

THE COMMERCIAL

FINANCE AND INSURANCE REPORT

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WINNIPEG, CANADA, DECEMBER 27, 1902

No. 16

To our Friends and Customers we wish

A HAPPY
AND
PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR



**MERRICK,
ANDERSON & CO.**

WINNIPEG.

TETLEY'S TEA

Is Economy, Health and
Pleasure, all in an Air-
Tight Packet.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY
The Great Fur Trade of the West Since 1670

WINNIPEG.

Wholesale Distributors for West-
ern Canada.



**TENTS, FLAGS AND
ROLLER AWNINGS**

**THE EMERSON-HAGUE
MANUFACTURING CO. Ltd.**

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Coffees, Baking Powder and Spices.

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Branches: BRANDON and CALGARY.

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Wholesale Importer of

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FELT
GOODS
AND
SOCKS

We are undoubtedly showing the
largest and best assortment of these
goods in the country at prices that
cannot be beaten.

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For our travellers to show you a mag-
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Gloves, sold only by—

**THOMAS RYAN & CO
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The Ames Holden Co.

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BOOTS and SHOES
GRANBY RUBBERS

Also

GLOVES
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MOCCASINS
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NAVEL ORANGES
CALIFORNIA LEMONS
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SEND US YOUR ORDERS.

For the Good of Your Business

You can't afford to be with-
out our 600 X Black Cash-
mere Hose to sell, 25c. And
our 606 X "Llama" to sell, 50c.

"Best Value in Canada."

Compliments of the Season.

**THE GAULT
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Just In.

A splendid showing of Hand-
kerchiefs, in Swiss Embroidered
Irish Lace Edge, Japan Emb'd
Silk, Plain and Initial Silk, Plain
and Initial Linen.

CHATELAINE WRIST BAGS

A large assortment in latest
styles in Black and Tan, from
35c to \$2.50.

PERFUMES—Full range, in-
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for presents.

CALENDARS—Fancy, from
10c up.

MILITARY BRUSHES—Very
fine goods.

SOAPS—Fancy lines. All
prices.

MUFFLERS—Fine Cashmere
and Silk. Way's Patent Mufflers,
in all patterns and colors.

TIES—Ladies' Fancy Silk.
Men's in all styles.

BRACES—A few lines, put up
in boxes, containing one pair
each—suitable for presents.

DECORATIONS—Novelties of
every description.

Write To-day or Telegraph
for Assortment. Goods are ship-
ped immediately—Mail, Express
or Freight, as desired.

**R. J. WHITLA & CO'Y
LIMITED,**

Wholesale Dry Goods,
WINNIPEG.

We are better prepared than ever to
supply

Wrapping Papers,
Paper Bags
Counter Check Books
Stationery and Smallwares

and shall be pleased to have our orders.

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Business College**

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For the active duties of a business life
by taking a course at the Winnipeg
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sent free to any address.

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Owing to the high prices prevailing in Eastern Canada, there is an exceptional demand here at present for nicely dressed TURKEYS, GEESE, DUCKS and CHICKENS. Your shipments to us will be handled promptly and satisfactorily.

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Ship direct to us and save all commission charges. Choice, well-dressed Hogs, 125 to 200 lbs. will command highest prices. You can always rely on receiving the top of the market on all you ship direct to us.

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This year are as good as gold dollars.
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Sizes in stock up to 108 x 144.

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Direct Importers of
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Stock for Fall and Xmas Trade is very complete and prices right.

Our representatives are now on the road with full lines of Samples. It will pay you to wait for them.

Mail Orders will be promptly received. Prompt and Careful Attention.

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"Best Made."

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THE WILLIAMS, GREENE & ROME COMPANY

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ELLIS & GROGAN
WAREHOUSEMEN
COMMISSION AGENTS, ETC.
CALGARY, ALBERTA.

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**Clothing
Shirts
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WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Hats and Caps

At our Winnipeg Warehouse we carry in above lines, the Largest and Best Assorted Stock to be found in Western Canada. This is important to the numerous business men just starting in this territory. Our long experience of the Western trade enables us to know just what you want. Correspond with us.

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THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in Western Canada, including that part of Canada west of Lake Superior and the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

Twenty-First Year of Publication.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY.

Subscriptions—Canada and the United States, \$2.00 per annum in advance, or \$1.50 when not paid; advertisements or copies \$1.00 in advance.

Change for advertisements or copies should be in not later than Thursday morning.

Advertisements purporting to be new matter, or which profess to express the opinion of this journal, will not be inserted.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the west region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast than any other paper in Canada, and only or very slightly less than any other paper which reaches the leading wholesale, commission and mercantile and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

Office: Merchants Bank Bldg. Tel. 224

D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, DEC. 27, 1902.

New Quarters.

The business office and editorial rooms of The Commercial have been moved to the new Merchants' Bank building, Main street.

THE GRAND TRUNK.

Work on the Grand Trunk Pacific railway will be commenced simultaneously at North Bay, Prince Albert, Edmonton and at the Pacific coast end, as soon as the necessary legislation can be obtained. So say the promoters, in a recent interview at Montreal. In the same interview the statement is made, in reply to the question as to what aid is expected from the government, that "we think we should be treated as liberally as any other road." Evidently there is nothing small about the expectations of the Grand Trunk Pacific promoters. If the Grand Trunk Pacific is to be subsidized as liberally as the Canadian Pacific Railway, for instance, which is probably the any other road referred to, we think the people of Canada will strongly object.

The promoters of this enterprise probably also have their mind on a land grant. When asked "what about a land grant, they reply: "Well, in British Columbia, for instance, what is the use of their mineral lands if there is no railway communication to them." Evidently British Columbia is to be worked for a land grant, after the federal government has been exploited for a subsidy, equal to that granted to "any other road."

The announcement that construction will commence simultaneously at North Bay, Prince Albert, etc., might possibly be taken as indicating that the ultimate absorption of the Canadian Northern Railway is a part of the plan. It will be noticed that construction is not to commence at any point where it will parallel the Canadian Northern Railway. Of course it would be good policy to conceal as long as possible any probability of the absorption of the C. N. R. Both roads are working for all the aid they can get in the meantime.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN THE WEST.

The members of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association discuss the question of hotel accommoda-

tion at their recent annual meeting. While hotel accommodation, speaking generally, is much better now throughout the west than it was years ago, there are still some points where there is great room for improvement. One difficulty seems to be that some hotel proprietors seem to consider that their principal business is to sell whiskey. The accommodation of the travelling public is merely a side issue with them. They make a pretense of keeping an hotel merely to comply with the law, which says that they must have so many rooms, etc., etc., before they are allowed a license to sell liquors. These men would probably prefer to keep a saloon, in preference to an hotel. If the law would allow them to do so. As it is, in order to sell whiskey they must carry on an hotel of some kind, and the business of catering to the wants of the travelling public receives just as little attention as possible. Some of these badly kept hotels are located at points where the amount of business done would lead

graded according to rooms occupied, etc. In many cases, however, there is no such difference, and the traveller pays as much as double the local rate for no better accommodation than the local man receives. It is understood the travellers will take the matter up with the local governments of Manitoba and the Territories, with the object of securing provision for increased accommodation for licensed houses.

AID TO RAILWAYS.

The meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade to be held on Monday next, Dec. 23, to consider the question of aid to railways will likely lead to discussion of more than usual interest. The resolution which is now before the board boldly affirms the principle of government ownership of railways, and urges that no further grants should be made in aid of corporation roads. There is room for almost unlimited discussion upon the points presented in the resolution. It is to be hoped that there will be a full attendance at the meet-



Scene in Canadian National Park, Rocky Mountains.

one to look for a fairly good house, while at some smaller places, good hotels have been established. Hotel accommodation is not always in keeping with the size or importance of the place. It is therefore not for lack of business that some of these places are so badly kept. The travellers have another grievance. They claim that in many cases they are charged double rates at the hotels. That is, that the hotel has two rates, one for residents of the town or district and a higher rate for travellers. Of course, where a traveller has the use of a sample room fee, it would be fair to charge a higher rate, though a more business-like way would be to make a separate charge for the sample room. Many travellers, however, do not use sample rooms, and others obtain a room outside of the hotel, so that the landlord cannot always justify the higher charge on the ground that the traveller has the use of sample rooms. The hotel proprietor would be justified in making a reasonable charge for sample rooms but the custom of charging all travellers a higher price for ordinary accommodation than is charged local people, seems hardly right. No objection, of course, can be made to charges

ing, and that there will be a decided expression of the opinion of the board upon the question at issue. The resolution which will be discussed in this connection, was published in The Commercial of last week, and also in the city daily papers of Saturday last. The subject is one of great importance and well worthy of careful study and consideration.

It is of course difficult to surmise what the board may decide to do with this resolution. While the railway question has perhaps received more attention here than in many other parts of the country, it is doubtful if the majority of the members of the board have sufficiently advanced ideas to declare squarely in favor of government ownership. One point the people of the west are fairly unanimous upon, is their opposition to any further land grants to railways or other corporations. Any further grants of land would create a feeling of intense hostility here.

It does seem that the time has fully come when the entire policy of granting aid to railways should be thoroughly reconsidered and revised, or abolished entirely. That an enormous loss to the people has been sustained by the policy of the past, cannot be

denied. There is every reason to fear that a large portion of the aid voted to corporations in the past, both by the various provincial and the Federal government, has found its way into the pockets of promoters. There has been a lack of provision in the past for safeguarding the public Treasury, in connection with these grants.

The present is an opportune time for a full consideration of this important question. At the coming session of parliament it is likely that very extensive applications for aid will be made. The new Grand Trunk Pacific promoters will no doubt ask for aid on a large scale, and there are several other corporations which will likely be on hand to demand assistance. If a large sum is to be granted in aid of this latest transcontinental scheme, it should be done on an entirely different basis from past grants to railways. The people should get full value for any aid granted: provision should be made for keeping down the bonds and debt of the government. The portion of the grant should be allowed to filter into private pockets. If the people believe that this road is needed, and that it will prove a profitable undertaking, then let the government take stock in the road and have an active share in its management. That would be a form of government ownership. If it is necessary that assistance be given, why should not the assistance take the form of a purchase of the bonds of the road by the government with ample provision for government representation in the management, construction and otherwise, of the road. This would be just as good, if not better for the company than a government guarantee of the bonds. A straight gift of cash, much less of lands, should not be entertained. This policy has been fully discredited and it is high time that it should cease.

The Cattle Market.

With reference to ocean freight rates, and the exports of live stock, the New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says: Ocean freight rates on live stock from this port have increased about 30 shillings a head since the embargo was imposed on shipments of New England cattle, owing to the prevalence of foot and mouth disease in that section. One of the chief reasons given for this increase by officials of transatlantic lines engaged in that trade is this: there is now but little space available for cattle, practically all of the space having been taken up by long time contracts entered into at the beginning of the year, and which will not, as a rule, be cancelled until the end of the year. This increase in rates would seem to indicate an active demand, and enquiry for cattle from the United States. The increase, however, have not as yet shown the increase that some of the lines expected would follow the lifting of the embargo. An official of one of the largest transatlantic lines yesterday surmised the situation as follows: "Ocean live stock rates have jumped from 30 to 40 shillings per head, largely because of the increase of space outside of that reserved under contract. The actual shipments of cattle have not exceeded the lower limit of the embargo went into effect, because the foreign market is not favorable. But after the lifting of the embargo, the situation abroad will no doubt be much improved, and we expect then to experience a marked increase in the cattle movement from New York; and it will probably be heavier from other ports, too, except those of New England." An official of another transatlantic line said that a large part of Boston's cattle business was now to be handled at Halifax.

Port Arthur harbor was reported still open last week and no ice in sight. It is frequently the case that Lake Superior harbors are open after the close of navigation. This indicates that it may yet be found possible to extend the usual navigation season considerably.

Sugar Beets in Manitoba.

The growing of sugar beets in Manitoba has passed its experimental stage. Mr. C. W. Seefeld, of Ninga, having demonstrated that they can be cultivated successfully. He has been engaged in the culture of the sugar beets for the past seven years, and his confidence in the future of the industry is attested by the fact that this year he has erected a factory, the first in Manitoba as a private enterprise, and is launching out on an extended scale. He is placing on the market a very fair quality of syrup, which he is selling at 50 cents per gallon. It possesses a pleasant taste, somewhat similar to maple syrup, and judging by the taste should contain a large percentage of sugar.

Mr. Seefeld claims that one bushel of beets will make a gallon of syrup, and as he raised 9,000 bushels of about 23 acres, or about 231 bushels to the acre, and paid \$4 per ton, or about 10 cents per bushel for the beets delivered at the factory, which is \$29 per acre, there should be a good profit both to the grower and the manufacturer. He is also most emphatic as to the benefit to the land from growing a crop of beets. Land that should be summer-fallowed is most suitable, as extra size in the roots is not a desideratum. It is certain that the preparation and cultivation of the ground increases the yield of the following crop of wheat, having raised wheat for four years in succession after growing a crop of beets. It is still noticeable that there is a heavier growth of straw and larger yield of grain than in other portions of the field.

The factory, which is at present quite in the rough, is described by a Southern Manitoba exchange as being about 44x20 feet, with an underground storage pit 30x30 ft. A 12 horsepower engine furnishes the power. First the roots are taken to a revolving washer, next to a pulping machine; then the pulp is taken in bags to the presses from whence the juice runs to the first rectifier and continues into the second rectifier, which is in the shape of a large churn. It is conveyed by pumps into the clarifiers, then

filtered to remove the last remaining impurities, and then passes respectively through the first and second cookers, till it reaches the evaporating pan, the whole process occupying about ten hours till the finisher's article, in the shape of syrup, is completed.

Kootenay Mines.

Rosland, B.C., Dec. 20.—Ore shipments for the week ending to-night were as follows: LeRoi, 3.1; Centre Star, 1,800; War Eagle, 1,380; Giant,

at the company's office here, and a number of ore samples are already filed for tests. The War Eagle and Centre Star experiment at Silica continues steadily and with good results.

