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BANK OF MONTREAL

ESTABLISHED 1817.

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

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

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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

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E. E. Webb, General Manager.

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GEORGE BOWLES, Assistant Manager.

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Carleton Place, Man. Lethbridge, N.W.T. Neepawa, Man.
Ottawa, Man. Fort St. John, Man. Virden, Man.
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Alexandria, Ont. Norwood, Ont. Smith Falls, Ont.
Burlington, Ont. Ottawa, Ont. Yorkton, Ont.
Merrickville, Ont. Quebec, Que. Warrenton, Ont.
Montreal, Que. Shelburne, Ont. Winchester, Ont.

A General Banking Business Transacted.

Sale Deposit Boxes to Rent.

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of four per cent for the current half-year, being at the rate of eight per cent per annum upon the Paid-up Capital stock of this Institution, has been declared, and that the same will be payable at its Banking House, in this city, on and after

Tuesday, the First Day of June Next

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st day of May next, both days inclusive.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the banking house, in the City of Montreal, on Wednesday, the 9th day of June next. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock noon.

By order of the Board.

G. HAGUE, General Manager.

Montreal, April 23rd, 1897.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND CANADIAN MORTGAGE CO. Ltd.

MONEY TO LEND at Lowest Current Rates.

Mortgages and Debentures Purchased.

WALTER, HAMMOND & NANTON
Brokers, 381 Main St., Winnipeg.

Imperial Bank of Canada

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Capital Paid Up - \$1,963,600
Reserve - \$1,156,800

DIRECTORS:

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Portage la Prairie, Man. W. Bell, "
Calgary, Alta. M. Morris, "
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Vancouver, B. C. A. Jukes, Manager

BRANCHES IN ONTARIO

Essex, Ont. Ingersoll, Ont.
Galt, Ont. Niagara Falls, Ont.
Bat Portage, Ont. Port Colborne, Ont.
St. Catharines, Ont. Sault Ste Marie, Ont.
Welland, Ont. St. Thomas, Ont.
Fergus, Ont. Woodstock, Ont.
Toronto Branches—Corner Wellington Street and Leader Lane
Corner Yonge and Queen Street
Corner Yonge and Bloor Streets

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT—Deposits of \$1 and upwards received and interest allowed.

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AGENTS IN UNITED STATES—New York, Bank of Montreal and Bank of America; Buffalo, Bank of Buffalo; Chicago, First National Bank; St. Paul, Second National Bank; Boston, National Bank of the Commonwealth; Detroit, Detroit National Bank; Duluth, First National Bank; Minneapolis, Northwestern National Bank; Philadelphia, Farmers' and Merchants' National Bank; San Francisco, Wells, Fargo & Co's Bank; Portland, Ore., Bank of British Columbia; Seattle, Wash., Bank of British Columbia; Tacoma, Wash., Bank of British Columbia.

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LETTERS OF CREDIT issued, available in any part of the world.

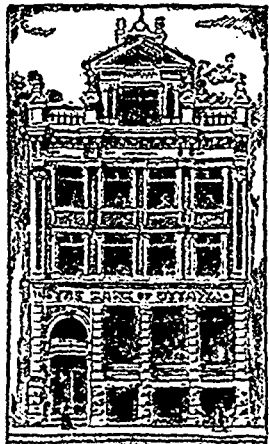
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C. S. HOARE, Manager.

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Head Office, Ottawa.

Capital authorized,	\$1,500,000
Capital subscribed,	\$1,085,000
Capital paid up,	\$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 Canadian 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.

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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.

B. E. Walker, General Manager

J. H. Plummer, Assistant-General Manager.

A. H. Ireland, Inspector.

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

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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—Northwestern National Bank.

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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.

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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. MATHIEWSON, 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 "

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Head Office in Canada—St. James St. Montreal
H. Stikeman, General Manager
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Fredrickton	Montreal	Toronto	Trail (sub-agent)
Halifax	Ottawa	Kaslo B.C.	Vancouver B.C.
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WINNIPEG Main Street - D. Simpson, Manager

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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, - \$2,417,237.80

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

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W. Barclay Stephens, Esq.	H. Prefontaine, Esq., M. P.
R. W. Knight, Esq.	John Hoodless, Esq.
J. N. Greenfields, Esq., Q.C.	W. L. Hogg, Esq.

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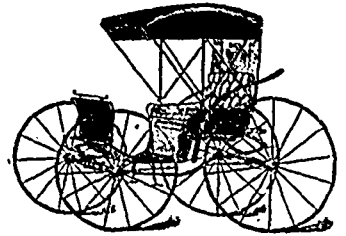
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A. C. McRAE,

DEALER IN



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Write direct for Prices and Catalogue.
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TENNIS and CROQUET SETS
LACROSSE STICKS
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SPORTING GOODS

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THE ONLY SANITARY Wall Finish

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

G. F. STEPHENS & CO.

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

DREWRY'S FINE ALES, PORTER AND LAGER

Also the Celebrated GOLDEN KEY BRAND AERATED WATERS, Flavoring Extracts and Imperial Table Sauce are guaranteed of the finest quality. No expense spared in their manufacture.

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

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 east 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, JUNE 14, 1897.

MINING SUPPLEMENT.

This week we give a very full report of the mining convention held recently at Rat Portage. This has made an eight-page enlargement of The Commercial necessary, which will help to make up for the reduced size of the paper for a few numbers after the fire. We hope the report will prove interesting to our readers, and also be a means of spreading knowledge regarding the great mineral resources of Western Canada.

CANADIAN BACON IN FAVOR.

Mr. J. Griffin, manager of the pork packing factory of F. M. Griffin & Co., of St. Thomas, Ontario, who was in Winnipeg recently, says that the comparatively high price of live hogs in Canada, compared with prices in leading United States markets, is due to the higher prices realized for Canadian hog products in British markets. Canadian bacon has now a high reputation in British markets, so much so that it sells for from 1 to 2d higher than United States bacon, for best cuts. This is largely owing to the way hogs are fed in Canada. If the free corn provision in our new tariff leads to the exclusive feeding of corn, it is feared it may reduce the prestige of Canadian bacon. Mr. Griffin says prices of hog products are high in the east, owing to the depleted stocks on account of large exports. Though the last winter pack was not heavy, Mr. Griffin says the general tendency is

to expand the packing business in the east, and the number of hogs raised is being steadily increased.

THE FREEHOLD LOAN.

The annual report of the Freehold Loan and Savings company, shows a very satisfactory year's business, a surplus of \$12,000 having been carried over, after paying dividends, writing off for losses, and making other allowances. The mortgage securities of the company now stand at \$5,485,761; it has cash on hand, \$287,221, and the office building and other property appears at \$359,825, making in all \$6,132,607, besides unpaid subscribed stock \$1,904,400, with which to meet \$4,088,244 of debentures, deposits and interest.

President Gooderham seems to be of the opinion that the business depression is lifting. The farm lands the company holds in Ontario, he says, are all rented, and but few of its properties in Toronto are vacant. There is, too, he adds, a marked improvement in the condition of Manitoba, while the activity in western mining must help the whole body politic.

The Freehold has long been a favorite company in the West, which is as much due to the personal popularity of Mr. John Russell, manager at Winnipeg for this company, as to the well known reliability of the company itself.

THE CROW'S NEST ROAD.

The recent reports from Ottawa that a basis of agreement had been arrived at with the Canadian Pacific Railway company for the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, has been received with a great deal of interest here. The popular demand for the construction of this road is so great (even to the overshadowing of other perhaps equally important matters) that the government will no doubt be justified by public opinion in giving a large grant to secure the construction of the road.

It is perhaps premature to discuss the proposed arrangement with the Canadian Pacific Railway company before the bill is introduced in parliament, as it may be found that the exact terms will vary considerably from the alleged terms, as given in The Commercial and other journals last week. Sufficient time should be given, after the exact terms are made public, to allow the business people of the west to pronounce upon the proposed bargain, before it is adopted by parliament.

The alleged terms, as given in The Commercial last week, mention that various reductions in freight rates have been secured from the railway company in return for the proposed

aid. It is impossible to tell at present just what these reductions in freights mean, and, therefore, their value to the west is very uncertain. For instance, if the proposed reductions in through freights from the east are to apply to all rail freights only their value will be trifling in comparison with a reduction in through lake and rail rates to Winnipeg and points west. The great bulk of the traffic is handled by lake and rail, and where the greatest benefit would come in, would be a reduction in rates from Fort William westward, and from Western points to Fort William. Reduction in rates, either eastbound or westbound, east of Fort William, will affect but a very limited amount of the total traffic, owing to the cheapness of water rates to and from Fort William. However, it is mere speculation discussing these alleged terms, until the exact terms are made known, as the reported reductions in rates may be construed to indicate very different meanings.

The statement that no reductions would be made in rates from Winnipeg west, while through rates would be reduced from the East, naturally caused alarm in the city. This must surely be an error. The Commercial cannot believe that either the government or the railway company would agree to a condition which would be so disastrous to this city.

Any agreement which will not include the abrogation of the 10 per cent. clause in the Canadian Pacific Railway charter, will be unsatisfactory to many. The acceptance of this clause by parliament in the first place was morally wrong. Now it can be claimed that there are vested rights on the part of the bondholders, which the company itself cannot surrender without the consent of the bondholders. At the same time, no opportunity should be missed to try to effect a compromise of this question satisfactory to all concerned, as it should unquestionably be within the right (and it is the duty) of the state to exercise a regulating control over public carriers.

DUTY ON MUTTON.

The change in the new tariff bill in the matter of the duty on mutton, is causing some uneasiness in our western range districts, where considerable attention is given to sheep ranching. The old duty on fresh meats was a specific duty of three cents per pound. This has been changed in the new tariff to 35 per cent. The danger to our range interest is from Australia. Under the reciprocal clause, mutton from New South Wales could come in under the reciprocal clause, which makes a further reduction in the tariff, New South Wales being a low tar-

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Drawers, Top Shirts, Ladies
Vests, Children's Vests, Hosiery,
Mitts, Gloves, Flannels, Wools,
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for Fall. Jobs in Dress Goods,
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That we are Bound to
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SAMPLES FOR THE SPRING
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EXCELLENT VALUE.
ORDERS SOLICITED.

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PORTER & CO.

Direct Importers of

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Ill colony. The proposed one-quarter per cent. preference in favor of countries which offer as favorable terms to Canada as we accord to them, would reduce the tariff to the Australian colony to about 28 per cent. If mutton can be sold in Australia at two cents per pound, the new duty would only amount to about one-half cent. per pound. On this basis we may expect to have considerable Australian mutton offered in our Pacific coast markets to the detriment of our ranch interests.

DOMINION BANK.

The business prospects of Winnipeg and Manitoba in general, will be particularly interested in the annual report of the Dominion Bank at the present time, owing to the fact that within a short time the bank will open a branch in Winnipeg. The 26th annual general meeting of the bank was held at Toronto on May 26. The change in the personnel of the bank in the first year has been considerable. The original president, the late Mr. James Austen, who was so active in the work of organizing the Dominion Bank in 1870-71, died a few months ago. He was succeeded in the presidency by the Hon Sir Frank Smith.

The net profits of the year were \$181,173, from which four quarterly dividends were paid of 3 per cent each, and \$4,173 transferred to profit and loss account. The reserve fund of this bank being the same amount as the paid up capital, provides an annual contingent fund to meet current losses, and as if it is only so used as to yield four per cent, the reserve brings \$60,000 a year. The bank has now deposits not bearing interest for \$1,577,236, and more permanent deposits bearing interest for \$9,141,681. The current loans amount to \$8,472,360 and call loans \$1,809,300 so that the bank has \$9,781,660 in active use over and above the sum upon which dividends have to be paid.

The opening of a branch of this leading Canadian financial institution in Winnipeg, is another indication that the future of this western metropolis is regarded as sure and certain. Winnipeg is now, we may safely say, the third financial centre in Canada. The bank has been particularly fortunate in securing Mr. F. L. Patton as manager of the new Winnipeg branch, and recently manager of the Union Bank here, and under whose management the Union became one of the most popular of our local institutions. The new Winnipeg branch of the Dominion Bank has been opened in the Princess street, lately occupied by Jas. Hall & Co., as a wholesale warehouse.

The Wool Market.

At the present moment the wool situation is full of interest. Supplies are coming forward freely, growers apparently appreciating the importance of marketing the new clip before final action is taken by the United States in regard to the tariff. Merchants opened the season with high quotations, paying 22c. per pound for good merchantable fleece. For some days members of the trade have been attempting to arrive at an agreement by which the keen competition would be reduced. As a result buyers announced on Monday that they would pay 21 cents for washed merchantable fleece wool, and on Wednesday this quotation was reduced to 19 cents per pound. The trade now quotes: Fleece, washed, 19 cents; tub washed, 18 cents; rejects, 16 cents, and unwashed 11 cents per pound. The reduction in prices has apparently not served to check the liberal offerings of wool, as receipts continue to come forward very freely.

In the United States, the activity which has marked the wool trade since the declaration of a protective policy is declining. One-third of the decline in price which followed the adoption of a free trade policy under the Cleveland administration had been recovered when the Senate amendments to the resolutions of the present House of Assembly had been made public. A proposal to reduce the wool rates of the House Bill 25 per cent., coupled with an elimination of the retroactive clause, naturally had the effect of weakening the market. Wool which had been purchased under the expectation of a higher protective tariff lost a part of its value so soon as the intention of the Senate was made known. The wool market of the United States is in an uncertain position, and the feeling in the trade is not favorable to the maintenance of present prices. Canadian merchants must face the difficulties of this unsettled market, and naturally hesitate before purchasing freely at high quotations.—Monetary Times.

Freight Rates.

Chicago Trade Bulletin says: The tariff is 20c on flour, wheat and small grains and 15c on corn to New York. These rates, however, are not maintained. Through rates from Chicago to Liverpool via New York on wheat 11.83c per bu, corn 11.33c; flour, 18 to 19c per 100 lbs, and provisions, 28 1-2 to 30c per 100 lbs. Through rates, lake and rail, from Chicago to New England are 10c per bu on wheat, 9c on corn, and 53-4c on oats. Lake business firmer at 13-9c on wheat, 11-4c on corn, and 13-4c on oats to Buffalo.

Lake transactions in corn have been concluded at the low rate of 7 1-2c per bushel from Chicago to Liverpool via Buffalo.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: Engagements of grain have been made at 1s 3d to 1s 6d for Liverpool; but ship agents are now asking 1s 6d. For Glasgow business has been put through at 1s 9d. Several loads of grain have been taken for London at 2s. There has been a little better movement in sack flour at 7s 6d Liverpool, 8s 6d Glasgow, 10s London, and 12s 6d Bristol. Quite a number of engagements for cheese have been made at 20s Liverpool and London, and 25s Glasgow and Bristol. Cattle

freights are quoted at 50s Liverpool, 42s 6d to 45s London, and 45s Glasgow and Bristol.

The Hardware Trade.

The amended tariff places a duty of 25 per cent on linseed oil, instead of 20 per cent as first proposed. This has caused a stronger feeling in oil in the east, and an advance is looked for.

Red lead costs higher to import.

Shellac is firmer, the price of pale orange having advanced 1c per lb. to 25c for case lots at Montreal.

The Montreal Gazette says: "The feature of the naval store market has been the weaker feeling in turpentine and prices have declined 1s per gallon owing to freer arrivals at shipping points. The cordage market continues to be in a somewhat unsettled condition. Montreal prices are: Turpentine, 41c to 42c; resins, \$2.85 to \$5, as to brand; coal tar, \$3 to \$3.50; cotton waste, 4 1-2c to 5 1-2c for colored, and 7c to 8c for white; oakum 5c to 7c, and cotton oakum 9c to 11c. Cordage—Sisal, 5 1-4c for 7-16 and upwards; pure manilla, 6 3-4c for 7-16 and upwards, and 7 1-4c for smaller sizes.

The duty on putty has been raised from 15 to 20 per cent.

Mr. Fielding stated in parliament during the debate on the coal oil duty that a bill is now in preparation to remove the restrictions in carrying oil in tank cars.

WHEAT STOCKS.

The present total stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada, which amount to 39,196,000 bushels, are the smallest held at a corresponding date since 1891, six years ago, and are 12,102,000 bushels less than were held one month ago, a slightly larger decrease than was recorded in May, 1896, but only about two-thirds the decrease in May, 1895. Stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe on the 1st instant amounted to 57,800,000 bushels, a larger total than one month ago.

Including stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe with those in the United States and Canada, both coasts, June 1, the so-called world's visible supply of wheat amounted to 96,996,000 bushels, a falling off of 20,973,000 bushels compared with June 1, 1896, 44,480,000 bushels contrasted with the quantity held on June 1, 1895, 63,396,000 bushels compared with the like date in 1894, 70,142,000 bushels compared with June 1, 1893, and compared with 23,174,000 bushels June 1, 1892.

MINNESOTA PRISON BINDER TWINE.

At a meeting of the board of managers of the Minnesota state prison, held at Stillwater on the 12th of May, the prices to be asked for the prison binder twine for the ensuing year were fixed as follows: Manila, 61-2 cents per pound; mixed, 53-4 cents per pound; standard and vital, 43-4 cents per pound.

This is a reduction of half a cent a pound on manilla, and a quarter of a cent a pound on each of the other grades, from last season's prices.

The Rat Portage Lumber Company, Ltd.

MANUFACTURERS OF

LATH SHINGLES,
BOXES AND PACKING CASES

LUMBER

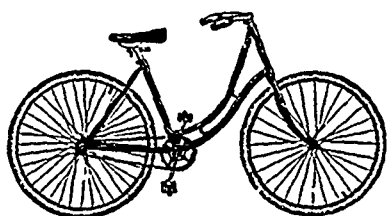
We have a complete modern and improved plant for the manufacture of Sash and Doors, and are prepared to supply these and other goods of our manufacture promptly and at the most reasonable prices.

Mills and Offices, Rat Portage, Ontario.

Welland Vale Manufacturing Co.

ST. CATHERINES
ONTARIO

Makers of the following HIGH GRADE . . .



PERFECT
GARDEN CITY
DOMINION

BICYCLES

AGENCIES AT ALL IMPORTANT POINTS.

In writing mention The
Commercial

Winnipeg Agents **TURNBULL & McMANUS**

LYMAN, BROS. & CO.

Wholesale Drugs
and Medicines

Every Requisite for the Drug Trade
promptly supplied.

TORONTO, ONTARIO

The John L. Cassidy Company

LIMITED

339 and 341 St. Paul St., MONTREAL

Importers of China, Glass and
Earthenware, Etc., Etc.

A. Beach, their old reliable traveller, will represent them in Manitoba, the Territories and B. C. He is now on the road; headquarters for the present, LELAND HOUSE, WINNIPEG. All communications addressed to him there will be promptly attended to.

The Largest Factory of its kind in the Dominion.

Michel Lefebvre & Co.

