

Grocery Trade Notes.

Barbados molasses is 1c higher at the island for new crop goods.

member of the Dominion house has moved for the establishment of a bounty on beet sugar made from Canada in beets. The minister of finance promises that the subject will receive attention.

The feature of the nut market is a sharp advance in the primary market in shelled walnuts, prices being equal to 1½ to 2c per lb higher. Locally, the market is without change and on a moderate business as being done in nuts.

Latest mail advices from London, Eng., say: "Currants show an excess, compared with last year of 1,500 tons. Arrivals in 1900, between now and August 31, amounted to 5,000 tons in London alone, and with the probability that none will arrive this year, merchants take a hopeful view of the situation, but though a firm market may be expected through the spring months, there does not seem anything to warrant any material rise. If, however, the attack of peronosporous so impoverished the vines that only another small crop can be produced present prices will appear so reasonable that speculative attention may again be drawn to the article. The clearances for January have been satisfactory, exceeding those of last year, when prices were 50 per cent lower than now."

Mail advices from New York, say: There was a good attendance at the regular tea sales held at noon yesterday. Offerings included some attractive teas. Prices ruled irregular. Moyunes and Ping Sueys ruled strong, prices realized, on the average, showing an advance of about ½c. Congous, however, were weak and easier, and slightly lower values were realized, exclusive of some grades, which sold on the same basis of prices as last sales. Foochow remained unchanged and steady, some sorts showed a decline of ¼c on the average prices realized. Formosas attracted attention, and in the absence of bids, general weakness developed, and on the average sales a decline of ¼c per pound was realized, compared with last sales.

A dispatch from Vancouver on Feb. 22 said: A very important contract has been closed by B. T. Rogers, manager of the British Columbia Sugar Refinery, as a result of a personal trip made by Mr. Rogers to Australia. Mr. Rogers arranged with the Colonial Sugar Refinery Co. of Australia for the shipment of 20,000 tons of sugar per year to the refinery at Vancouver. This sugar will be carried by the Canadian Pacific Australian liners and according to Captain Taylor, will no doubt mean the putting on of a fourth boat on the run, as it will be impossible with what freight they are carrying, for the present boats to handle the big contract.

The feature of the sugar market for the refined article has been the decline of 10c to 15c per 100 lbs on all grades of softs, owing to the continued competition of American refiners in these grades at western points in Canada, which fact has already been noted in these columns. The feeling in granulated is steady, and as the price of this grade is at a pretty low level at present, no further decline is expected in it, unless something unforeseen happens.—Montreal Gazette.

In regard to canned goods it is rumored, says the Montreal Gazette, that an American house has asked some of our largest holders of salmon here, by wire, for the refusal of their complete stock at a certain price, for shipment to England. If this deal goes through it will leave this market pretty bare of stock, as it is stated supplies are none too large at present. In consequence, the feeling is strong and higher prices are anticipated. Canned vegetables in large lots are moving slow, as buyers have ample stocks on hand, but in a better way, trade is reported in most lines and prices are fully maintained.

Lumber Trade Notes.

Taylor Bros., of Solsgrith, Man., are now receiving from the Pileau spruce mills about 40,000 feet of spruce lumber.

Isaac Cockburn, who has been doing such efficient work for the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association for a couple of years past as secretary and organizer, has announced his intention to drop out of the work in the near future.

Hardware Trade Notes.

British manufacturers are quoting whitening about 10c per 100 pounds higher than last year.

White lead dropped 37½c per 100 pounds at Montreal last week, owing to weakness abroad.

Efforts are being made to secure from the Dominion government abolition of the duty on coal oil, as it is contended that there is no longer any Canadian producing industry the whole oil business of this continent being under the control of the Standard Oil Co.

The New York Herald, of Monday, says: J. P. Morgan has just completed the project by which another and the greatest consolidation of capitalists is added to the notable list of the last ten years. The steel combination plan was consummated at a conference in his office late Saturday afternoon. An official announcement may be expected to-day from the offices of J. P. Morgan Co., that the Carnegie Co., the Federal Steel Co., the National Tube Co., the American Steel and Wire Co., the American Tinplate Co., the National Steel Co., the American Steel Hoop Co., and the American Sheet Steel Co. are to be combined into one concern, which is to issue its stock in return for their assets and the earning powers of the respective corporations. This new combination, it is understood, will be called the United States Consolidated Steel Co. It will have a total capitalization of \$1,100,000,000, of this \$300,000,000 will be 5 per cent. general mortgage bonds, \$4,000,000 will be 7 per cent stock and \$100,000,000 will be common stock.

