Business at Vancouver.

Vancouver, June 27.

Alternate rain and sunshine has hastened on the small fruit, and abundance of strawberries are being offered at \$1.50 per crate of 24 boxes Cheries are also very plentiful, while raspberries are rapidly ripening on the busics. There has been a arge increase in the crop area this year and the weather has been propitious while prices will be fairly high. Reports irom jobbers continues favorable in some lines, although dairy produce is more abundant than the demand would warrant, and as a consequence only the best article commands even market prices quoted. This is owing, as far as butter and eggs are concerned, to large consignments of batter, eggs and choose from Ontario and Manitoba, when the market is receiving large consignments from the Brit-ish Columbia farmers. Old potatoes are out of the market and new pota-

Grocery Trade Notes.

The downward turn in foreign sugar markets is the cause of the decline reported last week at Canadian refineries.

Advices from Ifalifax state that the back of lobster so far has been the smallest on record. The market is tending upward.

Advices from Smyrna confirm previous reports that the crop of figs will be considerably less than 50 per cent of an average crop.

Several merchants at Sault Ste. Marie. Ontario, have been fined \$50 to \$100 each and cost, for having smuggled tobacco, clears and clear-ettes in their possession.

The Hudson's Bay Co., Winnipeg, have received a letter from Havana, to the effect that a firm had been able to ship them a consignment of cigars from an eastern port on the island, notwithstanding the blockade.

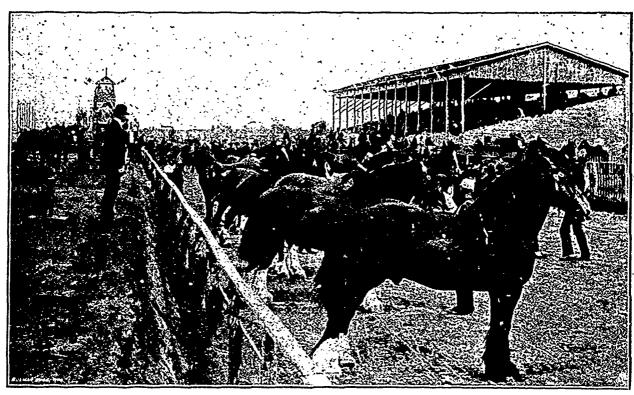
Insurance Items.

Edinburgh Life Assurance Co. has obtained a license authorizing the company to earry on its business in Manitoba.

The New York Life has issued a folder giving interesting colored war maps, showing the position of the West Indies, the Philippines, etc.

The legality of the levy by the liquidator of the Select Knights for six months' assessments upon ex-memtest of the organization, is being tested before the local master at St. Catharines. Ontario, the headquarters of the defunct assessment society.

The Northwestern Life Assurance Company of Chicago, an assessment concern, has been compelled to seek permission to raise its rates 50 per cent. The amount of losses from Jan. 1 to May 1 were \$630,000, and the amount received from assessments during that time \$487,000, and there is now outstanding unpaid \$307,000,



HORSE PARADE AT WESTERN FAIR, BRANDON

toos ore becoming much cheaper. Hay is quoted still lower. In the red mar-ket, however, it is not thought that lower prices will prevail until the old crop of feed stuffs is disposed of which erop of feed stuffs is disposed of which will be done, it is thought, before the new crop is ready for market. Jobbers are complaining again of the indifferent way eggs are packed for shipment in Manttoba, as compared with Ontario eggs. In the latter case there are comparatively no losses in shipment, except when water gets in the refrierrators on the train, which shipment, except when water gets in the refrigerators on the train, which rarely happens; but shipments from Manitoba often arrive in Vancouver, according to produce handlers here, in a half spoiled condition. These re-marks in a much less degree also apply to butter.

Ontario will have an immense al! around crop this year, if the harvest comes off all right. Apples are a large crop.

A Montreal report says: The feature in the canned goods trade during the past week has been the demand for new pack salmon and sales ag-gregating between 3,000 to 4,000 cases of Clover Leaf brand have been made for future delivery at \$3.50 per case f.o.b. coast, which is the same figure this brand opened at last season.

Two big independent sugar refineries will begin operations in the United States competition with the Havemeyer trust within a few weeks. One of them is the property of Ar-One of them is the projectly of Albuckle Bros. whose venture into the sugar trust's field drew the latter into the coffee-roasting business and caused the fight which brought package coffee down to nine and eight cents a pound, or little more than one-half what it was formerly selling for. If it leads to a war with the trust of similar effect upon prices of sugar the public will not mourn.

The last assessment in 1897 produced 310 hast assessment in 1897 produced \$310,000, while the call of April hast realized only \$175,000. In view of these facts the increase requested does not seem excessive, and is therefore approved. The company which was originally the Northwestern Maconia Ald Acceptation was because the contraction of the contractio sonic Aid Association was incorporated in Chicago in 1874.

Druggists Sundries.

Manufacturers have advanced the price or white castile soap.

price of white castile soap.

The British pharmacopoeia, 1898 caition, has been issued, and shows that some changes are important.

The new war stamp tax on patent medicines, which went into effect in the finited States on July 1, is tending to an advance in prices of a number of articles for the domestic trade in the United States, but prices for the Canadian and foreign trade are not likely to be advanced as a general rule. rule.