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# BANK OF MONTREAL

ESTABLISHED 1817.

Capital all Paid-up - \$12,000,000  
 Reserve Fund, - 6,000,000  
 Undivided Profits - 886,910

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., President  
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 A. T. Paterson, Esq., Hugh McLeannan, Esq.  
 W. C. McDonald, Esq., R. B. Angus, Esq.  
 Edw. S. Greenfield, Esq., A. F. Gault, Esq.  
 W. W. Ogilvie, Esq.  
 E. S. CLOUSTON, General Manager.

BRANCHES in all the principal cities and towns throughout the Dominion of Canada, and in the following cities:  
 St. John's, Newfoundland, London, Eng., 22 Abchurch Lane, E.C.  
 New York, 59 Wall St. Chicago, 185 La Salle Street

BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

Liverpool—Bank of Liverpool  
 Scotland—British Linen Co. Bank and Branches

WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

A. F. D. MACGACHEN, Manager

# THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL, QUEBEC.

Capital Paid-up - \$6,000,000.00  
 Rest - - - - \$3,000,000.00

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 Jonathan Hodgson, Esq., John Cassis, Esq., H. Montagu Allan, Esq.; J. P. Dawes, Esq.; T. H. Dunn, Esq.; Robt. Mackay, Esq.; Thomas Long, Esq.

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WINNIPEG BRANCH

The Pioneer Bank of the Prairie Province.

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

ARTHUR WICKSON, MANAGER

# UNION BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL PAID-UP, - \$1,500,000  
 RESERVE FUND, - 325,000

HEAD OFFICE, QUEBEC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 D. C. Thomson, Esq., E. J. Hate, Esq.  
 E. Groulx, Esq., Jas. King, Esq., M.P.P.

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 F. E. Webb, General Manager. J. G. Billett, Inspector

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GEORGE BOWLES, Assistant Manager

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Melita, Man.	Holland, Man.	Nease Jaw, N.W.T.
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Carmar, Man.	McKen, Man.	Virden, Man.
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Indian Head, Assa.	McLeod, Alberta.	Girdina, Man.

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Hastings, Ont.	Ottawa, Ont.	Toronto, Ont.
Nerrickville, Ont.	Quebec, Que.	Warton, Ont.
Montreal, Que.	Shelburne, Ont.	Winchester, Ont.

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Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.

Special attention to Confidential business Enquiries.

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

# Imperial Bank of Canada

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

Capital Paid Up - \$2,000,000  
 Reserve - - - - \$1,200,000

DIRECTORS:

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 Wm. Ramsay, Robt. Jeffrey, (St. Catharines)  
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D. E. WHELE, General Manager.

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Brandon, Man.	N. G. Le-Te,
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Calgary, Alta.	St. Morris,
Prince Albert, Sask.	St. Davidson,
Edmonton, Alta.	St. G. B. F. Kirkpatrick, Manager
Edmonton, South, Alta.	A. Jukes, Manager
Vancouver, B. C.	A. R. B. Hearn, Manager
Regina, S. C.	

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St. Catharines, Ont.	Niagara Falls, Ont.
Rat Portage, Ont.	Port Colborne, Ont.
St. Catharines, Ont.	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.
Welland, Ont.	St. Thomas, Ont.
Fergus, Ont.	Woodstock, Ont.
	Montreal, Quebec.

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 Corner Yonge and Queen Street.  
 Corner Yonge and Bloor Street

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WINNIPEG BRANCH.

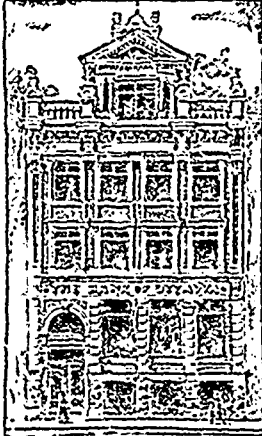
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LETTERS OF CREDIT issued, available in any part of the world.

C. S. HOARE, Manager.

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Head Office, Ottawa.

Capital paid up, \$1,500,000	Rest, \$1,125,000		Capital authorized, \$1,500,000	Capital subscribed, \$1,500,000
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This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

WINNIPEG BRANCH, J. B. MONK, Manager

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Manufacturers of

# Lumber, Shingles and Lath

OAK BASSWOOD, FIR, DOORS, SASH AND PICTURE BACKING

Mills at Rat Portage. Office opposite C. P. R. Passenger Depot, Winnipeg.

Ask for Quotations Drawer 123

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

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Robert Kilgour, Esq., Vice-President.

B. E. Walker, General Manager

J. H. Plummer, Assistant-General Manager.

A. H. Ireland, Inspector.

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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. S. in 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—North Western National Bank. Duluth—First National Bank.

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

Interest allowed on deposits in Savings Dept. Commercial Credits, Travellers' Credits and Circular Notes issued for use in all parts of the world.

Debentures Purchased.

A General Banking Business transacted.

F. H. MATHEWSON, Manager.

# BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

ESTABLISHED 1836.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER IN 1810.

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

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 H. Stukeman, General Manager.  
 J. Emsly, Inspector.

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Brantford	London	St. John	Slocan, B.C.
Fredericton	Montreal	Toronto	Trail (sub-agency)
Halifax	Ottawa	Naslo, B.C.	Vancouver, B.C.
Hamilton		Roseland, B.C.	Victoria "

WINNIPEG, Main Street—N. Bayly, Manager

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New York—52 Wall Street, W. Lawson and J. C. Welsh  
 San Francisco—121 Sanson St. H. M. J. McMichael and J. R. Ambrose.

