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ESTABLISHED 1817.

Capital all Paid-up - \$12,000,000
 Reserve Fund, - - - 6,000,000
 Undivided Profits - - - 823,000
 HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.

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 W. C. McDonald, Esq., H. H. Angus, Esq.
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 W. W. Ogilvie, Esq.
 E. S. CLOUSTON, General Manager.

BRANCHES in all the principal cities and towns throughout the Dominion of Canada, and in the following cities: St. John's, Newfoundland; London, Eng.; 22 Abchurch Lane, E. C. New York, 59 Wall St. Chicago, 188 La Salle Street.

FANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.
 Liverpool—Bank of Liverpool
 Scotland—British Linen Co. Bank and Branches.

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Travellers' Circular Letters of Credit and Commercial Credits issued for use in all parts of the world
 Collections made on favorable terms.
 Interest allowed on deposits at current rates.

ANGUS KIRKLAND, Manager.

UNION BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL PAID-UP, - \$1,200,000
 RESERVE FUND, .. 300,000

HEAD OFFICE, - QUEBEC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Thompson, Esq., Pres. Hon. E. J. Price, Vice-Pres.
 E. E. Webb, General Manager.

BRANCHES IN MANITOBA AND NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

WINNIPEG—F. L. PATTON, Manager.

Beaverin, Man. Deloraine, Man. Neocomin, N.W.T.
 Carberry, Man. Lethbridge, N.W.T. Neepawa, Man.
 Carman, Man. Norden, Man. Virden, Man.
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BRANCHES IN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

Alexandria, Ont. Norwood, Ont. Smith Falls, Ont.
 Hastings, Ont. Ottawa, Ont. Toronto, Ont.
 Markville, Ont. Quebec, Que. Wawatich, Ont.
 Montreal, Que. Shelburne, Ont. Winchester, Ont.

A General Banking Business Transacted.

Safe Deposit Boxes to Rent.

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL, QUEBEC.

Capital Paid-up - \$6,000,000.00
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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WINNIPEG BRANCH

The Pioneer Bank of the Prairie Province.

Accounts of Merchants, Manufacturers, Corporations and individuals received on favorable terms. Canadian and Foreign Exchange bought and sold. Interest allowed on deposits at the best rates. Particular attention given to Canadian and American collections. Ample facilities and low rates. Prompt returns made. A general banking business transacted.

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NORTH OF SCOTLAND CANADIAN MORTGAGE CO. Ltd.

MONEY TO LEND at Lowest Current Rates.

Mortgages and Debentures Purchased.

OSLER, HAMMOND & HANTON
 Brokers, 381 Main St., Winnipeg.

Imperial Bank of Canada

DIVIDEND No. 44.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of four per cent and a bonus of one per cent upon the capital stock of this institution has been declared for the current half-year, and that the same will be payable at the bank and its branches on and after Tuesday, the 1st day of June next.

The Transfer books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st May, both days inclusive.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the bank on Wednesday, the 16th day of June next. The chair to be taken at noon.

By order of the Board,

D. R. WILKIE,

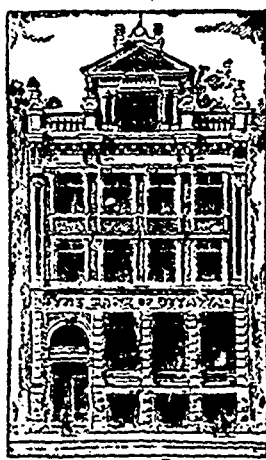
Chairman.

Toronto, April 22, 1897.

BANK OF OTTAWA.

Head Office, Ottawa.

Capital paid up, Rest, \$1,500,000 \$1,085,000



Capital authorized, \$1,500,000

This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

WINNIPEG BRANCH, - J. B. MONK, Manager

The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co.

CAPITAL, - - \$1,500,000.00
 RESERVE FUND, - 850,000.00

Head Offices: TORONTO—WALTER S LEE, Managing Director.
 Branch Offices: WINNIPEG—W. M. FISHER, Manager.

Moneys advanced upon Farm and City Properties
 MORTGAGES, MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES AND SCHOOL DEBENTURES purchased. Scrip held for use of Clients. Clients' title deeds are not sent out of the Province but are lodged in the Company's vaults at Winnipeg, where they may be examined at all times. Agents at all principal points throughout the Province.
 For further information write to the manager of the Winnipeg branch.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

Paid-up Capital, - \$6,000,000
 Reserve - - - - \$1,000,000

Hon. George A. Cox, President.

Robert Kilgour, Esq., Vice-President.

R. E. Walker, General Manager

J. H. Plummer, Assistant-General Manager.

A. H. Ireland, Inspector.

NEW YORK—Alex. Laid and Wm. Gray, Agents

BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Great Britain—The Bank of Scotland.
 India, China and Japan—The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
 Paris, France—Lazard, Freres & Cie.
 Australia and New Zealand—Union Bank of Brussels, Belgium—J. Mathieu & Fils [Australia
 New York—Amer Exchange Nat'l. Bank of N. Y.
 San Francisco—The Bank of British Columbia.
 Chicago—Amer Exchange Nat'l. Bank of Chicago.
 British Columbia—The Bank of British Columbia.
 Hamilton, Bermuda—The Bank of Bermuda.
 Kingston, Jamaica—Bank of Nova Scotia.
 Minneapolis—Norwestern National Bank.
 Duluth—First National Bank.

This bank has the largest number of branches of any bank in Canada.

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Accounts of Corporations, Merchants and Individuals received on favorable terms.

Interest allowed on deposits in Savings Dept.

Commercial Credits, Travellers' Credits and Circular Notes issued for use in all parts of the world.

Debentures Purchased.

A General Banking Business transacted.

F. H. MATHEWSON, Manager.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

ESTABLISHED 1836.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER IN 1840.

Paid-up Capital - - £1,000,000 Stg.
 Reserve Fund - - - £275,000 "

HEAD OFFICE—3 Clements Lane, Lombard St., London.

COURT OF DIRECTORS—H. Brodie, John James Cater, Henry R. Farrar, Gaspar Farrar, Richard H. Glyn, E. A. Hoare, H. J. B. Kendall, J. J. Kingford, Frederick Lubbock, Geo. D. Whatman.

Head Office in Canada—St. James St., Montreal.
 H. Sukeman, General Manager.
 E. Stanger, Inspector.

BRANCHES IN CANADA.

Brandon	Hamilton	Ottawa	Toronto
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WINNIPEG, Main Street—D. Simpson, Manager.

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New York—22 Wall Street, W. Lawson and J. C. Welsh
 San Francisco—124 Sanson St., H. M. L. McMichael and J. R. Ambrose.

London Bankers—The Bank of England—Messrs. Glyn & Co.
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The Western Loan and Trust Co., Ltd.

Incorporated by Special Act of the Legislature.

Authorized Capital, - \$2,000,000.00
 Assets, - \$2,417,237.86

Office, 13 St. Sacramento St., Montreal, Que.

DIRECTORS

Hon. A. W. Ogilvie Wm. Strachan, Esq.
 W. Barclay Stephens, Esq. R. Prefontaine, Esq., M.P.
 R. W. Knight, Esq. John Hoodless, Esq.
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 J. W. Michaud, Esq., Accountant W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., Mgr.
 Solicitors—Messrs. Greenshields & Greenshields.
 Bankers—The Merchants Bank of Canada.

This Company acts as assignee, administrator, executor, trustee, receiver, committee of lunatic, guardian liquidator, etc., etc., also as agent for the above offices.

Debentures issued for three or five years, both debentures and interest on the same can be collected in any part of Canada without charge.

For further particulars address the manager.

J. H. ASHDOWN

Wholesale
Hardware

WWINNIPEG

Donald Fraser & Co.

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YOUTHS' and
CHILDREN'S

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Importers of Hats, Caps and Men's Furnishings.

LIBERAL DISCOUNTS.
CLOSE PRICES.

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The Barber & Ellis Co. Ltd.

Nos. 43, 45, 47, 49 Bay Street,
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ENVELOPES, WRITING TABLETS,
NOTE PAPER, PAPETERIES.

Cardboards of every description, Flat Papers,
Bill Heads &c., &c. Write for Samples.

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MAZAWATTEE TEA

By its Delicious Aroma
By its Dainty Fragrance
By its Softness on the Palate
By its Refreshing Effect and
By Supreme Delicacy

Connoisseurs Call it Delightful

Kenneth MacKenzie & Co.
Agents, WINNIPEG.

JOHN W. PECK & CO.

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FUR GOODS,
SHIRTS

Dealers in Men's Furnishings, Hats and Caps.

Our travellers are now showing samples of
our stock of Clothing, Hats, Caps and Furnishings
for

SPRING 1897

We would draw especial attention to the fact that
we have the only stock now in existence of good
Buffalo Coats.

Assorting orders by letter for fall and winter
goods in our lines will receive prompt and careful
attention.

MONTREAL. WINNIPEG.

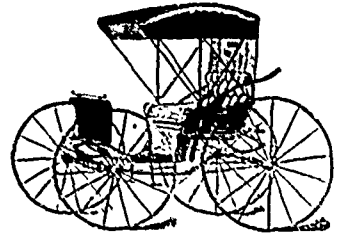
New Century Horse and Cattle Food

We are prepared to make deliver-
ies of this important product.
Write to us for particulars. Ex-
ceptional terms will be offered
during the present fall and winter.

Martin, Bole & Wynne Co.
Wholesale Druggists, Winnipeg.

A. C. McRAE,

DEALER IN



CARRIAGES

Write direct for Prices and Catalogue.
Best Goods at Lowest Price.

Spring Goods

For....

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WALL PAPERS
EXPRESS WAGONS
MARBLES
BALLS, GAMES
SPORTING GOODS

Write....

LOVE, McALLISTER & CO.