LION "L" BRAND

PURE VINEGARS

Manufactured solely under the supervision of the Inland Revenue Department.

Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies and Preserves

Prepared by MICHEL LEFEBVRE & CO., MONTREAL.

Established 1849.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals. 20 1st prizes

QUEEN'S JUBILEE !

We are Headquarters for **FIRE WORKS and FIRE CRACKERS**
SEND IN YOUR ORDERS EARLY

Eggs and Choice Butter Wanted—Consignments and Correspondence Solicited.

The Manitoba Produce and Commission Co.

QUICK RETURNS.

175 McDermott Street, WINNIPEG.

FREEHOLD LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Freehold Loan and Savings Company was held on June 1, at the company's offices in Toronto. Amongst those present were the following gentlemen:

C. H. Gooderham, T. S. Stayner Capt. W. F. McMaster, Thos. R. Wood, Robt. Gilmore, Rev. Dr. Moffat, B. E. Bull, J. M. Treble, C. W. Jackes D. G. Ridout, J. M. Bond, Wm. Cook, James Barber, Dr. W. B. Geikie, Chas. E. Howitt, Joseph Blakeley Magnus Sherman, J. C. Hamilton F. N. McGee, George Robinson, Philip Browne, Wm. Creeker, N. F. Davidson Richard Wickens, Michael O'Donnell, Alexander Smith, and Hon. S. C. Wood.

Mr. C. H. Gooderham presided, and the Hon. S. C. Wood, acting as secretary, read the report with the financial statement and the report of the auditors, as follows:

REPORT.

The directors beg to submit the thirty-eighth annual report of the company, together with accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1897.

The earnings of the company amount to \$299,139.99, and, after deducting commissions, charges etc., and paying two half-yearly dividends of 3 per cent. each, there remains a surplus of \$12,065.54, which has been carried to the contingent account, that fund now amounting to \$81,140.65.

The repayments on account of loans have been fully up to our expectations and the debentures falling due have been mostly renewed or replaced with new money at reduced rates of interest.

Your directors have, as promised, lessened their expenses by reducing the salary account, have written off losses as soon as ascertained, and have not hesitated to draw on the contingent fund when shrinkages in value demand it, as will be seen by our statement of assets and liabilities.

The continued reduction in the rate of interest and rentals has materially affected the earnings for the year, but this has been largely met by reduced rates on money borrowed and decreased expenses.

The directors deeply regret to have to record the death of Mr. J. Paterson, one of the auditors of the Manitoba accounts. They appointed Mr. [Name] until this annual meeting. [Name] until this annual meeting.

The deposits and debentures of the company, including interest, amount to \$4,083,244.23. These constitute the total liability to the public, for which we hold the following securities: Mortgages on real estate, office premises, etc. ... \$6,132,607.83 Capital subscribed stock (1,904,400)

Making a total of ...\$8,037,007.83 being about four millions in excess of and nearly double the amount of the liabilities.

The directors have again to acknowledge the valuable services of our agents in England and Scotland. The books, vouchers, and securities of the company have been carefully examined by the auditors, whose reports are hereto appended.

C. H. GOODERHAM,
President.

S. C. WOOD
Managing Director.
Toronto, 1st June, 1897.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH APRIL, 1897.

To the public—		Dr.
Deposits	\$ 470,523.51	
Debentures, currency	603,448.08	
Debentures, sterling	2,875,894.74	
Interest on above	67,377.30	
Total	\$4,083,244.23	
To the shareholders—		Dr.
Capital	\$1,919,100.00	
Reserve	659,550.00	
Contingent	81,140.65	
Dividend, due 1st June	39,573.00	
Total	\$2,049,363.65	
		\$0,132,607.88
Or.		
By investments—		Dr.
Mortgages, etc	\$5,485,761.80	
Property owned—		Dr.
Office building, furniture, etc.	359,024.71	
Balances—		Dr.
In banks and on hand	287,221.37	
Total	\$6,132,607.88	

PROFIT AND LOSS.

Dr.	
To interest paid and allowed—	Dr.
On deposits	\$ 17,200.57
On debentures, currency	27,866.57
On debentures, sterling	119,798.91
	\$164,923.05
To expenses, including cost of management	\$ 41,463.02
To profits, apportioned as follows:	
Dividends, two half-yearly, at 3 per cent each, and tax thereon	\$ 80,685.38
Surplus carried to contingent fund	12,065.54
Total	\$299,139.99
	\$299,139.99
Or.	
By interest on investments, bank balances, etc.	\$299,139.99
Total	\$299,139.99

O. H. GOODERHAM,
President.

S. C. WOOD,
Managing Director.

Toronto, 13th May, 1897.
To the President, Directors and Shareholders of the Freehold Loan and Savings' Company, Toronto:

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned, having examined the securities and vouchers, and audited the books of the company (excepting the business of the Manitoba branch, which has been duly audited and certified to by local auditors), certify that we have found them correct, and that the annexed balance sheet is a correct statement of the company's affairs for the year ending the 30th April, 1897.

Toronto, 13th May, 1897.

JOSEPH BLAKELEY,
W. A. DOUGLASS, B. A.
Auditors.

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned, have examined the securities and the vouchers, and have audited the books of the Freehold Loan and Savings Company for the year ending 30th April, 1897, and kept in their office in the city of Winnipeg, and have found them correct.

Winnipeg, 3rd May, 1897.

W. HUTCHINSON,
Auditor.
J. SCROGGIE,
Assistant.

The president, in moving the adoption of the annual report, made the following remarks:—

Gentlemen,—The annual report and accompanying statement in your

hands show the condition of the company, and your directors feel that the business of the year has been quite as successful as they anticipated.

The collections of the year have been quite up to our expectations. The rates offered for money continue low, and are likely to remain so. We have not placed any at less than six per cent.

In renewing gilt-edged loans with first-class borrowers we have, in a few instances, reduced the rate to 5 1-2 per cent.

Every loan company must submit to the influences of its surroundings. Depressed times, lower rentals and depreciation of the value of property. A low rate of interest on investments lessens the earning power. These may be counteracted to a considerable extent by obtaining money at reduced rates, and greater and intelligent economy in carrying on the business of the company.

It is to be hoped, that we are turning the corner so far as depressed times are concerned; that the future will see a greater demand for farm lands, and consequent increase in prices.

The number of houses vacant is rapidly growing less, and many are of the opinion that the day is not far distant when a more remunerative return will be received for residential property in Toronto.

Our Ontario farm properties on hand are all occupied, and in a majority of cases at fair rentals, and we have but few vacant houses in the city.

The crop in Manitoba was a full average one. The cost of harvesting was light, the prices were good, and the quality satisfactory, over fifty-five per cent. of the wheat grading No. 1 hard. The result to the farmers was that in many cases they realized a larger profit than was obtained the previous year.

The government of Manitoba has greatly aided and encouraged the encouraged the dairy industry, with the result that a first-class article is now produced, and the manufacture of cheese and butter has steadily increased, and it is apparent that more attention will be given to this industry. The development of the country continues at a satisfactory rate. The condition of the farmer, the roads, buildings and market facilities are steadily improving. The elevator storage capacity, including Port Arthur, Fort William and the Territories, is now 14,999,300 bushels, quite sufficient to meet the present requirements of the country.

Cold storage warehouses have been erected to facilitate the handling of farm produce.

Winnipeg has increased its population by twenty-five hundred.

The smaller towns and villages throughout the province have held their own, and in many cases made substantial progress. There has been considerable immigration, a good deal of property has changed hands, and a larger acreage will be sown than in any previous year.

On the whole there is a marked improvement in the condition of the province.

The development of the vast mineral interests of this country must necessarily attract a large amount of foreign capital, and larger immigration, creating a gradual and constantly increasing volume of trade for our merchants and manufacturers, and a greater demand for the products

BAGS BAGS

All kinds manufactured by the CANADA JUTE CO., Montreal.

FOR...

WHEAT FLOUR **FLAX POTATOES**
BRAN **COAL**
SHORTS **ORE**
OATS

Also Sewing
Twines, Jute,
Cotton and
Flax.

Also **BRANDING INKS** (5-Gallon Kegs) Blue and Red.

FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Large and complete stock carried in Winnipeg.
Write us for Samples and Prices.

E. NICHOLSON SUCCESSOR TO **W. F. HENDERSON & CO.** **124 Princess Street, Winnipeg, Agents**

GRANULAR

Ogilvie's Hungarian FLOUR

CREAMY

HAS NO EQUAL

HAS NO EQUAL

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 mills, 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.

IN HANDLING
OGILVIE'S FLOUR

YOU HAVE

THE BEST

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

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN

Unequaled for fine Cakes and Pastry Stacks 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.

RELIANCE CIGAR FACTORY

OUR BRANDS STAND THE TEST.
OTHERS COME AND GO AGAIN.

The Leaders in the Market are

The Rosebud **Flor de Bahama**
La Toscana **Amaranto**

MANUFACTURED BY

TASSE, WOOD & CO., MONTREAL. QUE.

Pure Highland Scotch Whiskies

THE FAMOUS LAGAVULIN DISTILLERY
ISLAND OF ISLAY, SCOTLAND

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
TEN YEARS OLD

Gold Label, as patronized by Royalty and the Leading Physicians

Sold only in the Northwest by G. VELLIE, STRANG & Co., G. F. & J. GALT, J. M. CAREY, HUDSON BAY CO., RICHARD & Co., W. FERGUSON, BRANTON

of the farm and the dairy to supply the wants of the population in those extensive mineral countries known as North and Northwestern Ontario and British Columbia.

Mr. T. S. Stayner seconded the report, which was unanimously adopted.

After a resolution thanking the president and directors for their attention to the interests of the company, and also a resolution thanking the manager and staff for their services during the year, Messrs. Joseph Blakeley and W. A. Douglass, B. A., were appointed as auditors for the current year and W. Hutchinson and J. Scroggie auditors for the Winnipeg agency.

The election of directors was then held, and the scrutineers reported the following elected: C. H. Gooderham, T. S. Stayner, Hon. J. C. Aikins, H. S. Howland, Hugh Ryan, W. F. McMaster and the Hon. S. C. Wood.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors C. H. Gooderham was elected president and T. S. Stayner vice-president for the coming year.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, B. C. June 8.—Wholesalers report business much improved chiefly owing to the activity in mining, fishing and lumbering, and the necessary loosening up in the money market, owing to the unprecedented demand for supplies from the numerous camps. New Westminster reports a very promising outlook for the district, owing to the centralization of the canning industry—five new canneries being in operation this season within the city limits—and the establishment of a large factory for the manufacturing of salmon cans.

Reports from Victoria state that May business is on the whole ahead of April and in excess of May, 1896, and jobbers all report satisfactory trade.

There are a number of changes in the market. Dairy produce has had rather a sharp decline. The California commodities are about off the market, and Manitoba produce is supplying the market fully. Old potatoes are nearly out and are dropping rapidly in price. New onions have taken the place of the old and are quoted lower.

There are numerous changes in fruit as is always the case this time of the year, owing to the immense demand and the varying supply.

Fresh meats are now all coming from across the border. Mutton will not go lower, beef has an upward tendency.

British Columbia Mining Notes.

Mining is still in a speculative stage. In the seaboard particularly, many mines are mentioned as being very promising and liable to pay dividends before the summer is over; but the statement that up to date there has been more money lost than made in stock speculation in the merchandise sales has been generally accepted as correct. The money to a great extent that has been expended in the purchase of stock, has gone to the mining camps for development work, and not returned in full. There has apparently been one exception. Many Vancouver citizens have made large gains by the purchase and sale of Golden Cache stock but as this mine has

not yet been operated the element of speculation is still apparent. On the other hand the prospects are very bright for good results in the near future. The Tin Horn, at Fairview-camp, Okanagan, have part of their mill on the ground, and thirty tons of very high grade ore on the dump to commence crushing with. They will be in operation in two months.

The Golden Cache have six car loads of machinery on their site, and will be crushing in less than forty days.

The Alpha Bell have called for tenders to develop their mine, which contains the same vein as the Golden Cache, and large capital is being invested in preparation to work the very promising free milling claim in Westminster district known as the Fire Mountain property, the ore of which assays as rich as the richest in British Columbia.

Live Stock Items.

F. S. Stimson, manager of the Northwest Cattle Company, of Calgary, has arrived home, with a train load of stockers, purchased in Manitoba, for the company's ranche.

The Calgary Herald says that the Canadian Pacific railway has, it is reported, promised to build a commodious freight shed, and enlarge the stock yards, combining Mitford and Cochrane.

A number of ranchers of Cochrane, Alberta, have been purchasing stockers in the east, Mr. Cowan receiving eleven, Mr. Jones six and Mr. Braevely two cars of fine young cattle.

Mr. Cavanaugh, of Elkhorn, Man., shipped a carload of stockers to the western ranchers. He is also shipping cattle and hogs to Winnipeg.

McIntosh & Mullins, of Virden, Man., shipped to Winnipeg on June 5, a carload of cattle, one of hogs and one of sheep.

A car load of beef steers was shipped from Wetaskiwin to the Kootenay recently by Mr. Duggan.

Gordon & Ironsides have purchased the Stewart Ranch company's outfit of cattle, about 3,000 head, They will be moved from Macleod to the Red Deer range.

Two hundred stockers were purchased in the vicinity of Minnedosa recently by Beddome Bros., and driven across to Brandon.

McCulloch & Herriot, of Souris, have shipped within the past week two car loads of cattle and two car loads of hogs for Winnipeg.

Towne and McDonald have sent over 500 head of cattle from Killarney and district, to Bottineau, Dakota, for shipment to various points.

COLD STORAGE.

Hon. S. Fisher gives notice to-night of a resolution regarding arrangements with steamship companies for cold storage accommodation, as outlined some time ago by Prof. Robertson before the committee on agriculture. The cost of refrigeration plant and insulation is estimated at \$10,000 per steamship, one half of which is to be paid by the government in three equal annual instalments. The government seeks power to enter into contracts with persons or companies of providing cold storage accommodation at Toronto, Quebec, St. John, Halifax, and Charlottetown. The government granting a dividend of 5

per cent annually for three years on a sum not exceeding \$10,000 on the cost of cold storage premises and refrigerating plants at Quebec, Halifax, and St. John; \$50,000 at Toronto, and \$20,000 at Charlottetown.

EXPORT LUMBER DUTIES.

A large and representative meeting of lumbermen, bank presidents and directors and railway and transportation companies was held to-day at the Russell house for the purpose of discussing action to be taken in consequence of the rejection by the senate at Washington of the motions to strike out the duties on lumber and pulp wood imposed by the Dingley bill. The great injustice of allowing Canadian logs and pulp wood to be exported to the States free of duty, to be there manufactured into lumber and pulp, which would then compete with Canadian products, upon which an import duty must be paid, was pointed out, and it was unanimously resolved that the government be asked to take power to make provision by order in council to impose an export duty on logs and pulp wood equal at least to the United States duty on these duties, should that be ultimately imposed. A deputation then waited upon the government and urged that the request of the meeting be complied with. Strong reasons were given in its support, and immediate action is expected. The delegation were well satisfied with the reply of the ministers.

BINDER TWINE FROM GRASS.

At a meeting of the Minnesota state prison board, May 12th, it was decided to inaugurate a new enterprise, the manufacture of binder twine from slough grass, which is abundant in that state. T. W. Pratt and M. J. O'Shaughnessy appeared before the board and submitted a proposition for floor space and convict labor with which to manufacture their product. They guaranteed to furnish the farmer with a good grade of twine for thirty per cent less than the present price of sisal, and to furnish superintendents and foremen to oversee the work.

The Minneapolis farm implements journal, commenting on this, predicts failure, claiming that experiments in the same direction in the past have not been successful. Besides the knotters as now used on binders would not answer for the grass twine.

A GOOD BICYCLE.

With so many bicycles upon the market, it is sometimes difficult for purchasers who want a good wheel to make a selection. If simply a cheap wheel is wanted, it is only necessary to find the lowest priced wheel to decide what one to buy. To many persons, however, quality is a more important consideration than price, and it is often a difficult matter to make a selection from among the large number of wheels which are claimed to be high grade. One really high grade wheel is the "Perfect," made by the Weiland Vale Manufacturing Co., of St. Catharines, Ont., and sold in Winnipeg, by Turnbull & McManus. The wheel has won a splendid reputation, and like other manufacturers of this well known company, is about as good as they can be made.

G. F. & J. GALT

Wholesale Grocers

PACKERS OF

"BLUE RIBBON" and "UNION JACK" Packet Teas.

The Wool Duty

The Dingley Tariff, which places a heavy duty on Canadian Wool, will not affect our operations, as we have complete home and foreign connections for the disposal of the clip. We are in the field to purchase the 1897 clip of Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia.

TORONTO HIDE & WOOL CO.

HARRY LEADLAY,
Manager.

298 Ross Street, Winnipeg

Seneca Root

We are in the field to purchase the 1897 crop of Seneca Root. We will pay the highest market price and guarantee honest weight and prompt returns for all consignments sent us.

NORTHWEST HIDE CO.

DEALERS IN HIDES, WOOL, ETC.
Herman Telke, Manager.

230 King Street, Winnipeg.

Mention The Commercial Telephone 450

W.M. FERGUSON

WHOLESALE

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

5th ST., BRANDON

DICK, BANNING & CO.

Manufacturers of

Lumber, Shingles and Lath

OAK, BASSWOOD, FIR, DOORS AND SASH

Mills at Rat Portage. Office opposite C. P. R. Passenger Depot, Winnipeg.
Ask for Quotations Drawer 1230.

Established 1860

Incorporated 1895

ROYAL STEEL ENAMELLED WARE

Tinware of every description
manufactured by

The Thos. Davidson Mfg. Co. Ltd.
MONTREAL.

MERRICK, ANDERSON & CO., AGENTS,
WINNIPEG

Wanted a Man

In every district where we are not represented to sell our high grade Fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, berry bushes, hedging, roses, seed potatoes and bulbs. Apply now and get choice of territory; steady employment the entire year round at good pay. Send \$1 for sample Jubilee package of our two year old transplanted gooseberry bushes for Fall delivery.

E. P. BLACKFORD & CO. Toronto

WALKER HOUSE

The most conveniently located Hotel
in Toronto.

ONE BLOCK FROM UNION RAILWAY DEPOT
A first class Family and Commercial House

Terms from \$2 a Day.

DAVID WALKER, Proprietor.

Cor. York and Fort Sts., Toronto, Ont.



Mills:

G. P. R. TRACK

Higgins St.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

STEPHEN NAIRN

ROLLED OATS, OATMEAL, POT AND PEARL BARLEY,

· Rolled wheat and Breakfast Cereals.

Order through wholesale trade, or direct from the Mills.

W. H. MALKIN & CO.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Dealers in

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS

Choice California and Local Fruits

OUR SPECIALTY—Consignment of produce from Manitoba and Northwest Territories. Prompt returns made on the 15th of each month.

TRY US.

