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 Reserve Fund 6,000,000 00
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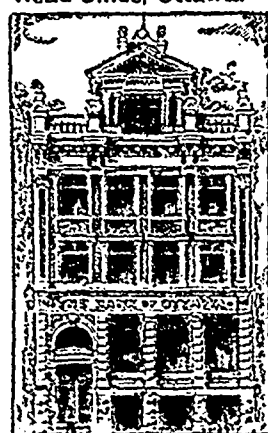
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This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

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CAPITAL, \$1,500,000.
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Assorting orders by letter for fall and winter goods in our lines will receive prompt and careful attention.

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Horse and Cattle Food !

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The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

FIFTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY.

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desks of a great majority of business men in the vast district described above, and including Northwest Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba, and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 15, 1897.

Manitoba.

Horace F. Forrest, of the Union bank, Winnipeg, will have charge of the new branch of the Union which has been opened at Deloraine.

The buildings and stock of general merchandise of Robt. Hastie, of Poplar Point, will be offered for sale in Winnipeg, by auction, on Feb. 16.

At Neepawa on Feb. 10, fire started in W. W. Stevenson's store, burned the store and residence in connection therewith, and also the pool room of P. McDonald, and the McCormick implement warehouse, occupied by Geo. Dinwoody. Stevenson had \$4,000 insurance on stock, which was a total loss, and was valued at \$6,500. The store occupied by Stevenson was owned by Mrs. C. H. Mathers and was insured for \$2,000; valued at \$5,000. Dinwoody had \$800 insurance on implements, valued at \$1,200, part of which were saved.

Alberta.

The following weather report showing the highest and lowest reading of the thermometer at MacLeod for a week, will indicate the condition of the weather in the range country. The dash preceding the figures indicates below zero:

	Max.	Min.
Jan. 30.....	36	-11
" 31.....	40	28
Feb. 1.....	45	24
" 2.....	45	19
" 3.....	44	29
" 4.....	46	26
" 5.....	46	10

Assiniboia.

A. McKaig, blacksmith, Ellisboro, who went east on a visit, is unable to return, and this leaves a good opening for a blacksmith at that place.

C. J. Rosborough & Co., lumber dealers, Grenfell, have dissolved partnership. C. J. Rosborough will continue the business.

At Montreal on Feb. 5, prices for eggs made a further decline of 3c to 1c per dozen to 18c to 20c for new laid, and cold storage, 11c to 12c.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Feb. 6, 1897, shows a decrease of 1,706,000 bushels, against a decrease of 615,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,031,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 893,000 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	87,689,000	79,953,000	81,798,000
" 11 ..	69,945,000	88,615,000	80,453,000	82,980,000
" 18 ..	67,938,000	85,258,000	80,582,000	82,227,000
" 25 ..	67,523,000	84,665,000	80,234,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1 ..	68,734,000	83,376,000	79,893,000	81,390,000
" 8 ..	68,119,000	82,322,000	79,660,000	80,973,000
" 15 ..	65,626,000	80,733,000	78,607,000	80,314,000
" 22 ..	65,011,000	79,470,000	77,257,000	79,419,000
March 1 ..	64,089,000	78,761,000	76,669,000	79,088,000
" 8 ..	62,698,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	79,103,000
" 15 ..	62,123,000	76,873,000	73,319,000	79,010,000
" 22 ..	61,348,000	75,773,000	72,103,000	78,208,000
" 29 ..	61,048,100	74,308,000	71,468,000	77,614,000
April 4 ..	60,322,000	72,703,000	70,782,000	77,203,000
" 11 ..	59,390,000	70,497,000	69,217,000	76,006,000
" 18 ..	58,433,000	68,628,000	67,425,000	74,809,000
" 25 ..	57,940,000	65,770,000	66,543,000	75,027,000
May 2 ..	55,519,000	62,193,000	65,163,000	73,009,000
" 9 ..	54,000,000	60,623,000	63,510,000	72,632,000
" 16 ..	53,146,000	60,481,000	62,044,000	71,528,000
" 23 ..	51,298,000	54,244,000	61,329,000	70,169,000
" 30 ..	50,340,000	52,229,000	59,394,000	70,387,000
June 6 ..	50,147,000	49,739,000	58,211,000	68,662,000
" 13 ..	49,486,000	47,717,000	57,105,000	66,376,000
" 20 ..	49,810,000	46,225,000	55,552,000	63,081,000
" 27 ..	47,860,000	44,661,000	54,657,000	62,316,000
July 4 ..	47,199,000	43,350,000	54,114,000	61,310,000
" 11 ..	47,220,000	41,237,000	53,154,000	59,325,000
" 18 ..	46,743,000	40,483,000	52,771,000	58,903,000
" 25 ..	47,142,000	39,220,000	51,444,000	59,349,000
Aug. 1 ..	46,734,000	38,517,000	50,001,000	59,424,000
" 8 ..	46,429,000	37,530,000	49,321,000	58,860,000
" 15 ..	45,876,000	36,892,000	48,901,000	57,312,000
" 22 ..	45,189,000	35,488,000	47,771,000	56,240,000
" 29 ..	45,674,000	35,433,000	46,949,000	56,831,000
Sept. 5 ..	46,405,000	35,754,000	46,105,000	56,140,000
" 12 ..	47,602,000	38,002,000	46,214,000	57,331,000
" 19 ..	49,655,000	39,385,000	46,189,000	58,603,000
" 26 ..	49,716,000	40,708,000	47,412,000	60,628,000
Oct. 3 ..	50,116,000	41,832,000	47,014,000	62,275,000
" 10 ..	51,434,000	44,481,000	47,074,000	65,239,000
" 17 ..	54,808,000	48,109,000	47,650,000	66,078,000
" 24 ..	57,285,000	50,486,000	47,100,000	66,327,000
" 31 ..	58,030,000	52,990,000	47,027,000	67,306,000
Nov. 7 ..	60,013,000	56,939,000	47,329,000	71,052,000
" 14 ..	61,003,000	60,328,000	47,322,000	72,753,000
" 21 ..	59,971,000	62,221,000	48,914,000	72,233,000
" 28 ..	58,914,000	63,903,000	48,159,000	73,091,000
Dec 5 ..	56,312,000	63,788,000	48,975,000	73,733,000
" 12 ..	54,284,000	66,634,000	48,172,000	80,128,000
" 19 ..	55,183,000	69,309,000	49,071,000	80,024,000
" 26 ..	54,433,000	69,438,000	48,561,000	80,238,000
	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
Jan. 2 ..	54,031,000	69,812,000	67,830,000	79,953,000
" 9 ..	63,672,000	69,945,000	68,615,000	80,453,000
" 16 ..	62,450,000	67,983,000	65,530,000	80,582,000
" 23 ..	61,293,000	67,623,000	64,665,000	80,234,000
" 30 ..	49,591,000	66,734,000	63,376,000	79,893,000
Feb. 6 ..	47,835,000	66,110,000	62,322,000	79,660,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on Jan. 30, is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	446,000
Toronto.....	207,000
Kingston.....	20,000
Winnipeg.....	267,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,410,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	2,836,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on January 30, 1897:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	68,092,000
Pacific Coast.....	3,005,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	97,592,000
Pacific Coast.....	5,889,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Feb. 6, shows a decrease of 1,891,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 66,201,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks of wheat on February 1, 1897. (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 128,629,000 bushels, as compared with 160,425,000 bushels on Feb. 1, 1896; 181,419,000 on February 1, 1895; 189,927,000 on February 1, 1894; 178,088,000 on February 1, 1893; 155,808,000 on Feb. 1, 1892; 105,087,000 on February 1, 1891; 105,588,000 on February 1, 1890, and 119,459,000 on February 1, 1889.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:

Grade.	Jan. 9.	Jan. 16.	Jan. 23.	Jan. 30.	Feb. 6.
Extra Man. H'd	4	7	0	0	0
No. 1 hard....	51	35	28	67	54
No. 2 hard....	19	5	10	12	6
No. 3 hard....	16	6	5	11	4
No. 1 North'n..	1	0	1	1	0
No. 2 North'n..	0	0	1	0	0
No. 3 North'n..	0	0	1	1	0
No. 1 white fyte	0	0	0	0	0
No. 2 white fyte	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring...	0	0	0	0	0
No. 2 Spring...	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 frosted..	4	7	3	1	0
No. 2 frosted..	2	6	3	5	7
No. 3 frosted..	2	0	3	0	1
No. 1 Rejected.	2	2	3	2	6
No. 2 Rejected.	0	1	0	1	0
No Grade.....	1	1	0	0	0
Feed.....	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	103	70	57	101	78
Same week last year.....	175	175	107	218	305

*Wheat inspection at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—About 48c to 50c for No. 1 hard, country points, to farmers, 63½ to 64c afloat Fort William.

Flour.—Local price, per sack. Patents, \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Bran.—Per ton, \$9.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$11.

Oats.—Per bushel, Winnipeg street price, 16 to 17c. Car lots at country points, 12 to 14c.

Barley—Selling at 17c for feed, car lots at country points worth 14c to 16c.

Flax Seed.—60 to farmers at country points. Butter.—Dairy round lots, choice, 12c to 14c.

Cheese.—Jobbing price 9½ to 11c.

Eggs.—Fresh, 18c to 19c net price.

Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 6c, unfrozen; country frozen, 3½ to 4½c.

Mutton.—Fresh, 6 to 6½c, country do, 5 to 5½c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 5½c.

Cattle.—Nominal at 2½ to 3½c. for butchers' stock.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4c.

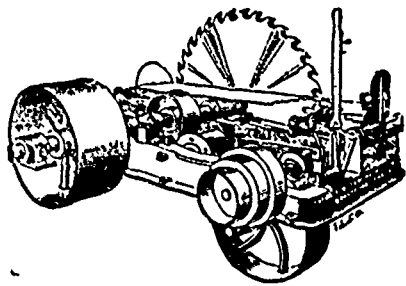
Sheep.—Sheep nominal at 3 to 3½c off cars.

Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.

Poultry.—Chickens, 8 to 9c lb; turkeys, 10 to 11c; ducks, 9c, geese, 10c.

Hides.—Green frozen, 4½c.

A proclamation is published in the Dominion official Gazette proroguing parliament to March 11,

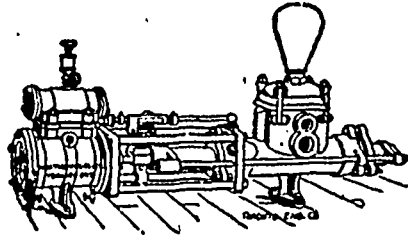


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Grain Choppers,



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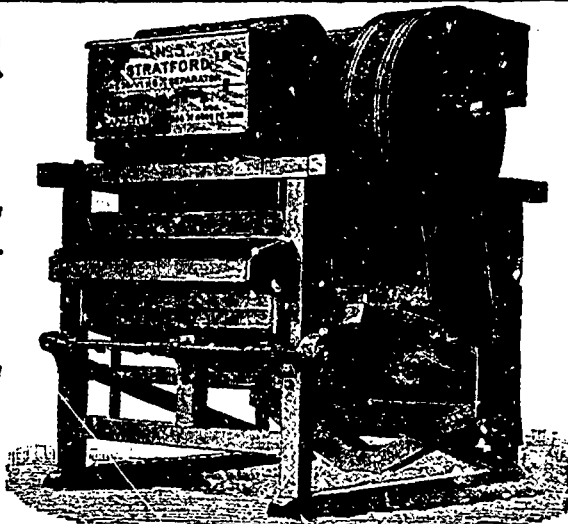
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LEIGH MILL DRESS GOODS
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TO

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is evidenced by our
magnificent range of
Samples for the Spring
NOW ON THE ROAD



EXCELLENT VALUE
ORDERS SOLICITED

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 15, 1897.

TO EXPORT FRESH MEATS.

It seems quite probable that during the coming year a large slaughtering and shipping business in dressed meats will be established in Winnipeg. Prof. Robertson some time ago outlined a plan for the establishment of an export trade in dressed meats. His plan is to establish cold storage and slaughtering establishments at two or three points, including Montreal, Winnipeg and probably a point in the western range country. Retail shops would be opened in Great Britain, in order to introduce the sale of Canadian fresh meats. Prof. Robertson's plan was outlined fully in The Commercial some time ago. Recently it was reported that the government had decided to put this plan into force during the present year. It is now announced that the live stock exporting firm of Gordon & Ironside contemplate going into the dressed meat export trade. This firm has done a large business for years in exporting live stock from Manitoba and the Territories, and during late years they have been the largest exporters of live stock in Canada. They are no doubt thoroughly familiar with the live stock export trade in all its branches, and they have accordingly gained much experience which will be useful to them in entering the dressed meat trade.

The establishment of an export dressed meat trade should prove a grand thing for Manitoba and the Territories. The Commercial has for years advocated the shipment of dressed meats in preference to exporting live stock, and this journal has long been of the opinion that sooner or later the dressed meat trade would to a considerable extent at least supplant the export live stock trade. The expense of exporting live stock is very great, besides which there is the heavy shrinkage in condition of the cattle in shipping them long distances. There is also the humanitarian view of the matter. Some have gone so far as to advocate the total prohibition of the live stock export trade, on account of the unavoidable hardships which the animals are obliged to suffer. The difficulties of shipping our western range cattle is increased by their wild nature. These wild cattle fail in condition more rapidly in confinement than domestic cattle.

