

WINNIPEG GRAIN AND PRODUCE EXCHANGE.

An event of great importance to the trade interests of the city was the organization in November, of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange, which body has for its object the centralization of the grain business, and the establishing of regular rules and methods for conducting the trade. With a membership of fifty, and an open change daily, the business already transacted gives every indication that the time was ripe for the establishment of such an institution. It is probable that at an early date a request will be made for an amalgamation of the exchange with this Board, as has been the case in Montreal and Toronto. It is significant that members of the largest grain shipping firms in Canada have openly stated on Change, that it is recognized, that after one or two crops like that of last year, the Winnipeg Exchange will rank as first in importance in the Dominion. Grain dealers throughout the Province, as well as from Montreal and Toronto, are sending in their applications for membership.

IMPROVEMENT OF WATERWAYS.

The importance of improving the natural waterways of the Northwest, and of connecting them by short canals, has been recognized for years past, but the settling up of the country, and the excessive freight rates imposed on the public by the Canadian Pacific Railway, has lately brought the matter into greater prominence. In conjunction with the City Council, your Council, last month, appointed several members of the Board to act on a joint commit-

tee to obtain all the available data regarding the extent and character of the improvements required to connect the waters of the Red and Assiniboine rivers with Lakes Manitoba and Winnipegosis, and through to the Great Saskatchewan, and also as to the probable cost of the work. Another object of inquiry will be the possibility of securing, by a system of dams in the Assiniboine river, sufficient power to run mills and other manufacturing establishments in the city.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.

In December the Board appointed a committee to review the constitution and by-laws governing the Board. Owing to the delay in obtaining from the Secretary of State's office, copies of the documents relating to the registration of the Board under the General Act of the Dominion, the committee has found it impossible to present to the annual meeting a draft of the proposed revised constitution and by-laws, but will be prepared to report at an early date.

Your Council wish to express their pleasure at the immediate response made by the City Council when requested to appoint committees to act jointly with similar bodies from this Board.

The Treasurer's report has already been placed in your hands and those of the President and Secretary will be presented with this.

The new Board room, with its central position and comfortable adjuncts, has been regularly used as an office by the Secretary, as well as for the holding of Board, Council and committee meetings. The beginning of a fair

statistical and commercial library has been collected by the Secretary without cost to the Board. Four hundred and seventy volumes of reports, many maps, papers, etc., are on the shelves, and have been of great service in the compiling of statistical letters and reports.

The number of applications made to the Board, both by letter and in person, for information regarding the country, its mercantile interests and natural resources, has been very large. Strangers visiting the city frequent the Board rooms for such information.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. ASHDOWN, *President*.
CHAS. N. BELL, *Secretary*.

W. A. DIER, who recently sold out his merchant tailoring business at Calgary, is still traveling for M. Fisher, Sons & Co., woolens, Montreal, throughout Western Canada. He will in future make his headquarters at Victoria, B. C.

THE Winnipeg city council has voted \$2,000 to be expended in making a survey of the rapids on the Assiniboine river, here, to determine to what advantage they can be turned in the direction of supplying water power for manufacturing purposes.

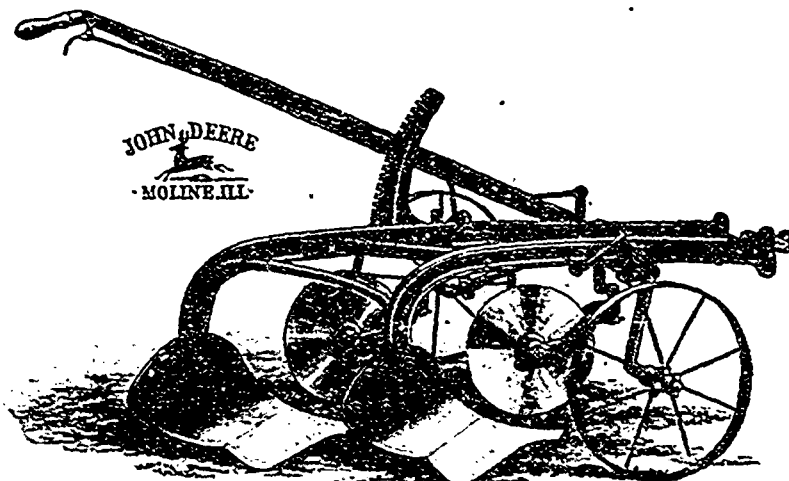
THE expenditure of \$400 seems a pretty large amount for collecting \$716, but these are the relative figures in the case of the book debts of the estate of Fishleigh & Dillon, of Indian Head. Aside from the stock, which was taken under a chattel mortgage, the assets realized ten per cent. of the balance of the claims,

F. A. FAIRCHILD & CO.

— o — o — WHOLESALE DEALERS IN — o — o —

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, CARRIAGES, SLEIGHS, &c.

PLOWS,
SULKY PLOWS,
GANG PLOWS,
HARROWS,
SEEDERS,
FEED CUTTERS,
CRUSHERS,
WAGONS,



BUGGIES,
BUCKBOARDS,
PHÆTONS,
SURREYS,
ROAD CARTS,
RUNABOUT WAGONS
CUTTERS,
SLEIGHS,

CLOSE PRICES TO DEALERS. SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST.

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