

Handsome Commercial Quarters.

During the present season a portion of J. H. Ashdown's Main street block in Winnipeg was fitted up for commercial sample rooms, and all the available space is now taken up for this purpose. Bryce & Co. have secured an entire floor in this block, overlooking Main street, in the very heart of the city. This floor was fitted up to order especially for them, and they have what they claim to be the handsomest commercial sample rooms in Canada. Certainly their quarters are very fine. The large floor is divided into two apartments, connected with an archway, and the overhauling given the building gives it the appearance of being perfectly new. The ceiling is covered with the metallic sheets made by the Metalle Roofing company, of Toronto, which adds wonderfully to the handsome appearance of the rooms. Elevator, cloak room and other conveniences are supplied. Bryce & Co., represent Thos. May & Co., Montreal; Glover & Brails, Montreal; Crompton Corset Co., Toronto; Williams, Greene & Rome Co., Toronto, and Robinson, Little & Co., London.

On another floor in the block R. R. Gallagher, western representative of S. Greenshields, Son & Co., Montreal, has his rooms. Mr. Gallagher has just returned from his final round-up western trip for this season, and in a few days he will start for Montreal. He reports that the country is looking fine and the season's business with them has been most satisfactory.

Among the other well-known commercial men who have rooms in the block are E. H. Taaffe, representing Tooke Bros., Montreal. Thos. Conlan, who looks after the interest of Wm. Croft & Sons, Toronto; Roderick McLennan, representing L. Gnaedinger, Son & Co., Montreal; W. B. Abbott, representing Sequin, Lalime & Co., and W. B. Dalton, representing Caulfield, Henderson & Burns, Toronto. J. G. T. Cleghorn, manufacturers' Agent, who represent a number of large manufacturing concerns in metals and hardware, also has his rooms in this block. Geo. Gilroy, representing Jno. C. Green & Co., at present has a millinery opening in the block.

Another Lignite Grate.

Another new grate for burning our native lignite and other soft coals is being put on the market. It is called the Oxford Souris Fire Box, and it is, as its name indicates, a fire box as well as a grate. This fire box is made of bars overlapping each other on the principle of a window shutter, but the bars are not moveable like a shutter. The entire box, bottom, sides and ends, is composed of these bars, so that the air is admitted from every quarter. This grate is the invention of the Gurney Foundry Co. D. E. Adams, of Winnipeg, who is largely interested in the Souris coal, sent a quantity of the coal to the Gurney Foundry Co. at Toronto to experiment with, and the result is this grate, which it is claimed, will burn up the coal without waste, and is specially adapted for burning lignites. The grate can be dumped or shaken if required by means of the sliding bottom.

Rubber.

The trouble in the primary rubber markets, says the Montreal Commercial Gazette, appears due, not to a

limitation in the quantity of rubber, but a lack of laborers to bring it to the market. The climate is so unhealthy that only the natives are able to do the work, and they have apparently imbibed trade union ideas and demand higher wages.

In crude rubber for the last two or three years there has been a continual increase in value, the last six months showing the most acute advances. Some grades of crude rubber have advanced 60, some 80, some 100 per cent over the figures of a few years ago.

This increase in the price of raw material is natural, also because of the unprecedented increase in the consumption of rubber. The increase in the use of rubber in Germany and Russia has been especially remarkable, amounting to over 100 per cent in a few years. This is due to the many new uses to which rubber is constantly being put.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Sugars were advanced 1-16c at New York the end of last week, for Nos. 4 and 5.

Currents are held firm with an advancing tendency, in primary markets.

The efforts of the Grenoble walnut sellers to obtain high prices for the new crop is not likely to be successful, owing to the reasonable price of California walnuts.

A cable from Greece stated that the price on new crop currants there has advanced 1s on the figures quoted at the opening of the season by speculators, the asking price for Provincials now being 13s 9d.

New Valencia raisins are opening firmer, and first sales have been made at higher prices than a year ago. First shipments are expected in New York about Sept. 15, and new fruit will likely be in Winnipeg toward the end of the month. New Sultanais are due at New York about the same time. California raisins have not been quoted yet.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the Edwardsburg Starch Co., was held recently for the purpose of passing a by-law increasing the capital stock of the company from \$200,000 to \$300,000. President G. F. Benson, occupied the chair, and explained to the meeting the reason for asking for this increase of capital, after which the motion was put and unanimously carried.

Hardware and Paint Trade.

The iron and steel sheet manufacturers of the United States met at Pittsburgh this week to fix prices for the ensuing year. It was announced that prices would be advanced probably \$2 a ton on sheets, in response to advances already made on raw materials and active demand. It is said the big demand will cause an advance to still higher figures later on in the year.

On Sept. 1 an advance of 5 per cent. on stoves went into effect in the United States. The manufacturers say that the prevailing low prices in connection with the increased cost of production, together with the general improvement in business conditions, warrant the advance. Since 1893 the prices of stoves have been lower in proportion than any other article of manufacture. Owing to the greatly increased purchasing capacity of

the country, large demand and advance in cost of material, the manufacturers say they have found it necessary to make a moderate advance in prices. They also say that this may be followed by a still further advance should the present conditions continue. Stoves were advanced 5 per cent in Canada a short time ago, owing to the increased cost of raw material, higher wages and increased demand. The market is firm.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the board was held on Tuesday, H. W. Hutchison, of the Fairchild Co., was elected a member of the council in place of Jas. Reumond, resigned. J. H. Bourgoin, manager of the Banque de Hochelaga, J. C. Crone, manager of the Toronto Type Foundry Co.; A. L. Johnson, manager of the Ames, Holden Co.; B. W. Dewar, secretary, Canadian Life Co.; and Geo. R. Greig, were elected members of the board.

It was decided to submit a memorial to the government on the desirability of establishing a quarantine station east of Winnipeg. A progress report was made of the committee regarding a daily mail on the Deloraine branch. Further communication will be had with the department on this matter. The question of testing the growth of sugar beets in Manitoba was discussed, and the matter will be brought to the attention of the local department of agriculture. A communication was read from the Guelph board, protesting against the fees charged for the inspection of weights and measures. The inspection, it was stated, is for the public benefit, and inspectors should be paid by salary. This matter will be discussed on some future occasion.

East bound rail business steady from Chicago to New York is 18c per 100 lbs. on flour and grain.



TENDERS.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tenders for Superstructure Edmonton Bridge," will be received at this office until Tuesday, 13th September next, for the construction of a railway and general traffic bridge at Edmonton, N. W. T., according to plans and a specification to be seen at the office of F. K. Gibson, Esq., town clerk, Edmonton; at the office of W. T. Gouin, resident engineer, Winnipeg; at the office of O. Desjardins, clerk of works, post office building, Montreal, and at the department of public works, Ottawa.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the form supplied and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.

An accepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the minister of public works for seven thousand dollars (7,000.00) must accompany each tender. The cheque will be forfeited if the party declines the contract or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.

The department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
E. F. E. ROY,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, August 12th, 1898.

Newspapers inserting this advertisement without authority from the department will not be paid for it.