It is a big enterprise to undertake to establish this trade. It means the construction of an extensive and costly cold storage and slaughtering plant, and the construction of refrigerator cars, especially designed for the business. To meet the requirements of the trade, we would require an establishment at Winnipeg capable of handling about 1,000 head of cattle each week. There will be, no doubt, considerable risk in undertaking an enterprise of such magnitude, requiring such a large outlay of capital, and though it may prove unprofitable at the outset, we believe that eventually the advantages of exporting dressed meats, instead of live stock, will be fully demonstrated.

Already quite an important pork packing industry has been built up at Winnipeg, and it has proved of great advantage to the farmers of this country, providing them with a ready home market for their hogs. Since the establishment of this industry, the farmers have been giving more attention to the raising of hogs, and this has been a source of much profit to them. The establishment here of a slaughtering and export business in fresh meats, would be a further encouragement to the farmers to go more extensively into mixed farming, and this it is generally admitted would be greatly to their benefit.

Other industries would follow on the establishment of a large slaughtering business here. The large quantity of hides made available should encourage the establishment of a tannery here, and this in turn would provide the raw material for shoe and leather working establishments. The canning of meats, the manufacture of glue, fertilizers, etc., would also perhaps be made profitable by the abundant supply of raw materials for such industries. Altogether the outlook for the future prosperity of this country is materially brightened by the prospect of securing the early establishment of this fresh meat export trade, and it is to be hoped that our expectations in this matter will be fully realized.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR GILROY'S resolution in favor of the proposed fast Atlantic service, regarding which notice of motion was given at a meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade, was withdrawn after a brief discussion at the last meeting of the board. It was evident that a strong opposition had developed against the adoption of this resolution, and it is very doubtful if it could have been carried, if it had been pressed to a vote.

AT the recent annual dinner of the Winnipeg board of trade, Mr. Bole referred to the absurd statements made in Dominion trade returns, regarding the exports from Manitoba. This is a matter which The Commercial has called attention to once or twice in the past. For the year with which Mr. Bole dealt, the statistics showed that Manitoba had exported one dozen of eggs, four pounds of cheese, 1 000 pounds of butter, etc. These statements are of course simply ridiculous, and they would prove very misleading to those who do not understand the situation. The statistics as they refer to the whole Dominion, are no doubt at least approximately correct, but when an attempt is made to show exports and imports by provinces, they are all wrong. Manitoba is an inland province, and our exports and imports are entered mostly through ports in the other provinces. Thus Montreal and other ports in the Eastern provinces would be credited with the bulk of our trade. Under these circumstances it seems very absurd to try to show to what proportion the various provinces share in the export and import trade. Statistics are worse than useless unless they are approximately correct, because if they are not correct they are misleading. It

would be a more sensible plan to give the figures in the aggregate, as they refer to the country as a whole, and not undertake to show the trade by provinces at all, when it only results in such ridiculous misstatements.

THE policy of the Dominion Government regarding dairying in the Territories, will undoubtedly prove a wonderful assistance in the development of the dairy industry in that quarter, and the development of this industry means wealth to the country. The government has taken hold of this question in a practical way; and with the resources and experience at the command of the dairy commissioner, failure is practicably impossible. The fact that the government will operate the creameries in the interest of the patrons, until they are thoroughly established, means that first-class factories will be established in every case, and every factory will be provided with all that is necessary, including cold storage, to secure the manufacture and marketing of a first-class article. The establishment of creameries throughout the territories will give the farmers something more than grain raising to depend upon. The development of the dairy industry will not only prove a source of wealth in itself, but it will tend to encourage the raising of hogs and other live stock. This means that the farmers will have several sources of revenue to depend upon. We will have mixed farming instead of only grain growing. Thus the farmers will always have some sources of revenue, in the most unfavorable years. We talk much about encouraging immigration, but the establishment of the dairy industry in the Territories under such favorable auspices, is one of the best things which has ever been undertaken in the interest of immigration.

THE COMMERCIAL can assure the Moosomin Spectator that we have looked into the quarantine question very carefully, and have the most conclusive evidence to prove that the quarantine restrictions were a great hindrance to immigration from the south. In the case of settlers coming in with cattle, their cows would be about the only source of revenue to them the first season, but the quarantine not only deprived them of the use of their cows, but practically ruined the cows at the same time. The Commercial has been shown considerable correspondence between parties here and prospective immigrants from the south, wherein the quarantine was mentioned as the principal difficulty in the way of moving to Canada.

ACCORDING to reports from Washington, there would appear to be little hope of securing a more liberal trade arrangement with the U. S. While our commissioners have been received in a friendly manner, they seem to have been given very little encouragement so far as freer trade relationship between the two countries is concerned. It is reported that the only probable outcome of the visit of our ministers to Washington, will be the appointment of a commission, to meet a similar commission appointed by the United States, to consider trade relations

between the two countries. In the meantime, Washington legislators are considering proposals for the increase of their tariff upon products imported from Canada. The United States lumbermen are demanding a big increase in the lumber duties, and it is also reported from Washington that the old McKinley tariff on agricultural products will be re-enacted by the new administration. The committee recently considered the agricultural schedule, and practically agreed to restore the McKinley tariff, which placed prohibitory duties upon agricultural products such as are imported from Canada. The effect of this prohibition of Canadian products from entering the United States, will be to force us to again turn our attention to a strenuous cultivation of the British market.

* * *

THE tariff commission has come and gone. Considerable good evidence was placed before the commission, and a great deal of rant and rot was also talked. Those who delight to talk whenever an opportunity offers, were there, and there was about as much talking to the galleries as to the commission. The farmers had a big innings. They monopolized a large share of the time of the convention, and if they do not get what they want, it will not be because they did not place their views, and reiterate them before the commission.

* * *

In this issue of The Commercial will be found an interesting paper on India, written by C. Wood Davis, in which special reference is made to the wheat exporting capabilities of that country. The conclusion arrived at by Mr. Davis agrees with the opinion expressed by The Commercial some time ago, to the effect that India, as a wheat exporting country had passed its zenith.

Extending Across the Border.

H. Shorey & Co., wholesale clothiers of Montreal, have recently placed on the market in New York and sold in a surprisingly short time the stock of a company formed for the purpose of waterproofing woolen fabrics by their Rigby process. This is an evidence of the way in which United States business men snap up a good thing when they see it.

We understand all the stock that Messrs. Shorey & Co. were willing to sell was taken up by two United States capitalists immediately it was offered to them; and from the inquiries they have had already from United States mills whose attention has been called to the wonderful process of making waterproof textile fabrics without interfering with their porous properties, it is anticipated that a large amount of money will be realized from the venture.

The Rigby process of waterproofing textile fabrics was the invention of John S. Rigby, F.C.S., a celebrated English chemist, who sold his right in its entirety to the Messrs. Shorey. We wish them well in their new venture.

An Ottawa telegram says. Minister Fisher has made further provision for cold storage facilities on ocean going vessels by contracting with the Dominion line for the equipment of three vessels to Liverpool, with accommodation for 250 tons in cold storage. This will mean three sailings per week.

The Tariff Commission.

The tariff commission opened at Winnipeg on Monday morning last. The first witness to present himself was John S. Thompson, of Waskada. Mr. Thompson wanted to know whether the commissioners would take any evidence outside of reciprocity and freight rates.

Hon. Mr. Fielding said the commission would have to give its preference to tariff matters, but at the same time would be glad to hear of any matters affecting the government of the country.

J. K. Melnis, president of the Patrons of Industry of the Northwest, was then presented. Mr. Melnis came to the point at once. He declared the Patrons wanted a tariff for revenue only. They desired that the tariff for protection be abolished as an unsound policy. The farmers believed the policy of protection was a delusion and they did not want it. Farmers were willing to bear their full share of taxation when that taxation was imposed for revenue only. Mr. Melnis also touched on freight rates, etc. He said his views represented the farmers of the Northwest generally.

A deputation next presented itself in relation to the fruit duties, composed of M. W. Rublee, K. J. Johnson and R. R. Scott, all wholesale fruiters of Winnipeg. They were accompanied by W. G. Bell, who represented the consumers.

Mr. Bell, being first speaker, contended very vigorously that the duties on fruit imported by this country were most unjust and a very heavy burden to the people. His contention was that these duties did not materially aid the fruit growers in the east, most of the fruit coming from California. Eastern Canada in many lines of fruit could not compete with California. For a few weeks in the year these duties benefitted the fruit growing section of Eastern Canada, but the people here objected to being taxed for a little corner in Ontario.

R. R. Scott spoke particularly of peaches, plums, strawberries and grapes on which he contended the duties were outrageously high, in instances as high as a hundred per cent. He opposed very earnestly the proposition of eastern fruit growers to put a duty on bananas which were now free.

Mr. Rublee gave statistics to show the almost utter impossibility of this country importing its fruit either from Ontario or British Columbia. The fruit, or the greater bulk of it, of necessity, had to be brought from the States. The duties, therefore, did not aid Canadian fruit growers, but imposed an unnecessary burden on the people of this country.

K. J. Johnson emphasized the assertion that it was impossible to profitably bring in Canadian fruit.

J. A. Mitchell represented the Northern Elevator company and other elevator companies. Mr. Mitchell submitted a carefully prepared statement asking that the tariff on gasoline be materially reduced. The elevator companies had found gasoline plants much cheaper and much safer than steam plants. But the gasoline duties were so high that gasoline could not now be purchased. With gasoline at reasonable rates the elevators of this country could operate at an expense of a cent a bushel compared with a cent and a half or two cents with steam. Duty on gasoline was now 6½ cents a gallon. Elevator men wanted it reduced to 3 cents.

Arthur Congden, dealer in felt shoes, with felt soles, desired a reduction of duty on such shoes, which reduction would not affect any manufactory in Canada. They had become a necessity in this country and Mr. Congden thought the duty could be abolished without injuring any established industry of the country.

S. M. Barro desired the abolition of the duty on cream separators. These separators could only be built by skilled workmen, and they could not be built in Canada profitably where the demand was limited. They had to be imported from the States. He urged cream separators to be placed on the free list. He thought it unfair to tax people for the benefit of two or three men in the east who desired to experiment in building separators. To abolish the duty would be of very great benefit to the farmers and dairymen of this western country. Mr. Barro also thought the duties on dairy products should be maintained.

R. H. Williams, president of the Regina Board of trade was then introduced. Mr. Williams gave statistics in support of his contention, that duties on such articles as wagons, cottons, agricultural implements, coal oil, etc., should be materially reduced. Such reduction would greatly aid the settlers of the Northwest.

Wm. Postlethwait, of Brandon, endorsed the request for a reduction of duty on gasoline.

At the afternoon session on Monday J. H. Ashdown was first introduced. He discussed the question of trade and navigation returns, pointing out that the blue books of the Dominion do not give a true representation of the facts as to exports from Manitoba. He complained of the exercise of arbitrary power by the customs authorities in fixing values for customs purposes. He gave an instance of sewer pipe, telling of a regulation which was in force for three years, up to May 11, 1895, under which a discount of 65 per cent. was allowed, when by the actual market value it should have been 82½ per cent off, the result being that when the duty was nominally 35 per cent, it was made to be actually 70 per cent. The value fixed was too high in the first place, and no account was taken of fluctuations in value. He suggested the appointment of a board of appraisers to correct or sustain the decisions of local appraisers. The powers held by the customs authorities to demand post entries, such a demand should never be made after the goods had gone into consumption. Another complaint was that nobody has the power, though the governor-general does in some cases order the delivery of goods seized. He told of a shipment of cutlery from Lockwood Bros., in which an error was made, the shipment not containing the whole order and 24 lbs. of goods being sent which were not in the invoice. Though he offered full evidence he had to deposit the full value of the goods, and the amount, \$100, being in the hands of the officers for distribution among them was not returned. In another case goods seized because of a mistake, not being such that the officials could appropriate them, were offered back on his own explanation without any evidence being offered. The customs officials, he submitted, should not gain, as they do now largely, from seizure. He held also that where arbitrary values are set for duty purposes information should always be accessible to the importer. He asked that where prices for home trade are abnormally high, the export value should be taken as a fair value of the goods. It was not his experience that Canada is made a slaughter market by United States manufacturers. Prices there are so reduced that they cannot afford to sell for export for less than the home trade. He further pointed out that for manufacturing purposes wire numbered 6, 9, 12 and 14 is admitted at a lower rate of duty; he asked that 12½ and 13 be added these being the size used here in manufacturing barbed wire. He submitted that if the manufactured goods are admitted free, the raw material should be admitted free also. He asked that the affidavit to be taken by the importer be admitted.

(Continued on Page 550.)

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TIMOTHY, BROMUS INERMIS
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FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS, &c.
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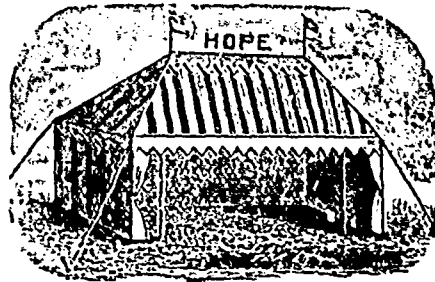
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 in the Dominion.

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PURE VINEGARS.

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Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies
 AND PRESERVES,

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MICHEL LEFEBVRE & CO.,
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Established 1849. Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals.
 20 1st Prizes.

