

**Grain Trade Gossip.**

Continued from Page 176.

prevent a block. The first is unfavorable weather for threshing, which would necessitate holding a considerable portion of the crop in stack until next spring. Since we first predicted a blockade, the weather has been much less favorable for threshing, and in some districts a great deal of grain remains to be threshed yet. To this extent the danger of a block is reduced. The next feature which would operate to reduce the danger, would be a brisk export movement all-rail after the close of navigation; and the third cause to lessen the danger would be for the farmers to hold the grain in their own granaries. If farmers refuse to sell at a price which will permit of exporting at all-rail freight rates after the close of navigation, the grain will have to be either stored here or held in farmers' granaries. Farmers do not have very much time to market grain during the busy summer season, and their best policy would seem to be to haul the grain into the elevators during the winter season and hold it in storage if they did not wish to sell it. By adopting this policy they would have it where they could take advantage of any sudden bulge in the market to sell, and at the same time they would relieve themselves of the work of marketing the grain during the summer, when they have plenty of other work to do on their farms. On the other hand, if the farmers adopt the policy of holding their grain in store, a block is inevitable, as there certainly is not elevator room in the country sufficient to store it. The oat and barley crops it must be remembered have hardly been touched yet, besides the wheat crop, of which only about 4,000,000 bushels have been shipped east of the lakes up to the first of last week. Of course there are conditions as stated, which may operate to prevent a block, but if the tendency is to store and hold, it seems certain that there is not storage room in the country to take care of the crops. The elevator accommodation, including our lake ports, is placed at 12,000,000 bushels, but the actual storage capacity is, of course, considerably less than the nominal capacity.

**Our Correspondence Column.**

L. C. S.—The Winnipeg grain exchange has no more control over the grading of wheat than has the Manitoba Farmers' institute or the Patrons of Industry. The grading is done by inspectors who are really officials of the Dominion Government. All matters relating to grain grades and inspection are under the control of the Department of the Interior. The exchange has nothing whatever to do with the inspectors, and any changes the exchange may have desired in grain inspection matters have always been embodied in resolutions and submitted to the Ottawa department.

G. R. C.—A public elevator, is an elevator which is engaged in the business of storing and handling grain for the general public. Such an elevator is a public storehouse. A private elevator is operated simply for its owners, and does not receive grain to store or handle for others. Most country elevators in Manitoba are a combination of both the public and private capacity. They handle grain for the public, and at the same time their owners are engaged in the grain trade on their own account. This double capacity of the elevator is prohibited by law in some parts of the United States.

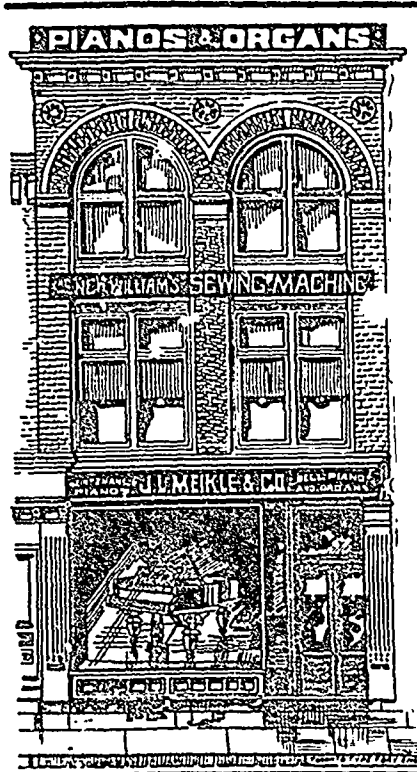
The total pack of lobsters in Prince Edward Island this year amounts to 3,091,000 one pound cans, a decrease of 70,000 as compared with last year. This total was the product of 192 factories. In addition 11,800 pounds of live lobsters were exported to Boston alone.

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