London Bankers—The Bank of England—Messrs. Glyn & Co. Foreign Agents Liverpool Bank of Liverpool Australia. Union Bank of Australia New Zealand Union Bank of Australia, India, China and Japan Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China Agria Bank Limited West Indies. Colonial Bank Paris Messrs. Marechal Krass et Cie Lyons. Credit Lyonnais Scotland National Bank of Scotland, Ltd. and branches. Ireland Provincial Bank of Ireland, Ltd. and branches. National Bank, Limited, and branches.

# DOMINION BANK

CAPITAL (PAID UP) - \$1,500,000  
 RESERVE FUND - 1,500,000

Hon. Sir Frank Smith, Pres., E. B. Osler, Vice-Pres.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

R. D. GAMBLE, GENERAL MANAGER

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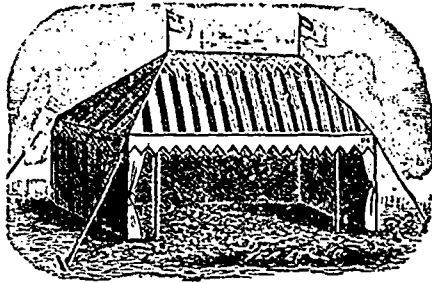
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MOULDINGS, ETC.**

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

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During this Fall and Winter, and for the future, we will be headquarters for all kinds of Mineral, Medicated and Table Waters, including

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Wholesale Druggists, Winnipeg

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## Ed. Guilbault Tin Box Manufacturer

I manufacture, stamp and lithograph all descriptions of Tin Boxes, Butter Cans, Lard Pails, Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee and Spice Cans, etc. Special quotations to large Fish Canneries, Tea Packers, etc.

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WRAPPING PAPER  
BAGS, TWINE, ETC.

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Winnipeg, Man.  
P.O. Box 1240

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### SLEEPING BAGS

ARCTIC Caps  
and Hoods

Also a Splended Range of Mackinaw Goods

Our Sleeping Bags are the Warmest and best made

Waterproof and Frost Preventing.

**W. E. SANFORD MFG. CO., Limited**  
WINNIPEG HAMILTON  
MAN. ONT.

## The Western Loan & Trust Co. LIMITED

Incorporated by Special Act of the Legislature.

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Subscribed Capital, - \$2,201,200.00

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W. Barclay Stephens, Esq. R. Frenontaine, Esq., M. P.  
R. W. Knight, Esq., John Hoodless, Esq.  
J. N. Greenshields, Esq., Q.C. W. L. Hogg, Esq.

### OFFICERS

Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, Pres. Wm. Strachan, Esq. Vice-Pres.  
J. W. Michaud, Esq., Accountant W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., Mgr  
Solicitor—Messrs. Greenshields & Greenshields.  
Bankers—The Merchants Bank of Canada.

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For further particulars address the manager

**CROTTY & CROSS, AGENTS, WINNIPEG**

# THE COMMERCIAL

A Journal of Commerce, Industry, Finance and Insurance, 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.

Sixteenth Year of Publication

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY

SUBSCRIPTION, CANADA AND UNITED STATES, \$1.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE OR \$2.25 WHEN NOT SO PAID; OTHER COUNTRIES, \$2.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

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

Advertisements purporting to be news matter, or which profess to express the opinions of this Journal, will not be inserted.

Office: 151 McDermot Street.

D. W. BUCHANAN,  
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, MARCH 5, 1898.

## REDUCED FLOUR RATES

The reduction of 20 to 25 cents per 100 pounds on flour from Winnipeg and common points to British Columbia points will prove specially welcome to Manitoba millers at the present time. It is a well known fact to those familiar with the grain trade (the agitators to the contrary notwithstanding) that wheat usually brings a considerably higher price, comparatively, in Manitoba than in the agricultural districts of the Pacific coast states. Owing to the low prices prevailing for wheat in those states, the millers of Oregon and Washington states have been able to supply a large part of the flour trade of British Columbia and the Klondike. They have also the advantage of low water freights. Since the reduction in the duty on flour last June, the Manitoba millers have had a very hard fight to maintain a hold in the British Columbia markets, and at times they have been compelled to sell flour at an actual loss, or else withdraw from the field. The present reduction in rates will help the millers here to the extent of 20 to 25 cents per barrel.

The reduction in wheat freight rates from Manitoba eastward, of course, has the effect of advancing the price of wheat in Manitoba, compared with wheat prices in the Pacific coast states, thus making it more difficult for our millers to compete with Pacific coast millers in British Columbia markets.

## THE INTERIOR ROUTE

It seems necessary to correct an erroneous impression in connection with the visit of a delegation representing the Winnipeg board of trade, to Eastern Canada in the interest of opening an interior route to Yukon. The newspapers have generally spoken of the delegation as advocating the Edmonton route. When the matter was under discussion at the meeting of the board here, it was distinctly understood that the board did not advocate any particular route, or any particular starting point. What the board and the delegation advocated was the opening of a route from some point on the North Saskatchewan, in the discretion of the government. In speaking of the action of the board and the delegation, the newspapers have concluded that this meant the Edmonton route, and have spoken of it in this way, thereby placing the board in a wrong position.

