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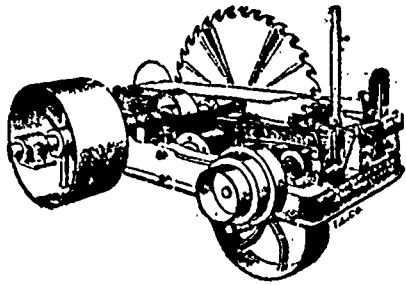
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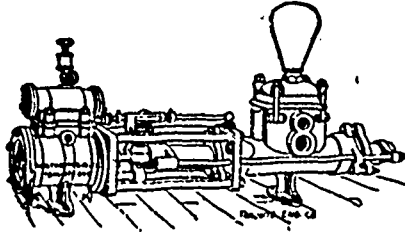


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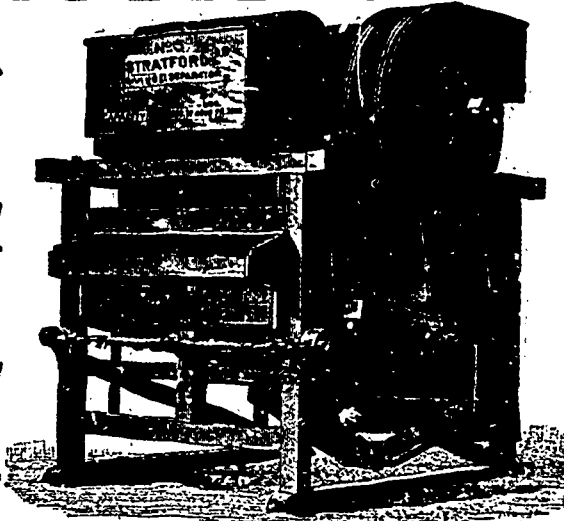
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 18, 1897.

## COMPROMISING.

The evils arising from the effecting of compromises with creditors has long been recognized in the commercial world, but too often no effort has been made to overcome the difficulty. Last year the jobbers of Winnipeg endeavored individually and collectively to prevent compromises, and for some time they have determinedly adhered to this principle. A recent instance shows this. The failure of Hoover & Co., general merchants, of Franklin, Man., gave rise to an offer for a compromise. This firm offered 75 cents on the dollar, secured, but the creditors decided to refuse it and close out the business. In this case it is probable the jobbers would have been financially ahead by accepting the compromise, but it could have been done only at the sacrifice of principle.

Undoubtedly the cause of the many compromises in the past, has been the well known fact that it would often pay better to compromise with the defaulting firm than to close out the business. When a heavy loss was in view, there was always a great temptation to violate principle to save as much as possible from the wreck. Jobbers, however, do well to look at general results, rather than to immediate and direct losses or gains in this matter of compromise.

Very little can be said in defence of compromises, and much against it. One of the principal points which can be urged against it is, that it is unfair to retailers themselves. The retailer who pays 100 cents in the dollar is not in a position to compete fairly with those who manage to effect a compromise and pay 50 or 75 cents. The former custom of arranging frequent compromises was in this way a great disadvantage to the legitimate, sound and successful retail traders. When compromises were frequently given to competitors, merchants who had always paid 100 cents on the dollar could hardly be blamed for becoming indignant, if they did not themselves demand a composition.

Compromising to some extent places a premium upon unsuccessful business management, at least in principle. We may go further and say that it frequently placed a premium on dishonesty. Compromises have been effected with men who were perfectly honorable in their failure; but they have also been effected with dishonest traders. The arranging of compromises freely, when the offer made would exceed the amount likely to be received by the closing out of the stock, simply offered an encouragement for all kinds of fraud and deception. The dishonest trader could readily take advantage of the custom to enforce a reduction of his liabilities against his creditors. The only way to overcome these evils is to refuse all offers to compromise, and in setting their faces resolutely against this thing the Winnipeg jobbers have done a great deal toward

placing business in the West on a solid and just basis.

## THE CATTLE QUARANTINE.

The Commercial has been at a loss to discover the reasons for the opposition raised by some of our western ranchers to the removal or modification of the quarantine regulations. The Macleod Gazette, which is perhaps more closely in touch with stockmen than any other journal in the country, gives in a recent issue, the reasons for this opposition. The Gazette says there is danger of the "complete destruction of the range cattle industry in Alberta through the unrestrained introduction of United States cattle and the consequent exhaustion of feed." This, the Gazette explains would be brought about by the removal of the quarantine, as "the quarantine is practically the only thing which has prevented this in the past, the duty not being considered in any way an obstacle." Those not intimately familiar with the range industry, will be surprised to learn that the duty would not be considered in any way an obstacle to the unrestricted introduction of cattle from the States.

We would suppose that the introduction of cattle to establish new ranges in Alberta would rather be a source of wealth and therefore an advantage to the territory, provided it were not carried to the extent of overstocking the ranges and thereby producing a shortage in the supply of feed. This is what the stockmen evidently fear, according to the Gazette. The stockmen, however, do not appear to be unitedly opposed to the removal of the quarantine. Dr. McEachran, manager of one of the large ranching companies, has declared in favor of the removal of the cattle quarantine, and he intimates that many others among the stockmen are of the same opinion. Certainly The Commercial believes the representations of the western stock-growers should receive careful consideration from the government, in view both of the importance of their industry and the possible influence the removal of the quarantine may have upon it. The overstocking of the ranges could be provided against by regulations which would in their nature be entirely distinct from the quarantine question. If there is danger of overstocking the ranges through the removal of the quarantine, the same danger must exist with the quarantine in force, though in the latter case it would be a more remote contingency. The fear that the ranges will become overstocked, is the only objection which the Gazette makes to the removal of the quarantine. This the Commercial would consider is a matter which should be dealt with as a question by itself, whether or not the quarantine be removed. Of course the removal of the quarantine will render it necessary to act more speedily in regard to overcrowding the range country.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE United States commission appointed to consider the question of a deep waterway from the interior to the seaboard, has, it is said, reported in favor of the Canadian route, and an appropriation for preliminary

surveys is recommended. The opening of a deep waterway from the head of the great lakes to the seaboard, sufficient to accommodate ocean steamships, would be of inestimable value to the vast territory west of Lake Superior on each side of the boundary. It remains to be seen if international arrangements can be made to carry out this great undertaking.

IF HALF that is stated in the charges now being made in the courts be true, the last general elections in this country seem to have broken the record for bribery, corruption, wholesale and retail intimidation, spiritual and otherwise, and other vicious practices. Manitoba was not behind other parts of the country in presenting an appalling record of corrupt practices, if the charges made can be accepted as approximately correct. It is quite probable that many of the charges will not be proved, but where there is so much smoke there must be considerable fire. Indeed, one member has already admitted as much by resigning. More stringent laws regulating elections are evidently needed, but probably a stricter enforcement of the law as it stands now would be more efficacious than to make new and more rigorous laws. The trouble is, that usually both parties are equally guilty, and thus a compromise is reached to avoid mutual exposures, instead of enforcing the law. The prohibition of personal solicitation in election campaigning would be an immense advantage in restricting corrupt practices, and this should be enforced with a severe penalty. As for the retaining officer or other official who prostituted his position for party purposes, the most severe punishment should be meted out to him without sympathy. Such an offence is one of the foulest crimes on the calendar, quite in keeping with arson, and it should be recognized and punished as such.

THE question arising out of the action of the Catholic hierarchy of Quebec in placing the ban upon a leading newspaper of that province, is in no sense a religious one. From a denominational point of view the question may be regarded as a religious matter, but to the country at large it can have no such meaning. It is not sectarian, denominational or in any other way a question concerning religion. The question simply is: Has the Catholic Church or any other religious organization power in Canada, or in any part of Canada to suppress a book, publication or organ of public opinion. If a decree of the Council of Trent has any legal force in Canada, we should know it at once. If it has no force, it will naturally be assumed that those who undertake to enforce any such decree will be liable for the damage done. In suppressing the Quebec Liberal organ the bishops have assumed a serious obligation. If they cannot show that the Church has legal power in Canada to prohibit such acts, how can they hope to defend themselves successfully against a suit for damages. The matter is happily not one which should lead to any religious strife between Catholics and Protestants in this country, as both are equally interested in



having the rights of the Church defined. This is the only point involved which is of interest to the country at large. The implied claim of the clergy in placing the ban upon a publication or organ, that they have the right to a certain extent at least to select the literature to be read by their people, is not a matter for Protestants to worry themselves over. This may safely be left with the Catholic laity, who are quite as competent to judge for themselves as are many of their would be Protestant advisers.

\* \* \*

THE great event of the day is the conclusion of the arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States. The event is one of far reaching importance not only to the two great nations directly concerned but also to the civilized world. The advocates of arbitration indeed have good reason to rejoice, for it is a great victory for their cause. Arbitration is the reasonable mode of settling international disputes, when an adjustment cannot be arrived at in the ordinary course of diplomacy. It is quite appropriate that the first general arbitration treaty should be arranged between two kindred powers like Great Britain and the United States. There should be no disputes beyond the reach of settlement by some peaceful means, between civilized powers. In Anglo-Saxon civilization is what it is claimed to be, the most advanced in the world, the success of the treaty should not be a matter for doubt. It is to be hoped the treaty will mark the beginning of an era of real friendship between the British Empire and the American Republic. There has been in the past a great deal of unreasonable jealousy and dislike of everything British, in the United States. It is to be hoped, as it has been claimed of late, that this foolish sentiment is dying out in the republic. There are no two other nations in the world today which should be more closely united to each other than Great Britain and the United States. United as they should be, they possess a power which would be almost supreme in the world. The English language and Anglo-Saxon civilization is the greatest influence in the world today. The United States shares in this in common with other English speaking countries. In order to maintain and increase this influence, it is necessary that harmony should always exist between the different branches of the English speaking family. We have many things in common which should draw the different English speaking countries toward each other.

### Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange was held Wednesday afternoon, a large attendance of the members being present, and president Stephen Nairn, in the chair.

A motion of which S. P. Clarke and S. A. McGaw had given notice, was adopted; namely, "That no smoking in the exchange room be allowed during trading hours, viz: from 9.30 a. m. to 1.15 p. m., and on Saturdays from 9.30 to 12 noon.

The new trade rules copies of which had been sent to all the members were considered clause by clause and adopted with certain amendments, which were as follows: In

clause 2, the words "five cents per bushel" margin were substituted for "ten per cent." margin; in clause 4, call board committee." for "president or vice-president," whose decisions shall be final. In clause 7, the word "Winnipeg" was struck out of Winnipeg inspection," as a condition in the form of contract. In clause 9 these words were erased, "The term 'free in store' to be interpreted as having the same meaning as F. O. C." Clause 12 was amended so as to make the first sentence read, "The term 'in store' to mean the grain is free of all charges to the buyer." In clause 20, "a car load" was defined to mean "not less than the minimum capacity of the car. The following sentence was made to read: When on a contract for a specified quantity of grain, delivery is made by representation of car load documents, a margin of five per cent. of the quantity shall be allowed."

The president's annual address was then delivered by Mr. Nairn, as follows:

In retiring from the presidency of the exchange I wish briefly to review the work of the past year, and to respectfully suggest what may be of particular use for the future. The very full report of the council leaves me little to say as to the proceedings of the year, and I have to congratulate the members that no question has arisen that has caused any friction in carrying out the work of the exchange. The membership has increased, and our treasurer reports that 1895 has been the best financial year the exchange has had since its incorporation. The general work of the exchange in deciding difficult arbitration cases, looking closely after all the questions affecting the handling and transportation of our grain products, and also in equitably seeing to and protecting the interests of the producer and consumer is being more appreciated. This is shown by the large increase of members residing outside of Winnipeg, and it is gratifying to the original incorporators (who are still the mainstay of the exchange) to find that the feeling of jealousy and suspicion is a thing of the past, and that the Winnipeg grain exchange is now looked upon by Manitobans from every part of the province as an institution they are proud of, and which the grain business cannot do without.

The grain crop of 1896 was a fair one, and had it not followed the phenomenally large crop of 1895 it would have been considered an average one. The good prices paid have materially increased the wealth of the country and the farming community of Manitoba are in a good position, with a bright future before them, it being the general opinion of the loan companies' agents and implement men that our farmers to-day are freer of debt than for a long time past.

The railway facilities have been increased in the province by the building of the Dauphin road, running 100 miles into an excellent farming country, where the inducements of free homesteads will soon be the means of settling it up.

There is still a large section of valuable farming land to the southeast of Winnipeg that is badly lacking railway facilities, and some endeavor should be made by our local government to see that this much-needed road is built into this district. When this is done, our province will be pretty well provided with railways, leaving no farmer with a long distance to market.

As will be seen by the printed reports the number of elevators has been increased, and for a new country we have the best facilities possible for cheaply and quickly handling grain. There are some who still harp on the "elevator monopoly," but an impartial judge, looking to all sides of the question, would say that our present system could not be much improved on. The milling capacity of the province is also largely increased,

which means so much more money spent among us in converting our raw product into a manufactured article, and it is pleasing to note in connection with this, the opening up of new markets for these products, the shipment to Australia and other far eastern points being very large.

The much needed direct railway to the Kootenay district will insure the keeping of that market to us, and we look for work on that road being commenced in 1897 at the latest.

As will be noted, the council makes no mention in their report about the meeting of the grain standards board for the reason that the exchange took no part in that work, neither were they represented on the board.