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Than start the New Year with us as already demonstrated to
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Orders for Haddies, Pickled and Smoked Herrings, Codfish
 and Bloaters, as well as Oysters, are increasing daily. Our stock
 is always fresh.

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COTTON and FLAX



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STANDS unparalleled in its Distinctive Qualities and Peculiar Advantages. We are aware others are attempting to imitate our Brands, which is the Strongest Guarantee of the Superiority of

“OGILVIE'S FLOUR.”

Messrs THE OGILVIE MILLING CO., WINNIPEG, MAN.

Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mill, of which we have imported considerable on this crop has given the highest satisfaction to everyone who has baked it. Glasgow is pre-eminently a city of large baking establishments, some of them with a capacity of 2000 barrels per week, and all managed by gentlemen well qualified to give a sound verdict on the merits of any flour. With remarkable unanimity they have expressed the opinion that nothing finer than your Patent grade has ever been placed on the market. The baking results have been exceptionally high, both in regard to color and out-turn, and we can invariably command a higher price. We are, yours respectfully, WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

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OGILVIE'S FLOUR

YOU HAVE

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Each bag guaranteed. Sown with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,

Unequaled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands unrivalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

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OUR BRANDS STAND THE TEST.
Others Come and Go Again.

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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.

Mackie's Rare Old Highland 10 YEARS OLD.
Gold Label, as patronized by Royalty and the Leading Physicians.

Sold only in the Northwest by:

G. Velie, Strang & Co., G. F. & J. Galt, J. M. Carby
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Companies	No. of Shares	Par Value	Price
Alberta	1,000,000	\$ 1.00	\$ 15
All Gold Mining Co.	1,000,000	1.00	10
Battie Gold Copper	1,000,000	1.00	5
Blue Bird	600,000	1.00	10
Big Trees	8,500,000	1.00	12 1/2
California Con.	500,000	1.00	10
California	2,500,000	1.00	16
Cambridge	1,000,000	1.00	8
Celtic Queen	750,000	1.00	4 1/2
Canadian Gold Fields Syn.	1,000,000	1.00	10
Colonna	1,000,000	1.00	23
Commander	500,000	1.00	25
Deer Park	1,000,000	1.00	21
Cromwell Mining and Development Co.	1,200,000	1.00	3 1/2
Dundee G. M. Co. Ltd.	1,000,000	1.00	10
Eastern Mining Syndicate	1,000,000	1.00	25
Elise	1,000,000	1.00	8
Enterprise	1,000,000	1.00	20
Eric	1,000,000	1.00	7 1/2
Evening Star	1,000,000	1.00	12
Georgia	1,000,000	1.00	18
Good Hope	500,000	1.00	6
Great Western	1,000,000	1.00	16
Gold Hills Explor'n & D Co.	2,000,000	1.00	10
Hattie Brown	1,000,000	1.00	7 1/2
High Ore	500,000	1.00	5 1/2
Hill Top	1,000,000	1.00	10
Homestake	1,000,000	1.00	17 1/2
Heather Bell	1,000,000	1.00	15
Imperial	1,000,000	1.00	10
IBEX	1,000,000	1.00	6
Iron Horse	1,000,000	1.00	20
Iron Colt	1,000,000	1.00	20
Iron Mask	500,000	1.00	46 1/2
Ivanhoe and Ottawa	1,000,000	1.00	10
Josie	700,000	1.00	62
Jumbo	500,000	1.00	60
Juliet	1,000,000	1.00	12
Koonay-London	1,000,000	1.00	10
Kohlnoor	1,000,000	1.00	10
Kootenay and N.W.M Co.	1,000,000	1.00	2
Le R.	600,000	6.00	7.50
Lily May	1,000,000	1.00	20
Mayflower	1,000,000	1.00	14 1/2
Monita	750,000	1.00	21
Montezuma Mining Co.	1,000,000	1.00	4 1/2
Monte Cristo	1,000,000	1.00	14
Morning Star	1,000,000	1.00	7 1/2
Mugwump	1,000,000	1.00	14
Nest Egg	500,000	1.00	10
Noble Five Gun	1,200,000	1.00	02
Northern Bell	1,000,000	1.00	15
Novelty	1,000,000	1.00	8 1/2
O K	1,000,000	1.00	27 1/2
Ottawa	250,000	1.00	25
Palo Alto	1,000,000	1.00	8
Phoenix	500,000	1.00	13
Poorman	500,000	1.00	8 1/2
Red Eagle	1,000,000	1.00	10
Red Mountain View	1,000,000	1.00	12
Red Point	1,000,000	1.00	10
Rossland, Red Mt.	1,000,000	1.00	25
Rossland G M and Del. Co.	2,500,000	1.00	12 1/2
Santa Marie Silver M Co.	1,000,000	1.00	5
St. Elmo	1,000,000	1.00	10 1/2
St. Paul	1,000,000	1.00	12 1/2
Silverine	500,000	1.00	8 1/2
Silver Bell	1,000,000	1.00	10
Sou'n Cross and W Con	500,000	1.00	20
Slocan Star	500,000	1.00	2 35
Smuggler Mining Co.	1,000,000	1.00	25
Union	500,000	1.00	6
Virginia	500,000	1.00	10
West Le Rol.	500,000	1.00	10 1/2
White Bear	2,000,000	1.00	10
Young Brit. American	1,000,000	1.00	06
Wonderful	1,000,000	1.00	10

MINING NOTES

Reports from Rossland and Spokane indicate a rapid recovery in prices of shares in standard properties, from the "slump" which took place during the holidays.

* * *

The sale of the War Eagle at \$800,000, and the organization of a new company which has taken over the Crown Point at the rate of two shares in the Crown Point for one in the new company, whose stock is now quoted at \$1.20, has given a great impetus to all properties in the Rossland district.

* * *

The Slocan Silver Mines seem to be coming rapidly to the front. It is expected that there will be a great rush to that district with the opening of spring.

* * *

The cheapest thing on the local market is the IBEX, of Rossland, at six cents per share.

* * *

We would advise prospective investors to make their purchases at once, as prices will certainly advance as the spring approaches.

Fur Trade Notes.

Following are the quantities of raw furs offered at C. M. Mampton & Co's recent London sales: 17,000 marton, 5,662 marton tails, 12,005 Japanese martin, 455 baum-marton, 618 stonemarten, 8,257 Russian sable, 4,580 Japanese sable, 2,057 koliniski tails, 6,521 Japanese mink, 8,400 bear, 6,000 black bear, 8,000 brown bear, 700 grizzly bear, 2,800 Russian bear, 120 white bear, 486,000 Australian opossum, 80,110 wombat, 61,825 wallaby, 7,509 kangaroo, 21,000 bastard chinchilla, 1,608 real chinchilla, 16,600 Japanese fox, 6,191 Japanese badger, 1,800 Persian lamb, 28,000 Thibet lamb, 4,600 Thibet lamb crosses, 800 Thibet lamb coats, 1,947 Mongolian lamb, 283 Mongolian lamb crosses, 1,465 China kid crosses and rugs, 882 goat rugs, 400 mouflon, 7,800 wild cat, 10,500 house cat, 14,500 wolf, 8,029 badger, 926,000 muskrats, 20,000 black muskrats, 102,000 American opossum, 2,291 white fox, 8,200 red fox, 214 Kitt fox, 6,226 lynx, 106,000 mink, 145,000 raccoon, 9,000 civet cat, 255,000 skunk, 5,406 dry hair seals.

The offerings of the Hudson's Bay Company's sales comprized: Beaver 49,768, muskrat 422,214, American rabbits 81,759, Northwest coast fur seals, salted, 38,721, dressed 4 7/11.

The New York Fur Trade Review says: "The results of the London Jaquary public sales make it impossible for anyone to predict the future course of any article. It seems that American furs are not wanted anywhere, notwithstanding their excellent qualities, and such being the fact, prices should run low. Shippers and buyers will do well to take our advice, previously given, to discourage trapping in all sections."

The London, England, correspondent of the Fur Trade Review, writes as follows on January 16: "Manufacturers here continue to use bastard chinchilla and Persian lamb, notwithstanding the higher prices now asked for these articles; squirrel linings are also taken at advancing figures; stocks are nowhere excessive and prices will probably advance for squirrel bellies. Dyed rabbit, grebe and ermine remain in request; natural Thibet of the first quality remained firm at the public sale, but inferior grades declined about 15 per cent. and were taken largely for Paris; Thibet crosses brought former figures. Thibet coats in medium sorts sold 20 per cent easier, good and common skins at former prices, and very large quantity were secured for Paris. Monkey practically all withdrawn. Australian opossum sold briskly, first blue skins brought fully former prices; seconds and small blue skins advanced fifteen per cent. and thirds advanced twenty-five per cent.; reds, especially large skins, were considerably dearer. Wallaby brought lower prices, silver wombat brought full values and red wombat were easier. Messrs. Culverwell, Brooks & Co's sealskins and bastard chinchillas were withdrawn. Goat rugs were in very large supply and offered without reserve, but prices were fairly maintained for all classes of skins. Chinese sable, fourteen hundred skins, were offered and comprised some fine parcels; they were mainly taken for Paris at good prices. White Siberian hares, 804,265 skins, were offered and all sold at fairly good prices. Kid crosses were offered in large quantity and a few good parcels were sold at last October prices, greater portion being withdrawn. Chinchilla and seal were worn at Trencham during the royal visit, the Princess of Wales looking charming in a cape of real chinchilla, with muff to match, and the Duchess of Sutherland wearing a seal mantle with Persian lamb collar."

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To Advertisers,
 All changes for advertisements must be at this office not later than Thursday noon.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Feb. 13.

Business has continued dull in wholesale lines this week. A little shipping of spring goods has begun, but it is not active yet, but will steadily increase during the next few weeks. Any very active movement in business is not looked for until March.

In the United States the pool on steel rails has broken, and prices declined \$8 to \$9 per ton. United States purchases of wool at the London sales are very heavy. The movement of prices in the United States this week, says Bradstreet's report, is on the whole, favorable, gains in addition to those for print cloths, leather, and Bessemer pig iron, are also reported for turpentine, lead, zinc, and sugar. Firm and unchanged prices are announced for flour, pork, lard, coffee, petroleum, copper, and for steel billets, while lower prices are reported for steel rails, oats and cotton.

Failures for the past week have been 267 in the United States against 321 last year; and 61 in Canada against 67 last year.

At New York on Thursday call money was quoted at 1 1/2 to 2 per cent, prime mercantile paper 3 to 4 per cent., bar silver 6 1/2 c, Mexican dollars, 50 1/2 c.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Feb. 13.

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

CORDWOOD—The Prices are about the same, and mild weather makes the demand quiet. Pine is held about \$3.50 for cars on track here, tamarac, \$1.25 per cord on track, and poplar at \$2.50 to \$2.75. Prices delivered to consumers about 75c advance on these quotations.

COAL—The cold weather did not last long and this week has been very mild again, and the demand has consequently been quiet. Prices are the same. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton; Lethbridge \$6.50. 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.

FISH—Prices are as follows:—Finnan Haddies, 7c per lb; Whitefish, 5 to 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, \$8 per barrel; smoked salmon, 15c lb.; bloaters, \$1.25 to \$1.40 box; red herrings, 20c box; pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lbs; pickled whitefish, \$6 per barrel; salt herrings \$3.50 per half barrel; boneless fish, 5c lb.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples are firmer, and \$2.50 is about as low as any good fruit can be had for, while spies, which are scarce, are held at \$2.75 to \$3.00 per barrel. Other lines are unchanged. Prices are as follows: Apples, \$2.50 to \$3.00 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 \$3.75 to \$1.00 per box; Messina lemons, \$1.50 per box; California lemons, \$1.50 box; Cape Cod cranberries, frozen, \$5 to \$5.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$9.90 per keg; bananas, \$2.75 to \$3.50 per bunch; sweet potatoes, \$1.50 to \$5 per barrel; dates, 6 1/2 to 7c; figs, 13 to 15c lb. for layers.

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

DRUGS—Advices are firm on bluestone and prices have advanced lately in some markets. Cream of tartar is firm. Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 c; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 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. copperas 34 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00; creta 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, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 85 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$4.50 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, \$4.00 to \$4.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon as to brand; oxalacic acid, 13 to 16c; potass iodide, \$4.25 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., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminial—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do. 4oz, \$5.10.

HARDWARE—There is no further change this week. 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, \$9.00 to 9.25; I. X., per box, 20 by 23, 112 sheets to box, \$11.00 to 11.20.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$9.00 to 9.25.

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.; \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 9 to 11c; Russian sheet, per lb. 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 23 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.10

GALVANIZED IRON.—American, 20 gauge, \$1.00; 22 and 24 gauge, \$1.25; 26 gauge \$1.50; 23 gauge, \$1.75 per 100 lbs.

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

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2 c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 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 guage, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 1/2 c; 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 1/2 c 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, \$2.88 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 3 to 6 inch, \$3.20 per keg; 2 1/2 inch, \$3.33, with usual extras for smaller sizes.

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.

LUMBER—The important feature in the lumber trade is the reductions which will be made in prices by the putting into effect of the new lists. Hereafter the delivered price at Winnipeg will apply to country points, with the difference in the through freight added. This will make a reduction on dimension, boards, shiplap, etc., ranging from 50c up to \$1.65, while on finishings the price will not be materially altered on some lines. These reductions will very materially cheapen the price of lumber in Manitoba.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Prices are as follows:

WHITE LEAD—Pure, \$6.00 per 100 lbs.