## THE KLONDIKE FEVER

The rush to the Klondike is one of the most remarkable movements within the memory of the generation now passing away. It is also likely to prove one of the most disastrous movements of a like period. That there will be a vast amount of suffering and a considerable loss of life in connection with the rush to the northern gold region is quite certain. This is a deplorable fact that is already being verified.

Probably a large majority of those who are going to the Yukon territory have but the faintest idea of the nature of the country. Many more have no knowledge whatever of the requirements of a northern country. They are, by their past mode of life and their surroundings, quite unfitted to face the rigors of an arctic climate, even if they had the knowledge necessary to the proper protection of themselves in such a country. Thousands of those going to the north country have come from warm climates, some direct from tropical countries. Such people cannot be expected to endure the changed conditions to good advantage.

Besides the severe climate, the rough and inaccessible nature of the country is sure to lead to great hardship. The region cannot be reached under the most favorable circumstances without undergoing considerable personal discomfort and hardship. Added to this the great difficulty of getting in supplies necessary to provide for the people who are being attracted to the region, is a most serious question.

The amount of hardship, destitution and suffering which is almost certain to be experienced in connection with this Klondike business, is likely to be

far greater than many people at present realize. The people of Canada will undoubtedly have a serious problem on their hands a few months hence in providing for and bringing out many of the ill-guided ones who go to the Klondike region. If the country were readily accessible, the climatic disadvantages would not be of such importance. But in a rough, rugged, wild and largely unexplored arctic region, lying a long distance in the interior, the situation will be serious for those who become stranded there, as thousands undoubtedly will. The cost of living must of necessity be very great, even for such accommodation as can be had in such a country.

A good many who start for the northern gold regions will never get there. Some will find the expense of outfitting beyond their means. Some will give up the effort from physical inability to endure the hardships of the trip, as a number have already done. Some will drop by the wayside to rise no more. Thousands will become stranded for lack of means, after they do reach the Klondike region, and something will have to be done for these people, to provide for them and bring them back to civilization.

Why many of these people are going to this region is something which cannot be well understood. They would hardly be able to tell themselves if they were asked. They imagine in some vague sort of a way that they may make a strike, but how they know not. There will not be work for them even if they wanted work; but people do not go into a wilderness to look for work. As for getting gold, the rich gold strikes so far discovered have no doubt all been taken up, and there will be no chance for those going now to secure claims unless a number of new fields are discovered, and even then only a few would be likely to secure claims. There is likely to be more money spent in getting there than will be taken out, at the rate inexperienced persons are rushing to the Yukon country.

At the same time, for practical prospectors and mining men, who know how to provide for and take care of themselves in a northern country, there are no doubt prospects for making some good strikes. It is not necessary to go direct to the Klondike to prospect for gold. There are likely to be just as good strikes in any part of the great gold belt from Cariboo northward and eastward. In fact it would seem to be the best plan for practical prospectors to keep away from the crush entirely, and after providing necessary supplies, to strike directly into the gold territory at the nearest point and begin the search for new finds. Each new strike

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Desire to inform the trade that they have entered the field as manufacturers of

### Pure High-Class CONFECTIONERY

Dealers in CHRISTIE, BROWN & CO'S Unequalled BISCUITS and respectfully solicit a share of the business.

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Hutchings & McLellan, Prince Albert, Sask.  
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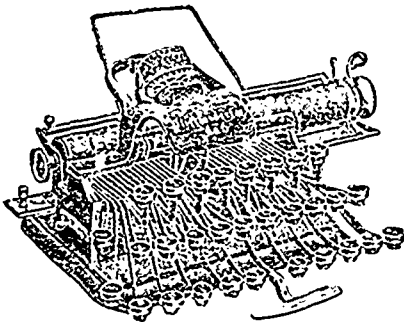
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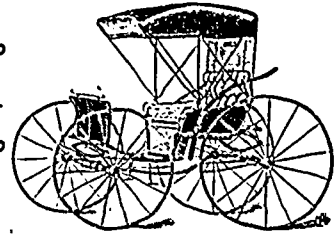
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will provide claims for but a limited number of persons, and prospects would seem to be better in a new district than at the Klondike, overrun as it already is. The gold territory stretches out for many hundreds of miles, and there is a vast region to prospect in without all rushing to one point, and that about the most accessible district in the whole gold-bearing region, stretching from the Kootenay to the Arctic Ocean.

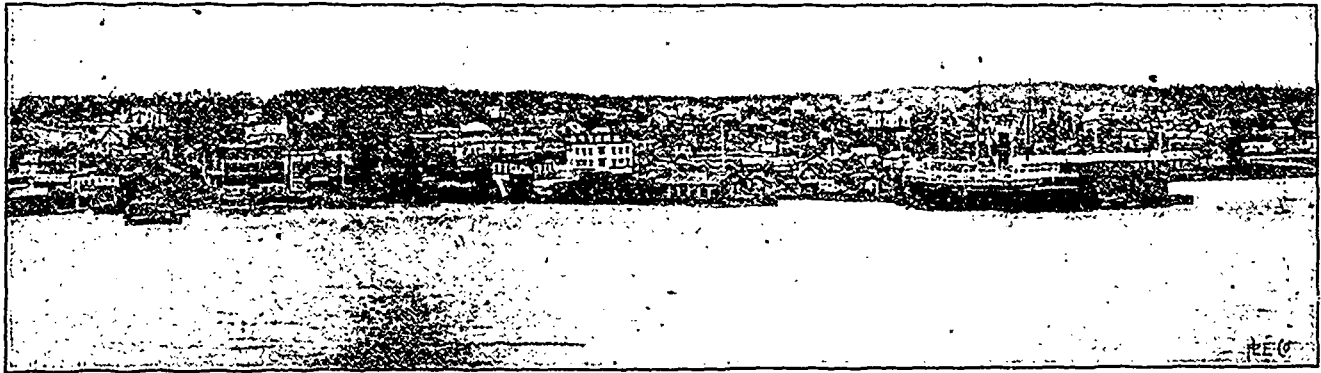
## PORT ARTHUR

THE COMMERCIAL VISITS THE TOWN  
BY THE LAKE.