The number of emigrants coming in during 1895 was very small, and those that came mostly settled in Manitoba. There are large areas of excellent farming lands in the Red River Valley for sale at nominal prices, which with the advantage of closer settlement and nearness to good markets, are inducing more to try the heavy black soil of the valley in preference to the lighter soils in the far west. One great drawback to this settlement is the bad roads, and the time has come when some decided action must be taken to get over this difficulty. Our local government has done little or nothing to remedy this. No doubt they give small grants to assist the building of a bridge or other needed work, but what is wanted is a vigorous policy of road improvement.

We have tried a good many ways to fill up our country, but the best emigration agents we can get are the actual settlers living in the country, who are doing well and are contented with their surroundings. Good roads will lead a long way towards this success and contentment; our sister province of Ontario has found this out, and now there is a superintendent of roads in that province, whose sole duty it is to see to the maintenance and improvement of the highways. Our local government should inaugurate such a system, taking hold of the old trails which are now all public highways, and improving them so that at all times of the year they would be passable. This road department could also supervise the work done by the municipalities in road improvements, advising them as to the best way to do them, for it must be conceded that there is a great deal of wasted labor in the present system of road work.

Closely allied to good roads is drainage, and it is pleasing to record that over 100,000 acres of good land near Winnipeg is now being drained under the drainage act, thus adding so much more to the grain producing acreage of the province.

These questions may not be in the direct line of the exchange's work, but are more in the line of the general development of the country. We want our thousands, nay millions, of acres of valuable lands, taken up and cultivated, and the success of this means the success of all business organizations in Manitoba.

I have to thank the members for their courtesy to me during the time I have been in the president's chair, and the secretary for his assistance in carrying out the detail work of the exchange.

The following resolution was adopted after some discussion: Moved by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Clark that in all sales under the terms of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange the place of contract shall be accepted by both parties as Winnipeg, it not otherwise specified at the time of making such contract.

C. N. Bell, secretary-treasurer, read the ninth annual report of the council, also that of the treasurer, for the year. The council's report was a detailed history of the actions

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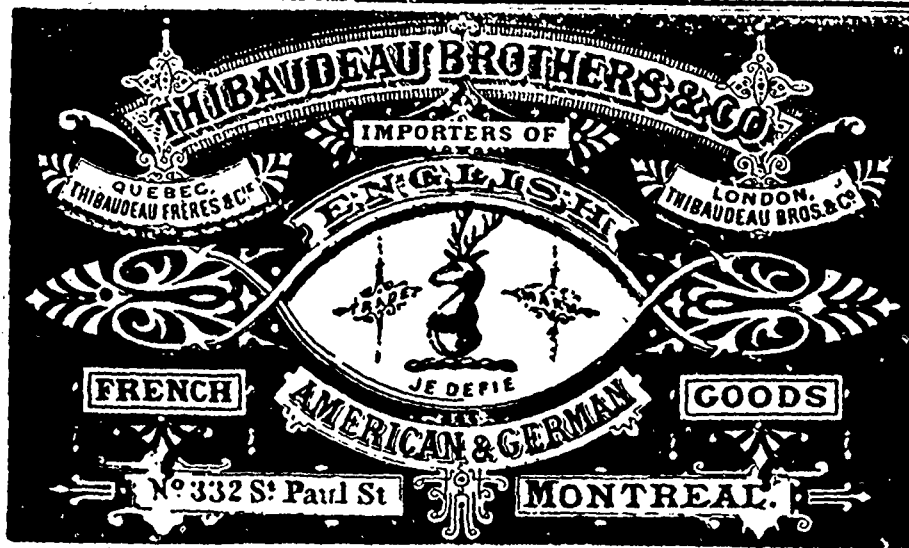
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**British Columbia Business Notes.**

John Hamlin, hardware, furniture etc.; furniture stock destroyed by fire.

McTaggart & Lundy, hotel, Cody, have dissolved.

R. N. Taylor, & Co., drugs, Greenwood City; R. N. Taylor of this firm is dead.

Hopkins & McLean, general store, Kamloops, have sold tinware stock to Shotton & Mead.

E. W. McCall, merchant, Rossland, has sold out to the Kootenay Mercantile Co.

F. Granville, general store, Slokan City, is succeeded by J. A. Foley.

G. L. Allan, boots and shoes, Vancouver, advertises retiring from retail business.

Automatic Lighting & Oil Co., Ltd., Vancouver, is selling out by auction.

The stock of Z. G. Goldberg, Vancouver, is advertised for sale.

J. W. Morrow, drugs, Vancouver, has sold out to the McDowell, Atkins, Watson & Co.

The Palace Clothing House Co., Vancouver, has been incorporated.

Simon Petarsky, fruits, etc., Vancouver, advertises his business for sale.

R. Robertson, mens' furnishings, Vancouver, advertises giving up business.

The stock of Wm. Croft, dry goods, Victoria, is advertised for sale by tender.

The stock of H. Freeman, clothing, Victoria, is advertised for sale by sheriff.

Lewis Lewis, stoves, Victoria, advertises selling out.

**British Columbia Markets.**

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual discount on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, January 16, 1897.

There is a further decline of 1c in creamery, and dairy butter to report this week. Eggs have declined again 1c on increase in receipts of fresh. Potatoes are again lower this week by 3c per ton.

Butter.—Manitoba Dairy butter, 17c; Manitoba creamery, 23c; eastern creamery, 22c; local creamery, 27c; Manitoba cheese, 10c; local cheese, 10c.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12c; breakfast bacon 12c to 13c; backs 9c; long, clear 8c; short rolls 9c to 10c; smoked sides 9c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9c per pound; in pails and tubs 9c.

Game.—Mallards, 35c; wildau, 25c; teal, 2c; grouse, 8c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand 3c to 3.50c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 10c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; salt colachan, 25 and 50 lb. kits \$3.75 and \$3.50; smoked salmon 10c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes, \$20.00 per ton; onions, silver skins, 1c per pound; California onions 1c; cabbage, 1c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

Eggs.—Ranch 30c; Eastern eggs, 19c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 230 to 340 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. Japanese oranges 6 to 7 doz. in box, 45c. California

lemons, \$3.50; California oranges, \$3.25 to \$3.50; naval oranges, \$3.75 to \$4; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$3.75 barrel.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb peaches 7c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 4c to 7c; loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 7c.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.10; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22 1/2 pound sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Offgrades, 90 lb, \$2.70.

Flour.—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.70; strong bakers, \$5.80; Oregon, \$5.40.

Grain.—Local wheat, \$35. Oats, \$25 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$23 to \$24 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$20.00 ton; bran \$18.00; oil cake meal, \$30 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—\$15.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 6 to 7c; mutton, 6 1/2 to 7c; pork, 6 to 6 1/2c; veal, 7 to 8c.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$3.00 to \$3.50; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$1.50 to \$1.00 per 100 lbs; lamb \$3.00 to \$3.50 per head.

Poultry.—Chickens, 11c lb. Turkeys, 12 1/2 lb ducks, 12 1/2 lb. Geese, 11c lb.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6 1/2; Paris lump, 5 1/2c; granulated, 4 1/2c; extra C, 4 1/2c; fancy yellows 4 1/2c; yellow 4c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; 1/2 gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11c; good, 18c. choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

**Wheat Stocks.**

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Jan 9, 1897, shows a decrease of 779,000 bushels, against a decrease of 897,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,271,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and an increase of 480,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years; the second table shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year, compared with the three previous years:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4	69,842,000	87,836,000	79,953,000	81,736,000
" 11	68,945,000	86,616,000	80,433,000	81,030,000
" 18	67,883,000	85,328,000	81,332,000	82,227,000
" 25	67,523,000	84,665,000	80,234,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1	66,734,000	83,378,000	79,333,000	81,330,000
" 8	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,560,000	80,973,000
" 15	65,923,000	81,733,000	79,667,000	81,214,000
" 22	65,011,000	79,476,000	77,237,000	79,430,000
March 1	64,039,000	78,761,000	76,569,000	79,033,000
" 8	62,698,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	79,103,000
" 15	62,124,000	76,877,000	74,100,000	79,100,000
" 22	61,319,000	75,773,000	72,630,000	78,204,000
" 29	61,013,000	74,308,000	71,118,000	77,614,000
April 6	60,322,000	72,703,000	70,322,000	77,233,000
" 13	59,530,000	70,437,000	69,217,000	70,046,000
" 20	58,483,000	68,623,000	68,425,000	74,381,000
" 27	57,946,000	66,778,000	66,530,000	75,027,000
May 4	57,619,000	64,180,000	65,156,000	73,089,000
" 11	57,000,000	62,000,000	63,510,000	71,523,000
" 18	56,116,000	59,311,000	62,444,000	71,532,000
" 25	55,235,000	56,214,000	61,334,000	70,152,000
" 31	54,340,000	52,223,000	59,331,000	70,337,000
June 8	53,147,000	49,739,000	58,211,000	68,620,000
" 15	49,430,000	47,717,000	57,105,000	66,376,000
" 22	48,319,000	46,225,000	55,802,000	63,081,000
" 29	47,800,000	44,561,000	54,667,000	62,100,000

July 4	47,192,000	43,359,000	64,114,000	61,316,000
" 11	47,219,000	41,237,000	63,164,000	59,333,000
" 18	46,743,000	40,496,000	63,771,000	64,990,000
" 25	47,142,000	39,229,000	67,144,000	59,314,000
Aug. 1	46,734,000	38,517,000	66,061,000	59,416,000
" 8	46,420,000	37,830,000	63,321,000	58,810,000
" 15	46,476,000	36,892,000	63,901,000	67,812,000
" 22	45,189,000	35,083,000	64,771,000	67,240,000
" 29	45,574,000	35,133,000	66,949,000	66,831,000
Sept. 5	46,493,000	36,784,000	66,168,000	65,111,000
" 12	46,002,000	36,132,000	66,214,000	67,331,000
" 19	46,016,000	35,357,000	70,189,000	66,000,000
" 26	45,719,000	34,763,000	71,144,000	66,000,000
Oct. 3	46,116,000	41,312,000	73,640,000	65,174,000
" 10	47,414,000	44,431,000	75,710,000	63,223,000
" 17	48,813,000	46,109,000	74,619,000	63,973,000
" 24	47,233,000	47,186,000	73,190,000	69,331,000
" 31	48,040,000	52,327,000	74,127,000	71,330,000
Nov. 7	49,030,000	56,930,000	81,220,000	74,034,000
" 14	51,000,000	60,440,000	84,771,000	76,763,000
" 21	50,971,000	62,221,000	83,915,000	77,235,000
" 28	50,911,000	63,003,000	85,169,000	75,910,000
Dec. 5	50,312,000	61,780,000	85,978,000	75,735,000
" 12	51,461,000	60,631,000	89,172,000	80,128,000
" 19	51,161,000	60,393,000	89,071,000	80,211,000
" 26	51,433,000	60,000,000	88,861,000	80,228,000
Jan. 2	54,051,000	60,612,000	87,880,000	79,935,000
" 9	53,872,000	60,045,000	86,010,000	80,433,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on January 2, is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal	447,000
Toronto	231,000
Kingston	40,000
Winnipeg	231,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,275,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin	2,519,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's was as follows, on January 2, 1897.

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains	73,270,000
Pacific Coast	4,189,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains	97,769,000
Pacific Coast	7,116,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Jan. 9, shows an increase of 416,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 72,821,000 bushels on the latter date.

**Canned Goods.**

The important question of reducing the number of goods to be canned during the coming season, came up at the annual meeting of the Canadian Packers' association at Toronto on Jan. 15. President W. A. Ferguson spoke at some length. He warmly advocated a reduction of the output for 1897, as the only remedy for depression amongst canners. Touching on possible tariff changes, he said any lowering of the tariff would aggravate the present situation materially.

W. Senkbeil, boots & shoes, Brandon, Man., advertises his stock for sale by tender.

J. S. McNulty, general store keeper and Robert K. Allan, grocer, South Edmonton, Alberta, have amalgamated under the style of Allan & McNulty.

The stock of Hoover & Co., Franklin, Man., has been sold at 6 1/2c to T. Harrison.

Robinson & McNight, general store, Niangua, Man., have assigned to S. A. D. Bertrand.

Josh Harlow, blacksmith, Pipestone, Man., has sold out to John Wright.

The stock of Kastner & Cowston, millinery, Winnipeg, Man has been sold to J. W. & M. Kastner.

Worlds stocks of wheat on January 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and abroad for Europe) were 139,103,000 bushels, as compared with 169,976,000 bushels on Jan. 1, 1896; 181,753,000 on January 1, 1895; 190,223,000 on January 1, 1894; 181,699,000 on January 1, 1893; 156,536,000 on Jan. 1, 1892; 111,481,000 on January 1, 1891; 115,092,000 on January 1, 1890, and 130,760,000 on January 1, 1889.

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Rolled Oats, Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley,  
Rolled Wheat, Breakfast Cereals.  
ORDER THROUGH WHOLESALE TRADE OR  
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THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Jan. 16.

Business is very quiet in all branches, as usual at this season. The mild weather is reducing the coal trade very materially. Thunder Bay, Lake Superior, is reported to be clear of ice, which is very unusual for January, and indicates an early opening of navigation this year. The weather throughout the West has continued mild this week, though it was moderately cold for a few days. There was a slight interruption to railway traffic the first of the week by a wind storm, which caused the snow to drift, but it was not at all serious. Great interest continues to be attracted to mining matters, in Northwestern Ontario and British Columbia. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show a gain over the like weeks of the two preceding years.

