tons last year. France has 052 682 tons of steam tonnage, against has 952,682 tons of steam tonnage, against 979,072 tons; America, 810,800 tons, against 772,002 tons; Norway, 628,493 tons, against 576,508 tons, and so on down the list to Mexico with 6.643 tons. down the list to Mexico, with 6.643 tons. Next to us in sail tonnage is the United Next to us in sail tonnage is the United States, with 1,285,850 tons, followed by Norway, with 1,144,482 tons, and at some Norway is making progress in the use of this class of vessel, but the others named have to recent a falling off as compared have to report a falling off as compared with 1897. Denmark, too, owns less than t did a twelvemonth ago, and Sweden, others are in the same condition."

AN ASTONISHING EXHIBIT.

It would be an astonishing exhibit to show how inadequately insured most family, who have nothing but their infive or ten thousand dollars is quite enough when their annual income is from lars. How do these insurers expect a interest derived from the investment of say to the large property of the say to the large property of the interest derived from the investment of say ten thousand dollars, when the family five thousand is full earning of five thousand.

The interest rate on safe securities is steadily falling, and those who leave in-adequate life insurance might often as well leave page 21 as the beneficiaries well leave none at all, as the beneficiaries soon learn that the income to be derived from it in that the income to be derived from it is insufficient, and are apt to fall victims to the advice of fools or knaves as to speculations which will yield larger returns then any more 4.5 or 6 per cent. as to speculations which will yield larger returns than any mere 4.5 or 6 per cent. The sure and sound investments for trust funds, which will give over 4½ per cent. net, are not easy to find, and women are proverbially inclined to listen to alluring tales as to mining stocks, ranch bonds, panies and the like.

Evidently the life agents do not work

Evidently, the life agents do not work their fields properly, or else the insurers come to be secured proper consideration. A man whose income is \$7.500, and who to himself and three children, represents of \$150,000 at 5 per cent. Assuming that entire personal expense is one-third Evidently, the life agents do not work

of the income, it would still take \$100,-000 well invested to maintain his family in the manner to which he had accustomed them. Yet how many men with approximately the income instanced, carry only ten or fifteen thousand dollars life insurance, and how few as much as thirty or forty thousand?—N.Y. Journal of Commerce.

A KLONDYKE TELEGRAPH.

There is now being advertised in the London papers, according to the Montreal Star, the Canadian, British Columbia, and Dawson City Telegraph Company, Limited. This corporation proposes to construct and operate the telegraph lines authorized to be built by the Dawson City and Victoria Telegraph Company, Limited. The capital of the company is £300.000, divided in 60.000 shares of £5 each. The trustees for the debenture holders are: Walter O. Clough, M.P., J.P., D.L.; Alderman Joseph Barker, J.P.

The directors are: Sir James Grant,

Barker, J.P.
The directors are: Sir James Grant, K.C.M.G., Ottawa, Canada; Sir Adolphe Caron, K.C.M.G., M.P., ex-Postmaster General, Ottawa, Canada; J. Turner, M.L.A., ex-Premier, Brit Columbia, Victoria, B.C.: Alderman John Hvde, J.P., Mayor of Banbury; W. P. J. Fawcus, M.I.C.E., M.I.E.E., Director, Edison and Swan United Electric Light Company, Limited, Dartmouth House, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.; W. Young, 64 Victoria street, London, is the secretary.

The route to be traversed by the pro-posed line lies through the important mining centres, including the Cariboo, Omenica, and Cassiar districts. A num-ber of large mining and trading com-panies are now operating there. The pro-spectus says that outside, therefore, of the very large revenue to be derived from the Klondyke district proper, there should always be an increasing revenue from the first-named districts.

The prospectus then goes into detailed figures to show what profits the company may expect to derive from the business. These figures show a gross revenue over the company's system of £625 per day. Allowing £36,500 for wages and mainten-

ance, the net revenue would not be less than £151,000 a year, sufficient to cover the debenture interest thirteen times over, the debenture interest thirteen times over, or to repay the principal in full in one and a half years. It is a simple matter to put down on paper "estimated gross reverse £625 per day." But what data have these gentlemen for any such estimate, and who can tell what it will cost to plant telegraph poles over that vast region. It is a leap in the dark.

