

Homestead entries along the line of the M. & N. W. railway during the past twelve months have reached the total of 326.

A steam barge built by Lamereaux, at Battleford, Sask., made a successful trial trip on the river and left for Edmonton. If it meets the expectations of its owners it will mark a revolution in the navigation of the Saskatchewan.

At the adjourned annual meeting of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company, held at Winnipeg on Tuesday, Duncan MacArthur, W. R. Allan, Thomas Howard and Mr. Drummond, of Ottawa, were present. The meeting was further adjourned, to be held at the office of H. & A. Allan, in Montreal, on Friday afternoon. W. R. Allan, Thomas Howard, W. R. Baker and A. F. Eden left here Tuesday evening to attend it.

Battleford Herald: "Some weeks ago a colony of grasshoppers hatched out on the plains between the Bush and Eagle creek, on the Swift Current trail, and for the distance of about a day's travel cleaned off every green thing. But their appetites were stronger than their growth; they ate down all that was within their reach while they were yet too young to fly, and so starved to death. To-day they lie thick upon the ground, while over them is springing up a second growth of grass, such as will furnish ample food for the animals used in freighting. That swarm is past doing harm another year.

Northwest Farmer: One of the most gratifying decisions yet come to by a local municipality is that of Oaklands, for the encouragement of tree planting. The Manitoba Municipal Act, 1886, contains ample provisions for the encouragement of roadside tree planting, and for their subsequent protection, and to Oaklands belongs the honor of heading the municipalities that it is to be hoped will before long avail themselves of its provisions. They have enacted that any rate-payer who shall break and afterwards properly cultivate a strip of land from eight to eighteen feet wide for that purpose shall be allowed one day's statute labor and seed free of cost to sow two rows of trees thereon. It is said that fifty miles are already under process of preparation, and will be seeded at the earliest proper opportunity. This resolution does great credit to those who have undertaken to carry out this enterprise, which is calculated to add so much to the beauty of their district, as well as to the value of their farms.

The forthcoming council at Winnipeg of the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company promises to be of more than passing interest. The last general council was held in Prince Albert in 1883. It is reported that in addition to other matters a new set of rules and regulations for the service, adapted to the times, has been framed and will be laid before the council for consideration. The company are prepared to enter upon a vigorous, energetic policy, both in their commercial and fur trading departments, and very pronounced effects are expected. In bygone times the councils of the company were generally held at Norway House or Carleton, being the most convenient localities. The attendance at the councils in those times was but

small, being limited to the officers of the Northern department alone, the difficulties of traveling preventing a thoroughly representative gathering of the whole company. At the meeting which assembles on the 30th instant, for the first time, officers will be present from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the shores of the St. Lawrence to the Arctic circle.

Grain and Milling News.

Local dealers believe that over 1,000,000 bushels of wheat will be marketed at Brandon this year.

New machinery for the mill at Virden, Man., is said to have been ordered, and the erection of an elevator is contemplated.

The Asessippi, Man., Flouring Mill Co. have reduced the price of grinding to ten cents a bushel. Toll is taken when required.

McLaurin intends to commence the rebuilding of his elevator at Brandon at once, the city of that place having advanced \$1,500 to assist him to do so.

Stephen Nairn of the oatmeal mill was the purchaser of the first load of new oats which arrived in the Winnipeg market this season.

Rapid City, Man., wants more grain storage accommodation. It is said the storage capacity there is only sufficient for a few days receipts, aside from the mill.

The machinery for a grist mill for Chief Pankan's reserve, supplied by the Indian department, has arrived at Victoria on the North Saskatchewan River.

A change has taken place in the proprietorship of the mill at Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa., S. C. Elkington, a gentleman lately arrived from England, takes his place.

Owing to expectations that a large quantity of grain will be marketed at Dominion City, Man., this fall and winter, Geo. Agnew is increasing his grain storage capacity there.

The Ogilvie Company's elevator at Deloraine, Man., is about finished and will be ready in good time for the season's trade. It has a capacity of 25,000 bushels and will be run by horse power.

Steele Bros. & Co., seedmen, Toronto, claim to have exported the first wheat from Manitoba. Eleven years ago this firm purchased some Manitoba wheat for seed purposes, and had it shipped to Toronto.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Portage Milling Company, Portage la Prairie, Man., the following directors were elected: Chas. Haw, H. M. Campbell, Jas. McLenaghan, F. Ogilvie, W. B. Unsworth and Jas. Bell.

Telegraphic returns to the Winnipeg Sun, from thirty points throughout Manitoba, including several from the territories, estimate the average yield of wheat at from 18 to 40 bushels per acre at the different places. The aggregate average for all points heard from is 27 bushels to the acre.

Northwestern Miller says bran will be bran, the coming year. It has never sold so high before at this season, and the known failure of the hay crop insures a heavy demand for all kinds of stock feed during the next ten months.

It will be a good time to increase the demand by extensive advertising of the merits of bran as the cheapest and best stock food.

A despatch from Minneapolis to the Cincinnati *Price Current*, says: "Harvest is here, and new wheat has already arrived at country elevators, though in small quantities. The reports so far received from the threshers justify all previous predictions as to a large crop, and it really looks now as though the United States Northwest would have more wheat to sell this year than she has for the past five years. The quality of the crop this year is very good, in fact it is the best milling crop raised since 1883.

The estimated available wheat export surplus, from the United States for the year 1887-88, is given by *Bradstreet's* at 115,000,000 bushels, which emphasizes the export of 20,232,000 bushels (wheat and flour), from both coasts, from July 1st to August 6th. This is nearly one-fifth of the quantity available for export shipped in one-tenth of the year. With probable continued heavy exports this week, and the decreased movement to primary markets, the visible supply report of Monday should not show much if any increase. The late enormous export of wheat and flour cannot be continued long, and their failure to stimulate prices now is somewhat significant.

The Chicago *Tribune* recently outlined a magnificent project, as yet largely on paper, by which Sault Ste. Marie is to rival Minneapolis as a wheat flour manufacturing center. It describes Lake Superior as the millpond, and mentions a proposed canal around the Sault Ste. Marie locks as the source of unlimited water-power, "with 190,000 cubic feet of water tumbling over the dam every second. A syndicate has been organized with \$1,000,000 capital, which is under \$100,000 bonds to complete the canal within two years and a half. Here," it is alleged, "the wheat now ground at Minneapolis is to be ground in transit. The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific are there to offer transit when navigation is closed. The impossibility of a lack of power at any time is dwelt upon as a basis for the belief that a chief glory of the Flour City is to be taken from her."

J. G. V. Field-Johnson, manager of the Kinlameaky farm, Headingly, near Winnipeg, has been making some experiments in the growth of Russian or Black Sea wheat. He sowed red fye, blue stem from Minnesota, and Black Sea the same date. The Black Sea was ripe while the others was quite green. "This year," says Mr. Johnson, "we are growing no wheat except 'Saxonka' and 'Kubanka' varieties, and that sown on April 28 was ready for the sickle on the 1st of August, and as last year's crop matured in identically the same period of time, it is now an ascertained fact which there is no gainsaying that these two wheats require only three months from seeding to shearing when grown in Manitoba. Experience has taught many of us, to our sorrow, that red fye, under fair, ordinary circumstances, usually requires 120 days to bring it to maturity. Seventeen years experience of Russian wheat teaches me that the two varieties I have selected are those par excellence for general milling purposes for export to England."