Bradstreet's trade report this week for Canada says: There is no change in wholesale trade at Toronto, where demand is quiet. Orders are light at Montreal, rather below the average for the season. Absence of snow at the interior has had a depressing effect on lumbering. Halifax stocks of fish are lighter and the market is firmer, but general trade there is duller and collection slow. The St. John, N. B., lumber market has been higher recently than for a number of years. Labrador shore fishing has exceeded expectations. Many Canadian merchants expect a good spring trade to begin soon. There are 59 business failures reported in Canada this week, against 65 last week, 74 in the week a year ago, and 61 two years ago. Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax aggregate \$20,697,000 against \$22,967,000 last week and as compared with \$21,020,000 in the like week one year ago.

Regarding the situation in the United States this week Bradstreet's says: "Cotton goods continue depressed at first hands, with little prospect for improvement until after production has been restricted. Bradstreet's comparison of prices of 108 staple articles and products at quarterly intervals for a series of years shows an upward tendency on last quarter of 1896. Advances during the last quarter of 1896 were conspicuous among most of the leading cereals, for live stock, meats, dairy products, some vegetables, hides, leather, wools, various grades of iron, copper, lead, brick, glass and spruce lumber. Declines were noticeable for miscellaneous food products, for cotton, hemp, print cloths, steel, tin, coal, coke, petroleum, rubber, paper and drugs."

Money rates are steady. Money on call at New York yesterday was easy at 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3 1/4 to 4 per cent. Bar silver, 61 1/2; silver certificates, 61 1/2 to 65 1/2. Mexican dollars, 50 1/2.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Jan. 16.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale or such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

COAL.—Some dealers estimate that their sales of imported coal are one-half less than last year. This is owing to the mild weather principally, and to some extent to increased consumption of native coal. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Sours coal \$1.50 per ton; Leithbridge, \$3.00. These prices are delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal

are held at \$3.85 to \$3.90 per ton here, or \$1.50 per ton on cars at the mines.

CORWOOD.—The feeling continues easy in wood fuel, owing to the mild weather. Pine is held about \$3.50 for cars on track here, per cord; tamarac \$1.25 for last winter's cut, and poplar at \$2.50 to \$2.75. Prices delivered to consumers about 75c advance on these quotations.

DRUGS.—Sulphate of copper (bluestone) is reported scarce and firm in the east. Glycerine has declined \$1 per ton abroad. Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 18 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; coprasas 3 1/2 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00; cream tartar, per pound, 30 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 1/2 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound, 80 to 85c; ginger, Jamaica, 80 to 85c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon as to brand; oxalica acid, 18 to 16c; potassium, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 1/2 to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 1/2 to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.83; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.33; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.90. Staminol—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz, \$5.10.

FISH.—The mild weather has been a bad thing for the Manitoba fishing industry. Fishermen have been able to operate in the Eastern lakes to better advantage than usual in the winter, and consequently Eastern markets have been kept better supplied with fresh caught fish, consequently there has not been the usual good demand for Manitoba frozen fish. Large stocks of frozen fish are still held here, estimated at over 100 tons. It is reported that sales have been made as low as 1 1/2 per lb., which is considerably below cost. The local jobbing market is about the same. The market is well supplied with both sea and fresh water fresh fish. Prices are as follows:—Finnan Haddies, 7 to 8c per lb., the lower quotation only in large lots; Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Pickerel, 4c; salmon, 12c halibut, 12c; Cod, 8c; Haddock, 8c per lb; smelts 10c; herrings 25c per dozen; Oysters, \$1.60 per gallon for standards, \$1.80 for selects, and \$2 to \$2.25 for extra selects and counts; shell oysters, \$3 per barrel; smoked salmon, 15c lb.; bloaters, \$1.50 box; red herrings, 20c box; pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lb; pickled whitefish, \$6 per barrel; salt herrings, \$1.50 per barrel.

GREEN FRUITS.—Apples are held about the same and \$2 to \$2.50 per barrel covers the general range of price. Oranges are in good supply and prices steady. A few bananas are coming in occasionally, but during this changeable weather they do not always come to hand in good condition.

Frozen cranberries are offering lower. No unfrozen stock in at present. Prices are as follows: Apples, \$2 to \$2.50 per barrel as to quality. Mexican oranges, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box; California navels, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per box; California seedling oranges 4 to \$1.50 per box; Messina lemons, \$5 to \$5.25 per box; Cane Cod cranberries, frozen, \$5 to \$5.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$3.50 per keg; bananas, \$2.75 to \$3.50 per bunch; sweet potatoes, \$1.50 to \$5 per barrel.

NUTS.—Tarragona almonds, 16c; Sicily filberts, large, 15c. filberts ordinary, 12c, peanuts, roasted, 12c; peanuts, green, 9c. Ontario butternuts 9c; Ontario Walnuts 6c; hickory nuts, 10c; Grenoble walnuts, 15c; French walnuts, 12 1/2 lb.

HARDWARE.—Business is very quiet in this branch and prices are simply nominal. Prices are as follows:

TIN. Lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb. 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 23, 112 sheets to box, \$9.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 23, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.00 to 8.50.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.35 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs.; \$3.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.10

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 4 1/2c; 26 gauge, per lb., 4 1/2c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2c.

SHEET ZINC.—In cases, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.00.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar) per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, not list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 1/2c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7 1/2 to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9 1/2 to 10 1/2c base; cotton, 1/2 to 1/4 inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.00 to 9.00.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.16 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.60 per keg; 3 to 4 inch \$3.91 keg; 2 1/2 inch, \$1.22 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—There is very little doing in this branch. Prices are steady as follows:

PREPARED PAINTS.—Pure liquid colors, per gallon, \$1.15 to \$1.25.

**DRY COLORS.**—White lead, per lb., 7c; red lead, kegs 54c; yellow ochre in barrel lots, 24c; less than barrels, 8c; golden ochre, barrels, 83c; less than barrels 4c; Venetian, red, barrels, 8c; less than barrels, 83c; American vermilion, 16c; English vermilion, \$1 per lb., Paris green, 18-66 19c; Canadian metallic oxides, barrel lots 24c; less than barrel lots, 8c; English purple oxides, 100 lb. kegs, 4c; less than kegs, 44c lb.

**VARNISHES.**—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

**SOLVENTS.**—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12 1/2 to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$1.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$4.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. 9c per bale; putty, in bladders, barrel lots 24c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 24c.

**WINDOW GLASS.**—1st break is quoted at \$1.75 per box of 50 feet and \$2 for second break.

**LINSEED OIL.**—Raw, per gal., 55c; boiled, per gal., 58c in barrels; less than barrels 5c per gallon extra, with additional charges for cans.

**TURPENTINE.**—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 58c; less than barrels, per gallon, 58c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

On Saturday, January 2, the wheat market was stronger and prices advanced 1 to 1 1/2 over Thursday, the last previous market day. Closing prices were: Wheat, Dec. 80 1/2c; May, 84 1/2c; July, 80 1/2c. Corn, Dec. 23 1/2c; May, 25 1/2c; July, 26 1/2c. Oats, Dec. 16 1/2c; May, 19 1/2c. Ribs, Jan., \$9.82; May, \$1.00; Pork, Jan., \$7.60, May, \$7.92; Lard Jan., \$3.82; May, \$1.

**OILS.**—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 80c per gallon; clear machine oils, 33 to 40c; cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb.; lard oil, 70c per gal.; tanner's or harness oil, 65c; neatfoot oil, \$1.20; steam refined seal oil, 85c; pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 per gallon.

**REFINED PETROLEUM.**—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 19 1/2c; crescent, 22 1/2c; oleophene, 24 1/2c in barrels. Car lots 1c per gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 28c for ocean and 25c for sunlight.

**WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION.**—Wheat has tended downward most of the time this week. Prices made a gain on Thursday, and they held up fairly well on Friday, but the first three days of the week the tendency was downward. Disappointment at the refusal of the United States surplus to disappear, is an important feature. According to earlier statistical reports, there should be no wheat in the United States now available for export, but in spite of the large exports already on this crop, supplies seem to keep on coming forward to maintain the export movement, and though stocks are considerably less than a year ago, there still appears to be plenty of wheat. Recently crop estimates have been too small. Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States this week amount to 2,948,154 bushels, as compared with 3,109,000 bushels last week, 3,212,000 bushels in the week two years ago, 3,332,000 bushels three years ago, and as contrasted with 2,637,000 bushels in the like week of 1893.

**Wheat—Local Situation.**—Business has been very quiet this week. There is some demand for wheat for export, all rail, particularly for the lower grades, but freight room has been scarce. Prices are a little firmer to-day than they were earlier in the week. Sales of odd car lots of No. 1 hard were made earlier at about 77 1/2c. To-day we quote 73c for No. 1 hard. Yesterday No. 2 hard was offered at 71 1/2c and we quote 74 1/2c to 7 1/2c. No. 3 hard 70 to 70 1/2c. No. 1 frosted 66 to 66 1/2c. Fort William afloat basis. Receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ending January 9, were 120,718 bushels, and the shipments 21,031 bushels. In store, 2,368,890 bushels. This week a year ago the elevators were about full at Fort William and notice was given to that effect to shippers. The amount then in store was 3,364,000 bushels, receipts for the week being 808,000 bushels and shipments 49,000 bushels.

**WHEAT—Winnipeg Street Prices.**—The millers were paying up to 66c to farmers for choice samples of hard wheat.

**FLOUR.**—The market is weak and irregular and sales have been made at considerably under quotations for some brands. Quotations are nominally the same as noted last week. The extreme range of quotations in the local market is from \$2.30 net for patents up to \$2.45, and \$1.10 net for bakers to \$2.25. XXXX \$1.80, second bakers \$1.75 to \$1.80. These are prices delivered to retail dealers in the city.

**MILLSTUFFS.**—There is a firmer tendency for bran, but it is still being obtained at the old figures. We quote \$5 to \$7 for bran and \$8 to \$9 for shorts, delivered to the local trade, in a jobbing way.

**BARLEY.**—For feed barley 20 to 24c per bushel of 48 pounds has been paid to farmers, 23c being the usual price for loads offered here. City brewers are paying 23 to 25c for malting samples to farmers here, and 27 to 28c on track here for car lots.

**OATS.**—Prices are about the same as quoted last week, but the feeling in oats is decidedly weak. Shipments are going to Fort William for store, and they cannot be sold there at within several cents per bushel of Winnipeg prices. In the Winnipeg market from 16 to 22c per bushel of 31 pounds is paid to farmers, as to quality for new oats. Car lots continue to sell at a wide range, and prices are somewhat irregular. Quotations varying from 22c for light up to 23c for good white milling oats. The usual range is 23 to 25c for ordinary feed oats and 26 to 27c for choice white.

**OATMEAL.**—Prices are the same. Following are prices in large lots, with small lots to retail dealers held about 15c more. Rolled oatmeal in 80 lb sacks \$1.65 per sack; standard, \$1.90 and granulated \$1.90 in 98 lb sacks. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.60 in round lots. Pot barley, \$1.70 in round lots.

**GROUND FEED.**—Prices are steady. Prices range from \$13 to \$17 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed. Ordinary mixed mill feed is held at \$18 per ton.

**FLAX SEED.**—The prices paid to farmers at Manitoba points is still 45 to 50c per bushel for good milling seed.

**OIL CAKE.**—Oil cake holds at \$16 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

**BEANS.**—Round lots to jobbers held at about \$1.10 per bushel.

**BUTTER.**—The market is very dull. Scarcely any business doing, and what there is is entirely of a local character. Creamery is held at 22 to 23c in a jobbing way, but there is practically nothing wanted. The western

demand is limited. In the British Columbia markets, our telegraphic report to-day quotes another decline of 1c per lb., on all grades. Last week we reported a drop of 2c on dairy butter in British Columbia markets, making a decline of 3c in two weeks. Dairy grades here are also very dull, and are quoted in a jobbing way at 13 to 15c. In round lots 11c is the outside for choice lots.

**CHEESE.**—Dull. We quote the jobbing price at 8c to 10c as to quality.

**EGGS.**—Dealers continue to still pay 2c per dozen here for receipts of fresh. Receipts are not equal to the demand, but there are stocks in cold storage, which are being drawn upon.

**GAME.**—Rabbits bring 25c each and jack rabbits 20c each.

**POULTRY.**—Stocks have been fairly well cleaned up, but the demand is much slower now. Dealers will pay the following prices for receipts: Chickens, 6 to 7c; ducks, 8 to 9c; geese, 9 to 10c; turkeys, 9 to 10c.

**LARD.**—Prices are: Pure \$1.50 for 20 lb pails, and \$3.75 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 8, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 7 1/2c pound; cases of 80, one lb. tins, \$3.00.

**CURED MEATS.**—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c; short spiced rolls, 7 1/2c; shoulders, 7c; smoked long clear, 8c; Fancy clear, 8 1/2c; Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 6 1/2c per lb.; shoulders, 6 1/2c; backs, 8c; barrel pork, clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$15.00; rolled shoulders, \$11 per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sausage, 8c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 9c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casing, 25 to 30c lb.

**DRESSED MEATS.**—Dressed hogs are quoted at from 38c for rough heavy up to 4 1/2c for choice. Beef is slow sale. Country frozen beef is quoted at 3 to 4c as to quality, and fresh city dressed beef at 4 1/2 to 5c, with fancy beef held up to 5 1/2c. Mutton is quoted at about 5 to 5 1/2c. Rough country mutton, 4 to 4 1/2c.

**HIDES.**—We quote 5c as the general price for country frozen hides, or 5 1/2c for No. 1 and 4 1/2c for No. 2, calf, 8 to 15c lb. skins, 4 to 6c per lb.; dekins 10 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheepskins range from 40 to 60c according to quality. Horsehides, 75c to \$1.25.

