

Grocery Trade Notes.

Tollet soaps are higher in the United States.

Cranberries advanced 50 cents at Minneapolis last week.

Currents are 1s higher in Greece. Further advances are anticipated.

Bananas advanced 20 per cent at Minneapolis last week on reports of damage to trees in Jamaica.

Lemons have advanced 50c per box on all Messinas and Yordillas at New York. Shortage in supplies is responsible.

California apricots advanced 1-2c per pound at Minneapolis last week, and are likely to go still higher according to current opinion.

There was an advance of 5c on all grades of refined sugar at Montreal last week, due to the higher railway freights.

Evaporated apples showed a tendency to decline in United States markets last week, and actually did decline 1-2c to 3-4c at Minneapolis.

The Montreal Wholesale Grocers' Guild, has advanced the price of Barbados molasses 3c per gallon all around, and wholesale grocers in that city are asking 43c for single punch-cans and 42c for car lots.

Reports from southwestern Iowa, which is one of the heaviest apple producing sections of the United States, indicate that dealers have suffered heavy losses through the sweating and subsequent rotting of apples. The unusually warm weather is responsible for the loss.

Canned meats advanced in the United States last week owing, it is said, to the demand for war purposes, both by the United States and British governments. The increase amounts to about 20c per dozen on 2-lb. tins of tongue, ham, etc., and other sizes proportionately. Canned peas and corn also advanced 5 to 10c per dozen.

Brazilian advices say of coffee that it is not owing to the meeting of the revision committee of the coffee exchange failing to make any changes in grades nor sympathy with the advance in cotton or any other merchandise, nor bunion plague in Brazil or any other place, nor Italian labor exodus from Brazil or any other feature that is advancing coffee, but from the mere fact, pure and simple, that consumption—or deliveries as some term it—is 15,000,000 bags, against a 9,500,000 Brazil crop and 4,000,000 crop of other kinds.

Complaints regarding the quality of American winter apples are becoming numerous on both sides of the Atlantic. The varieties most complained of are spies and greenings, and it is said that they are both poor and nasty. The British market has been specially disappointing and some shippers have lost heavily. The real trouble with the apples does not seem to be very clear, but they are evidently not of the soundness and keeping quality that usually characterize the Canadian and United States fruits, the two mentioned varieties especially.

Canadian manufacturers of linen threads advanced their prices last week 15 per cent.

The Manitoba Dairy association has shipped an exhibit of cheese for the Paris exposition, consisting of two cheeses, one white and one colored, each weighing about 70 lbs., made at the factory of Theo. Pare, St. Anne des Chene. Exhibits of butter will be prepared and forwarded next spring.

FINANCIAL

BRANDON BONDS.

The following communication, signed by the mayor and chairman of the finance committee of the city of Brandon, Man., has been mailed to the city's creditors:

In accordance with a resolution passed by the council on the 22nd instant we beg to submit the following: About eight weeks ago we mailed you a circular letter setting forth the financial position of the city of Brandon and offering a reconversion of its indebtedness by the issue of new debentures payable in fifty years, and asking that accredited representatives be appointed to confer with us and ascertain for themselves as to the correctness of the statements in aforesaid circular, with a view to a settlement.

Since no action has been taken except to continue suits against the city, we wish to point out that such a course on the part of our creditors can only have one effect, viz., impair the security now held by the bondholders. The step we have taken was not arrived at hastily, but after several years of earnest consideration, very much regretting the necessity for such a course, but feeling that matters were constantly becoming worse. Possibly our creditors may feel a certain encouragement in continuing suits against the city, since we have paid judgments re December, 1898, coupons; but the reason for so doing was the fact that the 1898 levy provided for those amounts. This year matters are different. We have not levied for a single dollar of interest, and it is not our intention to pay any more interest until we have a meeting with our creditors, when we have the hope that our financial difficulties can be arranged.

We would further point out that if the present course of issuing writs is pursued, it will undoubtedly force an early resignation of the council, and we take it this action will not be desired by any one concerned.

