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charge is $\frac{1}{2}$ cent for each fifteen days or part thereof, the same as is charged previous to November 1. The winter storage rate, from November 15 to June 1, is therefore 4 cents per bushel. Mr. Van Horne was asked to consider a reduction of this rate to 2 cents per bushel. It was pointed out that such a reduction would encourage farmers to ship their grain to Fort William for winter storage. It would also, doubtless, have the effect of lowering the rate charged in private country elevators through out Manitoba. With such a reduction in the cost of carrying, there would perhaps be more disposition to hold wheat in expectation of an advance, instead of marketing in the fall, which is not a feature which it is desirable to encourage as a rule. Still, the advantage from the lower rate would greatly outweigh the disadvantage of any increased tendency on the part of farmers to hold their wheat. It is not complained that the Canadian Pacific Railway rate of storage at Fort William is excessive, as it is about the same as is charged at Chicago and Duluth. Mr. Van Horne promised to consider the matter.

Lumber Trade News.

The Rat Portage Record says: The Ontario & Western Lumber company have brought in from the east a powerful alligator tug. This is a craft that will travel either on land or water, though it can be better handled on water. It will be used for towing logs.

The saw mill at Birtle, Man., is being fitted up for the season's cut.

Mill No. 4 of the Ontario and Western Lumber Co., at Norman, formerly the Minnesota and Ontario mill, has started sawing.

President Hill, of the Great Northern, stated recently that the Foston branch would not be built to Duluth this year. This will be a disappointment to many of the timber owners on the upper Mississippi, says the Minneapolis Lumberman. The suspension of work on the Duluth and Winnipeg road, followed by the abandonment of the Duluth branch of the Great Northern, has been a disaster to that portion of the state, and put a stop not only to extending logging operations but also to the general development of that portion of the state.

The Mississippi Valley Lumberman of Minneapolis, has the following to say editorially regarding the lumber situation in Manitoba: "The new tariff arrangement that the Dominion has entered into is not meeting with the general satisfaction of the lumber trade, according to all reports. There is a fear in Manitoba that Minnesota lumber will be brought into that province, since the duty has been reduced by the Dominion government. This would result in the demoralization of prices in Manitoba which are now in rather bad shape. There is a disposition in the trade there at

present to hold off and see if there will not be some further changes in the tariff schedule as far as lumber is concerned. The reduction in the duty on lumber from the United States, to Canada falls very heavily on the Lake of the Woods mill men who maintain that they will not be able to compete under the new tariff unless freight rates from the Lake of the Woods to Winnipeg are reduced. The fact is that the Canadian Pacific railroad has a monopoly in handling the lumber from the Rat Portage mills to western points, and it appreciates this fact. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago, an effort was made to get the provincial legislature to assist the lumbermen in building an independent line from the Lake of the Woods to Winnipeg by which the logs could be brought to that city and manufactured there. The idea was to remove the mills from Rat Portage to the Red River at Winnipeg. This railroad scheme was not approved of by the legislature, and now with the new tariff list comes additional troubles for the provincial lumbermen to the north. It is stated that the amalgamation of the six lumber companies at Rat Portage was due to the fact that some of the companies were actually running at a loss even under a protective tariff. The trouble seems to be with the Canadian Pacific railroad because of its excessive freight rates. It is not probable that Minnesota lumbermen will enter into the Manitoba trade to any extent for some time yet to come. In the shingle business however, the pine shingle manufacturers of the provinces of Canada will have to look to their laurels or they will be wrested from them by the hustling red cedar shingle manufacturers of the Puget Sound country. These western cedar shingle men are preparing for an active campaign in both British Columbia and Manitoba and eastern Canada, and since the new Canadian lumber tariff list went into use, they have hopes of working up quite a trade in that direction. The red cedar shingle men are ever looking for new fields to conquer and now, after the northwest has fallen before them, and the Canadian government has given them the opportunity that they have been looking for, they propose to take advantage of it, according to all reports, and will make things lively for the Canadian shingle men."

Fur Trade News.

The London correspondent of the Fur Trade Review, writing on April 11, says: "Although we cannot report much improvement in business since our last we are glad to say trade is beginning to wake up, and certainly we need it in this market, for it is some years since we passed through such a depression, and hope that this season's trade will in some way make up for the bad times. The mantle houses have been very busy and still have their hands full with spring and summer orders, and they report trade with them is very much better than last year. This will put them in good heart for the autumn and winter trade, and as there is decided feeling for fur trimmed jackets and mantels, the outlook is certainly very promis-

ing. Bears continue to sell freely, and large numbers of boas, victorias and idalias are still being sold. There is a feeling for shorter-length articles in neckwear, but up to date it has not caught on except in sable and skunk. Sable—Now that the price is reasonable there is no doubt this article will sell freely, and especially in novel shapes. Mink—Although the price now is very reasonable, yet there is not much demand for these, and we are rather uncertain as to whether they will be wanted or not. Squirrel tail boas continue to sell pretty freely, and some very good orders have been booked for future delivery. Walaby—A rather large number of these are being dyed black, brown and squirrel color, and this looks very effective on the swamp wallaby. Indeed it looks almost as good as an ordinary dyed raccoon, and as the price is so much lower than raccoon, we have no doubt there is a good future for this article. Whitecoat dyed skunk color and dark brown will be much wanted, and looks exceedingly nice in narrow trimming. Thibet, dyed black, will be largely used as trimmings for cloaks and also for the deep turned down collar, which will be in fashion this season. Musquash, dyed dark brown, seal color, and imitation black will also be wanted, in fact, any fur which has a good bright top hair, for this is wanted in the manufacture of narrow trimmings, a large quantity of which will be used.

Another London correspondent writes as follows:—"With the exception of bears and martens, American furs are used here only to a very small extent. There is, however, a good inquiry here for black and blue dyed fox. Black Thibets, and a few parcels of moussons have lately changed hands, owing to the extremely low prices for the same. Wooleals in skunk color are also used to some extent. Dyed China goat rugs are still holding their own with the English trade for both fur and rug purposes. Contrary to the first circular reports, Copper Island seals are turning out very fine in quality, and fully as good as last year's collection. Chinchilla and ermine are still looked upon as the coming articles for novelty, but the demand has as yet not taken any definite shape. London has been besieged by numerous American fur buyers, but very little plunging has been done by them; on the contrary, they were conspicuously conservative. No doubt last year's business has had the effect of making them very careful in their purchases."

The New York Fur Trade Review for May says:—"The activity of the past month has been due to the trial orders placed by a number of the cloak manufacturers. Skins of various kind have been taken to be made up, but thus far considerable uncertainty prevails regarding the styles of the garments likely to be popular for the coming season. Mink appears to have declined in general favor; fine grades of mink will be used, but medium and low sorts will sell only at very moderate prices. Persian and Astrakhan are in favor, the demand is good for skunk and its imitations; seal maintains its leading position; ermine and chinchilla are in moderate supply, and sell at extreme prices."