J. & A. Clearihue

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

DEALERS IN

FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.

Special attention to consignments of Furs and Skins, Butter and Eggs...

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

P. O. BOX 538.

Agents D. Richards, Laundry Soap, Wooded Out; Teller, Rathwell Co., Montreal, Paris Washing Blue. We have a large cool storage with good facilities for handling butter and produce in quantities. Consignments received in all lines. Correspondence solicited.

McMILLAN & HAMILTON

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Butter, Eggs, Fruit and Produce

A perfect system of Cold Storage

230 ABBOTT ST., VANCOUVER

P. O. Box 27.

Quote prices on first quality Dairy Butter. consign it to us and get top market prices.

Crow's Nest Agreement Officially Announced.

Ottawa, June 10.—The government resolutions for the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway were brought down to-night. The Canadian Pacific receives in money \$11,000 a mile for 330 miles on the following conditions:

A. The company will construct the railway by such route and according to such design as an special act and within such time or times as may be provided for in the agreement and when completed will operate the same for ever.

B. The railway shall be constructed through the town of Macleod, and a station shall be established therein, unless the governing council is satisfied by the company that there is good cause for constructing the railway outside of the limits of the town in which case the railway shall be located and a station established at a distance not greater than five hundred yards from the said town limits.

C. So soon as the railway is opened for traffic to Kootenay Lake, the local rates and tolls on that railway and on any other railway used in connection therewith, and now or hereafter leased or leased by, or operated in connection with, the company's main line in British Columbia, as well as the rates and tolls between any point on any such line or lines of railway and any point on the main line of the company throughout Canada, or any other railway owned or leased by, or operated on account of, the company, including its line of steamers in British Columbia, shall be first approved by the governor-in-council, or by a railway commission, if and when such commission is established by law, and at all times thereafter and from time to time be subject to revision and control in manner aforesaid.

D. That a reduction shall be made in the general rates and tolls of the company as now charged, or as contained in its present freight tariff, which ever rates are now lowest for freights or otherwise, upon the carriage of merchandise hereinafter mentioned, westbound from and including Fort William and all points west of Fort William on the company's main line, or on any line of railway throughout Canada owned or leased by or operated on account of the company, whether shipment be by the all rail line or by lake and rail, to the following percentages, respectively: upon all green and fresh fish, 25 per cent; coal oil, 20 per cent; cordage and binder twine, 10 per cent; agricultural implements of all kinds, set up or in parts, 10 per cent; iron, including bar, band, Canada plates, galvanized sheet pite, pipes, nails, spikes and horse-hoes, 10 per cent; all kinds of wire, 10 per cent; window glass, 10 per cent; paper for building and roofing purposes, 10 per cent; roofing felt, box and sheet, 10 per cent; paints, all kinds, 10 per cent; live stock, 10 per cent; crockery ware, 10 per cent; household furniture, 10 per cent; and at lower rates than such reduced rates or tolls shall be hereafter charged by the company upon any such merchandise which shall be carried by the company between the points aforesaid, such reductions to take effect on or before the first of January,

E. There shall be a reduction in the company's present rates and tolls on grain and flour from all points on its main line, branches or connections west of Fort William, to Fort William and Port Arthur and points east, of 3 cents per hundred pounds, to take effect in the following manner: one and one-half cent per hundred pounds on or before the first day of September, 1898 and an additional one and one-half cent per hundred pounds on or before the first day of September, 1899, and no higher rates than such reduced rates or tolls shall be charged after the dates mentioned on such merchandise from the points aforesaid.

F. The railway committee of the privy council may grant running powers over the said line of railway and its branches and connections or any portions thereof, and all lines of railway now or hereafter owned or leased by or operated on account of the company in British Columbia, south of the company's main line of railway, and the necessary use of its tracks, stations and station grounds to any other railway company applying for such grant upon such terms as such committee may fix and determine, and according to the provisions of the railway act, and of other such general acts relating to railways as may, from time to time, be passed by parliament. Nothing herein shall be held to imply that such running powers might not be so granted without the special provision herein contained.

G. The said railway when constructed together with that portion of the company's railway from Dunmore to Lethbridge and all lines of railway, branches, connections and extensions in British Columbia south of the main line of the company in British Columbia shall be subject to the provisions of the railway act, and of such other general acts relating to railways as may be from time to time passed by parliament.

H. That if the company or any other company with whom it shall have any arrangement or subject, shall by constructing said railway or any part of it as stipulated for in said agreement become entitled and shall get any land as a subsidy from the government of British Columbia, then such lands, excepting therefrom those which in the opinion of the director of the geological survey of Canada (expressed in writing) are coal bearing land, shall be disposed of by the company or by such other company to the public according to regulations and at prices not exceeding those prescribed from time to time by the government in council having regard to the then existing provincial regulations applicable thereto, the expression "X lands" including all mineral and timber thereon, which shall be disposed of as aforesaid either with or without land as the governor-in-council may direct.

I. That if the company of any other company with whom it shall have any arrangement on the subject, shall by constructing the said railway or any part of it, as stipulated for in said agreement, become entitled to and shall get any lands as a subsidy from the government of British Columbia, which in the opinion of the geological survey of Canada, (expressed in writing), are coal bearing lands, then the company will cause to be conveyed to the crown in the interest of Canada a portion thereof to the extent of 50,000 acres, the same to be of equal

value per acre as coal lands with the residue of such lands, said 50,000 acres to be determined by the government in such a fair and equitable manner as may be determined by the governor-in-council, for the purpose of securing a sufficient and suitable supply of coal to buy at a reasonable price, not exceeding \$2 per ton of 2,000 pounds free on board cars at the mine.

Hon. G. H. Blair announced the arrangements which had been made for extending the Intercolonial railway to Montreal. The day was taken up in discussion of this subject.

The Conservative leaders charged Mr. Blair with bungled and disadvantageous terms, even suggesting "a deal" to the personal gain of members of the government.

United States Crop Reports.

Washington, June 10.—The agricultural department to-day issued the cereal crop report. The report makes the acreage of winter wheat at present growing, after allowance for abandonments, 34 per cent of the area sown last year, or 89.9 per cent of the area sown in the fall of 1896. This, in round numbers, is 21,562,000 acres. The percentage of spring wheat area for the entire country, as compared with that of 1896, has been increased, being 110 per cent of last year's acreage. The total area of spring wheat sown is, therefore, in round numbers, 13,000,000 acres, and the combined winter and spring area is 34,569,000 acres, or 99.9 per cent of that harvested in 1896. The condition of spring wheat shows an average for the whole country of 99.6 per cent, against 99.9 per cent on June 1, 1896. The condition of all wheat is 82.7 per cent, against 87.6 per cent the same date last year. The acreage of rye, 69.3 per cent of last year's condition of rye, 89.9 per cent. Acreage of barley, 92.2 per cent, of last year's. Condition of same June 1, 87.4 per cent.

Reports from the consular officers of the United States in Manitoba and Western Ontario indicate good crops of both winter and spring grain. The spring acreage in the Winnipeg consular district is about 15 per cent greater than last year, while crops are about 10 days earlier.

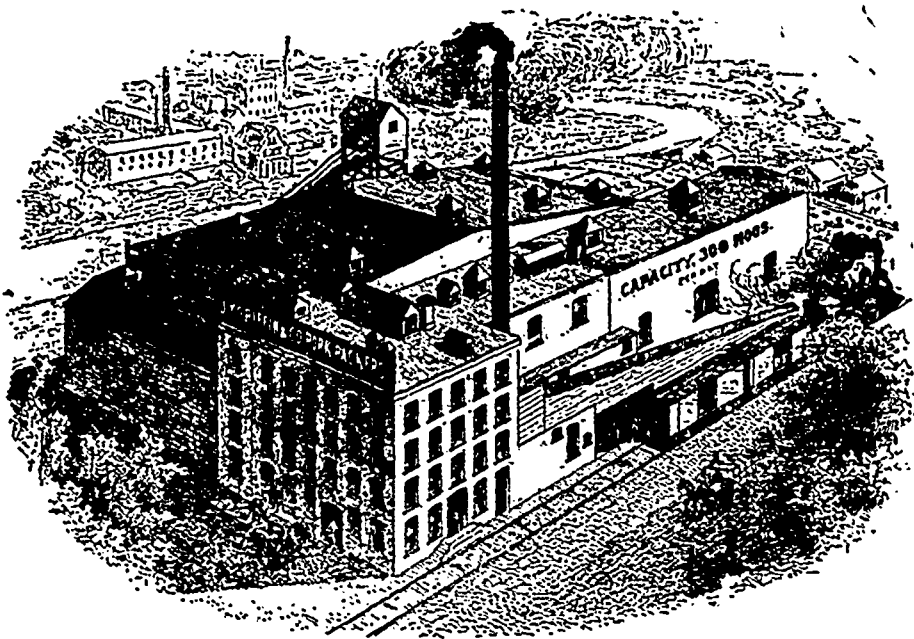
Reports from Eastern Ontario and Quebec are less favorable.

Inquiries made by the United States minister to Argentina tend to show that this year's wheat acreage will not exceed last year's, and may be much less. Wheat growth is generally retarded by the backward season; and in Spain, Italy and Hungary its quality is deteriorated by the persistent rains. The condition is reported improving in Northern Europe, also in Roumania, Bulgaria and parts of Russia, but not in Poland or the southwestern provinces. Deficiency of the crop in France is now estimated at from 35,000,000 to 55,000,000 bushels.

British Columbia Fruit.

The C. P. R. management in the west will endeavor to develop a trade in British Columbia fruit, both in shipments to the Kootenay, the Territories, and Manitoba; and Manager Whyte has in contemplation the fitting up of a number of box cars, or constructing new refrigerator cars, specially for the traffic. Quantities of strawberries have been brought east during the past few days, and dealers are well satisfied with the quality, and there is a very general sentiment that a considerable trade can be developed.

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British Columbia Notes.

J. C. Smith, saloon, resumed business at Kaslo.
 M. Desrosiers, tinsmith, Vancouver, is adding stoves.
 H. T. Boyd & Co., hardware, Trail, have dissolved.
 R. McLugan, blacksmith, has started business at Kamloops.
 Spencer & Ball, tinsmiths, are starting business at Nelson.
 R. W. Higginbotham, provisions, Victoria, has been closed out.
 Geo. Stuart harness, has again opened business at Kamloops.
 D. Weinstein, tailor, Kaslo, has sold out to Rings and Walker.
 H. Shultz blacksmith Vernon has sold out to R. W. Timmins.
 W. A. Burns, commission dealer, etc., is opening business at Nelson.
 Mrs. P. DeCaret, fancy goods, R. S. Island, is closing out by auction.
 Prer & Archibald, confectionery, have opened business at Revelstoke.
 H. S. O'Connell, hotel, is applying for a transfer of license to J. A. Gough.
 W. Asphittel manufacturer of soda water, has sold out to E. Percy Whaley.
 Russell & Co., hardware etc., Greenwood, have dissolved. J. A. Russell continues.

H. J. Rogers has taken over the business of Atkins & Atkins, druggists, Nanaimo.
 The J. A. Sayward Lumber company has decided to erect a sawmill of 30,000 feet capacity at Nelson.
 Jas. Freel, boots and shoes, Victoria and Vancouver, have closed out their grocery stock at auction.
 Barclay & Adams, boots and shoes, are succeeding the late firm of Barclay & McGregor, at New Westminster.

Wellington Brown, of Calgary, Alberta, is locating at Fort Steele, with a stock of sash, doors, furniture and wall paper.
 The following are about to commence business at Slovan City: W. J. Atcock (late of Red Deer, N. W. T.) three; Miller & Jeffrey (late of New Westminster), plumbers and tinsmiths; Foltz, Carmole & McCraig, hotel.

Notice has been given that the partnership heretofore existing between O. P. Skrine and W. H. Malkin, as wholesale commission merchants, doing business under the firm name of Osmund Skrine & Co., at Vancouver, B. C., has been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be continued by W. H. Malkin under the firm name of W. H. Malkin & Co., to whom all debts owing to the firm are to be paid and by whom all liabilities will be settled.

Grain and Milling News.

Oats declined 1-2c per bushel at Montreal on June 2, to 26c in store.
 Monday, June 7, was a civic holiday at Chicago, and consequently there are no market reports for that day.
 The farmers of Pipestone, Man., have held a meeting and decided to build a 25,000 bushel elevator. The stock has been mostly subscribed.
 The receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ended June 5 aggregated 378,372 bushels, and the shipments 111,025 bushels, leaving in store on Saturday 2,142,517 bushels.

The Montreal Gazette of June 3, says: The feature of the flour ket to-day was the cutting in prices of Manitoba grades, and we have to note a further reduction of 10c to 25c per barrel, the outside price for choice brands of bakers now being \$4, and outside brands \$3.65 to \$3.75.

W. W. Ogilvie has a cargo of 65,000 bushels of corn on the way from Chicago to Montreal, this being the first cargo of corn brought in since the duty of 7 1-2c per bushel was rescinded, and the first lot received at Montreal for grinding purposes for some years past. This will have a tendency to diminish the cost of feed stuffs.—Trade Bulletin.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Eastern Canada refiners quote 41-8 to 41-4c for granulated and 33-8 to 7-8c for yellows, at the factory.

The new United States tariff bill, now before congress, has been amended so as to provide for a duty of one and ninety-five hundredths of a cent per pound on refined sugar.

To all appearances, says the Trade Bulletin, the market for Barbadoes molasses has touched bottom, and 6c first cost is now said to be the lowest price it can be bought at, which is 1-2c better than a week or ten days ago, when a cargo was sold at 5 1-2c first cost at the Islands.

The Montreal Gazette says: The feature of the canned goods market has been the fact that new packed salmon has been offered at \$3.65 to \$4 f.o.b. coast, which figures are 25c to 50c higher than what it opened at last season, it then being offered at \$3.40 to \$3.50, and had to come down to \$3.25 before any business of importance was done. The trade in other lines is small and prices are exceedingly low, with the exception of lobsters, which are firmly held at \$2 to \$2.25 per dozen. Corn, in particular, has been very weak, and sales are reported as low as 40c per dozen in round lots, and we quote for ordinary to good stock, 50c to 75c per dozen. Tomatoes are firm at 75c to 80c in a small way, with a lot of 8,000 cases on the market offering at 72 1-2c.

Dunn's Trade Review.

Toronto, June 10.—R. G. Dun & Co's weekly statement of trade in Canada says: Trade conditions at Montreal are practically unaltered, and our general remarks of last week will apply at this date. Reports continue to come in from different parts of the province regarding frost damaged meadows, and delayed field work. The dry goods trade benefited by a few days' fine weather after last wintering, but unfavorable conditions have again intervened. Travellers in this line are now all out with full lines of samples, but orders have not yet begun to come in freely and at the moment wholesale business is confined to a moderate sorting demand, mainly from the country. Sugar refiners report some symptoms of a little improvement in the demand, so long of a sluggish character, but the general jobbing distributions of groceries shows no special activity. Orders for fall foot wear are not as yet coming in plentifully, so that the leather market has not benefited from any improved inquiry for the general run of black leathers, though Dongolas are

selling fairly. Hides are steady, with a little demand for calf skins, of which there has been considerable accumulation. Metals and hardware are quiet; more probably might be done were it not for actual scarcity of certain lines of plates, etc.

There is a steady export movement in cheese, fully equal to last year at this date, but butter shipments are light.

General collections continue backward in character, and the money market is without a novel feature. There was a report that a leading bank had cut the discount rate, on gilt-edged paper, by a half of one per cent., but entirely fails to corroborate this.

The quiet trade in wholesale circles at Toronto this week is due in a measure to the unfavorable weather. The sorting up trade in dry goods is backward, the demand being slow, owing to cool and wet atmosphere. The grain crops are not as promising as a week ago for the same reason, but the hay crop is likely to be very heavy. Some improvement is reported in groceries, there being a good demand for teas and sugars. The latter are firm in prices, with purchases larger than usual in consequence of the approach of the berry season. Dried fruits are scarce and firm. A fair business is reported in hardware and leather. Prices of the latter are firm, in sympathy with hides.

Hog products are firm. Live hogs have had a further advance, the best selling in this market at 5 1-2 per pound.

Money is easy, with call loans on choice collaterals of 4 per cent. Prime commercial paper is discounted at 6 per cent. No change is made in the Bank of England discount rate, but the open market is easier at 15-16 per cent. Call loans in New York are easier at 1 per cent. There continues to be a good business on the Toronto exchange, with values generally firm. Advances are noted in many bank shares on investment buying.

Failures for the week total 30, as against 29 for the same week of last year.

CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the returns for week ending June 10, 1897:

	Clearings	Balance
Total for week ending June 10, 1897	\$ 1,257,737	\$ 82,966
Total for week ending June 10, 1896	961,314	170,428
Total for week ending June 10, 1895	1,075,513	153,348

EUROPEAN DECREASE.

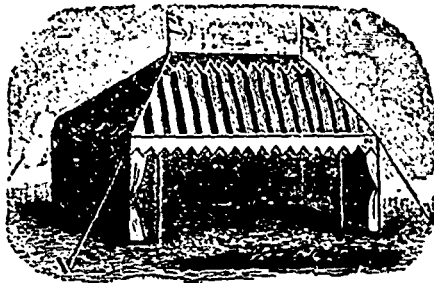
New York, June 10.—The Liverpool Corn Trade News cables Bradstreet's a revised total of European and foreign stocks of wheat, showing a decrease of 3,000,000 instead of 200,000 bushels last week, owing principally to the decrease in Russian supplies.

BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the Winnipeg section of the Canadian Bankers' association, Mr. F. H. Mathewson, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, was elected chairman for the ensuing year, and Mr. D. Simpson, manager of the Bank of British North America, was re-elected secretary. Mr. Simpson was also elected secretary of the clearing house.

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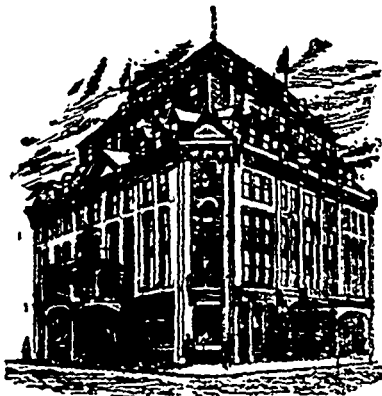


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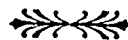
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sentatives: A. W. Lasher, W. W. Armstrong.

Toronto Grain and Produce.

Wheat—Red wheat was bought west by local dealers to-day at 67c and white at 68c.

Flour—Is dull and easy at \$3.35 for cars of straight roller west.

Mill feed—Is quiet at \$8.50 to \$9 for shorts and \$8.25 for bran west.

Barley—Nominal at 30c for No. 1, 26c for No. 2, 24c for No. 3 extra, and 21c to 22c for feed outside.

Oats—Are unchanged at 19c for mixed, and 20c for white at country points.