LIVERPOOL PRICES

Liverpool, January 5th, 19.30 p.m.

	8.	đ.
Wheat, Spring	6	2
Red Winter	0	Ō
No. 1 Cal	0	Ō
Corn	3	11
Peas	5	113
Lard	29	6
Pork	50	0
Bacon, heavy	28	0
Bacon, light	27	6
Tallow	91	9
Cheese, new white	50	ŏ
Cheese, new colored	50	č

The Canada Accident Assurance Co.

Head Office, MONTREAL.

A Canadian Company for Canadian Business.
ACCIDENT and PLATE GLASS.

Surplus 50% of Paid-up Capital above all liabilities
—including Capital Stock.

T. H. HUDSON, Manager. R. WILSON SMITH,
President Toronto Agts.—Medland & Jones, Mail Bldg.

Insurance Agents

INCREASE YOUR INCOME BY REPRESENTING

The Insurance Agency Corporation of Ontario, Limited

Loans on Life Insurance Policies, Life and Endowment Policies purchased. Premiums on Life Insurance Policies payable, when desired, in monthly instalments.

Officers and Directors:

President, W BARCLAY McMURRICH, Q.C. Vice-President, W. E. H. MASSEY.

Directors—Col. the Hon. D. Tisdale, P.C., Hon. Lyman M. Jones, A. E. Plummer, Geo. H. Roberts, James Hedley, Hugh Ryan, Z. A. Lash, Q.C.
Superintendent, W. H. HOLLAND. Managing-Director, GEO. H. ROBERTS.

The Metropolitan Life

Insurance Co. of New York

"THE LEADING INDUSTRIAL COMPANY OF AMERICA."

IS REPRESENTED IN

ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND IN CANADA.

THE METROPOLITAN is one of the oldest Life Insurance Companies in the United States. Has been doing business for over thirty years.

THE METROPOLITAN has Assets of over Thirty-Five Millions of Dollars, and a Surplus of over Five Millions.

THE METROPOLITAN pays Two Hundred Death Claims daily, and has Four Million Policy holders.

THE METROPOLITAN offers remunerative employment to any honest, capable, industrious man, who is willing to begin at the bottom and acquire aknowledge of the details of the business. He can by diligent study and practical experience demonstrate his capacity and establish his claim to the highest position in the field in the gift of the Company. It is within his certain reach. The opportunities for merited advancement are unlimited. All needed explanations will be furnished upon appli cation to the Company's Superintendents in any of the principal cities.

BRANCH OFFICES IN CANADA:

Hamilton, Can., 37 James Street South—Geo. C. Jepson, Supt.
London, Can., Duffield Block, cor. Dundas and Clarence Sts.—John T. Merchant, Supt.
Montreal. Can., Rooms 539 and 533 Board of Trade Building, 49 St. Sacrament St.—Chas. Stansfi
Ottawa, Can., cor Metcalfe and Queen Sts., Metropolitan Life Building—Francis R. Finn, Supt
Quebec Can., 185 St. Peter's St., 12 Peoples Chambers—Joseph Favreau, Supt.
Toronto Can.. Room B, Confederation Building.—Wm. O. Washbupn, Supt

Assurance Co., Limited. Of LONDON, Eng.

Fire - Life - Marine

Capital & Assets, \$32,500,000

Canadian Branch—Head Office, Montreal.

JAS. McGregor, Manager.

Toronto Office, 49 Weilington Street Bast.

R. WIOKENS,

Gen. Agent for Toronto and Co. of York

Caledonian

INSURANCE CO. of Edinburgh

LANSING LEWIS. Branch Mgr., Montreal.

A. M. NAIRN, Inspector.

MUNTZ & REATTY, Resident Agents, Temple Building, Bay St., Toronto. Telephone 2309.

UNSELL, GLASSCO & CO., Agents, Hamilton

Insurance Co. of America.

GEORGE SIMPSON, Resident Manager WM. MACKAY, Assistant Manager

MUNTZ & BEATTY, Resident Agents,

Temple Bldg., Bay St., Toronto. Tel. 2309.

C. S. SCOTT, Resident Agent, Hamilton. Ont.

WELLINGTON MUTUAL Insurance Co.

Established 1840.

