crease of 15,000,000 bushels from the quantity held at this date in 1895. With the exception of a slight increase over the quantity held on June 1 this year, the stock held on September 1 is the smallest reported this year, but is little below the quantity held on January 1, this pointing to the exceptional character of this season's movement, which, contrary to all precedent, has shown little or no decrease from the quantity held in the winter months. Examples of this are found in last year's decrease from January 1 to September 1, inclusive, amounting to 79,000,000 bushels, of 88,000,000 bushels in 1896 and 1897 and of 73,000,000 bushels decrease in 1895. American and European supplies combined, fell off only 2,000,000 bushels during August this year, whereas they decreased 6,000,000 bushels in August a year ago and 8,000,000 bushels in 1895. In August, 1897, however, they gained 4,000,000 bushels.

In the following table the stocks held in Europe and America are combined with those reported held in Australia and Argentina, the result being an aggregate of wheat supplies which comes near to being a genuine world's wheat visible supply statement:

	Sept. 1, 1899.	Sept. 1, 1898.
Europe and afloat	62,800,000	38,700,000
U. S. and Canada	54,369,000	14,564,000
Australia...	4,900,000	3,200,000
Argentina	6,992,000	736,000
Totals	129,061,000	57,200,000

—Bradstreet's.

California Crops.

The weekly crop bulletin for southern California says: The remarkably cool weather, which has prevailed from the end of July to near the close of August, terminated in a hot spell, which continues at the close of this report. The warm weather and the absence of heavy fogs, were hard on beans and corn, though favorable for fruit drying, and maturing citrus fruits, where sufficient water was available. Peach drying is about finished, except on the late varieties; prune gathering and drying has begun; almonds are about gathered, yielding a fair crop. Beet sugar factories are in operation; beets in some sections run high in sugar percentage.

A. E. Waldon Dead.

The business community of Winnipeg was shocked on Monday morning last on learning through the columns of the daily press of the death of A. E. Waldon, of the firm of McGlashan & Waldon, manufacturers' agents, Winnipeg. His death occurred suddenly on Saturday night while being driven from the C. P. R. station to the residence of his partner. The fatal illness overtook him at Regina while on a business trip west.

Brandon City Council.

At a meeting of the Brandon city council held on Monday evening the question of the city's indebtedness was informally discussed. A copy of a proposed circular letter to the city's bondholders was read. It gives a statement of the financial position of the town and shows the cost of maintenance, etc. According to its estimates 25 mills on the dollar would have to be raised in order to pay 2 per cent interest on the city's indebtedness. A proposal is made to replace the present debentures by others maturing in 50 years and bearing interest at the rate of 1 1-2 per cent, which would be gradually increased so as to make the average rate for the 50 years 3 1-2 per cent. The outcome of the discussion which followed this proposal was that the circular will be laid before the school board and board of trade before any further action is taken.

Comparative Prices of Staples.

Bradstreet's gives the following table of comparative prices at New York, in its last issue:

	Sept. 15, 1899.	Sept. 16, 1898.
Flour	$3.25 to $3.35	$3.25 to $3.40
Wheat	73	70 7-8
Corn	38 1-2	34 1-8
Oats	26 1-4	24 1-2
Rye	64	52 1-2
Cotton	6 3-8	5 11-16
Printcloths	2 3-4	2 1-16
Wool, No. 1......	33 1-2 to 34	30 to 31
Pork, mess ...	$8.75 to $9.50	$9 to $9.25
Lard	5.65	5.15
Butter, ex-cr.	23	20
Cheese	11	7 1-2
Sugar	5 1-4 to 5-16	5 1-2
Coffee, Rio	6	6 5-8
Petroleum	8.65	6.50
*Iron, Bess. pig...	23.25	10.50
*Steel billets, ton	39.00	16.00
Steel rails	32.00	18.00
Copper	18.50	12.25
Lead, lb	4.60	3.95
Tin, lb.	32.75	16.05

* Pittsburg.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—New, No. 1 hard wheat was offered at 70 1 2 to 71c in store Fort William.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, $2.05; best bakers', $1.85.

Millstuffs—Bran, $11 per ton: shorts, $13, with $1 per ton off for large lots.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 38c for old; new oats, 30c per bushel.