**WOOL.**—Nothing doing here and prices nominal at 7 to 9 1/2c.

**TALLOW.** Dealers are paying 4c for No. 1 extra and 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

**SENEGA ROOT.**—The market is lower. We quote 19 to 20c per lb for dry root.

**HAY.**—Held at about \$5 per ton for baled prairie on track here. Loads offering very freely and selling at \$2 to \$3 per load.

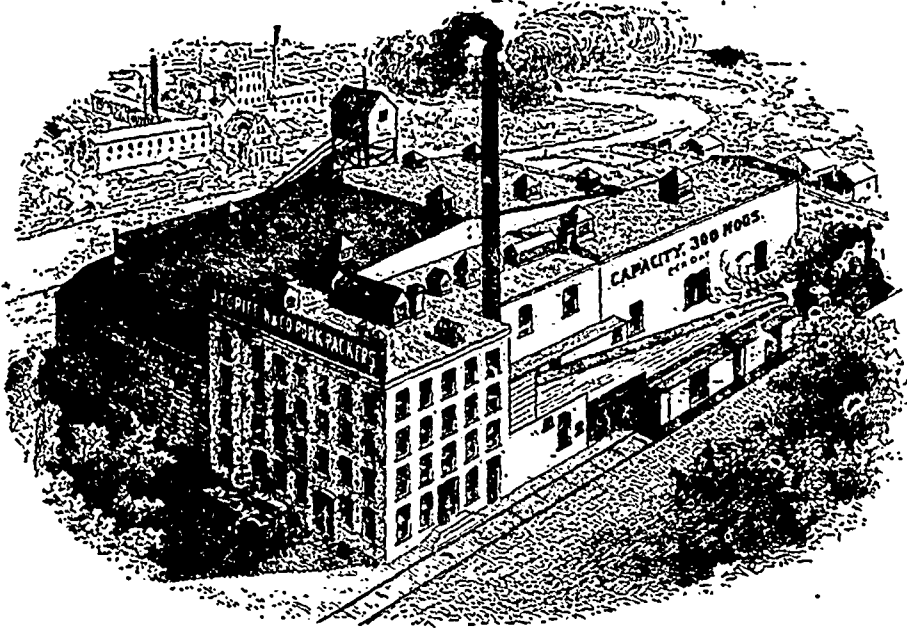
**VEGETABLES.**—Prices are: Potatoes, 25c; Onions, 1c to 1 1/2c lb; carrots, 30c bushel; beets, 30c bushel; turnips, 25c; parsnips, 60 to 75c bushel; colery, 25 to 30c dozen; cabbage, 30 to 40c dozen. These are prices dealers buy at from market gardeners.

#### LIVE STOCK.

There is nothing doing in live stock, except hogs. No cattle or sheep are wanted, as butchers are stocked up. Cattle nominal at 2 1/2 to 3c; rough and mottled nominal at 2 1/2 to 3c.

**HOGS.**—There is no change in prices. We quote: Good bacon stock weighing 150 to 300 pounds 3 1/2c; Sows and heavy legs 2 to 3 1/2c, according to quality. Stags 1 1/2 to 2 1/2c, off cars here.

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I make a specialty of Moccasins. Last season my values surprised the trade and won the orders. I have great surprises in store for next season. My samples are now out, and the man who buys before he sees them loses money.

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P. O. Box 997

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The Lagavulin Whisky is famous for its fine quality, being made from pure SCOTCH MALT ONLY, and has long been the favorite beverage for Sportsmen. It contains no grain spirit, or other Whiskies one knows nothing of, and the most eminent Physicians of the day prescribe it where a stimulant is required.

ASK FOR THE LAGAVULIN.

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Gold Label, as patronized by Royalty and the Leading Physicians.

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**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

The prices below are board of trade quotations for Chicago No. 2 wheat, No. 2 oats and No. 2 corn, per bushel. Pork is quoted per barrel and lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.

Wheat was weak on Monday and prices closed 1c lower than Saturday, notwithstanding the decrease in the visible supply and from European cables, closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat.....	—	77½	80½	75½
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	—
Oats.....	—	15½	18½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 75	8 00	—
Lard.....	—	8 97½	4 12	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 05	4 12½	—

Wheat started firmer on Tuesday, influenced by better cables, then declined sharply under strong speculative selling, but recovered. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat....	—	79½	80½	76½
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	—
Oats.....	—	16	18½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 65	7 90	—
Lard.....	—	8 90	4 05	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 00	4 07½	—

On Wednesday wheat held firm most of the day, but sold off heavily in the afternoon, influenced by weak cables and free selling. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat....	—	77½	79½	75½
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	25½
Oats.....	—	16½	18½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 67½	7 92½	—
Lard.....	—	8 90	4 07½	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 00	4 10	—

On Thursday wheat was fairly steady most of the day. In the afternoon there was a sharp advance, influenced by large exports at New York. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July
Wheat....	—	78	80½	76
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	—
Oats.....	—	16	18½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 92½	8 15	—
Lard.....	—	4 07½	4 17½	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 12½	4 20	—

On Friday prices were about held, May option being just a shade lower at the close. Cables were higher and the market advanced ½c, but declined again. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July
Wheat....	—	77½	80	75½
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	25½
Oats.....	—	16	18½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 80	8 02	—
Lard.....	—	8 97	4 10-12	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 07	4 12	—

On Saturday, January 16th, wheat was firmer. May option opened at 80½c and ranged upward to 81½c. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat....	—	78½	80½	76½
Corn.....	—	22½	24½	—
Oats.....	—	16½	18½	19½
Mess Pork..	—	7 81	8 02½	—
Lard.....	—	8 95	4 10	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 07½	4 12½	—
Flax Seed..	—	78	78½	—

A week May wheat closed at 81½c. A year ago May wheat closed at 60½c and two years ago at 57½c.

**Duluth Wheat Market.**

No. 1 northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—May 80½c.
Tuesday—May 81c.
Wednesday—May 80½c.
Thursday—May 81c.
Friday—May 80½c.
Saturday—81½c.

Last week May delivery closed at 81½c. A year ago May closed at 59c. Two years ago at 62c. and three years ago at 69½c.

To-day, January 16, cash No. 1 hard wheat closed at 80½c and cash No. 1 northern at 78½c.

**New York Wheat.**

On Saturday, January 16, May option closed at 87c and July at 88½c. A week ago May option closed at 87½c.

**Minneapolis Wheat.**

On Saturday, January 16, No. 1 Northern wheat closed 78½c for May option, and 79½c for July. A week ago May wheat closed at 79c.

**Minneapolis Markets.**

The Market Record of Jan. 14, says that the market is quiet, but the tendency of prices is lower. Prices are as follows, in hbls. f. o. b.: First patents, \$1.25 to \$1.40; second patents, \$1.05 to \$1.20; first clears, \$1.40 to \$3.50; second, clear, 2.40 to \$2.60; Red Dog, per ton, 140 for lbs. juve, 10.40 to \$10.90. These prices are 10c lower all around compared with a week ago.

Millstuffs—Bran in bulk, \$5.00 to \$5.25; bran in sacks, 200 lbs., \$5.75 to \$6.00; bran in sacks, 100 lbs., \$6.25 to \$6.50; shorts in bulk, 4.75 to \$5.00; shorts in sacks, 100 lbs., 6.25 to \$6.50; millings, fine, 7.50 to \$8. These prices are 25c higher than a week ago, or bulk bran, and 25c higher all around for shorts.

Oats—Range at 15c for light up to 16½c for No. 3 white.

Barley—Quoted at 20 to 25c per bushel as to grade.

Flax—Quoted at 79c per bushel, an advance of 1½c on the week.

Hay—Prairie, \$1.50 to \$5.00 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, January 14.

**Toronto Grain and Produce Trade.**

Wheat—The offerings are small. Buyers quoted 82c to 83c for red and white north and west country points; sellers are asking 1c to 2c more. Manitoba wheat is quiet. Three cars of No. 1 hard sold grindings transit to-day at 96c; it is quoted at 95c all rail North Bay and No. 2 hard at 93c there.

Flour—Is quiet; cars of straight roller are quoted at \$1.05 west.

Millfeed—Is dull; cars of shorts are quoted at \$8 to \$8.50 west and bran at \$7 to \$7.60.

Barley—Is dull; No. 1 is quoted outside at 84c to 85c, No. 1 extra at 86c, No. 2 at 29c to 29c, No. 3 extra at 25c and No. 3 at 24c.

Oats—Are dull at 18c for mixed west and 19c to 16½c for white north and west points.

Butter—Large dairy rolls, 12c to 13c; dairy pound rolls, 15c; dairy tubs, 12c to 13c; creamery prints, 19c to 20c; creamery tubs, 18c to 18½c.

Eggs—Lined, 14c, 15c to 16c for cold stored and fresh gathered, and 19c to 20c for strictly new laid.

Poultry—Chickens 20c to 40c; ducks 40c to 62c; geese, 6c to 6½c, and turkeys, 6c to 8c.

Baled Hay—No. 1, \$11; low grades, from \$8 up.

Dressed Hogs—Dressed hogs are active. They are offering very freely in rail lots. Dealers look for large deliveries as a result of the high prices which light weights are realizing. Select weights on track here are 100 lbs. and heavy are worth \$1.50.—Globe, January 12.

J. Boabin, confectioner, Rat Portage Out., is succeeded by W. Cleary.

**The Ibox of Slocan.**

The above mining company as will be seen from our advertising columns has placed a proportion of its stock upon the market, and has appointed James Laut, 803 Main street, Winnipeg, as agent for the stock in Manitoba.

The Ibox is one of the rich silver claims of the Slocan district of West Kootenay, and actual tests of its surface ore yielded from 80 to 90 ounces to the ton. The mine is in a partially developed state, and the construction of less than three miles of a wagon road will allow and enable the managers to haul ore to a shipping point on the C.P.R. branch line, all of which can be accomplished at a cost of about \$3,000.

The Ibox has a directorate of good reliable men, and our Winnipeg townsman, M. Frederick Steele, of Steele & Co., is one of the promoters.

One special feature of the Ibox is, that its stock is being sold at par only, namely 25c. a share, the capital stock being 1,200,000 shares of 25c. each. At present only 900,000 shares are being offered, and the proceeds of this the directors believe will be sufficient to carry on operations to a dividend paying point.

In the Ibox as in all mining ventures there is the usual uncertainty mixed up with the prospect of profit. There is no uncertainty, however, about the character and intentions of the promoters.

**United States Sugar Consumption for 1896.**

The figures given by Willett & Gray show the total consumption of all sugar in the entire United States in 1896 to have been 1,960,033 tons, against 1,919,741 tons in 1895, an increase of 10,312 tons, or 0.53 per cent. The consumption of 1896 consisted of 244,220 tons of domestic cane sugar, 40,000 tons of domestic beet sugar, 900 tons sorghum sugar, 5,000 tons maple sugar, 603 tons domestic molasses sugar, a total of 289,123 tons of United States production, and 1,117,731 tons of foreign cane, 445,870 tons of foreign raw beet sugar, and 77,362 tons of foreign refined, a total of 1,670,963 tons of foreign production. The total millings of our refiners in 1896 were 1,728,838 tons; 77,362 tons were refined abroad, 553,616 tons were consumed in the raw or plantation condition. Of the 1,728,838 tons melted by refiners, the American Sugar Refining Company manufactured 1,330,421 tons, or 76.95 per cent; and the independent refiners manufactured 398,367 tons, or 23.05 per cent. The undistributed stock of refined sugar we estimate at 50,000 tons, against 30,000 tons last year. The difference between raws and refined in 1896 averaged .903c per lb., against 8½c per lb. in 1895. The average difference between raw and refined for the nine years of the Sugar Trust and its successors is less than the average difference of the nine years preceding the formation of the original trust. The exact figures covering these eight years we will give next week. The notable feature of importations in 1893 is the absence of the usual supply from Cuba and the large increase from beet countries. In our statistics for January 16, 1896, we estimated the import of beet sugar for 1896 at 500,000 tons. It proves to be 523,232 tons, including refined. As we are not believers in the end of the Cuban war, or a Cuban crop of sugar for another year, we expect the next import of 1897 will reach 600,000 to 800,000 tons.

Irwin Mills & Jas. McCarthy of Brandon will open a dry goods store at Minnedosa, Man., on February 1. The new firm will be known as Mills & McCartney.

# The IBEX Mining and Development Co. of SLOCAN.

(LIMITED LIABILITY) Incorporated under the Laws of British Columbia, "Companies' Act, 1890, and Amending Acts."

## CAPITAL STOCK, \$300,000

Divided into 1,200,000 shares of the par value of 25 cents each. Stock may be secured by depositing \$6 25 (25 per cent.) on each 100 shares - the balance being payable in 30 days. Certificates may be sent through any bank with draft, or by express, C. O. D. for balance due.

PRINCIPAL OFFICES AT KASLO, B. C.

MINES AT WHITEWATER, B. C.

OFFICERS—President, Major Samuel B. Steele, Supt. Northwest M. P., Maslood, Alberta; vice-president, R. W. Bryan, Supt. Kaslo and Slocan Railway, Kaslo, B.C.; treasurer, Frederick Steele, of Steele & Co., Winnipeg; secretary, David W. King, Publisher, "Kootenain," Kaslo; Supt. and Consulting Engineer, Wm. J. Trethewey, E. E.; Solicitor, Chas. W. Mason, Q. C., Kaslo, B. C.

