

TO-MORROW will be rather a tame municipal election for Winnipeg, which has furnished so many lively ones during the past half dozen years. Mayor Jones goes in for another year unopposed even by Ex-Mayor McMicken, who must have used great self-denial to let the election pass without even a contest. In wards one, two and six there is no contest, and five old and one new alderman will be returned from these wards. In ward three, or "the cow path" as it is called, there are four candidates in the field, with the chances decidedly in favor of last year's aldermen, both of whom are running. Wards four and five have each one new candidate opposing the old representatives, and the chances of either being elected are not very great. In all probability the council will be practically the same as that of last year, and it is to be hoped that they will serve the city as faithfully and as intelligently as the council of last year have. When a council closes the year with all the floating debt of the city wiped out, a good balance in the treasury, not a law suit for the city to fight out, and the rate of taxation materially reduced, it is hard work for opposition candidates to persuade the tax payers into any great changes in the Government of the city. The retiring council have a record such as is here described, and it would undoubtedly be unwise to make many changes in its composition, when all its members but one are seeking re-election.

SEEMINGLY the farmers and grain dealers of this province are not the only parties who believe our present grain grades are too high and unjust to this country. Mr. Van Horne, of the C.P.R. coincides with the view, and to the deputation from the new grain Exchange who waited upon him on Monday, that he would co-operate in endeavoring to get our standards reduced to something like those of Minnesota. In that state as was shown in our last issue No. 1 hard calls for a wheat composed mostly of Scotch fye wheat, which may mean only fifty-one per cent. of that variety, while in Canada that grade must have eighty-five per cent. of the same wheat. There is a feeling that in lowering our standards we lessen the incentive to Red Fye raising, but in that respect we can have an advantage over Minnesota by making a trifling change in the grade called Extra Manitoba hard. This calls for absolutely pure Red Fye wheat without admixture of any kind, and it is simply impossible to get that. By allowing an admixture of ten or fifteen per cent. in this grade, it would become a practical one, and still keep for this province one standard higher than is called for in any other portion of this continent. On this point too the C.P.R. vice-president is also at one with the deputation who interviewed him, and it is well so, as only by arranging Canadian grades and standards in the interests of this country that the C.P.R. management can hope to retain the grain traffic after competing lines come in here. To his credit be it said, that Mr. Van Horne worked determinedly, to secure special hard grades for our wheat three years ago, when the Inspection Act was being amended, and when Toronto grain men opposed both bitterly and unscrupulously their

introduction. His services now when a necessary change is asked for will no doubt be found of great value.

REGARDING the opening of the new "Soo" route from the Northwestern States to the seaboard the *Northwestern Miller* of Minneapolis, says: C. A. Pillsbury & Co. will ship the first car of flour over the "Soo" road when it is completed early in December. The shipment will be on a temporary rate of 20c. Numerous requests for rates are already being made, especially on through traffic to the seaboard. Hon. W. D. Washburn, president of the company, and General Freight Agent Shute are now in New York making the final arrangements in regard to the freighting business with the Canadian Pacific and eastern railways. Boston will be the terminal point for the winter business, the route eastward from Minneapolis being via the Soo, Canadian Pacific and Boston & Lowell railways, the line being 300 miles shorter than from Minneapolis to New York by the way of Chicago. The summer business will go to Montreal, Portland, Halifax and other North Atlantic ports.

If Minneapolis millers can ship flour to the east on a 20c rate, how will it fare with our Manitoba millers who have to pay not less than a 46c rate? and how will it fare with Eastern Canadian millers? who must get the wheat from the Northwest at a rate of 46c or over before they can make a flour that will compete with the Minneapolis article in their own market. Truly one great national highway can be made to serve many a purpose, and with its new "Soo" connection it will be a powerful lever with which the Miller's Association of Minneapolis will be able to crush out the milling interests of the Dominion which has buried itself under a load of debt to secure the construction of this same highway. Admirers of the great Canadian railway policy may point our millers to the National Policy as a bulwark of protection. But the latter know how the United States customs arrange the rebate on exports to suit the millers of that country, and to make Canadian tariff practically useless in protecting millers here.

THE following is the resolution signed by all the city delegates who have been in conference with the local Government and Mr. Holt, regarding the furnishing of the \$300,000 asked for by the Government: Resolved, that the amended contract, with slight modifications, would have been acceptable to this committee, but, that owing to the recent and unexplained developments in connection with the Government's transactions with Mr. Holt and the H.B.R.R. having so materially shaken confidence in their good faith, and also in view of the lateness of the season and the reported early calling together of the Provincial legislature, the committee does not feel that, at the present time they can recommend the furnishing of the funds required. Signed:

R. T. Riley,	W. Hespler,
J. H. Brock,	G. F. Carruthers,
L. M. Jones,	W. W. Watson,
J. H. Ashdown,	D. Macarthur,
Frank S. Nugent,	A. Maonald.

It is worthy of note that the delegates lay most stress upon the want of confidence in the Local Government and Mr. Holt, due to the transactions of both in connection with the Hudson's Bay railway debentures. They only reiterate in different language, a previous statement of THE COMMERCIAL, that the people of Winnipeg would be fools to trust a dollar to the handling of this combination, who have already squandered or misappropriated provincial funds to the value of \$250,000. Seemingly all of the delegates were satisfied or almost satisfied with the terms of Mr. Holt's amended contract, but all were equally skeptical about the good faith of that gentleman or the Local Government. The mystery to any disinterested onlooker is, how the delegates ever mustered enough confidence in this combination of political tricksters to ever dream of trusting a dollar of money to their tender mercies.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

Jas. Lambert, tailor, Sarnia, was burned out.
Thos. Fraser, grocer, Owen Sound, has sold out.

Robt. Bradshaw, grocer, Toronto, about to sell out.

M. Zimmerman, jeweler, Tilsonburg, has sold out.

B. McQuay, hotelkeeper, Port Perry, has sold out.

J. W. Wilson, photographer, Waterloo, was sold out.

Cleghorn & Co., dealers in fruit, London, have assigned.

Gagne & Co., dry goods and clothing, Ottawa, have assigned.

W. A. Douglass, shoes, London, has sold out and gone away.

J. E. Fickleton, confectioner, Wardsville, was burned out.

Johnston & Toombs, butchers, Toronto, is about selling out.

T. Dolan & Co., dealers in dry goods, Port Perry, have sold out.

Surerus & Miller, confectioners, Simcoe, have dissolved partnership.

Ayr American Plow Co. (limited), Ayr, real estate and stock advertised for sale.

W. T. Jopp & Co., dealers in furniture, Paris, a meeting of creditors called for December 6th.

W. W. Johnston, dealer in dry goods, Peterboro, stock advertised for sale, and is retiring from business.

QUEBEC.

Cyr & St. Martin, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.

David Kerr, painter, Quebec, has obtained an extension.

Isidore LeBoeuf, hotelkeeper, St. Cesaire, has assigned.

Jas. E. Clark, general storekeeper, Brownsburg, is away.

Isaie Riopelle, general storekeeper, St. Jean de Matha, has assigned.

Antonin Giguere, general storekeeper; St. Justine, curator appointed.

A. W. Hood & Son, soap manufacturers; Montreal, have suspended.

Aug. O. Turcotte, general storekeeper, Broughton Station, has assigned.