

**Grain and Milling.**

The total amount of wheat expected to be marketed at Moosemoin Assn. this crop is upwards of 200,000 bushels.

A special meeting of the Brandon Council was held last week for the purpose of reading the by-law to grant a bonus of \$9,000 to Alexander Kelly & Co., to aid them in building a roller flour mill with a capacity of 300 barrels a day and an oatmeal mill with a capacity of seventy-five barrels. The by-law passed its second reading and will be voted on on the 14th of Sept.

There is some prospect of the erection at once of a large handling elevator in Winnipeg, by the Northern Elevator Co., to replace the one burned recently, if this is done, the new elevator will be a great improvement on the old one. Nothing has been heard of late of the proposed Canadian Pacific Railway elevator at Winnipeg, and it seems doubtful if the railway company will do anything this year in establishing an elevator at Winnipeg.

The new roller flouring mill at Vernon, British Columbia is now well under way; it is expected that manufacturing will commence early in October. The location is along the Canadian Pacific Railway track. The main building is 33 by 43 feet, four stories high, with large storage elevator in one end, power house 24 by 36 feet, two stories high. The whole foundation is substantially built with a good class of stone; the machinery is expected daily from Toronto. The capacity is to be 60 barrels a day.

The following is the board to select the standards of grain grown west of Part Arthur: Samuel Spink, chairman, J. A. Mitchell, S. A. McGaw and J. Harris, Winnipeg; W. B. Bell, Angus McKay, Indian Head; J. Elder, Virden; W. Postlethwaite, Brandon; Chas. Braithwaite, Portage la Prairie; T. Baker, Moose Jaw; C. B. Watts, G. H. Champion, Toronto; J. Carruthers, T. A. Crane, Montreal; F. E. Gibbs and D. Horne, departmental inspectors; C. N. Bell, secretary. The board meets in Winnipeg, on Sept. 11th.

Following the announcement of the Canadian Pacific railway company of a reduction in elevator rates the Lake of the Woods and the Ogilvie Milling companies and the Northern Elevator company, who have elevators at the chief grain shipping points in Manitoba and the Territories, have declared their intention of making a reduction of half a cent per bushel in their charges for handling grain at their interior elevators from farmers' teams to cars. The present rate is two cents per bushel, including twenty days' storage; the new rate will be one cent and a half.

As foreshadowed in THE COMMERCIAL, the rates charged by the Canadian Pacific Railway at their Fort William elevators have been reduced. The reduction takes effect on September 1. The rate for elevating, including storage for 20 days and discharging, has been reduced from 1 1/2 to 3/4 cents per bushel. Storage for each succeeding 30 days will now be 1/2 cent per bushel, the rate formerly being 3/4 cent for 15 days. Cleaning and blowing will be 1/2 cent per bushel, instead of 3/4 as formerly. The new rate will correspond closely with the recent reduction made in elevator rates at Duluth. The new rate at Duluth is 1/2 cent for receiving, elevating and discharging, including storage for fifteen days, and 3/4 cent for storage for 30 days additional.

**The Crop Situation.**

Burnside, Aug. 27.—The grain in this vicinity is all out and stacking will be finished this week. Threshing commenced last Friday and was general on Monday. Oats and barley are averaging between thirty and thirty-five bushels per acre, wheat on an average will not go much over twenty.

Arden, Aug. 27.—Harvest would have been nearly over by now, if the supply of twine had

continued; many are stopped for the want of it, and some are talking of starting binding by hand; the yield is much larger than expected and is of good quality; oats will also be better than looked for.

Stonewall, Aug. 27.—Speaker Jackson, of the Manitoba Legislature finished threshing on his big farm and has reaped a good crop. Some of the fields of wheat ran as high as thirty-two bushels to the acre and the average will be at least twenty-three bushels.

Griawold, Aug. 27.—Threshing is in full swing a great many are threshing out of the stock. Wheat is a splendid sample.

Sidney, Aug. 27.—The wheat is all out. Stacking and threshing is now the order of the day. If the weather continues fine this week most of the oats will be cut.

Gladstone, August 27.—All the grain will be out this week and with the continued weather of the past month all the grain should be stacked next week in A 1 condition. It is impossible to give a correct estimate of the yield, as every second man you meet has a different idea and is sure his estimate is correct. Wheat 20 to 25 bushels per acre; oats 50 to 60; barley, 35 to 40, but there was very little of the latter sown and will be required for seed and feed.

Birtle, August, 27.—Ninety per cent of wheat out in good condition, yield 18 bushels per acre; fifty per cent of oats out, yield 40 bushels per acre. Very little barley in this vicinity. All kinds of vegetables a good crop.

Neopawa, August 27.—Harvesting is general. Some farmers with small acreage have finished cutting, and are now stacking. It was expected that the yield would be thirty per cent more than last year, but it is now concluded that it will be fifty per cent, if not in excess of that. Threshing will be commenced next week, and will be general the following week.

