

## EDITORIAL NOTES

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are ready to extend the road if their property would be improved thereby. Mr. Nelson has made a patient inquiry on the spot, and has come to the conclusion that the financial position of the road would be improved by extending the line through to the North Saskatchewan. It is to be hoped his recommendations in this direction will be carried out, so that railway facilities will be afforded to the fine settlements east of Prince Albert. There is a magnificent country up in that locality which would be opened up for settlement by the proposed extension of this railway.

ONE of the growing industries of Manitoba and the territories is the sheep-raising industry. Eight or ten years ago very few farmers in Manitoba kept sheep. Now quite a number of farmers are beginning to keep a few sheep. The difficulties in the way of keeping sheep have been the ravages of wolves, and the necessity for close fencing to keep them in. In the territories sheep are kept in large flocks, and where raised in this way men can be kept constantly with them, to guard and keep the flock. Last year the exportation of sheep began for the first time, and this summer again some thousands of head will be exported to Great Britain from the territories and Manitoba. The wool business has grown with the sheep interest, and this year it is estimated that not far from 800,000 pounds of wool were produced in Manitoba and the territories, the great portion of which was handled by Winnipeg dealers. The scab disease, which caused a good deal of trouble in the territories a couple of years ago, where it was introduced by the importation of sheep from the United States, appears now to have been about eradicated. Wool from the same flocks, which last year was in bad shape on account of the scab, is this year entirely free from the infection. One of the finest lots of wool received in Winnipeg this year, came from a flock which last year produced a wretchedly poor article on account of the prevalence of scab in the flock, thus showing that the sheep have been carefully handled since last year.

A couple of weeks ago The Commercial drew attention to what we termed "The Menace of Fire Insurance." The article dealt with the increase of incendiary fires, as a feature of fire insurance. The question of preventing such fires was considered a very difficult if not hopeless one. We notice since then that Mr. Goldwin Smith, writing on the punishment of arson, says there are some who object to capital punishment at all, but burning a dwelling involving the risk of life, ought surely to be treated as a first-class crime. Here is perhaps a valuable hint in the direction of suppressing incendiary fires. The evil is an enormous one, which calls for the most vigorous and extreme measures to aid in its suppression. The person who deliberately fires a building to obtain the insurance, usually en-

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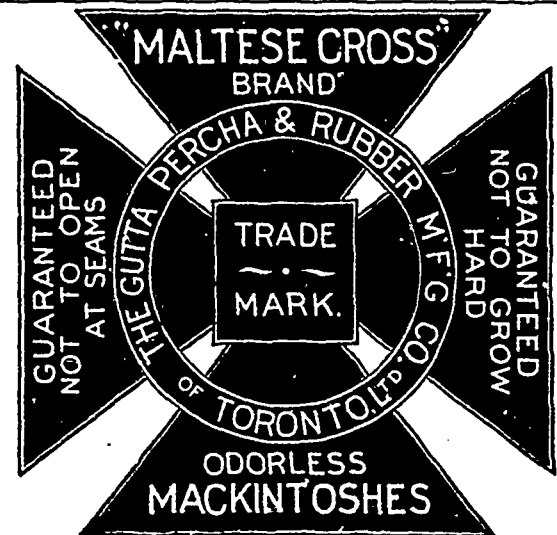
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dangers the property of others, and not infrequently endangers human life. He should be treated as the grossest criminal, and it would not require any great straining of our code to apply capital punishment to such persons.

## Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Sept. 14, 1895, shows an increase of 1,338,000 bushels, against an increase of only 46,000 for the corresponding week last year and an increase of 1,191,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago.