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

DRY COLORS.—White lead, per lb., 7c; red lead, kegs 5 1/2 c; yellow ochre in barrel lots, 2 1/2 c; less than barrels, 3c; golden ochre, barrels, 3 1/2 c; less than barrels, 4c; Venetian, red, barrels, 3c; less than barrels, 3 1/2 c; American vermilion, 15c; English vermilion, \$1 per lb., Paris green, 18 to 19c; Canadian metallic oxides, barrel lots 2 1/2 c; less than barrel lots, 3c; English purple oxides, 100 lb. kegs, 4c; less than kegs, 4 1/2 c 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.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12 1/2 to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$4.00; benzine, per case, \$4.00; 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. 90c per bale putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2 1/2 c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2 1/2 c.

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

LINSEED OIL.—Raw, per gal., 52c; boiled, per gal., 55c in barrels; less than barrels 5c per gallon extra, with additional charges for cans.

TURPENTINE.—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 55c; less than barrels, per gallon, 55c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

OILS.—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 30c 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, 19½c; crescent, 22½c; oleophene, 4½c in barrels. Car lots 1c per gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 28c for coceno and 25c for sunlight.

RAW FURS.—Following gives the range of prices paid here for skins:

Badger	\$ 05 to \$ 60
Bear, black or brown	5 00 to 24 00
Bear, yearlings	2 00 to 8 00
Bear, grizzly	5 00 to 22 00
Beaver, large	5 50 to 7 50
" medium	3 00 to 4 50
" small	50 to 2 50
" cubs	25 to 60
" castors, per lb	2 50 to 5 50
Fisher	3 00 to 8 00
Fox, cross	50 to 10 00
" kitt	10 to 40
" red	25 to 1 50
" silver	20 00 to 75 00
Lynx, large	1 00 to 2 25
" medium	1 00 to 2 00
" small	75 to 1 25
Marten, dark	1 00 to 4 50
" pale or brown	1 00 to 3 50
" light pale	75 to 1 75
Mink	50 to 1 50
Musquash, winter	03 to 10
" spring	05 to 15
Otter	2 00 to 9 00
Skunk	25 to 70
Wolf, timber	1 00 to 1 50
" prairie	25 to 65
" bush or large prairie	75
Wolverine	1 00 to 4 00

WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION.—Wheat has been irregular, and without much snap to the markets, though prices were a little better early in the week. There have been no very important changes in the situation. Stocks in the United States continue to decline, as will be seen by the statistical statement on another page of The Commercial. Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States, and from St. John, N.B., amount to 2,051,315 bushels this week (week ended Feb. 10) as compared with 2,148,000 bushels last week, 2,718,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 2,572,000 bushels in the week two years ago, 2,005,000 bushels three years ago, and as contrasted with 3,030,000 bushels in the corresponding week of 1893.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION.—In Manitoba country markets, there has been very little doing, and at most points buyers have been withdrawn. The Winnipeg market has been dull. Early in the week prices were firmer and sales of cash No. 1 hard were made at 76c, and even 76½c was touched, for No. 1 hard delivered at Fort William afloat. Later the markets declined, in sympathy with United States markets. Yesterday about 74c was quoted for No. 1 hard, afloat, and to-day the market closed for the week at about 73c. Receipts of wheat at Fort William, for the week ended Feb. 6, were 68,889 bushels; shipments for the same week were 21,890 bushels, leaving 2,702,621 bushels in store. For the corresponding week last year receipts were 174,431 bushels, shipments, 184,547 bushels, and in store 3,617,000 bushels. Stocks at Fort William two years ago were 1,991,000 bushels.

WHEAT—Winnipeg Street Prices.—The millers were paying 65c to farmers for choice samples of hard wheat, feed wheat brings 45 to 50c.

FLOUR.—We quote \$2.20 to \$2.25 for patents, \$2.00 to \$2.05 for bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.75 for second, bakers and \$1.15 to \$1.25 for XXXX.

MILLSTUFFS.—We quote \$6 for bran and \$8 for shorts, delivered to the local trade, in a jobbing way.

BARLEY.—For feed barley 20 to 21c 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 continue easy for oats but prices here are about the same. From 18 to 22c per bushel of 34 pounds is paid to farmers in this market as to quality. Car lots from 19c for light up to 26c for choice white. In outside markets prices are lower. At Chicago this week, cash oats sold as low as 15c and even a shade under 15c on Saturday was made. In Eastern Canada markets prices for oats have also declined again, and are dull and weak.

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 \$13 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.—There is just a trifle better demand for choice grades. Really fine butter is not plentiful, but there is abundance of low grade and medium, and plenty of called good, but really choice dairy is not easily picked up. The demand, however, is very limited. Prices are the same. Good to fair dairy tubs range from 13 to 16c in a jobbing way, the top price only for selected packages. Good rolls are quoted at 12 to 14c in a jobbing way, but are exceedingly dull. There are not many rolls coming, and fewer wanted of the kind which have come in of late, being packed over stuff mostly. Fresh rolls would sell.

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

EGGS.—Dealers continue to still pay 20c net per dozen here for receipts of fresh.

POULTRY.—Very little poultry is coming in, but moderate stocks of frozen goods are held here. 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 5, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 7½c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins, \$3.00.

CURED MEATS.—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11½c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c; short spiced rolls, 7½c shoulders, 7c; smoked long clear, 8 cents; Fancy clear, 8½ cents; Dry salt meats are quoted;

Long clear bacon, 6½c per lb; shoulders, 6½c; backs, 5c; barrel pork, clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$15.00; rolled shoulders, \$11 per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7½c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 8c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 25 to 30c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—Dressed hogs continue easier and offerings are liberal. Prices are quoted at from 4c for rough heavy up to 4½c for choice though packers as a rule only offer 4½c for choice hogs. Dealers are selecting very carefully and cutting down the price for anything but choicest weights. Beef is slow sale. Country frozen beef is quoted at 3 to 4c as to quality, and fresh city dressed unfrozen beef at 5 to 6c. Mutton is quoted at about 5 to 6c as to quality, and rough stuff, of which there is considerable, as low as 4c.

HIDES.—Higher prices have again been paid this week. Up to 6½c has been paid in this way for frozen butchers' hides, flat rate. We quote 5½ to 6c as the general price for country frozen hides, calf, 8c to 15c lb. skins, 4 to 6c per lb.; dokins 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 9½c. Wools closed higher at the London sales, in consequence of very heavy buying by United States buyers, owing to a fear of a duty being put on wool soon.

TALLOW.—Dealers are paying 4c for No 1 extra and 2½ to 3½c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

SENECA 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. Loose offering very freely and selling at \$2 to \$4 per load.

VEGETABLES.—Prices are: Potatoes, 30c Onions, 1½ to 2c lb; carrots, 30c bushel beets, 30c bushel; turnips, 20c; parsnips, 60 to 75c bushel; celery, 25 to 30c dozen; cabbage, 20 to 40c dozen. These are prices dealers buy at from market gardeners.

LIVE STOCK.

Butchers are buying very little fresh meat yet, as many of them are still working on frozen stock. A few cattle have been taken at equal to 2½c for good cows and 3c to 3½c for steers and heifers off cars here for good butchers' stock. Sheep nominal. None offered and none apparently wanted.

HOGS.—There is no change in prices. We quote: Good bacon stock weighing 150 to 300 pounds 3½c. Sows and heavy hogs 2 to 3½c, according to quality. Stags 1½ to 2½c, off cars here.

Dairy Trade Notes.

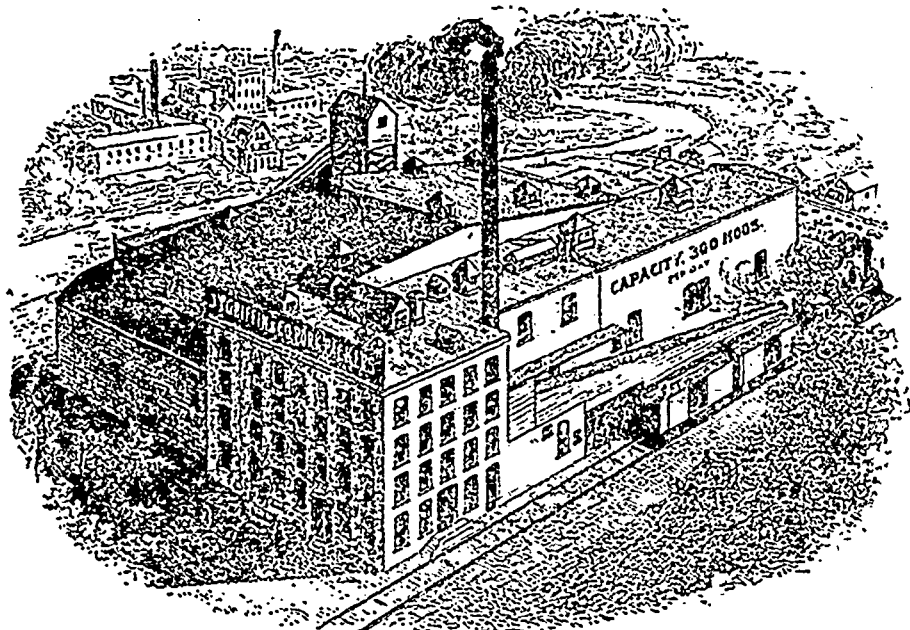
A government creamery will be established at Whitewood.

There was another advance of sixpence in the public cheese cable on Feb. 4, white and colored being quoted at 59s.

The Manitoba dairy association meets in Winnipeg on Tuesday next. Prof. Robertson, dairy commissioner, will be present on Thursday and deliver an address.

Thomas Doherty & Co., tea merchants, Toronto, have placed their affairs in the hands of Riddell & Co., accountants. Their liabilities are about \$35,000. It is expected the suspension will be only temporary. It was caused by Doherty's illness.

COMMON HORSE SENSE



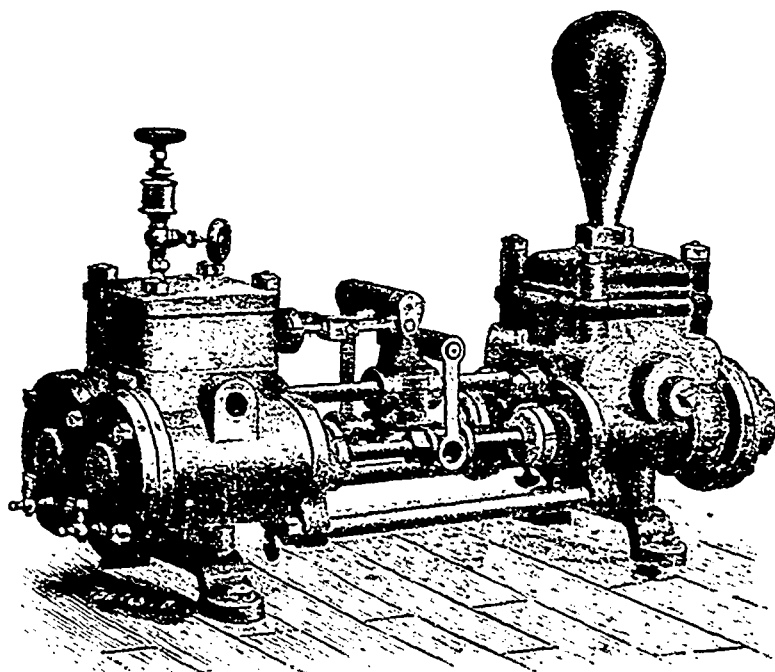
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For the coming season all of our Bicycle Suits & Spring Overcoats will be Rigby-Proofed, and no extra charge made for same.

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 lbs per 100 pounds.

On Monday wheat closed about 3/4 lower than Saturday. The opening was lower, influenced by large receipts at Minneapolis and Duluth and was further weakened by the increase in British stocks. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat.....	75	—	76 1/2-3/4	72 1/2
Corn.....	21 1/2	—	24 1/2	—
Oats.....	15 1/2	—	17 1/2	—
Mess Pork..	—	—	7 65	7 80
Lard.....	—	—	8 82 1/2	8 92 1/2
Short Ribs.	—	—	8 92 1/2	4 02 1/2

On Tuesday the market was firmer, influenced by war talk, crop damage reports, and larger export clearances at the seaboard. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	75 1/2	—	77 1/2	78 1/2
Corn.....	21 1/2	—	24 1/2	—
Oats.....	15 1/2	—	17 1/2	—
Mess Pork..	—	—	7 80	7 92 1/2
Lard.....	—	—	8 87 1/2	8 97 1/2
Short Ribs.	—	—	4 02 1/2	4 07 1/2

On Wednesday wheat was easy on lower cables, and foreign selling at New York, combined with speculative selling. Oats and corn declined. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat.....	74 1/2	—	76 1/2	71 1/2
Corn.....	21 1/2	—	23 1/2	—
Oats.....	15	—	17 1/2	—
Mess Pork..	—	—	7 72 1/2	7 85
Lard.....	—	—	8 82 1/2	8 92 1/2
Short Ribs.	—	—	8 97 1/2	4 05

On Thursday wheat opened weak, on lower cables, and declined under speculative selling, recovering partially on covering. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Jan.	May	July
Wheat.....	74	—	75 1/2	71 1/2-3/4
Corn.....	21 1/2	—	23 1/2	—
Oats.....	15	—	17 1/2	—
Mess Pork..	—	—	7 67 1/2	7 80
Lard.....	—	—	8 80	8 87 1/2
Short Ribs.	—	—	8 92 1/2	4 00

Friday being a public holiday (Lincoln's birthday) no markets were held.