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Alabastine

THE ONLY
SANITARY

Wall Finish

White and 16 beautiful tints. Send
your orders early and be ready for
the spring rush.

C. F. STEPHENS & CO.

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Selling Agents for Manitoba, N. W. T. and
British Columbia.

MACKENZIE & MILLS

WHOLESALE

Fancy
Groceries

Special attention given to Teas, Coffees,
Dried Fruits, Canned Goods,
Butter, etc.

244 Princess St., Winnipeg.

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

Subscription, \$2.00 PER ANNUM (In Advance).

Changes for advertisements should be in not later than Thursday Morning.

Office: Free Press Building.
STEEN & BUCHANAN,
Publishers.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the West region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this Journal has been placed upon the desks of the majority of business men in the district designated above, 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, MAY 10, 1897.

TRIED BY FIRE

Since our last issue The Commercial office has been the scene of a destructive conflagration. Fire broke out in the office on Monday evening, doing great damage to the interior of the building and the plant, and practically destroying the type and composing departments. This accounts for the change in the appearance and size of the paper this week. With the kind assistance of the Free Press, we have been able to issue this week on time, though in reduced form.

The fire will only be a temporary set-back to The Commercial. In a few weeks we hope to resume the full size as before the fire. In the meantime, the friends of The Commercial will kindly consider the inconvenience under which we are working, and make allowance for any shortcomings. All business entrusted to The Commercial will be handled as promptly as possible, and in a short time we hope to have everything running smoothly again. The present quarters of The Commercial will be in the Free Press building, where we will be pleased to see our friends and patrons.

Manitoba.

W. R. Ross, late of the firm of Nugent & Ross, barristers, Winnipeg, has located in Fort Steele, B. C.

The idea of having a mining exhibit in connection with the coming annual summer fair of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association, is indeed a happy thought. It should prove one of the most drawing features of the exhibition. One of the objects of the association is to make the resources of Western Canada known

abroad. The mineral districts, east and west of us, should be represented as fully as possible, to the great advantage of all interested.

The inland revenue collections at Winnipeg during the month of April was as follows:

Spirits	\$24,756.25
Tobacco	15,549.12
Malt	2,075.88
Cigars	832.70
Raw Leaf	139.50
Methylated spirits	123.59
Petroleum Insp. fees.	29.03

\$43,505.57

Collections April, 1896 \$1,195.36

Increase \$12,310.21

The report of the Dominion Government Savings bank branch at Winnipeg for the month of April, is as follows: Deposits, \$18,841.00; withdrawals, \$24,591.67; withdrawal's exceed deposits by \$6,110.67.

The Hardware Trade.

A Toronto report says: Trade is about the same as last week, there being no special features to report excepting that owing to changes in the tariff quite a reduction has been made in sisal and manilla rope. Wire and cut nails, barb and ordinary fence wire are to remain unchanged until the meetings of manufacturers have been held. The demand is principally for harvest and garden tools, spades and shovels, green wirecloth, poultry netting, windows and doors.

Eastern makers of barbed wire are not quoting prices to the jobbing trade at present, and though the nominal basis is still \$2.90 f.o.b. Montreal, the market has a very unsettled feeling. The presence at Montreal of the representatives of the Consolidated Steel Company, of Pittsburg, does not tend to dissipate this. In a word, says the Montreal Gazette, buyers and sellers know exactly how to act. In Winnipeg the wire factories are closing. The factories have been working at such a close margin here for some time, that even before the reduction in the duty, the business was hardly paying expenses. The barb wire industry here is therefore in a critical position.

A further decline of 1c per gallon has taken place at Montreal in the price of gum shellac, and pale orange is now quoted at 25c. On account of the low price of the above article, a weak feeling has prevailed in varnishes, and prices have declined in sympathy fully 2c to 5c per gallon.

The new duty on cement amounts to an increase of about 4c per barrel. The old duty on Belgian brands was 35 to 40 per cent., and the new is 57 per cent. Under the preferential tariff the increase in the duty on English makes is 2 1/2 to 10 per cent., making it now 37 per cent. ad valorem. In consequence of this increase, Montreal importers have been obliged to advance prices 5c per barrel, and are now asking \$2 to \$2.10 for English brands, and \$1.90 to \$2 for Belgian. Importers state that if the increase in the duty is maintained the importation of English and Belgian cement will be curtailed considerably, as they say it will be impossible for them to compete with Canadian manufacturers to as good advantage as formerly, for points west of Toronto.

A Montreal report says there has been a decided change in the cordage market since the new tariff was announced, manufacturers and jobbers having reduced the price of sisal 1 1/4c

to 6 1/4c for 7-16 size and upwards, and manilla has also declined 1 1/4c to 13-1c, to 6 3/4c for 7-16 size and upwards, and 7 1/4 for smaller sizes. The situation of the market even at the above reduction is decidedly unsettled, and still lower figures are anticipated.

Grain and Milling News.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co. are making a shipment of Manitoba flour, from their Keowatin mill, to South Africa. Manitoba flour may now be said to go all around the world.

Fire broke out about midnight on May 5, in F. F. Cole's elevator, at Whitewater, Man., totally destroying it. The elevator contained about 8,000 bushels of wheat. The loss will amount to about \$7,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Grocery Trade Notes.

A Montreal report says there is a scarcity in canned tomatoes, and prices have advanced 12 1/2c to 75c. Corn has also appreciated in value, having moved up from 40c to 52 1/2c, and is expected to go still higher.

Barbadoes molasses has declined 1c at the island, to 7c per gal., but most holders refuse to sell at the decline.

An advance has been established in the price of rice at Montreal, of 1-4c to 3-8c per lb. for all common kinds. The value for higher grades, for which the demand is small, have not changed to any material extent. Montreal prices are: Crystal Japan, \$4.50 to \$5; standard B., \$3.50 to \$3.75; Patna, \$4.50 to \$5; Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75; choice Burmah, \$4 to \$4.25, and Java kinds, \$4.25 to \$4.50.

The Montreal Gazette says there is a decidedly easier feeling in the tea market, which is due principally to the fact that the large lines that were bought up by a few speculators previous to the announcement of the tariff, in anticipation of a duty being imposed are now offering on the market. Japan teas which cost 16 1/2c some two or three weeks ago, can to-day be bought at 15c, which shows a net decline of 1 1/2c per lb. The demand is very limited, as buyers generally, have ample supplies on hand and are holding off for a new crop of goods. A number of cases have been sent forward during the past week by importers for round lots of new teas.

Panic in the Coffee Trade.

An English trade report takes a very gloomy view of the situation in coffee, as will be seen by a perusal of it, which is as follows: "A veritable panic has held sway over the coffee market of late, and years have elapsed since it was so demoralized as it has been within the present month. The whole convulsion has been traceable to the huge and unprecedented outturn of the crops in Brazil for the '1896-97' season, which have come forward with such rapidity that buyers have been startled, and speculators of future values entirely upset. The downward movement in prices has been of a more than usually impetuous character, and the kinds of coffee undergoing the greatest depreciation have been those below 90s per cwt., the lower the grade the severer being the fall, which in extreme cases has amounted to nearly 16s from the highest point in January; good Santos,

WATEROUS ENGINE WORKS CO., LD.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

Engines and Boilers

OF ALL SIZES AND STYLES

STEAM PUMPS
FOR MINING OR
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ELEVATOR MACHINERY
BARNARD'S SPECIAL GRAIN ELEVATOR
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New and Second-hand Machinery of
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Keewatin Lumbering and Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

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LUMBER, LATH, SHINGLES, FLOORING, SIDING,
SHEETING, MOULDINGS, CASINGS. CEDAR POLES
AND TELEGRAPH POLES. SILL TIMBER AND
JOISTING (up to forty feet).

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Saw Mills, Planing
Mills and Factory at **KEEWATIN, ONT.**

A Comfortable Home for Your Feet

By Wearing
KING'S SHOES
made with patent

Sleeper Canvas Insoles

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

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

S. GREENSHIELDS SON & CO.

Wholesale Dry Goods

MONTREAL AND
VANCOUVER

See our leaders in White and Grey Blankets, Knit Shirts and Drawers, Top Shirts, Ladies Vests, Children's Vests, Hosiery, Mitts, Gloves, Flannels, Wools, Fingerings and Canadian Yarns for Fall. Jobs in Dress Goods, Muslins, Linens, Towels, Cottonades, Tweeds, Flannelets, Lace Curtains, Gents' Ties, Suspenders, etc., for sorting.

Our Mr. Gallagher will call upon you shortly.

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That we are Bound to
Maintain the Lead

is evidenced by our
magnificent range of

SAMPLES FOR THE SPRING

now on the road.

EXCELLENT VALUE.
ORDERS SOLICITED.

THE D. McCALL CO. Limited

TORONTO, ONTARIO

PORTER & CO.

Direct Importers of

Crockery

Glassware, China, Silverware,
Cutlery, Lamps, Fancy Goods, etc.

330 Main Street, WINNIPEG

which was then worth 54s to 55s for "future" delivery, having recently been sacrificed at 37s 6d to 40s per cwt. Central American descriptions, including the useful qualities of Costa Rica and Guatemala at about 80s to 84s, having similarly declined in price; and as supplies of these growths are exceedingly small in proportion to those of Brazil coffee, the grocery trade should direct their attention to them while there is a chance of replenishing their stocks before the reaction, which is beginning to show itself, has had time to gain the ascendancy.

Frozen Wheat in Great Britain.

If they have no protection in Great Britain as we understand it in Canada, they have other modes of curtailing the consumption of imported goods. One plan frequently followed is to get up a popular prejudice against certain classes of imported goods. This plan has been worked with great success in the case of the frozen or chilled meat trade, and to-day the principal barrier in the way of that trade is the unreasonable but intense popular prejudice which has been worked up against refrigerated meats. The following item shows what is being done to kill the dead meat import trade: The London Times says: "Messrs. W. Weddel & Co. write to protest against Mr. Wingfield-Digby's statement in the House of Commons that consumers of frozen meat are exceptionally liable to disease. Since the trade started in 1880, not a single ton of diseased frozen meat has been seized at Smithfield, while many tons of diseased English meat have been seized. The excessive care taken in examining the carcasses at the time of slaughtering offers a complete guarantee of immunity from disease. The great majority of colonial producers, Messrs. Weddel adds, would welcome an effective meat marking bill which would prevent their meat from being retailed as anything but what it really is."

