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ESTABLISHED 1887
A WEEKLY FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL &
GENERAL TRADE NEWSPAPER OF THE GREAT WEST.

Flour and Grain.—No great volume of trade in flour is passing, though the tone of the market is more encouraging. Ninety per cent. patents range around \$4.45 in buyers' bags, east or west. As to millfeed shorts are somewhat scarce. Bran, however, is dull, and prices easy. There is a better demand for wheat. Oats are firm with a tendency to advance. Peas are on the scarce side, with a good active demand. Buckwheat is in the same condition.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Canadian strawberries made their appearance this week, selling at 13 to 15c. Imported are still fairly plentiful, however. Reports as to the prospects for the whole

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domestic crop differ very widely. Bananas have fallen off somewhat in demand owing to the higher prices. Other fruits are quoted as follows: Oranges, navels, \$4 to \$4.75 per case; Medd. sweets, \$3.50 to \$4; bloods, \$4.50; lemons, Messinas, \$2.50 to \$2.75; pineapples, \$3 per crate; coconuts, \$3.75 per sack; tomatoes, Florida, \$2.75 to \$3 per crate; southern cabbages, \$2 per crate; Mississippi tomatoes, \$1.50 per 4-basket crate; cucumbers, \$2 to \$2.25 per hamper; cantaloupes, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per crate, according to quality.

Hides and Skins.—At the recent advance, hides retain their firmness. There is little appreciable change in the market since last report. Business in leather continues quiet. Prices have remained unchanged, in spite of the recent advances in hides.

Hardware and Metals.—Since last week when we gave a more or less extensive review of the conditions in the local hardware trade, few changes have occurred. The demand for seasonable lines continues unabated. Prices continue good with little tendency to vary more than fractionally. For metals, the prospects are said to be for a continued good movement. An English report of recent date said: "This has been an extraordinary month in the pig-iron markets. The month commenced with fairly firm prices, but a change soon set in, followed by a rapid collapse in values on the termination of the "corner" in Cleveland iron. Prices of Scotch iron are now about 4s. 6d., and of Cleveland iron about 5s. 6d., lower than they were a month ago; the markets have become steadier during the last few days, but the position is by no means clear, and little business is being done, buyers preferring to wait. Copper has declined steadily, and is about 25s. down. Tin has fluctuated, but closes at a reduction of some 45s. during the month. Spelter has eased about 7s. 6d., and is steady. Lead is 5s. dearer, and is now firm."

Provisions.—Receipts of butter have now fully caught up to the demand, and values are easing off a little. Some lots are being put into storage. Steadiness is the verdict of the cheese trade. Eggs of really choice quality are in somewhat scanty supply, and prices range between 16 and 17c. The provision trade is normally brisk. Dressed hogs advanced a few cents last week, while live hogs are steady. Products are firm.

Wool.—Receipts of new clip wool are on the light side, whether because of the cold, wet summer or through some other cause is not known. In the meantime prices remain nominally the same.

Reports of a various nature still continue to fly in respect to the designs of the United States Steel Corporation for the erection of a steel plant in Canada. One report now says the corporation will almost surely put it up on a tract of nearly 1,000 acres, in which it has an interest, near Sandwich, Ont.

Negotiations for the purchase of the E. and N. Railway by the Canadian Pacific have been practically concluded, says a news item from British Columbia, and the latter will take over the line and the adjacent land at a date shortly to be announced.

The Hudson's Bay Company has declared a dividend of 48s. per share. In January last, it declared one of 10s., which makes a total dividend of 58s. for the year, the largest in the company's history. Last year, the total dividend was 35s., while in 1900 it was only 15s.

Canadians may be interested to know that a club is being formed in London, Eng., for the accommodation of city and provincial business men, which heretofore has been somewhat of a lack in London life. The club starts under good auspices, and its prospects are said to be bright.

The customs returns for New Westminster for the month of May show that the total imports at that port were \$114,083, on which the duty collected was \$13,726, a substantial increase over the same month last year. The exports for May, 1905, amounted to \$318,725.

G. A. Holland & Son Company, wall paper dealers, Montreal, have, we see in a city paper, purchased the premises adjoining them on the western side. The firm will either re-construct their present building or build a new additional structure, owing to the rapidly increasing business.

The Toronto, Hamilton, and Buffalo Railway Company held its annual meeting in Hamilton a few days ago, and elected directors, as follows: William K. Vanderbilt, William H. Newman, and Charles F. Cox, of New York; John N. Breckley, Rochester; Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, and David McNicoll, of the Canadian Pacific; Henry B. Ledyard, Detroit; D'Arcy Scott, Ottawa, and E. B. Osler, Nicoll Kingsmill, and W. P. Torrance.

The Canadian General Electric Company, Toronto, has closed a contract with the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, for two 4,500-K.W. vertical type alternators, and two 150-K.W. excitors. The latter concern has also 3,000-K.W. of Canadian General Electric Company's generators installed in its present plant, which will ultimately be closed down when the new plant is completed. It is understood that a portion of the C.P.R.'s boundary section may ultimately be operated by electricity from the same plant.

The very old and one time prominent Quebec leather firm of O. L. Richardson & Sons (in liquidation), has assigned on demand. Last January it was found necessary to ask a general extension of time, which arrangement it has apparently been found impossible to carry through, and affairs are now in the hands of Lefavre & Taschereau, assignees. The business of late years has not been an active one, and the liabilities last January were shown at about \$38,000.—Elzeat Cote, a carrier of the same city, for quite a number of years in business in a moderate way, is also reported in trouble, and has made a proposition to pay creditors 20 per cent. of their claims.