

bureau of information relating to pure bred stock.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. N. BELL, Sec.

The matters dealt with were referred to the standing committees, having jurisdiction over the same.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Correspondence with Mr. T. O. Davis, M. P., in connection with the extension of the Canadian Northern railway to Prince Albert, was read and referred to a special committee.

A request from the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, asking the Winnipeg board to accept permanent membership on its international advisory board, was considered, and the president and secretary were named to represent the Winnipeg association. This entails no financial obligations.

A letter from the Clerks' and Salesmen's union of Rossland was received, asking for information regarding the early closing by-laws, and was referred to the Retail association, with a request to reply.

The council endorsed the application that has been made to the minister of militia, that volunteers who served in the Lemna raid in Manitoba in 1871 be granted a medal similar to that granted volunteers to the raids of '66 and '70.

A communication was received from the Northwestern Grass Twine Co., of St. Paul, asking for some specific information as to the character of the grass growing on any marsh lands situated near Winnipeg, and asking the probable acreage, providing a sedge like the sample sent. It was decided that this was important, and was referred to the minister of agriculture of Manitoba to afford information.

Strikes at Winnipeg.

At the close of last week the differences in regard to wages and working hours which have existed between the master builders and carpenters of Winnipeg for some months past reached an acute stage and as no agreement could be arrived at a strike was inaugurated on Monday morning, May 1st. On the same day the city plumbers, who have also been having trouble with their employers, struck. Two important lines of work have in consequence been practically at a standstill this week.

There has been a feeling among the carpenters of the city for several seasons now that this branch of the building trades has been underpaid. This opinion has also been held by a number of the contractors, but no concerted movement to advance the wages has been made. Contractors claimed each season that their tenders for work were based on the prevailing rates of wages and that to make advances after the season had opened would render much of the work unprofitable. To meet the argument notice was given by the carpenters union last December to the contractors that this spring a higher rate of wages would be demanded. The nine hour day is also a concession over which there has been more or less disputing. Last week the union decided to enforce its demands and accordingly the contractors were notified that after May 1 the rate of wages for union workmen would be 30c per hour and upwards according to the ability of the men, and that nine hours would constitute a day's work. The old rates of wages

averaged about 25 to 30c per hour and the day was ten hours. To this demand eleven out of the thirty contractors in the city gave notice of their willingness to comply, although the opinion was general that in this country where the season is so short a ten hour day would be found short enough. The majority of the contractors, however, would not agree to the union's demand, and on this account it was decided on Saturday evening to declare a general strike. Accordingly Monday witnessed a stoppage of work wherever union men were employed. Some non-union men continued to work. Owing to the backward season the difficulty was not so great as it might otherwise have been as very few new jobs have been started yet.

The end of the week has brought no new features in the strike and the men are still out. One or two more of the contractors have signified their willingness to comply with the demands of the men, but they want a majority of all the big contractors. This seems to be the most unreasonable feature of the strike, as contractors who are willing to unionize their work and who have work ready to go on, are being made to suffer for no fault of their own. Work on which union wages would readily be paid is at a standstill to the great inconvenience of those for whom it is being done.

The plumbers are striking for 40c an hour, and a number of the shops seem willing to grant the demand, but others are not, so the strike has been made general. No serious inconvenience has yet resulted from this strike except in the case of one or two jobs. There are nine shops in the city employing 33 union men. Practically all the journeymen plumbers in the city are members of the union. A number of the bosses are practical men, and can therefore take care of the most urgent work themselves.

Monthly Trade Returns.

The customs returns at the Winnipeg office for the month of April are as follows:

	1899.	1898.
Exported	\$196,690	\$151,423
Entered for consumption—		
Dutiable	338,323	252,685
Free	163,528	158,212
Total	\$501,551	\$410,897
Duty collected	\$89,882	\$71,620

The inland revenue collections in the Winnipeg district during the month of April were as follows:

Spirits	\$22,017.67
Malt, ex-factory	33.86
Malt, ex-warehouse	2,731.53
Tobacco	14,977.13
Raw leaf tobacco	665.20
Cigars, ex-factory	590.25
Cigars, ex-warehouse	1,860.90
Methylated spirits	166.52
Licenses	47.50
Petroleum	140.50
Fines, seizures, etc.	300.00
Other receipts30
Total	\$43,531.30

Minneapolis Markets.