Business done on the Cash and Premium Note System.

GEORGE SLEEMAN, Esq., President.
JOHN DAVIDSON, Esq., Secretary. Head Office, Guelph, Ont.

INSURANCE CO. Of Ontario, Limited

INCORPORATED 1889.

E. F. CLARKE, M. P., S. M. KENNEY, Manager E. MARSHALL, Secretary.

Head Office—Opp. General Post Office,
TORONTO

Total Assets Exceed Half a Million Dollars Deposits with both Dominion and Ontario Governments

Agents Wanted in unrepresented districts

PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Established 1875.

EDWARD W. SCOTT, President.

General Agents wanted in unrepresented districts. Apply to R. H. Matson, General Manager for Canada, 37 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

The Farmers' and Traders'

Liberal Policies **Economical**

LIFE AND ACCIDENT ASSURANCE CO. Limited.

Management. Head Office, ST. THOMAS, ONT.

Agents wanted t represent the Company

STOCK AND BOND REPORT.

BANKS		Capital Sub- scribed,	Capital Paid-up.	Rest.	Dividend last 6 Months.	TORONTO, Jan. 5.99		Cash val	
Palata - Calumbia	\$100	*9 010 000	\$ 2,919,996	\$ 486,666	21 % 1				
Britisa ColumbiaBritish North America	943	4,866,666	4,866,666	1,387,000	23,%+	123	127	389.31	
Canadian Bank of Commerce	50	6,000,000	6,000,000	1,000,000	2) 3)	145	1464	72.75	
Commercial Bank, Windsor, N.S			349,172	113,000	3	110		44.80	
ommercial Bank, Windsor, N.S	40	500,000				112	116	128.75	
Ominion	50	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	3*	2571	258½	72.50	
Sastern Townships Ialifax Banking Co	50	1,500,000	1,500,000	835,000	31 31	145	150		
Halifax Banking Co	20	500,000	500,000	350,000	3-3	153	1561	კ∩.60	
lamilton	100	1,470,000	1,352,900	838,798	4	186	188	186.00	
Iochelaga	100	1.236,500	1,202,906	450,000	31 41	130	135	130.00	
mperial	100	2,000,000	000,000, س	1,200,00C	41	212	214	212.00	
a Rangue du Pennie		suspended		*******	()				
a Banque Iscanes Cartier	25	500,000	500,000	250,000	21	82	90	21.00	
a Banque Jacques Cartier	20	1,200,000	1,200,000	100,000	32	72	76	14.80	
A Danque Nationale	100	£ 000,000	6,000,000	2,600,000	4	178	10	178.00	
rerenants Bank of Canada		6,000,000					*****		
derchants Bank of Halifax	100	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,175.000	3½ 4†	1881	$192\frac{1}{2}$	188.50	
loisons	50	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,500,000		•••••			
Montreal	200	12,000,000	12,000,000	6,000,000	5	249	255	498.00	
New Brunswick	100	500,000	500,000	600,000	6	300	3013	300.00	
Vova Scotia	100	1,500,000	1,500,00	1,600,000	4	820		220.00	
Intodo	100	1,000,000	1,000,000	85,000	g1	115		115.00	
Ontario	100		1,500,000	1,170.000	21 41			200.0	
ttawa	100	1,500,000	1,000,000	1,1,0.000	91	200			
People's Bank of Halifax People's Bank of N.B	20	700,000	700,000	220,000	3	110	117	22.00	
eople's Bank of N.B	150	180,000	180,000	130,000	4	•••••			
Duebec	100	2,500,000	2,500,000	650,00C	3	1162	119	116.75	
luebec t. Stephen's	100	200,000	200,000	45,000	24				
tandard	50	1,000,000	1,000,000	600,000	4 4	188	190	94,00	
Panada		2,000,000	2,000,000	1,800,000			100	246 75	
Coronto	100				5	246 3	*****	240 10	
Traders		700,000	700,000	50,000	3	108	110	-:	
Jnion Bank, Halifax	50	500,000	500,000	225,000	31	142	1	71.00	