The Cheaper Cereals in Use.

The slow demand from abroad for our wheat is especially discouraging, as the inquiry is below anything figured early in the season, on this side of the Atlantic. When the figures of total production were first compiled the only question that agitated speculators was the problem of how the world was going to get along with so light supply, without prices advancing to a point, that would turn enough consumption to substitutes for wheat, to make the loss quantity of it do for the whole crop year. Most people thought then that nothing short of 90c to \$1.00 a bushel would do it. There is where the mistake seems to lie. About 75c. in the primary markets turned away enough wheat bread eaters to substitutes to lighten sufficiently the supply, for all practical purposes. Even at the moderate prices prevailing last week, this country's foreign shipments were away under 2,000,000 bushels. The low prices of corn at 25c, of rye at 23c, barley at 25c, and oats at 18c are particularly attractive to the practical economist who supplies the family table, in these times, when so many are idle or in a state bordering upon idleness. The official wheat yield in this country was something of an error, but the usual commercial reckoning was not in all astray. The

fault of calculation seems to be in the price that would turn so many consumers to the cheaper cereals. — Minneapolis Market Record.

The Dry Goods Trade.

The general feeling of uneasiness caused by the tariff uncertainty having at last been removed, and whilst the different changes made in the duties may not be suitable to all interests, yet on the whole the new tariff may be considered fairly satisfactory since its advent, business seems to run along much more smoothly. Sales, both in the house and on the road, show a considerable improvement over the preceding weeks of its issue. Remittances show an improvement. There has been no disturbance in values, as the advance on duty in several lines has been equalized by the rebate on products from Great Britain and which is now in force. Our retail friends are fairly busy, and much spring weather so far is quite suitable for trade interests.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

Foreign Crop Conditions.

Beertolm says under date of April 15: The weather has been finer and more favorable for field work in England, but has been too cold to suit the growing wheat plant, which in many districts is reported to be losing color. The country markets have been fairly well supplied, but in the absence of demand farmers have had to accept about 1s decline generally; the price of fair to good Red wheats now varies from 27s to 28s, and in some cases even rather less.

In France the cold weather and excessive rainfall are having a very unfavorable effect upon the growing wheat plant, which is turning yellow in many districts. Fine weather would doubtless soon improve the outlook, but there is no doubt that at present the prospect is far from favorable. The wheat markets in France have ruled quiet but steady; farmers still offer very sparingly, but they find it impossible to raise prices against the determined attitude of reserve shown by millers, whose sale of flour remains both difficult and unremunerative. Home grown wheat varies from 36s 6d to 37s 6d per 180 lbs. in the north and east, up to 38s to 39s in the south and southwest. Foreign wheat is still held too high in comparison with home-grown, the commonest sorts being at 38s per 180 lbs duty paid in the northern ports, up to 40s for the finer sorts. The Paris term market is rather lower on the week but closes firmer.

In Belgium and Holland the weather has been fairly favorable for spring sowings, but the wheat trade shows few signs of improvement, the demand being so extremely limited. The sale of flour, moreover, is very poor and very unremunerative, which will perhaps account for some parcels of Belgian flour finding their way to London in the past week. The quantity of foreign wheat afloat for Antwerp is 150,000 qrs, against 450,000 qrs last year, and for Holland 200,000 qrs, against 275,000 qrs.

In Germany the autumn sown crops are in a satisfactory condition, but spring sowings are in arrears, owing to the unfavorable weather. There has been some improvement in the wheat markets this week, after the

sharp decline of 8s. to 10s per ton last week.

In Austria the weather has been cold and wet, but there has been few complaints regarding the crop outlook. The latest official Hungarian crop report is on the whole favorable, as regards wheat, rye and rapeseed. At Vienna, April 13, wheat improved 5kr; spring term 7fl 82; autumn 7fl 18. Peat was also firm and rather dearer. Spring 7fl 50; autumn 6fl 92.

In Roumania the agricultural outlook remains favorable, but from Bulgaria there are occasional complaints of damage by rain. The shipments of wheat from Roumania and Bulgarian ports are now falling off, and it is reported that little remains to be shipped this season from Bulgaria, which after extraordinarily large exports since August last, is hardly to be wondered at.

In Spain the weather conditions have been favorable for the crops, but from Italy the reports are rather less favorable.

Russia—Our advices from Russia contain very little that is new. Our Nicolief correspondent reports rainy and cold weather, but he says that the crops are going on well. From other parts of the South of Russia, however, there are complaints of serious damage done to the winter crops. The markets remain in a very dull condition owing to the decline abroad, and the exports of wheat continue relatively moderate. The stock of wheat at Odessa is estimated at 100,000 qrs; Novorodsk 190,000 qrs; at Mariupole 80,000 qrs, and at Taganrog about 125,000 qrs.

The Shortage of Cattle.

The Chicago Drovers' Journal says: There has been talk of cattle shortage for several years past, but there has not been a time in many years when there was such a sure enough shortage as at present. As long as there are plenty of calves and young cattle in sight the shortage of fat cattle does not amount to much, but a time has now come when there is a big shortage of not only matured cattle, but of calves, yearlings and breeding stock. Not only are cattle scarce in the corn belt, but they are scarce in every section of the country toward which one may turn. The eastern states are short in spite of rather liberal purchases of Canada, and the south western purchases from Mexican cattle have seemed to cut no figure. Texas has been drawn upon for all the young cattle she could spare by feeders in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. California has no surplus; Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado are short; Utah has had some to sell, but not many; Idaho and Nevada have no surplus; Oregon and Washington are lightly supplied and Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas will not have as many cattle to ship or put on the range as last year. The southeastern states have not enough cattle to supply them in beef. There is unquestionably a great shortage in cattle, young and old, and of all kinds. Buyers who have to look out for the future are well aware of the situation and are scouring the country in all directions trying to "get a line" on the situation. A man who always puts up several thousand cattle in the fall for distillery feeding says he has already bought about what he will need next fall, being afraid to delay buying, and says it is the first time he has ever made purchases so

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long in advance. The outlook for cattlemen is certainly very good. Conservative stockmen estimate that there will be 20 per cent less cattle marketed this year than last, and it is a well known fact that farmers are fattening even their young things and the stock more closely than ever before.

Transportation Rates for Grain in Russia.

In view of the competition of Russia as a grain exporter with North America, not to mention competing interests in India, the Argentine Republic, Australia and elsewhere, recent statistical investigations in Russia as to the distance which grain is carried by rail and water within that country prior to being exported are of more than usual interest. As pointed out by the Railroad Gazette, these statistics of shipments from different sections of the Russian empire in Europe to exporting points and to interior centers of consumption are "probably the most complete" of the kind ever published "for any considerable country." Prominent among the tables is one showing the distance grain is carried before arriving at the ports from which it appears that, notwithstanding the vast area of the country under discussion, and reductions in rates by the Russian railway tariff in 1893 for grain carried great distances, 1,300 to 2,300 miles, no grain whatever was shipped by rail for export in 1894 further than 1,665 miles from the border, and less than 1 per cent of such exports were carried more than 1,330 miles, while nearly 55 per cent was moved less than 265 miles, which, as the paper named states, "is as if more than one-half of our export grain was produced east of Pittsburgh or south of Memphis." During 1893, when the reduced Russian railway rates were first enforced, less than 13,000,000 bushels of grain, out of a total of 170,000,000 bushels exported from that country, were carried as far as 1,000 miles by rail or river, and less than 50,000,000 bushels as far as 665 miles which shows a surprising advantage to Russian grain farmers over those in the United States. This is due to the fact that the great Russian grain-producing region lies relatively close to the west and south border of that country, requiring practically no more land transportation than the cereal products of the Pacific coast in this country in the year named, out of 1,000,000 bushels of grain exported from Russian ports on the Black sea and Sea of Azov, 74,000,000 bushels were carried less than 383 miles on the way to the border, and 10,000,000 bushels less than 66 miles, while more than 60,000 bushels went as far as 665 miles. Exports from Baltic ports, which are almost exclusively oats and rye, were carried further than to reaching ports of export, amounting in the year named to about 33,000,000 bushels, which traveled from 333 to 665 miles before shipment, an insignificant distance compared with that which export grain from the Mississippi river valley has

It is pointed out that Russian grain exports have been seriously affected by the prices in recent years, and that many of them are in a condition bordering on bankruptcy, yet are apparently obliged to continue producing for the want of an equally saleable crop. One effect of the stress

among them was a petition at a congress of Russian farmers requesting the government to still further reduce railroad rates to a uniform charge on cattle as well as grain, amounting to a little more than four-tenths of 1c. per ton per mile, a rate equivalent to about 20c. per 100 pounds from Chicago to New York. Russian railway authorities and officials, and after investigation showed conclusively that the proposed reduction would lower railway earnings seriously, and that seven-eighths of the loss would fall directly on the government—that is, on the taxpayers, those seeking relief, and that the suggested rates would reduce charges on shipments from remote points of the empire, where wheat land is cheap, so much more than on farms nearer and from large towns and export markets where the petitioners resided, "that it would inevitably increase the very competition of which the petitioners complain."

Out of practically all the grain transported in Russia during the three years ended with 1895, more than three-fourths was shipped from what is called the "black land" country, south of Warsaw and Moscow, extending east nearly to the Ural mountains and south nearly to the Caspian, about one-quarter of Russia in Europe, and not a greater area than that of the grain-growing states of Minnesota, the Dakotas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas.

