PRICES DECLINE SLIGHTLY.

The labor department's index number of wholesale prices stood at 135.9 for July as compared with 136.9 in June, and 134.1 in July, 1912. The numbers are percentages of the price level during the decade 1890-1899. The chief advances occurred in grains and fodder, hogs and hog products, flour, oatmeal, wool, cotton and raw silk, with a decline in sheep, mutton, lambs, bananas, tin, metals, liquors, tobacco and sundries. Horse-hides and tallow were higher but cattle and beef were somewhat lower. Retail prices were comparatively steady during July. Eggs and hog products advanced, while butter showed a general decline.

CHANGES IN CAPITALIZATION.

Telfer Brothers, Limited, have increased their capital stock from $150,000 to $300,000, by the creation of 500 shares of new stock of $100 each.

The capital stock of Cochrane Hardware, Limited, has been increased from $250,000 to $500,000, by the creation of 2,500 shares of new stock of $100 each.

The capital stock of the Dominion Messenger and Signal Company has been increased to $200,000, the increase consisting of 1,000 shares of $100 each.

The Canada Weekly Printing Company, Limited, are applying for power to increase their capital stock to $30,000 by the issue of 400 shares of $25 each at par, 200 shares of said issue to be preference shares.

The Manitoba Cold Storage Company are applying for power to increase their capital stock from $150,000 to $300,000.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS EMPOWERED TO BORROW MONEY.

The following school districts have been authorized to borrow money. The particulars are given in order, name and number of school district, amount required and name of secretary-treasurer:—

Alberta.

Irma, No. 2435, $1,000. R. J. Tate, Irma.
Neff, No. 1986, $1,200. G. Dyvig, Carkstadt.
Mantz, No. 2969, $1,500. E. A. Mantz, Hilda.
Atlanta, No. 2909, $1,000. Harry Spar, Stocks.
New Home, No. 2911, $1,000. C. Horn Minda.
Bawlf, No. 1463, $3,500. O. K. Eggan, Bawlf.
Coal Lake, No. 711, $1,200. R. Sykora, Millet.
Oakpark, No. 2967, $1,450. E. Anderson, Bawlf.
Price, No. 2977, $1,200. D. A. Heffner, Rumsey.
Ascot, No. 2952, $1,800. F. Ebbern, Wainwright.
Pella, No. 2780, $800. O. L. St. Pierre, Makaska.
Hardisty, No. 1659, $25,000. A. Mursell, Hardisty.
Diligence, No. 847, $800. A. Carriere, Diligence.
Badger Flatt, No. 1471. J. J. Strong, Claresholm.
Sandy Point, No. 2915, $1,600. E. A. Mantz, Hilda.
Pinehurst, No. 2916, $1,200. A. Rigby, Red Water.
Lineham, No. 2966, $800. P. F. Peirson, Lineham.
Cherhill, No. 2735, $800. John Seedhouse, Cherhill.
Beaver River, No. 2846, $1,200. E. Bricker, St. Lina.
Rosewood, No. 1899, $1,300. H. W. Hanstead, Killam.
Bathgate, No. 2955, $1,100. A. O. Chivers, Bathgate.
Wildhorse, No. 2896, $1,500. H. D. Stinson, Altorado.
Carrot Creek, No. 2875, $800. G. W. Kirk, Carrot Creek.
Middleton, No. 2877, $800. H. S. Whitehorne, Graminia.
Coalgate, No. 2894, $6,000. John Muffet, Jr., Commerce.
Sulphur Springs, No. 2918, $1,500. R. Benson, La Pearl.
Stonelaw, No. 2949, $1,200. W. Partridge, Sounding Lake.
Big Hay Lake, No. 2958, $800. R. McLeod, Halley P. O.
Dominion, No. 2893, $1,500. J. G. Buehler, Big Stone P. O.
Wagner, No. 2582, $1,200. J. J. Wagner, Pendant d'Oreille.
Setting Sun, No. 2850, $1,400. H. A. Halvoson, Metiskow.
Hastings Lake, No. 2939, $1,500. W. C. Stackhouse, Ministik.
Edmonton Roman Catholic Separate, No. 7., $40,000. E. Tessier, Edmonton.
Edmonton Roman Catholic Separate, No. 7, $20,000. E. Tessier, Edmonton.