Jnion Bank, Halifax Jnion Bank of Canada	60	2,000,000	1,941,755	350,000	3	100	120	60.00	
Ville Marie	100	500,000	479,620	10,000	3	70	100	70.00	
Western	100	500,000	384.340	118,000	31				
Zarmouth	75	300,000	300,000	40,000	3	102	106	76.50	
BEHOUM		011,100	,		-			10.0	
ĺ					*quarterly			}	
LOAN COMPANIES.								,	
LUAN COMPANIES.					†And 1%			!	
INDER BUILDING SOCIETIES ACT, 1859					bonus.			}	
MDER BUILDING SOCIETIES ACT, 1000			1		1			-	
Agricultural Savings & Loan Co	50	630,000	629,544	160,060	3	108		54.00	
Building & Loan Association	25	750,000	750,000	100,000	2		60	1	
Canada Perm. Loan & Savings Co	50	5,000,000	2,600,000	1,150,000	3	105		52.50	
			750,000	220,000	3		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	67.25	
Canadian Savings & Loan Co	50	750,000	750,000	240,000		$114\frac{1}{2}$	•••••	37.50	
Dominion Sav. & Inv. Society Preehold Loan & Savings Company	50	1,000,000	934,200	10,000	24	75	•••••	31.00	
reehold Loan & Savings Company	100	3,221,500	1,319,100	300,000	3		83		
Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co	50	3,000,000	1,400,000	750,000	44	171		171.00	
Hamilton Provident & Loan Soc	100	1,500,000	1,100,000	300,000	3		106		
Landed Banking & Loan Co	100	700,000	688.098	160,000	3	******	106		
andon I con Co. of Canada	50	679,700	661,850	81.000	3	109	100	54.50	
ondon Loan Co. of Canada Ontario Loan & Deben. Co., London		2,000,000	1,200,000	480.00C	31		121		
Ontario Loan & Deben. Co., London	50	2,000,000	200,000		32	•••••			
Ontario Loan & Savings Co., Oshawa	50	300,000	300,000	75,000	3 ·		*****		
People's Loan & Deposit Co	50	600,000	600,000	40,000	3	•••••	36		
Jnion Loan & Savings Co	50	1,095,400	699,020	200.000			7C	******	
Western Canada Loan & Savings Co	50	3,000,000	1,500,000	770,000	3	119		59.50	
•				•				-	
Under Private Acts.		ì							
		1			1				
Brit, Can. L & Inv. Co. Ld., (Dom. Par.)	100	1,937,900	398,481	120,000	3		100	1	
Central Can. Loan and Savings Co						1001		126 50	
ondon & Ont Inv Co I td do	100	2,500,000		345,000	11*	1261	131		
London & Ont. Inv. Co., Ltd. do. London & Can. Ln. & Agy. Co. Ltd. do. Man. & North-West. L. Co. (Dom. Par.)	100	2,750,000		160,000	3		85		
London & Can. Lin. & Agy. Co. Ltd. do.	50	5,000,000	700,000	210,000	13*		70		
man. or North-West. L. Co. (Dom. Par.)	100	1,500,000	375,000	51,000	0	30	35	30.00	
"THE COMPANIES' ACT," 1877-1889.			1					1	
IRE COMPARIES ACT, 1011-1009.	ĺ	1	1		I i			1	
mperial Loan & Investment Co. Ltd	100	839,850	720,647	160,000	3		100	1	
Can. Landed & National Inv't Co., Ltd.	100	2,008,000		350,000	3		94		
Pool Patoto I can Co			373,720	50,000	2		60		
Real Estate Loan Co	40	010,040	313,120	30,000	ا ت ا	•••••	00		
Oum Im Say I pam Dim Lom 1084	l	1	I	İ	1 - 1			1	
Ont. Jt. Str. Lett. Pat. Act, 1874.	1		1		1				
British Mortgage Loan Co	100	450,000	316,504	100,000	3		•••••		
Ontario Industrial Loan & Inv. Co	100		314,386	150,000	3				
Foronto Savings and Loan Co	100			110,000	3	113	116	113.00	
TOTOTIO GEATINES WITH TOWN CO	100	1,000,000	000,000	120,000		110	110	115.00	
	1	1	1	!	*quarterly			1	
		1			•	·			
******** *****	DC.		H				D	. 1	
INSURANCE COMPANI	E O		11				Par	Londo	