For the week ending September 21 the visible supply increased 1,293,000 bushels, as compared with an increase of 975,000 bushels for the corresponding week last year and an increase of 1,362,000 bushels for the corresponding week two years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first week in each month on the dates named for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade:

	1895. bushels.	1894. bushels.	1893. bushels.	1892. bushels.
Jan. 2...	83,581,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,376,000	79,883,000	81,397,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	75,589,000	79,068,000	41,558,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,634,000	41,038,000
" 8...	72,703,000	70,782,000	77,294,000	41,177,000
" 15...	70,187,000	69,217,000	76,096,000	42,055,000
" 22...	68,625,000	68,425,000	74,869,000	39,149,000
" 29...	65,776,000	66,582,000	75,027,000	37,636,000
May 6...	62,196,000	65,156,000	73,069,000	36,190,000
" 13...	59,623,000	63,510,000	72,632,000	35,190,000
" 20...	56,434,000	62,044,000	71,392,000	30,677,000
" 27...	54,244,000	61,329,000	70,159,000	29,622,000
June 3...	52,229,000	59,394,000	70,080,000	27,910,000
" 10...	49,739,000	58,211,000	68,682,000	26,950,000
" 17...	47,717,000	57,005,000	66,375,000	24,006,000
" 24...	46,225,000	55,822,000	63,031,000	24,561,000
July 1...	45,610,000	54,657,000	62,316,000	24,282,000
" 8...	45,350,000	54,114,000	61,819,000	23,150,000
" 13...	44,237,000	53,154,000	59,328,000	22,439,000
" 20...	44,437,000	53,771,000	58,901,000	23,088,000
" 27...	39,233,000	57,144,000	59,319,000	23,921,000
Aug. 3...	36,517,000	64,010,000	59,124,000	28,079,000
" 10...	37,339,000	62,321,000	58,969,000	28,213,000
" 17...	36,892,000	63,900,000	57,812,000	31,775,000
" 24...	31,083,000	61,771,000	57,340,000	31,950,000
" 31...	35,133,000	60,919,000	56,831,000	35,360,000
Sept. 7...	36,734,000	69,168,000	56,140,000	33,760,000
Sept. 14...	39,092,000	69,214,000	57,331,000	41,411,000
" 21...	39,335,000	70,139,000	58,693,000	44,937,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on Sept. 16 is as follows:

	bushels.
Montreal.....	113,000
Toronto.....	8,000
Kingston.....	
Winnipeg.....	170,000
Manitoba elevators.....	650,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	298,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on Sept 16, 1895:

	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	49,549,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,799,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	
East of the Mountains.....	85,802,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,582,000

## Winnipeg Markets a Year Ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort. William afloat, 53 to 54c new wheat, and 38 to 41c to farmers, Manitoba country points.  
 Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.50; Bakers, \$1.40.  
 Bran.—Per ton, \$11.  
 Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.  
 Oats.—Per bushel, new, 21 to 23c, choice milling, 23 to 25c.  
 Barley.—Per bushel, 30 to 35c.  
 Butter.—Dairy 11 to 14c, round lots.  
 Cheese.—9 to 9½c.  
 Eggs.—Fresh, easier at 11½c, round lots.  
 Beef.—Fresh, per lb., ½ to 5½c.  
 Mutton.—Fresh, and lamb, 8c.  
 Hogs.—Dressed, 5½ to 6c.  
 Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 2½c.  
 Hogs.—Live, good packing 4½ to 4½c, off cars. Heavy, 4 to 4½c.  
 Sheep, average butchers 3c, live weight.  
 Seneca Root.—24 to 25c per lb.  
 Chickens.—8c a lb.  
 Hides.—No. 1 cows, 2½c.  
 Potatoes.—new 25 to 30c per bushel.  
 Hay.—\$4.50 to \$5.00 per ton, car lots.  
 Wool.—6 to 8½c, unwashed fleece.

This week last year wheat was ½ to 1c lower. The movement was large, reaching over 350 cars on one day, and country elevators were all full at some points.

## British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, of Sept. 23, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: English wheats during the past week have been firm. Foreign wheat had a slight rally, California for shipment being quoted at 25s 6d, and Duluth at 24s 9d. To-day English new wheats improved 6d. Foreign wheats were firmly held and rods were 6d higher. There was a good trade in flour at 3d rise. Malting barley was 6d cheaper.

S. & H. Borbridge, harness dealers of Ottawa, Ont., have opened a branch store at Brandon, with D. Goddes as manager.