

success, is in the fall devoted to preparing exhibits for eastern fairs. The labor bestowed upon gathering the numerous special exhibits, which are sent from the west to the eastern fall fairs, must detract considerably from the interest taken in our local fall exhibition. Undivided attention could be given to making a summer exhibition a great success, and after it was over, there would be ample time to prepare exhibits for the east, which in fact could be made up largely from the choice of the display at a summer exhibition here.

## POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS TO COMMERCIAL POSITIONS.

The appointment of political favorites, to various public positions, is one of the most disagreeable features of partyism in Canada. The civil service of the country is largely filled up with men who owe their position to their political influence, or to the political influence of their friends. If the persons who receive appointment to public positions, were as a rule competent men, the fact that certain political influences were at work in their favor would not be such a serious objection, though it would often afford good reason for objection to some appointments. But when incompetent and even dishonorable and dishonest men are placed in important public positions, the evil of these appointments, through political influence, is very apparent. The commercial interests of the country are frequently seriously interfered with by these improper appointments. A large number of public officials occupy positions in departments which directly concern the trade interests of either the country at large or of some local community. In the appointment of officials who occupy what may be termed important commercial positions, one would suppose that competent and honorable men only would be selected. Unfortunately this is very often not the case, as many business men well know to their own injury. A case in point at the present time is agitating an important commercial interest at Toronto. The position of grain inspector at that point recently became vacant, by the resignation of Mr. Harris, who is now in the grain trade at Winnipeg. The deputy inspector at Toronto had served in this position for seven years, and he was generally regarded as a most competent person. He applied for the position of chief inspector (a position by the way to which he was entitled by the fair rule of succession) and his application was backed up by the unanimous recommendation of all the members of the grain section of the Toronto board of trade. His application, however, was ignored by the government, and the position to which he was naturally entitled, was given to one who is not considered a competent person, but who had certain political influences in his favor. It is understood the Toronto board of trade will protest against the appointment, and if the facts are as reported, the board should protest most vigorously. The position is a very important one, and should be given only to a thoroughly competent person. It is an appointment in which the recommendation of the local board should have been accepted, especially as that

recommendation was in favor of the one who was entitled to the position, by seven years of service as deputy.

It is time that commercial men should vigorously set their faces against the appointment of incompetent persons to positions connected with trade interests. One would suppose that in the present uncertainty existing in government circles, those holding political power would be very careful about their acts, so as not to unnecessarily antagonize anyone. But the party spoils system has got such a hold in this country, that in the face of almost a political crisis, the government has unnecessarily incurred the opposition of such an important commercial body as the Toronto board of trade, in order to appoint a favorite to a commercial position, over the head of a more competent person who was directly entitled to the position.

## WHERE CREDIT IS DUE.

The success which has attended the Winnipeg Industrial, has been very largely due to the liberality of the railway companies, especially the Canadian Pacific company. The other companies of course gave the same terms, but the major part of the work fell to the Canadian Pacific. The success of the exhibition, in fact was assured, from the moment of the announcement of the terms offered by the railways. Such liberality as the railways have shown in this matter, is unprecedented so far as we know. In the matter of carrying exhibits to and from the exhibition, the railways did everything they possibly could, short of going among the farmers to gather up the exhibits. The passenger rates granted were scarcely less liberal. Altogether, the railways have done all and more than could have been expected of them, and their liberality will certainly be appreciated. In the end we believe the companies will be the gainers thereby, and will not have reason to regret their action in the matter.

## Toronto Markets.

**Wheat**—Is steady, with a fair enquiry. Local mills are getting \$13 for broken lots and cars on track are worth \$12 to \$12.50. Cars sold west at \$11, Toronto freights. A sale of shorts was reported west at \$13, but this appears to be a low figure, for \$15.50 to \$17, Toronto freights, seems to be the value at the moment.

**Wheat**—Ontario wheat weaker, with increased offerings. Odd cars were taken by millers at 92c for white and red, standard basis, west; offers of lots were reported at 91c, with 90c bid, but no transactions were reported. Ontario spring held at 93c, Midland. Manitoba wheat was inactive to-day. One car No. 2 hard sold at \$1.07, Grand Trunk west.