Before the day of railways in the west, there was a considerable town at the head of the lakes, naturally, because by water was the only means of transport, and this point was a terminus. Later on, its position as the starting point of the first section of the C. P. R. west to the Red River settlements, gave the town an increased importance, and it grew and flourished as the green bay tree. It

for there is a large shipping trade between here and points on the lakes, on both the Canada and United States coasts. The traffic with silver and other mines is a large and rapidly growing factor in Port Arthur's sum total of trade. So many prospectors and mine owners and others interested in mines, chat and compare notes about the hotels and public places that one is reminded of the mine-struck town of Rat Portage. In many little ways one is reminded, too, that this is in Ontario, though this is the first point east of Winnipeg that is not thoroughly western. A strong point for the future of the town is the increase of farming settlement on the crown lands of the Ontario government, in the vicinity of Port Arthur. This will in time be of recognized importance and the wonder is that the town council and board of trade of Port Arthur are not moving steadily and persistently in the matter of inducing a more rapid and general settlement of the really good agricultural districts still open for occupation in the Thunder Bay district. There have been some townships opened and one or two of these are pretty well taken up. For forty miles in three different directions, northeast along the main line of the C. P. R., south along the lake and southwest on the line of the P. A., D. & W. railway are large areas

and comfortable houses. The immense Northern hotel is being kept open this winter, and there are several other smaller hotels. There are quite a number of very good business books in the town, and many of them are brick. The appearance of the place could be much improved by the demolition and removal of the ruins of two or three partly burned buildings, left standing in prominent places. One of the leading and most attractive stores is the Bazaar, owned by J. L. Meikle & Co. It is a large place and the stock of stationery, fancy articles, ornaments, musical instruments, etc., is enormous. The variety is endless and the shop is a very attractive place. A large business in souvenirs of all kinds is done. The firm is the same which has the large music store in Winnipeg. Vigars Bros. sawmill and planing mill, have a good business and turn out a large quantity of lumber every year. They get most of their logs in by rail on the P. A., D. & W. railway. This road is built for 100 miles in a southwesterly direction to the United States boundary and is expected to connect there in the near future with a road from Duluth. It is also the hope of Port Arthur people that the new Ontario and Rainy River road, for which the provincial government granted aid last year, will be set going in the near future.



PORT ARTHUR LOOKING FROM THE BAY

was called Prince Arthur's Landing then. Its name was changed to Port Arthur, and the prospects were that a future of rapid growth was before it. The completion of the through line of the C. P. R. had a great effect in cutting off the trade and stopping the growth of the town. To-day there are buildings and good ones to let in the town and little building has been done for a long time. But there is still a prosperous future for the town, in spite of the rapid rise of the rival town of Fort William, only four miles away. Indeed the prosperity of the one reflects to the benefit of the other and both are destined to become important in the business of the country. Port Arthur has a magnificent and commanding location as a town. The town stands upon a splendid slope, the business streets running close to the edge of the lake and the higher situations crowned with trees being occupied as residential sites. From the lake the town presents a striking and picturesque aspect, by day, or night. And from the town there is a splendid view across the lovely harbor, with pretty islands in the nearer foreground, and the dark mass of Thunder Cape on the distant horizon.

The harbor, with long lines of docks, and piers jutting into the water, is a busy scene in the shipping season,

of available lands, partly open, partly wooded, with plenty of hay, water and fuel, and any sort of grain or vegetables can be grown. Dairying, too, can be successfully carried on and a high market for any produce is always sure for large quantities of dairy and farm produce, vegetables, meat, etc., are yearly imported from both east and west. The crown lands' agent, J. F. Ruttan, and the crown timber agent, Hugh Munro, both well informed gentlemen, speak very highly of the resources and capabilities of the district from an agricultural point of view. The land is free grant with very favorable terms of settlement.

Merchants in Port Arthur feel very well satisfied with the past season's business, mining had a decided boom this year. The number of summer visitors, always considerable, was very large last season, and the feature is gaining importance every year. Some changes have occurred in the past year. The Marks-Clavel-Doble Co., is a departmental aggregation of large proportions taking the place of the three firms whose names appear in the combination, Downing & Co. have purchased the liquor business of T. Marks & Co.

