

STORM-BOUND WEST.

Traffic Has Never Been so Badly Tied up as by 48 Hours' Snow.

Winnipeg, Nov. 20th.

The West has been having its full share of the big storm and traffic is more tied up than it has ever been at the same season of the year. The storm started on Thursday night and in many parts of the West continued without abatement until midnight Sunday. Over a foot of snow fell, and especially in the south and west was heavily drifted. It was so early in the season that the railway companies had no snow-ploughs ready, and this occasioned delay in clearing the tracks. So far no loss of life has been reported, though unfortunately that may come later.

The Grain Commission.

Your correspondent had the misfortune to be with the Grain Commission at Deloraine, and had to suffer a two days' delay in reaching Winnipeg, which explains so brief a letter. The Commission are sitting in Winnipeg, and to-day E. A. Partridge, of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, stated his grievance against the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. This is interesting wherever an exchange exists, because the Grain Growers' Grain Company was suspended for violation of the rule that no member of the exchange shall offer an inducement for any one to trade with him. The Winnipeg Exchange claim that the Grain Growers' Grain Company violated this rule by an offer of a pro-rata division of profits of the company on the co-operative plan.

Beyond the statement of the suspended company and cross-examination by counsel for the Grain Exchange nothing has been done. The question of the alleged combine to restrict trade is ostensibly the reason of the sittings here, but little evidence has been produced along that line.

Insurance Interests.

The pipe of the Winnipeg high pressure system is practically complete. The underground system comprises about five miles of extra heavy water mains. A few hydrants have still to be placed, and this may be slightly delayed by the cold weather, but is only a matter of days. The pumping station is nearly completed, and it is expected that the first unit will be in operation by January first. This is good news to insurance men, as it is a well-known fact that during January and February have occurred the worst fires in the history of the city.

The aldermen are busy seeking re-election, and there is little reportable in civic business. It is generally considered a matter of honor for a retiring council not to introduce anything startling during its closing month. The civic elections promise more of interest than ever before. Not only the election for mayor, which is no longer a walk-over for Mr. Ashdown, but several of the aldermanic contests are of more than passing interest.

Small Supplies of Coal.

The sudden drop in the temperature has emphasized the small stocks all over the Province of Saskatchewan and in parts of Manitoba, due to the Lethbridge and Fernie strikes. Fuel is likely to be scarce and dear before Christmas.

The Winnipeg Grain Exchange has placed a direct wire to Minneapolis from their grading room, and the Minneapolis quotations are now posted direct, and the Winnipeg quotations are similarly posted in Minneapolis. This is a great improvement. It should have been made last year.

There is a lull in trade, due partly to the storm and partly to the fact that wholesalers have got through the Christmas sorting trade, and things are very much on routine lines. There will be something to say next week as to how paper has been met during the past month.

IMPENDING BANK DIVIDENDS.

	Rate %.
Nov. 30—Union of Halifax, quarterly	2
Dec. 1—Commerce, half-yearly	3 1/2
"—Hamilton, quarterly	2 1/2
"—Hochelaga, quarterly	2
"—Merchants, quarterly	2
"—Montreal, quarterly	2 1/2
"—Ottawa, half-yearly	5
"—Quebec, quarterly	1 1/2
"—Standard, quarterly	3
"—Toronto, half-yearly	5
"—Union, half-yearly	3 1/2

At a meeting of the Customs House clerks at Hamilton on Monday, at which nearly every part of Ontario was represented, it was unanimously agreed to ask the government to raise the minimum salary of custom clerks from \$600 to \$900 a year, with a maximum of \$1,200.



TENDERS FOR MINING LANDS

In pursuance of an Order-in-Council, dated 22nd November, 1906, tenders will be received by the undersigned at the Department of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, Ont., up to the hour of One O'clock in the Afternoon of Thursday, the 20th day of December, 1906, for the purchase of those portions of the beds of Cobalt Lake and Kerr Lake, situated in the Township of Coleman, in the District of Nipissing, now the property of the Crown, together with the mines, minerals and mining rights therein and thereunder, the same being described as follows:—

Parcel Number 1.—Land covered by water of Cobalt Lake, being composed of the land covered by water of all that portion of Cobalt Lake situate in the Township of Coleman, in the District of Nipissing, lying south and east of the south-easterly limit of the right-of-way of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway and Cobalt Station grounds, together with the islets in the said portion of said lake, excepting thereout and therefrom that portion of Cobalt Lake designated as Mining Location J.B., containing four acres, granted by letters patent, dated 31st July, 1905, to James H. McKinley, Ernest J. Darragh, Robert Gorman and William Anderson, said portion of lake hereby offered for sale containing by admeasurement forty-six acres, more or less.

Parcel Number 2.—Land covered by water of Kerr Lake, being composed of the land covered by the water of Kerr Lake, in the Township of Coleman, in the District of Nipissing, excepting thereout and therefrom those portions surveyed and designated as Mining Locations J.B. 9, J.B. 10 and J.B. 11, containing by admeasurement two acres, four acres, and twelve acres respectively, the two former locations, J.B. 9 and J.B. 10, having been granted by letters patent, dated 22nd June, 1905, to the Canada Iron Furnace Company, Limited, and J.B. 11 having been granted by letters patent, dated 20th June, 1905, to Jacob A. Jacobs, said portion of lake hereby offered for sale containing by admeasurement twenty-three acres, more or less.

Parcel Number 1 carries with it the right to mines and minerals in the adjacent one-half of the road allowance on the east shore of Cobalt Lake, and lying between the Mining Locations R.L. 401 and R.L. 404 and the water's edge, provided the veins or deposits extend from the bed of the lake into or under the said road allowance. (See 4 Edward VII., Chapter 22, Section 30.)

The boundaries of both parcels will be surveyed and delimited on the ground before the day of sale.

Tenders are to be for each parcel separately, and are to name a lump sum for each parcel, without royalty, payable in full within fifteen days of acceptance of tender.

A marked cheque for ten per cent. of the price offered must accompany each tender, to be forfeited upon non-payment of the balance of the purchase money within the prescribed time.

Tenders to be enclosed in sealed envelopes, marked on the outside in plain letters, "Tender for Cobalt Lake," or "Tender for Kerr Lake," as the case may be, and to be addressed to the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, Ont.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

F. COCHRANE,

Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines.

Toronto, Ont.,  
22nd November, 1906.

All litigation against the Beaver Cobalt Silver Mining Co. has been withdrawn, and all claims of Frank A. McDonald, Gillespie, and others claiming an interest in the property are settled. The Erie Cobalt Silver Mining Co., Limited, has secured a controlling interest in the mine, the title being now clear. A complete equipment of mining machinery has been ordered, and will be installed within a few weeks.

For the past few years Halifax fish dealers have been invading the Newfoundland market and buying on the ground. The other day it caused some comment that a prominent fish dealer of Newfoundland had bought twelve thousand quintals in the Lunenburg market at pretty nearly the six dollar mark. Halifax dealers are not willing to pay more than five dollars per quintal, and Lunenburg holders, who maintaining that they should get more will be encouraged by the incident quoted above.