It is stated that the new United States steel trust has secured options on valuable iron deposits in Ontario. W. E. H. Carter, Inspector of the bureau of mines, has just returned to Toronto from an inspection trip in the northwestern part of Ontario. He said: "Along the Attick River the iron deposits extend so far as is known for a distance of over twelve miles to Steep Rock lake, and they have been surveyed and taken up for the whole distance. The new Rainy River Railway passes through this district and would be available for the shipment of ore. The principal deposit is that of the McKellar, where the iron ore crops out in a hill which has been explored by a tunnel to a length of three hundred feet. The showing of ore so far exposed would well repay the outlay in development. This property is now bonded to the American Wire and Steel Company, of Chicago, of which Morgan is the head. They are now using two diamond drills to further explore the depth of ore, and it is anticipated that a great industry will be established. The iron deposit occurs in a hill and the whole face of a bluff is composed of iron ore which can be worked as an open quarry."

Chicago Iron and Steel: Strength of an unmistakable character appears this week in iron and steel. Billets are selling 75 cents higher than schedule quotations and there is a large demand made on the west from the east. Steel bars advanced from \$2 to \$3 per ton and iron bars from \$1 to \$2 per ton. Pig iron was decidedly stronger, Besemer advancing on the strength of higher prices in the east and southern irons rising Thursday, this week, from 25 to 75 cents per ton. With steel bars went a corresponding advance in small angles, channels and tees. Track supplies are stronger and light rails cost more money than a week or two ago.

Implement Trade Notes.

In the Dominion House of Commons on Wednesday the question of selling the binder twine manufactured at the Kingston penitentiary arose on a motion to the effect that binder twine made in government institutions should be sold direct to the farmers at a price to cover the actual cost of raw material and manufacture plus one cent per pound. To this motion an amendment was offered providing that the twine output should up to July 1 of each year be offered for sale to the farmer at a cost calculated on the basis of the cost of free labor and that after July 1 what was left should be sold by public tender after public advertisement. The amendment carried. H. Demorest, formerly of Melita, has been appointed agent of the Massey-Harris Co. at Indian Head, Assa.

Hall Bros. are opening an agency for the Deering and Fairchild goods in Birtle. Chas. E. Hall, the senior mem-

ber of the firm will take charge of the new agency.

Wm. Hartley, for the past twenty-three years engaged in the sale of farm implements for the Massey-Harris Co. and Tolton Bros. in these parts, left this morning for Manitoba where he has received the appointment of general agent for the Deering Co., manufacturers of harvesting machinery, with headquarters at Winnipeg.—Guelph Mercury.

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

The D. McCall Co., Limited, wholesale milliners, announce their spring opening at Winnipeg to take place March 12, 13 and 14.

Three Ontario woollen mills have started selling directly to the retail trade. One is a hosiery mill, another makes blankets and the third underwear.

WINNIPEG CITY COUNCIL.

The Winnipeg city council held its regular fortnightly session on Monday evening. The finance committee reported recommending payment of a number of accounts. They also recommended that the sum of \$500 be placed in the estimates for the next fiscal year to be used in promoting the settlement of vacant lands around the city. The report went on further to state: "Your committee have considered the proposed agreement between the provincial government and the C. N. Ry. Co. They feel that the action of the government in taking the people into their confidence is worthy of all praise, and could only have been done with a view, not of making useless discussion, but of profiting from suggestions that might be made. It will have been observed that many prominent citizens who have approved of the principle of the deal, have only done so on the assumption that the interests of the province have been safeguarded at all points, while the adverse comments of our shrewdest business men, irrespective of party, who have gone carefully into the matter, make it apparent that the consensus of opinion is that the liabilities to be assumed are too great for the resources of the province. It is not necessary here to recapitulate the many objectionable features of the agreement, as they have already been gone into, suffice it to say that the main features are excessive capitalization of the N. P. lines, too great a bonded guarantee, a liability of \$600,000 per annum, with no resource against the company in case of default, and apparently no penalty clauses. It is almost certain that as soon as the new road is in a position to compete for freight, the C. P. R. would in self defense initiate a rate war, which would mean that the province would have immediately to meet the fixed charges, with but one result, "ruin." Therefore, in the interests of the city of Winnipeg, whose welfare is inseparable from that of the province, we would strongly and respectfully urge the government to either withdraw the present agreement or to so amend it as to meet the vital objections that have been urged against it. The council divided on this clause of the finance committee's report and the motion to approve of it was sustained by a majority of 7 to 5.

