

the great wheat state of Minnesota. only a small part of the available area has yet been brought under cultivation, and the same is true of the Dakotas and some other States. In Canada the surface, so to speak, has only been scratched. In South America population is so sparse, compared with the vast extent of habitable territory, that it can be said the country has hardly been prospected yet. In Africa, with its vast area of fertile land, colonization has only commenced. The vast Russian empire in Asia, with its enormous area of rich, black lands, equal to our own prairies for growing wheat, has a population of only three to the square mile. Belgium, which numbers its population by hundreds to the square mile, and with no richer soil, is almost self-supporting. We can just bide a wee yet, without fear of starvation from lack of food supplies, the eminent knight to the contrary notwithstanding. The doughty Sir William is evidently a knight more after the fashion of Don Quixote, than such a one as we would expect to find holding the exalted position of president of the British Association.

Canned Goods.

The Montreal Gazette says: Canned tomatoes and corn give strong indications of advancing at present. Agents here who had bids of 80c in hand for the former vegetable had their offers refused this week, the canners stating that existing contracts on hand were more than sufficient to absorb all the stock of tomatoes they had on hand. One leading wholesale firm here was successful in placing an order for the purchase of 4,000 cases at 80c, and consider that the goods are a decided bargain as matters look at present. In fact, well informed people consider that it would be difficult now to gather in 4,000 to 5,000 cases of tomatoes even if 90c were bid. The conditions in corn are equally strong, and leading canners state that they cannot quote prices either on corn or tomatoes because it is absolutely impossible for them to do so, as they have none to sell. Prices on both lines are held very firm as a result of this position of affairs, and much higher prices are looked for, while values are now from 5c to 10c higher than they were a fortnight ago. The strength this year is due also to legitimate scarcity, and not to speculation, as was the case last fall, when large amounts were held by speculators. As a matter of fact, supplies are light. All leading dealers admitting that their stock of both these staple lines of canned goods that own began boasting that they is light.

J. Birbeck, hardware, Boissevain, Man., is reported to have sold out.

The coal from the new Crow's Nest Pass mines is now on the market. Some has been received at Brandon by D. M. McMillan, who is handling the coal at that place. Hurstone & Byrnes, Winnipeg, expect a sample car of the coal shortly.

IT REACHES THE TRADE

Advertise Businesses for Sale; Stocks of Goods for Sale; Situations Vacant or Wanted in Business Establishment, etc., in

THE COMMERCIAL



The only Journal that reaches the trade of Western Canada from Lake Superior to the Pacific.....

* * *
Special Low Rates for Situations Wanted or Vacant

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, in store Fort William, 91½@92c.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, 2.40@2.45; Bakers, 2.20@2.25.

Bran—Per ton, \$8.00.

Shorts—Per ton, \$10.00.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 25@28c for new.

Barley—A few loads of new sold at 25c here.

Butter—Dairy, Shippers buying at 12@14c, and 19½@20c paid for creamery at the factory.

Cheese—9½@10c paid to factories.

Eggs—Buyers paying 15c net.

Beef—City dressed, fresh, 4@5c.

Mutton—5@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 6½@7c.

Veal—5@7c.

Lambs—7@8c.

Cattle—Butchers 2@2½; export 3@3½c.

Hogs—Live, off cars, \$4.75@5.00 per 100 lbs for best bacon.

Sheep—2½c off cars here; lambs, 4c.

Seneca Root—16c lb.

Hides—Green city hides, 6½@7c, for No. 1.

Hay—Baled, on track, \$5.50 @ 6.50; loose farmer's loads \$4 per ton.

Potatoes—20@25c per bushel.

Wool, 8@9½c for unwashed fleece.

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