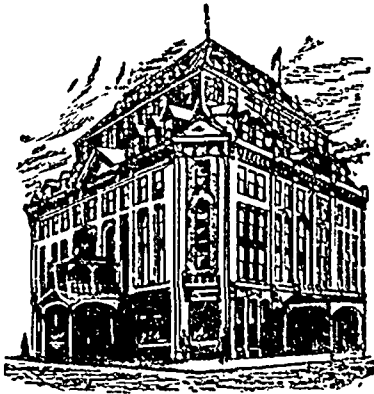
The Algoma hotel, Merrill & Hodder, proprietors, is a very convenient

The town takes considerable pardonable pride in its electric plant, both lighting and street railway. Here too the wise plan of municipal ownership of franchises obtains. The electric railway is a great convenience in the town, and as a line runs not only to West Fort William, but right through to West Fort William, the towns enjoy easy and free communication at low cost. In December the service was interrupted by the burning of the barn with all the cars in it. Stages were put on and a car brought from the east with all speed. A very fine one was received, handsomely finished and fitted, and with the modern improvement of electric heaters.

The creamery at Saltcoats, Assa., will be run as a government creamery this year.

Inspector Tupper, in his report on Manitoba fisheries, says: "The southern part of Lake Manitoba has been extensively fished during the summer, and unless closely guarded, will become depleted. Now that railway communication extends to Lake Winnipegosis, there will be a great rush to it. Many fishermen, formerly on Lake of the Woods, are now seeking licenses thereto."

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### Floriculture in Winnipeg.

The extent to which the cultivation of plants and flowers is carried on in Winnipeg is hardly imagined by many who think that because our climate is cold and our winters somewhat long, our citizens cannot indulge their love of flowers very much. Winnipeg has made wonderful progress within a few years in lawn garden and street improvements, in the line of cultivating shade trees, shrubbery, and outdoor plants. A great many trees, shrubs and perennial plants have been found perfectly hardy in our climate, while there is no lack of native wild varieties of trees, shrubs, vines and climbers, which are very suitable for garden, lawn and street cultivation.

The fact that Winnipeg supports several large greenhouses, is an indication that considerable business must be done in the flower and plant line. The best known of these greenhouses is that of Richard Alston, located right in the heart of the city. Mr. Alston has no less than 10,000



feet of glass in his greenhouse. The cut given herewith show a view in one of the seven compartments of his greenhouse here. Winter's cold does not affect the wealth of bloom which may here be seen at any time. On the coldest day in mid-winter a visit to the greenhouse will disclose a perfect bewilderment of plant life, as the visitor would go through the long passages, surrounded on every side by flowers innumerable, giving the impression that one had suddenly been dropped down into a tropical garden.

Mr. Alston has also established a nursery at St. James, in the suburbs of the city, where he has 8,000 feet of glass for the cultivation of plants, and growing flower and garden seeds. In the seed line he is now working into a large trade. Such useful varieties as small fruits are cultivated at his nursery, as well as vegetable seeds, so that the business takes in the practical as well as the ornamental side of the nursery business. He has recently issued a very handsome il-

lustrated catalogue descriptive of his plants, seeds, etc.

The mechanical work of this handsome catalogue was all executed in Winnipeg, by the E. W. Rugg company, showing that it is not necessary to send east for first-class work of this kind.

### Lower Freight Rates to British Columbia.

At a meeting of the Grain Exchange Tuesday morning Secretary Beil, submitted the following report on the results of his recent mission to Ottawa:

Gentlemen,—Having been directed by you to proceed to Ottawa and such other eastern cities as it might prove necessary to visit in order to represent the exchange in certain matters, I now beg to report as follows

I had interviews with the minister and commissioner of inland revenue, and succeeded in having a bill prepared amending the act regulating the

that a good case was made out by the exchange and board. The finance minister stated that while he could not give any decision before submitting it to the house, the situation of the oatmeal millers in the western part of Canada, would be fully considered. The opinion that some measure of relief would be given was general amongst the members constituting the delegation.

I was favored with several opportunities to discuss the matter of improvements for Fort William harbor with the Hon. Mr. Tarte, minister of public works. On my way down to Ottawa I had the advantage of discussing this subject with Mr. George Graham, of Fort William, who has for some years undertaken the work of breaking the ice in the fall season at that place. Mr. Graham suggested to me that information on several points should be laid before the minister, which proved to be of service. I had in conjunction with Mr. Bole, a conference with Mr. Coste, chief engineer of the department of public works, and again on two occasions with the minister who promised that attention would be given to the detailed requests of the exchange, and that he would at once take up the matter of the improvements, being desirous that facilities at Fort William should meet the necessities of the trade. At his request, before leaving Ottawa, I placed in writing the points urged by the exchange, and can only report that the minister promised action.

Under the instructions given by the exchange and board of trade acting together, Mr. Bole and I had an interview with Mr. Shaughnessy, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific railway company in Montreal on the 18th of Feb., and urged that the prevailing rates in flour and millstuffs from Manitoba points to the Pacific coast and Kootenay districts should be at once rendered in order to enable our millers to compete for trade. It was pointed out that each reduction made of late years and to be made under the Crow's Nest Pass railway tended to make wheat more costly in Manitoba, which increased the cost of the flour to the millers and others told against them in the coast trade when no reduction was made in the freight rates west bound. It was also urged that a very large quantity of American flour from Oregon and Washington had been imported into British Columbia under cheap ocean freight rates during the previous month and the Manitoba millers could not fairly compete for the trade under such circumstances. Mr. Shaughnessy and Mr. Bosworth discussed the situation with us very fully and showed every disposition to meet the situation, and I have pleasure in reporting that after consultation with Mr. Robt. Kerr, traffic manager, of this city, that the Montreal officials notified us that the flour rates were reduced to the extent of from 20 to 25 cents per barrel from Winnipeg, and the same group points, to Kootenay, Vancouver and Victoria points. Freight tariffs have since been issued to the trade giving the lower rates to the various points affected.

