

**Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.**

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard afloat Fort William, \$1.30.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, \$3.20; best bakers', \$3.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$12 per ton, shorts, \$14 in large lots.

Oatmeal—Dealers selling to trade at \$2.25 per sack of rolled in small lots. Ontario meal, \$1.85 nominally.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 43 to 44c.

Corn—No business done. Nominal value 45c per bushel of 56 pounds.

Barley—45 to 50c per bushel of 48 pounds.

Butter—Dairy, jobbers' prices, 16 to 18c for fresh; creamery, 20c.

Cheese—Jobbers selling at 9 3/4 to 10 cents.

Eggs—9 to 10c per dozen on a commission basis.

Hides—No. 1 green hides 61-2c.

Wool—8 to 9c for unwashed fleeces.

Hay—Baled, on track here \$12 per ton.

Potatoes—35 to 40c per bushel.

Poultry—Chickens, 9c per lb; dressed turkeys, 15c; live chickens, 60 to 70c per pair.

Dressed meats—Fresh killed beef, city dressed, 61-2 to 63-4c; mutton, 8c for frozen; 9 to 10c for fresh; hogs, 7 to 7 1/4c; veal, 7 to 9c.

Live Stock—Cattle, butchers' 31-2 to 4c; yearling stockers, \$10 to \$13; hogs, off cars, \$5.18 per 100 lbs. for best bacon; sheep, 41-2c; lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.50 each.

**Fencing the Prairie.**

The question of fencing our broad prairies is a very important matter for western farmers. While barb wire is largely used, it is not a popular fence, and many progressive farmers are looking about for something to take its place. In this respect the Page wire fence is becoming quite popular here and is very highly spoken of. It is not affected by extremes of weather, owing to the coil spring attachment, which provides admirably for expansion and contraction. It is also claimed that this fence will maintain a firm position without sagging. For sheep or small animals it makes a perfect fence, and it is even claimed that it will keep out coyotes. The Page is undoubtedly a fine fence. Now that the price of barb wire has advanced sharply it will have a tendency to turn attention to other kinds of fencing, of which the Page leads.

**Winter Hides.**

As usual, some country shippers have lost by shipping green hides after mild weather had set in. Every spring there is considerable loss on this account. Parties will hold frozen hides until the weather is soft, or ship unfrozen green hides in the spring, resulting in the arrival here of hair-slip and decomposing stock.

Dealers complain that frozen hides received during the past season have been poor quality, owing to careless take-off. One dealer said that the hides were worse than ever before, being badly cut and scored. One car of frozen hides showed freight paid on 700 pounds of feet that had been rolled up with the hides. Dealers have complained a great deal about the custom of rolling up refuse in frozen hides, as well as the careless manner of the take-off. The basis on which business is done here, however, has been such as to encourage carelessness in take-

off as well as cheating in rolling up refuse in frozen hides. Buying hides on a flat rate of one price for all grades is no doubt the cause of the careless handling of hides in the winter.

**Dominion Estimates.**

The Dominion estimates for the financial year 1899-1900 ask for \$46,286,550, against \$47,900,487 last year, a decrease of \$1,613,936.41. The leading items are as follows:

|                                      | 1898-99.    | 1899-00.    |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Public works .....                   | \$2,312,765 | \$2,302,675 |
| Decrease \$100.                      |             |             |
| Militia .....                        | 1,026,741   | 1,095,520   |
| Increase \$70,728.                   |             |             |
| Civil government ..                  | 1,481,991   | 1,215,400   |
| Increase \$19,485.                   |             |             |
| Administration of justice ..         | 101,501     | 93,755      |
| Decrease \$7,746.                    |             |             |
| Penitentiaries ..                    | 417,500     | 416,000     |
| Decrease \$900.                      |             |             |
| Dominion police .....                | 23,000      | 23,000      |
| Legislation ..                       | 619,629     | 369,675     |
| Decrease \$249,954.                  |             |             |
| Agriculture and statistics ..        | 324,200     | 310,100     |
| Decrease \$32,100.                   |             |             |
| Quarantine ..                        | 119,000     | 129,000     |
| Increase \$10,000.                   |             |             |
| Immigration ..                       | 258,500     | 358,500     |
| Increase \$100,000.                  |             |             |
| Railways and canals                  | 196,347     | 291,424     |
| Increase \$95,077.                   |             |             |
| Mail subsidies ..                    | 628,333     | 426,666     |
| Decrease \$155,666.                  |             |             |
| Subsidies to provinces ..            | 4,237,500   | 4,251,500   |
| Increase \$14,000.                   |             |             |
| Indians ..                           | 1,008,899   | 980,217     |
| Decrease \$28,682.                   |             |             |
| Mounted police .....                 | 353,750     | 353,750     |
| Yukon Prov. dist. ....               | 548,950     | 814,500     |
| Increase \$270,550.                  |             |             |
| Customs ..                           | 972,280     | 999,090     |
| Increase \$26,810.                   |             |             |
| Excise ..                            | 451,776     | 462,095     |
| Increase \$10,318.                   |             |             |
| Railways and canals, col. of revenue | 4,710,200   | 4,741,100   |
| Increase \$30,900.                   |             |             |
| Trade and commerce                   | 24,100      | 24,100      |

**Land Sales.**

Sales of farm lands continue active. Canadian Pacific railway land sales for the month of April amounted to 56,630 acres of land, which realized \$117,000. For the same month last year, 43,185 acres were sold for \$140,000.

The land sales of the Canada Northwest Land company for the month of April, 1899, amounting to \$40,000 for 7,000 acres of land. For April '98, 4,200 acres were sold for \$24,000.

**May Canadian Magazine.**

The Canadian Magazine keeps up the value of its contents and the excellence of its appearance. Among the contributors to the May number are John Charlton, M. P., Robert Barr, John A. Ewan, Henry J. Morgan, Joanna E. Wood, Beckles Willson and W. A. Fraser. The illustrated article on the Prince of Wales will be read with interest, especially as his famous Canadian trip is fully described. The article on the dairy industry of Canada, with its numerous pictures of cheese and butter factories from the Atlantic to the Pacific, is one which should interest every active Canadian mind. The whole number is beautifully printed.

Young wife—I got a beautiful parchment diploma from the Cooking College to-day—and I've cooked this for you. Now guess what it is.

Husband (with a slab of omelette between his teeth)—The diploma.—Puck.

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