

Peat Fuel.

One of the most interesting exhibits at the recent Toronto Industrial fair was that of the Canadian Peat Fuel company, of Toronto. It is well known that very large areas of peat bogs exist in many parts of Ontario, as well as in many other countries, but the commercial value of them has never been demonstrated until a process invented by Mr. Dickson, of Toronto, was brought into use. The product of this process is the transformation of peat into blocks of fuel, each of which may be described as a novel article of manufacture, in the form of a hard, dense block, containing all of the fibrous, carbonaceous, volatile and other materials and elements which are originally embodied in the raw peat, and an amount of moisture only correspondingly approximately with that in the surrounding atmosphere.

The new process solves the problem of furnishing a cheap, clean, uniform and reliable fuel for domestic purposes, as it is equally serviceable for grates, stoves, cooking ranges and furnaces, giving a long, bright flame and intense heat almost from the moment of ignition, and its durability compares favorably with that of coal in consumption, as the density and hardness of the blocks ensure the retention of their original form until the last atom of the inherent carbon and gas has been consumed. The combustion is so thorough that no volume of free carbon or deleterious vapor is allowed to escape, hence its hygienic and economic advantage over either hard or soft coal. It will not absorb any undue moisture or deteriorate while in storage, and it is odorless and cleanly to handle.

The above from the Canadian Manufacturer, of Toronto, may prove of interest here. There are large peat bogs in northern districts of Manitoba which might be turned to account for fuel. If the process described is all that is claimed for it.

Developing Northwestern Oil Fields.

An eastern paper in a recent issue makes the following reference to an important movement affecting the industrial interests of western Canada:

"On the strength of the report of the geographical survey and of later rumors, certain parties said to represent large financial interests in England, have been treating with the Dominion government with a view to acquiring extensive concessions within what is believed to be the oil field of the Northwest—that is on the Athabasca, about the mouth of the Pelican river, and at Victoria on the Saskatchewan. As a result of their applications to the minister of the interior, an order in council has been passed under which authority can be given to an applicant to prospect on a selected section of 640 acres for a period of six months, at the end of which period the prospector shall have the right to buy the land at \$1 per acre, with the added condition, however, that he must pay a royalty of 21-2 per cent upon the sales of the petroleum produced.

MANITOBA COUNTRY MARKETS.

Prices for wheat to-day, to farmers, at Manitoba country markets, 161-2 to 171-2 cent freight rate points, were as follows: No. 1 hard 55c; No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern, 52; No. 3 hard and No. 2 northern, 46c; No. 1 rejected 40c; No. 2 rejected 36.

British Columbia Items.

E. C. Weaver, fruit cigars, etc., is about to start at Cascade City.

O. Fredericks, hotel, is commencing at Cascade City.

Chas. Dixon has opened a chop house at Cascade City.

John Humer, grocer and baker, is moving to Greenwood from Ferguson.

Fort Steel Mercantile Co., general store, is closing its Wardner branch and opening at Cranbrook.

D. W. Hicks, restaurant, Greenwood, has sold out to John Humer.

Wynkoop & Stephens, are opening a general store at Phoenix.

A. E. Fawcett, druggs, is closing out his business at Ladner's.

T. W. Gray saw and planing mill, Nelson, has assigned.

Westham Island Packing Co., is dissolving.

John Cream, hotel, is opening at New Westminster.

A. Godfrey hardware, is resuming business at New Westminster under name of Godfrey Hardware Co.

Ed. Sinclair, boots and shoes, is opening at New Westminster.

E. C. Weaver, hotel, Three Forks, has moved to Cascade City.

The following items are reported from Vancouver: John Gruhart, of Gruhart Bros., liquors and groceries, is dead. Wood, Barrett & Co., wholesale liquors, are dissolving partnership. D. W. Howard, boots and shoes, has assigned. Page Ponsford Bros., men's furnishings, are opening a branch at New Westminster. Wood Barrett & Co., wholesale liquors; O. A. Wood, retires, and Chas. Barrett assumes liabilities. R. & H. A. Croft, of Victoria, have opened business here. R. A. Haley & Co., grocers' sundries, are commencing business here. Smallcross, Macaulay & Co., wholesale commission. Norman D. Macaulay retires. J. J. & P. G. Smallcross continue under same style.