Grand Forks, B.C., Dec. 20.—The output of the mines of the Boundary district during the week ended to-day, amounted to 11,501 tons, made up as follows: Granby mines, 4,546 tons; Snowshoe, 1,200; Mother Lode, 3,875; Sunset, 550; B. C. mines, 750; Emma, 690. During the same period the mines of Republic, Washington, shipped 377

smelter, as follows: Quill, 242 tons; Lone Pine Surprise, 106; Morning Glory, 37. Total shipments from Republic to date, 4,241 tons. Two additional furnaces were blown in at Granby plant to-day. They have been closed down for ten days owing to a recent accident in the power house of the Cascade Power company.

Legal Decisions.

Mr. Justice Richards took the sittings of the Tuesday court this week: *Blakiston vs. Wilson*—Plaintiff, a bricklayer, carrying on business at Holland, sued defendant, a furniture dealer of Treherne. In July, 1901, Wilson employed Blakiston to do the brick work on a building at Treherne. As he was not paid he filed a mechanic's lien and brought this action to enforce same and recover \$300.55, the balance due. Defendant contended plaintiff did not complete the work by the time agreed upon and what was done was done in a negligent and unskillful manner. He also filed a counter claim for expenses incurred in getting the work done by other people.

In delivering judgment, his lordship stated he thought the defendant, on whom the onus rested, had failed to prove his defence on his counter claim. The evidence seemed to show that the delays were fairly well built and that the building was not caused by the plaintiff. There will be judgment for the plaintiff for \$422.08 on his claim against the defendant and judgment for plaintiff on the counterclaim together with the costs of the action on the King's bench s. 1a.

Senator Lodge introduced in the United States Senate a bill authorizing the president to remove the duty on coal from Canada whenever the duty on coal from the United States going into Canada shall be removed. This would be appreciated in both countries, and which would allow for a mutual interchange of traffic on a fair basis. Nova Scotia and British Columbia coals are wanted in the United States, while Ontario particularly wants Pennsylvania and other United States coals.



Manitoba Farm Homes—Residence of Alex. Delgathy, Gilbert Plains.

60; Velvet 60. The streak has passed uneventfully in connection with the big mines. The shipments to date this year have been 331,330 tons, as compared with 270,135 for all of 1901, showing an increase for the year to date of 52,087 tons. The experimental date of 52,087 tons. The experimental plant for testing Rosland ores by Williams oil concentration is being set up

tons via Kettle Valley lines to Granby

smelter. Grand Forks, B.C., Dec. 10.—During the week ended to-day the Granby smelter treated 5,302 tons of ore. The total treated to date is 579,016. During the past week the mines at the Republic shipped 377 tons of ore via the Kettle Valley lines to Granby

FURS

For Christmas Sorting Trade

Our stock of Small Furs is replete in all lines for this trade. Letter Orders executed immediately on receipt.

Ladies' Storm Collars, Capelines, Ruffs, Boas, Muffs, Gauntlets, Caps, etc.
 Misses' Storm Collars, Gauntlets, Muffs, Caps, etc.
 Men's Collars, Gauntlets and Caps.

We still have a well assorted stock of Garments.

MEN'S COATS—Coon, Wallaby, Black Dog, Wombat, Astrachan, Mexican Buffalo, Mongolian Lamb, Silver Wallaby.

LADIES' JACKETS—Persian Lamb, Coon, Electric Seal, Astrachan, Russian Lamb, Black Dog, Alaska Fox, Wallaby and Wombat.

LADIES' FUR LINED CAPES AND AUTOMOBILES.

We have a fine assortment of GREY GOAT and BLACK GOAT ROBES—excellent value.

THE REDMOND COMPANY, LTD.

FACTORY: COR. ST. HELEN AND LEMOINE,
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WINNIPEG BRANCH,
 84 PRINCESS STREET.

Any Man will be Proud

To be associated with garments possessing that custom tailored air shown in our spring designs.

Our men are coming your way. See the samples. There is something in handsome effects seldom attained outside of high-street tailor made goods.

FINE RANGE SCOTCH SUITINGS.

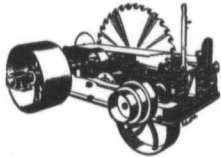
Our Sorting Stock is still large, but the lines are going out daily.

DONALD FRASER & CO.

Manufacturers of Fine Clothing

WHOLESALE

WINNIPEG—126 Princess Street.
MONTREAL—502 St. Paul Street.



Saw Mill Machinery

Engines and Boilers
Steam Pumps and Heaters
Gasoline Engines
Elevator Machinery

Shingle Mills, Lath Mills, Planers, Mat-
chers and Moulders.

MACHINERY OF ALL KINDS.

Waterous Engine

Works Co. Ltd. WINNIPEG
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"HOWE"

GASOLINE ENGINES

are made by the same people who make the
celebrated "HOWE" Scales.

They use less Gasoline, Run Cooler, Start Easier, Wear
Longer, and give less Trouble than any Engine on the
Market.

The Stuart-Arbutnot Machinery Co., Limited

Sole Canadian Agents. WINNIPEG, MAN.

Hodgson, Sumner & Co.

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SMALLWARES

FANCY GOODS

345, 347 and 349 St. Paul Street.
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United Fruit & Produce Co.

LIMITED. Winnipeg.

245 Main Street.

Dried Apricots!

2000 Boxes 25 lbs.
CHOICE CAL. APRICOTS

Just Arrived
Write us for Quotations.

A severe cold wave was experienced
in the east this week, the thermometer
registering 30 to 30 below zero at
points in Ontario, Quebec, New York
state, and New England states.



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SPRING TOP SHIRTS

In Black Sateen, Stripe and Polka Dot Drills
Silk Stripes, Flannellette, Lock Lomond, Check
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The range of samples of these goods carried
by our travellers is very complete and worthy
of inspection.

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Gloves and Mitts now on hand.
Merchants can assort their stocks
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381 & 383 St. Paul Street, Montreal

Are now clearing out at greatly reduced prices such seasonal
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MANTLE BEAVERS, CURL CLOAKINGS, FRIEZES, TWEEDS,
BLANKETS, HOSIERY, SHAWLS, UP'DERWEAR,
FLANNELS, ETC.

Our representative, MR. A. F. HOUSTON, is now out on his regular
trip and will be pleased to be communicated with. Care of—

LELAND HOTEL, WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MACHINERY & SUPPLY CO.

J. C. GIBSON, Vice-Pres. and Gen'l Mgr

179 NOTRE DAME AVENUE EAST, WINNIPEG

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DRY GOODS TRADE.

The Woollen Trade.

Owing to the firmness in the wool market at the recent advances, recent buyers believe that orders booked at the present time will give them an advantage, says the Toronto Globe. The wool markets are very firm. The recent London wool sales were a great success from the point of view of the buyer. It is a long time since the sales began in one week and finished the next week. The sales recently brought to an end in this short order are almost unparalleled in the history of the trade. There has been an extraordinary advance in cross-bred wools. It is claimed that stocks in the hands of the manufacturers have not for a very long time been as light as they are at present. There does not appear to be any prospect of heavy buying either in London, Australia or South Africa. British buyers this series have perhaps been as active as any, German buyers coming next, Frenchmen confining their operations to fine greasy new city styles and Queensland growths, America has in no sense figured as conspicuously as it sometimes does, though both in cross-bred and merino wools the United States have taken a few decent parcels when condition and growth has been up to the mark. A London letter says that the real outcome of the sales has been a transformation and complete change of front in the course of medium and low cross-breeds, these qualities having at last come to occupy a fairly good position. Merinos have not risen a very great deal, but fully as much as what was the most sagaciously expected, the rise being the greatest in the best conditioned and soundest grown merino wools. Some say the low cross-breeds have gone up too rapidly, that the new range of prices is too good to last and that can only be proved by the lapse of time.

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

The Canadian agent of a British linen firm states that prices are exceptionally firm.

Scotch and fancy French plain silks are just now the vogue for the separate waist in their brilliant coloring they are quite suitable for winter wear.

The new crop of raw silk for 1902 is estimated at 4,255,000 kilograms in Europe, 2,910,000 kilograms in the Levant and 9,481,000 kilograms in China, Japan and India, making a total of 15,946,000 kilograms, which is about 7 per cent. less than the crop of the preceding year.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Foley Bros., of St. Paul, Minn., who are shortly to become associated with Locke Bros. in the wholesale grocery trade of Winnipeg, are increasing their investment in St. Paul also, by the erection of a new rebouse.

Figures on the sale of currants from Greece up to November 15 show the exports to have been 104,000 tons, or 7,170,000 tons less than last year's crop at that date. Cablegrams quote the 6d to 10s 10d per cwt for prompt shipments from Greece.

Cable advices from Europe say that M. Licht reduced his estimate of the yield of the German crop 130,000 tons, to 1,730,000 tons. Mr. Licht also increased slightly his estimate of the yield of the French crop, and his reduction of his estimate of the crop for all Europe was 110,000 tons, to 5,020,000 tons.

Referring to rains, a leading New York trader says: Stocks of Valentias on spot are much reduced, and, with probably little or nothing more to come from the other side, will probably be cleared in the not distant future.

Canada has again been in the market, and, with further inquiries from that quarter, present stocks cannot hold long. Malaga fruit is meeting with a good demand, and, with spot supplies limited, will no doubt be cleared in the near future.

Lumber Trade Notes.

Prices in the leading woods show no particular change, except in the way of some advances in special items, says the American Lumberman. Lumbermen of Wisconsin and Minnesota are talking about the advisability of raising the list on white pine low grade boards and dimension. It is somewhat unusual to make advances at this season, but it is represented

that the conditions positively demand higher prices on these items, which are so scarce that they are being sold between wholesaler relatively and sometimes actually higher than at the retail trade. Stocks are low and have been broken in white pine at many shipping points, and none of the shippers are any too well supplied. Consequently all holders of pine feel confident of the value of their stocks, and it is expected that prices will be strongly held right through the winter, and perhaps show some advance.

IMPLEMENT TRADE.

Binder Twine.

The Cordage Trade Journal of New York thus reviews the binder twine market under date of Dec. 16:—
 Almost nothing is being done in the binder twine market. No manufacturer has yet made prices for next year's delivery. Most manufacturers are now paying more attention to the courses of events in the raw material market than they are to discussing possible twine contracts with jobbers. It is stated that jobbers are meeting no encouragement from manufacturers when they seek to make contracts for twine. Some of the harvester manufacturers are taking, although not actively seeking, so-called price-advance contracts, that is, contracts for specified quantities of twine, the price to be arranged at some future date, cross-breeds, these qualities having at last come to occupy a fairly good position. Merinos have not risen a very great deal, but fully as much as what was the most sagaciously expected, the rise being the greatest in the best conditioned and soundest grown merino wools. Some say the low cross-breeds have gone up too rapidly, that the new range of prices is too good to last and that can only be proved by the lapse of time.

Implement Trade Notes.

Trade in winter lines at Minneapolis has been good and dealers there are well satisfied with results. Cutter and sleigh stocks have been cleaned out thanks to a good fall of snow.

The Canadian Implement and Vehicle Trade and the Carriage and Implement Association of Canada have amalgamated. Publication will continue under the name of the first mentioned paper, of which F. G. Van Vleet is proprietor.

It is reported that the International Harvester Co., Deering division, now erecting an immense building on 35 acres of land in the southeast section of Hamilton, Ont., has purchased 35 acres more, and the expectation is that the works will be doubled and the plant, when completed, will furnish employment for 5,000 hands.

Insurance Decision.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—The court of appeal this morning rendered judgment in the case of the Hon. A. H. Angers against the Mutual Reserve Fund association of New York reversing the judgment of the lower court, which had ordered the association to refund the amount of the premium and interest paid by Mr. Angers from 1885 to 1898. The court held that Mr. Angers should not now come and ask a cancellation of the policy because of fraud in the original policy. He had enjoyed its privileges for fifteen years, and should have familiarized himself with the conditions under which the policy he held for fifteen years was granted.

Remembering Their Employees.

In accordance with their usual custom, the Ogilvie Flour Mills Company, present each of their employees, including mill hands, office staff, travellers and inspectors, in connection with the Thanksgiving and a fine plump turkey. Altogether about 190 birds were distributed. It is thought that this act will promote the spirit of harmony and good feeling which has always existed between this firm and its employees. It is safe to say there is no more contented or efficient class of men in the country than those having to do with the manufacture and sale of Ogilvie's Hungarian flour and Ogilvie's Rolled Oats.

Extensions to the Crow's Nest Pass Coal mines will shortly be made which will give them a daily output of 5,000 tons, compared with the present output of 3,000 tons. The company has spent this year, approximately \$1,000,000 in further development of its properties.



Bovril

Contains all the nourishing properties of the finest beef, in the most highly concentrated and palatable form at present known. Its warmth giving qualities render it especially acceptable in the cold weather. Grocers will therefore serve their own interests by keeping a plentiful supply on hand to meet the requirements of their customers during the coming winter.

BOVRIL, LTD.
 LONDON, ENGLAND.
 AND 27 ST. PETER STREET, MONTREAL.

Winnipeg Agents:
W. L. MACKENZIE & CO., Sanford Block.

The Lace Warehouse
 OF CANADA

Importers and Manufacturers of

FANCY AND DRY GOODS NOVELTIES



Kyle, Cheesbrough & Co.

MONTREAL, 16 St. Helen Street.
 WINNIPEG, Sulman Bldg., Albert St.
 LONDON, ENG., 35 Milk Street.

SORTING

Your Sorting orders for the following lines respectfully solicited:

Felt Shoes of all kinds, Poccasins, Arctic Sox, Larrigans, Mitts and Gloves, Rubber Boots and Shoes of every description.

Thousands of cases of Rubber Shoes made by the Boston Rubber Co. of Montreal, Ltd., are in stock ready for quick demands. Our famous Khaki Overshoes are the hit of the season. Send your orders at once or any other time.

ARTHUR CONGDON
 Princess Street, - WINNIPEG

We wish all our customers

A Happy and Prosperous New Year and trust that our business relations in 1903 will be as pleasant as they have been in 1902.