Cable Address, "Ibex." Morling & Neal's No. 4 General Mining and Telegraphic Code used.

### PLAN OF ORGANIZATION.

The capital of the Company is \$300,000.00, divided into 1,200,000 shares of the par value of 25 cents per share. 300,000 shares have been put aside as treasury stock to be sold for development purposes, and of these, 20,000 shares have been placed on the market at their face value of \$25.00 per hundred shares. By this plan it will at once be seen the stock is fully paid up, and non-assessable.

### SITUATION OF MINES.

The property is situated in the Slocan Mining Division of West Kootenay, B. C., about twenty miles from Kaslo, ten miles from Sandon, B. C., and 1½ miles from Whitewater Station, on the Kaslo and Slocan Railway, affording every convenient opportunity for the cheap delivery of mining material and the shipment of ore.

### MINERAL CLAIMS.

The Brennan Group embraces three full claims, viz:—The Ibex, Triangle, and Liddesdale. The Company have since acquired the Gilt Edge, an adjoining claim, which very considerably enhances the value of the property. There are three known mineral bearing ledges on the property. Two of these traverse the full length of the Ibex, Liddesdale and Gilt Edge claims, 1500 feet, showing at frequent intervals on the surface, and having the same strike and dip as the formation. The outcrop in several places shows them to be about of an even size, each varying from 18 inches to 4 feet in width. They parallel each other, and are about 200 feet apart. The vein matter is quartz, carrying gold and copper—tests of which, as a concentrating ore, show a value of \$16 in gold per ton, besides small values in copper and silver.

The third and best known vein runs the entire length of the Triangle (1500 feet) and breadth of the Ibex (600 feet, a total of 2100 feet) and has an average width of 4 ft. 6 inches showing 6 to 19 inches of Galena, with about the same amount of oxidized ore, pyritic iron, and blende. Average samples taken from this vein give 87.5 oz silver and 67.1 per cent. lead per ton of 2000 pounds; selected samples returned 270 oz. silver, 63 per cent. lead per ton of 2000 pounds.

### IMPORTANT FEATURES.

1. The low capitalization of the Company, which ensures a higher per cent. dividend.
2. The absolute impossibility of the shareholders being called upon for further payments, as the shares are sold at their par value, and are consequently non-assessable.
3. The immense quantity of valuable shipping ore in sight at once removes the stock in this Company entirely from the field of speculation, and makes it a safe and profitable investment.
4. The immense length of the veins and the richness of the ore which has been tested.
5. On the 11th of December, 1896, the Ibex of Slocan became a shipper.

### CERTIFICATES OF ASSAYS.

F. Steele, Esq.

The Hall Mines Smelter, Ltd., Nelson, B. C., Sept. 15, 1896.

I hereby certify that I have assayed three samples of Galena for you today, and that the contents are as follows:

Nos. 2 and 3—Lead, 75.0 per cent.; Silver, 72.4 ounces per ton.

No. 4—Lead, 67.9 per cent.; Silver, 78.4 ounces per ton.

Value: Nos. 2 and 3, \$93.70; No. 4 \$97.23. Lead at \$2.75 per cwt., Silver, 66 cents per oz.

A. H. HOLDICH, Analytical Chemist and Assayer.

Nelson, B. C., Sept. 18, 1896.

I hereby certify that the sample of ore herein described, and assayed for F. Steele, gave the following results:

No. 1005—Lead 72.0 per cent.; Silver 81.2 ounces per ton.

Value \$93.16; Lead at \$2.75 per cwt., Silver at 66c per ounce.

A. L. MCKILLOP, Assayer.

Nelson, B. C., Oct. 31, 1896.

I hereby certify that the sample of ore herein described, and assayed for F. Steele, gave the following results:

No. 1865—Galena—Lead, 66 per cent.; Silver, 69.4 oz. per ton.

Value: \$81.84. Lead at \$2.75 per cwt.; Silver, 66 cents per oz.

A. L. MCKILLOP, Assayer.

Assay Office and Chemical Laboratory, Kaslo, B. C., Sept. 20, 1896.

I hereby certify that the samples of ore herein described, and assayed for F. Steele, gave the following results:

1.—Silver, 270 oz. per ton; Lead, 68. per cent. Value, \$211.00.

2.— " 97 " " 65.4 " " 99.75.

3.— " 70 " " 76. " " 87.45.

No. 1, selected sample.

WM. J. TRETHERWEY, Assayer.

### REPORT OF L. ALEXANDER, OF THE R. E. LEE MINE, SLOCAN.

F. Steele, Esq., Kaslo, B. C.

R. E. Lee Mine, Oct. 29th, 1895.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your question as to the Brennan group of claims, I have visited said group comprising the Triangle, Ibex, Liddesdale, and examined them carefully. I found a strong mineral ledge, running the whole length of the Triangle's 1500 feet, and breadth of one of the claims, in all about 2100 feet. Of this distance for about 700 or 800 feet there is a continuous streak of galena ore, varying in width from some inches to 18 inches solid ore, assaying about 100 ounces silver and 60 per cent. lead with some carbonates running several hundred ounces of silver. There are also two large, strong mineralized ledges running nearly at right angles to this first ledge. I am of the opinion that the property is a most valuable one and likely to develop into one of the best mines in the district.

Yours truly,

LORENZO ALEXANDER.

### REPORT OF H. E. PORTER, MANAGER BLACK FOX MINE.

Frederick Steele, Esq., Kaslo, B. C.

Kaslo, B. C., Sept. 11th, 1896.

Dear Sir,—I have examined the Brennan group of mineral claims, and find a strong continuous vein from two to five feet in width for a distance of 1800 feet. On the foot wall it shows from nine to nineteen inches clean galena, and about the same quantity of carbonates. The galena assays about 90 oz. silver and 65 per cent. lead per ton. The vein is well mineralized throughout, and will, I believe, go down into the lower depths and make a valuable mine.

Your respectfully,

H. E. PORTER, Manager Black Fox Mine.

Applications for stock may be sent to The Secretary, head office, Kaslo, B. C., or to James Lint, the financial agent, 303 Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.

N. B.—No connection with the Ibex of Rossland, whose stock is offering at 5 cents per share.

### The Live Stock Trade

At London on January 11, the tone of the market was steady and values show no material change as compared with a week ago, supplies were very light and demand good. Choice States cattle were quoted strong at 11c. Argentines 10c, States sheep 12c and Argentines 10c.

A private cable received from Liverpool quoted choice United States cattle at 10½c to 11c. and sheep at 11½c.

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on January 11, owing to the heavy receipts of butchers' stock and the large amount of dressed beef coming forward the market was again weaker and prices showed a further decline of ½c per lb. Choice grocers and heifers sold at 8c to 8½c, good at 2½c to 3c, fair at 2½c to 2¾c, common at 1½c to 1¾c, and inferior at 1½c per lb. live weight. The supply of sheep and lambs was small, but notwithstanding this prices were lower, due to the larger receipts of dressed frozen stock of late. Sales of sheep were made at 2½ to 3c and lambs at 3½c to 4c per lb. live weight. At the Point St. Charles cattle market Montreal, on the same day two lots of about 100 lambs were offered, which sold at 8½c to 4c per lb. The receipts of hogs were very light, there being only 56 on the market, and prices were easier at \$1 to \$1.25 per 100 lbs. live weight.

At Chicago on January 15 hogs were in good demand and they advanced five cents. They sold at \$3.15 to \$1.60 for common to choice lots, with the bulk of trading at \$3.25 to \$3.50. A few lots of selects, butchers' hogs, brought \$3.60.

At Toronto on January 12 there was a livelier movement, but prices did not improve. Hogs were firm. Three loads of export cattle came in and all were taken by one dealer to ship to the old country via St. John. Prices 3½c to 3¾c per lb, 4c being paid for some of the best cattle. Export bulls sold for 2½c to 3½c, choice ones going at 3½c. Trade in butchers' cattle was a little livelier. Medium to good cattle sold for from 2½c to 3c per lb., choice cattle 3½c, and poor ones 2½c or even lower. A few stockers and feeders sold from \$2.50 to \$2.70 per cwt. For good feeders 9c per lb will be paid. Good feeders are in some demand. Shipping sheep are steady at 2½c to 3c; lambs, 3½c to 4c; butchers' sheep, \$2.50 to \$3 each; not many wanted. Milch cows and springers ruled from \$15 to \$35 each; only good ones wanted. Hogs firm, choice selling at 4½c, fat hogs at \$3.60 per cwt, and sows at 3c per lb. There is good demand for choice hogs, but any other kind are not so active. Steers are not wanted at all.

### Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending Jan. 14 were 1,311,068; balance 133,631. For the previous week clearings were 1,515,109. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 1,153,995 and for the week two years ago, were 1,110,573. Clearings for the month of Dec were \$7,736,915, compared with \$1,611,454 for Dec. 1895, and \$3,199,672 for Dec. 1894.

Clearances for all Canadian cities for the week ended January 14 were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$10,239,977
Toronto.....	4,151,208
Halifax.....	270,830
Winnipeg.....	811,068
Hamilton.....	735,898
St. John.....	567,847

Bank clearings at Winnipeg for the year 1896 were \$11,146,432, compared with \$55,287,680 for 1895 and \$50,540,647 for 1894.

## A COMFORTABLE HOME FOR YOUR FEET.

By wearing KING'S SHOES made with

—PATENT—

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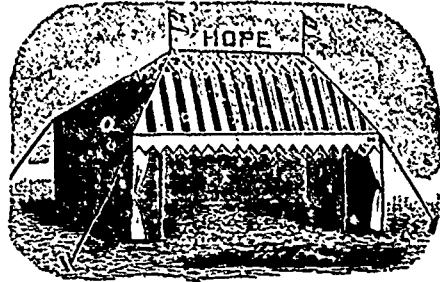
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NO TACKS, NO NAILS, VERY EASY, NO SQUEAK.

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WHOLESALE CLOTHERS,  
MONTREAL.

All the material used in the manufacture of our clothing has been thoroughly sponged and shrunk.

Our workmanship is fully guaranteed, and a printed guarantee given with each garment.

Our goods are known to your customers and will be asked for.

For the coming season all of our Bicycle Suits & Spring Overcoats will be Rigby-Proofed, and no extra charge made for same.

Subscribe for The  
Commercial, \$2.00  
a year in advance,



SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Heating, Mossomin, Assa." will be received at this office until Monday, 3rd February next, for the several works required in the construction of a Heating Apparatus for the Court House at Mossomin, N. W. T.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the Court House, Mossomin, on and after Tuesday, 12th instant, and tenders will not be considered unless made on form supplied and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.

An accepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent of amount of tender, must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party who has the contract or fails to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.

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

By order,

E. F. E. ROY,

Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }  
Ottawa, Jan. 2th, 1897.

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

## Mercantile.

Stocks of merchandise of all kinds sold on commission. Merchants who are retiring from business and wishing to dispose of their stocks on bloc will find it to their advantage by placing them with us for sale. Business concerns of all kinds disposed of. Correspondence strictly confidential. Write for circular.

WM. GUY LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Merchandise Brokers, 462 Main St., Winnipeg.

PROSPECTUS OF

**THE LAKESIDE  
Gold Mining Co.,**

OF RAT PORTAGE.  
NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

CAPITAL, \$750,000.

In 750,000 Shares of One Dollar each.

Head Office, RAT PORTAGE, ONT.

PRESIDENT—R. W. JAMESON, ESQ., Mayor of the City of Winnipeg.

VICE-PRESIDENT—R. H. AGUR, Manager of Massey-Harris Co., Winnipeg.

DIRECTORS.

- H. H. BECK, Insurance Manager, Winnipeg
- F. W. DREWRY, Brewer, Winnipeg.
- JOHN PLAXTON Plumber, Winnipeg
- H. G. WILSON, Solicitor, Winnipeg.

Sec. Treas.—H. S. CROTTY, Real Estate Agt., Winnipeg

Trustees—R. W. JAMESON and C. S. HOARE.

Bankers—IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

The above gentlemen have agreed to act as a directors and the following are identified as promoters of the Company:—

- R. W. JAMESON. F. W. DREWRY. H. G. WILSON.
- R. H. AGUR. G. H. CAMPBELL. H. H. BECK.
- J. PLAXTON. E. H. WHITEHEAD. H. S. CROTTY.
- D. WILSON.

CONSULTING ENGINEER for British Columbia—Ino. J. Mayuhau, of Mayuhau and Campbell, Rossland.

(Incorporated under the Ontario Joint Stock Company and Mining Acts.)

OBJECTS—

To acquire properties either by purchase or working interest, from prospectors unable to properly develop their claims, develop the same to a stage when they can be placed upon the market as paying mines.

PROPERTIES—

SNOWBIRD (gold), situated half way between Rossland and Trail, on surveyed line of C. P. R.

QUEEN BEE (gold), situated four miles from Harrison Lake Sanitarium.

Both fine tunnel propositions.

Eighty acres on steamboat channel, 25 miles from Rat Portage.

Ten options at Rat Portage and Seine River districts for working interest.

ADVANTAGES—

The investor in shares of this company is not confined to dividends obtained from one claim only, but from a large number, which will be developed and sold by the company, which gives him 100 chances to one over the investor in stocks of ordinary companies toed.

200,000 shares of stock are now offered for sale at 10 cents per share, par value one dollar. No liability beyond the amount actually paid upon stock in the company attaches to the subscribers thereto or to holders thereof.

The practical operations of the company will be carried on under the supervision of the best mining engineering skill that can be procured, so that the stockholders will have the fullest guarantee for the practical as well as the financial management of the company's affairs.

