

THE INSOLVENCY BILL.

In the senate on Monday, Sir Mackenzie Bowell introduced the insolvency bill which he said was so fully discussed last session that it should not take up much time this. The bill was re-introduced this session in consequence of a distinct promise given by the late premier in the house of commons in last session. There were a few changes or alterations made in the bill as now introduced and none affecting the principles of the measure. Conflicting clauses and clerical errors comprised the only changes from the bill as amended last session. The bill was read for the first time.

Grain and Milling Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin tells the following little yarn: "Last fall, when Manitoba No. 1 hard could have been bought in this market at 60c per bushel, certain grain merchants in this city proposed to a banker here to rush in and make a scoop of all the Manitoba wheat they could lay hold of at around that unprecedently diminutive figure, as they felt sure there was a little bonanza in buying No. 1 Manitoba hard at 60c, or in that vicinity, and so there was, as that same wheat is now worth 78c to 80c in this market, a nice little advance of 18c to 20c per bushel. The banker, however, thought that the price of No. 1 hard in this market might drop to 50c, and consequently he refused to advance the money, and thus a splendid chance for both banker and customer slipped by. The former thought there was more money in loaning on Canadian Pacific stock at a pretty steep figure; but there wasn't, and he now finds out his mistake.

The Whitwood Milling Co., Whitewood, Assa., has sold out to Charles Saunders.

The total exports of flour from the United States, during the month of March were, 1,100,816 barrels against 1,302,913 barrels during the same month a year ago. The export value a year ago footed up \$5,326,568, this year \$3,558,013. This shows a decline in the export value of flour of 85c per barrel during the year. During the same time the export value of wheat declined only 6 1/2c per bushel or reduced to flour, about 27 1/2c per barrel.

The farmers' elevator at Neepawa, Man., was sold recently, R. C. Ennis, miller, being the purchaser. The price paid was between nine and ten thousand dollars, or \$1,000 over liabilities. The elevator cost in the neighborhood of 22,000, so that the stockholders have lost heavily.

The Virden Milling Company, Virden, Man., have rented their mill to Grant & Mainwright.

The two mills of the Lake of the Woods Milling Co., at Keewatin and Portage la Prairie, were both closed down part of last week. The Keewatin mill resumed grinding Thursday after a shut down of two weeks. A large force of 30 or 40 men were at work giving the machinery an overhauling and some new machinery was put in, in order to keep the mill fully abreast of the times. A new machine shop is being built at the mill and machinery for grinding and corrugating rolls is being put in, thus saving any delays hereafter in sending rolls away to be ground. This will be the only mill in Canada having machinery in connection for corrugating rolls. The Portage mill was closed down for about a week. The two mills have been kept going pretty steadily all winter and shipmenst have been constantly going east. Heavy orders are now in to go forward by the first boats.

The monster chimney for the Ogilvie Winnipeg mill is now being built.

Grocery and Produce Trade Notes.

Referring to European beet root crops Willett & Gray, of New Pork, report as follows: "What the reduction in sowings will amount to is yet difficult to say. Austria is disposed to make quite a decrease, provided the beet raisers can be assured that the reduction made will not be taken advantage of by Germany to make a corresponding increase. Five to 7 1/2 per cent general decrease seems now to be the nearest 'guess' that can be made. This would reduce the crops 250,000 tons to 500,000 tons under average season's weather and be quite sufficient to cause an improvement in the situation."

The Parsons Produce Co., Winnipeg, have arranged with Mr. Scott for the exclusive control this season of the output of his creamery at Shoal Lake. This is the largest and one of the most successful creameries in Manitoba, and it has been operated every season for a number of years. This year the output is expected to reach 15,000 pounds of butter per month. A considerable portion of this butter will be put up in five and ten pound tins. The Parsons Produce Co. have also received an order this week for Manitoba creamery butter from Yokohama, Japan. They shipped 23,000 dozen of eggs from Winnipeg to British Columbia for the week ended April 20.