**Barley**—Demand is good but little business is being done so far this season. Bids of 42c were made for No. 3 extra west and 40c for No. 3. Better than 50c was bid for a good sample of two-rowed that would grade about No. 2.

**Oats**—Were easy. White sold west at 28 and 28½c and east at 29c. On track mixed sold at 30 to 31½.

**Grain and flour**—Car prices are:—Flour (Toronto Freights) — Manitoba patents, \$5.50 to \$6.60; Manitoba strong

bakers', \$5.25 to \$5.35; Ontario patents, \$4.75 to \$5.25; straight roller, \$4.40; extra, \$4.20 to \$4.25; low grades, \$2 to \$3.75. Bran—\$12 to \$12.50. Shorts—\$17 to \$18. Wheat—No. 2 white, 97 to 38c; No. 2 spring, 94c to 95c; No. 2 red winter, 97 to 98c; No. 2 hard, \$1.07; No. 3 hard, \$1 to \$1.01; No. 2 northern, \$1.01 to \$1.02. Peas—No. 2, 64 to 68c. Barley—No. 2, 50 to 51c; No. 3 extra, 45 to 46c; No. 3, 41 to 42c. Corn—70c. Rye—80 to 85c. Oats, 30 to 32c.

**Produce**—Eggs are steady at 13c, and the situation was without feature. Potatoes dull. Quotations are:—Beans, \$1.70 to \$1.80; potatoes, per bag, 35 to 40c; onions, \$2 to \$2.25; hops, 18 to 20c; dried apples, 6c; evaporated do., 8 to 9c; eggs, fresh, 13 to 13½c; hay, \$11.50 to \$12 for timothy; \$9 to \$10 for mixed; straw, \$6 to \$7; sheepskins, 65c; calfskins, 5 to 7c; hides, green, No. 1., 5 to 5½c; do., cured, 6c; wool 19 to 21c; chickens, 50 to 65; fowls, 50 to 60c; ducks, 40 to 50c; turkeys, per lb, 8 to 10c; geese, per lb, 7 to 10c.

**Dressed hogs and provisions**—A few lots of dressed hogs came by express, but packers would not touch them, and values were easier. Sales were made at \$6 to \$6.50. Quotations are:—Meat pork, United States, \$15 to \$15.50; short cut, \$17 to \$17.25; bacon, long clear, per lb., 8½ to 9c; lard, Canada, tubs and pails, 10½ to 11c; compound, do., 8½ to 9c; smoked meats—hams per lb, 12 to 13c; bellies per lb., 11c; rolls, per lb, 9c; backs, per lb, 11c. Dressed hogs, 6½ to 6¾c.

**Cheese**—There was a good enquiry from jobbers for lots today. August make was offered at 9½c at the factory. On spot small lots sell at 10 to 10½c.

**Butter**—Prices are: Good to choice western 14c to 16c; dairy, medium, 11½ to 13c; common, 9 to 11c; creamery, tubs, 10c; rolls, 22c. Cheese—10 to 10½c.

**Fruit**—Prices are: Peaches per basket, 40 to \$1; watermelons each, 15 to 17c; apples, per barrel, 50c to \$1.25; plums, 30 to 50c per basket; pears, common, 30 to 40c per basket; Bartlett, per bbl, \$4.50 to 5.50; Flemish beauties, \$3.50 to \$4 per bbl; crab apples, 10 to 15c per basket; cantaloupes, \$1 to \$1.25 per barrel; grapes, champignons, 1½ to 2c per pound; Moore's early, 3 to 4c; Niagras, 3½ to 4½c; Rogers, 3½ to 5c; Concord, 2 to 3c; Brightons, 3½ to 4½c; sweet potatoes, per bbl., Baltimores, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Jerseys, \$3.75 to \$4.25.

A Toronto telegram, of September 28, says: The big railway suit of Charlebois versus the Great Northwest Central Railway Company terminated abruptly to-day by the company agreeing that judgment should be entered for upwards of \$600,000 with interest, for Charlebois and those claiming under him. This sum is payable six months hence and is secured by a first charge or lien of the whole of the company's property and lands which the judgment directs shall be sold next March in case the company makes default in payment. The company cannot meanwhile deal with its lands or bonds except to pay Charlebois and other lien holders. The action taken by the company against Charlebois has been discontinued. The company is at liberty to take possession of the road meanwhile.