

Legal Decisions.

Tuesday at the court house an application was made in the matter of the Roche Perce Coal Company, by the liquidator to sell the assets of the company which is now being wound up. The company's mines are in N. W. T.; the paid up capital amounted to about \$25,000 and the liabilities to about \$18,000. A Mr. Gosher has made the liquidator, Mr. Bertrand, an offer for the whole assets of the company; he has offered to pay in cash all the liabilities in return for a conveyance of the assets of the company, Mr. Hough, Q. C. appeared on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Phippen, Mr. Mathers, Mr. Baker and Mr. West represented the shareholders or creditors interested, and Mr. Culver, Q. C., for the C. P. R. His lordship dismissed the present application as the material was not such as he could make the order on which was asked for, but he granted leave to the liquidator to renew the application on Thursday next.

Re Roche Perce Coal Co.—In the matter Mr. Hough mentioned to the court that the offer for the purchase of the assets of the company by Mr. Gosher had been withdrawn, so the matter was allowed to drop.

Allan vs. Manitoba & Northwestern railway company.—The application for payment over by Mr. Nanton as receiver, of a portion of the road to Mr. Allan, of \$123,000 in his hands for payment to the creditors, was again brought up. Counsel for the company contended the payment should be made at once as there were numerous pressing claims, particularly one for \$20,000 due for ties purchased with the count's approval. His lordship granted an enlargement asked for by the trustees upon the terms that Mr. Nanton is to pay over to Allan sufficient to pay for the ties mentioned, the court reserving the right to direct repayment from the future earnings of the road if it should think proper upon the final disposition of the application so to do. The balance of the application stands enlarged for six weeks to communicate with parties in England. Mr. Phippen for the railway company; Mr. Ewart, Q. C., for the trustees.

Bertrand vs. Canadian Rubber Co.—January, 1897, Jas. Lamonte, who owned a boot and shoe business in Main street, gave a chattel mortgage to the Canadian Rubber Co., on stock. On Feb. 20th the company set into possession and advertised sale of the stock. On the same day Lamonte made an assignment to a friend, who contends that when the Rubber company took the chattel mortgage they knew Lamonte was insolvent and it amounted to a fraudulent preference. By consent the stock was sold, the question of priority to subsequently decided on this issue. His lordship judgment his lordship must find that Lamonte was in insolvent circumstances, and that the mortgage to the Rubber company was made with intent to give that company a preference over creditors. The suggestion to the company came from the insolvent. There was no fraud. There must be judgment that the mortgage in question was made by Lamonte, when he was in insolvent circumstances and to pay his debts in full, with a preference over other creditors, and that the mortgage was against the plaintiff, and the

plaintiff is entitled to the proceeds of the mortgaged property brought into court; defendants to pay the costs of the action. Mr. Ewart, Q. C., and Mr. Phippen for plaintiff; Mr. Hough, Q. C., and Mr. Bradshaw for defendants.

Victoria, June 18.—Mr. Justice Drake yesterday morning gave judgment in the appeal of the Union Colliery company against the conviction of Manager Little of employing Chinese underground. The conviction was quashed on the ground that although the act prohibits the employment of Chinese underground, such employment was not made an offence for which a penalty is imposed.

The Tariff Bill.

In committee of ways and means, Hon. W. S. Fielding announced a change in the duty on uncleaned rice from 3-4 to 1-2 cent. When the reciprocity tariff is in operation the difference between the duty on uncleaned and cleaned rice will be but 183-4 cents per hundred pounds, which was greater than was intended, hence the change.

Craig, East Durham, asked a return to former rates on files and rasps and Hon. G. L. Foster pleaded for an increase in rubber belting duty from 25 per cent to 30. The rate on bush-thorn and strip fencing is reduced from 20 to 15 per cent., and removes the woven wire fencing rate from 25 per cent.

