

Winnipeg Industries.

A great many people in Winnipeg are not aware of the extent to which the cigar manufacturing industry has been developed in this city, and if they were to drop into the cigar factory of Bryan & Co., they would be surprised at the busy scene presented. The factory is located on King street, numbers 27 to 31. There are four principal apartments in the building, used in the manufacture of cigars. Entering at and passing through the office, the first apartment is known as the raw leaf room, which is the term applied to this room by the excise officers. Here is kept the leaf tobacco after it is taken from the bonded room. The leaf tobacco is spread out or otherwise handled, before going to the work room. In the rear of this room is the leaf warehouse. This is a bonded apartment, for the storage of the leaf tobacco. The tobacco, as it is imported, is stored in this room in bond, and is consequently under the charge of the excise officers. Adjoining the leaf warehouse is another bonded apartment, where the cigars are stored as they are manufactured. It will therefore be seen that the cigars are manufactured in bond. This is done as follows:—The excise officer weighs the tobacco as it is taken from the leaf warehouse, and the manufacturers are obliged to return the equivalent to the leaf tobacco in cigars. The cigars are then locked up under the supervision of the officer, until required to be taken from bond. It takes about 21 pounds of leaf to make 1000 ordinary weight cigars. The books show the quantity of tobacco in and out of bond, and the number of cigars manufactured, etc.

The next and most interesting apartment is the work-room. This presents a busy scene, as twenty-three hands are at present engaged in manufacturing cigars. The hands are seated closely together at tables, engaged in rapidly manipulating the tobacco into the form of cigars. The factory is now turning out from 70,000 to 90,000 cigars per month. The men work by the piece, that is, they are paid for the number of cigars made. About \$10 per 1000 cigars is the average rate of wages. Only the better class of cigars are manufactured, as the demand here is mostly for a fairly good to choice cigar. The cheap class of goods is not as largely consumed here as in the east, and the few used are imported. Wages are higher here, and this, with the light demand for cheap goods, renders it hardly worth while endeavoring to compete with eastern manufacturers in cheap qualities of cigars. The leaf tobacco of the finer class, such as Havana and Sumatra leaf, is purchased in New York, and the seed leaf comes from Chicago. The labels have been mostly procured in New York, but latterly some large orders have been filled in Toronto. The label is quite an important point of the cigar trade. Bryan & Co., have their own labels, which are manufactured for them exclusively. Their principal brands are, La Rosa, Gems, Columbus, Selects, and Havana Whips. The cigar boxes are procured in London, Ontario, Jancsville, Wisconsin, and St. Paul, Minnesota.

G. F. Bryan, principal of the firm, gives his personal attention to the business management

of the concern. Thos. Lee is the practical man of the firm. The advantage of having a thoroughly practical man in the firm, who can give a general oversight to the manufacturing department, is a very important consideration. One advantage in manufacturing cigars here is, that the leaf tobacco can be imported much more cheaply than can the manufactured goods.

The business of the firm has steadily increased from the commencement. Bryan & Co. began business here about two years ago, commencing with three hands. They were accorded a generous support from the start, and were soon obliged to move into larger quarters, at their present location, where they have room for a larger number of hands, the employees having increased in the two years from three to twenty-three. This is exclusive of the members of the firm and the traveller. The latter department is taken by H. C. Owen, who represents the house on the road. The cigars manufactured by the firm find sale over a wide extent of country, from Rat Portage, Ont., east, to Donald, B. C., west.

A few months ago, Bryan & Co. bought out the business of T. G. Fleeton, cigar manufacturer, of this city, and now they control the only factory here. This, however, does not enable them to have any monopoly in the line of prices, as the competition from eastern factories is very keen. Altogether the cigar factory of Bryan & Co. is one of the most important and prosperous of our home industries, and as such deserves encouragement, for the best way to build up our city and country is to support local enterprise.

Propagating Salmon.

The *Colonist* newspaper, of Victoria, B. C., of Jan. 25th, gives the following account of the process of salmon propagation at the hatchery near Westminster:—

In another month the salmon fry at the Fraser River hatchery will be taken from the troughs in which they have developed from the pea-shaped pink egg into the wriggling salmon. The process of propagating salmon is a most interesting one, and the efforts of Thomas Mowat, fishery inspector, are proving abundantly successful. A representative of the *Colonist* paid a visit to the hatchery on the 2nd of January, and at that time in the half hundred troughs the salmon were in various stages of life. Some troughs contained myriads of the little fish, which, at the head of the current passing through, were lying fully an inch in depth, and literally without number. In others only a portion of the ova had reached the point of breaking through the shell, and this interesting operation could be witnessed. The ova was contained in wire baskets, the apertures of which were too small to admit of the tiny eggs falling through, but so soon as the embryo fish had kicked itself free from this it was possible for it to wriggle through to the running water below and take its chances with the thousands swimming there. Nature supplies them with the food necessary to keep them from want until that period when it is safe to transplant them from their birth place to the various streams, where they will have to shift for themselves. This food is contained in a

small sack and is gradually absorbed into the stomach, and really forms that necessary organ.

The artificial process of hatching guarantees about ninety per cent. of the eggs being transformed into fish, a much greater percentage than by the natural process. In depositing the eggs in the hole that has been made in the gravel by the parent salmon, there are many causes to prevent a proper deposit. Brook trout hover around ready to seize upon the eggs, or there may be a failure to attach the silt from the male fish upon them, or in their endeavor to hide the eggs the latter may be crushed by the heavy stones piled upon them. Altogether, the salmon ova has a greatly improved chance of springing into life when assisted by the hand of man than when relying altogether upon nature. The eggs when taken from the fish caught in the rivers, a difficult and trying task, are deposited in trays, which are in turn packed in moss and in boxes, so that not the slightest jar will take place. Even a slight disturbance of the ova in its fresh state while en route to the hatchery would cause the death of all. After having been safely placed in the wire baskets, which, by the way, is an improvement introduced by Mr. Mowat, on the old perforated trays, the eggs are constantly watched day after day by men employed in the hatchery. A diseased egg is noted and is removed by means of pincers. If allowed to remain among the healthy ones, the latter would soon all be contaminated and die. After all have kicked themselves loose from the shells, the crippled fish and those exhibiting disease are removed and no effort neglected to keep the infant salmon in good condition until they are distributed into the streams.

It is expected that fully five million salmon fry will be sent out this year, and in the course of four years they will in all probability return to the stream of their nativity, provided the fisherman's net does not stop them and land them in the canning factories on the river. That they do return is substantiated by the fact that there were more salmon in Harrison river last year than ever before, while Indians found sockeyes in the Cowichan river last year for the first time. The coming season will prove, beyond peradventure, the benefit derived from the salmon hatchery, for the time has expired in which the fish hatched out in the year 1884-85 should attain maturity.

Considering the character of the work of securing and hatching the salmon, the cost of the hatchery to the government, is very nominal, and is due to the excellent direction of the painstaking inspector, Mr. Mowat.

Dunmore, Assa., is said to be assuming the proportions of a village. Dunmore is about eight miles east of Medicine Hat, and is located at the point where the N. W. C. & N. Co.'s railway (Galt road) forms a junction with the C. P. R. The former road is at present a narrow gauge railway, but it is quite probable that it will be widened to the standard width this year. Ties for that purpose are being taken out in the mountains this winter. Two stores have been opened at Dunmore recently—one by W. T. McGarry, of Maple Creek, and one by Blackburn & Dickson. A colony of Germans and Austrians are settling in the vicinity of the place.