Compared with a week ago millfeed is \$1 per ton lower, oats 1-4c higher, flax seed \$1-2c lower, cheese 1-2 to 1c lower, potatoes 5c lower, hogs 20c lower, sheep 25 to 50c lower, good steers 20c higher and stockers 10c lower. Prices are as follows:

Flour—Prices in barrels. First patents, \$3.60 to \$3.70, second patents, \$3.40 to \$3.50.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$9.00 to \$9.25, bran in bulk, \$9.00 to \$9.25; corn feed, \$18.75 to \$19.00 per ton as to quality.

Oats—No. 6 white 27 1-2c.

Corn—Quoted at 31 1-2 for No. 3 yellow 31 1-4 for No. 3, and 29 to 31c for No. 4.

Barley—35 to 39c.

Flax seed—\$1.05 per bushel.

Eggs—11c for strictly fresh, including cases; seconds, 8c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, 10 to 13c; fair to good, 9c.

Butter—Creamery, 14 1-2 to 16 1-2c for choice to extras, seconds 11 to 11 1-2c, dairy 11 to 15c for choice to fancy; seconds, 10 to 11c.

Hides—Green salted hides, 8 1-2c for No. 1, 7 1-2c for No. 2, steers over 60 lbs. 8 and 9c; bulls, oxen and brands, 6 1-2 to 7 1-2c, sheepskins 25 to 70c each, veal, calf, 9 1-2 to 11c; tallow, 3 to 4c, seneca root, 22 to 25c.

Apples—No. 1 stock, \$5.50 to \$6 per barrel, boxes, \$1.75 to \$2.25.

Dressed meats—Mutton, 5 to 8c; lamb, 5 to 10c, veal, 6 to 9c; hogs, light, 4 1-2c, medium, 4 1-2c; heavy, 4 to 4 1-4c.

Poultry—Chickens, 10 to 12c; turkeys, 10 to 12 1-2c; ducks and geese, 8 to 9c.

Potatoes—Straight varieties per bushel, 36 to 50c; mixed white, 30 to 35c, mixed red, 25 to 33c.

Wool—Unwashed, fine, 10 to 13c; medium 14 to 15c; coarse, 13 to 14c.

Hay—\$8.50 to \$9 per ton for timothy; mixed clover, \$5 to \$5.50.

Live stock—Hogs, \$3.50 to \$3.65; sheep, \$4.25 to \$5; cattle, butchers', choice cows, \$4.25, good steers, \$4.70; stockers and feeders, \$3.50 to \$4.80.

Preliminary operations on the enlargement of the outlet of Lake Manitoba have begun.

Edward Stanley, who recently sold out the Roland News, will continue to publish the Morris Herald.

The Dominion government has announced its intention of putting the Winnipeg postoffice building through a thorough course of repairs.

The April output of cheese in Canada has been estimated at 10,000 boxes. In the Belleville district, Ontario, producers sold their April output ahead at 9 1-2 to 10c. Last year the early output of cheese was purchased at 7 1-2 to 8c per pound.

The strike of grain and freight handlers at Buffalo is causing great inconvenience to the grain trade. Several millions of bushels of grain are in the harbor, waiting to be unloaded, while ocean vessels are waiting for cargoes which cannot be forwarded on account of the strike.

The Gilvie Milling company are distributing to their friends and patrons a very handsome hanger, advertising their flour, the subject of which is an adaptation of the well known picture "What we have we'll hold." In this case it is entitled, "What we have we'll use." The lithographing is by Bullman Bros., Winnipeg.

Commencing Monday the time of the Stonewall branch train from Winnipeg will be as follows: Leave Winnipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 11:20, arrive at Stonewall at 12:50, leave Stonewall at 13:30, arriving at Teulon at 15 o'clock. Leaves Teulon on return same days at 16 o'clock, arriving at Stonewall at 19 o'clock, reaching Winnipeg at 20:30.