L. A. Smith & Co., general store, Anacoda, are succeeded by Smith & Co.

G. W. Willis & Co., general store and hotel, Bickley Bay, are burnt out.

Western Business Items.

Hopper & Lawrence, livery, Alameda, Assa., have dissolved partnership.

Willoughby & Durcan have opened in Lumber at Lumsden, Assa.

W. H. Sinclair, general store, Saskatoon, has sold out. J. Leslie, general store, Saskatoon, has admitted J. R. Wilson as partner.

A. P. Munson is opening a general store at Wolsley, Assa.

Mr. Andrews, of Strathclair, Man., has sold his farm and bought the Ray hotel at Newdale. He takes charge on the first of October. Mr. Potts, Russell House, Strathclair, has sold out to Mr. Foster, of Newdale.

The Hutton block, Edmonton, Alberta, occupied by Armstrong Bros., grocery; T. Bellamy, implement warehouse, and G. Hutton as a dwelling, is burned. Armstrong Bros. loss is \$500; Bellamy's loss is \$1,500, insured; Hutton, \$3,000, no insurance. T. Cinnick's shoe shop adjoining was destroyed to prevent the fire spreading. Insured for \$100.

A. Simpson, general store, Stonewall, Man., has sold out to Straton Bros.

Tenders.

Tenders will be received until Thursday, Sept. 29, for the erection of a brick block at Carman, Man.

Tenders for potatoes addressed to the commissioner, Northwest Mounted Police, Regina, will be received up till noon of Saturday, Oct. 8th, for the supply of 400 bushels of potatoes to be delivered forthwith at the Northwest Mounted Police Barracks, Regina; and 200 bushels to be delivered in the spring of 1899.

Tenders for flour to the amount of about 6,000 sacks, are called for October 10, by the Indian commissioner, Winnipeg.

Cheese Markets.

Ingersoll, Ont., Sept. 20.—Offerings to-day, 765 boxes, remnant August make, All sold; 150 at 83-8c; balance at 81-2c.

Beleville, Sept. 20.—950 white and 85 colored cheese were offered by 19 factories to-day. Sales included 415 boxes at 813-16c; 75 boxes at 83-4c; and 100 boxes at 83-4c, August and September make.

A New Point of Law.

On Friday at the court house the referee delivered judgment on a new point raised here in a suit of Brand vs. Green. Plaintiffs were a firm doing business in Boston under the name of the Boston Peat Co. Defendants were a New York corporation doing business at Delcoveville and were the manufacturers of Dolge felt boots. Defendants being in financial difficulties the supreme court of New York made an order for the winding up of the company and the appointment of a temporary receiver on 14th of April last, and on 5th May made a further order dissolving the company and making the appointment of a receiver permanent. Between the dates of these two orders the plaintiffs sued the defendants and attached moneys in the hands of Arthur Congdon, defendants' representative in this country.

The liquidator or receiver applied to the court here to set aside the suit and attachment proceedings on the ground that the cause of action did not arise in Manitoba. That the defendant corporation had been dissolved, that it is in liquidation; that Manitoba courts on the principle of international comity, recognize the proceedings of the foreign court; that there was really no debt due from Congdon to the defendant company and that there could be no service on the defendant company as it was now practically dead.

Plaintiffs, among other grounds, contended that the court had jurisdiction by reason of the existence of assets in Manitoba that is the debt due and that the defendant company was not dissolved until after the issue of the statement of claim and garnishee order.

The referee in chambers set aside the garnishee order as against the foreign receiver and stayed the proceedings in the suit. Mr. Haggart, Q. C., for the defendants, and the receiver. Mr. Perdue for the plaintiffs.

Chicago, Sept. 23.—Corn is slow at about last night's prices. Bartlett Fraser were large buyers, and Harris did some buying also. The trade is slow and unimportant. A report that wheat receipts will increase to-day had a tendency to break the market, and at 11 o'clock the crowd commenced "jumping" on the market.