Applications for allotment of shares should be made to the secretary of the company H. S. Crotty, Main street, Winnipeg, when further information can be had.

The company is now securing powers to operate in the Province of British Columbia.

The company has made financial connections in the East and in Great Britain, and its directorate are in a position to float legitimate mining schemes of any magnitude in the financial centres of the world.

Payments on stock can be made to H. S. Crotty, sec. treas., or to credit of trustees at any branch of Imperial Bank of Canada.

**Business  
Openings.**

A rising town in Southern Manitoba offers good openings for the following: A Chartered Bank, a Physician, a Lawyer, and a Dentist. Address answers to L T C, care The Commercial.

**KILGOUR, RIMER & CO.,**

WHOLESALE

**Boots, Shoes**

Overshoes, Rubbers, Mitts & Moccasins

Our travellers are now out for spring. Can't be every place at once. Wait and see our signs. We are agents for the Harvey, Van Norman Co., Toronto.

**KILGOUR, RIMER & CO.,**  
James Street, WINNIPEG.

**For Sale and Rent**

A couple of unimproved farms in the Winnipeg district for sale. Might arrange to take suitable live stock in exchange or part payment. Also Farm to rent, with possession of buildings at once. Address:

**D. W. Buchanan** Commercial Office, Winnipeg.

**BOECKH'S**

**Brushes & Brooms**

ALWAYS RELIABLE.

**WOODENWARE**—Lard Pails and Covers  
71b Jam Pails and Covers, Globe Wash Boards in stock.

**Chas. Bockh and Sons,**

TORONTO

Jno. E. Dingman, Agent, Winnipeg.

**WALKER HOUSE.**

The most conveniently located Hotel in Toronto  
One Block from Union Railway Depot  
A first-class Family and Commercial House

Terms from \$2 a day

DAVID WALKER, Proprietor

Corner York and Front Sts., TORONTO, Ont.

**AUSTIN & ROBERTSON,**

WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

MONTREAL;

Dealers in all Classes of

Writings and Printings,

Linens, Ledger and Bond Papers.

Quotations and Samples on Application.

**Partner Wanted.**

Wanted in an established and growing jobbing and retail business, a partner with business energy and some business experience sufficient to manage the commercial part of the business, while the subscriber manages the practical part. A capital of about \$3,000 necessary. To the proper party, the opening is an exceptionally good one.

Apply by letter addressed to  
**PARTNER P. P.,** Commercial Office, Winnipeg

**Wm. Ferguson,**

—WHOLESALE—

**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**

8th Street, Brandon

**Robin, Sadler & Haworth**

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

**LEATHER  
BELTING**

MONTREAL and TORONTO.

**WISCONSIN CENTRAL**

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LATEST TIME CARD.

Daily Through Trains.

12.45 pm	6.25 pm	lv. Minneapolis Ar.	8.31 am	4.20 pm
1.25 pm	7.1 pm	lv. St. Paul Ar.	8.0 am	3.40 pm
	4.05 pm	lv. Duluth Ar.	11.16 am	
	7.15 pm	lv. Ashland Ar.	8.17 am	
7.15 am	10.5 am	Ar. Chica. Lv	5.0 pm	10.4 pm

Ticket sold and baggage checked through to points in the United States and Canada

Close connection made in Chicago with all trains going East and South.

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JAS. C. POND,

Gen. Pass. Agt., Milwaukee, W.

of that body, the meetings of which were reported from time to time as held. Reference was made to the increase of elevator capacity in the territory from Fort William west, from 7,628,000 bushels in 1891 to 13,873,600 bushels in 1896, and to the considerable capacity added since. The council recommended the taking up directly, with the executive council of the territories, of the question of securing and publishing reliable information as to the areas under crop in the Northwest Territories and the results of the harvest in the Northwest. Mention was made of the attendance of the president at the congress of chambers of commerce of the empire, which met in June last.

Mr. Nairn reported as follows regarding the London conference:

I beg to report to the members the result of my work as a delegate from the exchange to the meeting of the chambers of commerce of the British empire, held in London in June, 1896. This meeting is a representative one, the delegates being from all parts of the British empire, and the questions discussed are ones affecting trade and commerce generally of live interest, ranging from the general and broad one of "Closer trade relations with the colonies" to a "decimal system of weights and measures." There were twenty-four of these questions before the congress, and several of them were of great interest to Canadians, that of "Closer trade relations" being the main one and taking up two days' time of the congress to arrive at a decision—other questions brought forward were "Bills of Exchange," "Copyright," "Inter-Imperial Postal and Telegraph Routes," "Bills of Lading Reform," "Freight Rates," "Rules of the Road at Sea." The important resolution on emigration, and others, showing that the object of this meeting was not merely a formal gathering, but an active meeting of business representatives to discuss what is best for the general promotion of trade and commerce in the British empire.

As to the result, the very friendly feeling shown to colonial delegates in the discussion of questions affecting trade proved that the desire of the mother country is to help the colonies as much as is consistent with the present lines of trade policy in Britain; and this help will be given more in the shape of assistance to quicken and cheapen mail, transportation and telegraph service. The two days' discussion on the question of "Closer Trade Relations" showed plainly that it will be very hard to get any concessions from Britain on the lines of preferential trade with her colonies.

The meeting was a very interesting one, and the feeling was that these congresses, which are held every four years, are of increasing value to the business world. All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN NAIRN.

President of Winnipeg Grain Exchange.  
Winnipeg, Jan. 12.

The exchange in adopting the president's report, thanked him very cordially for his services during the year, and ordered the report to be printed.

The treasurer's report, which was adopted, was certified to by Messrs. Farrell and Muir, auditors. It showed a balance on hand at the beginning of the year of \$20.35; a total of receipts, \$1,752.20; total expenditure, \$1,645.85; balance, \$106.85.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The exchange proceeded with the election of officers, and the same were chosen as follows:

President—Nicholas Bawlf.  
Vice-president—R. Muir.  
Secretary-treasurer—C. N. Ball.  
Council—F. W. Thompson, G. R. Crowe, S. Spink, S. A. McGaw, W. A. Mathewson, Hon. D. H. McMillan, H. D. Metcalf, B.

Phillips, R. P. Roblin, S. Nairn, and Joseph Harris.

Committee on arbitration—S. Nairn, H. Mitchell, R. D. Martin, Jos. Harris, S. Spink, S. A. McGaw and G. R. Crowe.

Committee on appeals—F. W. Thompson, R. P. Roblin, R. D. Martin, Arthur Atkinson, S. P. Clark, Wm. Blackadar and S. W. Farrell.

The exchange adjourned and a meeting of the council was held at which the members of the call board were chosen as follows: S. W. Farrell, F. W. Thompson, H. D. Metcalf, S. Spink and Joseph Harris.

### Monthly Wheat Supplies Statement.

The total of 77,459,000 bushels of available wheat in the United States on January 1, 1897, is the smallest recorded on a like date since 1891, when the corresponding aggregate was 60,061,000 bushels. The quantity in sight in the United States and Canada east of the Rocky Mountains out of farmers' hands on Jan. 1 this year was larger than on Jan. 1, 1892, but that on the Pacific coast was less than one-half the total five years ago, which makes the aggregate at the beginning of the current year smaller than it was five years ago.

But while the statement is true that stocks of available wheat today are 4,189,000 bushels smaller than on January 1, 1892, they are 39,000,000 bushels less than on a like date in 1893; 33,000,000 bushels less than on January 1, 1891; 50,000,000 bushels less than at the corresponding time in 1895, and 27,000,000 bushels smaller than on January 1, 1895, one year ago. On the Pacific coast they are smaller than at any like period in the past eight years. But east of the Rocky mountains, Canada included, they are largely in excess of like totals in 1891, 1890 and 1889, and 4,000,000 bushels in excess of the total on January 1, 1892.

Total available stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada on January 1, 1897, with comparisons for like dates in preceding years, are as follows:

	East Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Total
1897....	73,270,000	4,189,000	77,459,000
1896....	97,769,000	7,116,000	104,885,000
1895....	113,767,000	13,322,000	127,089,000
1894....	99,512,000	10,721,000	110,233,000
1893....	107,057,000	9,305,000	116,362,000
1892....	69,213,000	8,313,000	77,526,000
1891....	47,116,000	12,911,000	60,061,000
1890....	54,227,000	7,565,000	61,792,000
1889....	52,740,000	5,765,000	58,505,000

The total quantities of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantities afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on January 1, 1897, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's, with comparisons in previous years, are as follows:

	(000 omitted)			
	East of Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Europe and afloat.	Grand total.
1897 ...	73,270	4,189	61,704	139,163
1896....	97,769	7,116	65,088	169,973
1895....	113,767	13,302	57,741	184,758
1894....	99,512	10,721	79,960	190,223
1893....	107,057	9,305	68,336	184,698
1892....	69,213	8,313	78,450	155,976
1891....	47,116	12,911	111,423	171,450
1890....	54,227	7,535	58,299	119,061
1889....	52,740	5,765	72,253	130,758

The quantity of available wheat reported in the United States, Canada, afloat for and in Europe on the last inst. amounts, as shown in the accompanying table, to 189,163,000 bushels, nearly 40,000,000 bushels less than one year ago; more than 45,000,000 bushels less than two years ago; 51,000,000 bushels less than on January 1, 1891; about 43,000,000 bushels less than on the like date 1893, and about 17,000,000 bushels less than at the

corresponding period 1892; but about 28,000,000 bushels more than at the like date in 1891, and 21,000,000 bushels more than in 1890.

While the decrease in available stocks has been marked, fully as much as anticipated a few months ago, there does not appear to be any immediate dearth of supplies of wheat for export, which effectually disposes of the calculations of the bull statisticians, who were particularly in evidence during the fall months of the year. In fact, one so-called authority announces that there are 100,000,000 bushels of wheat available for reserves on July 1 next, from supplies in and out of sight in the United States. Whether this be true or no, the earlier reports of the domestic wheat crop, particularly that of the government, are discredited by the statistical position of the cereal today, for, according to them all, there should be no wheat to export from the United States from this time on until the new crop comes in without intruding on supplies needed at home for food and for seed.—Bradstreet's.

### British Columbia Mining News.

Within a radius of hundreds of miles from the coast, mining is still actively in progress owing to the dry warm weather. The Albion Company, principal promoters Messrs. Geo. Cowan, J. W. Weart and Henry Shaw are surveying their 12 claims on Bowen Island, 14 miles from Vancouver preparatory to applying for a crown grant. There is no doubt whatever that the ore is on the property in large quantities as it can be traced superficially a long distance. The ledge now being worked has been tunnelled 50 feet and the vein has already widened from 5 feet to seven feet. The average assays run about \$14 the ton on the average at the surface in silver, and can be concentrated so that it may be smelted at less than \$5 per ton. The company have decided to develop the property and place a concentrator on the ground.

Another deal has been consummated in Toronto, showing the willingness with which sound financial concerns will take up a bonifide proposition. The British Canadian Gold Fields Company with ex Finance Minister Foster at the head has purchased 150,000 shares of Athabasca, the mine claims previously mentioned in these columns as situated in Nelson district and being particularly prominent. This enables the company to proceed with developing work vigorously, having the proceeds of the sale of 200,000 shares all told for that purpose. As the mines, four in all are free milling a stamp mill will be erected at once. The last average assay from the Athabasca tunnel went \$114, and the ledge has been proved for 600 feet by open cuts and in places the ore runs away above this average.

The Golden Cache Co., received a wire from their manager this week which runs as follows and is self explanatory: "Biggest and richest free gold strike ever made in Golden Eagle yet while cross cutting west of tunnel at 67 feet, samples and particulars forwarded." The stock of the Golden Cache mines is being held very firm there being no stock offered.

Great interest is being taken in the Fairview camp, southern British Columbia, by Vancouverites. Perhaps the most prominent claims being the Occidentals recently acquired by a Terminal City Company. There are three claims, the Mayflower, Occidental and Bootblack. In the Mayflower, tunnels have been worked ledges east and west, all three claims free gold in paying quantities. Four tons of ore sent to the smelter returned \$62; the ore was not picked and was taken practically from the surface. The ledges on all the claims are from five to seven feet wide,

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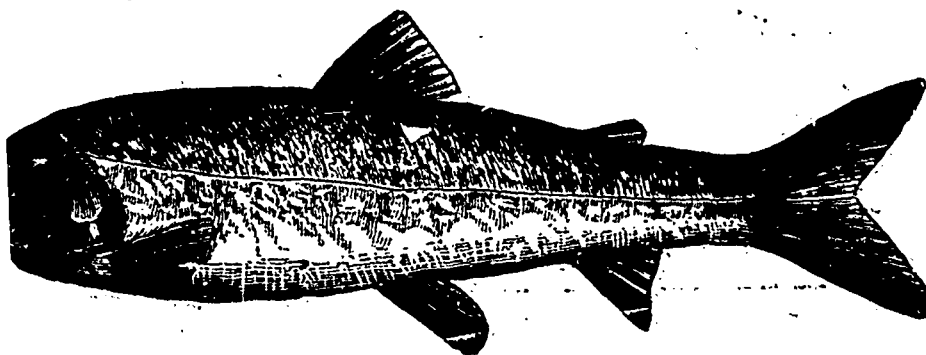


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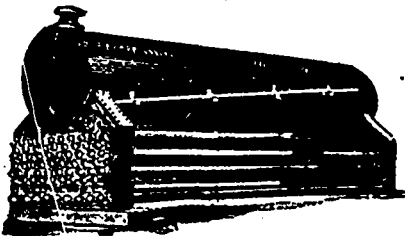
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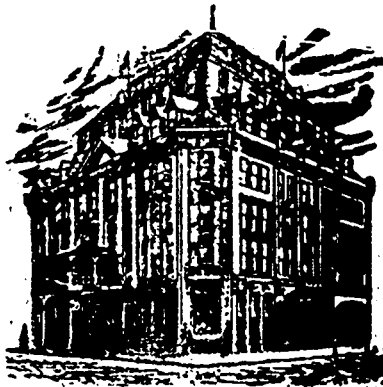
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### Winnipeg Board of Trade.

