

TORONTO STOCK TRANSACTIONS.

Canadian stocks have had, during the week, a good strong tone, unaffected by rumors of war in Europe, or the disturbing influences of elections in the United States. Slight gains have been made in Dominion, Commerce, and Traders' Bank shares during the week. Western Assurance is half a point higher. Toronto General Electric, General Electric and London Electric, have also advanced. Montreal sold up to 190. Other shares were generally firm, and a feeling of confidence prevails in the market. Bank of Commerce, 96 at 145½ to 146; Merchants Bank of Canada, 31 at 181½-182½; Imperial Bank, 10 at 212; Dominion Bank, 115 at 253-254; Standard Bank, 19 at 184; Traders' Bank, 11 at 108½-110; Western Assurance Co., 247 at 172-172½; Montreal Gas Co., 100 at 188¾-190; Ontario & Qu'Appelle Land Co., 25 at 48; Canada North-West Land Co., pref., 35 at 51-51¾; C.P.R. Stock, 3,873 at 81¼-81¾; Toronto Electric Light Co., new, 6 at 128; Toronto Electric Light Co., old, 11 at 135; General Electric Co., 10 at 132; General Electric Co., pref., 71 at 107-107½; Commercial Cable Co., 125 at 180-181½; Commercial Cable Co., reg. bonds, \$600 at 103¾; Bell Telephone Co., 34 at 173-173¾; Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co., 25 at 95½; Toronto Railway Co., 455 at 103-103½; London Electric Light Co., 131 at 115-116; Hamilton Electric Light Co., 74 at 74½; War Eagle Mining Co., 9,400 at 281-288; Imperial Permanent Loan Co., 20 at 111; Imperial Loan & Investment Co., 1 at 90; Manitoba Loan Co., 40 at 34¾; Western Canada Loan Co., 1 at 120; Western Canada, 25 per cent., 50 at 90.

PERSISTENCE IN ACCIDENTS.

A very curious instance of coincidence is narrated in the London Lancet: A patient at the age of ten years fractured his right index finger. It happened on August 26th. When thirteen years old he fractured his left leg below the knee, through falling from horseback, also on August 26th. When fourteen years of age he fractured both bones of the left forearm by stumbling, his arm striking the edge of a brick (August 26th). In another year, on August 26th, when fifteen years of age, he had compound fracture of the left leg above the ankle, by his foot being caught under an iron rod and his body falling forward. Next year, again on the same date, August 26th, he had compound fracture of both legs, the right being so severely crushed that it had to be amputated at the lower third of the thigh. This was caused by a horse hitched to a tram of coal, which, running wild underground, caught him in a narrow passage, crushing both legs severely. After this he did not work on August 26th for twenty-eight years, and little wonder, but in the year 1890, he forgot his fateful day and went to work, with the result that he sustained a compound fracture of the left leg. After this he studiously avoided working on August 26th, though never missing work at other times.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICA.

Canadian manufacturers, who already export to South America, as well as those who may be thinking of doing so, will be interested in hearing that, according to the San Francisco Chronicle, that Californian city is to have another direct steamer connection with South American markets on both the Eastern and Western coasts. The "Chargeurs Reunis," one of the largest French steamship companies, is to establish a line of fast steamers between this port, Mazatlan, Acapulco, Guayaquil, Callao, Peru; Valparaiso, Chile; Montevideo, Uruguay; Santos, Brazil; Liverpool, Havre, and

possibly a Belgian port. The first steamer will arrive here next March, and thereafter a monthly service is to be maintained between San Francisco and Liverpool, with stoppage at the above-mentioned ports.

A. Fraysse, representing the company, who is in this city, says he has received much encouragement from merchants, and declares that the line will be put into operation as soon as possible. He adds: "For service in the Pacific, the company now has under construction three new steamers, which will have a length of 372 feet, and a carrying capacity of 6,000 tons each."

AN OLD TRUTH AGAIN EMPHASIZED.

A Chicago paper explains how it was that Dr. Fricke, of Wisconsin, came to grief:

The defeat of William A. Fricke, who sought renomination to the office of Insurance Commissioner, of Wisconsin, has given rise to many reflections. He was probably the best of the forty odd commissioners. He stood up for all that was good in insurance, administering his office with one purpose in view—the protection of the assured. With this thought in mind, he made a vigorous fight on assessmentism, as a result of which the people of Wisconsin have suffered less from rotten assessment companies of all kinds than the people in other states. But in making this fight on shady insurance concerns, Dr. Fricke incurred enmity of the more or less shady characters back of them, who were powerful enough to make his renomination an impossibility. The moral seems to be: If a Wisconsin insurance commissioner is desirous of reelection, he must toady to assessmentism. Elsewhere the position of insurance commissioner is appointive. The people elect him in Wisconsin.