THE MCPHERSON FRUIT CO.
LIMITED.
493 Main St., Winnipeg

OUR PRICES

...OR...
RELIABLE AIR-TIGHT HEATERS

ARE RIGHT.

Better get them Now.

MARSHALL-HELLS CO.
WHOLESALE HARDWARE,
WINNIPEG.

Sole Agents

L. C. Smith Famous Guns

THE WESTERN PACKING COMPANY

Our new abattoir on Alexander avenue is now completed and running, and we are ready to supply the trade both in the city and country with fresh killed meat of finest quality. Mail orders given prompt attention.

We are also open to buy live or dressed hogs and all kinds of produce, paying highest cash prices for same.

Abattoir and Offices

ALEXANDER AVENUE, - WINNIPEG



"QUEEN'S HEAD" GALVANIZED IRON

You get what you pay for, and don't have to pay too much, when you buy the

"OLD RELIABLE"

JOHN LYSAGHT, Limited, makers,
Bristol, Eng.
A. O. LESLIE & CO., Montreal, Managers Canadian Branch
& H. BISSETT, Agent, Winnipeg

The Great West Life Assurance Co.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT TO 1st MAY

	1st May, 1901	1st May, 1902	Increase	Per Cent
Applications Received	\$912,600	\$1,314,100	\$401,600	44
Premium Income	105,285	143,957	38,702	38
Interest Income	11,912	24,549	12,637	106
Claims and Expenses	88,319	70,652	2,233	3%

Some of our Western folks have forgotten to send in their applications. We still have a supply of forms.

JOHN W. PECK & CO.
MONTREAL WINNIPEG
VANCOUVER

Manufacturers of
Clothing Furs Shirts
Dealers in
Men's Furnishings, Hats, Caps

DONT PLACE YOUR ORDER

For **GLOVES, MITTS, SOX** and **FELT GOODS** until you see our line. We will have the best assortment on the road, comprising Berlin, Elmira, Manitoba's and Hamburg. In Gloves and Mitts we carry Clark's, Erb's, Balcer's and a fine American line. We claim you can get better choice when you sell all the makes together. Our travellers will see you soon but cannot be every place first. Wait for him—it will pay you.

Yours truly,

87 Princess St. Winnipeg.

The Kilgour, Rimer Co. Ltd.

S. Greenshields, Son & Co.

Wholesale . . . MONTREAL

DRY GOODS MEN'S FURNISHING CARPES, ETC.

Winnipeg Sample Rooms

412-414 McIntyre Block

Represented by—R. H. GALLAGHER, M. NEWTON, A. C. RUSSELL, J. E. WALKER.

WE ARE THE PEOPLE To supply you with your

CHRISTMAS FRUIT

Extra Fancy **Navel Oranges**

All sizes in stock.

Malaga Grapes

In kegs, finest "Heavyweight" Choice Turkish figs, dates in bulk or packets, fancy apples for table or cooking, XXX stock. All fruits in season stock. Yours for business.

THE IMPERIAL FRUIT & PRODUCE CO. LTD.
WINNIPEG, MAN.

SHIP YOUR

Raw Furs Hides Doerskins Wool and Senega Root

Direct To

NORTHWEST HIDE CO.

278 Rupert St., Winnipeg, and highest market prices. Prompt returns made on receipt of goods.

Write us for our new circulars.

We also handle

Poultry Butter and Eggs

Northwest Hide Co.

Telephone 652. P. O. Box 65

SHIP YOUR RAW FURS

Hides, Doerskins and Seneca

McMILLAN FUR AND WOOL COM'Y

200 to 212 First Avenue North, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

No duty on raw furs, doerskins, or seneca. There is a duty on green hides over 25lbs. and dry hides over 12lbs. of 15 per cent. of the Winnipeg wholesale price, less freight to Winnipeg. Hides under these weights admitted free. Write for circulars.

BOLE'S SPICED BLACKBERRY BRANDY

We believe to be the best remedy for Dysentery, Cholera, Infantile and all Summer Complaints.

IT IS THE BEST FOR DEALERS TO HANDLE IT SELLS AT 25¢ A BOTTLE

THREE DOSES WILL CURE OR MONEY REFUNDED BY THE BOLE DRUG CO. WINNIPEG

MANITOBA.

The News Company, Limited, of which L. B. Porter has sold his general business at 104 Main street, is now in Mr. E. Kerr's hands. E. Kerr has sold out his import business at Souris to M. W. Merrett & S. Kelly, of Brandon.

W. J. Mackenzie, an application for the incorporation of "The Farmers' Union of Canada Co., Limited," with a capital of \$250,000.

W. J. Mackenzie & Jackson, implements dealer, Rapid City, have dissolved partnership. E. C. Gossett-Jackson is the partner.

H. Kelly has disposed of his general business at Glenboro to R. Henselwood and Chris. Benedick.

The friends moving west.

It is given that application will be made for the incorporation of "Underhill Farmers' Elevator Co., Limited," with a total capital of \$200,000.

Richard & Steick, hardware merchants of Dauphin, who have been a short time ago, have resumed sales in temporary quarters. They are in a new block in Dauphin.

Several general stores owned by B. S. and N. Colneault, at Letellier, were destroyed by fire on the night of the 27th. Part of the contents were saved. Loss not stated.

A warehouse belonging to I. A. A. A., which is located at the foot of the river in Winnipeg, was damaged by fire on Sunday last. The house was used to store cement in bulk and casks, and D. A. Donald, Dugald McKillop, M. McDonald, I. V. Thompson and E. L. Burns have been granted letters patent under the corporate name of "The Prairie Curling Club Co., Limited," with a capital stock of \$3,000.

Letters patent application for the patent of Invention, John Macleod, E. G. Barrett, John Macleod, Leonard Barrett and H. E. A. A., under the name of "The Iron Works, Limited." The amount of the capital stock will be \$250,000.

It is given that O. A. Robert-F. G. Barrows, of Fergus Falls, Minn., of St. Paul, Harry J. Lynch, and W. C. Crook, of Winnipeg, make application for incorporation "The Red Deer Lumber Co., Ltd." with a capital stock of \$50,000. The company's head office will be in Winnipeg.

J. J. Griffin Co., Ltd., has been incorporated, with headquarters in Toronto, to carry on the business of packers and commission merchants, with an authorized capital of \$500,000. The company is composed of J. J. Griffin and Harry E. Griffin, Toronto; Frank M. Griffin, Toronto; Robert M. Griffin, Toronto; and Daniel Nakhmin, Vancouver.

Mr. Musker, a Winnipeg employment agent, who has rather a bad reputation, was arrested at Winnipeg court on Wednesday charged with obtaining money under false pretenses. He was fined \$100 as a fee for finding them, and the court sent them to prison on a foot-and-chain sentence. The magistrate was not awaiting their removal to the workhouse for a trial. The magistrate has the matter under advisement.

ASSINIBOIA.

Heart has opened a store at the corner of the handling beef and groceries.

Partnership existing between J. J. Griffin, of Calgary, and B. C. Crook, of Moose Jaw, has been dissolved by mutual consent, and in future two stores will be carried on separate management. They are conducting big disolution of both Moose Jaw and Calgary.

ALBERTA.

Major has sold his wholesale business at Lethbridge to J. Davidson.

Major has a coal oil famine, the label shows a man with a very much less than a barrel.

Major destroyed the store owned by

A. J. Macleod at Calgary. The loss is \$25,000.

E. P. Boyce has sold his hotel business at High River and will spend the winter in California.

The Round-Up, a new weekly illustrated paper, published by Herbert Lake and published by Roderick Mackenzie.

The Rocky Mountain Development Company which owns oil fields in Southwestern Alberta at a recent meeting in Calgary decided to proceed with the development of its property. A new operating plant will be purchased shortly.

William Whyte, of the C. P. R., and Superintendent of Land and Irrigation Division arrived in Calgary on Monday on business in connection with the irrigation canal between Calgary and Medicine Hat. Both gentlemen stated that the work would now be rushed ahead by the C. P. R., and in a short time 3,000,000 acres of land would be reclaimed between Calgary and Medicine Hat. The company was led to do this by the suggestion which greeted the irrigation canal at Lethbridge, and which will open up land for farming now valuable only for ranching.

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

Wm. Symes & Co. are opening in flour, feed and provisions at Fort William.

Morton & Adcock have opened a real estate and insurance office at Fort William.

Dowling & Co. have sold their wholesale liquor business at Port Arthur to Geo. Hunter, formerly of Sault Ste. Marie.

FINANCIAL.

Returns for the Winnipeg Clearing House for the week ending Thursday, December 10, 1903: Corresponding week, 1902 \$3,97,107; Corresponding week, 1903 2,425,474; Corresponding week, 1900 1,861,580.

Financial Notes.

The Union Bank of Canada is opening a branch at Lumsden, Assa.

Between September and November, 1903, the latest report of the U. S. controller of the currency, national bank credits showed an increase of \$23,000,000.

A proposal is on foot to again increase the number of seats on the Montreal stock exchange from 55 to 100, the new ones to be sold at a minimum price of \$25,000.

All employees of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, from the general manager down, have been granted a bonus of 10, 15 and 20 per cent, graded according to salary received.

Notice is given that application will be made to the parliament of Canada at its next session for an act to incorporate the latest report of the Bank of Canada for the purpose of carrying on a general banking business as provided in the proposed act.

The private banking firm of J. & J. W. Pease, of Darlington, England, has executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of its creditors. The firm's liabilities are placed at about \$2,500,000. Two of the partners are members of the House of Commons.

The trustees of the school district of Rathvel, Manitoba, will, up to the tenth day of January, 1904, receive special tenders for the purchase of twenty debentures for two hundred and fifty dollars each. Interest at the rate of five per cent. The debentures payable at the village of Rathvel.

The revenue from the hereditary possessions of the British crown for last financial year was £17,875.

"Ogville Oats, Moose-head Brand," is the wording of a handsome new label under which the product of the company's oatmeal mill is to be known for the future. The centre of the label shows a man with a reproduction of the moose head presented by W. J. Thompson to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Rubber Goods May Advance.

A wire from Montreal to Thursday stated that rubber goods manufacturers are greatly concerned over the recent increase in the price of crude material. The latest quotations in London, England, for natural No. 10 cents a pound in Canada, and it is given out on good authority that an advance of from one to two cents will follow on manufactured goods, including hose and garments.

This information is confirmed locally, and it is fully expected in the trade here that an advance will come shortly in rubber goods.

The North-West Bank.

To the Editor of The Commercial.

Dear Sir,—Referring to the proposal of new bank, and your criticism of the name, which I think very pertinent thereto, allow me to suggest to the powers that be, the name of "The National Bank of Canada."

Yours truly,

JOHN M. DICK.

The Commercial Man.

Robert R. Gallagher has returned to the city from an eastern trip.

S. Huustwit, of Toronto, left on Saturday to spend Christmas at home.

Alex. Munro, of St. Morgan & Co., Hamilton, Ont., went east for the holidays this week.

Among the commercial men at the Winnipeg who are in from the west this week are J. W. Kelly, A. G. Jamieson and R. Cochrane.

Insurance Notes.

The Mutual Life of Canada has issued a neat calendar for the use of its friends and patrons. P. D. McKinnon is manager for Manitoba.

The directors of the British-American Assurance Co. have voted a bonus of 10 per cent to the staff of the company. The directors in the letter notify the members of the staff that this bonus will not be a precedent, but they regret that in the year there has been a material increase in the cost of living, due partly to the coal famine.

Movements of Business Men.

J. A. Hunter, president of the Manitoba Cement Company, left on Saturday, a week ago, for Toronto, to spend Christmas at his home.

R. B. Young, Dawson, passed through Winnipeg last week on his way east to visit Galt, Ont., his old home.

The town of Birtle, Man., has suffered by fire the loss of its municipal acetylene gas plant, valued at \$700.

Among the remembrances of Xmas received by The Commercial were several boxes of delicious sweets, prepared by the Paulin-Chambers Co.

At a meeting of the Canadian Pacific Railway Railway committee, Winnipeg, tendered to that country in wood were awarded to Hargrave & Co., and J. D. McArthur & Co.

The Atlantic Electric Railway employees and other railway employees are moving to open a co-operative grocery and meat shop. The committee report 238 shareholders to date.

Canada last year sold to Great Britain 55.5 per cent of the total importations of cheese to that country in value Canadian exports of cheese to Great Britain have increased from \$15,300,000 in 1902 to \$19,000,000 during the twelve months ended June last.

Ontario live stock breeders have objected to the sale of Manitoba stock. Hon. Mr. Greenway listed a number of animals to that country at an auction of Shorthorns at Hamilton. Later he was advised not to send the animals, as the Ontario breeders objected to the sale. Manitoba breeders have been buying liberally in the past few years, but now, on account of sending western stock to A. the breeders there seem to think that the rule should not work both ways.

FOR SALE.

On any terms, in the town of Reston, Man., building and log, building site six by 100 ft., and a general store. Good opening. Apply G. A. Smith, Reston, Manitoba.

Manitoba Wheat Crop.

The Northwest Grain Dealers' Association has issued a circular of particular interest at the present time, giving official figures relating to the wheat crop of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories for 1902. It shows that the railways have still a taxing contract to fulfil, and that while they have carried only 21,000,000 bushels to terminal points so far this season, 27,500,000 bushels remain to be forwarded, there being about 15,000,000 bushels in the farmers' hands.

The entire wheat crop is estimated at 64,283,434 bushels, and of this amount 15,000,000 are in store or in transit; it is estimated that the requirements for seed, feed and country mills will consume an amount equal to this, so that practically what now remains in the farmers' hands is what the railways have to carry to the terminal elevators.

The Circular.

The statistics of the circular are as follows:

	Bushels
Shipped to Port William via C. P. R.	15,896,177.40
Shipped to Port Arthur via C. P. R.	46,198,250.00
Shipped to Port Arthur via C. N. R.	4,908,807.00
Shipped to Duluth via C.N.R.	897,300.00
Total	21,202,970.30
Milled and sent to the west in bag and keeweenaw	2,250,000.00
In store at country points and in transit C. P. R.	10,250,000.00
In store at country points via transits	2,750,000.00
Total	15,250,000.00

Total amount marketed, 39,343,970.00 bushels.