Butter—The market is well supplied. Prices are unchanged and easy at 10c to 12c for dairy rolls and tubs 16c to 17c for creamery rolls, and 15c to 16c for tubs.

Eggs—Now laid are selling at 9c to 9 1/2c.—Globe, June 8.

Montreal Grain and Produce.

Oats—No. 2 white, in store. 26c.

Flour—Winter wheat patents, \$4.25 to \$4.40; straight rollers, \$3.75 to \$3.90, and in bags, \$1.85 to \$1.90; Manitoba strong bakers' choice, \$4; outside brands, \$3.65 to \$3.75 spring wheat patents, \$4.25 to \$4.40.

Feed—The market is firm at \$10 for bran and \$11 for shorts per ton, including bags.

Oatmeal—\$2.90 per barrel, and \$1.10 per bag for rolled oats.

Cured meats—Firm. Canadian pork, \$13.50 per barrel; pure Canadian lard, in pails at 63-4c to 71-4c, and compound refined at 51-4c to 51-2c per lb.; hams, 11c to 13c, and bacon 11c to 12c per lb.

Eggs—Prices are maintained at 9c to 9 1/4c per dozen.

Maple syrup—Maple syrup, 4 1/2c to 43-4c per lb., and 45c to 55c per tin. Sugar 6c to 61-2c per lb.

Beans—Car lots are quoted at 55c to 60c, and jobbing lots at 35c to 70c.

Cheese—Quiet. Ontario, 83-8c, townships, 83-8c; Quebec, 1-4c lower at 73-4c.

Butter—There is no improvement in the butter market, and business is practically confined to local jobbing at 16c to 16 1/2c. The outside figure if, of course, utterly impossible in an export sense, or, for that matter, the inside, as exporters here are getting fine creamery in St. Lawrence county, New York state, for a good deal less money. For good uniform creamery in 70-pound packages exporters have paid in some cases 16c, but they will give it for nothing else, so that 35-pound boxes or tubs stand no chance. Receipts of butter to date at Montreal this year, since May 1st fall being last by 1,300 odd packages being 7,073 against 8,422 in 1896.—Gazette, June 8.

MINNEAPOLIS MARKET.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, 20 to 22c; No. 3, 20; No. 4, 19c; no grade nominal at 14 to 18c.

Oats—No. 3 white, 19 3/4c to 20c; choice, 3 white, 20 1/2c, No. 3, 19 1/4c to 19 1/2c.

Barley—Best grades of feed are quoted at 24 to 25c.

Flax—No. 1 is in fair demand at 3c to 73 1/4c.

Feed—Granulated corn meal in cotton scks, \$1.25; coarse corn meal in scks, \$2.25 to \$2.50.

Butter—Dairy, good to extra 9 1/2 to 12c; creamery, choice to extra 18c to 18 3/4c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4c. Cheese—Choice to fancy, 7c to 8 1/4c.

Fresh meats—Mutton, 6 to 7 1/2c; hogs 4 to 4 3/4c.

Potatoes—Good to fancy, 16 to 25c. Flour—Patents, firsts, \$3.90 to \$4.10 in wood.

Mill feed—Bran, 100 lbs. sacks, \$7.25; shorts, \$7.25.

Tallow—21-8c to 31-8c. Live stock—Fine steers, 4 1/2c; hogs 3c to 3 1/4c. Minneapolis, June 9.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

At London on June 7 owing to large supplies and warmer weather the market was weak and prices declined 1-2c to 3-4c. Choice states cattle sold at 10 3/4c; Canadians at 10c, and Argentines at 9 1/4c. Sheep clipped sold at 11 1/2c.

A cable from Liverpool on June 7 stated that the market was weak, and noted a decline in prices of 1-2c to 1c, quoting choice Canadians at 10c; middlings at 9c to 9 1/2c, and States at 10 1/4c.

At the East End market, Montreal, on June 7, cattle were 1-4c lower, owing to large supplies and unfavorable conditions: Choice butchers' cattle sold at 4c to 4 1/4c, and at high as 4 3/8c, was made for a few picked ones. Good brought 3 1/4c to 3 3/4c; fair at 3c, and common to inferior at 2 1/4c to 2 3/4c. Sheep were easier at 3 1/2c to 4c for shipping stock. At the St. Charles market hogs sold at \$5.35 per 100 lbs.

Dairy Trade Items.

At Brockville on June 3 the cheese board was a big surprise, and with a falling market, according to the cable, there was actually a boom on the board; 1,202 boxes white and 2,566 colored were offered and 2,443 were sold. The price ran from 81-8c to 81-4c. Quite a large quantity sold privately after the board, some at 81-4c.

The new creamery at Wolseley, Assa., will be ready for operation in a few days.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

Winnipeg school board will issue debentures for \$20,000.

H. F. Forrest, late manager of the Union bank at Deloraine, has received the appointment of manager of the Neepawa branch. E. G. Stewart, of the Union bank, Carberry, has received the appointment of manager of the bank's branch at Deloraine. F. J. Boulton, of Winnipeg, succeeds Mr. Stewart as manager at Carberry.

ASSINIBOIA.

B. Niblock is opening business at Medicine Hat in books and stationery. J. L. Lamont, hardware dealer, Whitewood, has taken W. A. Lamont, a brother, into partnership. The style of the firm will be J. L. Lamont & Co.

MANITOBA.

McLeod & Rothwell, general merchants, Portage la Prairie, have assigned. Mr. Hickie has been placed in charge by the creditors.—Portage la Prairie Liberal.

A hotel has been opened at Fish Lake by W. Emde.

Thos. H. Towers, proprietor of the Brunswick house, Brandon, has leased the house to Edward J. Mills, of Winnipeg.

G. Bedard, from Montreal, has started a shoemaker's shop at Selkirk.

Caikins & Hays, butchers, city market, Winnipeg, are out of business.

HIDES, WOOL, ETC.

No. 1 green hides were unchanged at Toronto at 7 1/2c, but the market was firmer.

Wool declined 1c to 2c at Toronto the first of the week, to 11c for unwashed and 18c to 19c for washed fleece.

EVERY MAN WILL OWN HIS OWN CARRIAGE.

Horseless carriages at \$100 each is the hope now held out to those who would ride. Motor vehicles for the masses and every man his own motor-man. Experiments have been in progress at the factory of the General Electric company, at Schenectady, N. Y., which have brought forth the announcement that the market is soon to be flooded with horseless carriages at a price that will bring them within the reach of everybody. Every man who is now able to own a bicycle will soon be able to own a road cart or a landau, or a Victoria for the use of himself and his family.

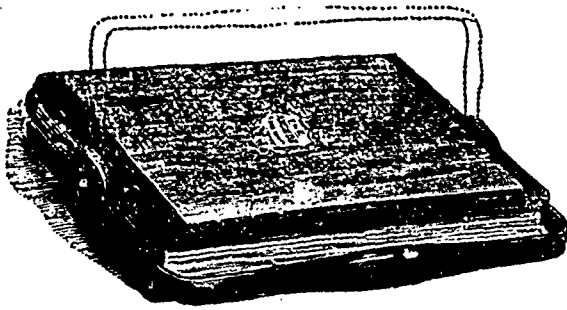
Ontario Crops.

Toronto, June 10.—Bulletins regarding the crops of Ontario show that much damage was done by wet weather, but if the weather be fine from now on the fruit crops will be excellent. Fall wheat and hay are well up to the average.

Owing to the low price of seneca root this year, compared with what it was a few years ago, it is expected the quantity dug for marketing will be small this season. Herman Telke, of the Northwest Hide Co., Winnipeg, has a large order to fill for root, and though the price is low he will pay the last fraction the market will allow.

The O. P. R. land department has been exceptionally busy of late, and the sales have been excess of any year except the phenomenal record of 1892. The purchasers are principally farmers who desire to increase the area of their farms. In addition the payments have been prompt and the arrears materially reduced.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Northwest Travellers' association held last Saturday, the following resolution was passed in regard to the erection of the proposed "Victorian wing" to the General hospital: "Resolved that in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, that if it is decided to go on with the jubilee wing on the Winnipeg General hospital, the sum of \$100 be subscribed by this association to the building fund, and on the completion of the building, a further sum be subscribed by this association towards furnishing a ward, this ward to be called the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association ward."



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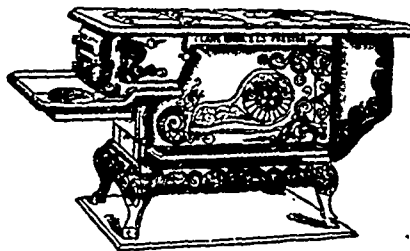
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When writing mention The Commercial;

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.

Chicago, June 8.—The leading futures closed as follows:
Wheat—July 09 1-4; Sept. 04 3-4 to 7-8; Dec. now, 07.
Corn—June 24 1-8 to 1-4c; July 24 1-2 to 7-8, Sept. 25 3-4c.
Oats—July 18 1-4; Sept. 18 1-8c.
Pork—July \$7.07; Sept. 7.75.
Lard—July \$3.55; Sept. \$3.65.
Ribs—July \$1.27; Sept. 1.32.

Chicago, June 9.—The leading futures closed as follows:
Wheat, No. 2—July 08 1-3 to 65 1-4c; Sept. 65 5-8 to 63 3-4; Dec., new, 66c.
Corn, No. 2—June 24c; July 24 3-8c; Sept. 25 1-2 to 25 5-8c.
Oats—No. 2—July 18c; Sept. 18c.
Pork—July, \$7.40; Sept., \$3.60.
Ribs—July, \$4.20; Sept., \$4.25.

Chicago, June 10.—The leading futures closed as follows:
Wheat—July, 69 to 69 1-8; Sept. 64 1-2; December, new, 63 5-8.
Corn—June, 24 3-4; July, 25 1-8; Sept., 26 3-8.
Oats—July, 18 3-8; September, 18 1-4.
Mess Pork—July 7.45; Sept. 7.55.
Lard—July \$3.50; Sept. \$3.60.
Short Ribs—July \$4.25; Sept. \$4.30.

Chicago, June 11.—The leading futures closed as follows:
Wheat—No. 2 July 68 1-8; Sept. 63 5-8; Dec. 65 1-2.
Corn—No. 2 June 24 1-8; July 24 1-2. Sept. 25 1-2 to 5-8.
Oats—No. 2 July 18; Sept. 17 7-8.
Mess pork—July \$7.47; Sept. \$7.55.
Lard—July \$3.60; Sept. \$3.70.
Short ribs—July \$4.27.

On Saturday, June 12 July wheat opened at 68 1-4c and ranged from 68 to 69 1-8c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—June 70, July 68 3-4, Sept. 64.
Corn—June 24 1-8, July 24 1-2.
Oats—June 17 1-2, July 18.
Pork—July \$7.52 1-2, Sept. \$7.62 1-2.
Lard—July \$3.65, Sept. \$3.75.
Ribs—July \$4.35, Sept. \$4.40.
Flax seed—Cash 76, July 75, Sept. 73 3-4c.

Last week July wheat closed at 66 7-8c. A year ago July wheat closed at 57c. Two years ago at 74 7-8c. and three years ago at 53 3-8c.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

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

Monday—July 73 1-8c, Sept. 69 5-8c.
Tuesday—July 71 1-4c, Sept. 64 7-8c.
Wednesday—July 70 1-2c, Sept. 68 1-4c.
Thursday—July 71 1-4c Sept 64 5-8c.
Friday—July 70 3-8c, Sept. 63 3-4c.
Saturday—July 70 3-4c, Sept. 64 1-8c.
Last week July deliveries closed at 64 1-4c. A year ago July closed at 71 1-4c; two years ago at 76 3-4c; three years ago at 60 1-4c, and four years at 62 1-2c.

NEW YORK WHEAT.

On Saturday, June 12, July option closed at 74 1-2c. and September at 1-8c. A week ago July option closed at 75 5-8c. and two weeks ago at 1-2c.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MARKETS.

By wire to The Commercial.

Vancouver, June 12.—California butter is now out of the market, and the Manitoba product holds the field alone except the local supply. Potatoes have declined \$2 per ton to \$19 per ton. Oatmeal has declined 20c per sack. Prices are: Manitoba creamery 20 to 21c, dairy 16c, cheese 12 to 12 1-2c, eggs 15c, flour, Manitoba patents, \$5.50, bakers \$5.20, Oregon \$5.80; bran \$19, oats \$26 per ton cattle 4 3-4 to 5c, sheep 4 to 4 1-2c, hogs 5 1-2 to 5 3-4c.

ONTARIO CHEESE MARKETS.

Belleville, Ont., June 8.—At our board to-day the following were the sales: 295 white and 40 colored at 8c; 855 white at 8 1-8c; 375 white at 8 1-8c and 75 at 8. The same week last year the offerings sold at 6 5-8c to 6 1-8c.
Ingerson, June 8.—Offerings, 1,758 boxes first five days June make. Sales 13c at 8 1-8c, 12c at 8 3-16c.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

At the semi-weekly market at Toronto on June 8, all lines were quiet except hogs, the latter being rather firmer. Export cattle sold at from 33 3-4 to 4 1-2c. The average quality was rather poor. Butchers' cattle were a shade lower for common stock and sold from 23 1-4c for common up to 3 1-2c, with a few selected bringing 33 1-4c. Stockers were easier at 2 1-2 to 3c. Export bulls 33 1-4 to 4 1-4. Sheep sold at 3 1-2 to 3 3-4c. Yearlings, 5 to 5 3-4c as to quality. The offerings of hogs were heavier, but there was an active demand and the market was firm, choice selling at 5 1-2c per lb, weighed off cars; light, \$4.50 to \$5.10 per cwt, thick fat, \$4.75 to \$4.90, sows 3c to 3 1-2c per lb, stags 2 1-4c per lb. All kinds wanted.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

The travellers of some of our largest manufacturing concerns who started on the road with their fall samples have already been heard from, and the amount of orders already sent in has been fully up to expectations. Manufacturers are very firm in their prices owing to the strength of both the leather and hide market in the United States. Remittances are rather slow at present; but not more so than in other years at this season. A few sorting orders are arriving for the finer class of men's and women's wear.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Lowes & Harrington, of the Park hotel, Brandon, have removed to Slocan City.

Wm. Pierce is starting a saw mill at Burton City.

The following are starting business at Grand Forks, Evan Alstine, fruit, groceries, etc.; James Anderson, general store; Dufort & Hamilton, hotel; Wm. Kennedy, blacksmith; Mrs. Prybilska, millinery.

E. J. Cann is opening a stationary store at Fort Steele.

M. E. Fraser, of Yakima, Wash., is opening in fruits at Greenwood City. Robt. Walsh, fruits, etc., has opened business at Kaslo.

J. A. Muir, painter, has opened business at Golden.

Orr & Rendell, boots and shoes, Kaslo, have dissolved.

G. W. Walker, tailor, Ladner's, has removed to Vancouver.

Nanaimo Equitable Pioneer Society, (in liquidation). Meeting of creditors called for 18th inst.

Orr & Rendell, boots and shoes, Nanaimo, have dissolved.

James Rosseau, shoemaker, has reopened business at New Westminster.

S. A. Hartman, clothing and men's furnishings, Rossland, has opened a branch at Nelson.

G. P. Tolton, is opening an hotel at Slocan City.

Tutcher, Savett & Co., paints and wallpaper, are opening business at Slocan City.

T. W. Graham, has opened an hotel at Thompson's Landing.

Maurice Gintzburger, tobacconist, mortgage foreclosed.

Frances Muskett, clothing, men's furnishings, etc., Vancouver, have opened a branch at Stevenson.

Thos. Gray, tailor, Vancouver, bailiff in possession.

Mrs Marks, clothing, Victoria, has reopened a branch store at Stevenson.

Marvin & Tilton, hardware, etc., Victoria, advertise closing out business.

Kcctenay Lumber & Manufacturing Co. is opening business at Wardner.

Brown & Penrose, of Spokane, Wash., have started a paper at Wardner, to be called the International.

NORTHWEST ONTARIO.

W. A. Murphy, contemplates opening in the hardware line at Dryden.

H. Hanson, baker and confectioner, is starting business at Keewatin.

Smith & Moore, grocers are starting in business at Keewatin.

The following are opening business at Rat Portage:

Deyle & Levy, groceries.
W. G. Johnston, tins.
Fred. Rockett, groceries.
A. W. Shaw, hotel.

R. H. Robinson, tins and stoves, has opened business at Wabigoon.

Wright Bros., furniture, have opened business at Wabigoon.

The following new lines of business have been started at the new town of Dryden: S. W. Hatch, feed; Laidlaw & Boyd, hardware and furniture; Skeen & Sons, lumber; Rodes, blacksmith.

DAIRY QUOTATIONS.

Montreal, June 11.—Butter—Creamery firm, 16 1-2c.

Cheese—Finest Quebecs 81-4 to 81-2; Ontarios, 83-8 to 85-8.

A firm in England wants pale colored butter, salted about 3 1-2 to 4 per cent.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Saturday June 12, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 69 3-8c for July, and 61 7-8c for September. A week ago July wheat closed at 67 3-4c.

WINNIPEG CLOSING PRICES.

Wheat is firmer to-day, at 70 1-2 to 71c for No. 1 hard, aloft at Fort William. The spread on No. 2 hard has been reduced to 2 1-2 to 3c, under No. 1; No. 3 hard about 4c under No. 2.

British Columbia Mills Timber and Trading Co.

HEAD OFFICE: VANCOUVER, B.C.

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Rough and Dressed Lumber, Shingles, Lath.

WINNIPEG YARD: Corner Princess and
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Orders filled promptly from our Winnipeg Yard
for every description of Lumber.

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P. O. BOX 604.

When writing mention The Commercial

BANK CLEARINGS.

New York, June 11.—Bank clearings at 87 cities for the week ended June 10th as telegraphed to Bradstreet's show total clearances of \$1,008,182,516, an increase of 7.3 per cent. as compared with the corresponding week of last year. Outside of New York city the clearances were \$426,947,818, an increase of 0.4 per cent.

The clearances for the Dominion of Canada were: Montreal, \$3,668,334, increase 28.3 per cent; Toronto \$3,116,104, increase 7.5 per cent; Winnipeg \$1,252,737, increase 30.2 per cent; Halifax \$1,178,343, increase 1.7 per cent; Hamilton \$671,233, decrease 2.3 per cent; St. John \$667,302.

GOSSIP OF THE TRADE.

A Chicago dealer says there is a tip that the United States government report on June 10 will make the winter wheat condition 79, against 80.2 last month, and that the spring wheat condition will be 94.

The directors of the Chicago board of trade have proposed an amendment prohibiting regular warehousemen from dealing in grain.

VISIBLE SUPPLY.

On Tuesday the visible supply was: Wheat, 24,471,000 bushels; corn, 13,999,000 bushels; oats, 9,916,000 bushels.

Montreal, June 10.—Butter—Creamery steady, 16 1-4 to 16 1-2.

