

Western Business Items.

Walker & Faulkner, lumber and grain, Grenfell, Assn., have dissolved partnership; John Walker continues the business.

J. R. Miquelon and T. J. S. Skinner, have formed a partnership for the purpose of entering into the wholesale liquor business at Calgary, Alberta.

H. E. Robison and F. J. G. McArthur, barristers, solicitors, etc., Carman, Man., have formed a partnership under the name of Robison & McArthur.

The many friends of R. H. Agur, manager of the Massey-Harris Co., Winnipeg, who has been very ill, will be pleased to learn that he is now much better and is apparently recovering rapidly.

A local trade stamp company is being formed in Winnipeg among the retail merchants, with the object of supplying themselves with trading stamps. The Commercial believes the trading stamp system wrong in principle and injurious in practice; but if the stamps are to be used at all we might as well have a local company as an outside one.

Rogers & Kay, men's furnishings and clothing, Rat Portage, have assigned. The firm has been doing a good trade, but met with considerable loss by fire on two occasions within a short period, which apparently wiped out any surplus in the business. They offered a compromise at 50 cents on the dollar which was acceptable to all but a few of the creditors. Three or four creditors objected, however, and made an assignment necessary. It is not expected the estate will realize the amount offered by way of compromise.

The firm of Geo. H. Rodgers & Co., dry goods, Winnipeg, whose assignment is announced this week has been well known in Winnipeg for many years. Geo. H. Rodgers, who carried on this house, began business in 1832 in Winnipeg, and for a time was very successful, but he has met with a number of losses, principally in connection with jobbing transactions, of late years. The failure of Rodgers & Kay, of Rat Portage, meant a considerable loss to him for goods furnished this firm, and was the final straw that forced assignment. Mr. Rodgers has been gradually winding up his business here for some time, with the hope of meeting his liabilities in full, but recent losses made it impossible for him to continue this course, owing to pressure from creditors. Mr. Rodgers has many friends who will sympathize with him in his difficulties, knowing that he has done his best to pay 100 cents on the dollar.

Insurance Notes.

W. Kirkland, formerly secretary of the Canadian Order of Foresters at Winnipeg, has been appointed district agent for the Confederation Life Insurance Co. with headquarters at Brandon.

The Mainland Board of Fire Underwriters of British Columbia held its annual meeting at Vancouver on Friday last, when the officers of the ensuing year were elected and a large amount of executive work was taken up. The latter including the reading of the report of the expert upon insurance risks, etc., who recently visited the city. This report may cause a material change in the rates governing fire insurance in Vancouver. The officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: President, D. C. McGregor, Vancouver; vice-president, K. L. Day, Victoria.

The Commercial Men.

G. M. Newton, of S. Greenhalghs, Son & Co., is in the city this week.

W. A. Lashier and Harry Kirk were among the clothing men in the city this week.

J. H. Glass, one of the old timers on the road here, arrived from the east this week with his fall trade samples.

J. Sargeant, secretary of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' association, was in Winnipeg this week.

D. E. Fraser, western representative and manager of the Winnipeg branch of the James Hall & Co. glove works, left this week on a business trip to headquarters at Brockville.

Manitoba Wheat Stocks.

There were 3,410,000 bushels of wheat in store at Fort William on May 5. Receipts for the week were 280,000 bushels and shipments were 832,000 bushels. A year ago stocks in store at Fort William were 3,200,000 bushels; 853,000 bushels two years ago; 3,250,000 bushels three years ago; 3,612,000 bushels four years ago; 589,000 bushels five years ago; 1,543,000 bushels six years ago. Stocks of wheat at Fort William, Port Arthur, Keewatin, Winnipeg, and interior points were estimated approximately at 8,200,000 bushels, compared with 10,000,000 bushels a year ago; 3,300,000 bushels two years ago; 6,323,000 bushels three years ago; 8,000,000 bushels four years ago, and 3,000,000 bushels five years ago.

Winnipeg Grain Inspection.

For the week ending May 5 there were 244 cars of grain inspected, grading as follows:

Wheat—1 hard, 172; 2 hard, 20; 1 northern, 9; 2 northern, 0; 3 hard, 19; 1 frosted, 5; 2 frosted, 0; 1 rejected, 6; 2 rejected, 7; no grade, 4 cars.