Estimated crop for Manitoba and Territories, 1902, 64,283,434 bushels.

	Bushels
Allowing amount required for seed	6,000,000.00
Allowing amount required for feed	1,000,000.00
Allowing amount required for country mills	6,000,000.00
Total	13,000,000.00

	Bushels
Balance to market (exclusive country mill requirements)	14,893,440.00
Total in store in points and in transit	15,000,000.00
Balance to be forwarded by railways	27,993,440.00

A Surly Disposition.

Quite recently a gentleman was noticed making some purchases in the house furnishing department of an eastern store. Attention was attracted to him because he seemed to be purchasing quickly and liberally, and yet the salesman had every appearance of being impatient. He was evidently in an irritable mood, and did not appreciate a good customer. In selecting certain piles the choice was limited to an oak finished and a pure white one, but the salesman, with the best brackets and ornaments. The customer expressed a preference for the white one, but the salesman said it would soil easily. The customer thought it could then be re-enamelled with one store preparation, so he promptly informed the salesman that he had successfully enamelled certain piles on another store one occasion. At this juncture the manager of the department happened along and got particulars of the incident from the aggravated customer, who made every allowance for a salesman dealing with a crusty customer, but objected to being treated as one when making particular pains to make the salesman's task as easy as possible. The manager afterwards when he comes to the salesman in question was the only one in the department that he had trouble with, and he had never seemed to have customers want to buy from him a second time. His surly disposition was the cause. This young man was the man who served to bear out the contention that politeness, neatness and more difficult than to be "snippy." House and Leather Trade Journal.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, Dec. 27. During the three days of this week which preceded Christmas retail trade in both city and country was very active. In Winnipeg the merchants were hardly able to take care of the crowds which thronged the streets. On Tuesday and the delivery forces worked far into the morning of Christmas to complete the delivery of parcels. As the day and night were bitterly cold this task was by no means a congenial one. It is safe to say that the Christmas trade this year was the best yet. In jobbing circles the week has been a quiet one and attention is now mainly devoted to receiving and storing spring goods. These are going in to stock rapidly and by the middle of January things will be in shape for spring shipments. The ranges of goods for spring to be seen here are more extensive and finer than ever. In regard to values we have very few changes to note, and the market is quiet. Our reviews of various lines given hereunder contain full information as to prices. Money seems to be plentiful for the time being the movement of cash in the city having been greatly stimulated by the Christmas trade. Most of the working classes are well employed at good wages. The transportation situation is about where it has been all this month the railways being badly tied up for want of motive power. Bank clearings at Winnipeg are becoming smaller as the rush of fall and winter trade has subsided.

WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Dec. 27. (All quotations are market rates specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to small reductions on large quantities, and to cash discounts.)

CURED MEATS.

Trade in cured meats has shared to some extent the stimulation of the retail demand and has been quite good. Prices continue as follows: Ham, sugar cured, 14 1/2c per lb.; breakfast bacon, bellies, 15 1/2c; backs, 14 1/2c; spiced ribs, 12 1/2c; cooked hams, 25c per lb.; smoked lung, 16c; dry salt, long clear, 12 1/2c; lard, 50-lb. tins, \$6.00; 20-lb. pails, \$2.40; lard in cases, \$7.75; herring, pickled, 10c; mess, 20c; pork sausage, 9c; bologna, 7 1/2c; pickled pigs feet, in kits, \$1.25; sausage castings, 30 to 35c.

DRY GOODS.

In wholesale dry goods circles the week has been a quiet one and spring goods are now engaging the attention. These are being put into stock in large quantities and will be ready for sale complete, make a fine display. Shipping will commence about the middle of this month. There is little business for the holidays and there are comparatively few country orders coming in. Values hold firm and steady.

FISH.

There is a good demand for fish of all kinds. The market is holding steady. We quote as follows: Whitefish, 5 1/2c per lb.; pickled, 4 1/2c per lb.; haddock, 7c; mackerel, 7c; herrings, 12c; Labrador herring, per barrel, \$4.25; salt mackerel, \$1.80 per kit; Holland herring, in kits, \$1. Daily catch includes: flinnan haddock, 10c; boneless fish, 5 1/2c lb.; oysters, \$2 and \$2.25 per gallon.

FUEL.

Colder weather has accentuated the discomfort arising out of the fuel shortage. There is no more coal available for the winter. There is no increase in the receipts of coal here and prices hold as high as ever. There is a slight hope as prospect of relief in the near future, as far as coal is concerned. We quote: Pennsylvania anthracite, egg, stove

and No. 1 nut, \$18.50 per ton, delivered, retail; American bituminous, \$9 per ton; Crow's foot coal, \$9 per ton; Gait bituminous, \$8 per ton; Souris lignite, \$4.75 per ton; run of the mine in coalings, 75c; Wood in carlots on track is quoted at the following prices: Tamarac, per cord, \$6; cedar, \$6; spruce, \$4.50.

GREEN FRUITS.

The earlier days of the week brought an active rush of city business to wholesale houses and a very satisfactory trade to the country. Trade is now a quieter now and there are no special features to note. Prices hold steady. We quote as follows: Apples, \$5.25 to \$4.00 per barrel; California naves, 10c; tokay grapes, \$3 per case; Malaga grapes, \$5 per keg; cranberries, \$10 to \$11 per barrel; California naves, oranges, \$5.50 to \$6 per case; seedling, \$4; lemons, \$6 per case; bananas, \$3 to \$3.50 per bunch. Vegetables: Spanish onions are selling at \$1.25 per crate; common onions, 10c per lb.; celery, at 35c per dozen bunches; cabbage at 1 1/2c per lb.; and red cabbage, 1 1/2c per lb.; sweet potatoes, fancy Bell brand, \$3; ordinary, \$2.50. Dried fruits: Cal. figs are selling at \$1.25 per bushel; Cal. prunes, 40c; cartoons; dates at 6c per lb.; Cal. apricots, 10c; honeydew, 10c; raisins, \$1.50 for dark honey in case lots, and 12c per pound for strained in 90-lb. tins. Raisins, 10c per bushel, and \$2.25 per gallon. New Ontario apple cider, per gallon, 35c.

GROCERIES.

So far as prices are concerned there has been no changes in the grocery market. Business is quiet, and there is very little activity in any direction. Most retailers are well stocked for Christmas, and have not been buying since. With regard to tobacco we may say that owing to injury to the tobacco crop prices for Canadian leaf have materially advanced. The market for smoking pipe now is 13c, with no prospect of a decline until another crop is available. Indian tobacco is a firm, especially the lower grades, upon which an advance of 1/2 to 1d has been made. The market for United States tomatoes have reached the peak, and the quality is reported to be satisfactory. The price will be about \$3.75 per case. Ontario tomatoes are, of course, scarce, but where available are selling at \$1.15 to \$1.25 per case. In regard to flour, prices are held down here. Jobbing prices at Winnipeg are given as follows:

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.

Trade in this line is quiet as is customary at this season. Spring stocks are all in, and are larger than usual, but none too large for the prospective requirements of the trade. Prices for most lines are steady, and the markets without feature. Linseed oil is the only exception to this rule. The market for this is unsettled. Advice from the old country indicates a declining tendency, while on the other hand quotations from foreign markets are firmer. Reports from all sections are conflicting, and the probable course of the market is very uncertain. Experienced dealers will not venture to express an opinion on the point, but they are confident of the probabilities. Prices at Winnipeg are given on another page.

RAW FURS.

Prices delivered here are as follows: Badger, prime, 25c to \$1.25; skins, \$1.50 to \$2.00; \$1.25; bear, black, large, \$15 to \$25; beaver, large, \$12 to \$15; beaver, small, \$8 to \$12; muskrat, \$2 to \$2.25; polar \$10 to \$80; brown, middling, \$3 to \$5; beaver, large, \$5 to \$7.50; faher, \$4 to \$5; fox, silver, \$25 to \$200; fox, cross, \$5 to \$12; fox, black, \$150 to \$400; marten, large, dark, \$10 to \$20; fox, red, \$5.00 to \$5; lynx, \$2 to \$3; marten, large, brown, \$8 to \$9; marten, large, light pale, \$5.75 to \$5.50; mink, \$1.75 to \$2.00; muskrat, \$1.50 to \$1.2c; otter, \$5.50 to \$10; skunk, 2c to \$1.00; wolf, timber, \$2 to \$4; wolf, prairie, \$1 to \$2; marten, \$2 to \$3. The above prices are for prime skins only in Winnipeg for prime skins only.

RUBBER GOODS.

Our news columns note certain developments in the eastern rubber goods market which probably mean

higher prices for these lines in the near future. Crude rubber has advanced to a point far above that which prevailed prior to the present boom for the manufactured lines were fixed and as this higher figure is regarded as likely to continue, manufacturers feel that their lists require some adjustment. All invoices now going out bear foot prices and are subject to change without notice. Makers of rubber footwear do not meet until the first of January and it is not likely that their prices will be affected before that date, but belting, hose and granulated extensol is being advanced at once.

SCRAP.

Prices hold steady. We quote: No. 1 cast iron, free from wrought and malleable, \$14 to \$15 per ton; No. 2, \$9 to \$9 per ton; wrought from scrap, \$5 per ton; heavy copper, 7c per pound; light brass, 2 to 4c per pound; lead pipe or rubber, free from rivets, buckles and iron pipe mixed, 50c per 100 pounds; iron pipe, 2 to 4c per pound; tea lead, 2 to 4c per pound; zinc, 1c per pound; bones, clean, dry, bottles and granulated extensol is holding 25c per quart, 25c per dozen.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—The week in the grain trade has been broken by the momentary, and extreme dullness has fallen on the markets. Prices have remained steady, but the sentiment seems to have lost ground somewhat. In the United States speculative markets, the trade has been very active and fluctuations have been within a narrow range. Closing quotations yesterday were a change from 1 1/2c to 1 1/4c higher. The primary movement in the St. Louis market, and the exports to North America are now comparatively light, which results in smaller world's shipments, and also operates to increase the American visible supply. The immediate future of prices depends very much on the weather in the Argentine crop. The weather in that country has been broken and unfavorable for harvesting at the moment. It is thought that the movement of new wheat is already delayed about three weeks, and some delay in the Argentine may take place. Latest reports say that the weather has changed for the better. It is thought that the Argentine crop will have at least 60,000,000 bushels of wheat to export. Europe during the week has received 12,485,000 bushels against 20,000,000 in 1902, 30,124,000 in 1901, and 12,485,000 bushels in 1900. The European market principally during the first six months of the year, and as England and the continent have a great deal of poor and damp wheat of their own for which they require the wheat of Argentina in a dry harvest or the reverse, as in the event of an unsatisfactory condition, the Argentine crop, a larger demand would be made on the United States and Canadian west, which would affect all the world's condition. The crop situation is unchanged. In the United States the winter wheat crop is very favorable. Present reports about it are very favorable. In Europe the crop is generally in fair condition, but the country has been Russia speak of the crop outlook as unfavorable. Against this there is the fact that the Russian Government an immense crop this year and the stocks of wheat accumulated at Black Sea ports are very large. The visible supply increased 665,000 bushels last week against an increase of 2,211,000 bushels in the previous week. The decrease of 551,000 bushels last year, whose shipments were 6,120,000 bushels, and 4,677,000 bushels in the week, and 7,385,000 bushels last year. The world's visible supply, according to Bradstreet's figures, is 183,700,000 bushels, a decrease the previous week of 255,000 bushels, and a decrease last week of 600,000 bushels. Manitoba wheat has been quiet and quiet all week, but fairly firm in price and holding steady. The price at the Port of the most wheat outward is \$1.10 to \$1.15, and the terminal elevators at Fort William pay \$1.10 to \$1.15. A moderate quantity is going all the way for export via St. John and a few cars to the coast via Montreal at Minneapolis. Prices in store trade are as follows: December delivery are 70 1/2c 1 northern, 67 1/2c 2 northern, 67c 3 northern. For

delivery first half January the price is 4c higher than for December delivery and for delivery the last half of January the price is 2c higher than for May delivery prices are: 1 hard, 71 1/2c; 1 northern, 72 1/2c; 2 northern, 71 1/2c; 3 northern, 70 1/2c.

WHEAT.—The market is active and prices are holding steady. The market is steady, and we quote now \$1.85 per bushel of 80-lb. for best brands. Standard and granulated extensol is holding \$2.50 per bushel of 98-lb.

WHEAT.—The market is not so firm as it was a week ago. It is holding to the shortage of cars—and prices are holding above the usual level. The stock of wheat is holding steady, but transportation were available. There is really no change in prices here, but the market is holding steady. The market is holding steady, and we quote now \$1.85 per bushel of 80-lb. for best brands. Standard and granulated extensol is holding \$2.50 per bushel of 98-lb.

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Toronto Wholesale Trade.

Special to The Commercial.

Dry Goods—Trade is dull owing to traders being at home for the holidays. Values are steady.

Hardware—Quiet. No price changes.

Groceries—Inactive. Sugars unchanged. Canned vegetables are firm.

Imported tomatoes are worth \$1.00 to \$1.85; peas, 85¢; corn, 85¢.

Toronto Grain and Produce.

Special to The Commercial.

The grain market is dull. Ontario wheat is easier. Manitoba is slightly higher. Flour is dull and unchanged. Oats steady at same prices. Receipts of choice dairy butter are light and there is a good demand for this grade. Eggs are in good demand.

Wheat—85 to 68½¢ per ton, red and white, middle freights; spring wheat, 68 to 70¢ per cent. Manitoba wheat is worth 87¢ for No. 1 hard; 85¢ for No. 1 northern, and 83¢ for No. 2 northern, grinding in its own husks.

Oats—No. 2 white, 30½ to 31¢ east, and middle freights.

Rye—No. 3 extra is quoted at 45¢, and No. 3 at 42¢ east, or middle freights.

