

# WILLIAM L. KEENE & CO

(Successors to Chipman, Morgan & Co.)

SHIPBROKERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS

632 Cordova St., Vancouver, B.C.

Importers of Rice, Sacks, Japan, Indian and China Teas, Steel, Iron, Rope, Cement, Oils, Fruit, Canned Goods, Etc., Etc.

## British Columbia.

A. F. Turner, stationery, Vancouver, is deceased.

Sophronia Hilbert, fruits, Nanaimo, has assigned.

S. T. Tilley & Co. has opened in cigars at Vancouver.

W. Patterson & Sons, butchers, Nanaimo, have assigned.

Manson & Peterson, jewellers, Vancouver, have assigned.

Stevenson & Rockett, grocers, Vancouver, have dissolved.

Vancouver Hardware Co. has opened business at Vancouver.

McKay Bros., painters and wall paper, Vancouver, have assigned.

Philip Fowster, flour, feed &c., Vancouver, has sold out to Earnest Fewster.

James McKim & Sons, general store, Union Mines, have assigned to George O. Shaw.

Aitken & Mowat, commission and produce dealers, Vancouver, contemplate dissolution.

## Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg grain exchange was held Wednesday morning in the exchange rooms. The first business was hearing President McGaw's address which was as follows:

GENTLEMEN:—In passing over in review a few of the events that present themselves before me as having occurred during my term of office, I shall not unnecessarily detain you, as the work and reports of the council cover in fact almost everything that would either interest you or the outside public, and will be placed before you in such a manner that I could not possibly improve on them. I might, however, first refer to the crop of 1891. A crop in Manitoba is a feature alike interesting not only to members of this exchange and to every man in the grain trade, every wholesale merchant and implement firm, but almost, you might say, to every individual doing business in the Dominion.

It is now several years since the eastern people turned their attention to this country, looking for the little money that the farmer received for his produce, and by every train you will find the commercial traveller journeying with his trunks and samples endeavoring to place bills of eastern goods with our country merchants. And it is surprising how familiar these people become with the crop of this country, which shows how deeply interested the eastern people are in the value of the output each year.

The crop of 1891 has been by far the largest ever produced in the province of Manitoba. The government bulletin, dated Dec. 10, puts the crop of the province at something over 17,000,000 bushels of wheat, or an average of about 17 bushels per acre. This is perhaps as nearly correct as any person, no matter how well acquainted with the crop or resources of the country, could make it; nearly 12,000,000 bushels of oats, and 3,250,000 bushels of barley and other cereals, or in all over 32,000,000 bushels of all kinds of grain, including flax.

## Every Mackintosh

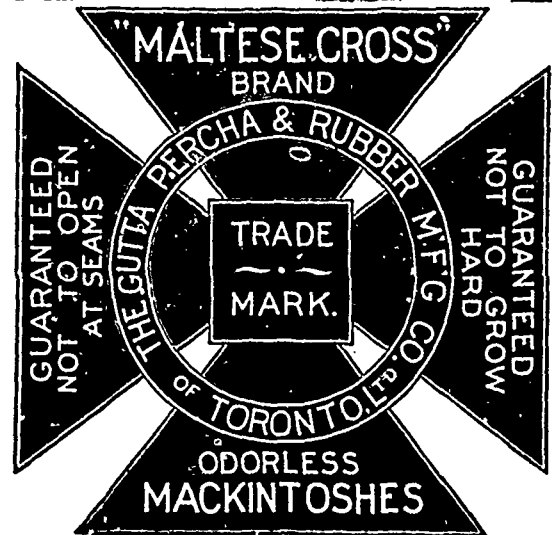
Bearing this Trade Mark is

Thoroughly Guaranteed.

These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are THOROUGHLY WATER PROOF and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

For Sale by all the Leading Wholesale Houses.

Try them and you will Buy Again.