Additional statistics show that the average distance grain was carried in Russia during the years mentioned was 446 miles, and the average freight rate paid 181.8c. per 100 pounds. A significant fact is that grain exported from Russia is carried in that country, on the average, a less distance than that consumed there—about 328 miles in 1895 against 446 miles for all such grain exported—and in the year specified export grain came from a greater distance than ever before. As the figures given cover five years, and show an annually increasing average haul on export grain, it becomes plain that the new railway tariff has enlarged the grain-growing territory and increased the importance of Russia as a rival exporter. When it is realized that the grain exported from Atlantic ports of the United States generally has its origin in the Mississippi valley or further west, there is particular significance attached to the fact that like cereals originating in Russia and transported to Odessa, the Chicago of the Black sea, travel on the average only 186 miles, and pays on the average 11.3c. per 100 pounds to get there. Grain shipped from ports on the Sea of Azov originates nearer to them than that going to Odessa, but that going abroad by way of St. Petersburg travels on the average 700 miles and pays 24.5c. per 100 pounds. That going abroad by way of Revel, Riga and Dantzic, in Germany, travels further and pays more.

Notwithstanding the falling off in the profit of grain growing in Russia, there has been no check to its production. The Gazette is of the opinion that not one-half of the whole production of grain in Russia is ever exported, but is consumed near the place of production, for the population of Russia of more than 90,000,000 must require for food more than the greatest quantity ever carried, while the consumption by animals must require additional millions of bushels. Further than that, the production of grain is

large in regions too far from railroads and rivers to profitably supply consumption at distant points. The existence of only 20,000 miles of railroads in European Russia, in view of the foregoing, points to the probability of an increase in this form of transportation facilities in the near future, and a corresponding gain in the productive capacity and ability to export, with all that they imply. Little credence is given the suggestion that the opening of the Siberian railroad is likely to bring much grain into Europe. It is said European Russian grain producers will not favor such competition.

Raw Fur Prices.

The following are the prices obtained by the Hudson's Bay company's London March fair sale:

Cross fox, Yorkfort—No. 1 firsts 72.6, No. 2 first 32, pale 19.6; seconds 21; thirds 14; fourths 2 shillings. Moose river—No. 1 firsts 77.6, No. 2 firsts 40; seconds 29; thirds 16 shillings. Esquimau bay—No. 1 firsts 97.6, No. 2 firsts 43; seconds 34.6; thirds 20 shillings. Northwest—No. 1 firsts 135, No. 2 firsts 35.6, pale 19; seconds 24; thirds 14; fourths 2.6 shillings. Canada—No. 1 firsts 70, No. 2 firsts 28.6, pale 18; seconds 23.4; thirds 11 shillings.

Red fox, Yorkfort—Firsts dark 10.3, medium 8, pale 7.9, low 8.6 shillings. Moose river—Firsts dark 14.3, medium 10, pale 8.9, low 13, greasy 11 shillings. Canada—Firsts dark 9, medium 7.3, pale 7.6, greasy 8 shillings. Esquimau bay—Firsts dark 16, medium 10, pale 10, low 13.3 shillings. Northwest—Firsts dark 12.3, medium 9.9, greasy 10 shillings.

White fox, Yorkfort—No. 1 firsts 16, No. 2 firsts 15.9; seconds 10.9; thirds 3.6; No. 1 greasy 15 shillings; fourth 9 pence. Esquimau bay—No. 1 firsts 22, No. 2 firsts 19.6; seconds 14.9; thirds 6.6; fourths 2.9 shillings. Little Whale river—No. 1 firsts 18, No. 2 firsts 16.9; seconds 12.9; thirds 6; fourths 1.6; No. 1 first greasy 16.3, No. 2 greasy 14.3 shillings.

Bue fox, Yorkfort—No. 1 firsts 52.6, No. 2 firsts 50; seconds 18; thirds 6 shillings.

Kitt fox, Yorkfort—Firsts 28 pence. Silver fox, Yorkfort—Firsts dark 24, middling 12, pale 10.10; seconds 9.10; thirds 23. Moose river—Firsts dark 35, middling 13.10, pale 13, seconds 9 to 10.10; thirds 21. Canada—Firsts dark 16, middling 11, pale 8; seconds 29. Esquimau bay—Firsts dark 41, middling 17, pale 10; seconds 13; thirds 21.10. Northwest—Firsts dark 29, middling 8, pale 10.10; seconds 6.10 to 9.10; thirds 24.

Raccoon, Canada—Firsts 3.6; seconds 18 shillings. Northwest—Firsts 2.10; seconds 2.2; thirds 1.9 shillings.

Otter, Yorkfort—Firsts large 43, brown 35, small 33.6; seconds large 37.6, small 28.3; thirds large 19, small 15, cubs 8 shillings. East Maine—Firsts large 67.6; seconds large 69, small 60; thirds large 36.3, small 27, cubs 11 shillings. Moose river—Firsts large 58.6, small 60; seconds large 53.9, small 54.3; thirds large 26, small 21, cubs 10 shillings. Canada—Firsts large 54.3, small 53; seconds large 55, small 48; thirds large 30, small 21, cubs 10 shillings. Bursams, etc.—Firsts large 67, small 63; seconds large 67.3, small 59; thirds large 35, small 26 shillings. Fort Garry—Firsts large 79; seconds large 70.3, small 68; thirds large 40 shillings. Northwest

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—First large 36; seconds large 28; thirds large 19.6 shillings. Beaver. Northwest—First large 21.0, small 10.6; seconds large 16.9, small 9; thirds large 14.9, small 7.6, case 4 shillings. Fisher. Yorkfort—Large 44, small 51, large pale 31, small pale 31; seconds 35.6; thirds 21.6 shillings. Canada—Large 45, small 53, large pale 31, small pale 33; seconds 35; thirds 24.9 shillings. Moose river, etc.—Large 55, small 80, large pale 36; seconds 40; thirds 26 shillings. Northwest, etc.—Large 52, small 49, small pale 31; seconds 37; thirds 25 shillings. Mink. Yorkfort—First large 8 to 9.8, small 4.6 to 4.9; seconds 5.9 to 5.10; thirds 1 to 1.11 shillings. Esquimau Bay—First large 12, small 9; seconds 5.9; thirds 2.6 shillings. Moose River—First large 9.6, small 7.9; seconds 4.8; thirds 1.9 shillings. Canada—First large 8.3, small 5.9; seconds 4.5; thirds 1.7 shillings. Northwest—First large 7.9; seconds 4.6; thirds 1.11 shillings. Mitten. Yorkfort—Large 28.6, small 15.3, pale 20.9, small pale 13.3; seconds 16.3 to 16.9; thirds 14.3 shillings. Moose river—Large 22.3, small 14.3, pale 16, small pale 11.16; seconds 14; thirds 11.6 shillings. Mackenzie river—Large 24.3, small 15.3, pale 18.6, small pale 13.3; seconds 16; thirds 13.3 shillings. East Maine—Large 35.9, small 18.9, pale 20, small pale 14; seconds 19; thirds 15.3 shillings. Canada—Large 16.9, small 11.9, pale 13.6, small pale 10; seconds 11.6 thirds 10.9 shillings. Fort Garry—Large 14.9, small 26, pale 28; seconds 24; thirds 16.6 shillings. Northwest—Large 21.6; small 14, pale 17; seconds 14.6; thirds 12.9 shillings. Lynx. Yorkfort—Large fine 12.6, middling fine 9.6, small fine 6.9, large 11.9, middling 8.3, small 6.3; seconds, large 8.3, seconds middling 7.3, seconds small 5.9 shillings. Moose river—Large fine 15, middling fine 10, small fine 7, large low 11.9, middling low 9; seconds large 9.9, seconds middling 6 shillings. Canada—Large fine 14.3, middling fine 10, small fine 7.3, large low 10.9, middling low 8.3, small low 5.9; seconds large 8.3, seconds middling 6.9, seconds small 5.9 shillings. Northwest—Large fine 12.3, middling fine 10.6, small fine 8, middling low 7; seconds large 9.6, seconds middling 7.6; seconds small 5.6 shillings. Skunk. Yorkfort—First cased 3.3, first open 2.11, firsts half open 2.5; seconds cased 1.6, seconds open 1.3 shillings. Canada—First cased 1.9, firsts open 1.11, firsts half open 2; seconds cased 1.3, seconds open 1 shillings. Musquash. Yorkfort—First large 91.4, small 61.4; seconds 53.4; thirds 41.4; fourths 23.4; kits 1-2 pence. Canada—First large 91.2; seconds 75.4, thirds 51.2; fourths 31.2 pence. Hair seals. Little Whale river—Large 34, middling 32, small 18 pence. Northwest—Large 25, middling 19, small 13 pence. Musk-ox. Yorkfort—First 95, small 41; seconds 60, seconds small 15; thirds 13; fourths 8.6 shillings. Wolf. Yorkfort—Large 21, small 7.3; seconds large 7.3, seconds small 2, firsts white 56, firsts blue 48 shillings. Northwest—Small 3.3; seconds large 2, seconds small 2.3 shillings. Weverine. Yorkfort—Open 25, cased 18, seconds open 7.6, seconds cased 7.6 shillings. Esquimau bay—Open 30; seconds 15.6 shillings. Northwest

—Open 16, cased 12; seconds open 10.6, seconds cased 7 shillings. Black bear. Yorkfort—First rough 105, firsts low 82.6, firsts woolly 90; seconds rough 39, seconds low 34, seconds woolly 62.6; thirds 10.6; fourths 4.6; first small rough 47; seconds small rough 15, seconds small woolly 30; thirds small 3 shillings. Moose River and Canada—First rough 130, firsts low 90, firsts woolly 110, seconds rough 46, seconds low 32, seconds woolly 65; thirds 10.6, fourths 5.6; first small rough 60; seconds small rough 21, seconds small woolly 30; thirds small 6 shillings. Northwest—First rough 135, firsts low 95, firsts woolly 140, seconds rough 54.3, seconds low 43, seconds woolly 65; thirds 11.6; fourths 5.6; firsts small woolly 60; seconds small rough 14, seconds small woolly 31; thirds small 2 shillings. Brown bear. Yorkfort—First light 185, firsts low 60, firsts woolly light 87.6, firsts woolly dark 125, seconds rough light 45, seconds rough dark 67.6, seconds woolly light 59.3, seconds woolly dark 9.5, thirds 6.9, fourths 2.6, small firsts rough and woolly 45, small seconds rough 13.6, small seconds woolly 29, small thirds 22.6 shillings.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Business Review.