En		URANCE COMPAN Quotations on Lond		arket		RAILWAYS.	Par value P Sh.
No. Shares or amt. Stock.	Yearly Divi- dend.	NAME OF COMPANY	Share par value.	Amount paid.	Last Sale. Dec. 23	Grand Trunk Con. stock	\$100 100
950,000 50,000 900,000 60,00 136,493 35,862 10,000 85,100	271 9 25 5 20 10	Alliance	. 50 . 10 . 20 . 20 . 25 . 10	21-5 5 5 5 2 124 2	7 7	Great Western per 5% debenture stock Midland Sig. 1st mtg. bonds, 5% Toronto, Grey & Bruce 4% stg. bonds, 1st mortgage	10 100 100 100
391,752 <i>l</i> 30,000 110,000 53,776 125,234 50,000 10,000 240,000	90 30 30 p s 35 581	Liv. Lon. & G. F. & L. Northern F. & L. Northern F. & L. Northern E. Royal Insurance Royal Insurance Scottlish Imp. F. & L Standard Life CANADIAN.	Stk 100 25 . 50 . 20 . 10	10 61 5 3 1	50 51 77 79 391 401 41 42 52 53	Dominion 5% stock, 1903, of Ry. loan do. 4% do. 1904, 5, 6, 8	••••••
15,000 9,500 10,000 7,000 5,000 9,000 50,000	20 15 16 5 10	Brit. Amer. F. & M. Canada Life Confederation Life. Sun Life Ass. Co Quebec Fire Queen City Fire Western Assurance	400 100 100 100	10 15 55 25	275 300 400 410	do. do. Local Imp Bonde 1919	906, 6% , 5% , 4%
	sills, 3 me	onthsdo		don, 3 7-16 3 3 3 3 3	Dec. 23.	" ' sterling deb. 1925 " Vancouver, 1931 " " 1932 City Wianipeg, deb. 1907	. 6% f. debs f. 6% f. 6% f. 4% f. 4% f. 6%

110 113

London

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST POLICY?

PLAN Tontine Annual Dividend Renewable Term

Incorporated 1848

UNION MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Co.. Portland. Maine.

Subject to the Invaluable Maine Non-Porfeiture Law and contains

all Up- to- Date **Features**

FRED. E. RICHARDS President.

ARTHUR L. BATES Vice-President.

Reliable Agents always wanted. ddress, HENRI E MORIN, Chief Agent for Canada, 151 St. James Street, Montreal, Canada.

Manchester Fire Assurance Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824

Assets over . .

\$12,000,000

Head Office-MANCHESTER Eng. WILLIAM LEWIS, Manager and Secretary.

Canadian Branch Head Office-TORONTO. JAS. BOOMER, Manager. R. P. TEMPLETON Asst. Manager.

City Agents-Geo. Jaffray, J. M. Briggs, H. O'Hara.

The **DOMINION** Life

ASSURANCE COMPANY

YEAD OFFICE, WATERLOO, ONT

Authorised Capital...... Gov't Deposit at Ottawa 50,000 Subscribed Capital..... 257.600 Paid-up Capital 64.400

The Dominion Life has made handsome gains in sesential feature during 1897.

It has gained in number of lives assured, 8.2 per cent.; in cash premiums, 8.5 per cent.; in number of lives, 8.6 per cent.; in amount assured, 10.5 per cent.; in interest receipts, 16.5 per cent.; in assured, 10.0 per cent.; in surplus over all liabilities, 42.2 per cent.

No Company anywhere is safer, sounder, more arrivable or more favorable to the assured in all its arrangements than the Dominion Life. Call on its agent when thinking of putting on more life assurance.

AMES INNES, M.P., Pres. CHR. KUMPF, Esq., Vice-Pres THOS. HILLIARD, Managing Director

Millers' and

ESTABLISHED

Manufacturers' Insurance Co.

Read Office,

Queen City Chambers, Church Street, Toronto.

DIRECTORS:

JAS. GOLDIE, Pres. THOS. WALMSLEY, Treas. J. L. SPINK, Vice-Pres. HUGH SCOTT, Mgr. and Sec. Adam Austin, Inspector.

Adam Austin, Inspector.

This Company was organized in 1895, specially for the purpose of insuring manufacturing industries, ware-bouses and contents.