Barley—One car of new barley sold at 30c, and another of very fine grain offered at 40c.

Butter—Dairy, jobbers' prices, 13 1-2c.; fresh creamery 18 1-2 to 19 1-2c at factories.

Cheese—New, 8 3-4 to 9c at factories.

Eggs—13 1-2 to 14c per dozen.

Hides—No. 1 green hides 7 1-2c.

Wool—8 1-2 to 9c for unwashed fleece.

Seneca--19 to 20c per lb.

Hay—Baled on track here, $5 to $6 per ton.

Potatoes—New potatoes, 25 to 35c per bushel.

Poultry—Turkeys, 10 to 11c per lb., live weight; live chickens, 55 to 60c per pair; spring chickens, 25 to 50c per pair; ducks, 65 to 70c per pair.

Game—Ducks, 15 to 40c per pair.

Dressed meats—Fresh killed beef, city dressed, 5 to 5 1-2c; mutton, 7 to 8c for fresh; hogs, 6 1-2 to 7c for country dressed hogs; veal, 7 to 8 1-2c.

Live stock—Cattle, grass fed, 3 to 3 1-4c off cars; for exporters and 2 1-2 to 3c for butchers' stock; hogs, off cars, 5 to 5 1-4c per pound for best bacon hogs; sheep, 3 1-2c off cars.

The latest news from Formosa is to the effect that the Japanese government intends after the monopoly system comes into force, to hold all camphor made in the island for six months or so, without making any sales, and then to fix the price according to the demand which may be found to exist for the drug in foreign countries. The recent abolition of some 200 kilns for the manufacture of camphor as the result of the operation of the new law threw many hands out of employment.

MINING MATTERS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Caledonia group of claims, Atlin district, has been sold to a Vancouver and Victoria syndicate.

The Jewel is the name of a mine in the Boundary Creek country, which is expected to shortly become a dividend payer. It was recently purchased by an English company for $300,000.

The Consolidated Fire Mountain Mines Company, Ltd., has been formed to take over a number of mining properties at Fire Mountain Camp, fifteen miles from the head of Harrison lake.

A conference regarding the eight-hour law which is being so strongly objected to by mine owners in British Columbia, was held at Nelson on Friday, the 15th inst., between representatives of the Mine Owners Association and the B. C. minister of finance. The result was not very satisfactory to the mine owners.

The output of ore from Rossland for the week ending Sept. 16th totaled 4,666 tons. The shipments to date were as follows:

Mines—	Week, tons.	Year, tons.
Le Roi	2,400	62,188.5
War Eagle	2,006	37,987
Iron Mask	180	3,108
Evening Star	20	783.5
Deer Park	......	18
Centre Star...	......	6,157
Columbia-Kootenay ...	60	91.5
Virginia	......	40
Total	4,666	110,373.5

In the last issue of the British Columbia official gazette notice was given of the incorporation of the following new mining companies: The St. Eugene Mining Co., Ltd., of Moyie, capital, $1,000,000; Chickamoustone Copper Mining Co., of Fort Steele, capital, $1,500,000; Noonday Curley Mines, of Silverton, capital $1,000,000; Kate D. Green Gold Mining & Development Co., of Rossland, capital $100,000; Willow Creek Miners' Water Co., of Pine Town, Atlin, capital, $8,000; Consolidated Fire Mountain Mines, of Vancouver, capital $125,000; The Boundary & Beaverton Mining Co., of Victoria, capital $100,000. The extra provincial companies registered were Boston & British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Co., of Portland, capital $3,000,000, local office Revelstoke, John M. Scott, agent, and Dundee Canadian Development Co., of Scotland, capital £10,000, local office at Rossland, John McKane, attorney.

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

Development work is being commenced at the Elphinstone claim, on Shoal Lake Narrows.

There are five thousand theatres in America, and that one million and a half people attend them each week day night, spending seventy millions of dollars a year on theatre-going, are the surprising facts with which Franklin Fyles, the dramatic editor of the New York Sun, will open an important series in the next issue of The Ladies' Home Journal.

Sturgeon fishing is one of the industries of Lake Winnipeg. The fish are taken for the purpose of making caviare, a delicacy little known in Canada, but which is very much sought after by some classes in the States.