

was the last straw, and of course there was no other course left for us but to liquidate."

The Assiniboia Club, at Regina, has been re-organized, with the following officers: Hon. Pres., His Honor the Lieutenant Governor; Pres., J. A. Kerr; Vice-Pres., G. T. Marsh; Treas., J. A. MacCaul; Sec. R. J. Jones; Committee, Messrs. Watson, Irvine, LeJeune and Pagot.

### Grain and Milling News.

One O'Neil is buying oats at Morris, Man., for the Toronto Street Car Co.

Mr. Clay is erecting a warehouse at Rapid City for the storage of coarse grain principally.

The boiler of the grist mill at Yorkton, Assa., burst recently. It will be some time before the mill can be put in repair again.

Tatchell & Hart are building a warehouse adjoining their elevator at Boissevain, Man., for the purpose of storing coarse grain.

Head & Christie's new grain warehouse, at Rapid City, Manitoba, is now finished. The firm has now storage sufficient for 18,000 bushels of wheat.

The erection of the C. P. Ry. grain shed at Fort William is progressing; over eighty men being engaged on the work. It will be completed this month.

The extent of the grain blockade may be imagined from the statement that at one station alone on the Southwestern Railway, last week, 100 cars were wanted.

The car shortage has been the cause of the hasty erection of a number of grain warehouses. Messrs. Gordon, Watson and Stirtan have each built warehouses at Pilot Mound.

The Rapid City *Spectator* is authority for the statement that the parties who lately purchased the Balkwell mill and property, near that place, have been offered \$500 on their bargain, and refused it.

In some parts of the country there is yet a good deal of threshing to be done. Threshing will commence about the first of March, and be continued until seeding commences. Threshers are mostly laid up for the winter at present.

*Sun.* It is expected the Keewatin flour mill will be completed and ready for operation early in the spring. A large number of men from Winnipeg have been furnished employment during the winter on this massive structure. When the mill opens and regular employees are hired, Keewatin's population will be increased by 75 or 100 more people.

Prospects are that there will be a large extension in the grain storage capacity of Neepawa, Man., next season. J. Law has completed arrangements for the erection of an elevator, and it is now announced that the Ogilvie Company will build an elevator, and that Crawford will enlarge his warehouse and put in elevating machinery. There are now only flat warehouses at Neepawa, operated by the parties mentioned. The town is the leading grain point on the M. & N. W. Ry. It is also almost a certainty that a roller flour mill will be built at Neepawa next summer. The prospects of the town as a grain market are, therefore, excellent.

The people of Macleod, Alberta, have raised a sum of money, and are anxious to secure some mill man to take hold of the project of establishing a flour mill at that place. Those interested in the scheme should make themselves certain that they are dealing with a responsible party, before they commit themselves to any agreement. Several mill projects in Manitoba have fallen through entirely or been badly bungled on account of getting into the hands of irresponsible persons. A man to take hold of such a scheme, should be able to give solid security for a reasonable amount.

### Western Trade Notes.

The mounted police hospital at Fort Saskatchewan has been burned.

The railway company has advanced the price of all its business lots on Main street, Neepawa, Man., 50 per cent.

I. Evans, of Toronto, has been visiting the Rosebud Rancho on the Red Deer, Alberta, with a view of putting on stock in the spring.

The plans are out for the erection at Rapid City of a Masonic hall with a public hall below. The size of building will be 24x50, two stories high.

*Macleod Gazette:* As far as can be learned from various parts of the ranges, cattle have not as yet suffered from the protracted cold weather. There is plenty of feed on the prairie, and cattle are in fine condition.

Edmonton should be a happy place. The *Bulletin* says: Five coal mines are being operated to keep this town and immediate vicinity supplied with fuel, all within what might be called the corporation limits.

*Neepawa Register:* Neepawa will fairly boom next summer. The prospects are that as many buildings will be erected as during any three previous seasons, while the quality will be of a higher standard than formerly.

Another discovery of a seam of coal was made at Authracite, Alberta, the other day in a butte close to the track about a mile west of the town, by some workmen getting out stone for the abutments of a bridge over the stream at that point.

### The Fur Trade.

It is reported from London that at the fur sale on Monday, beaver showed a decline of 15 to 20 per cent. The prospects for the sales in March are not so good.

Receipts have continued moderate, and there has been no anxiety to buy as prices are expected to rule irregular and unsettled abroad. Dealers select with great care, and all unprime skins are not accepted except at cheap rates.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin.*

Mr. WILSON, of Tees, Wilson & Co., wholesale grocers, Montreal, is in the West on a business trip.

Mr. THOMPSON, of Thompson & Codville, wholesale grocers, Quebec and Winnipeg, has arrived here. The firm have decided to close up their business at Quebec, and make Winnipeg their headquarters in the future, which speaks well for the prosperity of their Winnipeg house.

### British Columbia.

M. Muir, general storekeeper, and saw mill, Sooke, is dead.

R. Carr, wholesale grocer and liquor dealer, Victoria, contemplates closing business out at once.

J. Holland has been awarded the contract for the erection of the buildings for C Battery, at Victoria.

Pinchbeck & Lyne, general storekeepers and mills, 150 Mile House, have dissolved partnership; business continued by W. Pinchbeck.

The steamer *Mexico*, running between San Francisco, Victoria and Vancouver, went ashore last week in Plumbers pass, gulf of Georgia. It is thought she will be taken off without serious damage.

*Calgary Tribune:* There is likely to be considerable mining done in the mountains, this coming year. McDermid & Ross will be in all probability spend considerable money in taking out ore and building roads at their Illecilleweat mine. In the neighborhood of Golden and Field a good deal is likely to be done, and from all present indications the mountains will see a good trade next year.

The final statement of the explosion in the Wellington coal mine, places the loss of life at thirty-one white men and forty-one Chinese. The matter of granting Government assistance came up at Ottawa, but it is understood was decided in the negative. This terrible disaster, coming so soon after the late explosion in another mine in the district, has created a feeling almost akin to consternation. The cause of the explosion will be a matter for investigation. All the mines were shut down, and the miners will not return to work until after the investigation.

RAPID CITY wants a private Bank.

MCCASKILL BROS., tailors, Winnipeg, bailiff seized remnant of stock.

D. DALZIEL, grocer, Winnipeg, has admitted Chas McCrossan into partnership.

R. E. MCGREGOR and J. Hewer have commenced the erection of a large sale and feed stable at Rapid City.

KENNETH MURCHISON, dry goods dealer, Winnipeg, has sold out to P. A. D'Auteill, of St. Boniface. The sale was consummated Wednesday and Mr. D'Auteill will assume charge of the business immediately. Mr. Murchison will leave for the south in a few days for the benefit of his health.

F. B. ROSS, manager of the Winnipeg branch of the Western Loan association of Canada, has left for Toronto, accompanied by his family, and it is understood will not return to the city. Mr. Fisher, assistant inspector of the company, came to the city some days ago and it is understood will have charge of the branch here.

THE board of arbitrators, appointed to investigate the conflicting claims of the Government and Ryan & Haney regarding the Red River Valley Railway contract, concluded the hearing of evidence and the arguments in the case last week. A decision will, probably, be rendered somewhere about the 12th of this month.