On Saturday, Feb. 18, May option opened at 75 1/2c, and had a wide range, selling up to 76 1/2c and down to 73 1/2c. Closing about the bottom. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Jan	May.	July.
Wheat.....	72 1/2	—	73 1/2-3/4	69 1/2
Corn.....	22 1/2	—	23 1/2	24 1/2
Oats.....	14 1/2	—	16 1/2	17 1/2
Mess Pork..	7 80	—	7 95	—
Lard.....	—	—	8 87 1/2	—
Short Ribs.	—	—	4 00	—
Flax Seed..	—	—	—	—

A week ago May wheat closed at 77c. A year ago May wheat closed at 66 1/2c and two years ago at 55c.

Minneapolis Markets.

The Market Record of February 11, reports a good domestic trade, but light exports. Prices are as follows, in bbls. f. o. b.: First patents, \$3.95 to \$1.15; second patents, \$3.75 to \$3.95; first clears, 3.25 to \$3.35; second, clear, 2.20 to \$2.35; Red Dog, per ton, 140 for lbs.

jute, 9.00 to \$9.25. These prices are 10c lower on clears as compared with a week ago, other grades unchanged.

Millstuffs—Bran in bulk, \$6.25 to \$6.75; bran in sacks, 200 lbs. \$6.75 to \$7.25; bran in sacks, 100 lbs. \$7.25 to \$7.75; shorts in bulk, 6.25 to \$6.50; shorts in sacks, 100 lbs. 7.25 to \$7.50 middlings, fine, \$7 to \$7.25. These prices show an advance of 50c to \$1 on bran and \$1 to \$1.25 on shorts.

Oats—Range mostly at 14 1/2 to 15 1/2c. Barley—Quoted at 20 to 28c per bushel as to quality.

Flax—Quoted at 72 1/2c per bushel. Hay—Prairie, \$3.50 to \$6.50 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, February 11.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, February 18, May option closed at 80 1/2c and July at 77 1/2c. A week ago May option closed at 82 1/2c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, February 18, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 71 1/2c for May option, and 72c for July. A week ago May wheat closed at 74c.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

Grain—Oats, were weak and 1/2c to 3/4c lower at 82 1/2c for No. 2 white.

Flour—Winter wheat patents at \$1.45 to \$1.70; straight rollers at \$1.20 to \$1.30, and in bags, at \$2.10 to \$2.15. Manitoba spring wheat, patents at \$1.90 to \$5.05; and strong bakers' at \$1.25 to \$1.75.

Oatmeal—The demand for oatmeal was slow at \$3.20 to \$3.30 for rolled oats in wood, and at \$1.60 to \$1.65 per bag.

Bran—Manitoba bran is offering at \$9.50 to \$10.00 including bag; and Ontario, at \$9.00 to \$9.25 in bulk.

Butter—Locally finest creamery sells for 19 1/2 to 20c, and roll dairy 12c to 13c.

Eggs—Now laid, 17c to 18c; limed, 11c to 13c. Cold storage, 11c to 12c.—Gazette, Feb. 10.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—May 76c.
Tuesday—May 77c.
Wednesday—May 76c.
Thursday—May 76c.
Friday—Holiday.
Saturday—73c.

Last week May delivery closed at 75 1/2c. A year ago May closed at 62 1/2c. Two years ago at 61 1/2c, and three years ago at 67c.

To-day, February 18, cash No. 1 hard wheat closed at 74 1/2c and cash No. 1 northern at 72 1/2c.

The Wool Trade.

The market has been in the sellers' favor the past week, the very reverse of the state of affairs a short time before. The Boston market has witnessed a most unwonted activity, the week's sales aggregating nearly 13,000,000 pounds, and there are rumored sales of fully 2,000,000 more. The movement was almost entirely speculative, there being nothing in the goods situation to warrant such a state of affairs.

In regard to prices the best opinion seems to be that the recent large sales do not indicate any actual advance in market quo-

tations, the most that that they show being that wool that was refused by manufacturers a few weeks ago is now being picked up at the figures then current. Fleeces are less active than a week ago, dealers being disposed to hold for higher prices. Sales of territory have been heavy, considering more being done in clothing wools than previously. Liberal sales of Australian and greasy Capes are reported also. Sales for the week in Boston, New York and Philadelphia aggregate 16,661,400 pounds, 11,373,700 being domestic and 5,282,700 foreign.

Sales since January 1, 36,517,600 pounds as compared with 26,761,980 during the like period of last year.—Wool and Cotton Reporter.

Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending Feb. 11 were 1,021,783; balances, 197,819. For the previous week clearings were 1,021,173. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 982,579 and for the week two years ago, were 730,687. Clearings for the month of Jan were \$5,009,819, compared with \$1,977,200 for Jan. 1896, and \$1,067,403 for Jan. 1895.

Clearances for all Canadian cities for the week ended February 4 were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$9,476,495
Toronto.....	6,698,269
Halifax.....	1,122,105
Winnipeg.....	1,021,173
Hamilton.....	825,252
St. John.....	462,405

Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Halifax aggregated \$19,147,000 this week, compared with \$22,049,000 the week one year ago and \$19,580,000 in the week two years ago.

Andrew Holliday, general storekeeper, Boissevain, Man., is opening a branch at Ninga.

The Donaldson Trading Co., (C. R. Gordon), Manitou, Man., has sold out to G. R. Gordon.

E. G. Moharey, fruits, Manitou, Man., has sold out to W. J. Marshall.

D. D. Stewart, dry goods, Morden, Man., has assigned to C. H. Newton.

The Central Dry Goods Co., Ltd., Winnipeg, Man. is applying to change its name to the N. R. Preston Dry Goods Co., Ltd.

Dan. Coates, fruits, Winnipeg, Man., has sold out to Leonard Mitchell.

Sarah Davidson, baker, Port Arthur, Ont., has assigned.

John Cowles, wholesale butcher, Winnipeg, brought in a yearling steer in a load of cattle last week, which weighed 1,200 pounds. The calf was purchased from Premier Greenway, and was raised at his Crystal City farm. It was sold by Mr. Cowles to Kobold & Co., city butchers, and will be fed by them for exhibition at some future date. A yearling of such weight is certainly a remarkable animal.

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Montreal Grocery Market.

Since this day week the market for raw sugar has shown signs of easiness, which is due to the fact that buyers and sellers seem to be indifferent at the present, and prices for beet show a decline of 2½c, private cables received to-day quoting February at 9s and March at 9s ¾. Locally refiners in some cases report a slight improvement in the demand, but the market on the whole still continues quiet, with no change in values to note, granulated being quoted at 8½c to 4c, and yellows at 8½c to 8¾c as to quality at the factory.

There was no change in the syrup markets business being quiet and prices steady at 1½c to 1¾c per pound, as to quality, at the factory.

The anticipated demand for molasses this month has evidently not set in yet, as the market for the past week has ruled very quiet and no sales are reported. The feeling, however, is steady and prices are unchanged. We quote pure Barbadoes at 28½c to 29c, mixed at 26½c to 27c. Porto Rico at 27½c, Antigua at 22½c to 23c, and St. Kitts at 23½c to 24c.

Business in rice continues very quiet, and the market is steady, with no change in prices to note. We quote: Crystal Japan, \$5.00 to \$5.25; standard B., \$3.50; Panta, \$1.50 to \$1.25; Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75; choice Bermuda, \$4, and Java kinds, \$1.25.

The demand for coffee is principally for small lots, and the market is inactive and steady. We quote: Maracaibo, 17½c to 18c; Santos, 14½c to 16c; Rio, 15c to 16; and Mocha, 24c to 26c.

Business in canned goods in a wholesale way is of a very limited character at present, on account of the fact that large buyers generally have ample supplies on hand, but in a jibbing way the movement of leading lines is reported fair, and prices were steady, except for corn and peas, which have scored an advance of 10c per dozen, owing to the small stocks now held in first hands. Lobsters are scarce and firmly held, while salmon is about steady. The following are jobbers prices:—Lobsters, \$9.00 to \$10.00 per case; French sardines, extra brands, \$10.25 to \$11.00; ordinary brands, \$3.00 to \$9.00; Canadian brands, \$4.25; salmon, \$1.30 to \$1.40 per dozen; mackerel, \$1.25; tomatoes, 70c to 75c; corn, 75c to 90c; marrow-fat peas, 30c to 90c; baked-beans, 5 lbs., \$1.25 to \$1.30; peaches, \$1.90 to \$2; strawberries, \$2 to \$2.25; raspberries, \$1.75 to \$2; pincapples, \$1.75 to \$2, and 3 lb, apples, 65 to 70c.—Gazette.

Toronto Grain and Produce Trade.

Wheat—Cars of red sold west at 77c, and it is offered east at 78c. No. 1 hard is quoted at 87c and No. 2 at 85c Midland and Owen Sound; but buyers are quoting 1c less.

Flour—Cars of straight roller are quoted west at \$3.90 and patents at \$3.90 to \$4, according to quality.

Milfeed—is dull at \$8 for shorts and \$7 for bran at the mills.

Barley—Prices are: 31c for No. 1 outside, 3c for No. 1 extra 27 to 28c for No. 2, 24 to

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—PATENT—

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SOMETHING NEW, "LIGHT" FLEXIBLE
NO TACKS, NO NAILS, VERY EASY, NO SQUEAK.

Made only by J. D. KING CO., Ltd.

25c for No. 3 extra and 21½ to 22c for feed.
Oats—are quiet at 17c for mixed and 18c for white at country points, for car lots.
Oatmeal—is easier. Cars of bags are offering at \$3.75 and barrels at \$3.85. Broken lots are quoted 15c higher than these prices.
Dressed Hogs—Light are quoted at \$5 and heavy at \$1.25 to \$1.50.
Butter—Jobbing prices are: Large dairy rolls, 11 to 12c; dairy tubs, 9 to 12c; creamery tubs, 18 to 18½c.
Eggs—Limed, 9c for lots, 10c for cases, cold stored, 11c; fresh gathered, 12 to 13c, strictly new laid, 14 to 15c.—Globe, Feb. 10.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Jan. 19, 1897.	Jan. 31, 1898.
Flour, straight spring...	\$3.00 to \$4.25	\$3.00 to \$3.40
Flour, straight winter...	\$1.30 to \$1.50	\$3.10 to \$3.50
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	97	77½
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	29c	30½c
Oats, No. 2.....	21½c	25c
Rye, No. 2, Western ...	\$3 to 4½c	46c to 47
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	47c	46c to 47½
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 5-10c	3½c
Print cloths, 64x64....	27c	27c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X....	17½c	18 to 18½c
Wool, N. C. 1 combg....	21 to 22c	22 to 23
Pork, mess new.....	\$ 50 to \$ 75	\$10.7 to 11.0
Lard, westn., comit....	\$1.25	\$6 0c
Butter, ex. creamery ..	20c	19c
Cheese, ch. east It.....	11c to 11½c	10½c
Sugar, centrif., 96"....	3 3-16c	3½c
Sugar, granulated.....	11c	4 15-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.	10½	13½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co....	25c	\$1.45 1-2
Petroleum, rd. gal.	\$6.00	\$7.50
*Iron, Best. pg.....	\$ 0.31	\$13 00
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$15.25	\$17 75
Ocean Steam Freight—		
Grain, Liverpool.....	2½ to 3 d	3 1
Cotton.....	3-3d	4 d

* Pittsburgh.

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(Late Livingston, Johnston & Co.)

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British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, February 8.

Trade last month is reported among the wholesalers as very quiet with collections slow. Last week provision trade was also reported dull, although in some lines particularly hardware there is some activity reported by commercial travellers no doubt owing to mine development. In the provision market the chief feature is the arrival of a consignment of Australian butter which is of excellent quality and selling at the same price as the local article. Manitoba butter is very weak at present. Meats are unchanged.

High prices are expected for hay before the new crop comes. In Eastern Washington the crop is short and many enquiries are reaching here from Kootenay. In Seattle prices of hay and grain are advancing.

No fruit arrived by the last Australian liner and the market is rather bare. Potatoes are firm at \$1.6. Onions are scarce but a large supply is shortly expected from Oregon.

British Columbia Business Notes

John D. Keenan, blacksmith, Kaslo, has admitted W. O. Robinson as partner.

Hugh Dampsey, hotel, Nanaimo, is succeeded by Green & Martin.

O. G. Buchanan & Co., grocers, Nelson, have opened a branch at Salmo.

The stock of Chas. Kauffman, grocer, Nelson, has been sold to C. J. Jankowicz.

C. B. Hume & Co., general store, Revelstoke, have dissolved. A. N. Smith retires.

C. B. Maidmont, hotel, Saanichton, is succeeded by Maidmont & Stubbs.

F. P. Carey, general store, Trail, has moved to Kamloops.

J. H. Jordan, hotel, Trail, is succeeded by George J. R. Jan.

Blanchfield & Co., grocers, Vancouver, have dissolved. R. D. McNeely continues.

The Dering & Marstrand Brewing Co., Vancouver, has been incorporated.

The stock of Z. G. Goldberg, clothing, Vancouver, has been sold to M. Grossman.

James Skinner & Co., crockery, Vancouver, have dissolved.

The Kootenay Lumber Co., Victoria, has been incorporated.