The council of the Board of Trade met Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The committee on the business men's convention reported progress and that a large number of delegates from the province and Territories would be present on the 4th of February. Arrangements have been made by committee that the ladies of the delegates' families will receive the advantage of the cheap railroad fares.

In continuation of the correspondence with the British association local committee at Toronto a letter was read from Prof. A. B. Macallum, secretary, who expressed the desire to assist in every way in the board's project of having members of the British association in August next visit the west and that he had already communicated with Sir William C. Van Horne, who expressed himself as favorable to the idea, but suggested that it would be better for members to go singly or in small groups at their own convenience instead of in a body, which arrangement will allow them to see more of the country than if they go on one excursion train. I was decided that the council would take up the matter with the C.P.R. direct.

T. Harry Webb and S. A. McGee were appointed auditors for the accounts of last year.

J. T. Gordon, of Gordon & Ironsides, and Geo. Craig were elected members of the board.

In connection with the matter of the tariff commission, which was referred by the board to the council, the following telegrams were read: In answer to the urgent request of the board, wired the Hon. W. S. Fielding that the tariff enquiry commission should hold sessions in Winnipeg, the following was received: "We will endeavor to have meeting of tariff enquiry at Winnipeg, but at this moment it is impossible for us to fix a date or make any definite arrangements."

In order to learn what action had been taken by the eastern boards of trade in connection with the presentation of testimony the following message had been sent to the boards in the cities: "Kindly answer, did boards, as such, or did members as individuals present testimony to tariff enquiry?" The following answers have been received: Toronto—"Our members, as individuals, presented testimony." Montreal—"Our council made no representations before tariff commission nor contemplated such action."

In view of the fact that the council had not yet any definite answer from the commissioners as to coming here it was decided, before taking any further action under the board's resolution, of writing Hon. Mr. Fielding, strongly urging that the commission should come to Manitoba and afford people in this country an opportunity to express their views on the tariff and its work.

Amongst the mass of letters received in answer to the request for suggestions for subjects to be discussed at the convention the following has been received from the Edmonton board of trade:

C. N. Bell, Esq., secretary Board of Trade, Winnipeg.

Dear Sir.—I have been desired by the Edmonton Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to this board to take part in the convention of business men at Winnipeg next month, and to apologize for this somewhat late reply owing to no regular meeting having taken place since the receipt of your communication.

The convention meets with our approval. The date suits us. If possible a representative will attend. We would recommend the reduction of freight rates by the coercion of the C.P.R. by government action and the construction of competing rail and waterways; the desirability of the C.W.'s N at Pasqua railway being immediately constructed by the Dominion as a national work; aid to the British Pacific railway, surrounded with the safeguards which a costly experience with the C.P.R. has proven to be absolutely necessary; the establishment of a Dominion department of mines on similar lines to that in such successful operation in New Zealand in attracting immigration; liberal aid from the Dominion to the Western Canada Immigration association; and the opening up to Canadian commerce of the vast basin of the Mackenzie—which is still monopolized by the corporation from which Canada purchased it in 1870—by the subsidizing of a steamboat company, which is all that is required to quadruple the fur trade and utilize the enormous mineral wealth of that immense region—as subjects for discussion.

I may add that as a means of enabling us to supply your city with coal we feel deeply interested in the construction of the locks at St. Andrew's Rapids; and, of course, we unite with everyone in the Northwest in the desire for the Hudson's Bay route, although our principal market for produce is and will continue to be in the province of British Columbia, and in the northern fur country.

Wishing your convention every success, on behalf of the Edmonton Board of Trade,

I remain, dear sir,

Yours respectfully,

ISAAC COWIE.

### The Dry Goods Trade.

The Toronto Globe has the following review of the dry goods trade: The dry goods and millinery trade have had a hard time to make a fair profit on their turnover for the past few years. Some have suffered heavy losses, which reduced profits to bare living. Some have to contend against the country

agents, who represent themselves as manufacturers, while they are middlemen in disguise. Some retailers are led to believe that they are buying direct from the mills, while, in fact, they may be buying one line that comes direct and all others being produced from warehousemen after orders are received. Some of these agents show extensive ranges, such as coat-canvas, bleached and loom damasks, towels, toweling and lineas. Anyone conversant with the buying for a jobbing house knows that the buyer has to procure his goods from at least ten or more mills on the above mentioned articles. The very largest mills only make a few lines. These so-called manufacturers' agents have been doing a big business for the past few years. In many cases the prices paid to them have been higher than those at which the wholesalers can or would sell. This has restricted the volume of trade left to the wholesale houses. The field for wholesalers has never yet been entirely destroyed in any country. They will have to adapt themselves to the new state of things, but there will be room for those who keep abreast of the times. The cost of distribution has to be increased. The question then arises: Can the manufacturers' agent who travels with a few samples, distribute more cheaply than the wholesaler, who has a full range? With business as at present in force, that is, small quantities covering a large range, the advantage is with the wholesaler.

### SPRING WOOLLENS.

The business done in trousers is chiefly on low-price goods. At one time \$5 for a pair of trousers was considered a popular price. Now, there is such a run after low-priced goods that there is little money in selling or making up this low grade material. When the consumer was willing to pay \$5 to \$7 for a pair of trousers, a reasonably good article could be given, using skilled labor. The merchant tailor has been compelled to supply cotton-mix goods or cotton-back trousers to meet the demand for low prices. There are very few makes of this cottonback that will give satisfaction. A line of cotton-backs having a twist make is selling to the fairly good trade, and will continue to sell. Goods not sold at a reasonable figure cannot be anything else than injure. If the customer cannot afford to pay the price of a tweed effect in a first-class Scotch line, it would be good policy on his part to fall back on the same price quality of Canadian goods in similar appearance, which are sold at a less figure. Light goods are expected to be favorites this season. Fashion is in favor of a better class of goods, as imperfections are easily discernible in low quality. Drabs and grey mixed twists are selling well for light overcoats and suits. Plain mix,

(Continued on Page 454)

**Montreal Grocery Market.**

The feature of the sugar market of late has been the strength in the raw article, and although prices do not show much advance they are very firmly held. Private cable advices received today from London stated that buyers and sellers were indifferent, with beat quoted at 9s 8d for January and 9s 4 1/2d for February. The New York market for both raw and refined is without question a strong one, with values tending upward for the former, and the presumption on that account is that refiners are likely to spring an advance in refined at any time, although much will depend upon the extent of their wants of raw to forcing that market materially higher. The last sales of raw were made at 8 1/2-16c, and granulated is firmly held at \$4.10 per 100 lbs. net. The Montreal market, in sympathy with the above strong news is very firm. The demand is still small and business is quiet at 8 1/2c to 4c for granulated and at 8 1/2c to 8 3/4c for yellows, as to quality, at the factory.

In syrups business has continued quiet, the demand being only for small lots, and prices rule steady at 1 1/2c to 1 3/4c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

The tone of the market for molasses is firm and values generally are fully maintained. The demand for the past week has been slow, and no sales of importance have taken place. We quote pure Barbadoes at 28 1/2c to 29c, mixed at 26 1/2c to 27c, Porto Rico at 27 1/2c. Antigua at 22 1/2c to 23c, and St. Kitts at 23 1/2c to 24c.

The feeling in rice continues very firm in sympathy with the strong advices from abroad, but values show no material change. The demand, as is usual at this season of the year, is limited, and business rules quiet. We quote:—Crystal Japan, \$5.00 to \$5.25; standard B., \$3.70; Patna, \$4.50 to \$5.25; Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75; choice Bermuda, \$1, and Java kinds, \$1.25.

There was no change in the coffee market, business being quiet and prices steady. We quote:—Maracaibo, 18c; Santos, 14c to 16c; Rio, 15c to 16c; and Mocha, 24c to 26c.

The tea market has been very quiet during the past week, which is usually the case at this season, but an improvement is anticipated after the middle of the month. The tone is still firm, and holders show little disposition to make concessions in order to force sales, as an impression prevails that all teas here will be wanted before the next new crop comes around. Private cables from London state that Moyune Young Hysons are very firm, and nothing can be obtained now under 4 1/2d to 4 3/4d, f.o.b. The only sale reported here is a lot of 800 half-chests of Japan, at 15c to 15 1/2c, and shifting, at 7 1/2c to 7 3/4c.

**Winnipeg Grain Inspection.**

The high quality of the last Manitoba wheat crop is shown by the inspection returns. The following shows the quantity of each grade inspected at Winnipeg for the six months ended with Dec. 31:

	Bushels.
Extra Manitoba hard	126 750
One hard	2,009,800
Two hard	715,000
Three hard	384,750
One northern	213,850
Two northern	82 500
Three northern	8,250
One spring	24,700
One white Fyfe	15,600
Two white Fyfe	15,600
One frosted	141,700
Two frosted	114,400

Three frosted	22 750
Feed	5 200
Rejected No. 1	90,850
Rejected No. 2	83 850
No grade	45,500

Total 8,988,850

At the sub port of Emerson there was in addition to the above a total of 720,200 bushels inspected of which total 442,650 bushels was number one hard, and 199,050 bushels number two hard. The total inspections for the six months were therefore as follows: Inspected at Winnipeg, 8,988,850 bushels; inspected at Emerson, 720,200; total, 4,704,050.

The percentages of the different grades of the above wheat are shown in the following tables:

Extra Manitoba hard	2 70
One hard	52 14
Two hard	19 80
One northern	4 71
One white fyfe	.88
Three hard	8 94
Two northern	.72
Three northern	.38
One spring	.54
Two white fyfe	.08
One frosted	8 09
Two frosted	2 44
Three frosted	.48
Feed	.11
Rejected 1	2 04
Rejected 2	1 90
No grade	1 10

The percentage of smutted wheat, it will be noted, is very small in comparison with previous years, owing to the more general and more careful use of bluestone for treating seed wheat before sowing.

The balance of the crop shipped out was inspected at Fort William.

**Comparative Prices in Staples.**

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Jan. 8, 1897.	Jan. 10, 1896.
Flour, straight spring	\$1.25 to \$1.45	\$3.00 to \$3.40
Flour, straight winter	\$1.60 to \$1.75	\$3.00 to \$3.45
Wheat, No. 2 red	1.03	69 1/2c
Corn, No. 2 mixed	29 1/2c	35 1/2c
Oats, No. 2	22 1/2c	24 1/2c
Rye, No. 2, Western	48c	
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	46c	40c
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 3/4-16c	8 1/2c
Print cloths, 64x84	24c	3c
Wool, Ohio & Pa. X	17c to 18c	18 to 18 1/2c
Wool, N. 1 comb	21 to 22c	22 to 24c
Pork, mess new	5.25 to 8.75	\$10.00 to 10.50
Lard, westn. com't.	\$1.16	\$5.77 1/2c
Butter, ex. creamery	20c	23 1/2c
Cheese, ch. east fr.	11c	10c
Sugar, centrif., 96°	3 3/4-16c	3 1/2c
Sugar, granu' d.	4 1/2c	4 1/2c
Coffee, Rio, J. J.	10 1/2c	14 1/2c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.	—	\$1.49
Petroleum, rfd. gal.	—	\$3.09
*Iron, Besse. pg.	\$70.75	\$11.25
*Steel billets, ton	\$16.10	\$16.00
Ocean Steam Freight		
Grain, Liverpool	3 to 3 1/2d	3 1/2d
Cotton	15-12 1/2d	1 3/4d

\* Pittsburgh.

**Silver**

The London silver market was heavy this week, though the issue of rupee obligations in London, has still further curtailed the demand. At the close of the week the London price for bars touched 26 11-16d, which is the lowest figure since March, 1895. The New York Market has simply followed London, and presented no features of importance. Silver prices on Jan. 8 were: London, 29-11-16d; New York, 64 3/4c.

**The Dry Goods Trade.**

Bradstreet says of the situation in the United States: "Jobbers are busy opening

up spring styles, while agents are actively engaged in making deliveries of new goods on previous orders. The cotton goods situation is yet unsatisfactory to manufacturers. Stocks are excessive and buyers are indisposed to purchase, as they look for lower prices. In the meanwhile the season is passing by, and the mills are turning out a large quantity of goods to be piled up. In dress woollens the market is steady, and the mills are quite well supplied with spring business, placed previously. Free deliveries are being made and a few records have begun to come in. Men's wear woollens go slow. Samples for next fall in heavy weights are ready to be shown.

**Literary Notes.**

Massey's Magazine for January opens with an interesting article on England in Egypt, telling of Egypt's relation to the Sudan, and the progress of British control in Egypt. Following up the line of military articles in past numbers, we have this month an account of the 8rd (New Brunswick) regiment Canadian artillery, giving a history of one of the oldest regiments in Canada. These and other articles are liberally illustrated. Part four of "With Parkman through Canada," is given by Prof. Wm. Clarke. These and the usual articles of fiction, news and short articles form a very interesting number.