Barley—No. 40 per cent. Ontario patent, \$2.95 to \$2.70, in buyers' bags, middle freights. Choice barley are held 15 to 18¢ higher.

Flour—30¢ per bushel, steady at \$4.20 for Ogilvie's Hungarian patent, and \$3.90 for Gieners, in car lots, but included on track, Toronto.

Mixed—Shorts, 11¢ per ton, and bran, \$14.00 per ton, middle freights. Manitoba feed, \$19 for cars of shorts and \$20 for large trucks included.

Ontario—\$4.10 for cars of bags, and \$4.25 in wood for carlots, Toronto.

Hay—Carlots on track, \$8.00 per ton for No. 1 timothy.

Sage—Case lots, new laid, 18 to 19¢ per dozen; seconds, 14 to 15¢.

Butter—Dairy, pound, 17 to 19¢; tubs and pails, 19 to 18¢; medium, 11 to 12¢; creamery, tubs, 17¢, 18¢, 19¢, 20¢; prints, 23 to 24¢.

Eggs—13 to 12½¢ for job lots.

Hides—No. 3 for No. 1 green cows; No. 1 steers, 9¢; cattles, 10¢ for No. 1 extra for No. 1 rough shanks, 7½¢ each; tallow, 6½ to 6½¢.

Wool—Washed fleece, 11¢; unwashed, 8 to 8½¢.

Beans—\$2 to \$2.25 per bushel for job lots of hand picked, and \$1.75 to \$1.75 unsorted.

Apples—Evaporated, 6½ to 7¢; dried \$2 to \$2.50.

Mapsy Syrup—10½ for imperial gallon, in bulk or gallon tins.

Maple Syrup—1 to 1½¢ per gallon in bulk, in frames, \$1.50 to \$1.75.

Poultry—Spring chickens, dressed, 20 to 25¢ per pair; ducks, 11 to 12¢; geese, 9 to 10¢; turkeys, 13 to 15¢ for young birds.

Potatoes—Cans, 90¢ to 95¢.

Montreal Grain and Produce.

Special to The Commercial.

Wheat—Montreal Dec. 27. Offerings of oats have been small and prices hold firm in consequence. Flour is steady. There has been some demand for Manitoba grades over the cable, but buyers are slow to take the goods. There is an active demand for milled at steady prices. Choice firm wheat is in good demand for both local and export account.

Oats—37½¢ for No. 2 white extra.

Rye—No. 3 extra, 25¢ above flour.

Flour—Manitoba patent \$1.20; Manitoba strong bakers, \$3.50; straight, others, \$3.25 to \$3.70; winter patents, \$3.75 to \$4.15.

Rolled oats, \$4.20 to \$4.70 per barrel.

Feed—Manitoba bran, bags included, 41¢; shorts, \$20 per ton.

Baled Hay—No. 2, 28 to \$8.75 per ton.

Cheese—12½ to 12½¢ per pound.

Potatoes—Carlots, 75¢ to 80¢ for choice varieties.

Dressed Meats—Choice Christmas beef, 75 to 81½¢; lamb, 6½ to 72¢; mutton, 5¢; veal, 3 to 3½¢.

Montreal Live Stock.

Special to The Commercial.

At the East Exchange on Monday receipts were 700 cattle and 900 sheep and lambs.

A few extra choice cattle were the market, for which high prices were asked. Some sales of choice were made at 20 to 21¢, and 19 to 20¢ at 3 to 3½¢, fair to 3 to 3½¢, and lower grades at 20 to 3¢ per lb. A fairly active trade was done at 20 to 21¢, and 19 to 20¢ were firm. Sheep sold at 14 to 15¢ and lambs at 3 to 4½¢ per lb. The demand was good, and sales of good lots were made at 5¢ per lb. weighed off cars.

THURSDAY'S MARKETS.

There was no cattle market on Thursday.

Toronto Live Stock Market.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Dec. 27. Receipts at the stock yards yesterday included 326 cattle, 600 sheep and lambs, and 1,120 hogs.

Export Cattle—Buyers apparently holding off, and the market is therefore not likely to improve. The fair cattle sold around 19¢ per lb., picked lots would probably bring 22¢ and exporters sent at 4¢ to 5¢ per lb. Feeders and Stockers—But few on market. Prices were unchanged at 41 to \$3.00 per cwt.

Sheep—Unchanged at \$3 to \$3.25.

FRIDAY'S MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 27. On Friday there was practically nothing doing in the stock market. Receipts were very light, and the prices nominally unchanged.

Hogs and Hog Products.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Dec. 27. Hog products are in good demand and firm.

Dressed hogs are firm at \$7.50 asked for \$7.40 bid. Farmers' lots are worth \$7.25 to \$7.50.

Pork—Canada short cut, \$23 to \$25; heavy mess, \$22.

Smoked and Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, tons and cans, \$11 to 11½¢; hams, 13½ to 14¢; rolls, 11½ to 12¢; shoulders, 11¢; hocks, 14½¢ green meats out of pickle are 14½ to 15¢ at less than smoked.

Lard—Tierces, 11¢; tubs, 11½¢; and pails, 11½¢.

PRICES OF STAPLES IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 26.—Sugar, raw quiet; fair refining, 37-16; centrifugal, 8¢ 18-10; crushed, 8-10; 10-16, refined, granulated, 44-8.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—The following are the bank clearings for the week ended Dec. 25, with percentages of increase and decrease, as compared with the corresponding week of last year: Montreal, \$20,566,183, increase 63; Toronto, \$2,050,000, increase 25; Winnipeg, \$5,400,000, increase 62; Hamilton, \$2,800,000, increase 7.52; John N. B. \$711,432, increase 40; Victoria, \$69,300, increase 47.64; Quebec, \$2,38,770, decrease 29; Ottawa, \$1,802,773, increase 22; London, Ont., \$72,788.

Montreal reports that 10 per cent. of the receipts are Manitoba wheat, and that one mill has bought 2,000,000 bushels of Manitoba.

The case against the agent of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company at Moosomin for taking possession of a car which had been allotted to G. T. Marsh, has been decided by Judge Withers in favour of the plaintiff and the accused has been bound over to appear the second Tuesday in July next. The delay is due to the fact that the accused is in the full court at Regina, which does not usually adjourn. The whole case will likely be appealed.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Closing wheat: Dec. 78¢; May, 78½¢. Corn—Dec. 49½¢; May, 49½¢. Oats—Dec. 27¢; May, 27¢. Pork—Flax—Dec. 41¢; May, 41¢. Pork—Jan. 41¢; May, 41¢. Lard—Jan. 41¢; May, 41¢. Ribs—May, 87½¢; May, 87½¢.

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Oppose Railway Subsidies.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The Single Tax Association of Toronto has sent a letter to members of the government protesting against the granting of any further aid to private corporations, mentioning the case of the Grand Trunk-Pacific, which the association asks should be constructed as a national work.

FLAX SEED PRICES.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Flax, cash 113¢; Dec. 26; May, 112¢.

Duluth, Dec. 26.—Flax, Dec. 120¢; May, 124¢.

Minneapolis, Dec. 26.—Flax, Dec. 120¢; May, 124¢.

British Live Stock Market.

London, December 22.—The trade in cattle was firm and the tone of the market was strong under a good demand. Choice American cattle sold at 14¢, sheep at 12¢ and lambs at 16¢.

Liverpool, December 22.—A good trade was done and sales of choice Canadian cattle were made at 12¢ and sheep at 12¢.

FRIDAY'S CABLE.

London, Dec. 26. Canadian cattle steady at 11½¢ to 12¢ per pound, estimated dressed weight.

London Sugar Market.

Special to The Commercial. London, Dec. 26. December option quiet unchanged at 8 1/16d.

The Weather.

The week started in with a continuation of the mild weather of the previous week, but soon began to grow colder. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were very cold. To-day is considerably milder again.

"Yes, just at present," said the moon, "I'm out late at night because I'm down to my last quarter."

"Therese you differ from the average man," remarked the morning star. "He if often down to his last quarter because he was out late at night."

"You say he is the only minister in the section," interrupted the new arrival in the boom town, "and that he married couples in an hour."

"Yes, stranger, answered the boomer and we call him the torpedo boat minister."

"Why so?"

"Because he made thirty knots an hour."

"Have you a typewriter here?" inquired the peddler of supplies.

"Yes," replied the business man.

"What style, may I—?"

"The very latest, shorthand, walking, and all that sort of thing."

"Sure you a typewriter here?" inquired the peddler of supplies.

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"The very latest, shorthand, walking, and all that sort of thing."



MAGIC FLOUR

PURE AND WHOLESOME

ONE POUND CAN 25¢

E. W. GILlett COMPANY LIMITED

TORONTO, ONT.

Yukon Conditions Bright.

It was almost to be expected that the assessment of Dawson for 1902 would fall substantially below that of last year, says S. M. W. in Industrial Canada. The closing of the gambling halls, the lowering of prices for building materials, and the springing up of several villages in the creek, promised such a result. The returns actually received come as an agreeable surprise. The revised assessment figures for 1901 and 1902 show very little difference:

Dawson Assessment.		
1901	1902	
Realty	\$ 451,349	\$ 415,000
Personal	1,199,100	866,550
Income	1,390,100	1,085,500
Total	\$3,040,549	\$2,366,500

The lower personal valuation may be accounted for by many shipments arriving this summer unusually late after the assessment had been made. "The income returns suggest merely that the boom days are over with profits, like miners' hopes, were altogether abnormal. On the whole, the assessment is very satisfactory."

Further evidence that Dawson is well holding its own is found in the extent of the mail business. In October postal orders to the value of \$98,897.58 were sold; while rentals for postal boxes during the month totaled \$3,945, or \$175 for each box for the corresponding month a year ago.

The civic budget of Dawson is interesting. It compares favorably with that of many other Canadian towns.

Estimated Expenditures 1902.	
Street and Public Works	\$ 35,000
Police and Health	7,555
Fire, Water and Light	1,000
Printing	1,800
Schools	15,725
C. R. of C. Loan	15,000
Contingencies	7,960

Total estimated expenditures, \$121,790.
Estimated receipts, \$136,000.

Taxes on \$9,658,440 assessment at 1 1/2% mills on the dollar, \$143,230.
Ottowatle, \$12,000.
Abatement, losses, etc., 12,450.

Total estimated receipts, \$123,780.

It is worth noting that the Yukon has not been a charge on the country, while its indirect contribution to Canada as a nation has been undoubtedly great.

Revenue Expenditure.	
1894	2,922
1895	9,262
1896	2,093
1897	1,088,879
1898	1,766,209
1899	1,746,827
1900	2,096,757
1901	2,096,757
1902	1,968,072

Total surplus to 30th June 1901, \$1,801,603.
The government appropriations for 1902-03 amount to \$1,692,800, which will probably be met by the revenue. Of this sum, \$178,500 is for roads, \$25,000 for buildings, \$122,000 for postal service.

In a letter dated November 3rd, Mr. Hartman, the efficient and popular postmaster of Dawson, states that more preparations are being made for work on the creek in any given year than in any previous year. "The winter," he writes, "has no real stage starts. To-morrow the first services will commence. Uninterrupted mail service this winter is a great thing for the country." The winter is getting its first of October has been very fine. Today is the coldest of the season, 11 below zero, and the Yukon is running full of ice. If this cold snap lasts for a few days the river will close before the 15th; if closed on the 11th last year. "A year ago," he writes further, "the winter was very quiet on 3rd avenue were deserted for the winter; to-day not a half-dozen are there."

Information has also come to hand that the contemplated steam railroad from Dawson to White Pass, says the Dawson and Yukon Mines Railroad, "is already under construction. On this point of about 100 days they will have spent several hundred thousands of (Chicago) dollars within the next year."

Thomas Tait, of the C. P. R., reports that the westbound traffic on the railway during the year just closing is 50 per cent. over that of the previous year. He says the company is constructing large extensions to the system in Manitoba and the Northwest.

Western Horses for the East.

The recent shipment of British Columbia horses to Ontario naturally suggests the inquiry—(1) What does the eastern market demand? (2) What can the west supply? (3) What are the conditions for western breeders to meet the demand?

Since the cessation of breeding operations in Ontario some nine or ten years ago caused a rise in prices, and the recent importation of stock from Africa increased the demand. General business prosperity has led to an active enquiry into the value of such horses in the country, and for all kinds of harness horses, heavy draughts, express horses and ordinary streeters in the cities. The lumber business being exceptionally brisk, a large number heavy horses are required in the numerous logging camps. Heavy drafts are easily worth \$400 a team; these must be from 1,500 pounds up, and are wanted as heavy as possible. Express horses are generally used single, must be active and able to trot with a good lead. They should weigh from 1,200 to 1,500 pounds, and are worth about \$250. Ordinary streeters for delivery work are valued in size, style, action, weight and age. Drivers, carriage horses and saddle horses are valued for style, action and manners, and will run from \$150 to \$300 a pair.

In Manitoba and the farming sections of the Northwest Territories there has been, and will be, next and a good demand for heavy, medium and heavy, for farm work and railway construction; also drivers for liveries and farms. There has also been a good trade in Indian ponies, used for herding, driving or for children to ride to school. In all the various classes, the west, viz.—the interior of British Columbia—supply comparatively few over the 1,000-pound limit, the few horses over that weight and under 1,500 pounds will supply local demands. But of horses about that weight there are large numbers of good quality horses with excellent bones, which at present prices it will pay to ship, but the market is not so overdone at any one time.

To Ontario and Manitoba a large number of western draft horses of poor class have been shipped. These shipments have injured the reputation of western horses in the eyes of Ontario men in particular to believe that there is nothing better in the west than the average provincial stock, and at the present time he will not bid on anything branded beyond the name of a bargain, because he thinks his purchase is bound to give him more trouble than local stock. Graded heavy horses are no doubt a matter of surprise to a western man to hear it commented upon as a blemish and a mark of weakness. In the opinion of a man who would consider for a moment that a horse of such quality could be conducted without any loss, it is a matter with less distasteful. In regard to hardness, endurance and bone, the western horse is a better animal, and once broken he will be as gentle as any. In our recent shipment of western heavy horses, the first one came to the stables and poked the horses with umbrellas, and, while not criticizing the quality of such actions, the fact remains that the horses took the treatment with equanimity.