H. McMillan, cigars, Wellington, are succeeded by Moffatt & McNaab.

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 reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, February 13, 1897.

Manitoba creamery butter is scarce. Fresh California grass butter is now coming in and is jobbing at 23½c. Potatoes are higher. Eggs have declined to again. Fresh meats are higher. Onions have advanced to 3c lb.

Butter.—Manitoba Dairy butter, 17c; Manitoba creamery, 22c; small tubs, 23½c; eastern creamery, 22c; local creamery, 23c; California butter, 23½c; Manitoba cheese, 10½c to 11c; local cheese, 11c lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12½ cents; breakfast bacon 12½ to 13c; backs 9½c; long, clear, 7½ to 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c, smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per pound; in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Game.—Mallards, 25c; wildgeon, 25c; teal, 20c; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand snipe, 35c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 6c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; spring salmon 8c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; moked salmon, 10c; finnie haddie, 10c; kippered herring 12c.

Vegetables.—Local potatoes, \$16.00 to \$20.00 per ton; onions 3c; cabbage, ½c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

Eggs.—Eggs, 18c doz.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 340 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. Japanese oranges 6 to 7 doz. in box, 40 to 45c. California lemons, \$3.50; California oranges, seedling, \$2.75 to \$3.00; naval oranges \$3.50 to \$3.75; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$3.00 barrel.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 5c to 7½c; loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 8½c lb.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 13c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.10; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70.

Flour.—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.60; strong bakers, \$5.30; Oregon, \$5.80.

Grain.—Local wheat, \$30 to \$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, 7 to 7½c; mutton, 8c; pork, 6; veal, 7 to 9c lb.

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

Poultry.—Chickens, 10c lb., Turkeys, 12c lb., ducks, 12c lb. Geese, 11c lb.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow 4c lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c. choices 26c. Ceylons: Fair, 25c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

The Lumbermen Meet.

The annual meeting of the Western Retail Lumber association was held in Winnipeg on Tuesday evening, Feb. 9. There was a good attendance of members present from various districts throughout the province. A number of manufacturers who are honorary members of the association, were also present, among them being noticed D. C. Cameron, of Rat Portage, R. Mather, of Keewatin, Mr. Graham, of Fort William and D. Ross, of Whitemouth.

After the presentation of the usual reports the election of officers was proceeded with. T. A. Cuddy, of Minnedosa, was elected president and J. B. Mather, of Glanboro, vice-president. The following board of directors

was also elected: J. M. Neilson, Carberry; G. N. Miller, Virden; D. Stewart, Rosenfeld; C. W. Plummer, Bismarck; D. E. Sprague, Winnipeg; John Arbuthnot, Winnipeg. The old auditors were re-elected.

It was announced that the manufacturers had decided to make a very important reduction in the price of lumber. In substance they offered to make the wholesale price of lumber, delivered at Winnipeg, apply to country points, with the addition merely of the balance of the through freight rate over and above the rate to Winnipeg. The rate from the Lake of the Woods mills to Winnipeg is 10 cents per 100 pounds. Lumber shipped to points having a higher rate, would be charged the amount of the additional rate over 10 cents, and the lumber would be billed at Winnipeg prices. This will make a very important reduction in the price of rough lumber, dimension, etc., delivered at country points. On No. 1 dimension the reduction will be about \$1.60 per 1,000 feet, on No. 2 it will be \$1.40, on 3rd common boards about \$1.50, cull boards, about \$1.00, 2nd common boards, \$1.50, ship lap, \$1.00, 6 inch shiplap, \$1.50, 3rd flooring, 63c, etc. On finished stuff the prices will not be materially changed.

These reductions, it is thought, will keep out the inferior grades of Minnesota lumber which have been brought in to a limited extent at some points.

At a subsequent meeting of the board of directors, John Dick, of Winnipeg, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The Live Stock Trade.

At London on February 8, trade was weak or all round, due to larger offerings, and prices for cattle declined ½c to ¾c, while those for sheep were also ½c lower. Choice States cattle sold at 11½c, Argentines at 10½c, and sheep at 10½c.

At the semi weekly market at Montreal on February 8, there was no important change in the situation of the live stock trade, and prices were about the same as reported a week ago.

At the semi-weekly market at Toronto on Tuesday, export cattle sold at 3½c to 4c, and a few picked touched 4½c. Butchers' cattle in good demand at from 2c for common up to 3½c for selected. Stockers were in good demand to ship to the States, at 2½c to 3½c. Export sheep, slow at 3½c to 3¾c, lambs 4c to 4½c, butchers' sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per head. Hogs, choice bacon, 4½c, off cars, light fat 3¾c, sows, 2¾c to 3c, stags 2c to 2½c, boars 1½c to 1¾c, stores not wanted.

At Chicago on Feb. 12, hogs sold at \$3.15 to \$3.55 as to quality.

The Dry Goods Trade.

A New York dispatch of Feb. 10, says: Nothing since the election of McKinley has had such a stimulating effect upon the dry goods trade as the purchase made yesterday by H. C. D. Borden, of \$1,000,000 worth of print cloths, the entire stock of the Fall River mills. Prices advanced, and a demand was created for this commodity. The print cloth market had been glutted and there was no prospect of relief until Mr. Borden came to the front. Various measures of relief had been suggested, one of them being to send special agents to England to sell the surplus stock at almost any price. English buyers offered such ridiculously low prices, however, that this plan had to be abandoned.

The IBEX Mining and Development Co. of SLOCAN.

(LIMITED LIABILITY) Incorporated under the Laws of British Columbia, "Companies' Act, 189", 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., Macleod, 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. M.; Solicitor, Chas. W. McAnn, Q.C., Kaslo, B.C.

Cable Address, "ibex." Morsing & Neal's New 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, 200,000 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 4 1/2 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 Brennand Group embraces three full claims, viz:—The Ibox, 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 Ibox, Liddesdale and Gilt Edge claims, 4500 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, shew 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 Ibox (600 feet, a total of 2100 feet) and has an average width of 4 ft. 6 inches, shewing 6 to 19 inches of Galena, with about the same amount of oxydized ore, pyritic iron, and blend. 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, 68 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 Ibox 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 8—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 8, \$38.70; No. 4 \$37.23. 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, \$214.00.

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. 28th, 1895.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your question as to the Brennand group of claims, I have visited said group comprising the Triangle, Ibox, 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 other 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 Brennand 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.

Yours 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 Laut, the financial agent, 308 Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.

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

The Tariff Commission

(Continued from Page 534.)

ended, so that he shall not have to declare that the wire is imported for manufacturing purposes; also so as to allow others than those who have factories to import for manufacturing purposes. He asked that the words "for manufacturing purposes" be struck out where it refers to fire brick, it not being imported for anything else. He pointed out that in the matter of fishing twine it is unreasonable to make affidavit that it is for fishing purposes only. The same thing applied to wrought iron piping. On some sizes of this piping the duty is 60 per cent. to the consumer. He asked that duties be charged on the same basis as that on which the goods were invoiced, whether value or weight. He mentioned a case in which the duty on screws amounted to 100 per cent. and was entirely prohibitive; he mentioned that it should not exceed 20 per cent. He said that the duty on bolts and tacks was one cent. per pound and 25 per cent. ad valorem. He wanted all specific duties abolished, or at least the great bulk of them and the duties levied on an ad valorem basis. The specific duties he found to be levied almost entirely on articles of general consumption. Protective duties, he held, prevent the obtaining of a revenue. If a manufacturer cannot live with a reasonable duty, the country no longer requires his presence.

F. W. Thompson, manager of the Ogilvie Milling company, made a statement as follows: On behalf of the milling industry I appear before you to urge that the duty on wheat and flour be not reduced. Any reduction would result in the most serious consequences, not only to the millers of this country, but also to the farmers. It is a fact that as a result of the development of the milling industry farmers have greatly benefited in the sale of their products. It has enhanced competition in buying, all of which would be completely removed and destroyed should the American millers be in any way encouraged to make a slaughter market of Canada in consequence of any reduction in the duty upon flour. The Minneapolis millers have practically no competition in buying their wheat, in marked contrast to the position of the farmers in this country in having the millers and grain dealers actively competing one with another. Up to the present the farmers of Manitoba have averaged a higher price for their wheat than the American farmers on equal freights and quality. The flour trade of British Columbia has also been of great value to the producers in this country. Formerly this business was entirely supplied by the American Pacific coast states, they coming in at low water freights, not exceeding 20c per bbl., as against \$1.00 to \$1.20 per bbl. paid by the millers of this country to the Canadian Pacific coast. Even with the present duty of only 75c a bbl., the millers in this country are still handicapped to the extent of the difference. In the average of years, wheat on the American Pacific coast states has averaged from 30 to 50 per cent. lower than the prices paid to farmers in the Canadian Northwest. About three years ago the best wheat in Washington and Oregon sold down as low as 18 to 20c per bushel, all of which comes in competition with the farmers of this country, and would remove that market entirely from the benefit the farmers of Manitoba, the Northwest and British Columbia at present enjoy. If the American millers are allowed to slaughter their surplus products into Canada it would close up our milling institutions in this country within a short time, excepting such as would be maintained for gristing purposes only. Seventy-five per cent. of the farmer in this country to-day have their wheat gristed, consequently they are not buyers of flour from merch-

ant millers. The development of this country and the future progress depends in a large measure upon the encouragement of the milling industry. There is no industry with which the success and future progress of the country is more closely bound up. The American millers are shipping their surplus flour into Britain to-day delivered in London, Glasgow, Liverpool and other leading markets at about 60c per barrel less than the price at the seaboard in their own country, consequently, any advantage which would be allowed them through a reduction in the tariff would enable them to slaughter nearer home, and thoroughly destroy the home market for the Canadian farmer and miller. The milling industry in this country has steadily increased from less than 300 barrels per 24 hours, in 1880, to over 12,000 per 24 hours at the present time, and this does not take into consideration the large and steadily increasing milling capacity throughout the whole Dominion. A large quantity of Manitoba wheat is ground by eastern Canadian millers. The large number of flour mills in Canada to-day, numbering some 2,500, is the greatest possible guarantee to the consumer that the price he pays for his flour is only such as ensures a fair and minimum profit. The institution I represent in this country pays out, on an average, over \$100,000 in wages annually, and this is but one of a number. Also in addition to this over \$100,000 in general supplies required exclusive of the wheat required in the manufacture, almost the entire amount of which is produced by Canadian manufacture. We griud in this one mill close upon two million bushels annually, and the destruction of milling in this country would also be a severe blow to the city of Winnipeg. I have talked with American bakers and dealers at different times, and have been told plainly that it would be impossible for them to handle any flour manufactured in Canada owing to their loyalty to their own manufacturers brought about largely by organized labor which protects the employment of their home labor, and any baker who would buy flour made in a foreign country would run the risk of his business being ruined through a system of boycott, so that it would be impossible, and I speak advisedly for any Canadian miller to be able to sell his product in the United States market, except at a discount, which he certainly could not stand without financial ruin. Once the progress of the milling industry is checked in this country it would take years to recover, as the large amount of capital required in the investment of large plants is such as is only understood by those who have risked their money in promoting these enterprises, based upon the present avenues of trade. The flour mill of to-day involves a large annual expenditure in repairs and new machinery to keep up to the times and to assist in producing the highest standard of quality. At the present prices at which the Americans are slaughtering their surplus in Britain, even allowing a shilling more for our best patent, which we claim is a better quality than the American, and which the English user is willing to pay us owing to the superior quality, yet the opportunities afforded the American millers in slaughtering their surplus in Britain, if we were to run our mill here for the 300 running days of the year and ship the entire product to Britain based on the same price for wheat, the loss would figure over \$200,000 in the year. We cannot hope to stand against competition of that kind so long as the American farmers produce so largely of wheat. May last cable advices quoted American best patents at 2s shillings c.i.f. per 280 lbs., which is equal to \$1.20 per bbl. of 196 lbs. Their price on the same day at Boston and New York, \$1.75, and our price, f.o.b. Ontario, for flour equal in baking qualities is from \$5 down to \$1.65 and

Montreal price is the same. In answer to a question by Hon. Mr. Fielding, Mr. Thompson stated that the trade with Australia also involved a loss, but to a less extent. If the company had to slaughter their surplus product here the loss would be greater.

Robt. Muir appeared in behalf of himself and several others, outside millers. He said he would personally be quite in favor of a reduction of the tariff, provided the Americans reduced theirs to an equal extent; but if they kept up the present tariff or increased it, he would be in favor of maintaining the same Canadian tariff. The millers of Manitoba were not afraid of competition in the straight line of business, but only of slaughtered goods. American flour is slaughtered in Britain; and if the duty were taken off it would be slaughtered in the Dominion. Both millers and farmers have reason to be afraid of such a state of things. Millers in Ontario and Manitoba would be forced to close inside of two years. Mr. Muir gave the names of several firms, including Alexander Kelly & Co., of Brandon, from whom he had information by letter that they did not favor any reduction of the tariff. The duty on wheat would not make much difference to the millers, and the farmers, he understood, were willing to have a reduction of the duty on wheat, providing they had also a reduction of that on agricultural implements and other articles which they had to purchase. They should not ask for a removal of the duty on flour, because they received one to four cents per bushel more for wheat than they would have received but for the mills.

