

Duluth Wheat Market.

No. 1 northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—May 7½c.
Tuesday—May 7½c.
Wednesday—May 7½c.
Thursday—May 7½c.
Friday—May 7½c.
Saturday—7½c.

Last week May delivery closed at 7½c. A year ago May closed at 6½c. Two years ago at 58½c. and three years ago at 60c.

To-day, February 6, cash No. 1 hard wheat closed at 77½c and cash No. 1 northern at 74½c.

Minneapolis Markets.

The Market Record of Feb. 4, says that the market is a little better. Export bids are below cost of production. Prices are as follows, in bbls. f. o. b.: First patents, \$3.95 to \$1.15, second patents, \$3.75 to \$3.95; first clears, 3.35 to \$2.45, second clear, 2.80 to \$2.45; Red Dog, per ton, 140 for lbs. jute, 8.95 to \$9.20. These prices are 5c to 10c lower on patents as compared with a week ago but 10c higher on clears.

Millstuffs Bran in bulk, \$5.25 to \$5.75, bran in sacks, 200 lbs. \$6.25 to \$5.50; bran in sacks, 100 lbs. \$6.75 to \$7.00; shorts in bulk, 1.95 to \$5.20, shorts in sacks, 100 lbs. 6.15 to \$5.70 middlings, fine, \$7 to \$7.25.

Oats—Range at 14c for light up to 15½c for No. 3 white.

Barley—Quoted at 22 to 21c per bushel as to quality.

Flax—Quoted at 72c per bushel.

Hay—Prairie, \$3.50 to \$6.00 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, February 4.

Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending Feb. 4 were 1,024,178; balances, 189,220. For the previous week clearings were 811,703. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 1,059,223 and for the week two years ago, were 611,951. Clearings for the month of Jan were \$5,039,819, compared with \$1,977,200 for Jan. 1895, and \$1,067,403 for Jan. 1895.

Clearances for all Canadian cities for the week ended February 4 were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$9,176,495
Toronto.....	6,688,269
Halifax.....	1,122,105
Winnipeg.....	1,024,178
Hamilton.....	825,252
St. John.....	462,405

Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Halifax aggregated \$19,147,000 this week, compared with \$22,019,000 the week one year ago and \$19,559,000 in the week two years ago.

Monthly Trade Returns.

The inland revenue collections in the Winnipeg district during the month of January were as follows:

Spirits.....	\$14,981 39
Malt.....	1,256 71
Tobacco.....	7,901 00
Cigars.....	658 20
Methylated spirit.....	106 16
Petroleum inspection fees.....	\$6 80
Licenses.....	75 00
Other receipts.....	25 00
Total.....	\$21,523 25

The following is the statement showing the value of goods exported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon at the port of Winnipeg during the month of January, 1897, as compared with the same month in 1896:

Description	Value 1896	Value 1897
Exported.....	\$ 83,535 00	\$ 91,063 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable....	165,296 60	128,851 00
Entered for consumption, free.....	99,829 00	61,106 00
Total for consumption	265,125 60	189,957 00
Duty collected	\$51,159 28	\$12,913 38

The Riddell Failure.

A long record of freedom from any serious mercantile disaster has been broken in Winnipeg by the failure of the Riddell Manufacturing Co., a concern engaged in the manufacture of biscuits and confections. The assignment of the firm was made early last week, and was preceded by street rumors of trouble. The most regrettable feature of the affair is the fact that considerable accommodation paper has been floated by the concern. It is also a matter for regret that Mr. Riddell left the city, instead of remaining here to face the music. His leaving the city is undoubtedly the cause of the many wild and extravagant rumors which have been floating about regarding the failure. Many exaggerated rumors have been circulated regarding the affair, and it is not likely this would have been the case, at least to such an extent, if Mr. Riddell had remained at home.

The affairs of the company have not been fully straightened out yet, but so far as can at present be ascertained, the liabilities of the company will amount to about \$30,000, and the assets to probably something under \$25,000. The liabilities, as stated, include most of the accommodation paper. About \$12,000 of the liabilities is owing to local people, and the balance to Eastern concerns. In addition to the liabilities as stated above, it is understood that the amount of liabilities to the Bank of Montreal is also about \$30,000, but this will be largely secured by paper under discount.

The failure has proved a severe strain upon several local concerns which were considerably involved by giving accommodation paper as well as goods, but it is believed these difficulties will be safely overcome. No good can be accomplished by mentioning the losses of the creditors of the concern, and no attention should be paid to street rumors, which are always greatly exaggerated.

The estate is now in the hands of Mr. Bertrand, the assignee, and the factory has been placed in charge of Mr. Cox, and will be kept running in the meantime, so that orders for goods will be filled as usual.

The Business Convention.

The event of the week was the business convention held in Winnipeg. There was a good attendance of business men from nearly all sections of Manitoba and the Territories, and many important resolutions were discussed, dealing with transportation and

freight rates, produce trade, insurance, credit business and other subjects of interest to business men. Owing to the late date of the week which the convention was held we are unable to make room for an extended report of the convention this week, but a full report will be given in a special number of The Commercial, which will be issued shortly.

Toronto Grain and Produce Trade

Wheat.—Cars of red are quoted west at 75c and white at 76c to 77c. Manitoba No. 1 hard is quoted at 9c bid Toronto and west, but sellers are asking 92c to 93c, grading in transit; No. 1 hard is quoted at 87c to 88c Midland and Owen Sound and No. 2 hard at 86c to 87c.

Flour.—Dull at \$3.75 to \$3.80 for cars of straight roller west.

Millfeed.—Is quiet at \$7.50 to \$8 for cars west and \$5.50 to \$7 for bran.

Barley.—Is dull at 38c for No. 1 extra for No. 1, 27c for No. 2, 21c for No. 3 extra and 22c for feed outside.

Oats.—Dull and easier. No. 2 white is west to day at 17c, some sellers are asking 18c.

Oatmeal.—Is dull at \$2.90 for cars here and \$3.00 to \$3.05 for broken lots.

Dressed hogs.—Packers are paying good prices for select hogs. Light sell as high as \$5.25, but heavy hogs continue in poor demand.

Butter.—Large dairy rolls, 11c to 12c; dairy tubs, 9c to 12c; creamery tubs, 18c to 18½c.

Eggs.—Lined, 13c, to 15c for cold stored and fresh gathered, and 17c to 18c for strictly new laid.—Globe, Feb. 3.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, February 6, May option closed at 82½c and July at 79½c. A week ago May option closed at 82½c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, February 6, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at — for January, 7½c for May option, and 75c for July. A week ago May wheat closed at 73c.

The Toronto Underwriters' association is re-rating the towns of Ontario and in most cases increasing the rates, owing to poor fire appliances.

At a recent meeting of the Dominion cabinet a delegation was appointed to go to Washington to discuss with the United States authorities the question of reciprocity and the alien labor law, with the United States, which at present is causing much annoyance to Canada. Sir Richard Cartwright, minister of trade and commerce, and Hon. L. H. Davies, minister of marine, were appointed for this purpose.

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