Vancouver, May 4, 1897.—Development, north, east, south and west, is the cry in British Columbia just now. The tremendous impetus given to mining this season has in a measure stimulated everything in other branches of industry, except perhaps farming, and this is because the B. C. farmers are turning prospectors. There seems to be more money in circulation at present than at anytime in the history of Vancouver at least, but this may be mainly owing to the loosening up of the money held in check in the bank during the stringency after the real estate boom had petered out.

Wholesalers report that they are kept busy, night and day, supplying the mining camps on the seacoast, and the settlements springing up around the mining sections within a radius of 200 or 300 hundred miles from the mercantile centres. The markets, however, have not changed in a single quotation since the last record and is absolutely void of features beyond the announcement that oats and hay are still very stiff at present prices and hay is getting extremely scarce.

The dairy industry in B. C. seems to be a partial failure. The Victoria Colonist states that \$1,500 a day goes out of the province alone for butter.

This amount is nearly all captured by Manitoba and there is little danger that Manitoba will ever loose the trade, for B. C. is essentially a mining country.

Much legislation of vital importance is being enacted in the Province just now; an act has been passed prohibiting under heavy penalty the employment of Japanese under ground. This seriously affects the colliery interests on Vancouver Island, but will work a great good to white collars and advance wages. The legislation comes in the nick of time as many towns in Kootenay had been considering the advisability and practicability of expelling any Chinese or Japanese miners attempting to cross their borders.

The legislature has further memorialized the Governor-General-in-Council praying that should Canada consent to sign the favored nations treaty with Great Britain and Japan, that Canada should reserve the right to restrict Japanese immigration. It is an undoubted fact that the tremendous influx of Orientals into the Province—800 came by the last steamer now in quarantine—is a question that must be seriously considered and considered at once by the authorities. British Columbia being the chief sufferer is now agitating for federal interference.

Bradstreet's Review.

New York, May 7.—Bradstreet's tomorrow, will say: Favorable business features this week include the continued decline of water in the flooded districts of the Mississippi River valley, in a portion of which planting has begun; better demand for staples at Baltimore, St. Louis, Omaha, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Sioux Falls; larger sales of iron ore to western furnaces, and a revival of activity among country merchants in some central western states.

In addition to the weakness in iron and steel, lower quotations are reported for leather, flour, cotton, print cloths, spirits of turpentine, and resin; but there have been advances for wheat, Indian corn, coffee, oats, lard, sugar and petroleum. An analysis of prices of ninety-eight staple articles, products, produce and live stock, at quarterly intervals for seven years, enables Bradstreet's to formulate an "index number" characterizing the general movement, which on October 1, 1890, was 11,171, and immediately after the Bohring crash, 101,171; when there was a slight advance, followed by a steady decline to 86,439 on July 1, 1892, when quotations advanced, as shown by the index number, 101,790 on April 1, 1893, just prior to the panic. Shrinkage from that date was practically continuous until July 1, 1896, when the index number was 67,182, from which it advanced to 75,044, January 1st, 1897, but re-acted, owing largely to the break in iron and steel prices, to 74,915 on April 1st.

Exports of wheat from both coasts of the United States and Canada this week, flour included as wheat, amount to 1,799,322 bushels, as compared with 1,155,000 bushels last week, 1,882,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 2,805,000 bushels two years ago, 2,815,000 bushels three years ago, and as contrasted with 2,712,000 bushels in the like week of 1893. Exports of Indian corn amount to 3,127,781 bushels this week, compared with 3,657,000 bushels last week, 1,891,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 933,000 bushels two years ago, 720,000 bushels three years ago, and as contrasted with 1,046,000 bushels in the like week of 1893.

Toronto Live Stock Market.

At the semi-weekly market at Toronto on May 4, cattle were firm, export cattle ranged from 33-4 to 41-2, and butchers stock at 23-4 to 33-4. Stockers sold for Buffalo at 21-2 to 3c. Sheep were somewhat weak, at 3 to 31-2c, but good yearlings were in demand at 5 to 53-4c, as to quality. Hogs sold well at 51-9c for best bacon, and other grades at 3 to 5c per lb.

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The Business Situation.

Winnipeg, Saturday, May 8.
The warm weather which has prevailed this week has been favorable to the movement of spring and summer goods, and jobbers report a noticeable improvement in the demand. Very favorable reports are coming in from the country regarding the crops. The season has been a very favorable one for seeding, and many farmers are now through with their seeding. In some cases wheat is showing up nicely. This shows seeding to be much more advanced than at this date last year, and this also applies to past years as a general rule. The crop outlook is therefore regarded as hopeful. Rain is needed, as the spring has been dry; but showery weather set in here to-day.

Winnipeg Markets.

Winnipeg, Saturday afternoon May 8. (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.)

Wheat—Prices have been irregular this week, in sympathy with the changes in leading markets elsewhere, but yesterday prices did not vary very materially from the quotations a week ago. Business has been quiet. One of the features of the local trade is the formation of a new grain syndicate, composed of a number of Manitoba dealers, who will combine their resources and form a company controlling a large line of country elevators. The formation of a similar company on similar lines is alluded to. The crop outlook is considered favorable, the seeding season having been very favorable, but this is only the first step toward producing a crop.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William last week were 140,000 bushels, and shipments from the same port were 42,000 bushels. For the corresponding week last year receipts were 38,880 bushels, and shipments 329,486 bushels. Stocks in store at Fort William last Saturday were 3,250,000 bushels, compared with 3,612,000 bushels a year ago, 589,900 bushels two years ago, 1,543,900 bushels three years ago, and 3,353,000 bushels four years ago.

Prices here yesterday were quoted as follows: No. 1 hard 73 to 73 1-2c; No. 2 hard, 70 to 70 1-2c; No. 3 hard, 61 1-2 c. No. 1 frosted, 59 to 60c; No. 2 frosted, 55 to 56c.

Flour—There has been no change in the price of flour this week. Prices are \$2.05 for patents, \$1.85 for extras, \$1.45 to \$1.50 for second bakers and \$1.00 to \$1.05 for XXX, per sack of 48 lbs.

Stuffs—Bran and shorts have experienced a decline of \$1 per ton. We quote \$5 for bran and \$7 for shorts, per ton.

Barley—There is scarcely any business doing in this grain. Feed is worth about 20c to 23c per bushel of 60 lbs. and malting samples 25c to 30c.

Oats—There is no material change in prices. Car lots of feed, grade usual, range about 18c to 19c per bushel of 60 lbs. and car lots on track range up to 20c to 23c for fancy grades.

Wheat—Receipts continue light, and there is no accumulation of stock, nothing being taken for immediate

consumption as fast as it comes in. Still the tendency of prices is weaker and present prices are only maintained on account of light receipts. The first indication of any accumulation would bring lower prices, owing to the low prices ruling for butter in eastern markets. At Montreal prices have declined further this week, and choice creamery has sold there down to 15c. Under these circumstances, country buyers should watch the market closely, shift promptly and buy lower, as there is sure to be a big slump in prices sooner or later. It is too warm to handle rolls to advantage. We quote 14c to 17c as jobbing prices here for good to choice new dairy.

Cheese—There is a great scarcity of cheese locally, stocks of old being exhausted, and only one small lot of new has come in yet, which sold at 11c to 12c in a small jobbing way. These high prices are due only to local shortage, and will not long be paid.

Eggs—Receipts have been moderate and prices steady. Some shipments have been made to British Columbia. We quote 81-2c to 9c. per dozen as the jobbing price. Packers are paying 8c. net.

Poultry—prices are firm, as receipts are light. No ducks or geese offering. Following are prices: Chicken, 10c; turkey, 12 1-2c; geese, 10c; ducks 10c.

Lard—Prices are: Pure \$1.70 to \$1.75 for 20 lb. pails, and \$4.25 for 50 lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.00 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8 to 8 1-4c.

Cured Meats—Prices are firm and quoted as follows: Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 10 1-2 to 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 10 1-2c to 11c; do., backs, 9 1-2 to 10c; short spiced rolls, 7 1-2 to 8c; shoulders 6 1-2 to 7c; smoked long clear, 8 1-2 to 9c; fancy clear, 8 to 8 1-2c; dry salt meats are quoted: long clear ham, 7 1-2 to 8c per lb; shoulders, 5 3-4c; boneless shoulders 6 1-2 to 7c; backs 7 3-4 to 8 1-4c; barrel pork, clear mess, \$13.00 to \$13.50; short cut, \$15.50 to \$16; rolled shoulders, \$13 to 13.50; per barrel. Pork sundries, fresh sausage, 7 1-2c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 9c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casing, 25 to 30c lb.

Dressed Meats—Prices are firm. Beef is selling at 6c to 6 1-2c, and 7c has been paid for a little fancy stuff, but 6 1-2c is about the top. Mutton is held at 10c. for fresh and 8c for cold storage stock. Dressed hogs range from 5c to 6c.

Hides—The market for hides is weak, and the tendency lower. Some are offering not over 6c for No. 1 hides, but prices are irregular. We quote 6 to 6 1-2c for No. 1, and 5 to 5 1-2c for No. 2; calf 8 to 15c lb., skins 7 to 9c per lb; dekins 10 to 20c each; kins, 6 to 7c; sheepskins range from 60c each to 75c according to quality. Hides, 75c to \$1.20.