Commercial.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Oct. 27th, 1898.

DRIED FRUITS.—Increased interest is being paid to the dried fruit market. Shipments of this season's figs are here, and prices are very high. Dealers quote: Glove boxes, 20c. per box; 6-crown, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 22c.; 4-crown, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 20c.; 6-crown, 24-lb. boxes, per lb., 22c.; 7-crown, 56-lb. boxes, per lb., 28c.; Tapnets, per lb., 4c. A year ago table figs ranged in price from 10 to 15 cents per pound. New California prunes are also to hand. Values are a shade firmer than they were at the commencement of last season. We quote: 90-100, 50 lb. boxes, per lb., 6c.; 90-100, 25-lb. boxes, per lb., 6¼c.; 70-80, 50-lb. boxes, per lb., 7¼c.; 70-80, 25 lb. boxes, per lb., 7½c.; 50-60, 25-lb. boxes, per lb., 9¼c. The currant market in Greece by cable shows a slight decline. From latest advices received by mail, giving particulars of shipments, we notice that consuming countries have each taken larger quantities this year than last, with the exception of Germany, which has fallen somewhat behind. It is important to notice that France is increasing her importations, and if this business goes on it may prevent any serious decline in price, even if the article continues shut out of Russia.

FLOUR.—A firmer tone exists in the market, and during the past fortnight, although some reverses have been felt, the tendency has been an upward one. A good export business is doing, and millers would apparently be well satisfied with the situation, if supplies of wheat were more easily obtainable.

GRAIN.—Values are both up and down. In wheat, prices during the week have

fluctuated, and have been influenced by the uncertainty of speculative centres in regard to war rumors. Quotations at the close of the week range about 2c. per bushel lower than this time last year. Receipts this week from farmers' hands have been comparatively light, as the weather and work on the farm have prevented farmers from reaching the markets. In coarse grains there has been a general upward movement.

GROCERIES.—Fairly good business has been done during the week, but more favorable weather would be acceptable. More shipments have been made of staples to points on the Northern lakes in view of the early close of navigation. Sugar has been in fairly good request. Canned goods are attracting considerable attention and supplies are firmly held. The story has it that supplies are pretty well under the control of a single firm. Large shipments of Canadian canned fruits, especially raspberries, are said to have been made to London, Eng., recently. Peas and corn are high, while tomatoes remain at previously high quotations.

HIDES AND SKINS.—A quiet market has ruled during the week. For green cow hides merchants are still giving butchers 8½c. per lb., although the feeling in the market is somewhat easier. There is no accumulation of hides in the city, however, and merchants are not disposed to sell stocks at less than 9¼c., if they can help it. In spite of the weaker feeling we have not learned of any sales at less than this figure. Whether purchases could be made at a fraction less than quotations, we cannot say. Sheepskins are quoted at 75 cents, and at this price pullers say they find little or no profit. From Chicago, October 25th.—Only a small volume of business was transacted in the market, for packer hides, as the large buyers continued to hold back, awaiting developments; still as there was no pressure to sell, values held steady at 11½ to 11¾c. for native steers, 10¼ to 10½c. for Texas, 10c. for butt brands, 9¼c. for Colorados, 9½c. for branded cows, and 11 to 11¾c. for light do.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts of dressed hogs have varied from day to day, being affected largely by the weather. Dairy butter is offering freely, but choice quality is not in excess of demand. Creamery is steady with 18 to 20c. per lb. quoted. Cheese in the local market is quiet. There is a brisk demand for fresh eggs, and offerings are restricted.

SEEDS.—Offerings of alsike are somewhat less this week, dealers quote \$2.50 to \$4.50, and for red clover, \$3.25 to \$4 per bushel. The export trade is a little more active, and offers some out-let. Flax is like the proverbial flea—one cannot put his finger on it; prices fluctuating still several cents up and down, or vice versa, in a day, in sympathy with the West, and exporters out of line, crushers having taken the market away from them, and shorts aggravate the situation. We quote: Common to fair clover, \$5.25 to \$6.25; good to fancy, \$7 to \$8; timothy, \$2.50 to \$3. in job lots for common to choice, per 100 lbs. Flax, \$1.06½, c.i.f. New York, nominal.

WOOL.—The Canadian woolen mills are showing a great deal of activity at the present time, and demands from them for general supplies of imported wool and domestic pulled wools are active. For fleece there is little demand. Deliveries coming forward are restricted as a result of the low prices, and for the lots received, dealers state that they are paying only 15c. per lb. Advices from Sydney, under date of September 26th, say: "Wool receipts have greatly improved. Berth freights are not by any means active, and it is exceedingly fortunate that the supply of spot steam tonnage is limited. No doubt things will brighten when the wool sales next month."