D. McEwon, of Brandon, handed in a petition signed by 2,400 farmers, and stated that if the time had not been so short a thousand more signatures would have been obtained. He would like all possible reform in the tariff; but if any class of manufacturers was to be protected the farmers should also have the benefits. He thought it would be disastrous if the duty were taken off the staple products of this country at present. The best friends of the farmers at present, he held, were the millers; through them the farmers had got 3 to 15 cents per bushel above the export prices, on account of the competition. A market was opening for farm produce in the milling districts of British Columbia, and would continue to develop if the duty were not taken off.

Ralph McRae, farmer of Oak Lake, supported the petition. He said if the duty were taken off the staple articles, wheat, oats and barley, it would be a very serious matter. He had been here fifteen years, and had sold grain five to seven cents higher than the export prices. He would like the duty off some articles we consume, machinery, etc., but he did not think we were prepared to give what we have in exchange for that.

James Howie, of High Bluff, farmer, had been here twenty-eight years. He considered that it would be a great detriment to take the duty off wheat, oats, beef, pork, etc. Formerly \$1.10 was paid for a binder; now one could be got for \$1.25. He did not see why they couldn't live now. He would favor a certain reduction on binders and certain manufactured goods; at the same time he had rather it should remain as it is than have the duty taken off the products of the country.

Wm. Edwards, of Barnside, and George Lightly, of High Bluff, were also opposed to the removal of the duty on products.

W. Chambers, Oak Lake, said he would be perfectly satisfied if the duty were removed from everything, but that, he knew, could not be done. If any industry was to be protected the farmers wanted protection.

A number of others, representing the farmers, followed in a somewhat similar strain, while other farmers showed a consid-

Continued on Page 543.

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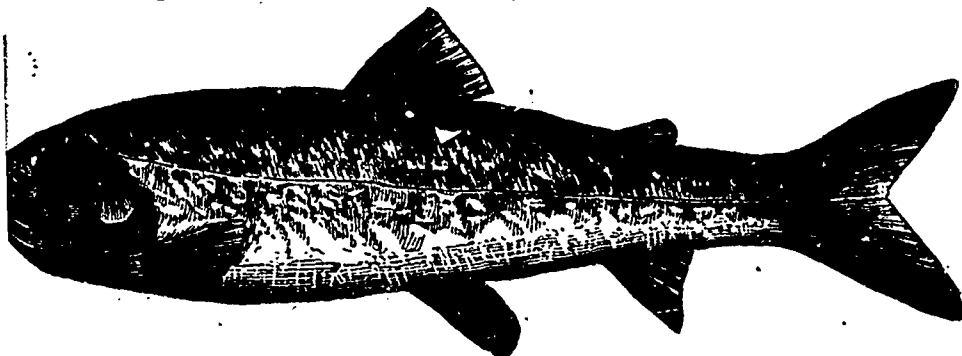
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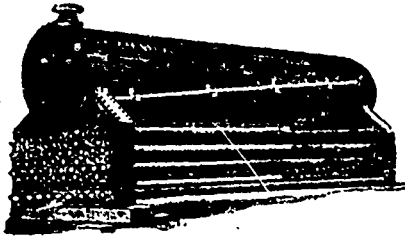
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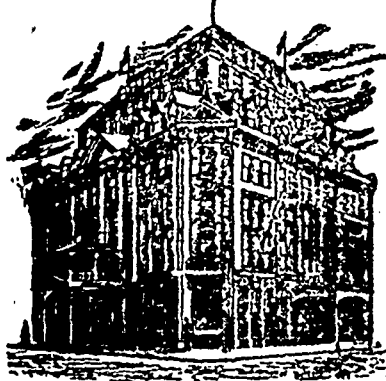
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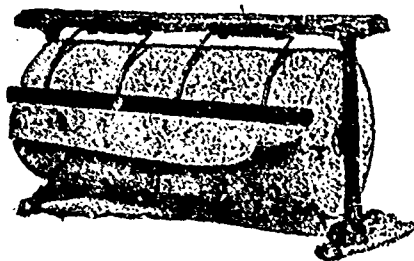
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The Part Taken by India in Feeding the World

Anything about India is interesting at present. C. Wood Davis has the following paper in the Minneapolis Northwestern Miller:

Prior to 1870, exports of wheat from India had been of small volume, not so much, however, because of meagre production, or the rates of exchange, as from the distance of the producing districts from the great seaports and the incidence of taxation. While in no year prior to 1873 had the exports exceeded 2,000,000 bushels, yet, with the abrogation of the export duty in that year, the synchronous extension of railways into the producing districts, and the completion and utilization of the Suez route, the "ryot" was able to command a better price for his grain, and thus secure the money required to pay the "land-rent tax," exacted by India's one landlord—the British-Indian government. Though the exportation of wheat was stimulated and gradually increased by the causes named, probably one of the most potent factors in developing Indian exportation of the bread-making grain, was the completion of the Suez canal. This greatly reduced the time required to reach the consuming populations, thereby diminishing both interest and insurance accounts, and enabling the merchants to turn over to the grower a far greater proportion of the European price. It is possible, and even probable, that the continuous fall in the exchange value of the rupee had an appreciable effect in stimulating exports, by giving the Indian merchant the safe margin following from a constant tendency of exchange in the one direction, but, after all, the increase of India exports is more largely due to the ryot's necessity for money with which to meet the increasing imports, than to all other causes combined. For 3,000 years, the Indian peasant has found these imports increasingly burdensome, and the difficulty of securing the funds with which to meet them, greater and greater.

While wheat exportation increased in a practically continuous manner (up to 1891) since the first line of rails was laid to the wheat-growing districts, there is no evidence that wheat production has increased, in any degree whatever, since 1870. In fact, while official data regarding the production prior to 1881 are lacking, there is abundant evidence that neither the acreage under wheat, nor the volume of production, has shown any in 30 years, and there is much reason to believe that the acres now employed, number no more than those of half a century since, and probably no more than in 1797. It is clear that acre yields have not increased, in 300 years, if we can rely upon the revenue returns. Always and everywhere, in India,

the government for the time being, has been the ultimate and universal landlord, no matter how many intermediaries there may have been, and the "land-rent tax" has, until the latter half of the British period, been uniformly paid in kind. That is, the government has taken as such "land-rent tax" a given proportion—usually a very large proportion—of the product. More recently, the British have substituted a money payment, but such payments are still based, in their amount—that is the rental of each particular tract—on what the revenue officials of the district determine to be the average productive power of the tract. These assessments are made with extraordinary care—that the greatest revenue possible shall be obtained—by special revenue officials, and with those of many hundreds of past years, are accessible in the village records.

Records of the time of Akbar—India's great statistician and historian. Sir W. W. Hunter tells us—show that land which then gave yields of wheat averaging 19 bushels an acre, now gives yields of no more than 14 bushels. Akbar has generally been credited with being the most enlightened and liberal of India's rulers, and it is possible that he may have been too liberal in estimating the revenue-bearing capacity of these tracts. The character of this great and liberal administrator would lead us to believe that such might have been the case, as we find him decreeing that there shall be left for every man who cultivated his land as much as he requires for his own support till the next crop can be reached, and that of his family, and for seed. "This much shall be left him. What remains is land-tax, and shall go to the public treasury."

This is a much clearer exposition of the single-tax theory—and a practical one—than has ever emanated from its more modern exponents, and we are safe in assuming that Akbar and his ministers charged "all that the traffic would bear." The British have refined upon Akbar's processes by taking as much in money when the crop is a failure as he did in the most prolific years. At the same time, there is reason to believe that acre yields in India are gradually declining, outside the irrigated districts, as fertilization, if ever practised, has become a lost art. Indian cultivators know neither the pig nor the horse—there is not a cart horse in all India, except such as are employed in military operations—and the droppings of cattle are used as fuel, instead of being returned to the land. Even the towns and cities depend largely upon this source for fuel. Therefore, it is safe to conclude, from known conditions, that there has been no increase of acre yields in the last 300 years. I hold this belief, though I have long been convinced that lands of fair fertility do not deteriorate, even when constantly cropped without fertilization, with anything like the rapidity

generally believed. India, itself, affords, with Egypt, probably the best possible evidence that deterioration is always slow upon lands of fair depth and average fertility. In some Indian districts, lands are known to have been cropped for more than 2,000 years, yet appear to give as good crops of cotton as before the Mohammedan invasion. This is notably true of the chocolate-colored cotton lands of the central plateau, where neither fertilization nor irrigation has been resorted to. These facts are interesting in themselves, and doubly so when their bearing upon American agriculture is considered.

The data in relation to Indian wheat production and exportation, used in connection herewith, have all been derived from official sources, and Indian agricultural statistics are exceptionally reliable, being derived almost wholly—outside of Bengal and the native states—from village revenue records. These, with data in relation to population from decennial censuses, show that, while the population of India has, in recent periods, increased at a rate exceeding 1 per cent. per annum, the cultivated acreage increases by less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, the result being that population presses upon the means of subsistence, with ever-increasing weight. Among peoples of European lineage the belief is general that rice is the staple food of all the Indian populations; but nothing could be further from the mark. The Sorghums, both saccharine and non-saccharine, millets, and various pulses form the staple foods of India, and that great population may be called a millet-eating one, as the sorghums are usually known as millets. Half a century ago, Elphinstone, in his "India," stated: "The principal food of the people of northern Hindostan is wheat, and in the Deccan, jowar and bajra. Rice, as a general article of subsistence, is confined to Bengal and a part of Bihar, with the low country along the sea all around the coast of the peninsula. In most parts of India, it is only used as a luxury."

There is little reason to believe that there has been a material change in Indian dietaries since this governor of the greatest of Indian presidencies told us: "Barley is little eaten, and oats, till lately, were unknown; but there are several smaller sorts of grain, such as millet. Maize (5,442,000 acres were grown in India in 1893) is a good deal grown. * * * There are many kinds of pulse, of which there is great consumption.

Since the days of Elphinstone, great populations have been brought under British-Indian dominion, and the proportion consuming "jowar" (sorghum vulgare) and bajra, and other millets, has doubtless increased, and it is possible that the proportion of wheat eaters, as well as of rice eaters, has some-

The Tariff Commission

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orable diversity in their views, disagreeing considerably with each other.

Wm. Traut, of the Regina board of trade, said they were unanimous that they would like the duties removed from agricultural implements, binding twine, coal oil and wire for fencing, also that all specific duties should be abolished; and that all the rest of the duties should be considerably lowered.

F. Proudfoot asked, that as an inducement to capitalists to come to this country to develop the iron deposits on Black Island, Lake Winnipeg, the duty on pig iron of \$1 per ton, and the bonus of \$2 to manufacturers, should be retained. He could almost say now that the capital was in sight, and its investment should be encouraged, as it would benefit the Dominion. The quantity of ore within 100 miles of Winnipeg was to be estimated by millions of tons. If the St. Andrew's rapids were improved, charcoal pig iron could be manufactured for about \$12 per ton.

John Hettle, M.P., represented the Manitoba Dairy association. He said there were 52 cheese factories and 21 creameries in the province. He advocated the admission free of duty, of dairy machinery and utensils of every kind. A large amount of United States machinery is used, he said.

The convention resumed its sitting on Tuesday morning. A large delegation of farmers were present, representing the Farmers Institute, the Patrons of Industry, and also one representative farmer from each electoral district in Manitoba, the latter brought in by the Provincial Government.

James Fleming was the spokesman for the delegates selected by the members of the legislature. He submitted the following resolutions:

1. It is our opinion that a protective tariff is detrimental to the best interest of our Dominion and that in framing a new tariff it should be entirely abandoned, that until free trade becomes practicable a "tariff for revenue only" should be adopted, levied mainly on luxuries or upon articles of general consumption not produced in the country.

2. That agricultural implements, farm machinery and all tools used on the farm, binder twine, fence wire, lumber, nails and building material, coal oil and fruit, be free, and that the duty on salt, cotton and woollen clothing be materially reduced.

3. That the high protective tariff has very materially restricted commerce with Great Britain, which is the country we look to above all others for our markets, and has greatly retarded the settlement of this province.

4. That the adoption of an income tax with a reasonable exemption would be desirable.

In addition to the above memorial the following resolution, adopted at a meeting of the farmers previous to their coming before the commission, was submitted.

"That as it had been represented to the commissioners that the farmers of this province wish the duty retained on wheat and flour, that this meeting hereby express its opinion that the said duty is of no practical value to the farmers of Manitoba and the Northwest."

James Elder, president of the Manitoba Central Farmers' institute, was the next speaker. He submitted the following memorial:

The following is the statement in part of the Manitoba Central Farmers' institute upon the question of tariff reform: "In no province in the whole Dominion does the burden of our 'protective tariff' fall so heavily upon the people as in the province of Manitoba and upon no class of people does it

bear so heavily as upon the farmers of Manitoba. Essentially a grain producing province, we, more than any other province must have labor saving expensive farm implements and machinery which need constant renewing and replacing. In addition to paying the same rate of taxation as all other consumers upon articles of common consumption, the Manitoba farmers, especially, are most heavily and shamefully taxed for the privilege of following the profession of his choice, by reason of the duty imposed upon his implements. But the iniquitous part of this arrangement is not so much that he pays out of proportion with all other classes of the community towards the cost of governing the country, but by act of parliament he is constituted a subject for legal plunder by the combines producing his requisites to the full extent of the duty named and in many instances by a system of manipulation, even more is extracted. This rule applies to all protected manufacturing industries as well as the makers of agricultural implements and of the average duty of dollars per head or \$20 per family paid per annum into the government treasury, according to the census of Canada, 1890-91, it is safe to say that \$32.40 per head, or \$257 per family is paid to Canadian manufacturers as a bonus to have their establishments among us, from which the country as a whole derives little if any benefit. But the Manitoba farmer pays more than this, because of the special charge against his implements which averages an additional \$25, netting to each an average of about \$20 for cost of government, and \$182 for having the luxury of Canadian industries. Now we submit that if our Canadian industries are entitled to a bonus of one hundred and fifty-seven million dollars annually, if it is proper to "foster our infant industries" to this tune then a government willing to assume the responsibility of its acts, should pay over to the manufacturers the amount to which they propose protecting them and levy on the people for it instead of turning them, the people, over to the tender mercies of soulless, heartless combines, to be dealt with as to them may seem good. How long think you would a protective policy on this basis stand before the clamor of the paying public and yet this system at the cost named has advantages over the one in practice. If this proposition were adopted consumers would only be required to pay the stipulated protection but as it is now they pay in addition to the duty the dealers' profits on duty paid which would add about one fourth to the figures given or say in all, \$196,000,000, annually.

