

that with few exceptions, these blocks were white elephants to their owners. The buildings which will take their place will be more suitable and the fire in this instance will be an ultimate benefit. Mayor Evans puts the number of houses and business buildings destroyed at 500 with a loss of \$2,500,000, outside of insurance. So that it can be readily seen that hundreds of people must have lost their little all. The city is already being rapidly built up and in five years time it is thought by prominent citizens it will be better off than ever. Westminster will always be a live place owing to the unlimited food supply in the water of the mighty Fraser flowing by its doors and its large extent of farm land. To show the recuperative powers of the people, the city was destroyed on Sunday morning, and on Monday bills were out stating the market would be held as usual Friday and it was announced that the fall exhibition would take place next month. On Tuesday a row of wooden cabins had taken the place of the handsome brick blocks on Columbia street and on Wednesday work had been commenced on several brick blocks to cost \$5,000 or more.

Faith has been shown in the city by the Canadian Pacific Navigation company, the C. P. R. and the government, who have signified their intention of building their establishments on more extensive and more modern plans.

The Royal City lumber mills the day after the fire announced that all who wished might have lumber, taking their own time to pay for it; besides this they opened a free eating house for the famishing citizens, for the fire destroyed all the provisions in the city. The wholesale houses all over the country promised aid in the way of long notes for new stock.

Vancouver did herself proud. Her firemen saved a million dollars worth of property, making the run between the two cities in one hour and twenty minutes, a distance of about nine miles, and Vancouver merchants shipped provisions for two days steady. At this writing from all sources some \$15,000 have been subscribed in cash and one million dollars will be received in insurance.

Another fire, less momentous, but serious in its effect, took place about the same time at Bickley Bay, wiping out the town site which was the head quarters of the Chamie Mining company and a well patronized summer resort.

In the Westminster fire there were seven thousand cases of salmon burned, a very material loss; considering that the total pack was unusually small. This loss is not an unmixed evil as it will insure still better prices for the more fortunate ones. Two canneries were destroyed out of fire on that part of the river.

#### Birds of a Feather.

The saying that birds of a feather flock together is abundantly exemplified in the congregation of commercial men gathered together in the Sanford block, in Winnipeg. Some time ago this block was overhauled with a view to making it suitable for commercial sample rooms and offices, for which purpose the block is well adapted, owing to its central location. All the available space in the building was soon taken up, and there are now probably more commercial men located in this building than in any other block in the city. The building is very con-

veniently arranged for the purpose, having a large central entrance, and with elevator reaching each floor, whereby sample trunks can be easily handled.

On the ground floor John M. O'Loughlin has his office close to the main entrance. Mr. O'Loughlin represents the Hamilton Powder Co., the Dominion Cartridge Co., and the Mica Roofing Co. His office is also the headquarters of the local commercial travellers' association, of which organization he is the secretary-treasurer.

The Sanford Manufacturing Co. also have their office on this floor. A large part of the floor is taken up with the home offices of the Canadian Fire Insurance Co., of which R. T. Riley is manager.

W. L. Mackenzie & Co., manufacturers' agents, also have their office and sample room on this floor. They represent Bovril, Limited, McDonald's tobaccos, and manufacturers in various lines of grocery staples, including canned goods, dried fruits, etc.

On the second floor F. G. Crawford has the large front room in which he displays the magnificent line of samples of The Gault Bros.' Co., of Mont-

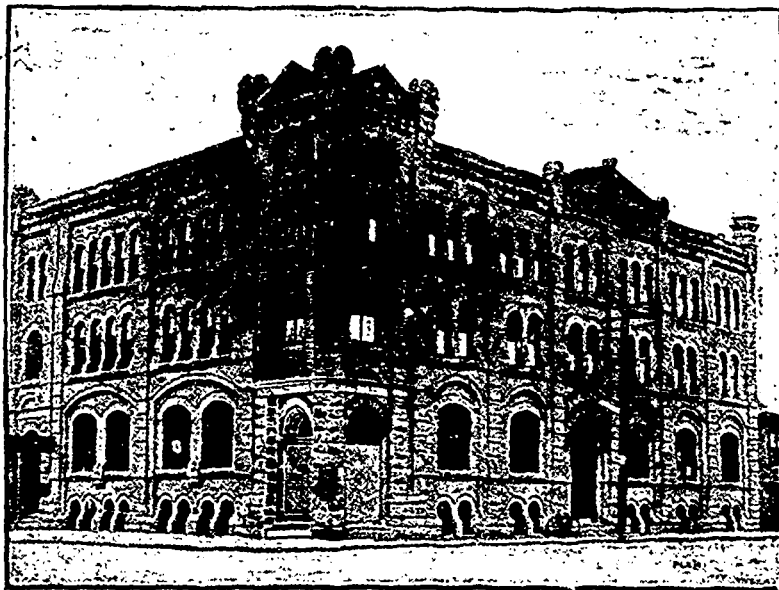
floor. They represent Cavorhill & Kiscock, Montreal, The Dominion Corset Manufacturing Co., Quebec; The Maritime Wrapper Co., of Woodstock, N. B. and J. Mandelberg & Co., Montreal.

W. S. Rough, with his assistant, Mr. Boxall, have their quarters on this floor, where they show the handsome line of samples of John Macdonald & Co., of Toronto, in dry goods, men's furnishings, carpets, etc.

This concludes the list, and shows that the Sanford block is quite a home for commercial men in the city.

#### Current History.

"Current History," 2d Quarter, 1898, edited by A. S. Johnson, Ph. D., 260 pp., abundantly illustrated with maps, portraits and views, has been issued. To the watcher of the world's progress during these stirring times who desires a comprehensive record of passing events in a form convenient for permanent reference, nothing of greater value is published. Not only the war with Spain, the Hawaiian and Oriental questions, but also every other phase of current history in all



SANFORD BLOCK, WINNIPEG.

real, including a number of lines of their own manufacture.

W. G. Shera, representing McKenna, Thompson & Co., Montreal, also has his sample room here, though he was absent at the time of our visit.

The Sanford Manufacturing company occupy a portion of this floor with their sample room, and the remaining portion is taken up by Geo. N. Jackson, representing Walter Woods & Co., Hamilton, and T. Whitehead, who represents the Dominou Suspenders Co., of Niagara Falls and E. Van Allen Co., of Hamilton.

On the third floor McGlashan & Waldron are located. They represent Park, Davis & Co., of Detroit, Mich., Walkerville, Ontario, and London, England, and said to be the largest manufacturers of pharmaceuticals in the world. They also represent Lyman, Knox & Co., Montreal, and are proprietors of the Western Veterinary Co., which handles Warnock's Ulcer cure.

Strachan & Couse, commission agents, have a large room on this

parts of the world is here presented in a nutshell. The present number is one of exceptional interest; and the successive volumes of this unique work which as time goes by is increasing in utility, form an invaluable addition to every library shelf. Boston, Mass., New England Publishing Co., 3 Somerset street; \$1.50 a year. Single numbers 40 cents. Sample copy 25 cents. Specimen pages free.

#### ROUGH ON THE BOOKKEEPER.

"I told my wife I had to stay down town late to get a balance."

"What did she say?"

"She said I seemed to have lost it before I got home."

**WANTED—SEVERAL TRUSTWORTHY PERSONS** in this province to manage our business in their own and nearby districts. It is mainly office work conducted at home. Salary straight \$500 a year and expenses—definite, bona-fide, no more, no less salary. Monthly, \$75. References. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. Herbert E. Hess, Prest., Dept. M, Chicago.