In New York crystals and all grades of refined sugars have been advanced 1-8c and the net price for granulated there is now \$4.35 per 100 lbs.

Exports of wheat—flour included as wheat—from both coasts of the United States and from Montreal this week amount to 1,890,323 bushels, compared with 2,620,000 bushels last week; 2,923,000 bushels in the week a year ago.

Mr. Andersch, of Andersch Bros., dealers in wool, hides, etc., of Minneapolis, is in the city. He says that the price of hides in Winnipeg is fully as high as in Minneapolis. The demand in the States, he says, is principally for light hides, which is accounted for to some extent by the increased use of rubber and canvass for belting, where leather was formerly used. Heavy hides are 1-2c to 1c lower than light, whereas formerly heavy hides sold at a premium. Mr. Andersch regards the wool market as very uncertain, and he thinks Winnipeg prices are very high this season, compared with other markets.

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Thompson, Sons & Co., hitherto of Brandon, Man., have moved to Fort William, Ont., where they have established themselves to receive, buy, sell or forward grain shipped from country points in Manitoba and North West Territories, and generally to conduct the business of Grain Commission Merchants. With a wide and first-class home and export connection they are in a position to obtain for customers the best prices going for all kinds of grain.

Liberal advances made against bills of lading for carlots of grain shipped to Fort William and prompt settlement of sales guaranteed.

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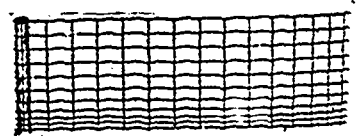
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Mention The Commercial

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, June 12
 The general rains this week have made a wonderful improvement in the feeling, and the crop outlook is now considered excellent. Business is fairly good in most branches and prospects are considered very favorable. The development of mining, east and west, is providing a better market for agricultural products. The agricultural districts of the northern and western portions of the territories have greatly benefitted by the population, which has gone into the Kootenay country, thereby giving them a closer market for their products. The western live stock interest is also greatly benefitted thereby. The produce of the Edmonton district of Northern Alberta is now finding a profitable market in the Kootenay, especially since the reduced freights went into effect. The Winnipeg jobbing trade has also been materially benefitted by the development of the mining districts, both east and west. The report that the Crow's Nest road will be gone on with this year, has caused a better feeling in city trade circles, as it will add considerably to the trade of the city. Business with country retailers is reported favorable, but the city retail trade is rather quiet.

DRY GOODS.

Business in textiles is not particularly brisk. Clothing jobbers report clothing trade light yet. The business is said to be working more into season trade, and less of a sorting nature. The amount of business coming from the country is proportionately better than from the city.

FISH.

New caught Lake Winnipeg white are now being offered, and shipments of Manitoba lake fish are being made to the States. Jobbing prices here are as follows: White 6c, pickerel 4c, trout 5c, haddock 5c salmon 12-12 to 15c lb. A few shad and mackerel are offered at 12-12c. Oysters are quoted at 70c for selects in cans.

GROCERIES.

Further business is reported in German sugars for this market. Several grades of German granulated are offered here, ranging from 1-8c to within a shade of 1-2c under standard Canadian granulated. These sugars are in double sacks. Domestic sugars are offering easier all down here, Vancouver refined having been offered at 45-8c cost, and freight and eastern refiners have met this. Lower prices are looked for to meet German sugar. New California apricots are offering, and further shipments of old season California dried fruits have been brought in, in which lines there has been a large sale here this season. New British Columbia canned salmon is being offered at a low figure, in the neighborhood of \$3.75 f. o. b. coast. Canned meats are selling well. Canned tomatoes are firm. The local jobbing price is said to be very low on tomatoes, as they would now cost almost equal to the jobbing price here to lay down from the east. Good brands would cost \$2 laid down here now. New California canned goods are being offered to ship. Japan rice is scarce and higher, B. being unobtainable, and samples of China rice are being shown instead. Corn syrup is having a considerable sale.

GREEN FRUITS.

Oranges are firm and scarce, and a sharp advance in prices is looked for. Navels are done, and seedlings are very scarce. Lemons are firm. New Messina, via direct steamers to Montreal, are now in good supply. Bananas are selling freely. The apple season, for old stock, may be considered over. Cold storage stock will not stand shipping. Prices are: Apples, \$4 to \$6 per barrel. California seedling oranges, \$3.50 per box; Mediterranean sweets, \$4.50 per box St. Michaels, \$5.25 per box. Messina lemons \$4.25 to \$4.50; California lemons, \$4.25 box; bananas, \$2 to \$2.75 per bunch; pineapples \$3.00 to \$3.25 per dozen; pie plants, 2 cents per pound; strawberries, \$3.50 to \$3.75 per case of 24 baskets; tomatoes, \$3.25 to \$2.50 per crate of 6 baskets; California cherries, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per box; onions, \$4 per 100 lbs; new cabbage, \$4 per 100 lbs. Dates 6-1-2 to 7c lb., layer figs 12-1-2 to 15c lb.; asparagus, local, 60c doz; cucumbers, \$1.15 dozen. Some British Columbia strawberries have been offered here.

HARDWARE.

Business is good. Sisal and manilla rope are higher at the factories and an advance is looked for in the local market if the firmness is maintained. There is also a firmer tendency on barb wire which is expected to lead to an advance here. Latest arrivals of barb wire have cost a little higher, showing a higher factory price, and as this article is sold at an exceedingly small margin here, even a slight advance on first cost would necessitate an advance in the local jobbing price. This applies to factories in the States. Local prices are the same as last quoted:

PAINTS AND OILS.

Business is good in this branch. There are no changes in prices to report this week. Importations of English glass have been coming to hand. Linseed oil is held at 50c for raw and 53 for hotted in barrels, and 5c more in less than barrels. White lead steady at \$5.75. Turpentine is unchanged at \$55c in barrels and 60c in smaller packages. Glass \$1.75 a box of 50 feet for first break. Refined petroleum prices are quoted as follows in barrels, with 1c reductions in car lots. Silver Star 18-1-2c, Crescent 22-1-2, Oleophene 23-1-2, Eocene 27c, Sunlight 24c.

Stationery—Dealers are now getting their samples fixed up for the holiday trade. Some lines of holiday articles are now being shown by travellers.

TOBACCOS.

Tobacco manufacturers are reducing the sizes of their plugs and packages so that they will retail at the same prices as formerly, before the duty necessitated the advance in prices. The following changes have been made in T. & B. tobaccos: T. & B. plug 3 to pound plug, which has been a staple tobacco for so many years will now be made four to the pound, so that it can be retailed at 25c as before, per plug. Lily plug, formerly 7s, will now be made in 8s, so as to retail at 10c as before. In chewing, black and mahogany are now made in 4s, 8s and 16s, instead of 3s, 7s and 12s as heretofore, and the retail price per plug will probably be the same as before. Cut T. & B. in packages will be changed from 10s to 11s, and the 1-1 lb will be reduced to 1-5 pound so as to retail as heretofore at 25c per package.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Wheat—The market has been irregular this week, but on the whole firm and higher. Last Saturday the market closed weak at 69 buyers, for No. 1 hard, afloat basis. On Wednesday this week, however, sales were made up to 72c. Yesterday sales were made at 71 3-4c early, but at the close the idea was about 70 1-2 to 71c, owing to the decline in other markets. Farmers are marketing a little wheat, at prices ranging from 53 to 56c, for hard samples. The rains of this week were pretty general all over the wheat belt, and the crop outlook is greatly improved, though in some districts there has not been sufficient rain.

Flour—Prices in the local market hold at the decline noted last week. The market is quiet. Prices are as follows: Patent, \$2; bakers', \$1.80; second bakers', \$1.40; XXXX, 90c per sack of 98 pounds, to the local trade, delivered in the city.

Millfeed—Prices hold firm at the late advance, with a good demand. Millers are still quoting \$8 for bran and \$8 for shorts, per ton in small lots, with large lots shaded about 50c.

Barley—A few cars have been handled here, costing about 23c for feed and as high as 2c was paid for a car or two of choice, for seed, but this demand is over.

Oats—Offerings have been limited, and prices are firm, as holders expect some considerable demand on account of railway construction on the Crow's Nest road. Sales have been of cars on track here, for local consumption, at about 21c for No. 2 mixed, and 22 to 22 1-2c for No. 2 white, while light feed have sold as low as 18c. There is a wide range in the quality, some being very poor, consequently the range in prices is wide. In the country from 13 to 15c has been paid per bushel of 84 pounds. A round lot of 20,000 bushels sold recently at 13 1-2 in the country.

Cereals—Rolled oatmeal, 80 lb sacks, \$1.50 per sack; granulated, 98 lbs., \$1.75; standard, 98 lbs \$1.75. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.75 sack; pot barley, 98 lbs, \$1.75; pearl barley, 98 lbs, \$3.25 sack.

Ground feed—Rolled oats are held at \$15 per ton, ordinary chop, \$12 to \$13 per ton, and mixed mill feed, \$11 per ton.

Butter—Creamery. The market is easier. Most of the make so far has been going to British Columbia, but latest reports indicate that the market there is getting filled up, so that the surplus will soon have to go east, and this means lower prices for the western trade having ruled higher than eastern markets would stand. No shipments have been made east yet. The present basis for eastern business would be about 14c at the factories here. However, 14 1-2c and even 15c has been paid to factories this week.

Butter—Dairy There is now scarcely any sale in the Winnipeg market for dairy butter, as the farmers around the city are supplying the retail trade direct. Dealers are buying to ship however, and they offer 9c to 10c for fresh grass butter, as to quality. Held folder butter will only be saleable as grease soon.

Cheese—From 8 to 8 1-4c has been paid factories this week, but the feeling is weak and lower prices are looked for.

Eggs—The jobbing price is held at 11c with sales at 10 1-2c, sometimes

made. The tendency is easy. We quote 6c net or 10 1-2c to 11c jobbing.

Poultry—Chickens, live, 50c pair, or 10c lb dressed. Turkeys, 9c lb, live weight, ducks, 50 to 60c pair.

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. Prices are: 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 8 to 6 1-2; smoked long clear, 8 1-2 to 9c; fancy clear, 8 to 8 1-2c; dry salt meats are quoted; long clear bacon, 7 to 7 1-2c per lb.; shoulders, 5 1-4 to 5 3-4c; boneless shoulders, 6 1-2c to 7c; backs, 7 3-4 to 8 1-4c; barrel pork, clear mess, \$18.00 to \$18.50, short cut, \$18.50 to \$19; rolled shoulders, \$18 to 18.50; per barrel. Pork sundries, fresh sausage, 7 1-2c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 8c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 25 to 30 c. lb. Pickled pigs feet, \$1.50 per pail.

Dressed meats—Beef is very firm and higher, and even at the advance there is a very small margin to wholesale butchers, owing to the comparatively high price of cattle. We quote beef at 6 1-2c to 7 1-2c as to quality. Mutton is easier, and a further decline is expected, as range sheep will likely be in the market next week. We quote mutton at 8 1-2c to 9 1-2c. Pork 5 1-2c to 6c; veal 5 to 5 1-2c; lambs \$3.50 to \$4 for the carcass.

Hides—Dealers are paying 6 1-2c for No. 1 hides, and this now seems to be the established price. One dealer offered 9c for calf skins, an advance of 1c, but this is beyond market value. Hides quoted at 6 1-2 for No. 1, and 5 1-2c for No. 2; call 8 to 15c lb., skins 6 to 8c per lb; deskins 10 to 20c each; kips, 5 to 7c; sheepskins range from 75c each to 90c according to quality; clips 10c; lambskins, 10c; horse-hides 75c to \$1.25.

Seneca root.—The prices generally quoted is 15c per lb., but it is alleged a shade higher has been paid.

Wool—The market is irregular and decidedly weaker. This market opened at comparatively high prices, as some dealers were anxious to get the wool in early to ship to the States, before the new duty goes into effect there. Stocks in the States, however, are very large, on account of big importations of foreign wool, also made to get in the wool before the new tariff goes into effect. On account of these large stocks, it looks as though the tariff expectations have been discounted already, and holders in the States may have to wait a long time for an advance, after the higher tariff goes into effect. At any rate prices have been weak the last couple of weeks at leading United States markets, while at Toronto prices have declined about 2c, on washed fleeces. Here buyers are canning up on bids in some cases, and are now quoting lower. Some pretty high prices have been paid here, ranging between 9 1-2 and 10c for unwashed fleece, but at the close of the week it looks as if prices would drop back to about 9c. Considerable wool has been bought at the latter price.

Vegetables and green stuff—Potatoes are higher at 40c to 45c on the street. No cars offering this week. Other prices are: Parsnips 1c lb; turnips, 20c bushel; carrots and beets 30c bushel; lettuce, 20c dozen; green onions 15c to 20c doz.; asparagus 50c dozen bunches. Rhubarb 20c per dozen bunches; spruce, 3c lb.

Hay—The demand is very limited. We quote \$4.50 to \$5 per ton for cars on track as to quality.

Wood—Tamarac, \$4.50 to \$4.75; pine, \$4; poplar, \$3.25 for car lots on track here, per cord. Prices about nominal in the absence of business.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle—Good cattle are scarce, the surplus supply of grain fed cattle having been exported, and the country has been well cleaned up. Anything fair would bring 8 1-2c here for butchers' stock, and 3 3-4 to 4c has been paid for choice cattle for the local market, and selected animals would bring a fraction higher. Stocker cattle are still being picked up for shipment to the States.

Sheep—The first range sheep for the local market are expected next week, and they will cost about 4c off cars here. Ranchers claim they are in good condition, but that will be to decide when they arrive. Some Ontario mutton is being offered at reduced prices this week, probably to clear out before the advent of range stock, but only a car or two of Ontario sheep were brought in by one local butcher.

Hogs—Prices are quoted at 4 1-2c off cars here for good bacon hogs, and there is a good demand at this figure with fairly liberal offerings.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, in store at Fort William 62 to 63c.

Flour—Local price, per sack. Patent, \$1.75 to \$1.80; bakers, \$1.55 to \$1.60.

Bran—Per ton, \$8.

Shorts—Per ton, \$10.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 17 to 19c. Car lots at country points, 12 to 13c.

Barley—Car lots at country points worth 13 to 15c.

Butter—Dairy, good to choice, jobbing at 10 to 11c as to quality and quantity, creamery, 14c.

Cheese—From 6 1-2 to 7c has been paid to factories to ship west.

Eggs—Fresh, jobbing at 8c, and dealers are paying 7c net.

Beef—City dressed, 5c to 5 1-2c

Mutton—Mutton, 8 to 8 1-2c.

Hogs—Dressed, 5 to 5 1-2c.

Cattle—Easier at 2c to 3c for butchers' stock.

Hides—No. 1 green, 4 1-2c.

Hogs—Live, off cars, 3 3-8c for best bacon.

Sheep—Sheep 8 1-2 to 3 3-4c, off cars.

Seneca root—Dry, 14c lb.

Poultry—Chickens, 60 to 65c pair; turkeys, 10c per lb live weight.

Potatoes—15 to 20c per bushel.

Hay—\$7 to \$8 for baled on track.

Wool—5c to 9 1-2c as to quality; fine, heavy wools selling at the lower prices.

The sum of \$13,537 is to be voted by parliament for unsettled accounts of the Territories exhibition of 1894.

WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS.

A. L. McIntyre, of Winnipeg, has decided to establish marble works at Morden, Man.

G. O. Ashdown, hardware dealer of Morden, Man, has purchased the implement business of Adamson & Parker, of the same place.

Wm. Hall, of Morden, Man., has established aerated water works at that place.

The Vidette of Indian Head, Assa., says: The negotiations for the erection of a flour mill at this point have been carried to a successful issue and it is fully expected that we shall have a mill running before 1898. A. R. Leitch, of Killarney, having visited our town and discussed matters with the committee, is well satisfied that this place offers a good opening and has accepted the proposals made. Half of the promised bonus has been subscribed and there is no doubt that the remainder will be speedily forthcoming.

The Farmers' elevator at Indian Head, has earned a dividend of 20 per cent., so says the local paper.

Brandon Times: J. D. Howy, of Burchill & Howy, left on Thursday evening with five car loads of very fine cattle for the Edinburgh and London markets.

Mr. Stanley, of the News and Herald, has opened an office at 375 Main street Winnipeg, as a real estate agent.

F. Frielman, general store Shell River, Man., is out of business and left the country.

The Colonist Printing and Publishing Co., Winnipeg, is applying for incorporation.

Hingston-Smith Arms Co., guns and sporting goods, Winnipeg, has dissolved. Stephen S. Cummins retires and the business will be continued by M. Putman, as sole owner, under same style.

J. M. Teichman, teas, etc., Winnipeg, has assigned to S. A. D. Bertrand.

Rodgers Bros. & Co., boots and shoes, etc., Regina, have given up business. J. Creighton, general store, Alexander, is succeeding Birly & Agar.

W. P. Curtis, baker, has opened business at Baldur.

McLaughlin & Dillingham printers, are starting business at Brandon.

A. R. Colquhoun & Son are opening a general store at Brandon.

Treily Bros., blacksmiths and carriages, have opened business at Burnside, Man.

R. J. Fawcett, butcher, has started business at Burnside, Man.

Richardson & Lorb, general merchants, Carman, Man., have assigned J. Grummett, harness, has opened business at Crystal City.

Geo. W. Cundy has opened an hotel at Inn'sfall, Alberta.

McLeod & Rothwell, boots and shoes, and clothing, Portage la Prairie assigned in trust to Chas Williams.

R. C. Innis, contemplates opening a lumber yard at Portage la Prairie, Man.

E. Nich Ison, commission dealer, Winnipeg, has received the agency of J. D. Argumhau, of Spain's type of Valencia raisins. His latest advice is that raisins will be ready to ship about August 1.

The stock and book debts of A. Gordon, shoemaker, Winnipeg, will be sold by auction on June 14. The former amount to about \$2,000 and the latter to about \$1,000.

The Mining Convention

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS HELD AT RAT PORTAGE
ON JUNE 2ND, AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

Rat Portage, June 2.—Rat Portage is in gala dress, and simply crowded with mining men from all parts of the continent.

The convention opened in the new Hilliard opera house at 2 p. m., Geo. Drewry, president of the Mining exchange, in the chair.

Wm. Young, mayor, delivered a cordial address of welcome.

President Drewry followed, emphasizing and endorsing the mayor's address of welcome, and giving a brief account of the origin and objects of the convention.

D. C. Cameron also spoke along the same line.

Judge C. L. Lewis, of Duluth, who spoke of his attention being called to the country; the wisdom of holding such a convention, and on behalf of the United States visitors expressed cordial thanks for the courtesies extended to them. He said there was great interest in his city and state in this country, and United States capital was likely to come in large investments.

T. A. Rickard, state geologist of Colorado, gave a scholarly and well composed speech on the application of geology to mining, of which a synopsis will appear later.