Live Stock—Prices are about the same all around as quoted last week, ranging at 3c to 4c for cattle, 4 1-2 to 4 3-4c for sheep, and 4 1-4 to 4 1-2c for good bacon hogs, off cars here; some export business is doing in cattle. One city butcher is bringing in a car load of sheep from Ontario, but they could probably have been obtained here to about as good advantage.

Wright Bros., grocers, Winnipeg, have purchased the stock of C. D. Anderson, at 70 cents on the dollar.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending May 6 were \$1,314,861; balances, \$235,790. For the previous week clearings were \$70,599. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$1,214,951 and for the week two years ago, were \$787,907. For the month of April clearings were \$4,161,962, compared with \$4,032,458 for last year and \$3,093,079 for April, 1895.

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, May 8, 1897.

Butter is firmer. California dairy and local creamery having advanced 1c each. Caret meat are advancing, and prices will likely be higher next week. Fresh meats show a lower tendency, and meat quotations will doubtless be lower.

Butter—California dairy, 20c; local creamery, 22c; Manitoba dairy, 18c; Manitoba cheese 11c; California cheese 12c lb.

Cured Meats—Hams 13c; breakfast bacon 12 1-2c; backs, 9 1-2c; long, clear, 9 1-2c; short rolls 9 1-2 to 10c; smoked sides 10 1-2c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per lb., in pails and tubs 9 1-2c lb.

Fish—Prices are: Flounders, 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod, 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring, 4c; spring salmon 7c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod, 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon, 10c; finnan haddie, 10c; kippered herring, 12c; Columbia river oolichans, 7c.

Vegetables—Local potatoes, \$23 to \$25 per ton; onions 3c; cabbage, 1 3-4 cts.; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs—Oregon eggs 17c.

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 360 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 navel oranges. California lemons, \$2.50. California oranges, seedling, \$2 to \$2.25; navel oranges, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Australian apples, \$2.50; bananas, \$2.75 per bunch.

Evaporated fruits—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 5 to 7 1-2c; loose Muscatel raisins 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 8 1-2c lb.

Nuts—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12 1-2c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12 1-2c; walnuts, 13c lb.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22 1-2 pound sacks, \$3.20; 10 7 sacks, \$2.60. Oat meal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Oat grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70.

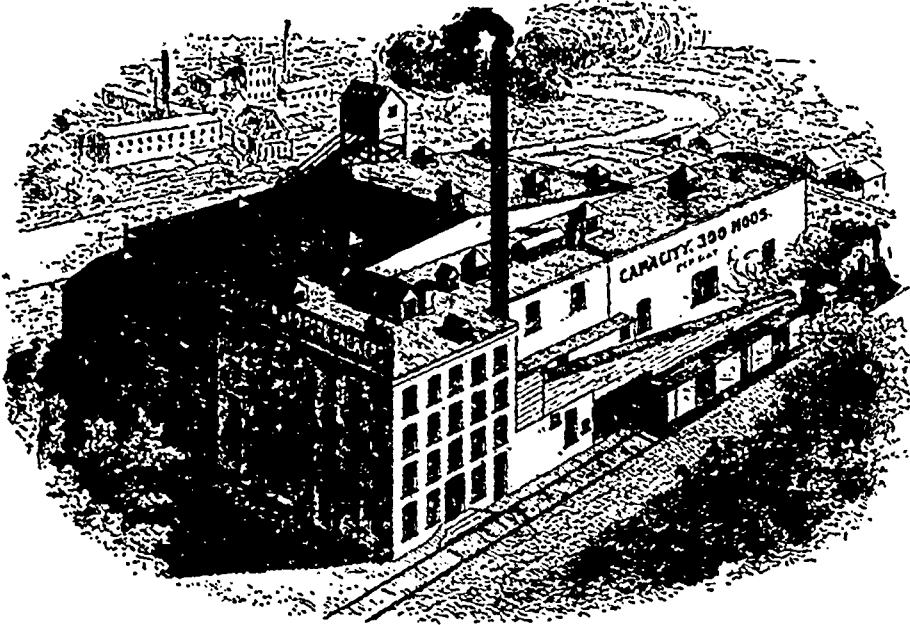
Flour—Delivered B. C. patents.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.50; strong bakers, \$5.20; Oregon, \$5.50.

Grain—Local wheat, \$30 to \$35. Oats \$26 per ton.

Ground feed—National mill chop, \$23 to \$24 per ton; ground barley \$22 ton; shorts, \$21.00 ton; bran, \$19.00; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay—\$17 per ton.

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Sample Room—Room M, McIntyre Block, Main St., Winnipeg.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 81-2 to 90; mutton, 10c; San Francisco mutton, 83-4c; pork, 61-2 to 71-2c; veal, 8 to 9c lb.

Live stock—Steers, \$4.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$4.50 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50 to \$5.75 per 100 lbs.

Poultry—Chickens, \$5.50 to \$6 doz. Sugars—Powdered and icing, 63-8c; Paris lump, 57-8c; granulated, 43-10; extra C, 41-8c; fancy yellows 4c; yellow 37-8c per lb.

Syrups—30 gallon barrels, 17-8c per pound, 10 gallon kegs, 21-4c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$4 per case of 10; 1-2 gallon tins \$4.75 per case of 20.

Teas—Congo: Fair, 11 1-2c; good, 18c; choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 23c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

The Live Stock Trade.

At London, on May 3, trade in cattle was slow but the market was firm and prices sustained. Choice States cattle sold at 113-4c; Argentines, 101-2c, and Canadians, 103-4c. The sheep trade was steady. Best States sold at 13c and Argentines at 12c.

A cable from Liverpool reported trade in cattle weaker and noted a decline of 1-2c per lb. since this day week. Choice States sold at 111-20 and Canadians at 11c.

At Montreal on May 3 cattle advanced 1-4c for good stock. Butchers' cattle ranged from 21-2 to 41-4c as to quality. Sheep were firm at \$3 to \$3 each. The few hogs offered sold at about 51-4c, and some a shade lower.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

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

On Monday wheat was irregular, declining on lower cables, but advancing later on export buying. Prices closed a shade lower than Saturday. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, 711-8; July, 701-2; Sept., 67.
 Corn—May, 24; July, 25 to 25 1-8; Sept., 26 1-4 to 26 3-8.
 Oats—May, 163-4; July, 171-2 to 175-8; Sept., 181-4.
 Mess pork—May, \$8.52; July, \$8.62.
 Lard—May, \$4.05; July, \$4.12; Sept., \$4.22.
 Ribs—May, 4 62; July, \$4 65; Sept., \$4.70.

On Tuesday prices declined, influenced by favorable crop reports, though there was some temporary strength, owing to the large decrease in stocks last week. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, 69 1-4; July, 69; Sept., 65-8.
 Corn—May, 23 5-8; July, 24 1-2; Sept., 23 3-4.
 Oats—May, 165-8; July, 171-4 to 175-8; Sept., 173-4.
 Mess pork—May \$8.45; July, \$8.52-2.
 Lard—May, \$4; July, \$4.05; Sept., \$4.15.
 Short ribs—May, \$4.57 1-2; July, \$4.60; Sept., \$4.65.

On Wednesday prices were somewhat better, influenced by unfavorable European crop reports. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, 70 1-4; July 69 3-4; Sept., 68 5-8.
 Corn—July, 24 7-8; Sept., 26 to 15.

Oats—May, 17; July, 17 3-8 to 17 1-2; Sept., 17 7-8 to 18.

Pork—May, \$8.52 1-2; July, \$8.60.
 Lard—May, \$4.00; July, \$4.05; Sept., \$4.15.

A continuation of unfavorable crop reports from Europe and also from the southwest, gave a firm tone to the market on Thursday. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, 721-4; July, 711-2; Sept., 681-8; to 681-4.
 Corn—May, 23 7-8; July, 24 7-8; Sept., 26 to 26 1-8.
 Oats—May, 17; July, 17 1-2 to 17 5-8; Sept., 18.
 Mess pork—May, \$8.57 1-2, July, \$8.62 1-2.
 Lard—May, \$4; July, \$4.07 1-2; Sept., \$4.17 1-2.
 Short ribs—May, \$4.65; July, \$4.65; Sept., \$4.70.

Chicago, May 7.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—May 711-2; July 70 1-2c; Sept. 67 1-4 to 3-8.
 Corn—May 23 7-8c; July 24 5-8c; Sept. 25 7-8c.
 Oats—May 16 7-8; July 17 3-8c; Sept. 17 7-8c.
 Pork—May \$8.60; July \$8.65; Sept. \$8.67 1-2.
 Lard—May \$4.02 1-2; July \$4.07 1-2; Sept. \$4.17 1-2.
 Short ribs—May \$4.70; July \$4.70; Sept. \$4.75.

On Saturday, May 8, July wheat opened at about 71c and ranged upward, touching 72 5-8c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, 73 1-8c; July, 72 1-4c; Sept., 67 5-8c; Dec., 70 1-4c.
 Corn—May, 24 1-8c; July, 24 7-8c.
 Oats—May, 17 1-8; July, 17 5-8c.
 Ribs—4 67 1-2; July, \$4.70.
 Pork—May, \$8.60; July, \$8.62 1-2.
 Lard—May, \$4.02 1-2; July, \$4.05.
 Flax seed—Cash, 79c, May, 77 1-2c; July, 77 1-2c; Sept., 78c.

Last week July delivery closed at 70 5-8c. A year ago July wheat closed at 63 3-4c. Two years ago at 61 1-4c, and three years ago at 58 1-8c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—May 72 3-4c—July, 72 1-4c
 Tuesday—May 71 3-4c—July 71 1-8c
 Wednesday—May, 72 3-4c—July 72c
 Thursday—May, 74 3-5c—July, 73 5-8c
 Friday—May, 73 7-8c—July 72 7-8c
 Saturday—May, 75 3-8c—July, 74 1-4c
 Sept., 68 5-8c.

