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In

ers was called at Winnipeg (1888), at which it was decided to form a branch of the R.C.C.C. for Manitoba. The meeting is still green in the memory of a majority of curlers. At this meet-ing there were present J. B. Mather and E. G. Conklin, representing the Granite Curling Club of Winnipeg; S. R. Marlatt and W. J. Cooper, re-presenting the Granites of Portage la Prairie; Geo. H. Campbell and Aleck Black (Winnipeg Thistle), Robt. Lo-gan and George Hope (Carberry C. C.), J. P. Robertson and W. G. Fraser (proxies for Morden), Wm. Lind-say and J. R. McCullough (Stonewall C.C), and D. Smith and W. H. Rourke (Stony Mountain C. C.). The election of officers resulted as follows: President, J. B. Mather; 1st vice-pre-sident, W. J. Cooper; 2nd vice-president, Robert Logan; secretary-treasurer, J. P. Robertson; chaplain, Rev. Dr. Bryce.

The Manitoba branch being firmly established, it was resolved to admit clubs from the Territories upon application. That this resolution has been taken advantage of every curler is fully aware.

This branch has developed in the last sixten years so rapidly that it now covers an area larger than the

# The Western Home Monthly

#### MAIL ORDERING. Its Great Hold on the Western Country and its Wonderful Possibilities.

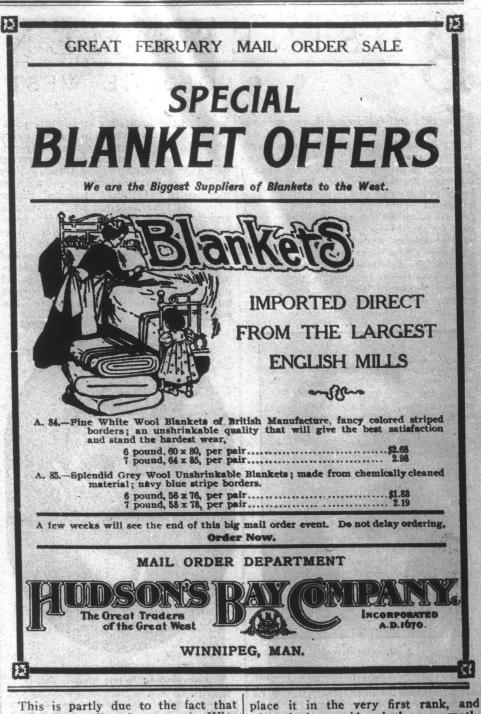
It is comparatively recent since buying goods through the medium of the mails has come into favor, and has been so generally utilized as it now is in the West.

In considering the question of trading by mail as it affects the people of Manitoba and Northwest Territories, two facts stand out most prominently.

1. Ordering by mail has become so convenient to the consumer outside of Winnipeg that the mail order business has reached enormous proportions.

Reasons for this are found in the fact that mail order houses doing business on a large scale import the latest and newest goods and carry extensive and varied stocks, which they keep up to date, affording a big range of selection such as all the local stores do not possess. These are offered at prices uniformly low and are generally attractive, forming always a sil-ent argument in favor of mail trading. Then, too, there is not the bother of entire Russian Empire. It has 111 making a trip to the local store, and





the largest mail order store in Winnipeg has installed a fully equipped factory with all the most modern and up-to-date contrivances for the quick manufacture of all sorts of ladies' goods. These are patterned according o the very latest fashions of New York and Paris. The ladies are not slow, and as usual have already found out where the most stylish goods can be obtained at popular prices; and ladies' goods constitute a considerable item in any general store business

Then, again, the consumer in sending his order to Winnipeg secures a big saving in express and freight rates. The cost of carriage from Win-

when it is considered they promptly refund money when goods are not satisfactory, and even bear the cost of return charges, their success in the Mail Order field can easily be understood.

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#### TETLEY TEA TANKARD, 1904. Won by E. Rochon's Rink, Ft. William, Ont.

the ice. It extends from St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Duluth in the United States to Edmonton in the Northwest, and from Schrieber, Port Arthur and Fort William on the east to Golden, B.C., in the heart of the Rockies.

The annual bonspiel is looked forward to by patrons of the game as the event of the season, and well it may, for there are gathered the wit and wealth, the brawn and muscle from every walk in life. There social intercourse is at its best and good fellowship is King of the Ice. The rivalry and competition are keen, every point being warmly contended for, but when the end is reached congratulations are general with a hearty recognition of the best man's merits. That such shall ever be the case is the ardent desire of every true curler.

This necessarily superficial sketch has already exceeded its intended limits, but before leaving the subject the writer begs to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. J. P. Robertson. provincial librarian and secretary of the Manitoba branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, who, with characteristic kindness, did all in his power to furnish the necessary data.

clubs, with 3500 active members on | being elbowed about by other customers; no salesman to hurry one in mak ing a choice, but in the seclusion of the home the selection is made at leisure from the catalogue or mail order journal, which plainly describes and illustrates the goods, and when ordinary care is taken in writing out an order, it has proven a most satisfactory way to buy.

When the post delivers the order to the mail order house, it usually receives careful attention. Some firms guarantee to return money if customer is dissatisfied, thereby removing any possible risk.

The second fact to be taken into consideration is that the mail order business which formerly was chiefly sent to Toronto and Montreal, is coming to Winnipeg, or is now rapidly turning to the Gateway of the West. This has come about by it becoming generally known that the cost of goods from Lon-don and Paris laid down in Winnipeg, is practically the same as at Montreal, and that all goods consisting of everything to eat, to wear, or to use, is sold by mail order just as cheap at Winnipeg as in the east.

nipeg to any place in Manitoba is comparatively small, whereas from eastern cities it is a very big item. Another great lever which has acted in favor of the mail order house of Winnipeg is the saving of time. Orders sent to Winnipeg are filled and reach the senders in two or three days' time, according to the distance: while those sent to the east require fully ten to fifteen davs when goods are to be sent by mail or express, and twenty to thirty-five days when by freight.

Mail order business as a business we feel quite confident. will continue to forge ahead, as it has filled a long felt want in bringing the world's best marts right to the door of the consumer. Indeed, the home owner living at any distance from Winnipeg, who can afford to buy ahead a little, has in his privilege of ordering by mail a great advantage in buying household goods, wearing apparel, groceries and provisions and general supplies.

Among the up-to-date Mail Order Houses of the West, the Hudson's Bay Company, Winnipeg, occupies a foremost place, as they are practically the pioneers in the West in this manner of merchandising. Their large factory, their immense stocks of newest goods, backed by the wonderful buying resources of this old British Company,

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