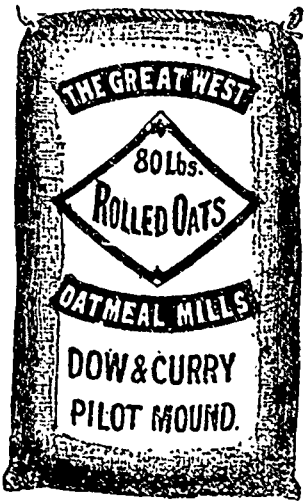
Several matters of minor importance relating to exchange business were attended to in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa.

I beg to bring to the attention of the exchange the assistance rendered me as your delegate at Ottawa by the Manitoba members, especially by Mr. R. W. Jamieson, M. P., our city representative.

legal weight of grain, so that the weight of a bushel of flax seed shall be 56 pounds, which is the commercial weight, and on which quotations and transactions now actually made, instead of 50 pounds as defined by the act, as it now stands. The minister will introduce the bill himself. This will remedy what has become a nuisance to buyer and seller alike.

In company with Mr. Bole, delegate of the Winnipeg board of trade, I waited on the Hon. Mr. Paterson, minister of customs, and afterwards, at his request on the minister of finance, Hon. Mr. Fielding, Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon. Mr. Paterson. On the latter occasion, the following western members joined with us, viz: Messrs. R. W. Jamieson, M. P., Dr. Rutherford, M. P.; Dr. Douglas, M. P., and Frank Oliver, M. P. The request of this exchange and the Winnipeg board of trade that the duty on oats and oatmeal should be equalized, was presented and discussed, at length by all present, the minister admitting that an anomaly existed, and





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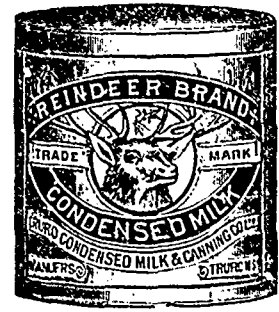
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### Report of the Delegates.

A special meeting of the board of trade was held Wednesday afternoon to receive the reports of the delegates to Ottawa. Mr. D. W. Bole, representing the board of trade; Mr. Bole and Mr. C. N. Bell, the Grain Exchange, and the same with Major Andrews, representing the city, in connection with the questions of the improvement of the navigation of the Red River at the St. Andrew's rapids; the construction of a wagon road through the Peace River country to the Yukon this season; freight rates on flour; equalization of duties on oats and oatmeal, and other matters.

The members present were: Messrs. A. M. Nanton, president; K. MacKenzie, D. D. Wood, W. Georgeson, J. A. Givlin, F. W. Thompson, A. Strang, G. F. Carruthers, J. Galt, E. L. Drewry, John Russell, K. D. Richardson, D. W. Bole, F. W. Stobart, C. A. Baskerville, Gaughan, J. Y. Griffin, W. E. Perdue, W. R. Baker, T. D. Robinson, C. S. Richardson, A. C. Archibald, N. Bagly, McGachan, D. G. McBean, J. B. Buckle, C. H. Steele, D. Horn, E. A. Mott, H. S. Crotty, R. Muir, H. E. Sharpe, S. Nairn, S. Spink and J. S. Atkins.

Mr. Nanton, in opening the meeting, thanked the board for the honor of an election as president and expressed his sense of the importance of the position.

Mr. Bole read his report as representative of the board of trade, which was as follows:

Gentlemen,—I beg to present to you my report as your representative appointed to attend to certain matters in the east.

#### MANITOBA'S EXPORT STATISTICS.

I waited on the Hon. Wm. Paterson, minister of customs, and explained to him that the statistics of Manitoba's exports, as now published in the trade and navigation reports, were a positive injury to the country, showing as they did, that but a few cattle and a paltry amount of grain was exported from this province.

The minister acknowledged that all returns to be valuable should be accurate, and that a great injustice was done to Manitoba. He called in the commissioner and the chief of statistical branch, and it was agreed that the matter should be corrected. The plan likely to be adopted will be a foot note giving in detail the actual exports from Manitoba and the Northwest Territories of cattle and grain. It is likely this board will be called upon to furnish a statement covering these items each year.

Dr. Rutherford, M. P., happening to be with the minister when we called on him, assisted us in every way possible.

#### INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS.

This matter which was fully explained in the board's last annual report, was taken up with the Hon. David Mills, minister of justice; Mr. Jamieson, M. P., having arranged for the interview. After discussing the subject, the minister informed us that he would at once look into the draft bill, which was presented to him by the board, and confer with his deputy, when, if they found that the rate of six per cent. interest on judgments did not fully apply in the case of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, as it does in the other provinces, he would take charge of the bill himself. The minister gave assurance that he desired to assist the board.

#### INSOLVENCY LEGISLATION.

The Hon. David Mills, minister of justice, was interviewed on the subject also and he said that there was no likelihood that there would be insolvency legislation introduced by the government at this session of parliament. During the interview the minister expressed a keen interest in the Manitoba Assignment act and its working, and requested that

the board forward a copy of the act to him.

