A LARGE entry passed through the Winnipeg Customs House this week in the shape of a large importation of box cars and other railroad equipment for the Canadian Northern. After a while, this company will manufacture on a large scale in that city.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Ogdensburg, the Wolvin Syndicate, Duluth, will probably purchase the plant of the Prescott Elevator Co., of Prescott, which was recently declared insolvent, and will use it in connection with their new lake and river route between Duluth and Quebec.

A SYNDICATE, known as the Springfield Oil Venture, has been formed in Winnipeg, to exploit the reported discovery of petroleum wells in the Springfield district, fifteen miles from the city. Operations are to be commenced at once by the new company, which has secured fifteen hundred acres of land.

THE directors of the Halifax Electric Tramway Co. propose to issue 1,000 shares of new common stock to pay for improvements in the company's lighting plant. The company has a five-year contract to give the city of Halifax a new system of street lighting. The authorized capital is $1,000,000, of which $800,000 has been subscribed, so that the new issue will bring the subscribed capital up to $900,000. There is, besides, a bond issue of $600,000, bearing 5 per cent. interest.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, March 12th, 1902.

Ashes.—The market is an easy one, and $4.40 to $4.45 is said to be a full quotation for first pots; seconds, $3.90 to $3.95. Pearls are lower, and some little business is said to have transpired at a little over $6.25. Offers are being asked for some lots of American pearls.

Cements and Firebricks.—The 30,000 barrel deal alluded to last week has not yet been consumated, and though a little more enquiry is evident, actual business is still quite limited. Prices have not yet been subject to any revision, and we quote Belgian cement, $1.90 to $2; German, $2.35 to $2.50; English, $2.30 to $2.45; American, $2.35 to $2.50; Canadian, Beaver brand, $1.90; Star, $2.20; Silicas, $2.10; firebricks, $17.50 to $23.

Dairy Products.—Some moderate export business has been reported in butter of late, and though supplies are still light, the advancing season will likely preclude any further stiffening in prices. Finest winter creamery is quoted at 22 to 22½c.; held creamery, 21 to 21½c.; rolls, 17 to 18c. Cheese is quite as firm as a week ago, though there is not as much doing. Fine Ontarios are held at 11¼c.; fine Eastern, 10½ to 11c.; under grades, 10 to 10⅜c.

Dry Goods.—The fourth, not a particularly heavy day, is said not to have panned out so well as a year ago, and general remittances show a little falling off. City retailers are said to have met their paper well, but are not buying a great deal just now, the wet, dreary weather being unfavorable to much shopping. Travellers are said to be doing a good business. Further development of the firmness in domestic cottons is reported. The Dominion Cotton Mills Co. issue a new price list, under date of the 7th inst., revising prices of their shirtings, sheetings, grey cottons, cantons, towellings, yarns, warps, etc., the advance generally ranging from 5 to 7½ per cent. Under date of the 6th the Merchants' Cotton Co. issued a similar list, and yesterday the Canadian Colored Cotton Co. advanced denims 5 per cent.

Furs.—Advices to hand by cable regarding the great London fur sales now in progress indicate a further marked advance in fox. At the Hudson Bay sale on Monday, silver fox showed an advance of 50 per cent. on prices of a year ago; otter, 15 per cent. advance, and fisher, 5 per cent. At the Lampson sale on the same day, cross fox showed 25 per cent. higher than March, 1901. Cables regarding yesterday's Hudson Bay sales, reported marten 10 per cent. higher than last March, and red fox 50 per cent. higher, while at Lampson's fisher sold 15 per cent. higher than March, 1901, and beaver higher than last January. The sales continue till the 20th. Local receipts are said to be light. We quote for prime skins: Black bear, $18 for large, $13.50 for medium, $7.50 for small;