The question of whether or not the horses should be broken brings up a number of points. In Manitoba and the Territories some people are in favor of broken horses, as they think, breaks the horse under a rule, breaks out the criticism, and the horse is better something wrong with anything broken that is offered for sale.

A fat horse is a much better than one out of condition. If the horse is to be broken it must be seen to that when they are shipped they are in good condition, as this may easily mean a difference of \$30 per head. In shipping a bunch of horses it is necessary, in order to keep down expenses and to prevent loss of weight, to sell the horses as fast as quickly as possible from the time they leave their pasture, as every extra day means a loss of weight. The accommodation on the C. P. R.

is none too good, the condition of some of the yards along the line being bad, and the service west of Calgary slow. In the Calgary stock trains make good time, but the service is slow, and quickly as a rule. The C. P. R. authorities have always shown a disposition to put the livestock men in every way, and suitable provision will, no doubt, be made immediately to handle the new line of traffic. Cheaper should be provided at each of the leading points; \$15 to \$20 per ton is too little for the live stock men, and consequently the larger dealers purchase their own. There is every reason to think that the livestock men will continue and grow. The west can raise horses cheaper than the east, and as good quality stock. For this reason the west can look forward to the profitable export of horses as well as beef, but it is probable that the eastern dealer will do the breaking and educating, and he will find the profitable markets for the best horses the safest, i.e., the Clydes and Shires, horses, when thoroughly broken, in the cities of the east. This will leave to the business of raising horses, supplying the live stock market, and making regular shipments to some reliable territory in the east. In the west the aim should be to grow a better and heavier class of horses. The draft breeds are starting with a 1,500-pound sire and a 1,200-pound dam. It is necessary to improve, in order to avoid too violent crosses. The foals should be weaned and fed by the first winter, as this will improve their size, and will make them quieter and easier to handle. It will also pay to halter break them the first winter.

In short, talking into consideration present prices, horse-raising should justify the adoption of business methods. Good horses will always sell in preference to poor ones, and good ones cost but little more, also, probably only the difference in the service fee of the sire.

New York Money.

New York Dec. 28.—Call money in very active demand today. The ruling rate was 12 per cent. Most of the money was being used in making bankers' bills at 4.54 to 4.80 for demand, and 4.60 to 4.70 for 60 days. Pinned rates, 4.84 and 4.87 1/2 Commercial 1, 4.82 1/2 and 4.85 1/2, 47 1/2 Mexican dollars, 38. Government bonds strong. Railroad bonds irregular. Money on call firm; 100 will make them highest; 10; last loan; 9 ruling rate; 10; 30 days; 6 per cent; 60 days; 5 1/2 per cent.

Tenders will be received up to January 10th, for 1,000 cords of green cut tamarac or jack pine wood, dried and well seasoned, four feet from scars to point, delivered at Gordon, Ironsides & Pares' siding, Winnipeg.

The Chicago Daily News says capital to the west of the United States in dollars is reported to be represented in the formation of a gigantic gas trust, and that the Rockefeller companies in nearly all the principal cities of Europe and the large intercontinental gas trust, which Rockefeller is credited with being a prospective stockholder to the amount of \$300,000,000.

Two pamphlets, "Western Canada," and "British Columbia," have just been issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, containing a descriptive of the country between the Superior and the Pacific coast, and the other resources of the west of the Pacific province, which were profusely illustrated, containing a great deal of information about Canadian western provinces, which is given in an interesting form. They are especially useful to intending settlers in Western Canada, and are freely circulated in the United States and Great Britain.

WANTED.—PATRIOTIC PERSON TO travel for well established business in few countries, calling on retail merchants and manufacturers, with view to securing new year and expenses, payable \$100 a month in cash and expenses advanced. Position permanent, but subject to recall at any time. Rushing, Standard House, 334 Dearborn St., Chicago.

CONSOLIDATION OF RURAL SCHOOLS.

The tendency of the times to consolidate energies is not confined to commercial and industrial concerns alone. We are now to have it applied to the public schools. A few years ago the plan of centralizing educational work was tried in a rural district in Ohio. The township in that state then contained 11 small schools, in nine separate localities. These were all amalgamated into one central school, and a consolidation is said to have worked admirably. The cost has been reduced, the average attendance of scholars has increased, and farther per its are obtained from an educational point of view. The scholars are taken to the schools in vans. Five teachers now do the work of nine separate schools, and they can do it to far better advantage to the scholars, as the pupils can be graded according to standing, and each teacher assigned to a separate department. It is not necessary to go into any lengthy argument to prove that the graded school, in charge of a competent principal and four assistants, would be capable of doing far better work than the nine separate schools under the old system. Another advantage of the centralization plan is that more comfortable and healthful building can be secured. The increase in the attendance under consolidation plan is a very important consideration. Several other townships in the same state have since adopted the plan, and an increased attendance has followed in every case, and the plan has given satisfactory results generally. The system affords advantages to the more advanced scholars, and to the native born, who are obliged to go away from home to continue their studies or give further work after they had got to the top of the ladder in the little rural school. The increase in attendance under the new plan is found to be made up largely of the younger children who are just beginning their studies and of the more advanced scholars. Under the old plan the little ones were often obliged to stay away from school in bad weather, while the advanced scholars had passed beyond the usefulness of the old school.

Prof. Robertson, Canadian commissioner of agriculture; R. H. Cowley, inspector of schools for the county of Carleton, Ont., and Prof. Lochead, of the Ontario Agricultural College, regard the consolidation of these Ohio schools and their report as very interesting to the new system. Prof. Robertson sums up some of the advantages of the new system as follows:

It ensures the engagement and retention of the teachers of higher qualifications and longer experience in rural schools.

It permits the time table to be so arranged that teachers can give each class and every pupil in the class more direct help and supervision.

It makes it possible for boys and girls in rural districts to obtain a high school education without leaving home.

It provides better school buildings and more satisfactory equipment in all the requisites of a good school.

It makes it practicable for rural schools to enrich their courses for all pupils by natural, manual training and household science, as well as by better music, and of advanced instruction in agriculture, horticulture and allied subjects.

C. E. Edmunds, of the Marshall-Wells' staff at Winnipeg, returned last week from a trip to Montreal.

Completed commercial travellers have been sent out to call on their annual bill to be held in Alhambra hall, Winnipeg, on Monday evening next.

STATISTICAL WHEAT REPORT.

WHEAT IN CANADA.

Stocks of wheat in Canada at principal points of accumulation are reported as follows:

Montreal	83,000
Quebec	3,000
Depot Harbor Ont.	270,000
Coteau	62,000
Kingston	2,000
Port William, Port Arthur	1,307,000
Keewatin	1,100,000
Winnipeg	1,120,000
Manitoba elevators	11,200,000

Total Dec. 13 **2,955,000**
 Total previous week **2,754,000**
 Total a year ago **3,127,000**

BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS

Total stocks in the United States and Canada east of the Rocky Mountains, as reported by Bradstreet's Dec. 13, were 7,352,000 bushels, as against 7,238,000 bushels the previous week.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 81,400,000 bushels according to Bradstreet's report.

Stocks of wheat at Pacific coast ports on Dec. 1 were 5,310,000 bushels.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ending Dec. 13, was 8,336,000 bushels, being an increase of 65,000 for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 28,863,000 bushels, two years ago, 47,420,000 bushels, three years ago 28,879,000 bushels, four years ago 28,700,000 bushels, five years ago 36,616,000 bushels.

Stocks of OATS AND CORN.

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 5,913,000 bushels, compared with 7,627,000 bushels a year ago, and the visible supply of corn is 6,342,000 bushels, compared with 11,311,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS

Stocks of wheat in America and Europe and abroad for Europe Dec. 1 in each year for a series of years are as follows—Bradstreet's report:

1902	154,000,000
1903	157,000,000
1904	166,000,000
1905	190,000,000
1906	188,000,000
1907	187,000,000
1908	172,000,000
1909	172,000,000

WHEAT MOVEMENT.

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States spring wheat markets, from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1902, to date, compared with the same period of last year.

This Crop, Last Crop	
Minneapolis	31,226,426
Duluth	6,541,839
Duluth	28,877,220
Chicago	3,433,489

Total **110,932,624** **117,288,298**

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat markets, from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1902, to date, compared with the same period of last year.

This Crop, Last Crop	
Toledo	16,228,312
St. Louis	2,524,229
Detroit	2,654,462
Kansas City	12,129,861

Total **37,536,864** **37,611,026**

Winnipeg Grain Inspection.

During the week ending Dec. 21 there were inspected at Winnipeg 1,536 cars of grain, comprising the following:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, 580 cars; No. 1 northern, 491 cars; No. 2 northern, 105 cars; 2 northern, 107 cars; No. 4, 2 cars; rejected, No. 7 cars; rejected, No. 2, 8 cars; no grade, 1 car; feed, 11 cars; making a total of 1,400 cars.

Oats—No. 1, 4 cars; No. 2, 2 mixed, 11 cars; No. 3 white, 4 cars; 2 mixed, 3 cars; total, 24 cars.

Barley—No. 3 extra, 4 cars; No. 3, 11 cars; feed, 10 cars; total, 25 cars.

Flax—No. 1, 22 cars; No. 2, 5 cars; total, 27 cars.

Spelts—None.

The total number of cars of grain inspected as above was 1,536, of which 1,205 were on the C. P. R. and 331 on the C. N. R. roads.

The foregoing figures bring the total yetted in bushels, gives a total of 23,796,000 bushels, the beginning of the crop year up to 27,711 cars which, on connection of which since the first of 311,800 bushels from interior points to Dec. 21. A year ago the total for the week was 518 cars, of which 819 were wheat.

GRAIN STOCKS AT LAKE PORTS.

Port William.

Stocks of grain in C. P. R. elevators at Port William on Dec. 20 were as follows:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, 500,416 bushels; No. 1 northern, 738,723 bushels; No. 2 northern, 190,740 bushels; No. 3 northern, 382,285 bushels; other grades, 28,710 bushels; making a total of wheat of 1,644,054 bushels.

Oats—No. 2 white, 146,140 bushels; Barley—7,660 bushels.

Receipts of wheat at Port William during the week amounted to 470,764 bushels, and shipments to 487,194 bushels.

Port Arthur.

Stocks in store at King's elevator, Port Arthur, on Dec. 20 were:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, 3,705 bushels; No. 1 northern, 4,370 bushels; other grades, 102,321 bushels; total, 110,787 bushels.

Oats—1,453 bushels.

Barley—None.

Flax Seed—27,807 bushels.

Receipts of wheat at this elevator for the week totaled 23,338 bushels, and shipments 15,244 bushels.

Stocks of grain in store at the Canadian Northern elevator at Port Arthur on Dec. 20 were as follows:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, 208,070 bushels; No. 1 northern, 152,738 bushels; No. 2 northern, 164,468 bushels; No. 3 northern, 31,144 bushels; No. 4, 4,284 bushels; feed, 12,032; rejected, 3,224 bushels; making a total of 588,607 bushels.

Oats—None.

Barley—13,038 bushels.

Flax—948 bushels.

Receipts of wheat for the week were 15,543 bushels; shipped during the week, none.

From these figures it will be seen that the three elevator plants received during the week 915,442 bushels of wheat, and shipped 506,770 bushels. During the previous week receipts amounted to 862,562 bushels, and shipments to 231,585.

Manitoba Wheat Stocks.

There were 2,343,808 bushels of wheat in store at Port William and Port Arthur on Dec. 20. Receipts for the week were 127,000 bushels, and shipments 113,820 bushels. A year ago stocks in store at Port William were 1,075,000 bushels, at Port Arthur, Keewatin, Winnipeg and interior points are estimated approximately 15,067,000 bushels, compared with 11,001,000 a year ago; 5,000,000 bushels two years ago; 5,600,000 bushels three years ago; and 7,500,000 bushels four years ago.

Grain and Milling.

Rathwell, Man., reported a grain blockade this week.

The new barrel factory of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company at Keewatin was put in operation last week.

The cleaning elevator of Jos. King & Co. at Port Arthur is to have a storage addition added to it besides a number of improvements to its cleaning machinery.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange will be held in the board room, Exchange building, Winnipeg, at 2 p. m. on Wednesday, the 14th Jan., 1903, for the election of officers, council and committee, and the transaction of other business.

The barley situation of the United States is attracting considerable attention. Early in the season both the government and crop experts had it that there would be a crop of barley exceeding all previous records. Now it appears that there were serious blunders made both as to acreage and yield. The yield per acre estimated at 120 in 1902 has been dwindled to 22 to 25 bushels. Malsters are now particularly anxious to buy anything that will make malt and bid high for choice.

The recent Manitoba crop bulletin caused a bullish feeling in the New York wheat market owing to its issuance as to the scope of the bulletin and of the geography of Western Canada. It was supposed by the trade that the bulletin covered the whole of Western Canada and the estimate of 50,000,000 bushels was regarded as a reduction of 15,000,000 from previous unofficial estimates.

THE NORTHERN ELEVATOR CO. LIMITED GRAIN.

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 Branch Offices:
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Grain Dealers and Millers.
 Shippers of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Flax, Flour, Bran, Shorts, Chop.
 Buy or sell on commission. Orders filled by or selling grain in car lots write or wire us for quotations. Advances made on consignments. Advances made on consignments. Licensed and bonded.

ALEX. MCFEE & CO. GRAIN EXPORTERS.

WINNIPEG, MAN.
 MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG.
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THE DOMINION ELEVATOR CO. LIMITED GRAIN EXPORTERS.

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GRAIN DEALERS
 Members Winnipeg Grain Exchange and Clearing House. Liberal advances on bills of lading. Telephone 156. 251 Grain Exchange.
 H. S. Paterson, Manager.

