

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 application 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 committee 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.

The joint committee has organized, and a deputation waited on the City Council, with the result that a vote of \$2,000 has been passed by that body to survey the Assiniboine river. Work has already been started.