

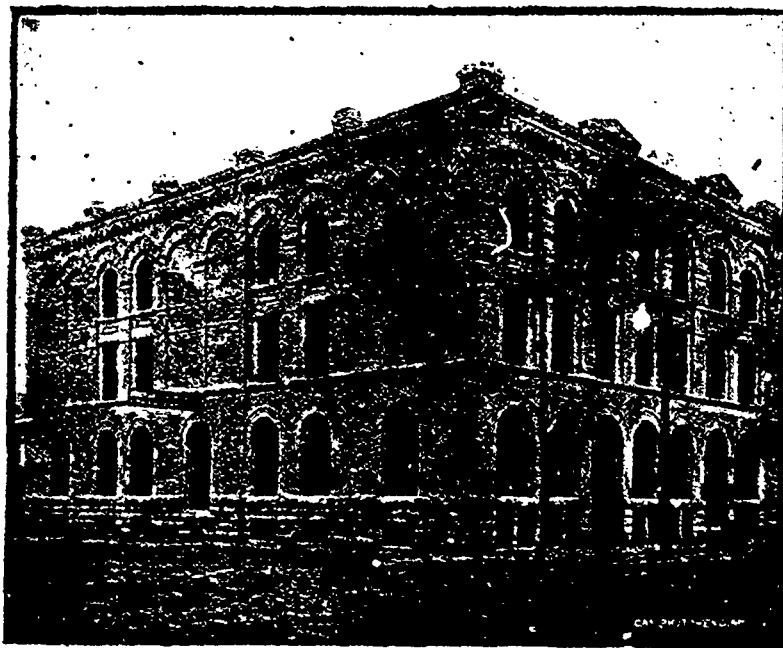
Our Wholesale Warehouses.

If there were any doubt as to the stability of the wholesale trade of Winnipeg, that doubt should be dispelled by an inspection of the many fine warehouses which have been erected in Winnipeg during the last few years. One by one our wholesale houses have been leaving the premises which did them good service in the pioneer days of wholesale business in this city, and are finding new quarters in handsome new warehouses, erected for their special requirements. The building may not in individual case be an index to the condition of the business done therein, but in a general sense it is. When we find our wholesale houses one after another moving into large, new warehouses, erected specially for their requirements, we may safely conclude that the trade is prospering. In the retail trade buildings are erected to some extent for show and advertisement. In the wholesale trade business is not dependent upon catch trade, and the location and external appearance of the building is not a matter of so much importance. Notwithstanding this, many of our new warehouses are handsome structures externally; but they are built for the accommodation of the business, and not for

great piles of weighty goods which they are obliged to carry. The building is fitted with a hoist which reaches every floor, and is operated by a five-horse-power electric motor. Gas, water, furnace heating and all other conveniences are at hand.

As stated, the building is divided into two parts, by a solid wall. Mackenzie, Powis & Co. occupy the corner portion, from basement to top. This is 44 feet wide and of course the full depth of the structure. On the ground floor light and airy offices have been fitted up in the front portion. The woodwork is in British Columbia fir, finished in oil, giving a bright and cheerful appearance. In the rear of the ground floor there is the entry office, for checking goods going out and coming in; also a large scales in a convenient position sunk in the floor. The balance of the main or shipping floor is taken up with stock, mainly canned goods.

Descending from the main floor we enter what is perhaps the leading feature of the building, namely: the splendid basement or cellar. This is well lighted, and is as convenient in arrangement as any part of the building. The basement is divided into two parts by a cross wall, and in one part are kept such goods as require



MACKENZIE, POWIS & CO.'S WAREHOUSE.

show, and therefore the greater care has been given to their internal arrangement.

One of the finest of these new wholesale warehouses is that erected by Mackenzie, Powis & Co., wholesale grocers of this city. The building has been occupied by them for some months past, but has not been previously referred to in this journal. The structure, a cut of which is shown herewith, is situated on the corner of Second avenue and Third (Princess) street north. It is a massive brick and stone building, three stories and basement, having a frontage of 66 feet on Third street by 90 feet on Second avenue. In appearance the building is a fine structure, but its great feature is its solidity. It has been specially designed for strength, having a massive stone wall from the basement to the ground floor, and heavy brick walls above, while a solid wall of masonry divides the block into two main divisions, from the ground up to the roof. This adds strength to the structure, as well as reduces the risk from fire. Besides this inside wall, there are supports of massive oak all through the building, making it in point of strength equal to anything in the city. Any of the floors are strong enough to bear the strain easily of the

an even and moderate temperature. Though the building is probably frost proof throughout, this part of the basement is warmed artificially from the furnace, and thus kept at a cool but even temperature in extremely cold weather. Thus cheese, pickles and such goods are safe from changes of temperature.

