

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JULY 15, 1895.

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

The reduction in east bound freight rates on dairy products, announced in The Commercial of last week, is very opportune. Produce dealers in Manitoba are just now facing the fact that we will have to find a new market eastward for a portion of our dairy output. The quantity of butter and cheese made or to be made in Manitoba and the territories this year will be greater than ever before. A large number of new cheese and butter factories have been established this year and are now daily augmenting the supply of butter. In addition to this, the season has been a very favorable one for butter, the grass having been suitable for good grazing weeks earlier than usual in the spring, and the cool weather and plentiful rainfall has kept the grazing good ever since. The quantity of butter and cheese this season will, therefore, be considerably in excess of the requirements of the local and western trade, and the only outlet is eastward. The reduction in rates coming at this time, therefore, will fit in very nicely with the altering conditions of the trade.

We have shipped a few cars of butter eastward in previous seasons, but heretofore the bulk of the stuff sent east has been low grade goods. Several cars of butter were shipped from Winnipeg last spring, to Montreal or other eastern points. This was we may say all inferior goods, held over from the previous season, though some of it may have been very good butter when it was fresh. Hereafter it may be well to cultivate the eastern trade by sending something better than the refuse of this market. One gentleman of experience in the butter trade has advanced the idea that the local government should take the initiative in introducing some choice Manitoba butter into eastern markets. The Dominion government, it will be remembered, undertook last spring to export a quantity of Canadian winter creamery to British markets, and though the transaction was a losing one financially, as indeed it was expected to be, yet it may have served some useful purpose. Some dealers opposed the action of the Dominion government on the ground that it was an official interference with trade matters, but we do not think it would injure any of the regular dealers, and if the local government saw fit to go into a somewhat similar enterprise here, we do not think anyone in the trade would seriously object. The Commercial does not necessarily advise this course though we mention it here.

However, the dairy industry is assuming such proportions here that there is now, or at least soon will be, room to begin shipments eastward, either for export, or to eastern Canada markets, and it will be very interesting to observe how our butter and cheese will be

received in the east. For this we will not have very long to wait, as we mentioned in The Commercial last week that a local dealer was making up a car load of selected cheese to send east. This will be an entirely new feature for the western trade, as it will be the first car lot of cheese ever shipped eastward from Manitoba. The make of cheese in previous years has all been taken by the local and British Columbia trade.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Industrial Exhibition at Winnipeg will be formally opened on Tuesday afternoon, July 16, though the exhibition nominally begins on Monday morning.

THERE appears to be a hitch in the arrangements providing for the control of the Northern Pacific by the Great Northern railway, owing it is said to some laws in the state of Minnesota which stand in the way of the latter road giving a guarantee of the Northern Pacific bonds. It is hoped to complete arrangements in a different way that will obviate this difficulty.

A TAX sale of farm lands in the municipality of Woodlands, was held recently in Winnipeg, and the lands as usual were bought up by speculators. Of course, a good many of these parcels of land will probably be redeemed by the original owners, but it is nevertheless a pity that tax lands are disposed of in this way. What is required is that some plan should be devised by which these lands could be held for settlers at a minimum cost, instead of allowing them to pass into the hands of speculators.

Last week we referred to the system of doing statute labor as an antiquated and all but useless way of improving the roads in rural municipalities. In the county of Hastings, in Ontario, the statute labor system has been abandoned with excellent results. The London Free Press, in discussing the experience in Hastings says: "This is the whole secret of good roads in a nutshell. Do away with the fossil statute labor system, and expend enough money under the superintendence of expert road makers and every county in the province can have as good roads as the county of Hastings."

THE storm which was felt in Manitoba on Sunday, July 7, was vastly more severe in some of the states south. In Manitoba the day was the coolest experienced here in July for many years and the wind was very disagreeable, but it was nothing here to what it was in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and the region thereabout, extending as far south as Texas. Torrents of rain fell and the wind blew a hurricane, completely destroying thousands of acres of crops, demolishing buildings and causing a serious loss of life. In all 43 persons are so far reported killed and some of the injured will die, while the loss of property is in the millions.

THE Molson's Bank has instituted an inquiry into the condition of the country with a very gratifying result. A report based on results of this inquiry has been published. Speaking of the farmers of Manitoba it says. "They would appear to owe less and to possess more than at any time since the country was opened to settlement. Their store bills have been reduced, unwillingly perhaps, sometimes, and their mortgage indebtedness curtailed. All this means that the benefits of a good crop, when it is reaped, will go more largely than usual to those who have raised it, and that general business will be proportionately improved. The crop is not reaped yet, of course, and the fulfilment may come somewhat short of the promise, but at the moment the promise is so satisfactory that it is not out of place to dilate upon it.

BRADSTREET'S has a table showing bank clearings in the United States and Canada for six months which forms perhaps the best possible index of the greatly improved business conditions, which are now seen to have extended to all parts of the two countries. The total bank clearings at 61 cities in the United States for the month of June aggregate \$1,381,785,081, a decrease from May this year of 9.4 per cent., but an increase over June one year ago of 22.4 per cent. The gain in May, it will be remembered, over the total a year ago was more than 25 per cent., but when the fact that there was one less business day in June is recalled, the relatively smaller increase is explained. Twenty one cities show decreases, principally in the western states. The total clearings for six months of the present year aggregate \$25,201,568,767, an increase over a year ago of 16.5 per cent., but a decrease from 1893 and 1892 of about 17 per cent. Total clearings in Canada were \$187,553,777 as compared with \$157,747,087 for the first six months of last year, or an increase of 6½ per cent.

Words of Wisdom.

As a rule everything prospers with those who keep out of debt, for economy and industry then go hand in hand. Those who encumber themselves with liabilities usually find that even fate seems against them. Disappointment and failure will surely accompany their best efforts, one liability will beget another, interest will be added to extortion, confidence will be lost in the debtor who cannot pay and even an energetic and enterprising man who has failed to meet his engagements will be compelled to take a back seat in the presence of those who in some respects may be his inferior in industry and intelligence.

The employments of business men sometimes compel them to take dangerous risks and as a consequence commercial disasters are quite common, but the agriculturist who can supply ordinary wants from his own fields by his own labor should not venture deeply in debt, for while a moderate income is always sure, there is little hope of becoming quickly wealthy. As a rule the people of Manitoba are very hopeful and a good season with good prices is sufficient to excite many to practice undue expenditure and cause a complete forgetfulness of former disasters. Solomon was evidently not far wrong when he advised men to be careful in time of prosperity for evil days would be many.—Pilot Mound Sentinel.