The works committee reported recommending the construction of certain public works which were approved. The fire, water and light committee recommended that the tender of T. D. Robinson for supply of hard and soft coal be accepted.

A vacant lands committee was appointed as follows: Aldermen Chaffey Barclay, Latimer, Harvey, Wood and Cockburn. The finance committee was requested to co-operate with a committee of the board of trade to inquire into the present system of city accounting. By-laws to borrow \$600,000 from the Bank of Commerce at 5 per cent. and \$200,000 from the Canada Life Assurance Company at 4½ per cent. to retire certain debentures were passed through their three readings. One of the aldermen drew attention to the frequency with which the early closing by-law was being violated. The meeting adjourned.

The bureau of publicity of the Pan-American Exposition is distributing a 16-page booklet giving full information about the show to date.

FINANCIAL

WINNIPEG BANK CLEARINGS.

Returns for the Winnipeg Clearing House for the week ending Thursday, show as follows:

	1900.	1899.
Week ending Feb. 23, 1901	\$1,745,810	
Corresponding week, 1900	1,538,313	
Corresponding week, 1899	1,508,418	

The monthly totals are as follows:

	1901.	1900.	1899.
Jan.	\$9,623,460	\$9,000,007	\$7,683,052
Feb.	7,158,276	6,502,540	6,200,471
Mar.		6,320,002	6,750,121
Apr.		7,091,510	6,916,431
May		9,702,570	7,472,835
June		9,012,084	8,211,710
July		9,395,423	8,160,593
Aug.		8,173,030	7,995,291
Sep.		7,320,147	8,231,159
Oct.		9,183,477	12,689,000
Nov.		11,618,055	14,435,219
Dec.		10,800,323	12,900,005
Totals	\$9,623,460	\$106,956,702	\$107,790,814

Financial Notes.

The city of Winnipeg has changed its bank account from the Bank of Montreal to the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

D. N. Neeve, paying teller of the Union Bank at Winnipeg, left on Wednesday for Montreal to take an important position in the branch in that city. It is understood that he is to be accountant.

Winnipeg Forestry Association.

The executive committee of the Winnipeg Forestry association met Wednesday in the city hall. There were present Dr. Bryce, president; C. H. Greig, secretary; Ald. Barclay, C. J. Thompson, of Viriden, and E. Stewart, representative of the Canadian Forestry association.

The matter of extending the forest area of the province was considered, when it was unanimously agreed to request the department of the interior at Ottawa to increase the spruce woods reserve south of Carberry by reserving the land belonging to what is known as the Sand Hill region as a large central Manitoba park, and to ask the Dominion government under its new forestry policy as soon as feasible to undertake the planting of the park with white spruce, Backsain pine, Scotch fir, or other suitable trees in the same manner as was done on the Sand dunes along the coast of France for 150 miles long and two to six miles wide, which were reclaimed by the planting pines.

A committee consisting of the president, the secretary, Ald. Barclay, R. T. Riley and Wm. Martin was appointed to wait on the local government and educational authorities to ask that more systematic steps be taken to secure general observance of Arbor Day throughout the country, and especially by the schools of the province.

The matter of scattering literature widely throughout Manitoba and the Territories for the inculcating of the value of preserving the forests, and also of giving instruction as to how to grow the trees on the prairies was discussed. It was unanimously agreed that this should be done and every effort put forth to support the new movement of the department at Ottawa.

Mr. Stewart then gave a very interesting account of his late work in Manitoba and the Territories. Every where he went, at Moose Jaw, Regina, Indian Head, Viriden, Brandon, Melita and elsewhere, at

Mr. Stewart was met by large audiences, and circles were formed at these different points in connection with the Canadian Forestry association. The plan to be taken is to have instruction given in preparing the soil for the planting of trees so that in 1902 active operations may be begun.

A meeting of the Winnipeg association will be held near the end of March when all members are expected to attend, and new members may join the association by sending an application to Mr. G. H. Greig, the secretary, enclosing one dollar. This entitles all members to receive the journal called "Rod and Gun"; the official organ of the Canadian Forestry association.

War Eagle mining stocks sold down to 40 cents on the Montreal exchange this week.