The primary object being to give protection against loss by fire at a minimum cost consistent with absolute accurity.

The system adopted has been to inspect all risk before acceptance and fix the rate to be exacted equitably in accordance with the hazard assumed.

ably in accordance with the hazard assumed.

Assurers with this company have made a saving, upwards of \$108,000.00 on the current rates charged, in addition to which, on the clared to policy-holders amounting to over \$22,000.00, together, making the very subpolicy-holders have saved during the eleven years we have been in operation.

As no canvassers are employed dealing directly with the assured, those desiring to avail themselves of the advantages thus offered will please address.

[Milers' and Manufacturars' Insurance Co.

fullers' and Manufacturers' insurance Co., 39 Church Street, Toronto, On



CAPITAL, \$25,000,000.

CANADIAN HEAD OFFICE, - - MONTREAL

P. M. WICKHAM, Mansger. GEO. McMURRICH, Act., Toronto.

FREDERICK T. BRYERS, Inspector.

Extended

S granted by the Unconditional Accumulative Policy of the Confederation Life Ass'n. Under this provision the full amount of the policy is, in the event of the non-payment of the third or any subsequent premium, extended as a term insurance, and the policy-holder is held fully covered for the full face value of the policy for a term of years definitely stated therein.

Paid-up and Cash Values are also guaranteed.

Rates and full information sent on application to the Head Office, Toronto, or to any of the Association's Agents.

onfederation **Association**

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

J. K. MACDONALD, Man. Director,

The **Mercantile**

FIRE INSURANCE CO.

INCORPORATED 1875

Head Office, - WATERLOO, Ontario

Subscribed Capital, \$250,000 00 Deposit with Dominion Governm't, \$50,079 76

All Policies Guaranteed by the LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY with Assets of \$15,000,000. JAMES LOCKIE,
President.

JOHN SHUH, Vice-Pre ALFRED WRIGHT, Secretary. T. A. GALE, Inspector.

THE ntario____ Mutual Life

HEAD OFFICE - - WATERLOO, ONT.

HEARIY GREETINGS for past year's success— the greatest in the Company's history—are tendered to its

Policy-holders and Agents

New Business for 1998, all written in Canada - exceeds

\$3,750,000!

Death losses and management expenses low. In every Department the Company shows

Growth **Prosperity** Stability

Assurance MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

RICHARD A. McCURDY, President.

Statement for the Year ending December 31st, 1897

Assets \$253,786,437 66 Liabilities... 218,278,243 07 Surplus \$ 35,508,194 59

Income for 1897 ... \$54,162,608 23

Insurance and Annuities in force ... \$936,634,496 63

TWENTY-YEAR DISTRIBUTION POLICY

on continuous life and limited payment plans affords the maximum of security at the minimum of cost.

ENDOWMENT LIFE OPTION POLICY

provides a guaranteed income, secure investment and absolute protection.

FIVE PER CENT. DEBENTURE

furnishes the best and most effective forms of indemnity and fixed annual income to survivors.

CONTINUOUS INSTALMENT POLICY

so adjusts the payment of the amount insured as to create a fixed income during the life of the beneficiary.

For detailed information concerning these exclusive forms of insurance contracts and agencies, apply to

THOMAS MERRITT, Manager,

31, 32, 33 Canadian Bank of Commerce Building,

TORONTO, ONTARIO

WATERLOO MUTUAL FIRE INS. CO.

ESTABLISHED IN 1863

HEAD OFFICE, WATERLOO, ONT.

Total Assets 31st Dec., 1893\$349,734 71 Policies in Force in Western Ontario over

GEORGE RANDALL, President.

JOHN SHUH, Vice-President.

FRANK HAIGHT, Manager.

JOHN KILLER Inspector.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Head Office, GALT, ONT.

Total Losses Paid...... \$ 1,717,550 64 Total Assets 339,109 42 Cash and Cash Assets ...

Both Cash and Mutual Plans

PRESIDENT, - HON. JAMES YOUNG VICE-PRESIDENT, - A. WARNOCK, Esq. Manager, R. S. STRONG, Galt.

THE GREAT-WEST

LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

THE COMBINED

TERM AND

PROVIDES LIFE POLICY

Guaranteed Cash Value.