Minnedosa, August 27.—Wheat cutting is practically finished. The yield is safe at from 20 to 25 bushels per acre, without injury to sample. Oats 75 per cent harvested, 45 to 60 bushels per acre. Barley completed, 35 bushels per acre. The harvest is most satisfactory, and said to equal 1887 in this district.

Moosomin, Aug. 27.—Cutting is now about finished in the Moosomin district and stacking well advanced, returns are better than expected. Samples of new wheat are coming in, and all No. 1 hard. In fact, the quality of the grain has never been excelled. Twenty-five, thirty and more bushels to the acre many farmers will have, and the average yield will be well up to the best of years.

Morden, Aug. 27.—Threshing has commenced. The sample of wheat is A 1 and the yield will be better than expected a few weeks ago. So far the reports give sixteen to twenty-two bushels per acre for wheat.

**Lumber Trade News.**

The Brandon Times says that every freight train over the Northern Pacific brings to that place cars of lumber from the States.

Mitchells new saw mill at Selkirk is now in operation. The capacity is 35,000 feet per day. The logs are towed from Lake Winnipeg. Mr. Mitchell has purchased the steamer Aurora for towing logs.

The Brunette Saw Mill Co., Ltd., of New Westminster, British Columbia, have shipped to Montreal a double carload of Douglas fir timber. Three of the largest pieces were of the following dimensions: 24x24x80, 24x30x54, 36x36x60, square on four edges, and the largest piece without a single knot. The sticks are to be used in dredge building for the Montreal harbor commissioners.

One of the biggest fires Ottawas has ever seen occurred on August 26. It was set,—for it was undoubtedly incendiary—in the centre of J. R. Booth's piling grounds in the south-east quarter of the city, and rapidly spread until it

covered ten acres of ground and destroyed about 8,000,000 feet of lumber. Besides it burned Cedar street public school, eight railway cars, a portion of the bridge over the St. Lawrence & Ottawa railway, and one frame building. The total loss is about \$200,000, of which 60 per cent is covered by insurance. During its high, the fire was a magnificent spectacle, and was witnessed by about 10,000 people. On June 30th last there was a \$250,000 incendiary fire in his big mill at Chaudron.

The sale of Ontario and Quebec timber limits held in the board of trade rotunda, Toronto, on August 29, was fairly well attended, but the bids were scarce. The limits offered have an area of 1,864 square miles, of which 817 are in Ontario and 1,047 in Quebec. The first lot offered, thirty-six square miles in Caldwell township, Ontario, was sold to Nicholas Garland, of Toronto, for \$140 per mile. Several other lots were put up, but in no case was the reserve price reached, and the sale was adjourned.

The long expected reduction in freight rates on lumber from the Lake of the Woods mills to western points has been announced at last. The new tariff shows a reduction of about 5 1/2 cents per 100 pounds. Following shows the old and new tariff, in carload lots, per 100 pounds:

From Rat. Portage or Keewatin to—	Now Rate.	Old Rate.
Winnipeg.....	10 cents.	15 1/2 cents.
Portage la Prairie.....	18	18 1/2
Brandon.....	16	21
Virden.....	18	23
Moosomin.....	19 1/2	25
Regina.....	26	29 1/2
Morden.....	18 1/2	19
Delorsino.....	19 1/2	25
Carman.....	18 1/2	18
Glenboro.....	16	20 1/2

**New Biscuit and Confectionery Business.**

Last week we briefly announced that the biscuit and confectionery business, lately carried on in Winnipeg by Wm. Bateman & Co., had been purchased by Rublee, Riddell & Co., The new proprietors of this important local industry have quickly overhauled the plant, putting it in good working order, and began work in the biscuit department on Tuesday last. The factory possesses first class machinery for the manufacture of all kinds of biscuits, plain and sweet, snaps etc., and it will be the continual effort of the proprietors to turn out first class goods fully equal to the best brought in from the east.

The confectionery department had not been put in operation at the time of the visit of a representative of The Commercial to the establishment, but it would be ready for work in a few days. Some new machinery has been purchased for this department, which will add very much to the facilities of the plant. First-class candy makers have been engaged in Chicago for the confectionery department, including an expert in chocolate and cream goods, and a skilled man for the boned goods department.

The factory affords ample room within its four large floors to carry on a large business, and with the new plant now being added and the general overhauling which has been made, there will be every facility for doing first-class work. Quality, rather than quantity of goods turned out will, however, be the aim of the proprietors, with the object of establishing the business on a solid basis. The proprietors believe, that by giving every care to the production of high class goods, they will be able to supply the western trade with much of the goods which are now apparently unnecessarily brought from the east. This money which is now sent away will be kept in the country. Their aim will be to compete with the very finest goods in the market.

The wholesale fruit business of the firm will be continued as before,