

**TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE.**

Special to The Commercial.  
Toronto, Feb. 5.  
This was the heaviest day of the year for payments on dry goods paper payments are reported to be satisfactory, particularly from Manitoba and the west. Fewer renewals than for three or four years past. Finest winter weather of the season now. Trade is expanding and a good business is doing in supplying Klondike parties starting from Canadian as well as United States border points.  
Groceries—Groceries are more active, currents firmer; canned vegetables strong at Wednesday's five cent advance. Tomatoes are quoted at \$1.20 to \$1.30, peas, 95c and corn, \$90c. Japanese teas are more active and firmer.

Hardware—A more active trade is now doing in this branch, with more inquiry for Klondike supplies. Quotations on barb, plain, and galvanized wire and wire nails have been withdrawn by manufacturers, but jobbers here are still quoting previous prices.

**TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.  
Toronto, Tuesday, Feb. 1.  
Offerings to-day were 43 cars of stock, including 1,600 hogs and 350 sheep and lambs. Some export buying at 4 to 4 1/2c for good steers. Butchers' cattle easier and poor were slow sale. Stockers easier. Sheep steady. Hogs were 1-4c lower, best bacon selling at 5 to 5 1/2c.

**FRIDAY'S MARKETS.**

Toronto, Feb. 4.  
Receipts of live stock of all kinds at the semi-weekly market to-day were 26 carloads. Light offerings of butchers' cattle advanced prices 1-4c. Export cattle dull and 1-4c lower. Sheep also 1-4c lower. Prices were:  
Cattle—Export steers brought 4c. Butchers' cattle 3 to 3 3/4c Fat bul's 3 to 3 1/2c. Stockers 2 3/4 to 3 1/4c. Feders; 3 1/4 to 3 3/4c.  
Sheep—Export sheep, 3 to 3 1/4c per lb.; bucks, 2 1/2c; lambs, 4 1/2 to 5c.  
Hogs—Hogs, best bacon, \$5 to \$5.15; thick fat, \$4.60 to \$4.70, and light fat \$4.60 to \$4.70, weighed off cars per 100 lbs.

**TORONTO GRAIN AND PRODUCE**  
Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Feb. 5.  
Grain is more active. Good export demand for oats and wheat. Manitoba flour was reduced 10c. yesterday. Outmeal is 10c higher. Mill feed scarce and very firm. Dressed hogs are 10c lower. Provisions are firm. Wools in better demand, and pulled wools are 1c higher. Sheepskins have advanced 5c. Ontario flour is also 10c lower.  
Flour—Manitoba patent, \$5.40; bakers, \$4.90; Ontario straight roller, \$3.90 to \$4.10.  
Wheat—Ontario wheat 86c to 87c; Manitoba No. 1 hard, \$1.05 North Bay.  
Oats—No. 2 white, 27 1/2c.  
Barley—Quiet, at 32 to 33c for No. 2; 28c for No. 3 extra and 25c to 27c for feed.  
Mill feed—Shorts \$11.50 to \$12.50 per ton; bran, \$8.50 to \$9 per ton.  
Oatmeal—\$3.40 per barrel, for car lots.  
Eggs—New laid, 18c to 20c, fresh, 14 to 16c; limed, 13 to 14c.  
Butter—Dairy, tubs, choice, 15 to 16c; medium, 12 1/2 to 14c.  
Hides—No. 1 green, 91-2; cured

10c; sheepskins \$1.15 to \$1.30 for fresh killed.  
Dried apples.—Firm at 5 to 5 1/2c; evaporated, 8 to 8 1/2c.  
Honey—6 1/2 to 7c per lb. in bulk.  
Beans—75 to 80c per bushel.  
Dressed hogs—\$6.10 per 100 pounds for choice.  
Wool—Fleeces 20 1-2 to 21c. Pulled super 20 to 21c, extras, 21 to 23c.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.**

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:  
Monday—May 93 3-8c, July 92 1-8c.  
Tuesday—May 94 3-8c, July 93 1-8c.  
Wednesday—93 1-2c, July 92 1-9c.  
Thursday—May 93c, July 91 5-8c.  
Friday—May 93 5-8c, July 92 1-8c.  
Saturday—May 93 1-2c; July, 92c.  
Last week May options closed at 95 1-2c.  
A year ago May option closed at 76 3-4c, and two years ago at 64 1-4c, three years ago May option closed at 58 1-8c and four years ago closed at 60c.

**MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.**

On Saturday, February 5, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 92 3-4c for May option and 91 5-8c for July. A week ago May wheat closed at 94 3-4c.

**THE GEO. CRAIG & CO., ASSIGNMENT.**

This important assignment during the week, is the largest in retail business in Winnipeg's record, of recent years. It was hardly unexpected as Mr. Craig has had an uphill struggle for years. Rather heavy real estate assets, carried forward in the annual statements, will, when reduced to present day prices, show a pretty large deficit. The stock being very large it will be some time before a statement from the assignees will be ready. Roughly estimated the liabilities are now placed at \$80,000, with a great portion held by two large Montreal houses. The stock of goods in the store is thought to be somewhere about \$35,000. A recent change of bank accounts is said to have been the last straw, which precipitated the failure, which is no doubt the course of wisdom, as a long experience of a losing game must have been discouraging. An instance of the folly of "carrying a load" is shown in the fact that during the last ten years the firm has paid an average of \$5,000 per annum in interest and discounts, an enormous total of \$50,000.

**PLEASANT FINALE.**

The real labor of the board falls largely upon the president and council. In the evening of the date of the annual meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade, the retiring president, J. W. Bole, entertained those who had labored with him on the council during the year, to a dinner at the Manitoba club. There were also present representatives of other local interests. A very pleasant evening was spent enjoying the hospitality dispensed by Mr. Bole. Many complimentary references were made regarding the zeal, energy and discretion displayed by Mr. Bole in furthering the interests of the board and the community at large, not only on the occasion of the evening gathering, but also at the meeting of the board during the afternoon.

**WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS.**

M. W. Thompson, stationery, etc., Shoal Lake, has sold out.  
Bergen & Giesbrecht, general storekeepers, Altona, are succeeded by A. Giesbrecht.  
G. W. Robinson & Co., stationery, etc., advertise their business for sale.  
Rutledge & Smith, publishers of the Port William Journal, have dissolved partnership.  
Mr. Johnston has purchased the horse shoeing department of Ed. Lewis' blacksmith shop, Winnipeg.  
J. A. McNaughton, lumber and furniture dealer, of Killarney, Man., has sold out his furniture business to Robt. Monteith.  
W. W. Miller, of Portage la Prairie, has disposed of a half interest in his book and stationery business to Henry Douglas of High Bluff. The name of the firm will be Miller & Douglas.  
Mr. Rogers, manager of the Parsons' Produce company, Winnipeg, will leave shortly for an extended trip through British Columbia to look carefully over the field there, in view of the fact that the company is largely extending its operations in the Pacific province. The company has recently established a packing house at Vancouver, and hereafter the Vancouver business will be carried on as a fully equipped branch business, instead of an agency as heretofore. Mr. Rolph, of the Winnipeg staff of the company, will shortly move to Vancouver to assist in the management at the latter place.

The Commercial is a weekly journal of commercial and general information about Western Canada. Subscription price \$2 per year, in advance. All new subscribers, paying one full year in advance, will receive a free copy of our Klondike numbers, with maps, illustrations, etc. Also a free copy of the new Canadian tariff, the latter making a pamphlet of about thirty pages, and giving the complete official text of the tariff act.

To Messrs. All Things & Co.,  
Local Merchants,  
Manitoba, N. W. T. and B. C.  
Gentlemen:—

Permit us to call your attention to a matter that intimately concerns the interests of your house, and which we fear has escaped your notice, viz.: Your customers are in the habit of sending orders to us direct for certain lines of our goods which they say you have not in stock. Now, this throws upon us the onus of business you ought properly to handle, prevents you from turning an honest penny and detracts from your reputation. Moreover, it is a serious loss and cause of heart-burning to the public, as the postage and express charges on these small orders not infrequently amounts to more than the value of the goods. We trust, therefore, you will act upon the suggestion we now make, and place upon your shelves certain lines of goods we import, such as Dairy Churns, Butter Workers, Butter Color, and Rennet—in bulk or cases of a dozen 12 oz. bottles—Parchment Paper, Ladies, Butter Moulds, Thermometers, Dairy Brushes, Lubricating Oils, etc.  
Prices and discounts may be obtained by sending for our 1898 Catalogue just published.

Faithfully yours,  
R. A. LISTER & CO., LD.  
Manufacturers of the Alexandra Cream Separators and other Dairy Machinery, 232 King St., Winnipeg.