On Saturday, May 8, cash No. 1 hard closed at 76c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 75 3-4c.

Last week July deliveries closed at 72 1-2c. A year ago July closed at 63 5-8c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, May 8, May option closed at 79 3-4c. July at 78 1-4c, and September at 74 7-8c. A week ago May option closed at 79c, and two weeks ago at 83 3-8c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, May 8, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 72 1-2c for May option, 72 1-4c for July, and 68 1-8c for September. A week ago July wheat closed at 71 1-8c.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Butter was 1c lower. Wheat irregular. Eggs 1c lower. Hides 1-2c lower.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, in store at Fort William, 64c to 65c for May delivery. Flour—Local price, per sack, Patent, \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Bran—Per ton, \$8.
 Shorts—Per ton, \$10.
 Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 18c to 19c. Car lots at country points, 11c to 13c.
 Barley—Selling at 17c to 18c for feed here. Car lots at country points worth 13c to 15c.
 Butter—Dairy, good to choice, jobbing at 10c to 14c as to quality and quantity.
 Cheese—Jobbing price 81-2c to 9c.
 Eggs—Fresh, jobbing at 9c to 9 1-2c and 8c net.
 Beef—City dressed, 5c to 5 1-2c.
 Mutton—Mutton held stock, 7c to 8c, fresh 9c.
 Hogs—Dressed, 48-4c to 5c.
 Cattle—Nominal at 21-2c to 3c for butchers' stock.
 Hogs—Live, off cars, 33-4c.
 Sheep—Sheep nominal at 4 to 4 1-4c off cars.

Seneca Root.—Dry 19c lb.
 Poultry—Chickens, 12c lb; turkeys, 14c; ducks, 10c; geese, 12c.

Hides.—No. 1 green, 31-2c.
 Potatoes—12 to 15c per bushel.
 Hay.—\$7 to \$9 for baled on track.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended May 1, 1897, shows a decrease of 1,729,000 bushels, against a decrease of 2,427,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 3,580,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,427,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year, compared with the three previous years. This visible supply includes stocks of wheat in store at most important points, east of the Rocky mountains:

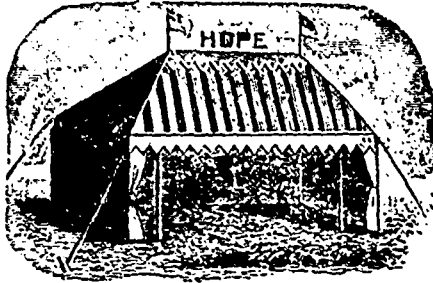
	1897	1896	1895	1894
Jan. 21	51,651,000	60,512,000	87,886,000	79,953,000
" 28	53,822,000	63,911,000	86,615,000	80,433,000
" 16	57,459,000	67,958,000	85,866,000	80,324,000
" 23	51,295,000	67,521,000	84,665,000	80,264,000
" 30	49,591,000	66,731,000	83,769,000	79,803,000
Feb. 6	47,826,000	66,110,000	82,322,000	79,670,000
" 13	46,688,000	65,076,000	80,737,000	78,667,000
" 20	45,215,000	65,011,000	79,476,000	77,857,000
" 27	43,797,000	64,089,000	78,761,000	75,879,000
Mar. 6	42,768,000	62,596,000	77,717,000	74,597,000
" 13	41,449,000	61,121,000	76,723,000	73,450,000
" 20	40,130,000	61,348,000	75,773,000	72,463,000
" 27	39,023,000	61,048,000	74,308,000	71,418,000
Apr. 3	38,612,000	60,322,000	73,703,000	70,762,000
" 10	37,706,000	59,370,000	72,487,000	69,217,000
" 17	36,979,000	58,481,000	71,266,000	68,425,000
" 24	36,201,000	57,646,000	69,766,000	66,853,000

Bradstreets' report of stocks of wheat in Canada on April 24, is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal	581,000
Toronto	140,000
Kingston	3,000
Winnipeg	225,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,320,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin	3,882,000
Total stocks in the United States Canada as reported by Bradstreet's	were as follows on April 24, 1897:

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Wagon and Cart
Covers,
Matrasses,
Wove Wire Springs
Bolsters, Etc.

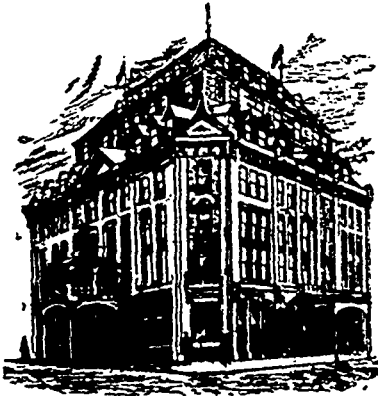


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entire year round at good pay. Send \$1 for
sample Jubilee package of our two year old
transplanted gooseberry bushes for Fall de-
livery.

E. P. BLACKFORD & CO., Toronto

Bushels.
 East of the mountains ... 52,800,000
 Pacific Coast ... 1,857,000
 Total stocks a year ago were:
 East of the mountains ... 84,751,000
 Pacific Coast ... 4,296,000
 Bradstreet's report for the week ended May 1, shows a decrease of 3,113,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 48,684,000 bushels on the latter date.
 World's stocks of wheat on April 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 121,676,000 bushels as compared with 144,875,000 bushels on April 1, 1896; 102,501,000 on April 1, 1895; 175,956,000 on April 1, 1894; 178,233,000 on April 1, 1893; 1,443,595,000 on April 1, 1892; 99,808,000 on April 1, 1891; and 90,851,000 on April 1, 1890.

Comparative Prices of Staples.

	April 30, 1897	May 1, 1896
Flour, straight spg...	\$4.10 @ \$4.25	\$3.10 @ \$3.50
Flour, straight wint...	\$4.25 @ \$4.35	\$3.25 @ \$3.75
Wheat, No. 2 red ...	93 1/2c	72 1/2c
Do, No. 2 mixed ...	30 1/2c	35 1/2c
Oats, No. 1 ...	23c	25c
Do, No. 2 western ...	42c	40 1/2c
Barley, No. 2, Milw ...	42c	
Do, mid. upld ...	7 1/2c	\$3.10c
Prut cloths, 6x4 ...	20 @ 10c	21 1/2c
Wool, Ohio & Pa. X ...	19 @ 20c	16 1/2c
Wool, No. 1 comb'd ...	21c	20 @ 21c
Pol. mess, new ...	\$8.75 @ \$9.25	\$9.50 @ \$10.00
Lard, prime, cont' ...	4.37 1/2c	5.05c
Butter, ex. creamery ...	17c	15 1/2c
Cheese, ch. east, fty ...	10 1/2c	9 1/2c
Sugar, centrif. 66 ...	3 1/2c	4 1/2c
Sugar, granulated ...	4 1/2c	5.70 @
Coffee, Rio, No. 7 ...	8 1/2c	14 1/2c
Petroleum, N. T. Co. ...	88c	\$1.27
Petroleum, rd gal ...	6.05c	6.05c
Iron, Bess, pt ...	\$0.50	\$1.00
Steel billets, ton ...	\$14.50	\$16.40
Steel Rails ...	\$20.00	\$28.00
30-ton Steam Freights		3d
Gran. Liverpool	9-12 1/2d	1-16d
Cotton, Liverpool		

*Pittsburg.

Bank Clearings.

New York, May 7.—Bank clearings, totals at 87 cities for the week ended May 6, as telegraphed to Bradstreet's show total clearances \$1,120,874,832, a decrease of 1.6 per cent, as compared with the corresponding week of last year. Outside of New York city the clearances were \$483,223,035, a decrease of 5.8 per cent.

The clearances for the Dominion of Canada were as follows: Montreal \$10,742,456, increase 1.1 per cent; Toronto 7,1869,594, increase 1.9 per cent; Winnipeg, \$1,314,861, increase 5.2 per cent; Halifax, \$1,282,644, increase 3.2 per cent; Hamilton, \$703,009, decrease 5.4 per cent; St. John,

CATTLE FOR THE RANGES.

Stewart and Burton, of Fort Macleod Alberta, have been in Wellington county, Ontario, buying up cattle for their ranch. Their purchases consist of about 800 stockers, 85 pure bred Northern bulls, one and two years old, and 12 head of pedigreed cows.

MONEY RATES.

New York, May 7.—Money on call easy at 1-1 to 1-2 per cent.; prime mercantile paper 3-1-2 to 4 per cent.; sterling exchange firmer, with actual business in bankers' bills at \$4.87 1-4 to 1-2 for demand, and at \$4.85 to 1-4 for sixty days; posted rates \$4.86 1-2 to \$4.87, and \$4.83 1-2; commercial bills \$4.85 to 1-4; government bonds easier.

PRICE OF SILVER.

New York, May 7.—Bar silver 59 1-2; Mexican dollars 47 1-4; silver certificates 60 1-2 to 61.

NEW YORK WHEAT.

New York, May 7.—Wheat — Receipts 137,825 bushels; exports 25,000 bushels; sales 4,335,000 bushels, futures; 20,000 bushels spot. Spot quiet. No. 1 Northern Duluth, \$1 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard, Duluth, 82 3-8c. f.o.b. afloat. No. 1 Northern N. Y., 80 1-4c f.o.b. afloat. Options opened easy under disappointing English cables, but turned strong and advanced sharply on bad California and Indiana advices, cinch bug reports, firm continental cables and foreign buying, only to wind up with a bad break under heavy realizing. Closed 3-4 to 1c net lower. No. 2 red, May 78 1-4c to 79 1-4c, closed 78 1-4; June closed 77 3-8; July 76 3-8 to 77 11-16, closed 76 1-2; Aug. 47 3-8 to 74 1-2, closed 74 3-8; Sept. 73 3-8 to 74 1-2, closed 73 3-8; Oct. closed 73 7-8c; Dec. 74 15-16 to 76, closed 75.