Mr. Rathbone, late of the Transvaal, gave an impromptu address, very witty and taking, the chief point made being that mining should be governed more by experience and common sense than the hard and fast rules of geology. He gave several instances where geologists and scientists had laid down laws which in practical application were found absolutely false. For instance a statement made by an eminent Canadian scientist, who as the speaker said, ought to have known better, that the areas of commercial value were all on the south side of the international boundary, and did not extend into Canada. His advice was wherever gold is found let theories alone and be governed by experience and common sense.

Gen. H. L. Gordon, of Los Angeles, Cal., spoke briefly. He expressed his confidence in the country and drew a favorable comparison between this district and his own state, which is acknowledged to be the greatest mining district of the continent.

Jas Conmee, M. P., spoke for the government and stated that they had been slow in the past but they were now prepared to go ahead, and he was of the opinion that if the matter of the mining school was pushed it would be obtained. He also spoke of the evil of acquiring too many claims, which seemed to be the sole aim of the people here, the result was every one had claims to sell and few were worked. He drew a comparison between this and corner lot speculation.

Mr. Hays, the new superintendent of the reduction works, announced that the works would be thrown open for inspection to visitors. This courtesy of starting the mill for the pleasure of the visitors marks a new departure in the history of the works and is calculated to extend and increase business under Mr. Hay's able management. The afternoon session adjourned about 5 o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

Rat Portage, June 3.—The convention committee believe in mingling pleasure with business. This morning was devoted to examining specimens at the Mining Exchange and visiting points of interest in town.

At 1 o'clock p. m. the steamer *Monarch*, chartered by the committee, was at her wharf to take visitors for a trip on the lake. The stars and stripes floated from her prow, the *Union Jack* from her stern. The Rat Portage band occupied the hurricane deck and to its lively strains the steamer pulled out. The route chosen was through the Devil's Gap to the Sultana mine. This trip gave the visitors a chance to get acquainted one with another and was undoubtedly one of the features of the convention.

Among those of note on board were: A. Blue, director of mines for Ontario; Prof. Coleman, Col. J. D. Crawford, of Montreal. The last named travelled through this country in the long ago. H. B. Co. times, and was much interested in seeing the improvement and development of the region. Col. Crawford is interested in a number of properties here and will inspect them before leaving. Mr. Franks, another visitor, is a mining expert from the Transvaal, where he has been employed in mining for some years. It is his intention to remain here for some time. Mr. Glover, sketch artist of the *London Graphic*, was on board, taking some snap shots with a kodak. Mr. Glover will be here for some months and do the mining district thoroughly for his paper. He has been making sketches for a number of prominent men at the convention. With him is a brother of Sir Charles Weldon, who has large interests out here. Robt. Jarvis Gilbert, St. John's, N. B., is another well known newspaper man. Francis B. Morgan, editor of the *Central Magazine*, Cleveland, O., and his father, Col. J. S. Morgan. Judge Lewis, of Duluth, and dozens of others, whose names are more or less familiar, especially among mining men. The day was simply perfect, refreshments were provided by the committee, the members of which were indefatigable in their efforts to promote the comfort and social intercourse of their guests.

On arriving at the Sultana, the visitors disembarked and rambled about the works. Of course it was not possible

to take such a large number down the mine, but the stamp mill and chlorination works were thrown open and an interesting hour was spent in looking through them. Preparations are going forward for the erection of an additional thirty stamp mill and other improvements to the property. Mr. Hunter, the manager, gave the guests a kindly welcome and did his best to entertain them. Just as the boat swung out from the landing, Mr. Partridge, of Detroit, proposed three cheers for Mr. Caldwell and the Sultana mine. These were given with a will. The band struck up "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." The return trip was through the Keewatin channel and occupied about two hours. Many exclamations were heard on all sides as to the beauty of the scenery. When the *Monarch* drew into her dock a cheer was proposed for Rat Portage and ex-Mayor Barnes. Three cheers were given with a will. Mr. Barnes stepped upon a chair and returned thanks, and said that the committee hoped, that having made the visit pleasant, they would be likely to come again.

EVENING SESSION.

On the platform were President Drewry, Judge H. L. Gordon, E. F. Hutchings, of Winnipeg, Mr. Rickard, father of Mr. Rickard, state geologist of Colorado; Mayor McCreary, of Winnipeg, Henry Langford, Crown attorney, and a number of others.

The first speaker was Mr. T. A. B. Purchase, late of South Africa; this gentleman has spent 22 years in the mines of South Africa and as he is still a young man, must have gone there as a mere boy. He came to the country to look into an investment for some English companies and the committee are to be congratulated on securing so practical a man for a paper on "The economics of Gold Mining."

THIRD DAY.

Rat Portage, June 3.—The enthusiasm and good fellowship of the afternoon session insured the success of the Rat Portage mining convention from the start.

Shortly after 7.30 p. m. the town band took up its station outside the opera house, where they discoursed enlivening airs until 8 p. m. By 8.15 the house was full. Chairs had to be placed in the isles. On the stage were George Drewry, president of the Mining Exchange; D. C. Cameron, chairman of reception committee; Walter Ross, Rat Portage; James Conmee, M. P. P.; Mr. Hopkins, B. S.; D. W. Bole, Rev. Dr. G. Bryce, and E. F. Hutchings of Winnipeg; ex-Mayor Barnes, W. L. Partridge, C. S. Morris and Rat Portage members of the convention committee.

President Drewry made a capital chairman. Having made an address of welcome in the afternoon he considered his duties in that line accomplished, and concluded with merely introducing each speaker. He opened proceedings by reading a telegram from the Hon. A. S. Hardy, expressing regret that none of the members of the government were able to attend the convention, tendering his hearty congratulations to the promoters for originating the idea, and wishing the convention every success. This message was received with applause.

Dr. Bryce was then called upon and addressed the convention on "The Geology of the Lake of the Woods Basin." Dr. Bryce prefaced his lecture proper with a brief explanation to the scientific men present for the popular character of his talk, as there were so many in the audience to whom a purely scientific address full of technicalities would be tiresome, he did not wish to claim for everything that he said with regard to these regions. The geology of the country had not been sufficiently studied up to the present time, to permit of hard and fast conclusions being arrived at. The lecture was in the main features the same as that delivered a short time ago before the Historical society of Winnipeg, and which appeared in full in the Free Press at that date. The chief points dealt with were the Laurentian formation of the south end of the lake, and of the Huronian ore-bearing rocks of the north end, also an account of the glacial lake period and an idea of the formation of metallic veins, varieties of veins, with a reference to mine centres and the value of the deposits of the region. The lecture was illustrated with maps and charts and was delivered in the doctor's lucid and happy style.

Much laughter was occasioned by Dr. Bryce explaining how the grinding up of the rocks during the glacial period and the washing down of the deposit had gone to form the rich soil of Manitoba prairies. Manitobans, said the doctor, were much obliged for the present from the Lake of the Woods and had responded in part by presenting the Lake of the Woods region with limestone boulders, which undoubtedly came from Lake Winnipeg and the Red River valley district. In concluding Dr. Bryce urged upon those present the necessity of the greatest integrity in regard to mining ventures put upon the market. He spoke of the interest awakened in England, of which he had noticed many signs during his visit last year and assured the convention that it was only a matter of time when English capital would flow in and help to develop the resources of this district.

Mr. M. W. Hopkins then read a short paper, "The Supply of Electrical Energy for Working our Mines." Mr. Hopkins advanced the theory that the time is not far distant when the water power of Rat Portage in the form of electricity will be transferred to and used in the operation of the mines.

Prof. W. L. Goodwin, of Kingston school of mines, was next called for. He stated that he was neither a geologist nor a mineralogist, but a chemist, and he did not profess to know much about mines. He had come like many others to learn, and had found the proceedings, both in the afternoon and evening, most interesting. Referring to a remark of Dr. Bryce, as

to the necessity of sticking to the country, if we wish to develop and make the most of its great resources, Prof. Goodwin remarked that there was one man who owned a mine in this country to whom a great debt of gratitude was due by the community because in the face of almost unheard of difficulty and opposition, he had stuck to the development of his mine. At this reference to Mr. J. F. Caldwell there was loud and prolonged applause. Another point taken by Prof. Goodwin was the part that would be played in the future of mining by the transmission of power by compressed air and the utilization of the great water powers for this purpose.

Prof. Goodwin also made reference to his special mission, which was to place in position the cases of geological specimens supplied by the bureau of mines, and which it was intended should remain here permanently for the use of those interested in mines, so that in all cases of doubt as to the character of the rocks, ores and minerals generally, these collections would be a basis of reference. He took exception to the name of Rat Portage and advised it to be changed to something more mellifluous.

President Drewry called upon Mayor Barnes to defend the name of the town, which he did in a witty manner, managing to get in some very clever hits at Winnipeg and some of the towns of the north.

Before the convention rose one of the local photographer's took a flash light view of the audience.

CONVENTION NOTES.

The committee of arrangements deserves great credit for the way in which they have brought a new and untried venture to a successful issue. Conventions are always awkward things to handle but a mining convention is a new thing in Canada at least and Rat Portage is a town just adjusting itself to a largely increased population and things in general are in a nebulous state. The committee, however, are level headed business men and grappled with the situation courageously and a happier and more contented lot of visitors it would be difficult to find. Everybody is pleased with everything.

The mining exchange have opened their new offices in a building just opposite the opera house and on long tables are arranged a simply amazing display of specimens from various mining districts. Here, too, are cases sent up by the bureau of mines and already they are being utilized by prospectors to identify specimens hitherto unclassified. In fact before Prof. Goodwin had them half in order yesterday, they were surrounded. The exchange has a register for visitors and on signing this they receive a badge and programme.

The badges by the way are very pretty and add much to the brightness of the town. Those of the committee are crimson, lettered in black. The visitors badge is a delicate lavender with gold lettering and the press representatives have a white badge printed in blue.

The programmes too, deserve a word of commendation. The covers are plain green and in gold letters appears the legend "Gold is King, programme, Rat Portage Mining Convention, June 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 1897." On the back is a list of chairman of various com-

mittees and inside in addition to the programme are several sheets of blank paper for the convenience of those wishing to make notes.

Of the new opera house, which in a gold town is appropriately opened with a mining convention it is sufficient to say that it is all an opera house should be and more.

The press is well represented, there being special correspondents here from New York, Duluth and Toronto. Local newspaper men are doing all in their power to facilitate the operations of the visiting scribes.

Quite a number of ladies attended the evening session and took a marked interest in the proceedings.

FOURTH DAY.

Rat Portage, June 4. — "Gold is King," is the legend inscribed upon the neat little programmes issued in connection with the first Rat Portage mining convention, and judging from the enthusiasm and number of those anxious to declare their allegiance, his reign promises to be a most popular one.

Mr. D. C. Cameron, in his address of welcome to the "strangers within our gate," delivered on the opening day as chairman of the reception committee, said "that Canada had too long looked solely upon its agricultural and timber resources as its wealth producers, to the total exclusion of most of its minerals." The applause which followed this remark clearly indicated that the large audience present was keenly alive to the truth of the statement. If anything was necessary to demonstrate the great growth of public opinion as regards Ontario's mineral resources one glance around the handsome new opera house while the convention was in session would surely have served that purpose, while the fact that those interested in the proceedings and responsible for some of the papers and speeches, were drawn from such widely divergent points, is an assurance that the face of our gold fields has gone abroad to some little extent at least.

Last summer a convention was held here under the auspices of the Canadian mining institute. Only one gentleman attended it from the outside, and he, by the way, is the secretary of the institute. What a change in a few short months! If anyone had then ventured to predict, that an 1897 convention would occur in Rat Portage under the auspices of a local body called the Mining Exchange, that its sessions would be held in a splendid new opera house, and that they would be largely attended by gentlemen from different parts of the world, eminent in mining and geology, he would have been told that boom talk is something that Rat Portage very particularly objects to. And yet all this and more has come to pass so then if our progress has already gone beyond the fondest anticipations of a year ago, why should we not achieve a more advanced stage of development in another twelve months, than anyone at the present moment deems possible?

Mr. James Conmee, M. P. P., in spite of certain little troubles in connection with surveys which has brought him into contact with the local prospector in anything but a friendly manner, received a warm reception when he mounted the stage in answer to a request of President Drewry to say a few words to his much beloved constituents. Mr. Conmee seemed to appreciate his welcome and

waxed confidential under its influence. With cheerful abandon he notified those present that having secured all the prospects he thought he should require to keep himself in touch with the future of the country, he had retired from the field as a prospector and would now allow "the other fellow to come in." Mr. Connee smiled when he said this, and the audience cheered him, because an audience as a rule dearly loves to be taken into the confidence of a speaker and likes to realize that it is getting some information which would not be possible to the average individual. One thing, however, Mr. Connee said, which sent many a significant wink and smile around among his hearers. It appears that the Ontario government might be induced, under certain conditions, of course, to establish a school of mining in Rat Portage. No one ever thought of such a thing before, although seeing that the government runs so much to schools and colleges, perhaps it is the most natural thing in the world that Rat Portage should regard the establishment of a school of mining here as the climax of its ambition as a mineral country. Such, however, is not the case; and if it is thought that a series of deputations is going to start off at once to beg for a school of mining, somebody is laboring under a big mistake. If, in the interests of the country, a school of mining is thought necessary in Rat Portage, the government should establish one here by all means; but what was particularly desired at the present moment is some assistance in the way of inducing capital to come in to open up the resources of the district. It is to be hoped that the gentlemen who are now here representing the government will be fully impressed with this fact; and so convey to the government a true idea of the actual needs and desires of the country. If only this is done, the work of the mining exchange and convention will not have been in vain.

THE MINERAL EXHIBIT.

No place attracts so much attention in connection with the convention as the offices of the mining exchange, wherein the samples of ore are on exhibition; and nothing perhaps is better calculated to impress a visitor with an idea of the wealth and extent of our mineral resources as is an inspection of these samples. The locations represented are altogether too numerous to mention here, and many of the names would sound strangely unfamiliar to those who have an idea that the mining possibilities of the country begin with the Sultana and end with the Mikado. Among some of the best known prospects from which samples have been submitted for inspection are the Master Jack, Cornucopia, Mikado, La Mascotte, Triumph, HP301, Scramble, Foley, Bad Hammond-Folger Dyke, Randolph, Royal, and a large number of others, covering the whole district. The room is in charge of the very busy secretary, Mr. Morris, and he is ably assisted in receiving visitors and giving information by Messrs. Erans and Burrett. The Cornucopia and Mascotte specimens are rich in visible gold, and as a consequence are attracting considerable attention.

MR. PURCHASE'S PAPER.

Rat Portage June 4.—Speaking on "The Economics of Gold Mining" at

the big convention here last night, T. A. B. Purchase, of South Africa, said he must deal with the subject generally and he would endeavor to point out where, in his opinion, certain uneconomical conditions exist, which he felt sure would result in unnecessary loss if permitted to continue and might in addition be the means of creating serious trouble in the future, which could easily be avoided. Mr. Purchase then proceeded to show briefly but effectively that mining was a business by itself and could not be carried on successfully as a side issue. He said, "I think we shall find that no matter how much, or how little, speculation precedes the real work of mining, or follows in its wake, a result of good returns, or of sensational "strikes," sooner or later, generally sooner than most people anticipate, the speculative stage has proved to be abandoned and an answer found to that question which we investors invariably ask, "Can gold be produced at a profit?" It was far better that the country should find an answer to this question at once. He had no doubt of the possibility of showing figures that would sufficiently demonstrate that low grade mines could be cheaply handled and the low grade basis was the safest to adopt. In order to obtain figures for such demonstration, it was necessary to make an unbiased examination of various factors which make up the sum total of working conditions here.

The first effect of this study should be in the direction of development operations in a more systematic and therefore, more economical manner. This would check misconceptions, which are calculated to injure the pockets of those concerned, and to recoil upon the district, should it transpire that future prospects must be viewed in the light of what has already been proven. Generalization in the matter of working costs will give rise to errors, unless confined within legitimate bounds. "The reduction of expenses is of such vital importance that too much prominence cannot be given to it. Nothing offers such inducements for the introduction of capital as cheap working costs." Mr. Purchase further said that the machinery he had seen in operation in the district was not of an economical kind. This was no doubt due in some instances to lack of capital, but this mistake should be guarded against as much as possible, and it was most important to ascertain, first, whether the properties would justify putting in an extensive plant. No error was more fatal than erecting a mill before the ore is in sight to keep it going. When this was done, it was often found afterwards that the machinery was unnecessary, or unsuitable, and it always gave the mine a bad name if a mill ceased mining from whatever cause. The chief points were the remarks made upon the fuel used. He had been informed that wood was plentiful and cheap, but his observations did not support this statement. Lumbering had seriously depleted the supply on the Lake of the Woods Tamarac, which was best for fuel, was also best for timbering mines, and if the development was as rapid as they hoped, there would be none too much for that purpose. He had endeavored to put together some figures as to the cost, and would give the result.

An acre of timber, on a liberal average, produces 25 cords. A ton-stamp mill, with crusher vaners, air compressor, etc. will consume 14 cords of wood per day. Ten such mills going continuously would mean the clearing 1,700 acres per year, and if, as they all hoped, batteries were to be erected at a constantly increasing rate, the exhaustion at the above ratio might soon bring them in sight of wood at such a price as would turn this lumber question into a knotty problem. Mr. Purchase also objected to wood as bulky and a poor steam producer owing to much of it in the district being young and sappy. The usual calculation was that two cords of dry wood are equal to a ton of coal, but the speaker was sure that from the quality of coal supplied to the miners, four cords to a ton of coal would be a more correct figure. The next question was a substitute that would be less subject to depletion, give more uniform generation, of steam and require less handling. Electricity from the Keowatin power was the first thought, but Mr. Purchase did not think they had as yet sufficient information as to when the power would be available, how far it could be transmitted without loss, etc. He had no doubt it would be an immense boon in the future to all within the range of practical transmission. In the meantime, he thought it would be well to look into the question of coal as fuel. Wood costs \$2.25 per cord; add 15 cents for kindling, the total is \$2.40. Take coal at \$3 per ton at the outside figure. It is \$3 at Rat Portage, and add \$2 for transport to the mines, including interest on capital in transport service, storage and steam hoists. On ratio of 4 cords equally 1 ton, a plant consuming 14 cords of wood in 24 hours, would consume 3 1-2 tons of coal in the same time. Wood would cost \$33.60, coal \$23, a saving of \$5—twenty-eight cents on each ton of ore milled. If they admitted the figures, coal answered the question of cost. It would occupy much less room in storing, but its great advantage was the supply. While wood must inevitably get dearer, coal was likely to continue at about the same figure. He hoped that they would not think him hypercritical. He had dealt with the subject with the honest desire to influence intelligence in mining matters. In conclusion, Mr. Purchase expressed his cordial good wishes for the future success of the district.

DISCUSSION OF PAPER.