On the second floor is the packing room, for putting up sundries for shipment; also a bonded room for tobacco. This floor is largely taken up with the stock of teas. The third floor is filled with lighter goods, such as butter tubs and other woodenware, sundries, etc.

The other division of the block is occupied by the Ames, Holden Co., wholesale boots and shoes. The front portion of the main floor is filled up with the general business office, private room of Mr. Redmond, manager, and sample room. The basement is filled with Granby rubbers and overshoes, which manufactures are handled by the company. The second floor is taken up with the stock of moccasins and lighter boots and shoe stock, while the third floor is devoted to heavier leather goods, such as men's long boots, etc. The stock is at its minimum at this season, but Mr. Leathorn, who has charge of the warehouse, says it was packed

from top to bottom during shipping season.

The part of the block occupied by the Ames, Holden Co. has all the conveniences and comforts of the other portion, such as water, gas, furnace heating, elevator, etc. The building altogether is a credit to the wholesale trade of the city, and to the proprietors, Mackenzie, Powis & Co.

Northwest Ontario.

Robert Wood, jeweller, has resumed business at Port Arthur.

W. & C. Bishop, grocers, Port Arthur, have assigned in trust.

Joseph Brinson, fish dealer, Port Arthur, has sold out to Wm. Robinson.

The Rat Portage reduction works are advertised to be sold under mortgage.

Dick, Binning & Co. have ordered a No. 2 improved band saw mill from the Watrous Engine Works Co., of Brantford, Ont., through the Winnipeg branch, for their mill at Keewatin. They intend discarding the circular saw, and replacing it with a new band saw mill.

The Rabbit Mountain silver mine, of the Thunder Bay district, which has been for many years the property of St. Paul and Milwaukee men, has been bought by the Wielands and some others of Duluth, says the *Herald* of that city. The mine has some \$25,000 worth of machinery and has a stamp mill ready to operate, and has already been started by the new owners, who will operate it all this winter.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Chicago *Daily Trade Bulletin* of Nov. 28, says: There was continued reports of a scarcity of cars in the Northwest, but the Western roads were fairly supplied. The eastern roads are also working easier. Rates to New York were steady at 25c per 100 pounds for flour and grain, and 30c on provisions. Through rates to Liverpool were dull and lower owing to the light demand and the increased offerings of ocean vessel room. Rates on flour were 35½ to 35¾; wheat 15c per bu.; corn 14½c, and provisions at 40½ to 41½c per 100 pounds. The season of lake navigation is about over, and the lake lines are not anxious to take through lake and rail freight. The rates were nominally the same as for several weeks past at 8½ to 9c for wheat, and 8½c for corn to New York, with Philadelphia and Baltimore ½c less. The lake and canal business is about over for the season, and shippers were slow to send grain that way, there being no certainty of it getting through. The demand for vessel room to load for Buffalo and other eastern ports was moderate, and the supply of boats ample, so that a reduction of ½c had to be made in rates to Buffalo, charters being at 2½c for wheat and 2c for corn. At this rate some of the owners of large boats preferred to lay them up rather than run the risk of the unfavorable weather."

British Grain Trade.

Mark Lane *Express* of Nov. 28th, in its weekly review of the British grain trade, says: English farmers are selling little wheat. They refused to take under 28s. per quarter of eight bushels, rather than accept a less price, they say they will feed their grain to their stock. There has been an average decline of 6d. Foreign wheat is continually arriving, and this pushes the stocks of foreign flours into the rural markets. Minnesota flour has been offered in small country towns at a guinea a sack of 280 lbs. The present depression is largely attributed to excessive shipments from California. Barley is 6d. lower. Oats and corn each are down 2d.

The premises of the Barnum wire and iron works, Toronto Junction, have passed into the hands of the Wrought Iron Range company of St. Louis. The new company will establish large stove works in connection.