#### WINNIPEG'S VACANT LANDS.

The deputation interviewed the Hon. Mr. Sifton in connection with the settlement of the vacant lands in the vicinity of Winnipeg, and asked for the assistance of the officers of his department situated in Winnipeg. The details of a proposition made to this board by Immigration Commissioner McCreary to allow the government land guides here to show intending settlers the vacant lands for sale, were discussed with the minister, who asked that the proposition be made in writing. He expressed himself as favorable to any assistance that his officers could afford.

#### MAILS ON N. P. PORTAGE BRANCH.

It being learned that Dr. Rutherford, M. P., and John A. Macdonell, M. P., had practically completed a arrangement with the postmaster general that mails should be carried by train over the Portage branch of the N. P. railway, between Winnipeg and Portage in Prairie, no action was taken by your delegates further than to draw Dr. Rutherford's attention to the fact that petitions from residents along this railroad had been sent to this board and duly forwarded to the postmaster general, with a strong recommendation that their prayers be granted.

Mr. C. N. Bell, although the accredited representative of the Grain Exchange, joined me in all the interviews above referred to, and rendered valuable assistance.

I wish to acknowledge the great assistance rendered the deputation by Mr. Jamieson, M. P., and other western members.

Mr. Bole had hopes that, although the government had proposed to go no farther this year than to make a survey of the interior route to the Yukon, they would as a result of the strong representations made, proceed with the opening up of the road next summer. The delegates pointed out that it would be very unfortunate if nothing more were done than making surveys, as the rush would be four or five times greater this year than any subsequent year. As to the St. Andrew's rapids improvements, it is not, and was not the intention of the Dominion government to construct this as a public work. The proposition finally submitted to the council and passed was very practicable. First, the government would get interest out of the investment; secondly, the city would get a profit on the power, obtaining it at \$20 and selling it for say \$40; and thirdly, the manufacturers would get cheaper power than ever before. As to the possibility of the power not being constant, Mr. Coste showed that that danger could be entirely overcome by means of auxiliary power, at an additional cost of \$10,000 or \$15,000.

Mr. Drewry seconded the adoption of the report, which Mr. Bole moved. He considered the report very carefully prepared, and very full; it bore out his opinion that the interests of the board could not have been placed in better hands. The delegation had certainly done everything possible in the interests of the country. No delegation ever sent to Ottawa had been more important, or had ever accomplished its end more expeditiously and well than the present one. He was satisfied that many things which had been laid before the government would be carried into effect, notably the opening of some interior route, in which the board is now backed up by eastern boards.

In answer to M. A. Strang, Mr. Bole said quite a number of petitions had been received from municipalities near Winnipeg, and duplicates had been sent to Ottawa.

Capt. Carruthers said the feeling had been in the past that the improvement should be a government work entirely, and nothing had been done. The city had been losing large sums by the work remaining undone. Would the board now accept a reasonable business proposition whereby there would be no loss to the city, but everything would be gain. The results that had accrued from the delegation had been most satisfactory.

Mr. F. W. Thompson observed that his firm had already had sales enough of flour to show the wisdom of having sent the delegates down. Since the reduction of freight rates the firm had sold over 5,000 bushels of flour that could not have been sold otherwise. The millers west of Fort William thanked the delegates and the board very heartily for the work done.

The resolution passed by the city council was read by the secretary, Mr. C. N. Bell.

Mr. Nairn heartily endorsed the resolution as to Red River improvements. The government were now in a position to say whether they were going to do the work or not. All felt that this was a work the government should undertake. The delegation should be thanked very heartily. He understood there was a favorable chance of getting the matter of equalization of duties on oats and oatmeal put right.

On motion of Capt. Carruthers, it was unanimously resolved that this board endorse very heartily the resolution passed by the city council re the dam and water power at St. Andrew's rapids, namely: (There follows the resolution as already published.)

On motion of Mr. Stobart, seconded by Mr. Strang, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the boards of trade in the east who had so very heartily co-operated with the delegates for their courteous treatment and great assistance rendered.

Mr. Bole, in reference to the interior route to the Yukon, said that in Toronto and other cities they had found a strong favor of going further than a wagon road, and urging the construction of a railroad; but the delegates had refused to entertain that proposition. It had been found elsewhere that placer mining only lasted two to five years, and a railroad could not be completed in less than five years. If a large population should be attracted by other inducements a railroad could be built later.

Mr. Bell said the delegates had laid stress upon the value of the road from an immigration standpoint. It was too generally believed that Manitoba was on the very verge of the habitable and cultivable portion of North America, with one foot on wheat fields and the other on snow and ice. If that idea could be removed and it were shown that grain was shipped from the Peace River country, one glance at the area would do more than any possible description from settlers.

Mr. Bole further said that the ministers appeared to recognize the anomaly of the duty of 100 per cent. more on imported oats to make a given quantity of oatmeal than upon the same quantity of oatmeal imported. The opinion was prevalent in the east that the Winnipeg Board of Trade was opposed to insolvency legislation. On every occasion the delegates took the opportunity of correcting that impression and showing that they only opposed anything that was not as good as our assignment law, and that the bills previously brought up had