At the close of Mr. Purchase's paper President Drewry called for discussion. The first to speak was E. P. Rathbone. He heartily indorsed everything that had been said by Mr. Purchase, and especially mentioned the management of mining on business principles. Mr. Rathbone further said he thought the people of the district should do more to help themselves, and that the governments, both Dominion and Ontario, should make a great effort to develop the country by booming railways, especially the one through to Rainy Lake, making locks at Ash rapids and building good wagon roads. It was useless for them to expect outside capital to come in and do everything for them. They must help themselves, and see to it that their government helped them.

MR. RICKARD OF COLORADO.

Mr. Rickard, father of T. A. Rickard, state geologist of Colorado, followed. Mr. Rickard is an Englishman of the very best type, tall, comfortable, retund, genial of expression, and with a deep voice. He captured the audience as soon as he rose to speak. He stated that he was a tenderfoot, and would therefore say with safety things that he might have to alter later on. He agreed with the paper read in many points, though he thought it rather freezingly conservative and just a little too didactic. He had great sympathy with prospectors, and thought that Mr. Purchase had hardly done them justice in his remarks. Personally he had a great deal to do with prospectors, and while they were neither geologists, nor engineers, like mother-in-law, they were a necessity. Mining without prospectors would be a Hamlet with the Hamlet left out. He would say because he was a tenderfoot that they would be foolish to burn coal for the present at least, and thought use should be made of the magnificent waterpower.

So far he had seen little of the mining properties, but they had visited the Sultana this afternoon, and all he could say was that it must be a grand mine to pay a dividend on the treatment it was getting. There was an utter contempt of gravitation—no one thing helped another. He would like to be purchaser of the tailings they were running into the lake. He was afraid such mining, however, was endangering the credit of the district. Mr. Rickard said he had ten years experience with wood in Russia, and found cutting one year and storing until the next added 50 per cent. to the value. He complimented the district in being under such a liberal form of government. Those who had mined in South Africa could appreciate that better perhaps than they could, because in South Africa the government was a vampire that sucked the life out of everything. He thought the government should build or bonus the Rainy River road, and push it through at once. He also thought they should have a Canadian mine.

GENERAL DISCUSSION.

Mr. Purchase, in reply, said he had not wished to hurt anyone's feelings. Prospectors were not alluded to in his paper—it was development after prospecting which he had dealt with. Mr. Rickard had mentioned the Sultana. He had avoided names for fear of offence, but since it had been mentioned, he would express his surprise that it paid at all under the present form of working.

G. H. Campbell, of Winnipeg, was the next speaker. He stated that the Dominion government had bonused the Rainy River railway to the extent of \$6,000 per mile, and the Ontario government were also giving aid. Regarding the relative values of coal and wood as fuel, he did not agree with Mr. Purchase. He had tried both in connection with electric power in Winnipeg, and found 1 1-2 cords equal to a ton of coal. He advised using wood, and taking up this coal question, when they had to.

Archibald Blue, of the Ontario bureau of mines, was called to remark on some of the utterances of Messrs. Purchase, Rathbone and Rickard. He said they were all Englishmen, and it was the recognized privilege of Englishmen to grumble. He would speak

as a Canadian. He had enjoyed Mr. Purchase's paper, but thought some points were debatable. It was his business to gather statistics, and it was always difficult to get answers to the simple questions now asked, and if further details were required, he was sure the owners of mines would resent it: as to a mint, there was not gold enough produced in Canada at present to warrant any such enormous outlay. He paid a high tribute to the enterprise of Mr. J. F. Caldwell in opening the Sultana. (Loud and prolonged applause.) Mr. Blue stated that the receipts for mining lands in the last five months exceeded those of the five years previous. He corroborated Mr. Campbell's statement as to the bonus of the Rainy River railway, spoke of summer mining schools, and closed by stating that part of his business in Rat Portage was to open an office where applications for mining lands could be filed and evidence regarding same received. The office would be open in a few days.

Mr. Blue had hardly reached his seat when the sun began. Mr. Rathbone dashed on to the platform, and requested to be heard. President Drewry said he was out of order, but he was allowed to speak. He protested fiercely against Mr. Blue having called them Englishmen, as if Canada were not part of the empire. He was as loyal a Canadian as any one of them. (Terrific applause.)

Mr. Purchase followed in the same strain, but a somewhat quieter manner.

Mr. Blue rose and said he had intended no affront, feeling sure they were not ashamed to be called Englishmen. (Cries of "no, no," from Mr. Rathbone.) He was very sorry if what he had said offended any one; it was not so intended.

The scene was quite exciting while it lasted.

When order was restored, the president called on M. De Bauviere, M. E., of Callona for a paper on "Prospecting and Mine Development." It was regrettable that this paper came after 10 o'clock, when there was no time for discussion. It was practical, concise, and delivered in capital style.

D. W. Bole, president of the Winnipeg board of trade, spoke for a few minutes. He congratulated the convention on the absence of the boom element, and assured them the mining exchange would have a wholesome effort in checking anything of a wild-cat character. He trusted they would avoid international complications, which were creeping up in British Columbia, and expressed the opinion that much of the difficulty arose from the fact that children in the schools were not taught the history of neighboring countries as well as of their own.

Other papers were to have been read by Prof. Wilmot, J. E. Hardman, M. E., Montreal, and T. R. Deacon, but time would not permit and they were postponed till Friday evening.

President Drewry called upon D. I. Armstrong, of C. P. R. exhibit car, to close. President Drewry has a long head and chose a witty speech for the last.

Apròpos of the talk of being English, etc., Mr. Armstrong opened with a story of his ancestors being hung for border cattle raids, which sent the crowd into convulsions. He spoke highly of mining exhibit, expressing

a hope that he could secure it to take to Toronto, Montreal, and United States cities.

FRIDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

Rat Portage, June 4.—This morning all the visitors who felt so inclined visited the reduction works. The ore being run through was from Col. Kendall's property at Cedar Island. The men in charge of the works very kindly showed the visitors through, and explained the working. The ore in these works, instead of falling from the crusher to the stamps, is carried from the crusher by an endless chain to the top of the building, and dropped through shafts to the 20 stamps. One of the funny things about visiting these mills is to see two total strangers with their heads touching while they vainly endeavor to ask or answer a question above the deafening thump of the stamps.

At 2 o'clock the Monarch again took all who wished to go for a trip on the lake. This time the run was made to Shamus Island, the idea being to give the visitors a chance of seeing what is termed "a good prospect." The day was rather cool, and the run was delightful. The prospect did not look too tempting to the uninitiated, but mining engineers pronounced it a very fair property. A scramble of a mile or so through woods, over rocks, and under fallen trees was thoroughly enjoyable, and if some frocks were torn, there will be no lurking cobwebs in the brains of the party. Large quantities of wild columbines were in bloom on the island. Capt. Brydges fully sustained his reputation for courtesy and kindness.

Returning your correspondent had a chat with Mr. Engledue, son of Col. Engledue, of the South African company, who is here from the Western Australia mines. Many of these incredibly rich, are developed under enormous disadvantages. Owing to the power of the Trades and Labor Union some of the mines had to close as the miners went on strike. The richness of these mine can be dimly estimated when one considers that they pay high dividends, pay miners from 25 10s. to £4 a week and some of the managers get as high as £8,000 per month! There is no water but salt water so each mine has to have a vaporizing plant. At Coolgardie where Mr. Engledue has been, they are now proposing a gigantic water scheme. Water is to be pumped through pipes 700 miles to a large reservoir at the City of Coolgardie. The waterworks will cost £7,000,000 and take seven years to complete. It has already been begun. The climate is most unhealthy and there is terrible loss of life from typhoid. Mr. Engledue pronounces the natives of this section the most degraded of any of the native tribes he has seen. When such difficulties are overcome and successful mining accomplished, it should give courage to Western Ontario where no such difficulties exist.

Mr. Algernon P. Del Mar is here from South Africa mines. He is a mining engineer of large experience. He considers African natives many of them make good miners but can never be trusted to use explosives. He will remain in the section about two months.

W. G. Morrison, of Minnesota, another guest at the convention. He

represents timber interests and has just delivered to the Rat Portage Lumber company a cut of six million logs. He estimates the cut this year to be six hundred million, just half what it was two years ago. This is due to there being a glut in the lumber market. These logs came from eighty miles beyond Grand Rapids or about one hundred miles in all. The excursion returned to Rat Portage at 6 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

The session opened with President Brewy in the chair, and on the stage were Prof. Wilmot, Prof. Goodwin, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Hopkins, C. E. Rich, Hall, Mr. A. Bleu, Judge Hale, Duluth; Anthony Blum, St. Antonio, Texas; Mr. Bridenbach, Mikado mine; Mr. Beebe, of New York, and others.

The first paper was by Fred T. Snyder, M. E., of Rat Portage Reduction works. "Sampling of Ores." He dwelt at length upon the necessity of care in selecting samples. He advised that in cases where it is wished to test at small cost. It was well to take as much ore as possible, break it small mix thoroughly with a shovel, taking the sample from this mass. He went into the details of the various methods of reducing ore, and in closing said. "This district has many things that the outside world will buy, but nothing for which it will pay more than accurate information about its ore."

Prof Wilmot, M. E., of McMaster University, spoke on the mineral wealth of Canada. Some had deplored the large sections of non-agricultural country but nature has its compensations. Just think what the world would be if the intelligent little wasp had been made as large as the elephant. The barren stretches hold great stores of minerals. In coal mines we stand tenth on the list. We have the greatest variety of minerals of any country in the world. In petroleum we stand fourth. In gold, in which we are most interested here in Rat Portage, last year we were tenth on the list; this year we are eighth, and we will soon make a bid with Mexico for fifth place. Prof. Wilmot said he was not a miner, but a geologist and as he understood, they were unpopular in Rat Portage just now so he would not consume more time.

Thos R Deacon, C. E., when called upon to speak, prefaced his paper with some remarks on the fuel question raised last evening by Mr. Purchase. Mr Deacon claimed he had a 100 years experience and would undertake to form a company in three hours that would contract to put 1,500,000 cords of wood on Lake of the Woods at \$1.50 per cord. The Sultana mine consumes 50000 cords per year and this would be a fair estimate. Taking the figures given by Mr. Purchase they would be able to keep a ten-stamp mill running for 50 years. With reference to the opinion expressed that so much was asked for properties all he could say was that if he went to a hat and was asked \$15 for a hat, if he was an expert in hats he would not pay it, but buy elsewhere but if he knew nothing about hats he might be taken in. Experts would not pay more than what are worth, and as prospectors obtained their claims at a great price it was not natural that they would want a fair price for them. Mr Deacon then read his paper. His years' observations in the Dis-

trict of Algoma" which was listened to with marked attention and elicited frequent applause.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Rat Portage, June 5.—After discussion of preceding papers on Friday evening, the president called for a paper by Mr. A. Blum, of San Antonio, Texas, on "Practical and Economic Mining and Milling of Gold Ores for the Rainy River District. Mr. Blum spoke at some length of the various kinds of veins and his paper showed careful preparation as well as a deep knowledge of his subject, but was rather too technical for general readers. One point on which he laid special emphasis was the sinking of test pits to further prove the vein. This should be done wherever money could be raised at all. He thought an average pit, 10 feet wide across the vein, was sufficient. He also recommended that for assay purposes samples about the size of an egg should be taken right across the vein, from the deepest working and broken as small as a bean. Mix it thoroughly, take a quarter of it, mix that thoroughly, quarter again and so reduce it until you have about three ounces. Then take this to an assayer and have it assayed. Pan tests from vein samplings of this kind he considered reliable. He also indicated the absolute necessity of having a mining engineer to lay out the plan of development. Mr Blum's utterances on these matters carry great weight from his long experience in mining in Texas and the paper received deep attention.

JUDGE HALE OF DULUTH.

Following Mr. Blum came Judge T Hale, of Duluth. The judge declared he had no desire to make a speech but simply wished on behalf of the Duluth visitors to express their very great pleasure at the convention and to congratulate the Mining Exchange on having brought it to such a successful issue. He touched briefly on the respect felt among Americans for the Union Jack. They loved the stars and stripes the most, but they loved and revered the old flag, because they were English born also. He referred to the interest being awakened in Duluth by the articles of John L. Morrison, who was sitting at the reporters' table in the orchestra pit, blushed modestly behind his hat. Continuing the judge said that many had expressed the opinion that they did not want a boom. Well they had said that in the Zenith City of the unsalted sea, but a boom had been urged upon them. He believed if a boom—a good healthy boom, not a sickly one—were urged on Rat Portage, it would take it. In closing he stated that the whole convention reflected great credit on the mining exchange and he felt confident it would result in great good to the mining interests of the district.

MR LAYCOCK, OF THE CAPE.

Mr. Laycock, who was in the celebrated Jamelson raid, and who is now working the Golden Gate mine, asked the privilege of taking up some of Mr. Deacon's figures on behalf of Mr. Purchase, and according to his statement, if each ten stamp mill consumed 5,000 cords of wood per year, the amount used at the Sultana, and there are 1,000 stamps going, which is the least number which could be considered highly successful, we would in a very few years have a fuel famine; as we would consume half a mil-

lion cords a year. The idea of a fuel famine in Ontario seemed to particularly tickle the fancy of the audience, and there was loud applause.

MAYOR M'CREARY.

Mayor McCreary was the next speaker, and a capital speaker he made. On starting he confessed he knew nothing about mining, but one or two points impressed him. A great deal had been said about the fuel supply, and the water power, etc., but not a word about the "grub supply" for all these camps and mines. He felt that here was where Winnipeg could take practical interest in the mines. It would be a market for our Manitoba food stuffs, and in this way the provinces could help each other. Legally, the Rat Portage district belongs to Ontario, but morally and geographically it belonged to Manitoba. He then showed how in other places gold discoveries had always been followed by a large increase of not only a mining population but an agricultural and industrial people. With reference to the coal supply, Mr. McCreary said that by the time they had exhausted their wood supply, the west would be able to supply them with coal from the Edmonton mines at a cost of \$2.50 per ton laid down at Selkirk. The barges which took down the coal could carry wheat to the H. B. railway, which will then be opened. On behalf of the citizens of Winnipeg he thanked them for the courtesy of his invitation, and he felt assured that the holding of the convention would be of immense benefit to the town and district of Rat Portage.

MINING MACHINERY

The president called for Prof. Colman but he was not present. It was ascertained that he was out on the Rambler on a party of friends and had not returned. Regret was expressed at losing a speech from him and Prof Goodwin was asked to fill the gap on the programme. On rising Prof Goodwin said he would not make a speech at all. He wished to thank Rat Portage on behalf of the eastern visitors for the enjoyable time they had had and to extend to the mining exchange his hearty congratulations on the success of their venture. The president explained that they had hoped to have a representative of the Gates Iron works, Chicago, with them but instead a paper on mining machinery had arrived from them and which he would ask Mr. Secretary Morris to read to them. This paper was very thorough and gave many valuable details with reference to mining machinery. Mr Morris performed that unthankful task of reading another man's paper with great success. As the hour was late and the writer of the paper was not here, there was no discussion.

Mr Richard Hall also read a paper on behalf of Peter McKellar F.G.S.A., of Fort William. This paper discussed the discovery and value of a number of the mining properties near Fort William and was no doubt valuable for the statistics it contained.

MR BEEBE, OF NEW YORK

James Beebe, of New York, was the last man called upon for a speech. Mr Beebe declared he had been anxiously looking for the opportunity for a week. He had hardly known there was such a thing as the International

boundary line until he had come to Rat Portage and heard them talk about it. He must express his pleasure at attending the convention and his admiration of the able way in which it had been managed. A good deal had been said about getting English capital to develop the mines, but he did not think American capital would be refused. He had generally found people willing to accept the American dollar for 100 cents. He had been charmed with the gentlemen who advised them to keep on sinking their shafts. He had tried that in Colorado and his money had sunk out of sight, but in the Seine River country, where he had his mines, they got pay ore at a very slight depth. If some of the Colorado miners saw specimens taken from the Seine River mines at a depth of thirty and forty feet they would have a fit. He wanted to tell them a little about Mine Centre. They were building a large hotel there, because the people were bound to come. They were putting up sixteen houses. The streets were being paved and electric light and waterworks were being put in. It was going to be a paradise. In fact there would be but one place better and that was Rat Portage. A new boat was being built to run to Mine Centre it would run an excursion from Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Rat Portage and he hoped they would all come and buy a town lot. On behalf of New York he thanked Rat Portage for the courtesies of the convention and concluded with a joking allusion to ex-Mayor Barnes, to which that gentleman replied in his well known style. This concluded the programme.

Mr. D. C. Cameron moved a vote of thanks to all who had made addresses or given papers. This was seconded by R. Ross Sutherland in a neat speech, and carried with a perfect volley of ayes, followed by vigorous applause.

Mr. Beebe, of New York, then proposed the singing of God Save the Queen, and at the close of the national anthem some one proposed three cheers for President Dewey, which were given in a way to test the character of the new opera house foundation and the first mining convention of Rat Portage was brought to a successful close.

Rat Portage, June 7.—At Friday evening's session of the mining convention Mr. T. R. Deacon, C. E., of Rat Portage, read the following paper:

"Five Years Observations in the District of Algoma." He said, "As I am not a literary genius, I must content myself with a plain statement of facts. As a body of business men you will not be inclined to take things for granted, but want to know if the writer or speaker is giving his personal knowledge, and so I simply say that I have resided here continuously for five years and my professional work has taken me into every point of interest in the district. I propose first to deal briefly with the geography of the gold bearing region, leaving to others the geological and mineralogical conditions. The territory which I classify as gold bearing in Ontario has for its eastern boundary a line drawn north from Heron Bay on Lake Superior, and for its western boundary the western boundary of the province.

thirty miles west of Rat Portage. I do not mean by this to limit it to these boundaries, for I have reason to believe it extends both east and west, but am just speaking of the territory I have personally covered. Heron Bay to the west boundary is about 425 miles, and the known width of the gold bearing region is 60 miles. This contains about 16,000,000 acres, of which 25 to 30 per cent is water. But as mineral is not confined to land we may say that the whole 16,000,000 acres is gold bearing and 1,500,000 acres have been surveyed, but the balance is unexplored land waiting investigation. Most of this area is covered with timber, Jack pine, tamarac, spruce, poplar, birch and cedar, so that abundance of timber is here for mining purposes, and wherever necessary to use steam power in a mine, the question of fuel is not a formidable one. Fuel can be obtained here in great abundance and at less cost than in any other gold mining region. I wrote that statement a week ago, Mr. Chairman, but I am still prepared to stand by it notwithstanding what Mr. Purchase said last night. A matter of importance is entire absence of storms of a destructive character. In summer we have a fine climate, and in winter just enough frost to make lake travel safe and comfortable. (Loud applause.) This is a convenience of some importance. We have not the extreme heat and sand storms of the desert, nor the intense cold of Alaska. Over the region is a complete net of waterways, and with slight improvements at some points, we can have hundreds of miles of waterways. The gold is here in paying quantities, as no man who had travelled over the region and made even superficial examination will at all doubt. Much money has been lost in the district that cannot be attributed to mines. Many companies and individuals having only limited capital have erected buildings and exhausted their funds before they had a hole in the ground. Of 500,000 acres surveyed, I do not believe 7 per cent has been prospected. In my opinion as little surface work as possible should be done until the shaft is down 200 feet. As to prospecting, it is only within two years that any systematic work has been done, and look at the result, the Mikado, the Cornucopia, Gold Coin, Yum-Yum, Lady of the Lake, Nankipoo, Monarch, Trojan, Mascot, Master Jack, None Such, Foley, Ferguson, Saw Bill, Hawk Bay, Hammond-Folgor Dyke, Empress and others, jumping from total obscurity into bullion producing mines.

