

has secured the necessary support, as the telegram would appear to indicate, it is quite possible that an energetic move may be made to open the Edmonton route to Yukon. Mr. Pugsley's proposal was to extend the railway to the headwaters of the Pelly river, whence direct down stream navigation can be had to Dawson City and all points on the lower Yukon river. The Pelly is simply the upper portion of the great Yukon river.

THE BANK OF OTTAWA

An extending and profitable business was reported at the annual meeting of the Bank of Ottawa. A full report of which is given in this issue of The Commercial. The net earnings amounted to \$201,488, or over 13 per cent on the paid up capital of \$1,500,000. Dividends equal to 9 per cent on the capital were declared; \$80,000 was added to the rest, bringing that fund up to \$1,125,000; an appropriation was made for the pension fund; and over \$15,000 was carried forward to the good of profit and loss. A branch has been opened in Toronto, and it has been decided to issue, as circumstances warrant, new stock to the extent of 5,000 shares, making the capital \$2,000,000. The Bank of Ottawa management has achieved a reputation for care and success that the facts laid before the shareholders will enhance.

Regarding the interests of the bank in the west, Mr. J. B. Monk, manager of the Winnipeg branch, reports that the past year has been a very favorable one with them and they have every reason to feel satisfied with the business done.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 18.—Business continues well up to the average of previous years in British Columbia. There are no changes of importance in the markets. Creamery butter is retailing at 35 cents and eggs at 40 cents. Butchers have been supplied up to the present time this season with British Columbia cattle, owing to high prices prevailing in Manitoba. The British Columbia supply, however, is scarcely equal to the demand, and by the commencement of another year, Manitoba will be called upon, prices advancing in consequence. Game is at present cheaper than fresh meat in British Columbia. The best cuts of venison can be secured for 5 cents a pound retail, and a brace of fat Mallard ducks for 35 cents. The market is almost bare of fruit. Jobbers state that flour has advanced, but they have not yet changed the price in the local market.

Retailers claim that there is every indication of the coming Christmas trade being in excess of any previous year. Money is fair, and collections are very good. The following prices were quoted at yesterday's New Westminster market. Butter advanced 5c. Eggs scarce and firm. Vegetables and apples quiet. Hens, a live, \$4.50 a doz.; dead, 60c. each. Chickens, \$3.50. Beef, hindquarters, 7c.; forequarters, 5c.; pork, whole, 6 1-2c.; mutton cuts, 10c. Veal dressed, 7 to 8c. Eggs, 50c. Butter, per roll, 1 3-4 pounds, 60c. Hay, \$13.00. Barley, \$26.00; Wheat, \$30.00. Peas, \$30.00. Oats, \$22.00. Potatoes 75 cents a sack, carrots 50 cents a sack, turnips 50 cents a sack, onions \$1, parsnips 75 cents, beets 75 cents, cabbage 60 cents, apples 85 cents, pears 75 cents, pumpkins 15 to 25 cents each.

Shipping is quite up to the average, there being at present nine vessels loading at B. C.

The season of rain has commenced in Vancouver and there is every indication that the winter will be an open one. Farmers report that the crops have been fair and prices good and that results will be more favorable to them than for the past four seasons.

The cities seem to be making little preparation for the contemplated Klondike rush, the premonitory systems of which are already being felt. In Vancouver some of the principal hotels have been obliged to send would-be guests elsewhere, while other hotels are renting rooms in adjoining blocks to accommodate those applying for lodging. Most of the new comers are waiting for the early spring excursions to the Yukon. They are well to do and are spending money freely with local merchants. Meanwhile faith in the rapid growth of Vancouver and Victoria is apparent by capital coming in from England, the United States and Japan for investment in inside business property.

Typewriters

It is rumored that there will shortly be a big reduction in the price of typewriters, owing to cutting between the combine and independent factories in the United States. There should be plenty of room for a reduction in the price of these goods. The present prices certainly seem out of proportion to the cost of the machines.

Winnipeg Trade with Yukon

Messrs. Merrick, Anderson & Co., wholesale merchants, Winnipeg, have just received their first letter order from the Yukon. It is dated Dawson City, Sept. 25th, and calls for a complete set of tinsmith's tools, machines and supplies. The party ordering

states that he sees a good opening there for that branch of business. No doubt Winnipeg will in time do a good trade with the north country, and when we have a route opened this side of the mountains, the bulk of the trade of the great north will come to Winnipeg.

Manitoba Wheat Movement.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ending December 4, aggregate: 552,290 bushels, the shipments by water from that port for the same period were 1,224,778 bushels and the quantity left in store at Fort William was 1,225,547 bushels.

For the corresponding week last year receipts were 171,442 bushels, shipments were 733,752, and in store 1,547,081 bushels.

For the week ending December 11, receipts of wheat at Fort William were 483,246 bushels; shipments were 1,053,115 bushels; and stocks in store 540,592 bushels.

Final Manitoba Crop Report

The final crop bulletin of the provincial department of agriculture for this year was issued Monday. It contains a review of prevailing conditions of the agricultural industry of Manitoba, and interesting statistics concerning grain, butter and cheese production and live stock trade during the year. The tenor of the information given is of a highly gratifying character, showing that the province is making rapid strides in the onward march of progress, and that the tillers of the soil have enjoyed a most prosperous season. For the purpose of gathering the statistics the province is divided into five districts as follows:

The Northwestern district comprises the municipalities of Fall River, Boulton, Russell, Silver Creek, Rossburn, Ellice, Birtle, Shoal Lake, Strathclair, Harrison, Clan William, Archie, Minnola, Oak River, Blanchard, Saskatchewan, Odanah and the Lake Dauphin district.

The South Western—Wallace, Woodworth, Daly, Elton, Cornwallis, Whitehead, Sifton, Pipestone, Glenwood, Oakland, Arthur, Winchester, Morton, Turtle Mountain, Riverside, Cameron and Whitewater.

The North Central—Rosendale, Lansdowne, Westburn, North Cypress, North Norfolk, Langford, Portage la Prairie, St. Francois Xavier, Woodlands, St. Laurent and Posen.

The South Central—South Cypress, South Norfolk, Dufferin, Morris, Montcalm, Rhineland, Stanley, Pembina, Lorne, Louise and Argyie.

The Eastern—Gimli, Rockwood, St. Andrews, St. Clement, St. Paul, Springfield, Kildonan, St. Boniface, Assinibola, Tache, Macdonald, Richot, De Salaberry, Hanover, La Broquerie, Franklin and Rosser.

The estimated yield of grain of all kinds, as given in the August bulletin has not been realized. Crops were lighter on the ground, less straw, and heads not so well filled as was expected on the 1st of August. Actual yields for the year are now given. The