A Company known as the Prince Albert Mining and Development Company, has been incorporated with a capital of $100,000 for the purpose of working a deposit of iron ore a few miles north-west of Prince Albert. The company has obtained a lease from the government of 1,200 acres of land.

ENGLISH COMPANIES RECEIVE BRITISH COLUMBIA LICENSES.

The following companies of London, England, have been licensed to do business in British Columbia:—Brentwood Beach Estate Company, Limited, Victoria, capital, $150,000; the Dominions Development, Limited, Victoria, capital, $250,000; Hudson Mining Company, Limited, Vancouver, capital, $500,000; Ptarmigan Mines, Limited, Victoria, capital, $1,500,000.

PROVINCIAL LICENSES GRANTED TO COMPANIES.

The following companies have been licensed to do business in Ontario:—Tonkin-du-Pont Graphite Company, Arizona, U.S.A., capital, $125,000; the Keystone Fireproofing Company of Canada (Dominion Charter), capital, $40,000; Malden Land Company, Michigan, U.S.A., capital, $50,000; the Dr. Peter Fahrney and Sons Company, Illinois, U.S.A., capital, $20,000; Great Eastern Realty Company, Limited (Dominion Charter), capital, $550,000.

The following companies have been authorized to do business in Quebec. Their chief place of business in the province is noted:—H. E. Talbott Company, Grand 'Mere; United States Steel Products Company, Montreal; Norcross Brothers Company, Incorporated, Iberville; Aberthaw Construction Company, Montreal.

The following Canadian companies have been licensed to do business in British Columbia:—The Thomas Davidson Manufacturing Company, Limited, Montreal, provincial office Vancouver, capital, $5,000,000; the Merchants Casualty Company, Winnipeg, provincial office Victoria, capital, $300,000.

The following companies have been registered to do business in British Columbia:—The B. F. Gooderich Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio, U.S.A., provincial office Vancouver, capital, $500,000; Chanslor and Lyon Company, San Francisco, U.S.A., provincial office Vancouver, capital, $200,000; Pacific Lock Joint Pipe Company, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., provincial office Vancouver, capital, $150,000; Copeland Electric Stove Company, Michigan, U.S.A., capital, $40,000; Brayton and Lawbaugh, Limited, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A., capital, $25,000; the J. A. Brennan Drilling Company, Scranton, Pa., U.S.A., capital, $21,000.

POMOLOGICAL POSSIBILITIES.

The apple crop in Holland and Belgium will be small this season, and not in good condition, is the opinion given by Mr. J. T. Lithgow, Canadian trade commissioner at Rotterdam. On the Lower Rhine, and in the fruit-growing districts of western Germany, even worse conditions prevail, owing to the long continued wet weather, and the absence of sunshine. To supply the deficiency in the home grown article, it will be necessary to import more largely than usual, and the opinion is general that better prices should prevail.

The question of wider markets for the apple-growing industry on the Pacific coast of the United States is receiving careful attention. The record crop of 1912 was an unprofitable one; the prices fetched for much of the fruit shipped to England and the continent of Europe barely meeting the freight charges. A prominent Californian firm of shippers, who also at the same time are large owners of orshards, has been investigating the markets of the Far East, and arrangements have been completed for making shipments of fruit throughout the coming season, at regular intervals, to Manila, Yokohama, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Bombay and Calcutta. It is anticipated that several hundred thousand of cases in the aggregate can at once be disposed of, and that the business is capable of very great expansion.

This new departure will probably interest fruit growers in British Columbia, as with the existing steamship communications with the Far East a portion of the crop of the province might well find an outlet in the same direction should the attractions of the home market not be sufficiently great, is the suggestion of Mr. C. F. Just, Canadian trade commissioner at Hamburg. In discussing, with a member of the firm referred to above, the question of the bearing of the Panama Canal on the prospects of the fruit exports to Europe, your commissioner gathered that the freights by the present route via New York would be entirely outclassed by the route via Panama. The present freight charges by the carload to New York averages 50 cents a case, or about $1.12, c.i.f. British or continental ports.

Steamers built for the trade, so the commissioner was assured, carrying not less than forty to fifty thousand cases could deliver at an average of 40 cents per case, all charges in, and practically without any greater length of time being occupied in the transit from the point of production to the eventual market.