Winnipeg commission merchants sometimes have trouble about egg cases. They send out egg cases to be filled and returned, but sometimes the cases are not returned to the original owners, but are sent to other parties. This means a loss to the owners, as egg cases cost money. When parties who do not return the cases are billed for them, they sometimes neglect to remit, or object to pay for them. Some of the city commission houses now charge 50c each for all egg cases when they are sent out. This is undoubtedly the proper way to do, and it will prevent many losses from cases not returned. When the cases are returned, credit is given for them.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the weeks of ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:—

Grade.	Mar. 23	Mar. 31	April 6	April 13	April 20
Extra Manitoba hard	1	1	0	0	0
No. 1 hard	75	105	109	68	60
No. 2 hard	0	1	0	5	7
No. 1 Northern. 6	10	9	7	26	
No. 2 Northern. 0	0	0	0	0	
No. 1 white fye 1	3	2	4	0	
No. 2 white fye 0	0	0	0	0	
No. 1 Spring ... 2	0	4	0	0	
No. 1 R-jected. 8	4	6	7	6	
No. 2 R-jected. 7	7	7	4	1	
No Grade	0	0	0	0	
Total	100	131	137	55	100
Same week last year.	63	46	25	15	9

*Wheat inspected at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Lumber Trade News.

The demand for lumber for elevator building in Manitoba promises to be quite an item in the lumber trade this year. Both the Ogilvie and the Lake of the Woods Company will build extensively this year, besides the elevators projected by several grain firms and dealers.

A report from Duluth says: "A lumber company for the purpose of manufacturing

logs from the United States side at some point on the Lake of the Woods is being organized at Duluth with a capital of \$1,000,000. The organizers are William Deary, of the firm of Kehl & Deary, Duluth; George A. Baird, Gttawa; Timothy Crowell, Boston; H. Howard, Montreal; and M. A. Ferguson, Duluth. They expect to have everything in shape to commence business August 1. There are at present only two lumber companies doing business at the Lake of the Woods and as they own extensive timber limits on the Canadian side they have quit buying logs in Minnesota and a move in this direction has been found necessary. Edward Buckley, president of the Manistee & North-eastern railroad, and other Michigan parties are interested and will aid materially towards making the new enterprise a success." The statement in the above telegram that the Canadian companies have stopped buying logs cut on the United States side of the boundary in the country tributary to the Lake of the Woods is not exactly correct. No logs were purchased this season because they were not required, large stocks being on hand or contracted for in previous years.

The Winnipeg city council has received tenders for the supply and delivery of from 400,000 to 1,000,000 feet of lumber, and has accepted the tender of Wm. Robinson, of Winnipeg, at \$14.20 per thousand feet. The contract price last year was \$13.90.

Financial and Insurance Notes.

The Phoenix Assurance Co., of London, had \$420,817,085 of insurance in force in the London metropolitan district in 1893, thus leading the list of about 65 companies.

The estimates were presented in Parliament at Ottawa on Monday. The estimated expenditure for the year ending June 30, 1896 is \$11,243,417, as compared with \$10,038,392 the previous year, being an increase of \$1,205,025. The supplementary estimates yet to come down may largely increase the amount. The expenditure in the Northwest for indians, roads, and Northwest police maintenance is reduced by \$211,325. Militia is reduced, \$243,000, there being no camps of instruction this year. There is an additional \$3,600 to complete the Brandon Industrial school; \$10,000 for Portage la Prairie postoffice; \$12,000 for Moosomin court house. addition, \$5,000 for a court house at Prince Albert and \$6,5000 for a wharf on Lake Winnipeg, of which \$2,500 is a re-vote. There is \$8,000 for dredging in Manitoba against \$10,000 last year, and a re-vote of \$25,000 for a bridge across the Saskatchewan at Edmonton.

WISCONSIN CENTRAL

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	4.05 pm	Lv. Duluth Ar	11.10 am	
	7.15 pm	Lv. Ashland Ar	8.15 am	
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