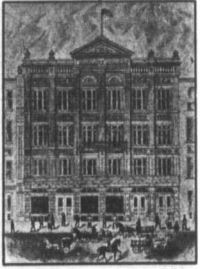
These unofficial statements, however, included the Territorial crop which amounts to about 15,000,000 bushels.

The suit against Winnipeg Grain Exchange firms for \$15,000,000 damages for an alleged boycott has been dropped by the plaintiffs. This is the suit entered by several so-called independent grain companies against Grain Exchange companies, the claim being that the latter companies had boycotted the former. The solicitors of the defendants were informed on Monday that proceedings would not be continued as the result of private examinations on the merits of the case, and the plaintiffs, therefore, pay costs. W. T. Gibbins, who entered a separate suit, is continuing. He claims that he was approached to join in the boycott, but that he refused to do so. He refused to join the boycott and was, he claims, boycotted himself, so that his business was hurt considerably.

It is rumored at the coast that the Canadian Pacific Railway will take over the White Pass Railway. The offices of this road were recently removed from Seattle to Vancouver.

W. B. Somerset, for many years connected with the Free Press as an advertising manager, has been appointed to an important position in Toronto, where he will establish and conduct an Ontario branch of McKim's advertising agency, of Montreal.

W. H. THOMPSON, SONS & CO. GRAIN COMMISSION MERCHANTS WINNIPEG - MAN.



WINNIPEG GRAIN AND PRODUCE EXCHANGE

C. A. YOUNG, President.
 GEO. V. HASTINGS, CHAS. H. BELL, Vice-Presidents.
 Bry-Cry.

KIRKPATRICK & COOKSON MONTREAL.

Consignments of Grain and Country Produce solicited.
 F.O.B. Offers of Wheat, Barley, Oats, etc., requested.
 Established 1850, Manitoba Grain Co. used.

THE WINNIPEG GRAIN CO. LIMITED GRAIN EXPORTERS.

Office: Grain Exchange, Winnipeg.

W. GIBBINS & CO. (Licensed and Bonded).

GRAIN BROKERS AND DEALERS.
 Grain Exchange, Winnipeg.

Wheat, oats, barley, Flaxseed, Futures handled for local or United States markets. Correspondence invited. Liberals advanced on consignments.

E. O'REILLY Of Jas. Richardson & Sons.

GRAIN EXPORTERS.
 Offices: Kingston, Toronto and Grain Exchange Winnipeg.
 Cereals and block lots. Please ask for quotations. Reference Merchants Bank.



GRAIN COMMISSION MERCHANTS Winnipeg and Brandon.

WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY AND FLOUR.

Correspondence Solicited.

JAS. CARUTHERS & CO. Limited.

GRAIN EXPORTERS.
 MONTREAL-TORONTO, WINNIPEG.

Sell your Grain through a Strictly Commission House.

Highest prices obtained. Quick Returns.

Consignments and Correspondence Solicited. Farmers need not wire for track bills.

Mr. W. President Railway notion company... (The rest of the text in this column is largely illegible and appears to be bleed-through from another page.)

Irrigation in the West.

Mr. William Whyte, assistant to the president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, went west this week in connection with irrigation matters. The company propose carrying out very extensive irrigation work in the territory lying between Calgary and Medicine Hat. Surveys and other preliminary work have been going on for the past year or two, in connection with this proposed work. The rapid advancement of the west and growing demand for land will bring the lands into immediate use as soon as they are irrigated. The quality of the land is good and the situation convenient to the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, makes the district a valuable one for settlement. The only drawback heretofore has been the insufficient rainfall in some seasons to ensure a good crop, one year with another. The Calgary board of trade has endorsed the enterprise. This important undertaking by the Canadian Pacific Railway will be carried out under the general direction of Mr. Whyte.

Horticultural Convention.

The annual convention of the Western Horticultural society will be held in Winnipeg on Tuesday, Dec. 20. There will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions. All interested in horticulture, bee keeping, etc. are invited. The meetings will be held in Association hall, Y. M. C. A. building. About fifteen addresses have been arranged for, the names including such experienced persons as S. A. Bedford, Albert H. H. Brown, H. Brandon, Prof. H. E. Waldron, horticulturist of the North Dakota experimental station, at Fargo; Harry Brown, horticulturist of the experimental farm at Brandon; Geo. E. Atkinson, naturalist, etc.

The Australian Wool Trade.

The British Board of Trade Journal observes that in 1795 there were just 165 sheep in Australia, while in 1863 there were 106,000,000. The development of the wool trade in Australia was announced by a man from Farsley, near Bradford, who had a suit made from the wool brought from that colony. He appeared with great pride before George III. In that suit, and that monarch encouraged him by sending some sheep to Australia from Windsor. At a wool sale in London in 1842 just 225 bales were offered; in 1859 the sales in London amounted to 163,000 bales. Forty years ago the Australian growers began to cross the merino sheep with with the English Leicester, and now the celebrated "cross-bred" runs the pure merino hard for first place. For the first twenty years the crossbred had to rely on the wool trade for its existence, but the trade in frozen mutton afterwards sprang up. The crossbred was an ideal mutton sheep, and this trade has grown from 400 carcasses in 1850 to 7,000 carcasses at the present time. In the past forty years the price of second-year sheep has fallen from 32½ pence to 7½ pence and of wethers from 28 pence to 4½ pence. This remarkable drop in prices may be almost directly traced to the increased production of crossbred wool.

The elevators at Hirtle, Man, were full, and half the wheat yet to be marketed.

The western ranges of the United States, a report says: Have been almost deserted of cattle, which were hurried to the markets during the fall because of the high prices and poor condition of the ranges. Robert Peck, one of the best informed men in Wyoming on range conditions, declares that Wyoming herds are reduced until only those required for breeding purposes are left. Similar reports come from western Nebraska and other sections.

An increase in wages amounting to \$500,000 a year are to be granted 5,000 locomotive engineers and firemen employed by the Chicago and Northwestern railway and its branch lines through an agreement reached between the officials and a committee representing the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. The new scale will go into effect Jan. 1. It provides for an increase of approximately 3 per cent. in wages.

The Alaska Seal Catch.

According to a report to the fisheries department at Ottawa the seal clubbers who kill seals on the Pribilofia, for the North American Commercial Company, lessees of the islands, made thirty-two drives on the rookeries during the killing season of 1902, as against thirty-six made in the summer of 1901. The lessees have been killing their limit, or as the special agent of the United States in the Pribilofia says: "close killing" for three years. As approximately 95,000 pups were born this season, the agent says, it will be safe to believe that one-half that number are males and one-half females, from which the killing of 1904 and 1905 will be made. How many will survive the vicissitudes of nature and the period of the seal hunter is problematical. The census of seals on the island during the season of 1902, based upon the count of all the harem in the island shows 80,682 breeding cows on St. Paul and 14,800 on St. George, or a total of 94,882. The census for 1901 showed 91,296 cows. It will be seen, therefore, that while there has been a decrease of four per cent. in the number of pups counted from the year 1901 the census of breeding cows shows an increase of 3,666 or four per cent.

The construction gang which has been working on the extension of the Northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has returned to Winnipeg. The grading was completed for 28 miles west of Yorkton, and the iron laid to within two miles of the end of this grade. The road will be pushed forward toward Prince Albert next spring.

A dispatch from London on December 17 said: The annual fur seal auction attracted a record attendance of European and American buyers. Record prices were realized. It is claimed that five-sixths of the world's production of sealskins find their way to

this sale. Fifty-seven thousand of them were offered to-day. The best sealskins realized from 130 to 180 shillings each, which is from 22 to 30 per cent. higher than the prices at the previous sale. Some small sealskins were nearly fifty per cent. higher.

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Travelers' Annual Meeting.

The Northwest Commercial Travelers' Association held its annual meeting on the board of trade rooms, Winnipeg, on Saturday evening last. J. F. McCreary occupied the chair, and there was also present, Vice-President, J. C. McCreary; Treasurer, C. MacIntyre; J. C. Cox, directors, F. H. Agnew, G. F. Bryan, F. E. Day, J. J. Lamb, and fully seventy-five active travelers.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. A notice of motion to amend the by-laws, and the granting of duplicate certificates from two dollars to five dollars, after considerable discussion, was defeated, and the by-law was amended to read that duplicate certificates should cost five dollars, instead of two, as heretofore.

The president, on rising to move the adoption of the annual report of the directors referred to the rapid growth of the association, which now has a membership of 814, an increase of 100 during the year. He also referred to the efforts of the board of directors and officers in assisting in every way in looking after the interests of the association.

There was considerable discussion on the part of the representatives to the advisability of proceeding with arrangements to build a temple, and a fund for the purpose. A fund reaches a larger amount. During the discussion the board was complimented with respect to the investment made in purchasing the Lombard street property, and finally, on motion of Mr. Trachsel, seconded by Mr. H. Wilson, it was decided that the secretary send out ballots to all members of the association, with a view to making yes or no to questions that will be submitted to them, and the result of the ballot will give the new board more confidence to act.

After presentation of the reports, which were given in full in last week's issue of The Commercial, the election of officers was proceeded with. The scrutineers announced the result of the ballots, and the following officers were elected for 1905: President, R. M. McGowan, acclamation; vice-president, F. H. Agnew, acclamation; treasurer, C. MacIntyre, acclamation; secretary, F. J. C. Cox; directors, G. F. Bryan, F. W. Drewry, H. H. Mainwaring, W. H. McCreary, P. McIntyre, J. A. McTaggart, J. R. Campbell, J. McRobie.

Those with F. M. Morgan, retiring president, will comprise the board for the ensuing year. A motion was passed endorsing the new publication that is shortly to appear, to be known as the Commercial Travellers' and wishing the promoters every success.

The board will take up the hotel communication in general, with the governments of both Manitoba and the Territories, before the renewing of licenses for next year. Votes of thanks were passed to the auditor, the scrutineers and to G. F. Bryan & Co. for cigars furnished. Arrangements are being completed for the ball to be held at the Alhambra hall, Monday evening, Dec. 27.

To Discuss the Situation.

A mass meeting has been called for this (Saturday) evening, in the Y. M. C. A. hall, Winnipeg, for the purpose of discussing the situation relative to railway transportation and hotel accommodation for commercial travelers doing business in Manitoba and the Northwest. A special invitation is extended to members of the Winnipeg board of trade, the Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian Northern Railway officials and managers and heads of business to attend, because of the importance and resolutions bearing upon the conditions of raising the interest will be brought before the meeting.

The serious effect of the drought in Australia is shown by the wool traffic for the month of the New South Wales for the current year, which is only 25,000 bales, compared with 527,000 bales in 1902. Great development of North Dakota coal fields is promised by the Dakota Fuel Company, recently incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, and capitalized at \$5,000,000. A combination of all the coal interests in North Dakota, with the possible exception of the Washburn mine, at Wilson, is planned.

Study Your Business.

Young men should study the business in which they are engaged. It will prove valuable in more ways than one. The study of the trade will be renewed interest, and be of practical worth besides. The person engaged in selling leather goods should acquaint himself with the materials, learn where they came from, under what conditions they are produced, and so on. The shoe clerk will find it interesting and useful to know how much leather is used in the making of shoes, and in what cities the leading leather is produced. It will pay him to visit a factory and seeing conditions for himself. He should learn all he can about the various leathers and tannages. It will help him to sell goods, he will be able to advance arguments that he never thought of before. He will talk foot-foot intelligently, and unconsciously impress his customers with the fact that he knows what he is talking about. Salesmen should not think because their bluff goes unchallenged that the customer does not notice it. It is a mistake to think that the customer is in the store again. The jeweler's salesmen should know off-hand where and how diamonds and other precious stones are procured. He should also know the difference between the various grades of gold and silver, and many things more. If every young man will study his business with the same interest and about it, and with the object of being able to advance valuable ideas as to how his trade can be improved, etc., he will soon find his value recognized.

—Canadian Shoe and Leather Journal.

China's Tea Trade.

(London Globe.)

The latest report received at the foreign office from Poochou describes the tea trade as a vanishing industry. It states that the Chinese tea has come over the tea trade, not of Poochou alone, but at other producing districts. The change which is ruining what was once a flourishing industry, seems ascribable to several causes, the most important of which suffers to remedy. First, there is the indispensable fact of the use of insecticides in the manipulation of the leaf when growing, when being picked, and when being prepared for transit over sea. This is not exercised by the native grower. The means of growing all this tea, as reported indicated to him, and put within his reach, with no result, either owing to ineptly, ignorance, or dogmatism. He has been in turn importuned, scolded and lectured, but all to no purpose. Some people, who had been issued by the inspector general of customs, warning tea growers that, owing to their not supporting the prevailing in India, the trade was slipping out of China's hands—hands that were to be secured by the substitution of machinery for hand labor. Machinery was accordingly imported, but some success, even though this was done in the effort to infuse new life into a moribund industry. In 1902, the Chinese tea, the governor imported into the north of the island not only the machinery, but also an expert report from Assam. But neither in Formosa nor in Poochou have these devices proved successful. The method continued to be unscientific and primitive. His livelihood was obviously being ruined, and the method of even that catastrophe has had no power to startle him from his inveterate habits.

Secondly, there is the change which has come over the public taste which is to supply the world. It is a monopoly of tea production. China tea was necessarily bought. But when Assam and Ceylon teas came into competition it was very soon apparent that the liking for their products was increasing. The demand for tea was in no long time hopelessly distanced. It is likely that, as regards the delicate or of inferior quality, the teas of China are still assured the suffrages of the cultivated few. Teas from the mountainous country, of a superior taste, and contain a large percentage of tannin, on which account they are considered by medical men as prejudicial to digestion. But they make an attractively dark brew, and are

economical, in that a little of them goes a long way. Thus they attract the sippeness of the many, and it is these sippeness that will create a demand for his profits, not on the conservative and perhaps more sensitive side of the market.

Thirdly, the trade in India and Ceylon teas has been fostered by judicious and persistent advertising, in which the Poochou merchants appear to have not condescended to resort. Fourthly, the trade in Poochou tea is an excessive export duty. When the duty on tea was first made specific, it no doubt represented fairly enough the five per cent. ad valorem sanctioned by treaty. The diminishing value of teas has, however, resulted in the export duty of to-day, representing 40 instead of 5 per cent.