"There is a point in regard to prospecting which has been often impressed upon me, and that is the impossibility of judging any tract, vein or discovery in this district from surface indications. No intuitive knowledge of experts, or experience of old miners, can take the place of powder and steel for furnishing reliable data upon which to base conclusions as to subterranean facts. From my observations I should say that the vein that lies in or near the contact of granite with horn blende schists, particularly if it is granite, is in itself a pretty sure thing. There is practically unlimited water power, where the average head of 20 feet can be developed in many cases very cheaply and a practical invention is

now on the market for compressing air by the direct fall of the water without intermediate machinery. This will all tend to reduce the cost of ore to a minimum.

"It is sometimes said that the very fact that so many natural advantages exist here for mining cheaply and economically has tended to retard development. It seems too good to be true. It reminds me of the story of the duke who made a wager that he would stand on London Bridge with a tray of sovereigns to sell for a penny and find no purchasers after offering them all afternoon. He sold only one. People say it cannot be true the gold is to be found in such an easy place, or people would be tumbling over one another to get there; but the Sultana, the Regina, the Empress and Mikado are proving it every day. There will, of course be some illusions shattered, and over-sanguine hopes blasted; yet, I am confident that before two years, there will be fifty mines working west of Lake Superior profitably, producing gold bullion, and paying dividends with the regularity and precision of a machine. Only a fringe of the gold bearing region has yet been touched. It is my opinion that fifty years from now the prospecting will not all be done, though in the meantime cities will grow up where all was solitude; but it is work requiring patience, diligence and perseverance, and if it is to be finally successful, must be allied to ample capital, so that the prospector, the capitalist and country at large may reap the benefit."

VISIT TO THE SCRAMBLE

On Saturday morning the directors of the Scramble mine invited a large party to visit that property, and though the weather was disagreeable, a number availed themselves of the comfortable conveyances provided and made the trip. Among those going were A. Blue and Mrs. B. Dr. Coleman, Col. J. G. Crawford, Mr. S. V. Halstead, Prof. W. Mot, Acton Burrows, Mr. Coates, a son of Hon. J. Coates, of Ottawa, vice-president of the Scramble, H. S. Cratty, your correspondent and others.

The party was accompanied by Messrs. Williamson, Beck and Halstead, directors, and W. L. Parkridge, president of the company, met them on their arrival.

The road out to this mine is in very bad condition, and as it was built by the government, Mr. Blue was called on the subject at every bump, all of which was received with the most imperturbable good humor.

The Scramble camp is very prettily situated on a sloping hill side, and substantial and commodious buildings have been erected. A noticeable feature is their being built at regular intervals along a sort of road or street. On the right, as you look in, is the comfortable cooking and dining camp, with large airy rooms above for the officers in charge, and the sleeping camp and reading room for the unmarried men. Across the street on the left is the stable, the store, a large open space, and on the brow of the hill the engine house, engine room and blacksmith shop. The open space referred to is reserved for the mill building which will thus be in a position to receive the ore as it comes from the shaft by natural

station without waste of power. The shaft house is large and well built and a good stem hoisting gear has been put in. The main shaft is down 65 feet and about 50 feet of crosscutting has been done to test the width of the vein. Your correspondent went down the shaft with Dr. Coleman, Dominion geologist and F. B. Morgan of Cleveland. Mr. Morgan was interested in the formation, which is somewhat peculiar.

The hole is in what is known as fall band and runs N. E. by S. W. in the Huron rock near the contact of the Laurentian. At a depth of 65 feet quartz has appeared, and if this continues the development will no doubt be a bedded or lenticular vein. Another shaft has been sunk at a distance of 205 feet and they are now preparing to run a drift between these two shafts, the dip being to the northwest the main shaft is no. 1. The pumping station is a special mention. As you descend to the 61st level you hear the pump working but you cannot see it. A little room or cave has been blasted for it in the country rock and in this way space in the mine proper has been saved.

On leaving the shaft house Mr. Partridge proposed that we have a "panning party." In a small log building are a number of bins showing rock from the six different lodes on the property. Col. Morgan, who is a mining man of wide experience in Mexico, Texas and other western states, had said when looking at the dump that it looked more like paving stones than anything else. The colonel therefore had first choice for a panning and chose the worst looking bit of rock he could see. As soon as the washing began the pan was watched with interest and glasses were brought out but were not needed long before the washing was finished. A rusty yellow tail appeared in the left hand corner. Ten pannings were made in all the rock, being chosen by the guests from the bins, from the dump from anywhere they liked, but it all showed gold some more, some less but it appeared in every pan.

An adjournment was then made to the dining room and it must have reached the heart of the cook to see the way that board was cleared. After dinner Mr. Crotty moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Partridge for his kindness in entertaining so many. He spoke highly of his push and enterprise in the development of the property. Col. Crawford seconded the motion which being put, was carried with much hand clapping and the singing of "Bo's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Mr. Partridge in replying expressed the opinion that however many tests in minerals were made a business man should be at least of it. He thanked his guests for the kind things said, and invited them to come again, as using them as a catch string would always be on the outside.

It had been whispered abroad that the day was an auspicious anniversary with Mr. and Mrs. Blue, to wit a wedding day. Dr. Coleman on behalf of the company tendered congratulations and trusted they would receive them upon their golden wedding day.

Mr. Blue, in returning thanks, said no happier way of spending their anniversary could have been chosen. He hoped if they lived to have a golden wedding they would spend it at the Scramble mine; that all then present would be able to attend, and Mr. Partridge many times a millionaire from the ore of the Scramble.

The press was called upon. Mr. Morgan, on behalf of the United States press spoke well and briefly; Mr. Acton Burrows maintained the reputation of Eastern Canada; and your correspondent modestly endeavored to keep up Manitoba's end of the stick. Mr. Halstead, the manager, was called for, and gave a humorous account of why the mine was called the Scramble. Col. Morgan as an experienced mining man was the last speaker and his words made glad the heart of all interested in Western Ontario. He said he had been greatly impressed with the richness of the prospect and the ease of development. He would like to have the Sultana mine as he was sure with proper working he would be a millionaire in a short time. He would like to have the Scramble, for though an old man he was sure he could be a millionaire out of it before he died.

DELEGATES

Among the delegates to the convention are the following: J. H. Triggs, Duluth; G. M. Yeomans, Dryden; A. C. Annis, A. C. Jamieson, Duluth; B. Winnipeg, Ottawa; Col. J. S. Morgan, F. B. Morgan, Cleveland; H. L. Gordon, Los Angeles; James T. Hale, D. W. Scott, J. D. Stryker, Charles L. Lewis, J. Neil, Duluth; Jas. Anderson, A. Skene Dryden; Chas. A. Parker, Austin, Minn.; Jas. Cash, Duluth; A. P. Fowler, San Francisco; P. D. McKinnon, A. P. Horseman, W. E. Judd, Winnipeg; G. F. Cleveland, Danville, Que.; S. W. West, Thos. F. Wardell, F. G. Conklin, B. E. Chaffey, Thos. Black, W. H. Rourke, Winnipeg; J. L. Morrison, Duluth; G. H. Barnhart, Denver, Col.; Carl Reinhardt, Montreal; A. C. Morris, Perth; A. G. Elliott, Lucknow; Jas. Warren, Walkerton; E. S. McLean, Lucknow; D. A. Yeomans, Alexander; Anthony Blum, San Antonio, Texas; J. H. McGregg, Toronto; E. G. Bagnshaw, Winnipeg; L. A. Williamson, Duluth; J. E. Hardman, Montreal; L. W. Partridge, Detroit; S. Muaker, Trail, B. C.; A. Gibson, P. del Mar., South Africa; W. Kirkly, Winnipeg; J. D. Crawford, Montreal; Hon. H. Alymer, H. B. Alymer, Richmond, Que.; A. B. Upton, E. W. Barnes, Duluth; Jas. A. Livingstone, F. Knight, Jas. Miller, Winnipeg; Jas. C. Beebe, New York; Geo. H. Campbell, Winnipeg; Chas. F. B. Swisay, Grimsby, Ont.; D. C. Blair, Truro, N. S.; John McTaggart, Brandon; Jas. D. Barton, Duluth; H. Labor, Jos. Lafontaine, Wahlgoon; Judge Deacon, Pembroke; Jas. A. McKee, Niagara Falls; W. R. White, Rossland, B. C.; Geo. T. Ross, Montreal; Chas. E. Hall, Hamilton; Geo. McPhillips, Windsor, Ont.; E. Thornton, Moosomin; Frank McPhillips, Winnipeg; L. O. Armstrong, J. Steeat, Montreal; D. L. Kelly, Duluth; J. O. Ahlberg, Sweden; H. E. Dickson, Ottawa; M. C. Flynn, Duluth; M. Begg, John Fisher, Fort Frances; P. D. O'Phelan, Coocleching, Minn.; W. L. Goodwin, Kingston; R. J. Butter, Hamilton; R. J. Gilbert, S. F. Kramo, London, Eng.; M. McFadden, Nepeawa; T. Breedenbach, Mikado mine; S. M. Bole, Norman; W. Braden, Winnipeg; A. McKenzie, Ottawa; Harry H. Cooper, Detroit; Leonard J. Robinson, Seine

River; E. I. Hutching, Winnipeg; J. H. Mas n, Toronto; A. McMicken, D. W. Role, G. F. R. Harris, Winnipeg.

Grading the Grain.

The board of management of the Joint Traffic association has recommended rules to govern upon all shipments of grain from Canada exported via the port of New York. All shipments of grain from Canada will be handled according to grades established by the boards of trade of Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg, and grains so graded will be placed in bonded bins of the elevators and boats of the trunk lines at New York with other Canadian grain of like quality and grade. The maximum number of grades which can be accommodated in the bonded bins of the elevators and boats of the trunk lines at New York is fifteen. Grain from the province of Quebec will be placed in the same bins or boats as grain from the province of Ontario.

No through bills of lading will be issued on Canadian grain exported to European countries, via the port of New York until it has been ascertained that the grain has been properly graded in compliance with these rules. Manitoba grain will be inspected and graded before being forwarded from Winnipeg on the Canadian Pacific railway, or Emerson on the Northern Pacific railroad, and a duplicate certificate of grade from the Canadian government inspectors attached to the way bills.

Grain from the provinces of Quebec and Ontario will be inspected and graded in Canada before passing the frontier, and the cars will be turned over to the trunk lines. Grain so arriving in New York will be placed in the grades established by the Canadian boards of trade and certified by the government inspectors of the Dominion of Canada subject to the same storage and handling charges as domestic grain. The managers further recommend that these rules be also made applicable upon shipments of Canadian grain exported via the ports of Philadelphia or Baltimore, effective June 10, 1897.

Early Construction.

Freight cars in the C. P. R. yards are now being loaded with grading implements, tents, groceries and other supplies for the early construction work on the Crow's Nest Pass railway. It appears that the sub-contractors have been given a "tip," which has caused them to make all preliminary preparations to commencing the work at once. The Fairchild company yesterday loaded four cars of wagons, scrapers etc., and it was learned that their destination was the Crow's Nest Pass line. Several contractors in the city have been showing unwonted energy lately, and although they have nothing to say regarding the cause, it is well understood that it means that work on the line will be commenced as soon as those holding the contracts can get their supplies in the field. It is estimated that nearly \$50,000 was spent recently in the city purchasing supplies.

Creameries in the Territories.

Prof Robertson, Dominion commissioner of agriculture and dairying, who has been on an official tour in the west has returned east. "The main object of my visit to the Northwest," said the commissioner of agriculture, in answer to questions of a Free Press reporter as to his observations on the trip, "was to visit the creameries in the Territories to be managed by the government. After my visit in February agreements were made on behalf of the Dominion government to take charge of sixteen creameries and sixteen tributary cream collecting stations, the agreement in each case being made for a period of three years. The terms, though given in a general way, before, are that where creameries are established the businessmen and farmers of the locality will form butter and cheese associations, which organizations are to provide suitable buildings and water supply, and the farmers agreeing to furnish the milk or cream of not less than 400 cows. When these conditions are met, the government lends the apparatus and utensils for a creamery, and the department undertakes to manufacture butter at these creameries at a charge of 4 cents per lb and for that charge the government meets all expenses from the time the milk or cream is delivered at the creamery until the butter, in packages is put in railway cars. An additional charge of one cent per pound for butter is made by the department to form a loan fund for payment of the plant loaned by the government. At the end of each month the government will make payments to farmers of 10 cents per pound on butter manufactured from cream or milk which they supply."

Seven new creameries are being started according to this plan," continued Prof Robertson "and eight new cream collecting or separating stations tributary to the creameries. In addition to these the department takes charge of nine creameries which had been in operation, but had fallen into financial difficulties, which is too often the fate of pioneer manufacturing ventures. These creameries are located at South Edmonton, Wetaskiwin, Red Deer, Innisfail, Calgary, Maple Creek, Moose Jaw, Regina, Prince Albert, Qu'Appelle, Indian Head, Weyburn, Grenfell, Whitewood, Moosomin and Yorkton. Half of these creameries are now in operation and the remainder will be ready to begin butter making next week. The prospects are for a large make of butter, probably not less than 800,000 lbs. will be made during the season."

"The department has also provided cold storage buildings at Calgary and Revelstoke, chiefly to facilitate the trade in butter, eggs and meats from the Northwest and Manitoba into the Kootenay. Hitherto large quantities of these farm products have come from Spokane Falls. At Revelstoke the new cold storage building, erected by the department, will be placed in charge of a competent expert, and the storage charges will be 10 cents per 100 lbs per month on butter and 5 cents per case or barrel per month on eggs. The expert of the department will not act as commission agent for shippers, but will furnish information to intending shippers in regard to the opening for trade in the Kootenay district, and inquiries may be addressed Superintendent,

cold storage building, Revelstoke, B. C."

"Will this system of cold storage be extended?" asked the reporter.

"The cold storage plans of the department of agriculture are intended to provide improved facilities for farmers in all parts of Canada in handling dairy products, eggs, meats and fruits. At the request of the department the C. P. R. has erected an excellent cold storage building at Winnipeg, to be used for goods in transit. This makes provision for the safe handling of shipments of butter for export through Montreal. Cold storage accommodation is provided on board steamships to give a regular service from Montreal to London, Bristol, Liverpool and Glasgow. Seventeen steamships have been or are to be fitted with the best of mechanical refrigeration, and vessels fully with cold storage chambers and refrigerator plant have been leaving Montreal since the last week in May.

"The department have engaged a special cold storage inspector in Montreal, so that in case any shipments miss a steamer for which intended the inspector will see that the consignments are properly cared for in Montreal till sailing of the next steamer."

In connection with this work Prof. Robertson intimates that he was going to Great Britain at the end of June to bring before chambers of commerce, provision and produce exchanges and board of trade the improved facilities that have been provided for the safe carriage of butter, eggs, poultry, cheese, meats and fruits from Canada, adding that one or two men will be left in Great Britain to canvass for customers for Canadian products, and great and rapid developments are expected to follow from these efforts which supplement the cold storage facilities provided for transportation. Some shipments of butter from government creameries, specially marked, will be sent to Great Britain, and these will call the particular attention of consumers, merchants and farmers to the conditions which exist in the western plains of Canada for the keeping of cattle and following of dairying with success.

"The government creameries," remarked the commissioner of agriculture, "in addition to helping the farmers to get a ready market for the milk or cream which they supply, will advertise the opportunity and resources of the Northwest in the most effective manner."

"In this connection," added Prof Robertson in concluding an interesting interview, "negotiations are in progress with one of the large packing companies of Ontario who desire to make trial shipments during the current year of dressed meats. Special facilities will be provided cars and separate cold storage chambers on a steamship and the shipments will be under the auspices of the department of agriculture in order to secure the widest public notice in Great Britain to the quality of Canadian beef shipped in that way. It is expected by these trial shipments to gain such information as will permit a plan of shipping dressed beef to be applied to Manitoba and the Northwest next year."

"What was the condition of the crops in the Northwest?" inquired the reporter.

"The country from Edmonton to Maple Creek showed rather backward growth of grasses and grains. The weather had been dry on the return journey from Revelstoke I found a long and heavy rain at Banff, that followed, and at Moose Jaw on Tuesday night heavy rain fell. It rained again at Moose Jaw on Thursday night. With the general rain the grain crops will make progress. So far as I could see no damage had been done by dry weather, and the rain came just to the nick of time."

Transfer of Charter

A transaction of great importance to this district has just been closed at Port Arthur, says the Port William Journal, which transfers the charter of the Ontario & Rainy River railway from the first directors to Messrs. W. and R. A. McKenzie of Toronto. The charter was held by Messrs. D. F. Burk, G. O. P. Lavet, J. McTeague, R. E. Mitchell, A. Dwyer and T. A. Gorham, all of Port Arthur, and the new company is one of the largest financial contractors in Canada. Negotiations for this transfer have been going on for some time, and the money has been paid down for the charter by the new company.

It is the intention of the new holders to start work at once with or without a subsidy from the Dominion government, and they will have men on the ground inside of two weeks, making surveys, to be followed immediately by gangs of men grading the road bed, and have the road built as far as the Mattawan Iron range this fall.

Several roads have been projected for the proposed road but none has yet been decided upon, although it is generally believed that it will branch from the P. A. D. & W. at a point near Sand Lake, about 30 miles from here.

British Columbia Railroads.

Ottawa, June 9.—Before the railway committee this morning an extension of time was granted to Trail Creek and Columbia railway company for competition of the line from Robson to Trail, and the right to extend the road west to Kettle River.

Judge Clarke for the C. P. R., said that the company had made arrangements with Mr. Heinze, owner of the Trail Creek road, to take over thirty miles of line from Trail to Robson. There was objection to extending the subsidy to the narrow gauge road, but the bill was finally reported.

An extension of privilege was given to the Columbia and Kootenay company, really controlled by C.P.R., to build from Nelson to Cass Bay, Kootenay Lake and west from Robson to a point on Iron Lake.

Montreal, June 9. Vice-President Shaughnessy, of the C. P. R., said the agreement with the government becomes law the line will be built through the Crow's Nest Pass on the summit of the Rockies by the end and through to Kootenay late in end of next year.