

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Stratford, Ont., may soon possess a large evaporating factory.

Large quantities of blueberries are being shipped from Rat Portage, Ont.

The caterers of Manitoba are to hold an annual outing at Rat Portage on August 23rd.

The butter factory of T. Ross & Sons of Hawkesbury, Ont., at Lachute, Que., was burned on Aug. 1st.

The peach crop of Essex is now ripening, and a small consignment has been shipped to the Toronto and Montreal markets.

The wheat crop, says The Vernon, B. C., News, is in splendid condition, and the harvest this year will be much the heaviest in the history of the Okanagan.

Among other consignments of fruit which arrived in British Columbia from Australia on the "Warrimoo," was one of passion fruit. This is said to be the second shipment of this fruit which has been imported into Canada.

From Grimsby, R. E. Dennison, a large fruit grower, reports that all fruit is short with the exception of grapes; raspberries not half the crop that was expected about the first of the season. Peaches very badly hurt with the curl leaf and dropping very heavily; half crop. Plums not over half a crop, and pears about the same.

There was a report on the street, that the enterprising scheme had been started to induce salmon to smuggle themselves from a trap on the American side to a trap on the Canadian side, at Point Roberts. Since March 15th, there has been a duty of 1½ cts. per lb. on fresh fish imported from the American side, and this, it is alleged, the fish escape by swimming "over the line."—Columbian.

Ten thousand and fifty cases of lobsters shipped by Messrs. J. H. Myrick & Co., for Havre, France, were on board the ill-fated steamship La Bourgogne. It is pleasing to learn, however, that Messrs. Myrick & Co. are fully insured, having \$12,100 with F. W. Hyndman's office.—Charlottetown Examiner.

A careful estimate of the salmon pack on the Columbia River this season shows that up to the first of the present month about 200,000 cases had been put up.

The management of the Grand Trunk Railway has decided to make a bid for a share of the oat carrying trade, and for that purpose has arranged for the erection of an oat clipping elevator in Chicago. Such a building is a necessary part of the business. Hitherto the Grand Trunk has not handled any of that class of business for the reason that it has not the necessary facilities. That deficiency will soon be removed, and the road hopes to participate in the carrying of the immense quantities of oats which are shipped every year from western points to the east for export as well as for local consumption.

Mr. G. W. Hunt, of the Ottawa Fruit and Produce Exchange, maintains that advices from England and Germany are to the effect that the apple crop there is almost a total failure. Last year for the first time, our apples were sent direct to the German market, and Mr. Hunt states that Germany will pay from 25 to 50 cents more for our apples than for any others, and that he can get a quarter of a cent a pound more for our evaporated apples there than he can anywhere else. The Germans are anxious for business in this direction.

Mail advices from British Columbia, dated July 27th, remark upon the lateness of the salmon run in the Fraser River. But as The Columbian points out, "there is no rule to go by in timing the big run." The old files of this paper record the following: Wednesday, Aug. 4th, 1894: "After a long and anxious wait, the advance guard of the big sockeye run struck the river, last night, and the boats fishing in the lower reaches, and outside, brought in from 100 to 250 fish each, this morning.

The big run may now be said to have fairly commenced, though it is later, by four days, than ever before in the history of the industry on the Fraser River." In 1895, the first big catch seems to have been made on Sunday night, July 21st. In 1896, after several large preliminary spurts, the first big catch, all along the river, was Sunday night, Aug. 9th. Last year, the big run began on Sunday night, July 25th.

CLEARING-HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Aug. 4th, 1898, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Aug 4th, 1898	July 28th, 1898.
*Montreal	\$	\$13,686,643
Toronto	7,443,896	7,186,845
Winnipeg	1,555,415	1,197,012
Halifax	1,414,592	1,106,864
Hamilton	658,587	625,993
St. John	684,345	652,931
	\$	\$24,456,288

Aggregate balances this week, \$; last week, \$3,763,051.

*No report; clearing house manager on vacation.

ONTARIO CHEESE MARKETS.

Although values in the cheese market show no improvement, there has been during the week a somewhat freer movement. At 18 boards there were offered 30,990 boxes of cheese, while the similar week last year at 13 boards 26,427 boxes were offered. As will be seen from the table which follows, at a number of the boards, viz., Perth, Brantford, Lindsay, Campbellford, Woodstock and Tweed, the bulk of the cheese boarded was sold. London salesmen and buyers have evidently not yet patched up their differences, as only 182 boxes were sold out of total offerings amounting to 4,165 boxes. The total shipment of cheese from Montreal to the close of last week since the opening of navigation, is 637,344 boxes, compared with 827,420 boxes a year ago.

Boards and Date of meeting.	No. of facto- ries.	Cheese boarded. Boxes.	Cheese sold. Boxes.	Price per lb. Cts.
Brockville, July 28.....	..	4,322	263	7 9-16
Perth, July 29.....	..	1,275	1,275	7½-9-16
Iroquois, July 29.....	..	761	125	7½
Brighton, July 29.....	8	570	7¼
Brantford, July 29.....	..	3,130	2,640	7¾-½
South Finch, July 29....	..	933	367	7¾
London, July 30.....	22	4,165	182	7½
Cornwall, July 30.....	..	1,400	939	7¾-9-16
Lindsay, Aug. 1.....	20	2,144	2,144	7½-9-16
Belleville, Aug. 2.....	20	1,340	160	7-9-16
Ingersoll, Aug. 2.....	..	1,950	7½
Madoc, Aug. 2.....	..	900	150	7 9-16
Campbellford, Aug. 2....	..	1,080	770	7 9-16
Pictou, Aug. 3.....	16	1,000	7½
Stirling, Aug. 3.....	..	540	540	7¾
Woodstock, Aug. 3....	19	3,925	3,555	7 5-16-9-16
Napanee, Aug. 3.....	..	965	500	7 9-16
Tweed, Aug. 3.....	..	590	560	7½

—Not without reason the Manitoba Free Press thus corrects a misstatement about the wheat crop of that province published by another journal: "In 1894," says The Victoria Times, "the wheat crop in Manitoba was seventeen million bushels. This year it is estimated that it will be fifty millions." No man in his senses has ever made such an estimate for the present year. Fifty millions would require an average yield of forty bushels to the acre, something that has never been heard of and never will. Manitoba beat the record in 1895 with an average of 27.86. That still stands and is likely to. Last year we produced slightly less than 14,500,000 bushels off a million acres; one million and a quarter acres this year are expected to give about the same average, or a total of 18,000,000 bushels. It is better to correct our contemporary, as extravagant stories are likely to do more harm than good."

—One by one, sometimes two by two, our Eastern Canadian bankers are of late years visiting the Great West, The Vancouver World notices the arrival in British Columbia of Mr. Duncan Coulson, manager of the Bank of Toronto, with his wife and son, and Mr. W. H. Smith, of the Ontario Bank, Toronto, and wife. We venture to predict—and we do not do it because of the eloquence of Mr. Coulson or Mr. Smith on the beauties of prairie and mountain—that it will not be many years before the Canadian Bankers' Association will be holding its annual meetings at Banff or in Winnipeg.