The first, second and fourth causes have not been beyond the control of the merchants, but the remedy for the third should be well within their reach. Advertisement is the life-blood of commerce, the present day, and is freely resorted to in all departments wherever there is an element of competition. Where soap, paint, bicycles, typewriters and a host of other articles are concerned, the advertiser, if the statements are to be believed, owns the vast variety. It stands to reason that this cannot be so in the case of tea. The advertiser must be conscious that this panegyric will not be universally accepted as a gospel truth, he continues to publish his vanta, and presumably finds it pays to do so. All the possibilities attributed by interested proprietors to the various soaps, pills, cocoa, and so on, cannot possibly be more desperate. But it is not so in tea tends to promote successful sales. A dozen virtues might be predicted of China tea without oversteering the bounds of truth, and it seems a pity no one has taken the matter in hand. If the teas of India or Ceylon had occupied exactly the space once filled by the teas of China, the case would be more desperate. But it is not so. If China teas disappear, the breakfast tables of the world will be the poorer.

The United States canal at Sault Ste. Marie was closed for the season on the 15th inst. The same place was still in operation.

A steer weighing 1,870 pounds was sold on the Toronto market of Tuesday for the Christmas trade. The purchaser was a merchant.

Mackenzie and Mann, proprietors of the Canadian Northern railway, have placed an order for nineteen new locomotives with the Canadian Locomotive Company, Kingston.

A wreck occurred on Saturday morning at Hells Plains, sixteen miles east of Moose Jaw. The train ran into an open switch, and the engine was badly smashed; some stock were killed. The train was stopped by the brakes when he felt the jar, and he and the fireman stayed with the engine. Both escaped almost miraculously.

Toronto Junction is to have a big new packing industry. Operations on the erection of buildings will be started shortly. The new company will erect abattoirs and other buildings, which will cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000. The buildings and yards will cover twenty acres of land. It is expected that about 800 hands will be employed in various ways. A United States firm has the scheme in hand.

The wage-earner who has a family to support finds life becoming more and more strenuous, because of the steady and constant soaring of prices of all food products. There has been an advance in wages general throughout the country, but that increase is slight compared with the cost of food necessities, says a United States magazine. Articles which are absolutely necessary for the workman's table cost at least 25 per cent. more than they did 12 months ago, and 33 1/2 per cent. more than in 1900.

The department of immigration have compiled a comparative statement of the general immigration into the Canadian west during the months of July, August, September, October and November, 1901 and 1902. It is as follows:

July	2,821	5,761
August	5,674	6,828
September	5,671	6,511
October	2,191	5,511
November	2,369	5,384
Totals	15,229	31,778

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INVESTMENTS

Permanent Preference Stock, Class A, is now being sold at the par value of \$100.00 per share. Dividend 5 per cent. per annum, payable half yearly. It also participates in profits in excess of said five per cent.

This stock is an excellent investment, and one which the directors strongly recommend to the investing public. This stock is greatly in demand, and will be sold at par, but very short time. It is shown by the fact that during the past few weeks, thousands of dollars have been subscribed.

Those desirous of purchasing some of this stock at par, should apply to the company at once, as the stock will command a premium in a short time.

Those who are not in a position to pay their stock in full when making application, but who desire to avail themselves of this opportunity, may secure this stock at par by paying, on application, five per cent of the amount of stock desired, and thereafter a similar amount every six months until fully paid.

5 Per Cent per annum, payable half yearly, allowed on deposits of \$100.00 or over. Such deposits may be withdrawn three years from date of investment.

4 Per Cent allowed on monthly deposit. Such deposits may be withdrawn three months from date of investment.

Money to loan on easy terms. Loans can be completed in a few hours if necessary.

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World's Wheat Stocks Small.

(Bradstreet's).

Consumption varied closely upon supply in the European wheat situation during November, only a trifling gain being shown in the aggregate stock held December 1, as compared with November 1. American supplies, it will be recalled, increased 14,400,000 bushels during November, while the gain in Europe was only 1,700,000 bushels, as will be seen from the following table:

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	
Jan.	10,775	71.0	61.9	63.2	71.4	70.9
Feb.	10,775	71.3	61.7	66.1	71.1	71.1
March	10,775	69.0	68.2	66.3	74.8	72.4
April	10,775	69.7	69.2	74.7	78.2	72.4
May	10,775	59.9	61.9	60.5	70.2	78.1
June	10,775	55.5	67.2	70.5	68.1	76.8
July	10,775	59.3	59.3	69.4	64.4	64.1
Aug.	10,775	58.0	49.8	63.5	61.9	70.1
Sept.	10,775	61.4	67.0	65.4	62.9	74.8
Oct.	10,775	67.5	69.7	66.9	61.9	65.2
Nov.	10,775	61.6	68.9	71.6	74.4	67.6
Dec.	10,775	70.5	64.4	71.1	72.4	74.4

The total European stock on December 1 was 71,000,000 bushels, as against 69,400,000 bushels on November 1 this year. With two exceptions, this is the smallest stock reported on December 1 for eight years past. In fact, December 1, 1898, furnishes the only example of a smaller stock being held on that date, as the stock held December, 1897, was identical with that held this year. Adding the stock of 82,649,000 bushels held in the United States and Canada on December 1, the total world's stock is found to be 153,749,000 bushels, which compares with corresponding periods as follows:

	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897
Jan. 1	165	169	167	117	132	150
Feb. 1	168	167	162	118	137	148
March 1	162	162	159	124	118	133
April 1	133	160	161	125	114	132
May 1	126	143	148	117	95	107
June 1	110	128	132	116	99	94
July 1	85	118	119	90	78	
Aug. 1	76	115	128	116	68	64
Sept. 1	61	135	117	91	68	
Oct. 1	109	133	154	154	67	96
Nov. 1	127	129	156	161	111	
Dec. 1	134	167	139	106	106	127

There is here shown a gain of 17,000,000 bushels for November, as

compared with a gain of 28,000,000 bushels a year ago, of 4,000,000 bushels in 1910, and of 7,000,000 bushels in 1909. The total gain since July 1 is shown to be 69,000,000 bushels, against 51,000,000 bushels a year ago, and 42,000,000 bushels in 1909. The total stock is, however, 13,000,000 bushels less than that held a year ago, 16,000,000 bushels less than in 1909, and 12,000,000 bushels less than in 1910. It is true, stocks are 48,000,000 bushels more than in 1897, and 27,000,000 bushels more than in 1895, but the decreases shown in supplies as compared with recent years furnish some, at least, of the basis for the consistent strength of wheat throughout the present fall season.

American Opinion of Consolidated Lake Superior.

A Philadelphia financial paper, in speaking of the Consolidated Lake Superior stock, says: "Two considerations which the management relied on in financing its obligations were the payments on the underwriting of stock issues that were outstanding and the expectation that a steady revenue would be coming in before now from the steel plant, as the contracts called for the completion of the blast furnaces last July. This plan miscarried through the defaulting of some of the underwriting and the non-completion of the furnaces, the last a circumstance which obliged the company to seek purchase of its own supply of pig iron from outside sources. This proceeding, it is stated, became impracticable and disadvantageous owing to the prevailing scarcity of pig iron. Were the furnaces now in operation, says an official, it is estimated the company would be making a profit of \$3,000 a day on its rail mill. There is no trouble about one supply." The article adds that when the German rail makers invaded the Canadian market Mr. Clergue, when he found himself unable to make deliveries, bought German rails and filled his contracts at a profit. The article also states that there is dissatisfaction among some large stockholders with Mr. Clergue's

management of the company, and that pressure will be brought to bear to have a new general manager appointed. Mr. Clergue is criticized for extravagance and for establishing too many collateral enterprises without first getting some on a revenue-producing basis.

Death of J. M. Macdonald.

Another well known western traveler has passed away. A few weeks ago J. M. Macdonald, of Winnipeg, started on his long annual fall and

known of western travellers. He has been travelling out of Winnipeg about the beginning of the eight months, and was not only one of the best known, but also one of the best liked of travellers here. Mr. Macdonald represented McIntyre Sons & Co., Montreal, Nairn's Scotch linoleums, and some other lines, which he handled as manufacturers' agent. Mr. Macdonald was a widower and one daughter, who was 48 years of age. He was a member of Knox church, Winnipeg. He leaves a widow and one daughter, who have recently been residing in Toronto.

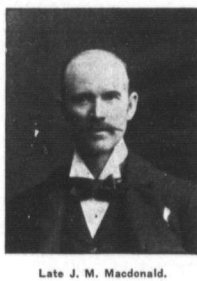
Cattle and Hog Supplies.

One great cause of the reduction of cattle supplies in the United States is said to be the policy lately inaugurated throughout the western range States of replacing the former herds of hardened range cattle with high breeds. While the quality of beef is thus improved the quantity is enormously reduced and prices correspondingly affected. The shortage in hog receipts is due to the partial drought of last year. The receipts of all stockyards in the country this year have fallen off nearly 20 per cent. The alfalfa raising districts promise a larger supply for next year, when the price of pork may be reduced.

A new distillery and meat packing plant is to be started at St. Hubert, Quebec. The capital is \$200,000.

The fittings and machinery for the new barrel factory of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company at Keewatin were supplied by J. L. Nelson, Winnipeg.

The Mail and Empire, of Toronto, is a progressive publication. Its plant and equipment is always kept up to date and in pursuance of this policy it will shortly install a new web printing press which will be one of the largest in the world. It will have the enormous capacity of 72,000 papers per hour, which will enable the Mail and Empire to publish news an hour and a half later than at present.



Late J. M. Macdonald.

winter trip along the Canadian Pacific Railway to the Pacific coast. This week the sad news was wired back to Winnipeg that he was dead. The immediate cause of his death was an operation for acute peritonitis, which he underwent at Victoria, B. C., on Tuesday morning. Apparently he never recovered from the shock of the operation, as he passed away the same day. Mr. Macdonald was one of the best

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FOR SALE. A general stock of merchandise and building in complete running order in a good town, Southwestern Manitoba. Apply P.G.N., care The Commercial, Winnipeg.

FOR SALE. Well established heavy and confectionery business, Oak River, Man. Building brick, ground floor, with creamery and separate 3 rooms upstairs. Make shop apart from above. Good clean grocery and confectionery stock, including soda water fountain, ice cream freezer and necessaries. Write over for particulars. E. G. Brassey, Oak River, Man.

IMPORTANT SALE BY TENDER. The business of F. W. Foster, General Merchant, of Ashcroft and Clinco, B.C. is offered for sale as a going concern by sealed tender received by me up to December 31st, 1902. The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. For all information and particulars apply to Hugh Davidson, Ashcroft, B.C. dated the 3rd November.

FOR SALE. Men's Furnishing and Clothing Business in town of 1500 population, in one of the best districts in Southern Manitoba, good stand, write over for particulars. It-health is cause of sale. Address: The Commercial, Winnipeg.

FOR SALE. The Austin Flour Mill and Elevator: capacity of 150,000 barrels per day of elevator, 6,000 bushels. This is one of the most complete plants in the province, built on the banks of an ever-running stream, with private siding, track scales and large flour warehouse. Apply to W. CLIFFORD, Austin, Man.

PARTNER WANTED. WANTED-A PARTNER HAVING not less than \$5,000.00 to take a half share in a flour mill and grain elevator in the Northwest Territories. One who could keep the books would be given financial part preferred. Address F. R. Office of Commercial. 3-10

WANTED-GOOD SALESMEN. Energetic and capable of handling automobiles, to sell our famous DIXIE 2888 Buses to merchants and institutions. Two thousand of the new perfected five less brushes sold in 60 days. Wonderful seller. Good money. Write at once. A. R. WIENS DUFFLESS BRUSH CO. 22 Cedar Street, Milwaukee, Wis.



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THE HOOVER MANUF. CO. LTD WINNIPEG.

Home Yergan, of Indianapolis, Ind., aged 19, has been sent to the reformatory for two years for stealing. He arranged the theft so that he would be caught. He said that he had long wanted to learn a trade, because his education was so limited that he could not hope to make a living in any other way. Whenever he applied for work he found that the rules of the labor unions shut him out, and he could not find employment. He went to Chicago and several other places, but he could not get work in any shop to learn a trade, although he offered to bind himself for a term of years. 'I will be glad to go to the penitentiary,' he said to-day, 'if I can get a trade to work at some trade and will learn it, too.' The young man evidently does not appreciate the blessings of the restrictions of trades unions.

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items such as Apples, Raisins, Peaches, and other fruits with their respective prices per case or per bushel.

Table listing various grocery items such as Canned Meats, Corn beef, and other meats with their respective prices per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Green Rio, Coffee, and other beverages with their respective prices per bushel or per sack.

Table listing various grocery items such as Cigarettes, Old Judge, and other tobacco products with their respective prices per pack.

Table listing various grocery items such as Cured Fish, Flannan Haddock, and other seafood with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Dried Fruits, Currants, and other dried goods with their respective prices per bushel or per sack.

Table listing various grocery items such as Apples, Peaches, and other fruits with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Pitted plums, Prunes, and other fruits with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Matches, Paper matches, and other household goods with their respective prices per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Nuts, Brazil, and other nuts with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Syrup, Medium, and other syrups with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Salt, Common, and other salts with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Spices, Assorted herbs, and other spices with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Tea, China Blacks, and other tea products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Tobacco, T. and B. Se. 4s, and other tobacco products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Lower grades, Capstan, and other tobacco products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Chewing Plug, Pommer, and other chewing tobacco products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Smoking, Virgin Gold, and other smoking tobacco products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Wooden Ware, Pails, and other household goods with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Water Woods & Co's list, Extra O.P., and other household goods with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as DRUGS, Following are prices for patent lots, and other pharmaceutical products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Soap, Castor oil, and other household goods with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Tea, China Blacks, and other tea products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

Table listing various grocery items such as Tobacco, T. and B. Se. 4s, and other tobacco products with their respective prices per bushel or per case.

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Cambesman.	Dec. 29

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