Guaranteed Paid-up Value.

Guaranteed Extended Insurance.

at a lower GUARANTEED PREMIUM than any other plan.

THE GREAT-WEST LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

ILLICIT DISCOUNTS.

An article appears in another column on the subject of "The Odd Pence." The reference is to the pence which it is the custom of some retailers to deduct when paying an account. The excuse for this practice is that it simplifies the keeping of a banking account; the real reason is that it annually puts a considerable sum into the pocket of the customer. The desirability of speaking the plain truth on this point has long been recognized in the wholesale trade, but the difficulty of doing so without giving offence has proved insuperable. But it is time that retailers clearly understood how the mat-ter is regarded in wholesale counting-houses, and, indeed, by all right-think-ing people. The fact that payees genering people. The fact that payees generally submit to the imposition without protest is possibly regarded as an indica-tion that they don't mind it. That, however, is an altogether mistaken view of the situation. Wholesale houses accept short payments of accounts because they do not like to make a fuss about trifles. But they are beginning to recognize that in the aggregate these illicit discounts are very far from being a trifle. If it has not seemed worth while to dispute the deduction of odd pence in a few scattered instances, it is becoming decidedly necessary to take some action in the matter now that the practice of making such deductions appears to be spreading. That such is the growing opinion among wholesale houses we are in a position to affirm, and the sooner the retail trade recognizes the fact the better.

It is not a little curious that persons of

the strictest probity in ordinary matters of business should see no harm in petty pilferings of the kind in question. If any respectable retailer were told that he once secretly annexed a pile of coppers when in London counting-house, he would mightily offended, not only at the un-truthfulness of the statement, but at the mere suspicion that he could be guilty of such a thing. And he would do right to be angry. Nothing could ever induce him to steal coppers from anybody. Indeed, if he should happen to be accompanied by his chief cashier, and the latter should joyfully produce a pocketful of coppers in the evening, and say: "I coppers prigged these from the various counting-houses we visited to-day," we venture to say that the employer would be very far from gratified at this proof of his cashier's sharpness and devotion to his interets. Yet that very same retailer is quite com-placent regarding that same cashier's practice of deducting illicit discounts when drawing cheques in payment of ac-Where is the essential difference between the two transactions? It is only a matter of "odd pence" in both; yet the one is looked upon as venial and the other as criminal.—Draper's Record.

A TRAVELLER WHO LOVES HIS BUSINESS.

have travelled twenty years. never missed a season. I have been married eight years, and spent only one Christmas with my wife. But I would Christmas with my wife. But I wou rather be a travelling salesman than lawyer or a doctor, writes Henry V

Chapman, in the Boston Globe.

Perhaps it is true, that to succeed at anything a man must prefer that thing.

If I am to be guided by my own experience, there are also other essentials to even a reasonable success. Know your goods, know your market, know your customers. Work by day and travel by night. Keep your digestion and your temper even. Keep your eye clear, and your hand steady, and tell your customers the truth—not fairy stories, not even 'good stories."

Goods are no longer sold on friendship. They must have merits of their own, and they must be offered for sale

at the right time. Anticipation is half

the battle.

In the development of this country the part played by commercial travellers is rarely considered. Yet it is a most im-portant one. But it is a great deal easier to go out and do a thing than it is to tell how it is done.

He is the middle man between the seller and the buyer and he must command the respect of each of them.

In order to do this, he can't well avoid being truthful, courteous, and polite. It is hardly necessary to say that he must feel well and keep well to be able to do this, and his digestion must be equal to almost any kind of food he finds.

If my own experiences are of any value to young men who may think of starting out in this business, they are welcome to it. I began on the road about the time I majority; already reached my served a useful apprenticeship in the retail trade.

Why was that useful? Because you can't sell goods unless you know them; you can't convince a customer unless you can answer his questions and anticipate his objections. There's no use wasting his objections. time in trying to make friends with him unless you can sell him goods. Drinking with him and telling him good stories does not count for much now-a-days. It's more and more straight goods and straight business.

The best customer last year may not be so good this year; discounts may have fallen off, ill-health hurt his business; he may have quarrelled by letter with the home house. Now, the home house not only wants to weed out undesirable customers, but to replace them with good ones. It is the experienced travelling salesman who alone can know not only when but where to go.

