

The city has a population of 38,000 people, and supplies, largely, the goods consumed between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains; and in this vast area there is not any tannery which attempts to meet, beyond a very small fraction of the demand for leather. The hide Inspector at Winnipeg estimates that about 50,000 cattle hides were exported last year and sold in the United States, Eastern Canada and Great Britain. Practically all the leather, boots and shoes, harness and saddlery, and other leather goods distributed from Winnipeg, are first imported from Eastern Canadian and foreign markets, indicating the extent of a market for the products of an extensive tanning establishment, if located in Winnipeg. Investigation will show that any surplus leather produced could be exported at a profit. While tanning would have to be done by extracts of bark or other concentrates, there are no climatic causes to adversely affect tanning operations, as is demonstrated by the operation of one or two small tanneries now existing.

The Committee will be glad to answer, in detail the inquiries of persons interested."

A number of answers were received to the advertisements, but they were unsatisfactory, and in most cases it would appear that the writers expected the city of Winnipeg would grant a bonus to any one establishing tanning works, whereas the committee were of the opinion that any such undertaking should stand alone on the favorable business merits of the project.

POSTING LETTERS ON TRAINS.

It having been rumored that it was the intention of the Post-office authorities to prohibit the mailing of letters on trains leaving Winnipeg, the Council sent a deputation to interview the Postoffice Inspector, who gave full assurance that such a step was not contemplated by him, but that, as it had become a custom for many business houses to post a large number of letters at the train just prior to its departure, the Department found that the train work was seriously impeded. He was addressing business houses by letter, representing to them the situation, and asking their assistance in remedying the trouble.