The agricultural implement item called for discussion from western members, who asked a reduction from 25 to 20 per cent. Mr. Richardson moved, seconded by Rev. Mr. Douglass, that the duty be reduced to 10 per cent.

To the cotton duties a new item was added, taxing white cotton embroidery at 20 per cent.

The items for cottons, linen and flannels used in the manufacture of shirts, collars and cuffs, allowed in at 15 per cent, was struck out. Hon. Mr. Fielding saying that the effort to help the shirt makers would result in more harm than good.

Hon. Mr. Fielding announced an important change in the coal duties in consonance with the action of the United States senate. The rate of 60 cents per ton on bituminous coal, which now comes in, will be placed at 54 cents per ton on 2,000 pounds. If the United States reduces the rate to 40 cents the Canadian government is empowered to follow the example. Bituminous slack stands at 20 per cent, and anthracite duties are not touched.

Grain Stocks.

New York, June 15.—Special cable and telegraphic dispatches to Bradstreet's, covering the principal ports of accumulation indicate the following changes in available supplies of grains last Saturday as compared with the preceding Saturday. Wheat, United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, decrease 2,668,000; all east for and in Europe, decrease 1,200,000, total decrease in world's available, 3,868,000. Corn—United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, increase 2,998,000. Oats—United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, increase 369,000. The more important decrease in available stocks of wheat not reported in the official visible supply statement for last week include 450,000 bushels in northwestern interior elevators 344,000 bushels at Fort

William; 50,000 bushels at Ogdenburg; 40,000 bushels, at various Manitoba storage points; 32,000 bushels at Quincy, and 24,000 bushels at Kingston.

Manitoba Crop Area.

It is learned that the crop bulletin of the department of agriculture which will be issued in a few days will show the area under wheat in the province to be 1,290,882 acres, of oats, 408,141 acres and of barley, 153,260 acres. The total area of all crops is 1,850,000 acres, an increase of 30 per cent over last year. The total area last year was 999,598 acres, after deducting 50 per cent. of the area sown on stubble, which proved to be wasted effort.

The figures for the three preceding years of the principal cereals are as follows:

Wheat—1894 1,010,186 acres. 1895, 1,140,276. 1896, 999,598.

Oats—1894, 413,066 1895, 482,658; 1896, 442,445.

Barley—1894, 119,528, 1895, 153,839; 1896, 127,885.

There are 27,000 farmers in the province, and the figures indicate that the old settlers are dropping as much land as ever although going more extensively into stock raising, etc.

MANITOBA WHEAT MOVEMENT.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ended June 12, aggregated 314,344 bushels, the shipments were 658,257 bushels, and the quantity in store was 1,797,148 bushels. For the corresponding week last year receipts were 234,516 bushels, and shipments 276,925 bushels. Two years ago the receipts were 99,955 bushels and shipments 10,433 bushels. Stocks in store a year ago were 1,425,000 bushels; two years ago 332,882 bushels and three years ago 1,198,537 bushels.

From the opening of navigation to June 13, last year, shipments of wheat were 4,235,000 bushels, of which 1,963,000 went to New York for export, 838, bushels to Montreal for export, and 1,433,000 to Ontario millers.

C. P. R. TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

Montreal June 17.—The Canadian Pacific Railway company's traffic receipts for the week ending June 14th were \$466,000; for the same week of last year they were \$373,000.

CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the returns for week ending June 17, 1897:

	Clearings	Balances
Total for week ending June 17, 1897	\$ 1,356,963	\$361,793
Total for week ending June 17, 1896	955,903	153,480
Total for week ending June 17, 1895	860,403	105,562

Western wools in the United States are said to be costing too high to sell in eastern markets at the present basis of prices.

London, June 16.—At the June sessions for Middlesex yesterday, Frank Butler, who ran an alleged bucket shop, was charged with keeping a common gaming house. The case was adjourned until the fall assizes. The defence allege they could not secure the presence in London at the same time of a number of witnesses living in Buffalo and they proposed to move for a commission to take their evidence there.