WINNIPEG CLEARING HOUSE.

The Winnipeg clearing house returns for the week ending Thursday, compared with the corresponding week in previous years show as follows:

Week ending Nov. 30, 1899	\$3,286,156
Corresponding week, 1898	3,264,384
Corresponding week, 1897	2,276,160

The monthly clearings at Winnipeg for a series of years show as follows:

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Jan.	\$6,347,168	\$5,609,918	\$4,977,200
Feb.	5,517,000	3,851,000	4,052,000
Mar.	5,968,000	4,289,000	4,256,000
April	6,240,000	4,161,962	4,012,000
May	8,683,264	5,014,786	4,246,201
June	7,398,799	5,531,140	4,094,000
July	6,316,258	5,610,603	4,961,277
Aug.	6,180,385	6,298,574	4,646,959
Sept.	6,414,551	8,035,201	4,630,706
Oct.	9,347,692	13,291,879	7,685,472
Nov.	11,553,669	13,550,761	8,895,175
Dec.	10,708,731	9,784,498	7,736,946
Year	90,672,798	83,436,121	64,143,935

Jan.	\$7,683,052
Feb.	6,209,471
March	6,750,094
April	6,916,431
May	7,472,855
June	8,211,716
July	8,169,595
Aug.	7,995,291
Sept.	8,281,159
Oct.	12,689,000
Nov.	14,435,219

FINANCIAL NOTES.

Canadian banks increased their note circulation during October from \$10,682,793 to \$19,588,236. Deposits, loans and all other features of banking business on the credit side increased in like proportion.

Following is a statement of the business done by the Dominion government savings bank at Winnipeg for the month ending Nov. 30: Deposits, \$21,615; withdrawals, \$22,808.47; deposits exceed withdrawals by \$1,406.53.

William Weir, president of the defunct Banque Ville Marie, was found guilty at Montreal on Nov. 27 on the charge of presenting to the government on June 30 last a report containing a wilfully false and deceptive statement.

The Winnipeg city council will submit a by-law on the 12th inst. to the ratepayers to authorize an issue of debentures for \$12,500 for the purchase of a site for a hay market. A by-law will also be submitted the same day to raise \$17,000 for the establishment of a crematory.

The depositors of the Ville Marie bank have sent a petition to the Dominion government asking for a grant towards making up the amount they have lost. They urge, that the over-issues of that bank have been, or will be paid in full, which they consider unjust to other creditors, and they regard the government as being to blame for those over-issues.

INSURANCE NOTES.

H. Worsley, late city agent for the Confederation Life, who was retired from this position, is going south, owing to poor health.

A. J. Norquay, of Winnipeg, has been appointed general agent for the Federal Life Assurance company for the district of Alberta with headquarters at Calgary.

William Selater, president and managing director of the Canadian Asbestos Co., of Montreal, was in Winnipeg this week on a business trip. This company manufacture a very excellent and valuable line of goods for building purposes, etc. One line is the asbestos wall plaster, a fire proof plaster of great value. Also numerous other products of that wonderful commodity called asbestos, such as boiler and pipe covering, fire felt, asbestos roofing, asbestos rope and cord, asbestos fire proof paint, packing, etc.

H. S. Paterson, grain merchant, Winnipeg, whose assignment was noted in The Commercial two weeks ago, will devote his energies in the meantime to organizing and pushing The Western Canada Accident & Benevolent Association, of which he is secretary-treasurer. A meeting of his creditors is called for December 15th. It is understood that the farmers of Macdonald district, at which station Paterson has a fine grain elevator, are organizing a company to take this over, which will mean, if the scheme goes through, an early settlement of Paterson's accounts.

WANTED—SEVERAL PERSONS FOR District Office Managers in this state to represent me in their own and surrounding counties. Willing to pay yearly \$600, payable weekly. Desirable employment with unusual opportunities. References exchanged. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope. S. A. Park, 120 Caxton Building, Chicago.