Oats—1 white, 1; 2 white, 1 car. Of this crop to date 21,912,830 bushels of wheat have been inspected, of which over 15,000,000 bushels were No. 1 hard.

London Wool Sales.

London, May 8.—The third series of the wool auction sales of 1900 opened to-day. Offerings were small and of poor quality. Superior merinos were 10 per cent lower and inferior merinos showed losses of from 10 to 15 per cent. Fine cross-breeds were off 10 per cent, coarse cross-breeds 5, Cape of Good Hope and Natal snow whites 7-1-2 and grey 5 to 10 per cent lower.

Cheese Markets.

Ingersoll, May 8.—The cheese market opened here to-day with a good attendance. After the election of the executive board and other routine business 600 boxes, first five days May make, were boarded. No sales; 10-1-2c offered.

May has brought an epidemic of strikes all over the American continent to the serious detriment of business and industrial operations.

England is experiencing a coal famine and prices have advanced from \$2.50 per ton to \$3.50, an advance of over 100 per cent. Mine owners attribute the rise to scarcity, but the public are inclined to attribute most of it to conspiracy on the part of owners to squeeze the market.

Minneapolis Markets.

Flour—Prices in barrels: First patents \$3.40 to \$3.50; second patents, \$3.20 to \$3.30.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$11 per ton; bran in bulk, \$11 per ton.

Oats—No. 3 white, 23 1-4 to 23 1-2c.

Barley—33 to 39c.

Corn—Quoted at 36c for No. 3.

Flax Seed—\$1.76 per bushel.

Eggs—11 to 11 1-2c for strictly fresh, including cases.

Butter—Creamery, 17 to 19c for choice to extras, seconds, 15 to 16c; dairy, 16 to 15c for choice to fancy; seconds, 14 to 15c.

Cheese—Old, 8 to 12c per pound; new, 9 1-2 to 10c.

Poultry, Live—Chickens, 4 to 9c; turkeys, 6 to 8c; ducks, 8c, geese, 7c.

Potatoes—17 to 25c per bushel for car lots.

Hides—Green salted hides, light, 8 1-2 for No. 1; 7 1-2 for No. 2; steers over 60 pounds, No. 1, 9 1-4c; No. 2, 8 1-4c; sheepskins, 25c to \$1.20 each; veal, calf, 10 and 11 1-2c for No. 2 and No. 1; tallow, 33-4 to 43-4c; some root, 36 1-2 to 40c, according to quality.

Wool—Unwashed fine, 13 to 15c; medium fine, 16 to 17 1-2c; medium, 18 to 19c, coarse, 16 to 17c.

Hay—Timothy ranges at \$6.75 to \$9.50, as to quality.

Dressed Meats—Veal, 6 to 9 1-2c; mutton, 5 to 7c, lamb, 7 to 11c.

Beans—Fancy, hand picked, \$2.40 per bushel; medium hand picked, \$1.75 to \$2.25.

Live Stock—Hogs, bulk, sold at \$5.05 to \$5.10, as high as \$5.25 paid for choice, cattle, butchers' steers, \$4.25 to \$5.15; cows and heifers, \$2.75 to \$4; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$5.

F. C. Shorey, of Shorey & Co., whole sale dry goods, Montreal, was in Winnipeg this week.

A copper proposition near Stobla station was sold last week to a Duluth man for \$50,000.

The May coal circular of the Pennsylvania mines shows a drop in prices of 50 cents per ton on grate, egg and stove sizes and of 75c on chestnut. This makes the list the same as at this time last year.

Canadian newspaper publishers have been endeavoring to have the duty on print paper suspended or removed until the mills recently burned, which were their principal sources of supply, are replaced. The government is considering the matter.

WOOL...

We are now in the market for all grades of Wool.

Consignments will receive top market prices.

When writing for quotations please describe quality and condition of clip.

Sacks furnished on application.

TORONTO HIDE AND WOOL CO.

298 Ross Street, Winnipeg

JOHN HALLAM,
TORONTO.

HARRY LEADLAY
MANAGER.