

United States Potato Crop.

The last government crop report of the United States gave the average condition of the potatoes as 86.3, which shows a decline of 6.7 points for August, but this is 8.6 points above the same date last year, 19.6 points higher than on the same date in 1897, and 9.3 points over a mean August average. This points to reasonable prices for potato food in the United States, sales of car lots having transpired in New York recently at \$1.25 per barrel of two bags (130 lbs.)

Manitoba Wheat Yield.

To the Editor of The Commercial.

Sir,—Picking up a copy of the Toronto Grocer, I noticed a statistical article on the Manitoba wheat crop, which places the crop at 50,000,000 or more, or equal to about 31 bushels per acre. This is far above all reliable estimates I have seen of the Manitoba crop for the present year. The Grocer's estimate is 34 per cent, or more than ten bushels per acre greater than the Manitoba government estimate. If my information is correct, this report is very misleading and should be corrected, as it is liable to do harm, by creating unreasonable expectations as to the business that will be done here this season.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.

(Note by Editor.—The Grocer is undoubtedly far astray in its figures and is about 15,000,000 bushels in excess of safe estimates of the Manitoba crop.)

C. P. R. Extensions.

Railway construction is proceeding apace in Manitoba. The C. P. R. Snowflake extension is almost completed and trains will be running right through from Souris to Snowflake, via Weston in two or three weeks' time. The Wascada branch will be completed a little later, in time to move this year's crop. Tracklaying will proceed vigorously as soon as the men can be taken from the Snowflake extension. East of Winnipeg the most important new work now being done is the lengthening of the sidings along the main line, the extensions in the Fort William yards and the grading of the road to Lac du Bonnet. It is doubtful if anything more than the grading will be done on this important short line this season as the iron and steel famine is making it very difficult to obtain the necessary rails and materials. Labor is also very scarce. In addition to these nearby extensions the C. P. R. has considerable construction work in progress in British Columbia.

Good Prices for Winter Apples.

There has been a good deal of competitive buying in Ontario during the past week or two, says the Montreal Trade Bulletin, and as a result it is said that a great deal higher prices have been paid than the market on the other side warrants. About 2,000 barrels of winter fruit has been purchased in the west for Winnipeg account at \$2.50 f.o.b. Sales are also reported of 4,500 barrels of winter varieties for Montreal account at \$2.50 to \$2.75 per barrel, f.o.b., one lot of fancy spies bringing as high as \$2.35 on the tree. These are all for future shipment. It was stated some time ago that there would be very few fall apples exported this

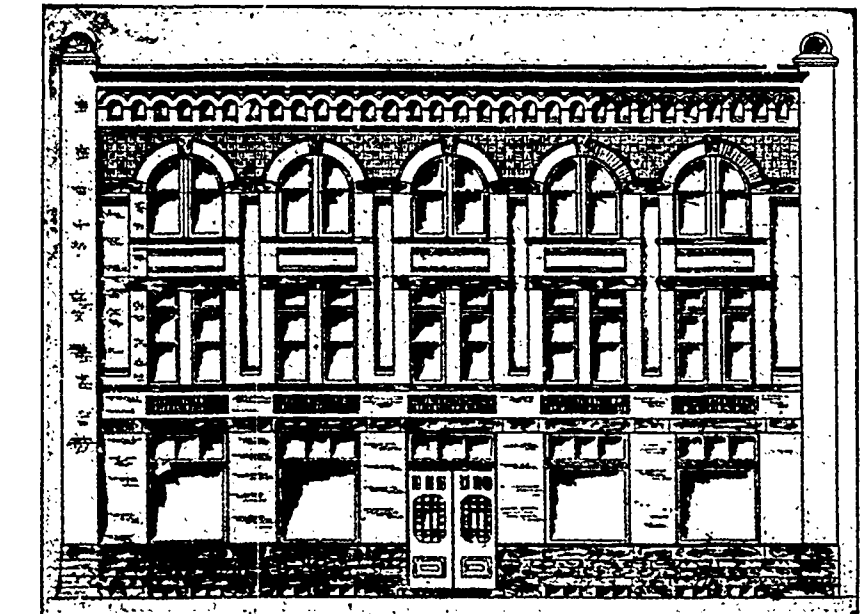
season, but quite a lot has gone forward already. There has been a fairly good demand for fall fruit in this market, good to choice varieties bringing \$2 to \$2.75. In the Annapolis valley \$1.75 f.o.b. was bid for a large quantity and refused \$2 being the lowest figure that would be accepted. A car load of Nova Scotian apples are on the way to this city. The shipments from Montreal last week were 11,537 barrels, and from Halifax 3,357 barrels. From all Atlantic ports they aggregated 20,435 barrels, as compared with 22,667 barrels for the corresponding week last year. A report from Nova Scotia says it is estimated that the shipments from Halifax this week will be about 14,000 barrels. Several English firms are buying in the west.

The Nicholson Warehouse.

The illustration shown herewith is the new warehouse of E. Nicholson, commission merchant and manufacturers' agent. This handsome struc-

ture, now in course of construction, forms one of the many fine buildings which are being erected in Winnipeg this year.

The new warehouse is located on Bannatyne street east. The site is a particularly valuable one for a warehouse of this nature, owing to the excellent shipping facilities here obtained. The transfer railway track, which connects with all the railway lines reaching the city, runs past the rear door of the building, affording convenient facilities for unloading or loading direct from cars, to or from the warehouse. Facilities for unloading or loading two cars at the same time will be arranged for at the new warehouse. In a business like Mr. Nicholson's, where considerable quantities of heavy commodities are handled, such excellent shipping facilities will prove a matter of great value and convenience.



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The size of the building is 66 feet frontage by 72 feet deep, height three stories and basement, giving in all four large floors. The material used is stone and brick, and the building

which he will shortly occupy will enable him to handle this growing trade to better advantage than ever before.

Lamps.

The season is now at hand when the retailer must think of replenishing his stock of lamps, says Stove and Hardware Reporter. They should be varied in assortment according to the pocketbook of the clientele to which the dealer caters. Everyone knows by this time what things of beauty lamps can be. However, it is also equally well known that the latter variety are generally quite expensive and are only in demand by the better class of trade. But there are styles in lamps which are quite pleasing and yet are not so very high in price. These are the kind that are most popular and which the retailer should strive most energetically to purchase. It has been said that there is no other line of goods so difficult to keep an unbroken stock of as lamps, nor is it always possible to readily gauge the demand for them. Decorated parlor lamps are always in request.