

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the Board of Trade was held Wednesday afternoon.

The Revelstoke board of trade having some time ago written the Winnipeg board, asking their assistance with the Canadian Pacific Railway in the abolition of a store car service between Donald and Kamloops, correspondence was entered into with Messrs. Whyte and Abbott, superintendents of the western and Pacific divisions with a view to getting information as to why the Canadian Pacific Railway inaugurated and maintained this store car service. The correspondence elicited the fact that the car was run principally for the convenience of the section men and other employees who would be greatly inconvenienced by having to obtain their provisions and other goods from the towns in the district mentioned, and that none but employees of the road were allowed to deal with the car. It was decided to send the letters from Messrs. Whyte and Beatty to the Revelstoke board of trade.

Letters were read from the boards of trade at Toronto and Montreal stating that they had approached the Canadian Pacific Railway in compliance with this board's request, on the subject of discriminating freight rates against the merchandise brought from Fort William by the Canadian Pacific Railway and arriving at that point by steamboats other than those of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Beatty lines. A letter was also received from C. J. Myles, of Hamilton, owner of the steamer Myles. Letters on the same subject from the department of railways and canals and the N. P. R. company, were laid on the table.

F. L. Patton sent in his resignation as a delegate to the London conference of chambers of commerce, for the reason that owing to the change in the date of that meeting he would not be able to arrive there in time.

Letters were read from Sir Donald A. Smith and Hon. T. M. Daly, accepting the invitations of the board to them to act as delegates to the London conference of chambers of commerce. Following is the letter of Sir Donald A. Smith.

Dear Sir,—Owing to some oversight it is only now I have received your letter of the 5th May, and I regret the delay in acknowledging it. In it you inform me that your board of trade have appointed two gentlemen as delegates to the congress of chambers of commerce of the empire, to be held in London next June, and you do me the honor of inviting me also to be a delegate to the congress. I may mention that I have been appointed one of the delegates to the congress by the board of trade of Montreal, but if, with this knowledge, your board would desire me to act in a similar capacity for you, it will afford me great pleasure to do so.

I entirely concur in the view of your board on the subject of emigration as given in the paper cutting attached to your letter, and I shall feel it a duty to impress on the members of the congress in the strongest terms the mutual advantage which would arise to England, Canada and the empire generally by using every means to direct the course of emigration to Canada and the other colonies instead of having it, as at present, diverted to the United States and other foreign countries.

Notice was read from the secretary of the London congress that the special resolution of the Winnipeg board re emigration from Great Britain would be submitted to the congress for consideration and discussion.

The council was also informed that the boards of trade of Regina and Virdon have requested Mr. Stephen Nairn, delegate of this board and the grain exchange, to also act for them in the same capacity at the congress.

The following gentlemen were elected to membership of the board: Robt. Kerr,

C.P.R.; Murray Miller, secretary of the Home Investment Co.; I. M. Ross, contractor; Alexander Macdonald, wholesale grocer; J. J. H. McLean, of the Mickle Organ Co.

A letter from Lady Schultz, acknowledging receipt of a resolution of condolence of the board on the death of Sir John Schultz, was read.

The resignation of E. Powis as a member of the board was accepted.

Some time ago circulars were sent out to all the boards of trade in Canada, with a resolution favoring the appointment by the Dominion government of a regular staff of commercial agents general, one to each of the continental countries of Northern Europe, and a petition to the governor-general-in-council, asking for a revision of the postal rates and classification of mail matter that would provide for a uniform rate of two cents per ounce, on letters for carriage within Canada, and from Canada to Newfoundland and the United States. Answers have been received from 180 boards, situated in every province of the Dominion, endorsing both propositions as made by this board.

The secretary was instructed, on behalf of the board to wire the mayor of Victoria, B.C., expressing the sympathy of the members with the people of Victoria in the catastrophe which happened there on Tuesday, and the great loss of life by the falling of the bridge.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted and instruction given that a copy should be sent to the city council:

Resolved, that this council now place on record their opinion that the best interests of the city of Winnipeg would be observed if the board of aldermen would at once take under their consideration the urgent necessity for the proper pavement of the streets on an extensive scale. They are of the opinion that the streets during the past two months have been in a condition disgraceful to a city which claims to be progressive and enterprising; and further, they are of opinion that the bad condition of the streets is seriously affecting the business interests of the city.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	May 22, 1896.	May 21, 1895.
Flour, straight spring.....	\$3.10 to \$3.10	\$3.50 to \$4.20
Flour, straight winter.....	\$3.20 to \$3.50	\$3.50 to \$4.00
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	72½c	73½c
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	35c	57½c
Oats, No. 2.....	24½c	32½c
Rye, No. 2, Western.....	43½ to 44½c	
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee.....		
Cotton, mid. upld.....	8½c	7 5-16c
Print cloths, 64x64.....	29-1½c	24c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X.....	16c	15 to 15½c
Wool, No. 1 combg.....	19 to 20c	19 to 20c
Pork, mess new.....	\$3.50 to \$9.50	\$13.75 to \$14.50
Lard, westn., stdm.....	4.62½c	6.85c
Butter, creamery.....	15c	18c
Cheese, ch. east fav.....	9½c	6½c
Sugar, centrif., 96°.....	4c	3½c
Sugar, granulated.....	5½c	4 7-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	14½ to 14½c	16½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.....	\$1.10½	\$1.07½
Petroleum, std. gal.....	6.70c	\$4.60c
*Iron, Bes. pg.....	\$12.75	\$11.50
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$10.60	\$17.00
Ocean Steam Freight—		
Grain, Liverpool.....	1½d	1½ d
Cotton.....	3-32d	5-64d

* Pittsburgh.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended May 23, 1896, shows a decrease of 1,818,000 bushels, against a decrease of 2,240,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 715,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,367,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years,

as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	83,681,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	46,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,376,000	79,863,000	81,392,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,705,000	76,609,000	79,033,000	41,656,000
April 1...	74,303,000	71,453,000	77,654,000	41,049,000
May 8...	62,196,000	65,166,000	73,069,000	36,181,000
June 5...	62,229,000	69,394,000	71,080,000	27,010,000
July 1...	41,961,000	61,057,000	62,316,000	21,201,000
Aug. 3...	38,517,000	60,601,000	69,124,000	26,079,000
Sept. 7...	30,764,000	69,103,000	60,140,000	38,707,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	61,275,000	61,200,000
Nov. 4...	62,930,000	80,047,000	71,390,000	61,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,003,000	83,170,000	78,091,000	72,540,000

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,836,000	79,953,000	81,756,000
" 11...	68,945,000	86,015,000	80,433,000	80,980,000
" 18...	67,988,000	85,236,000	80,382,000	82,217,000
" 25...	67,623,000	84,605,000	80,234,000	81,487,000
Feb. 1...	66,731,000	83,376,000	79,883,000	81,322,000
" 8...	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,660,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,920,000	80,733,000	79,667,000	81,214,000
" 22...	65,011,000	79,476,000	77,567,000	79,113,000
March 1...	64,089,000	78,761,000	76,569,000	79,083,000
" 7...	62,596,000	77,717,000	74,697,000	79,102,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,873,000	73,359,000	79,200,000
" 21...	61,348,000	75,773,000	72,163,000	78,203,000
" 28...	61,018,000	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,031,000
April 4...	60,322,000	72,703,000	70,762,000	77,291,000
" 11...	59,330,000	70,497,000	69,217,000	76,606,000
" 18...	58,433,000	68,260,000	68,425,000	71,509,000
" 25...	57,916,000	66,770,000	66,638,000	70,927,000
May 2...	55,619,000	62,190,000	65,160,000	73,069,000
" 9...	51,000,000	59,623,000	63,610,000	74,632,000
" 16...	51,116,000	56,484,000	62,044,000	71,528,000
" 23...	51,298,000	51,214,000	61,329,000	70,159,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on May 16 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	502,000
Toronto.....	30,000
Kingston.....	4,000
Winnipeg.....	272,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,736,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	2,736,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on May 16 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	75,108,000
Pacific Coast.....	3,182,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	69,739,000
Pacific Coast.....	10,150,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended May 23, shows a decrease of 3,775,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 71,323,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on May 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 191,316,000 bushels as compared with 154,980,000 bushels on May 1, 1895, 170,695,000 bushels on May 1, 1894, 172,039,000 bushels on that date in 1893, and as contrasted with 125,891,000 bushels on May 1, 1892, and with similar totals on May 1 in preceding years.

At Deseronto, Ontario, on May 26, fire did over \$300,000 damage, of which the far greater part is borne by the Rathbun company, who lost a big flour mill, ware and store houses, elevator connected with the mill and shingle docks. The docks and lumber docks connected with the cedar mill and the cedar mill itself were saved. Rathbun's total loss will be a quarter of a million. In addition the Roman Catholic church, a number of stores and residences were destroyed and damaged. The residences mainly suffering were those of the employees of the Rathbun company, the employees being in a large majority of cases part owners. The Rathbun company was fairly well insured but the residential district was not covered to the extent.