SEEDING REPORTS.

Gladstone, May 3.—Early sown wheat is up and looks well. With such weather as we now have, and the large amount of moisture in the ground, it ought to make great progress. It is said there will be a much larger acreage this year than formerly. It was about the 6th of May last year when most farmers began to sow. This year the most will have finished by that date.

Raven's Glen, May 3.—Seeding is progressing fairly well. A larger percentage of wheat is being sown than is usual in this part of the country. The last two years' crop have escaped injury, farmers are risking more wheat and less oats.

Yorkton, Assa., May 3.—The wheat acreage will be at least fifteen per cent greater than last year in Yorkton district. The whole acreage under crop is also much increased.

Crystal City, May 3.—Good progress is being made in seeding operations at this point. Over one half of the acreage is now sown and work will no doubt be finished much earlier than last spring. The present season contrasts strongly with last in regards to rains. So far this season scarcely a shower has fallen, while previous to this time last spring it had rained several inches. A much larger acreage will be under cultivation this year than for several years past.

Deloraine, May 4.—The weather is all that could be desired and a large acreage of land having been prepared last fall, most of the farmers have finished their wheat seeding, and are now plowing for oats and barley. The land is in excellent condition and with the warm weather which began on Friday last, the fields are already showing up green and promising.

M. & N. W. REPORT.

The Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company have issued their first report of seeding operations for this year under date of May 1st, 1897. It reads:

Westbourne.—Wheat seeding about all finished and three weeks earlier than last year. No increase in acreage but better prospects for good crops.

Gladstone.—About 65 per cent of the wheat already sown. There will be about 25 per cent more wheat sown this year than last. Oats and barley not started yet, acreage will be about the same. Farmers state they are having the best weather for seeding that they have had for years.

Arden.—Seeding advancing very rapidly. Weather could not be more favorable and farmers are rushing the spring work. Acreage sown in wheat is three times greater than that of last year at this time owing to the land drying up so quickly. Oats and barley are not under way yet. The oat acreage will be a slight increase over last year and barley about the same.

Neepawa.—Wheat seeding two-thirds done. No other grains yet sown. Acreage fully as large as last year. Condition best on record, prospects extra good.

Minnedosa.—Wheat seeding is about finished in this district. Oats and barley still to sow. The acreage of wheat will be about one-third more than last year. Oats and barley will average about the same as last season. The ground is in first-class condition and prospects so far are very favorable.

Rapic City.—Seeding is progressing rapidly; two-thirds of the wheat is now sown and in many cases making its appearance above ground. Seeding of all kinds is from 8 to 10 days in advance of last year. The wheat and oat acreage as compared with last year from 15 to 20 per cent more. Acreage in barley will be about the same.

Newdale.—Seeding this spring is further advanced than it was at this time last year. All the wheat is sown and a good part of the oats. Very little barley will be sown. Acreage as compared with last year will be about the same except wheat which will be increased about 20 per cent.

Stratclair.—Seeding is well under way, ground in good shape and prospects splendid. Acreage as compared with last year is much the same with the exception of wheat which will be increased about 50 per cent.

Shoal Lake.—Seeding well advanced in this vicinity. If weather remains fine next week wheat seeding will be finished. Very little oats and barley sown yet. Land in excellent condition and growth good. Fully one-third increase in acreage of wheat. Season much earlier than last, and prospects favorable.

Birtle.—Last two weeks has been favorable for seeding and farmers have made rapid progress. It is estimated that from fifty to sixty-five per cent of the wheat is now in, balance will be in by end of another week if weather keeps fine. Acreage as compared with last year, wheat 20 per cent more, oats 25 per cent less.

Bin-earth.—Seeding operations well under way, the wheat is nearly all in and the acreage under crop is somewhat larger than last year. Seeding is fully two weeks earlier. Not many oats sown yet. Weather very favorable. Snow melting off gradually allowed the water to soak in leaving the high and lighter soils with plenty of moisture and in good condition to receive seed. All farmers agree that this is an exceptionally favorable spring.

Russell.—Seeding progressing rapidly. Season eight or ten days earlier than last year. About same acreage sown as last year. Wheat coming up in some places.

Langenburg.—About 50 per cent of wheat already sown; there will be about 75 per cent more wheat seeded this year than last. About 25 per cent of oats are sown; there will be about 50 per cent more oats sown than last year. Land is in very fine condition and if weather continues fine,

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seeding will be nearly finished in two weeks.

Salteats—Wheat more than half sown. Acreage to be sown compared with last year fully 50 per cent greater. No oats sown yet; acreage about the same as last year. Soil in good condition. The good prices for wheat last year has induced farmers to increase acreage as reported.

Yorkton—Wheat seeding completed. Some farmers report their wheat well up. Season fully three weeks ahead of last year. Acreage fully 20 per cent greater than last year. Oat seeding well advanced and will be completed by end of week. Acreage quite 25 per cent greater than last year.

Manufacturers Meet.

Toronto, May 5.—The twenty-second annual meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' association was held this afternoon. There was a great attendance. A. E. Kemp, president, delivered an address in which he claimed that the result of the elections could not be traced to a desire to throw off the national policy. He referred to reciprocity with the United States with disfavor, criticized the new tariff, saying an injustice was done to certain industries. He criticized adversely the clause relating to combines that associations to fix prices exist in transportation, insurance, and other lines, as well as in the United States manufacturers. He objected to the minimum tariff, saying that hitherto preferential trade discussions have gone on the basis that when Britain will give her colonies some advantage, they will give a preferential tariff. No demand has been made for this act on the part of Canada, so, why make it? He thought the tariff in Great Britain, if other colonies followed suit, would be the dropping of agitation to grant fiscal advantages to the colonies. He thought it would hurt the laboring classes and that German goods would be imported as British. If German and Belgian goods were admitted at the minimum he feared disastrous results. He spoke strongly in favor of St. Lawrence canal deepening.

The association adopted a resolution asking the government to take power to cancel or alter the schedule in case it should transpire that Great

Britain cannot accept it without admitting Germany and Belgium to its advantages, and to preserve protection to native industries, even under the minimum tariff. Another urged that the protection principle be maintained. Another protested against the clause relating to combines, as directed against manufacturers only, and taking the subject from the courts to a political body.

D. W. Kern Woodstock, was elected president; Ellis, Toronto, 1st vice, Jas. Kendrick, M. P., Peterboro, 2nd vice, Geo. Booth, Toronto, treasurer, J. J. Cassidy, Toronto, secretary.

DEMAND FOR OATS.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says the decline in the price of wheat has so far had no effect upon coarse grains in this market, especially as regards oats which are in active demand at firm prices, for export. Even Hul and Sutherland were calling like old Harry for them to-day at an advance of 3d to 6d per quarter, and we hear of considerable quantities changing hands on this market at 25 1-2c to 26 1-2c in store, the latter figure being paid for 60,000 bushels free storage to May 15th. We also know of 26c being refused for 100,000 bushels free storage till May 15th. Peas are firm at 50c in store and 51c afloat. There is some enquiry for rye which has changed hands in car lots at 41c in store. Buckwheat remains steady at 35 1-2c to 36c. Corn is quiet at 33c to 34c for yellow Ontario.

FREIGHT RATES AND TRAFFIC MATTERS.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "From Fort William to Montreal we quote 6c to 6 1-2c on wheat. Corn 3c from Chicago to Kingston, and 5c through to Montreal, the rate on wheat being 1-2c more. From Chicago to Prescott corn 3c to 3 1-4c, and on wheat 3 1-4c to 3 1-2c. From Kingston to Montreal 2 1-4c wheat, and 2c corn. Nearly all the ocean vessel space for grain has been secured for May and June, although a lot of 16,000 bushels was engaged to-day for Liverpool at 2s May shipment and 16,000 bushels for Glasgow at 1s 10 1-2d May shipment. For July shipment 1s 10 1-2d to 2s are the quoted rates for Liverpool and Glasgow, and 2s 3d asked, Bristol and London. Very little sack flour has been booked so far, and

the rates are 8s 6d Liverpool, 10s to 12s 6d London, 9s to 10s Glasgow, and 12s 6d Bristol. Butter and cheese rates are 20s Liverpool and London, and 25s Bristol and Glasgow, with 10s extra for refrigeration room as per Government contract. Cattle are quoted at 42s 6d to 45s for all ports, and horses 60s.

B. C. Mining News.

The chief topic of conversation in the mining world is the recent inaction of the provincial legislature disallowing anyone under eighteen years and not a British subject, to take out a free miner's license for the purpose of locating and developing mineral claims. Kootenay is full of mad Yankers, and they now realize what their own medicine tastes like, when administered in copious doses. Many claim that the legislature will be irresistably urged to repeal this act that the fate of Rossland and other mining sections in Kootenay depends on it. But the champions of the measure are men who do not change their minds, among them the premier, the attorney and the leader of the Opposition.

The snow is rapidly disappearing from the mountains, and a small army of prospectors left this week for Lillooet to swell the number already there. The Golden Cache have the road built to their mines, and the company for the mill has been started so that sooner than two months' operations will be commenced that will decide the fate of the camp. Mr. Macfarlane, the eminent mining engineer and F. C. S., has been inspecting the different claims in the district. He states that the Alpha Bell adjoining the Golden Cache, has undoubtedly the identical vein of the Golden Cache group besides other veins of promise. If this is the case, Alpha Bell will be invaluable to the seaboard.

Of the Golden Reef Company claim besides smaller veins there are three strong well defined ledges on the property. The middle vein can be traced right through the three properties in full size. The vein consists of very good white and rusty looking quartz. The main vein varies in width from six to fifteen feet, the walls being fairly well defined. The appearance of the ledge is excellent, and no work is done on it, there is no doubt ore will be struck. The locality is such that the work can be done very economically.