Concentration is what pays the house as well as its travellers. Know your market, know your customers, and know your special line of goods. Every suc-cessful road salesman has offers to take outside lines. But I have always refused; it's better to have one thing to sell and sell that, and nothing else.

In all my twenty years on the road I have never been insulted, never had a personal altercation. And the one Christ-mas that my wife did spend with me she travelled 2,000 miles to do it.

But I love my business. I wouldn't give it up. Even if, like some habits, it does "unfit a man for anything else."

RELATIVE METHODS OF THE CASH AND CREDIT SYSTEMS.

The following essay, written for the "Boot and Shoe Recorder," about as much common sense on the cash v. credit issue as anything elsewhere read. It is important to observe, however, in considering it, that the arguments for the credit system apply much mare strongly to the grocery than to the boot and shoe business, for the reason we have previously pointed out, that the grocery buyer is a regular every-day customer, whilst the buyer of boots and shoes is only an occasional one.

In response to your call for prize essays, on the question of cash or credit, I can give you a few points from my experience which may perhaps be of some interest. I will not attempt an essay of 2,500 words or more, but will try to place

my meaning in as few words as possible.

As far as I have had experience I have found some advantages in both cash and credit systems. The choice must depend largely on the location and conditions. The choice must depend I have had a store in the city of Chicago, and in any large city you can do only a cash business with safety. I do not mean by this that the people are not honest, but as you deal largely with the laboring class you must depend on their earnings. As long as they have work they have money, but when there is no work no

money. So if a person wished to do a credit business it would be at a great

As for the country trade, it again depends on the class or people with whom you are dealing. Here in my neighborhood you can safely run a credit business and collect 99 cents on the dollar of it, but on the other hand, I have a brother in a certain part of Missouri (I do not wish to state what part of Missouri (I do not wish to reflect on good persons' characters), where you could do a credit business and lose 90 cents on the dollar of it.

A great deal depends on the people, their surroundings and their honesty. I have had men who owed me as much as \$150, when the same men could not get They were credit for five cents outside. They were worthy of confidence, and when helped so that they got a start again, they paid

me my money first and gladly.

As for changing from a credit to a cash system, I know it could not be done in a farming community, as a general rule, but still sometimes it can be done. That has to be decided by the neighborhood. It must be considered whether, if the change is made from credit to cash, the people as a rule would have the ready money, and whether you would gain or lose customers by the change.

In saying that the cash basis would not do in a farming community, I have reference to a community where all the farmers depend upon is their butter, eggs and other produce, and where they have cash for their crops only once a year. do not mean to apply it to a locality where farmers ship milk or other products of the farm and get cash for the same every two or four weeks. In such locality cases, of course, the farmers are on the same basis as the laborers in a city, who are paid every two or four weeks, or even

As for changing from credit to in a city, it can easily be accomplished. For every customer lost you get another one who thinks you can afford to sell at a still lower price than you could before on the credit system. The fact that 99 on the credit system. The fact that 99 per cent. of the dealers who have a credit system in a large city do not make any money, and also that a great many fail, shows which way the straws follow the

I have known of dealers changing from a credit system to a cash basis, who afterwards had to return to the credit system because they found the cash basis impracticable. So I think the question cannot be decided off-hand by arguments, but every dealer must study his own business, with all the conditions to the conditions of the condi with all the conditions, and judge for himself as to which will be profitable for him.

-A decision has just been rendered by Judge Carland, of Deadwood, South Dakota, which is considered by some to be a blow to the loan and saving associations of the state. A man named Crysier several years ago came to Deadwood from Minneapolis, and organized a local board for the American Savings and Loan Association of that city. For a time it was a popular institution, and a number of persons in this city took loans with the expectation of paying them up by in-stalments in about seven years. The stalments in about seven years. The affairs of the concern were not managed well and a receiver was necessary to close up the business. Many of the share-holders paid instalments and interest until the loans manual and the helief til the loans matured, under the belief that the stock would cancel the loan. This was denied and then payment was resisted on the plea of usury. Action to recover on foreclosure was begun in the Federal Court. Judge Carland held that the innot terest agreed upon and paid was not usurious, and that the purchase of stock was an independent investment.—American Investments.

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