At the afternoon session a lengthy memorial from the Patrons of Industry was presented. Speeches from the farmers present occupied all the balance of the day. They were generally favorable to lower duties and reciprocity with the United States, but some wanted the present tariff retained, unless the United States would reciprocate in reducing the tariff.

The farmers continued to give evidence during the greater part of Wednesday and Thursday morning, when the commissioners declared the inquiry closed. A number were unable to be heard.

Grain and Milling.

Manitoba millers continue to receive orders for flour for Australia. Evidently Manitoba flour is becoming popular over there, as the mills here are receiving offers from new parties, who want to handle Manitoba flour.

Lake of the Woods Milling Co., have placed a brand of flour in wood on the Winnipeg market. This is a new feature in the local trade, as flour has only been handled in sacks here before.

On Saturday, Feb. 6, informations were sworn to and summons served on W. Beach and J. D. O'Brien, option brokers, Winnipeg, to appear before the police magistrate and answer to a charge of keeping a place of business wherein gambling is permitted. The case is instituted by private parties and is taken under the provisions of the criminal code dealing with gambling; the contention being that the method of buying and selling practiced is a contravention of the act. Augustin Vogel lays the information against the defendants. It is said that the case has been instituted by a syndicate of speculators who had lately lost a considerable sum on the r margin speculations. The case came up at the police court on Monday last but at the request of the defence was enlarged for a week.

Nathaniel J. Ryan, of Ninga, who was formerly employed by S. P. Clark & Co., as grain buyer at Killarney, has been charged with fraud. It is alleged that Ryan and Hatch, who is now confined in the provincial jail here on a charge of theft of some four carloads of wheat, entered into a conspiracy whereby wheat tickets were issued and afterwards cashed, and for which there was no grain in the elevator. By these transactions about \$1,000 were secured, as was discovered when the several dealers came to "clean up" the elevator at the end of the season. Ryan has been committed for trial at the Brandon assizes, admitting him to bail in the meantime in the sum of \$1,500, himself in \$300 and two securities of a like sum each.

The Part Taken by India in Feeding the World

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ribly hard. * * * If all the poorer classes of India ate two full meals every day, the surplus for export would be much less."

In an official report of the "Administration of the Provinces of the Punjab"—now suffering from famine—this statement is made. "The increase of the area under crops for exportation has caused a decrease of that under barley and grain, which form the principal food of the population."

The great mass of the Indian population being always on the verge of starvation, and forced to grow those crops which are exportable and readily salable for the money required to pay the rack rent exacted by a landlord who has little other revenue, it follows that, when crops are as meagre as those of 1895—the rice crop of Bengal alone is said to be 6,000,000 tons below an average—distress and famine ensue, and, during one coming crop year, wheat exports are altogether likely to be less than during the famine of 1876-7. A remarkable feature of that period was the decrease of exports in the years following the famine. The exports of the two following years aggregated but a fourth of the exports of the two famine years. Should like results follow the present Indian dearth, that country will contribute but little to the bread supply of the external world until 1899 or 1900, and in any event, the exports of the next 14 months will be of little moment, while Indian imports may be considerable, yet are unlikely to be large.

C. WOOD DAVIS.

Lockhart, Sons & Co., manufacturing agents, Toronto, have assigned, with liabilities of \$110,000, and assets of nominally \$112,000.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Canadian Pacific railway company held at Montreal on Feb. 8, a dividend of two per cent. on the preference stock, and of one per cent. on the common stock for the half year ended 31st of December last, was declared, payable on the 1st of April.

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J. PLAXTON. E. R. WHITEHEAD. H. S. CROTTY.
D. WILSON.

CONSULTING ENGINEER for British Columbia—Jno. J. Moynahan, of Moynahan and Campbell, Rossland.
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PROPERTIES—

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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.

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The Part Taken by India in Feeding the World.

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what diminishes, but in the Punjab, in Rajputana, Sind, and much of Oude, wheat still remains, as in the days of Menu, the staple food of the more opulent classes, although but little used in southern India. Still, there has been a great increase of wheat consumption in the cities of southern India, notably in those of Bengal. The great increase of population in India—wheat eaters as well as others—and this increasing urban consumption per unit, account for the steady diminution of the percentage of the crop exported in recent years, and afford assurance that, without the adventitious aids of famines and dearths, Indian wheat exportation is likely, soon, to be a thing of the past.

A year or two ago, so good an authority as James Turner delivered an address in Calcutta, in which the statement was made, that, in the three preceding years, wheat consumption in lower Bengal had risen from 23,000 to 62,000 tons per annum, or from less than 300,000 bushels to 2,400,000 bushels.

The annual average unit consumption of wheat in India having been .6 of a bushel during the last 10 years, and, the population increasing 1.1 per cent per annum, it is not difficult to determine how soon exports will cease, unless there shall be a material increase of the acres employed in wheat production, which is highly improbable.

So long ago as April 16, 1891, a leading Indian economist stated in the daily Englishman of Calcutta: "People do not realize the fact that all the wheat India produces is required for home consumption, and that this fact is not likely to be realized until a serious disaster occurs, and that, even now, less than 9 per cent, is exported. It is a self evident fact that a slight expansion of consumption, or a partial failure of crops of other food grains, will be sufficient to absorb the small proportion now exported. Besides, we have a steady increase of consumption, in consequence of the natural growth of the population, as well as in the gradual improvement of the condition of a considerable part of the people in the cities. It is not generally known that the local consumption of wheat in Calcutta exceeds 100,000 tons annually, and yet, the flour mills of the town do not supply an extensive area. Calcutta and its suburbs consume such a large quantity of wheat because of a comparatively well-to-do population. I believe that, comparatively speaking, India will, in a few years, cease to export wheat, and soon thereafter become an importing country."

At the rate, the Indian population increases, the "few years" of this Calcutta authority will end about 1935 even if there be no increase of unit consumption in the urban districts.

Just as great misconceptions exist regarding the cost of growing wheat in India, and in relation to Indian dietaries, as there do in regard to the increase of the wheat bearing lands of the empire. These fallacies have been propagated largely by ignorant partisans of all stripes. One breed assures us that, as rises and falls the price of an ounce of a certain metal, so rises and falls the price of a bushel of wheat, while the opponents of this absurd theory, to be just as inconsistent and as much in error, assure us we can not compete with the Indian grower because wheat is grown in that favored country for as little as 13 cents per bushel. Grave senators, and great statesmen (?) were found propagating these baseless statements during the recent heated campaign, though the cost of growing wheat in India is actually greater than in the United States, and Indian competition finds its stimulus in the poverty of

the Indian populations, rather than in rates of exchange.

It costs more to grow wheat in India than in any other exporting country, because of the astounding inefficiency of Indian labor, and by reason of the prevalence of methods and instruments of agriculture that were old when the first European book was written.

While the agricultural labor of India commands but 5 to 80 per day, it is, by reason of its inefficiency, vastly more costly than that engaged in agriculture in the United States. In India, the ground is, prepared for seeding by from 8 to 30 plowings, that, in their totality, are far less efficient than one plowing with an American gang plow that covers from five to eight acres a day, as against half an acre in India with a forked stick drawn by two diminutive bullocks. After this long and tedious process, the seed is scribed in by hand through a hollow reed, and the ryot is fortunate enough if he secures as good a stand from his 10 to 12 pecks of seed as the American does from five or six, put in with a drill. During the entire growing season, the Indian field—not fenced—has to be guarded day and night from depredations by birds, quadrupeds, and bipeds, and, in the more favored districts, the field is irrigated, at a cost of from \$1 to \$3 per acre for water. When the harvest begins, we find the peasant using, in most districts, a sickle that has an iron blade not more than six inches long, with which sitting on his hunches, he cuts one-twelfth of an acre daily—his being an average day's work—which is gathered and bound by an assistant. When nightfall comes, the peasant and his assistant carry the entire harvest from the field upon their head. If the ryot's labor is counted at 50 per day, and that of the assistant at 40, we find the cost of harvesting the India acre no less than \$1.08, while the Kansas farmer, cutting a 15-foot swath with his header, puts his wheat in the stack at a cost of not over 70c an acre. If we estimate the value of the wheat lands of the United States at an average of \$30 an acre, and the rate of interest 7 per cent, we find the land rent to be a trifle over \$2 an acre. In India the wheat lands pay a land-rent tax of \$3 to \$3.50 an acre according to quality, and the average yield is but \$9.35 bushels an acre, as against 13 bushels in the United States.

As a matter of fact, counting the cost of the water used in irrigation, wheat is grown in India at a cost fully 50 per cent, in excess of the average in the United States.

Heretofore, Indian exports have been due, in a very great measure, to the ryot's need of money wherewith to pay government dues, and his inability to procure this money from the limited number of wheat eaters among the Indian population. The necessity for silver will be no less hereafter, but domestic consumers of wheat constantly increase, while there is no increase of the wheat-bearing acres, whatever. The result will be, that greater and greater proportions of the product will be absorbed at home, though the Indian population, as a whole, increases in poverty instead of in prosperity, and more and more of the cultivated acres will probably be devoted, year by year, to those coarser foods upon which the masses subsist.

Evidence of the increasing poverty of the Indian rural population (181,000,000) is found on every hand, and proceeds from the nature of this old civilization. From earliest ages, the Hindu father has divided his holding, no matter how small, among all his male heirs. This subdivision has been so long continued that the holdings over vast areas are now wholly insufficient for the subsistence of a family, and, with every season of dearth, come pinching want and starvation. To such an extent has this subdivision been carried—subdivision of the right of occupancy only—that purely agricultural populations numbering 16,000,000 occupy less

than 8,000,000 acres, or under half an acre each.

The Hon. Mr. Dakin—minister of water supply for the Australian colony of Victoria—tells us, in "Irrigated India": "Almost every year witnesses a stress in one or more parts of the Indian peninsula, and it is fortunate when this can be coped with out of the superabundance of the more favored districts. It is under this horrible pressure of human suffering that the English government of India has adopted the policy of constructing irrigation works and railways with loan money. The first provides food while railways carry the surplus of irrigated areas to the starving."

Governor-General Lord Lawrence told us, years ago: "The actual condition of the masses of the Indian people is a bare—I might say a most miserable—existence. We, its rulers, are at our wit's end to devise new sources of revenue."

A high official of Bengal said, referring to the great Orissa famine of the sixties: "Increasing exports are, by no means, evidence of prosperity in India, often the very reverse. The province of Orissa was depleted of produce which was exported to pay the government taxes, and famine resulted. The increase of crops for exports interferes with the necessary production of food for the people."

Sir James Caird, British royal commissioner to inquire into the great famine of 1874-7, when 7,000,000 perished said: "It is very remarkable that the doubling of the Indian external trade from 1870 to 1890, put forth as proof of the prosperity of agriculture, appears to have had no beneficial effect upon the land revenue. May this not show that the railways are carrying off more than is safe for the agricultural class to part with?"

As the land-tax is never lowered in India, but is frequently increased, we may conclude that the increase of 3 per cent, in the land revenue between 1870 and 1890 indicates an increase of less than 3 per cent in the acres and crops, though, in the meantime, the Indian populations increased by more than 10 per cent, as must their requirements have done.

In speaking of the 780,000 people inhabiting the district of Ulwar, Sir James Caird says: "There are three classes of people in the state, as distinguished by their food, in the proportion of 4, 16 and 80. The first (4 per cent), consume, without stint, milk-porridge, ghee, sugar and good flour. The second class (16 per cent), have buttermilk porridge, a little ghee, no sugar and only coarse grain. The third class (80 per cent), have only water-porridge and coarse grain."

The Governor of Bengal stated: "Half our agricultural population never knows, from year's end to year's end, what it is to have its hunger fully satisfied."

The author of "Irrigated India" says: "The pressure of war and despotism have been removed, but the pressure of population remains. There are, in the presidency of Madras, 15,000,000 people who live upon an average of one-half penny a day, the earnings of a family of five persons amounting to but 18d a week."

Sir Wm. H. Hunter, long and prominently connected with the Indian government says: "Fully one fifth the people of India go through their entire lives on insufficient food."

And in his "Indian Empire" he tells us: "In Bengal, 24,000,000 struggle to live on 15,000,000 acres, or a little over half an acre apiece. We see, therefore in India, a dense population of husbandmen. Wherever their numbers exceed one to the acre, the struggle for existence becomes hard. At half an acre apiece, that struggle is ter-

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