

Northwest Trade and General News.

Work was commenced on Monday last, on the Port Arthur and Duluth railway.

The Morris Agricultural Association fall show is fixed for October 6th at St. Jean Baptiste.

The Winnipeg grocers and butchers association has presented the children's home with \$45.70.

A dye house will be erected at once, in connection with the new woolen mill at Rapid City, Man.

The stock books of the Calgary Electric Lighting Company, (limited) have been opened at Calgary.

Geo. Brownell, general merchant, Neepawa, Man., purposes building a large brick store next spring.

The sale of 70,000 railway ties at Brandon, seized by the crown, has been postponed until October 22nd.

H. G. Henderson, general merchant, Langenburg, Man., is erecting a permanent store building at that place.

The Dominion lands office at Medicine Hat will shortly be opened, due to the activity of the local board of trade.

The hardware store of Graham & Gordon, Crystal City, was burglarized one night last week, and \$100 in cash taken.

Four carloads of furs were shipped last week from East Selkirk, Man., by the Hudson's Bay Company to London, England.

The first annual exhibition of the North Norfolk Agricultural Society will be held at Carberry on Oct. 10th and 11th.

Another story will be added to the Queen's hotel at Rapid City, to provide accommodation for the large increase of business.

F. & J. Skelding, Neepawa, Man., have completed the shelving of their new store, and will open a stock of general hardware at once.

Sir Alex. Galt has gone to England to float the Port Arthur & Duluth bonds. He says the Canadian Pacific is favorable to the line.

It is reported that the railway from Medicine Hat to the coal mine will be commenced shortly, and that a shaft will be put down at the mine.

Three thousand sheep have been imported from Montana by W. L. Nicol and Thynne & Hole, for their ranches near Medicine Hat, Assa.

A large shipment of Manitoba exhibits was made last week to Charlottetown, P. E. I., for exhibition there and at other points along the sea coast.

Jas. White, hardware dealer, Rapid City, Man., has moved into his new store, which will provide better accommodation for his increasing business.

The prize list for East Minnedosa Agricultural exhibition has been issued. The exhibition will be held in Minnedosa on Wednesday, the 12th October.

The Winnipeg board of trade is urging upon the attention of the Postmaster General the desirability of improved mail facilities of the Manitoba Southwestern.

Eight and a quarter mills on the dollar will be the tax rate for Birtle municipality for 1887.

This is exclusive of the special school rate which varies from two to seven mills.

Wm. Cleaver, of Portage la Prairie, went to Port Arthur last week with two carloads of beef cattle. These will make nine carloads he has shipped to Port Arthur within the past seven weeks.

Prices to farmers at Brandon, Man., last week, were: Wheat, 47 to 52c bushel; oats, 20 to 24c bushel; potatoes, 25c bushel; butter, 14 to 16c lb; eggs, 13 to 15c doz. Live Hogs, 4 1/2 to 5c per lb.

The Bell Telephone company has purchased at sheriff's sale the plant consisting of poles, etc., of the defunct Manitoba Telephone company, of Winnipeg, which was organized in 1885 in opposition to the Bell company.

Mr. Boyd, of Pine river ranche, Carberry, Man., has made a sale of seventy-five head of sheep to the Indian Department, to be distributed amongst the Indians at Moose Mountain, File Hills, Qu'Appelle and Battleford.

The second exhibition under the auspices of the Central Saskatchewan agricultural society was held at Saskatoon lately. The display of roots, grain and cattle was remarkably fine. Some particularly good Jersey and grade cattle were shown.

H. T. McPhillips, of Prince Albert, is preparing a general directory of the district of Saskatchewan. It will contain a sketch of the history of the different settlements on the Saskatchewan, also of leading men and business establishments.

Todd & Heap have purchased the Mulvey brewery at Fort Rouge, Winnipeg, and are now busily engaged overhauling the premises. Heap has gone to the states to purchase new machinery. The firm expects to start operations in a few weeks hence.

Bulletin: A month ago old oats were selling at \$1 a bushel at Edmonton. They are now being purchased by the police at 75 to 85c. New oats are being contracted for at 60c, but none have been delivered yet. Delivering on the new police contract will commence on Oct. 1st.

The first meeting of the commissioners to deal with the indebtedness of Portage la Prairie, was held in Winnipeg on Tuesday night. The commissioners present were His Honor Judge Ryan, and Mr. Adamson. It was decided to give the required thirty days notice, and to commence regular sessions on the first Tuesday in November.

The fishing business of Port Arthur is becoming quite an important branch of industry. Over two thousand dollars' worth of fresh fish are brought in every week from the grounds in the bay, and along the coast from Silver islet to Nepigon, by the Northern Fish company and the firm of A. Booth & Sons. The greater portion of the cargo is shipped to the United States, principally to St. Paul. The shipments include pike averaging twelve pounds, white-fish from eleven to twelve pounds, sturgeon from seventy-five to eighty pounds and red salmon trout.

Three dollars is a pretty heavy charge for carrying a barrel of eggs by ordinary freight from Moosomin to Medicine Hat, yet this is

the amount charged by the C.P.R. for such service, as shown by the freight notice forwarded THE COMMERCIAL, accompanied by the following note: Inclosed find C.P.R. expense bill for barrel of eggs shipped from Moosomin to Medicine Hat—distance four hundred and forty-one miles—rate \$1.67 per cwt; time on road, twelve days. Compare this with work of any road having opposition and let us know if you think we in the West are as strongly opposed to interfering with the C.P.R. monopoly as some people would like to make out. Yours truly—Kicker from the West.

Birtle Observer: We learn that W. C. Paynter, agent of the Miniota Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co., has during the past four or five weeks effected insurance on the property of more than eighty of the best farmers of Rock Lake county, Southern Manitoba, and that he has received the promise of about one hundred additional risks upon making a second canvas after the hurry of harvesting is over.

At the last regular quarterly meeting of the council of the Pharmaceutical Association it was decided that the semi-annual examinations be held on the third Wednesday and Thursday of October. Candidates for this examination require to give two weeks notice to the registrar of their intention to present themselves. The education committee were asked to make all necessary preparations for the second term of lectures, which opens on December 1st next.

Mr. Tilden, chief engineer of the Northern Pacific Railway, was in Emerson recently, having driven north from the point reached by tracklayers on the line into Pembina. Mr. Tilden says the rails were laid within 20 miles of Pembina, and the track will be completed into the latter place this week. It is the intention to at once put rolling stock on the road. A tariff of freight rates is already in force. It is probable that as soon as the new line reaches the boundary, a side track will be laid parallel with the boundary, for the delivery and receipt of freight, during the interval before the completion of the R. R. V. Ry. to a connection at the line. Application has been made to the company on behalf of Emerson for this traffic convenience, and it is altogether likely to be granted, and will in that event, give us rates out for grain, and in for coal, etc. In other words, Emerson will at once have all the benefits of competition in freights.

The Port Arthur, Duluth & Western railway was originally incorporated by the Ontario Government as the Thunder Bay Colonization railway. The route is from Port Arthur south-westerly through the townships of McIntyre and Oliver, crossing the Canadian Pacific about two miles east of Murillo, thence to the Kaministiquia, crossing that near the junction of the White Fish, following the valley of that stream, and by way of the Beaver, Rabbit, Porcupine and Silver Mountain mines to the north of White Fish lake, thence north of the Arrow lake chain to the international boundary at Gunflint lake on the Pigeon river system of water stretches. The present portion of the line which it is intended to build from Port to the boundary is about 86 miles in length. It is subsidized by the Dominion to the extent of \$3,200 per mile, or in all \$275,000. The work