Taking into consideration the number of farmers in Manitoba, it is doubtful if any country can show this amount of production per head, but while this is the case, the terrible depression in prices has very much depreciated the results expected from the crop by the farmers. In spite of this, however, in no country, I think, is the farmer more contented and energetic than in Manitoba, and this is evidenced by the amount of land already prepared for next season's crop, which I believe is greater than ever before. The season of '91 was one that was very favorable to propagation of smut, and the farmer has been the sufferer. For several years this exchange has taken up the question of treating seed vigorously, and I cannot help emphasizing the belief that if farmers continue to faithfully bluestone their seed they need not have a trace of smut in their crops. I was particularly struck with this fact while travelling through the country last August. I found farmers who bluestoned everything, and have been told by some who pursue this system faithfully that they never had a head of smut on their farms.

During the past year I have noticed with pleasure the large increase in the membership of the farmers' institutes, and the papers read at these meetings must be of great value to the inexperienced and those who desire to profit by the experience of others, particularly as to the best means to the eradication of noxious weeds, rotation of crops, and the best methods of handling land to produce the best results.

In the work of the council of this exchange during the past year will be seen some changes that have been made in by-laws which are considered necessary from time to time to meet the varied conditions that exist from year to year. One of the best of these I think was the proviso for the admission of non-resident members at \$25, and when the country dealers begin to recognize the value of a connection with the exchange you will find that their numbers will be as great, if not greater, than that of the city members engaged in the trade. Regarding seed grain—at considerable expense I took the usual steps to send samples of seed to different railway agents. Farmers have appeared to think it not necessary to take advantage of this opportunity to their seed; something that I think would be very greatly to their advantage. But the exchange will no doubt this year interview the railway authorities to again secure free transportation of seed to such farmers at desire to make a change. Another point that will be brought to your notice by the council is the reduction of elevator rates at Fort William. Not only has the producer been benefitted by this reduction, but it also had

the effect of reducing elevator rates at interior elevators in the country.

The matter of chattel mortgages on farmer's crops is another matter to which the Exchange devoted considerable attention, and certainly it appears to me that we should have some legislation to make the buying of grain from farmers in an open market less hazardous than it is at present. The board of arbitrators, which in almost every year of the existence of this Exchange, has appeared to have been a most necessary arrangement, lost their usefulness for the past year from the fact that not a single case was brought to arbitration during the past 12 months. And in connection with this I might say that very little litigation of any kind took place in this country, where the members of this Exchange had anything to do with the business concerned.

With reference to the grain standards, the report of the council is so complete that I can add nothing to it, I am certainly of opinion that people who live in the country and grow, handle and mill the crop are the ones who are entitled to and the best fitted for the fixing of the standards. Perhaps my views are a little extreme in this matter, but I think that by a proper representation to the department at Ottawa the inspection act might be amended so that the standard made for Manitoba would be more in conformity with the character of the wheat grown. I believe in a uniform standard, and when one is arrived at which will give as far as possible general satisfaction, allow that standard to remain. This is following the American principle, which I believe to be a good one, as any foreign importer knows what to expect and does not look for a change of standard from year to year.

Regarding the finances of the exchange, the treasurer's report is at least as healthy as usual.

I take my leave of you wishing you all a happy and prosperous new year.

The following officers were elected by acclamation:

President—G. R. Crowe.

Vice President—A. P. Stuart.

Secretary-Treasurer—C. N. Bell.

Council—Robert Munn, W. Blackadar, S. P. Clark, A. McBean, R. P. Roblin, F. W. Thompson, J. Harris, D. W. Cumming, S. Spink, S. A. McGaw, W. W. McMillan.

Board of Arbitrators—S. W. Farrell, J. Harris, W. Martin, N. Bawlf, A. P. Stuart, S. Spink, D. H. McMillan.

Board of Appeals—J. A. Mitchell, S. A. McGaw, A. McBean, S. Nairn, F. W. Thompson, D. G. McBean, I. M. Ross.

Call Board Committee—S. W. Farrell, W. Blackadar, S. Spink, A. Cavanaugh, W. T. Gibbins.