**British Columbia Trade Items.**

Vancouver, January 12. Trade in Vancouver, Westminster and Victoria was much brisker this week than last. Collections are fair and money free. The weather is very warm and sunny which keeps the price of many products lower than they would otherwise be. Hens have decided to resume business and eggs are falling weekly. Hay will not go higher unless very cold weather sets in. Flour and feed are very firm. The indications are that there will not be so much hay as anticipated being required to feed stock so that lower prices in meat are also looked for. Eastern apples are offering at \$3.75 a barrel and in some of the warehouses here are stored large quantities of eastern apples that may have to be sacrificed at cost owing to the difficulty of keeping fruit any length of time in the humid atmosphere of British Columbia. Butter is lower but will sharply advance should the anticipated cold snap come.

**Cheese Production in the United States.**

A Washington Department report says: "Ninety-ninth of the cheese produced in this country is made in the states of New York, Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, Vermont, Iowa, Pennsylvania and Michigan, ranking in the order named. The New York product alone is almost one half the total, and this state and Wisconsin together make over two-thirds of all. It requires the milk of just about 1,000,000 cows to make the cheese annually pressed in the United States. The value of the annual cheese product of this country varies from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000. About 9,000,000 pounds of cheese are imported annually into the United States. The rate of consumption of cheese in America is about three pounds per capita per annum. Consumption of cheese is apparently somewhat decreasing. Good cheese is approximately composed of one-third water, one-third milk fat and one-third casein, with some sugar and ash.

# The Bullion Mining Company, of Ontario, Limited.

Incorporated under the Laws of Canada.

CAPITAL, \$300,000.

300,000 SHARES \$1 EACH.

### OFFICERS.

President, George Barnes, Mayor of Rat Portage; vice-President, D. C. Cameron. President of the Rat Portage Lumber Company; Treasurer, W. A. Weir, Man. Imperial Bank of Canada, Rat Portage; Secretary, John H. Chaloner; Bankers, Imperial Bank of Canada; Solicitors, H. Langford, Crown Attorney; Consulting Engineer, W. Hamilton Merritt, F.G.S., Prof. of Mining and Metallurgy at the Kingston School of Mines, late Commissioner Royal Commission on the Mineral Resources of Ontario, Associate Royal School of Mines; Mining Engineers, C. H. Park, F. W. Burritt; Directors, George Barnes, C. W. Chadwick, D. C. Cameron, Angus Carmichael, A. J. Parson, Hugh Armstrong, A. Macdonald.

### PROSPECTUS.

This Company, incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario, is formed to acquire, develop, re-sell or otherwise deal in Gold Mining claims on the Lake of the Woods, Seine River, Manitou and other well-known Gold Districts in Ontario, selected by experienced prospectors and approved of by our experts; and to enable the investor by the concentration of Capital and Labor, to participate directly in the profits arising from the development; mining leasing operating in and sale of same, whether acquired by location, bond and lease or purchase. A judicious use of Capital in these new fields, should open rich districts to the profit and advantage to the investor. As in other enterprises, so in mining, profits are obtained only when care, skill and experience are exercised in the management of the business. This company offers to the investor, by the union of capital with practical mining and business experience, an opportunity to mine Economically, and at a Minimum Risk, and to be invested in several claims and in different Gold districts, thus dividing his interest and increasing the chances of satisfactory returns on his investment.

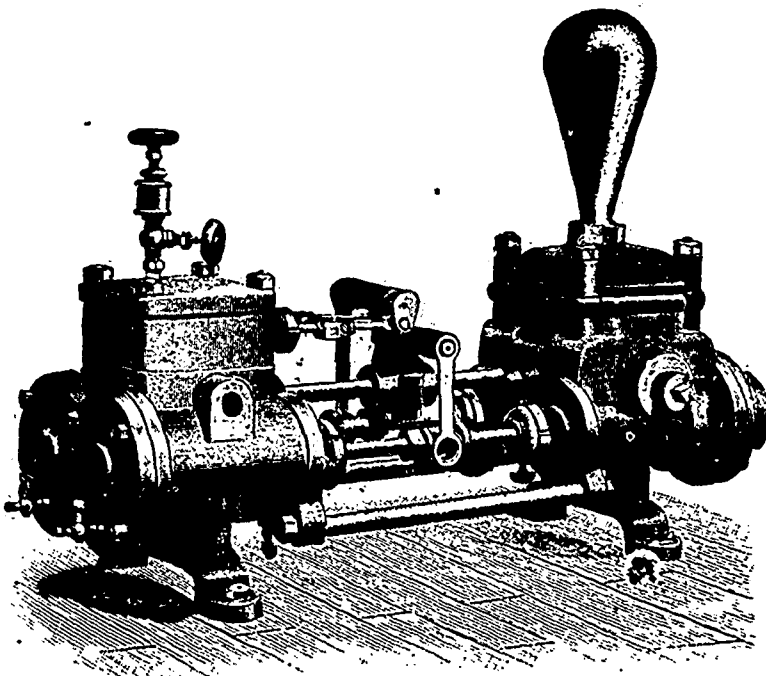
A limited number of shares are now for sale at 60c. per share, full paid and non-assessable. Applications may be made to Messrs. Agur & Beck, corner of Main and Portage avenue, Winnipeg, or to the secretary, at the office of the company, Hilliard house, Rat Portage, and cash or marked cheque must accompany application.

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## The Dry Goods Trade.

(Continued from Page 453)

Large check tweed effects and vicuña in Oxford and black are wanted for light overcoats and suits. Whipcord, approaching the worsted nature, safe Lama cloths in drabs, raised worsteds and light colors in tweed of a herringbone effect are represented in the spring overcoatings. The big trade this season will be on tweeds. Welsh homespuns are very sightly. These goods come in handsome colors, differing in effect from the Scotch lines. They are made of smaller yarns, and will wear much better. Welsh homespuns in drab and blue mix, drab and white mix, etc., with a splash of orange red or green, give a very pleasing effect. Herringbone effects are doing well on light grounds. The tendency in tweeds is toward drabs and tan shadings, with yellow and green overchecks. Some large overchecks are shown, still they are not loud. The character of the tweeds for this spring depart from the winter idea, which was more of a mixture of colors to this season's clear patterns. Though black worsteds are selling well, and will always be popular, it begins to look as though they were giving place to fancy stuffs, not only fancy in colors, but fancy black goods. Tennis flannels are shown in brown, blue and black grounds, with white, red and green stripes. This is a complete change from light grounds. Some new lines in check Italian in high grades are in evidence.

### DOMESTIC WOOLLENS.

The demand for Canadian tweeds is improving. There seems to be a strong tendency to go off worsted fish goods and more into tweed effects. Reports from the old country and other centres of fashion point strongly to the use of tweed suitings. This is an advantage to the Canadian mills. A pleasing feature of the trade in connection with the mills is that the demand is setting in for a better class of goods. This may be regarded as another indication of better times. A very close imitation of Scotch tweeds is now being made by some of the mills. It is such a good imitation as to make it difficult to tell which is foreign and which is domestic. Tweeds known as worsted curls and Scotch fish goods generally are in demand. Some excellent fabrics in low and medium prices are being shown in pure wool stock. These are superseding the cotton mixed goods so much in vogue of late. Some very stylish goods are being shown in Nova Scotia and other machine-made hosiery. Light weight Venetian overcoatings and whipcords, an imitation of the west of England make, are very creditable goods. The determination of many of the mills to drop the lower class of goods and to produce better lines has resulted in raising the whole tone of Canadian made goods. This will benefit the manufacturers and the trade generally. Orders received up to the present time have been tolerably satisfactory.

## Progress of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Newspaper accounts from Russian sources furnish information regarding the progress made with the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway. The line is being constructed in sections simultaneously, and the first, at the European end, is completed, so that it is possible to travel direct from St. Petersburg to Omsk, a distance of 2,673 miles. "On the next section of the line that from Omsk to the Obi river 381 miles in length, the rails are laid the whole distance, but the earthworks are not complete,

On the next section, that from the Obi river to Krasnoyarsk, 467 miles, the rails are also laid, and a beginning has been made of the iron bridge, nearly half a mile long across the Obi that is to join the two sections. On this section many of the smaller bridges are built and half the earth works are completed. The next section is to Irkutsk, a distance of 672 miles, and it presents many difficulties, the most important of which, however, have been overcome. Nearly two-fifths of the earthworks are finished. Beyond Lake Baikal the distance to the head of the Amoor navigation is 701 miles; and in this section work has been begun toward the Pacific end, but the difficulties are very great, and much tunnelling will have to be done, as the line has to rise to a plateau over 3,500 feet high. The next section, however, presents the greatest difficulties, as the line has to be carried through a marshy region which, during the heavy rains, is often completely submerged. The line from Vladivostok is completed for 200 miles, but there can be little doubt that Russia is aiming at a post on the Pacific coast which will be open the whole year, through, so that her forces may always be at her command. How this is to be obtained is one of the problems in the far East, and its solution may be more difficult than the building of the Trans-Siberian Railway."

The Elinburg Scotsman says: "The war between Japan and China and the financial arrangements with China which have followed have given the Russian government and the contractors a powerful impulse. \* \* \* In anticipation of the opening of new sections, the zone system of tickets has lately been adopted in Russia for all distances over 300 versts, or 200 miles. In this way it should cost under £10 to travel from Moscow to the Pacific third class. The present slow rate of travel is to be increased by ten miles an hour on both ordinary and express trains, raising the latter to forty miles an hour. Moscow, which is now only sixty hours from London, will be thus nine and a half days from Vladivostok. The railway will revolutionize the routes to China and Japan, and greatly shorten the journey round the world by Canada and the Pacific ocean. Connected with the main project are more important political plans, believed to be the subject of negotiations with the Pekin authorities. Such are the opening of the Sangari navigation from its source in the heart of Manchuria to its confluence with the Amoor, and a branch railway following the line of that river to an outlet on the Yellow sea not far from Peking. A vast territory rich in coal and minerals will thus be opened up, and Northern Manchuria must ultimately fall to Russia. As to Corea, its fate will lie between Russia and Japan."

A St. Petersburg correspondent of *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* gives the following account of the promised effects upon the travel between the far East and Europe by the Siberian Railway:

"The Siberian line from Cheliabinsk, the western terminus, to Vladivostok will have a length of 7,152 versts. The direction which the branch to the Yellow sea will take is not definitely decided upon, but the total distance from Cheliabinsk to the Yellow sea will be shorter than to Vladivostok. The journey from Vladivostok to Moscow will \* \* \* cost by third class 99,50 marks, by second class 135,50 marks, and by first class 200,50 marks. If we reckon 30 versts per hour the journey from Vladivostok to Moscow will take 303 hours, or 12 days and 15 hours, and as the express trains run 10 versts, only 9 days 11 hours. With an eventual speed of 50 versts per hour the trip will take only 7 days and 14 hours. The tickets from Vladivostok to Moscow hold good for

25 days, and in consequence the journey can so far be made ad libitum. If we compare these charges and length of time with the hitherto exclusively employed steamer routes from Western Europe to Eastern Asia, via Suez Canal, or across the Atlantic ocean, on the American Pacific railway lines and the Pacific ocean, the enormous advantages of the Siberian line become evident. The quickest possible trip from London to Yokohama, via Brindisi, and from there by steamer through the Suez Canal round South Asia, takes at least 33 days; in 10 days less Yokohama can be reached across the Atlantic ocean (8 days), to Quebec by the Canadian Pacific line (5 days) and the Pacific ocean (14 days), or in all 23 days. From Bremerhaven to Shanghai takes at least 47 days, and from Marseilles to Yokohama 40 days. Time is furthermore lost by the fact that the steamers only run at certain intervals, while the railway trains start every day. \* \* \* Bremerhaven to Shanghai costs by first class 1,570 marks, second class 950, and third class 419 marks. Marseilles to Yokohama, first class, 1,476 marks, and second class 600 marks. The Siberian Railway will, therefore, on account of speed and cheapness, become of enormous importance, and the fact that Russia exclusively rules this grand route of communication will be of incalculable political significance."

## The Salmon Canning Process.

A correspondent gives the following interesting details regarding the salmon canning industry in British Columbia: -

"The fish," he says, "are first placed upon a table, at which they are opened and the entrails removed. The heads and fins are also cut off and the entrails removed, and the offal drops through chutes into a tank. After the fish have been opened and beheaded, the blood and rough dirt are washed off, and they are then passed on to a tank where they are carefully washed and cleaned. Revolving knives four inches apart, cut them crosswise into three sections, each the height of a can. As the fish taken in the nets are almost uniform in size, the pieces are all about the same bulk. The cans are then filled, one fish in three cans, or ten and a half fish to a case of four dozen one-pound cans, which is the standard size. A pinch of salt is put in each. The filling is generally done by hand, though some of the canneries have machines for the purpose, with a capacity of 10 cans per minute. As fast as filled the covers are placed on the cans and they are rolled down an iron track, passing through melted solder on the way, which closes up the seams. Each can is dipped in water to see whether it is hermetically sealed, any flaw being detected by the escape of air bubbles. They are then ready for cooking. This is done by lowering the cans, arranged on iron frames, into boiling water, kept at the necessary temperature by steam. They are cooked from one and a quarter to one and a half hours. On being taken out a small hole is punched in the top of each can to allow the steam and water to escape. The hole is again closed with a drop of solder, the cans are tested to see that they are absolutely air tight, and they are subjected to another cooking process, this time in a retort heated by dry steam. Here they remain one and a half hours. The whole cooking process occupies from two and a half to three hours. When the cans come from the retort the exterior is washed with lye to remove any dirt. They are then lacquered, labelled and put in cases ready for shipment."