

Business in Canada.

New York, Sept. 3.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s review of Canadian trade tomorrow will say: There is further evidence of improvement in Canadian trade generally, and the prospects are considered much brighter. The grocery business at Halifax is improving, with orders increasing and profits better and trade in dry goods up to the average, with a better demand for fancy goods. Hardware is quiet. The hay crop is good and the general tendency toward improvement. A hopeful feeling prevails at Montreal and in many lines values tend to strengthen. Collections are fair and discount rates 6 to 7 per cent. The trade situation at Toronto is unchanged, though the exposition, which opened on Tuesday, brought in a large number of merchants who are buying liberally. Business continues steady and brisk at Winnipeg and bank clearings are over 50 per cent larger than a year ago. At Victoria general business continues good for the season and in most lines larger than a year ago and collections are satisfactory.

Bradstreet's will say to-morrow: The distribution of general merchandise in the province of Ontario is larger than for many years, owing to the large crops and higher prices for farm products. Business at Montreal is more active than last year and the prospect for fall trade is good. The Nova Scotia apple crop is short and St. John lumber shipments continue checked.

Famous Clause 22.

Lewiston, Maine, Sept. 3.—The originators of section 22 of the tariff law did not intend it to effect the bonding privilege under which foreign merchandise can be shipped and forwarded through Canada, according to the Lewiston Evening Journal, Nelson Dingley's paper. The Journal, editorially, says of the section: "The controversy which has arisen over section 22, has come entirely over two amendments, one having been made by the senate and the other by the conference. The section, as framed by the ways and means committee, and passed by the house, was the same as in all previous tariffs, and if it had not been amended after it left the house, no question could have arisen respecting it. The senate amendment to section 22 amended the house section by striking out the words 'or any act of congress' in the conditional clause, which is the modification of importance that is causing the most controversy. Many papers in commenting on the section assume that the conference inserted this amendment, and proceeded to comment on what they call a 'trick in the dark,' etc. The fact is, however, that this amendment was adopted in open senate. The other amendment it now seems, was adopted by the conference simply to prevent an evasion of the section by the landing of foreign merchandise in Canada by vessels not entitled to equal privileges in our ports, then shipping it to the United States, and was not intended or understood to affect the bonding privilege, under which foreign merchandise can be continuously shipped and forwarded through Canada. Undoubtedly when finally settled, this amendment will be construed as the conference intended, and therefore all the contention over it falls to the ground."

The Great Coal Miners Strike.

Columbus, O., Sept. 3.—The miners and operators have agreed to submit to a miners' convention early next week, two propositions, first, Pittsburg to pay 64 cents pending arbitration, the result of which shall not exceed 69 cents or be lower than 60 cents; second, to call the strike off and accept 65 cents.

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 3.—A settlement of the coal strike on the basis of the proposition now under consideration of the Columbus conference will have no effect upon the future action of the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal company. According to the statement of President De Armitz they would still have to fight it out with the company and return to work to carry out the contract legally signed and accepted by the workmen.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 3.—A delegate convention of all miners who have suspended work has been called to meet in Columbus on September 8th at 10 a.m. to act upon the recommendations of President Hatchford and the other members of the board say there is not the slightest doubt but that the miners will approve the recommendations. The proposition does not involve arbitration and in effect provides for an immediate settlement of the strike. President Hatchford said to-night that there were special reasons for the board recommending the proposition. In the first place it concedes the miners a material advance. Had a 69 cent rate been secured he was confident it could not have been maintained for more than seventy days. The proposition does away with all the uncertainties of arbitration and will bring the strike to a termination. As soon as the miners ratify the proposition work will be resumed in all the mines.

Customs Returns.

The subjoined statement shows the value of goods exported and entered for consumption, with duty collected thereon, at the port of Winnipeg, during the month of August, 1897, as compared with the same month, of 1896:

Description.	Value. 1896.	Value. 1897.
Exported — — — —	\$287,542	\$219,898
Entered for consumption, dutiable — — — —	290,176	392,382
Entered for consumption, free — — — —	49,198	67,622
Total for consumption — — — —	339,374	460,004
Duty collected — — — —	\$78,053.99	100,949.09

Bank Clearings.

New York, Sept. 3.—The bank clearings totals at 87 cities for the week ending Sept. 2, as telegraphed to Bradstreet's, show total clearances \$1,129,245,846, an increase of 36.3 per cent as compared with the corresponding week of last year. Outside of New York city the clearances were \$451,892,758, increase 24.0 per cent.

For the Dominion of Canada the clearances were: Montreal \$11,645,323, increase 12.8; Toronto \$6,843,235, increase 84.9; Winnipeg \$428,634, increase 51.0; Halifax, \$1,070,084, decrease 5.8; St. John \$575,686, increase 10.3; Hamilton \$568,988, increase 3.2.

Eggs advanced 1-2 to 1c at Montreal on Tuesday. There is a good export demand for Great Britain.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—September 90 1-8c; December 87 5-8c.

Tuesday—September 90 1-4c; December 87 3-4c.

Wednesday—September 94 1-2c; December 91 1-2c.

Thursday—September 95 1-2c; December 91 3-4c.

Friday—September 93 1-2c; December 90c.

Last week September option closed at 92c.

A year ago September option closed at 56c, and two years ago at 55 7-8, three years ago at 56 5-8c, and four years ago at 62 1-2c.

Saturday—September, 94 1-2c; December, 90 1-2c.

Cash—No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at \$1.01 1-2, and cash No. 1 northern at \$1.01 1-2 for old wheat.

CHICAGO CLOSING PRICES.

On Saturday, Sept. 4, wheat opened at 94c, for December options and ranged from 93 1-2c up to 94 1-8c; most business was done about 93 5-8 to 93 3-4c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—Sept 94 1-2c Dec. 93 5-8c; May 94 1-6

Corn—Sept. 80 3-4c; Dec. 82 1-2c.

Oats—Sept. 19 1-8c, Dec. 20 3-8c.

Pork—Sept. \$8.82 1-2; Dec. \$8.92 1-2.

Lard—Oct. \$5.65; Dec. \$5.05.

Flax seed—Cash \$1.04; Sept. \$1.02; Dec. \$1.04 3-4.

A week ago September wheat closed at 92 1-2c. A year ago September wheat closed at 55 7-8c, two years ago at 58c, and three years ago at 54 1-8c.

NEW YORK CLOSING WHEAT.

On Saturday, Sept. 4, wheat closed at \$1 for Sept.; and 97 5-8 cts. for December. A week ago September wheat closed at 97 1-2c.

Exports from Atlantic ports this week, 6,268,000 bushels.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Saturday, September 4, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 91 1-4c for September, and 89 1-4c for December. A week ago September wheat closed at 88 1-2c.

WINNIPEG CLOSING WHEAT.

New wheat to-day (Saturday) is worth about 94c, and old wheat 93 to 99c, for No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William.

HARD ON THE PROFESSION.

First countryman—Who be th' gentleman wot's taken the squire's house, Jim?

Second countrymen—'E beant no gentleman; 'e be a lawyer.—London Sketch.

A. P. Horsman, who has for many years been connected with Jas. H. Ashdown's Main street hardware business in Winnipeg, has been appointed manager of the Calgary Hardware company. The appointment is a good one.

The stocks of wheat at Liverpool last month were decreased 704,000 bushels.

Bradstreet's estimate of the world's visible wheat supply to the 28th of August shows a decrease of 1,806,000 bushels east of the Rockies, with an increase of 3,100,000 bushels in Europe. Corn shows an increase of 5,103,000, and oats an increase of 768,000.