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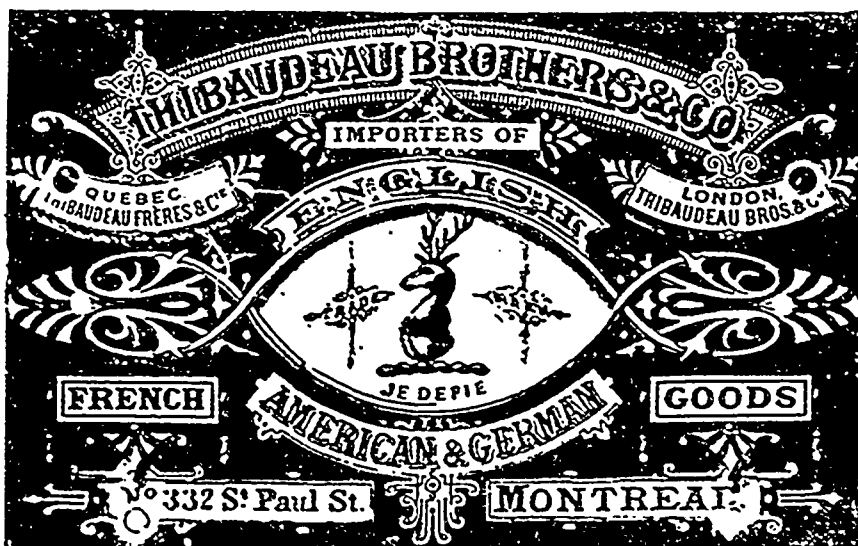
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ADDRESS:

THE COMMERCIAL

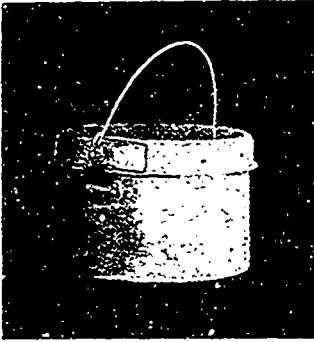
been too cumbersome and expensive in their working out in this province. No insolvency legislation would be introduced this session unless by a private member, and in that event it would not be endorsed by the government unless it could be shown to be in the interest of all.

Before the meeting closed brief reference was made to the settlement of vacant lands around Winnipeg, and Capt. Carruthers brought up the matter of improving the main thoroughfares leading out into the adjoining municipalities. The secretary showed that the board had already put itself emphatically on record on these questions.

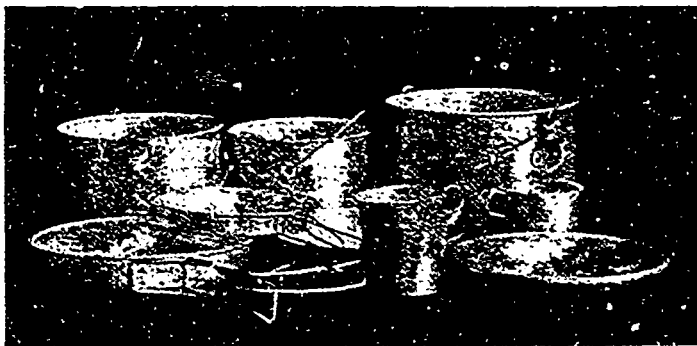
The board then adjourned.

### A Large Canadian Industry.

The Thomas Davidson Manufacturing Company of Montreal are making a strong effort through their western representatives, Merrick, Anderson & Co., of Winnipeg, and John Burns, Jr. of Vancouver, as well as from headquarters in Montreal, to secure to Canada what rightly belongs to her in the way of trade in their



particular line, including tinware, enamelled ware, sheetiron goods, etc. This firm has lately been putting on the market several entirely new lines of goods for miners' use; the accompanying illustration shows an aluminum camping outfit ready for use, and nested for packing, the set is composed of one 8 quart pail, 10 1-2 diameter, 6 1-2 deep; one 6 quart pail 9 diameter, 5 1-2 deep; one 4 quart



pail 8 diameter, 5 deep; 3, 4 or 6 cups, 3 3-4x3 deep (with loose handle to nest); 3, 4 or 6 plates, 9 diameter. The whole set packs in the large pail and the total weight for complete outfit for six men is 3 lbs. 5 ozs. (size 10 1-2x6 1-2 inches), the covers for all the pails are suitable for frying pans, stew pans, etc., being supplied with folding handles.

In addition to their many new lines they have revived and remodelled a folding camp and cook stove, something after the style that was used in years past by the trappers in the Quebec and Three Rivers districts. This is very suitable for the Klondike trade. They have got out a special catalogue of miners supplies, which will be sent to any dealer who may enquire for it.

The company has filled large orders for the west, some of them have come through San Francisco and Chicago wholesale houses, which show that the United States firms appreciate the fact that Canada is the place to buy their supplies for the Yukon, although their newspapers and railway companies do not say so.

The business of the Thomas Davidson Manufacturing company increased enormously within the last few years until today their works cover two blocks of buildings having a floor area of about 9 3-4 acres, and they are still pressed for room. They employ between 500 and 600 hands (a little town in itself). The firm was established in 1860 by the late Thomas Davidson, and incorporated in 1895. The management is progressive and believe in keeping their customers supplied with new goods and "trade catches" and it is their effort to lead and have their customers keep ahead of their competitors.

### The Railway War.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—The Canadian Pacific Railway company have prepared the following statement of their case with the Grand Trunk: The Canadian Pacific has a system of lines of railway in Ontario radiating from Toronto. The only connection between these lines and its main line is via Smiths Falls and Carleton Place. The Grand Trunk owns a line from Toronto northward to a connection with the Canadian Pacific near North Bay on Lake Nipissing, a distance of 223 miles, while the Canadian Pacific distance from Toronto around by way of Smiths Falls is 144 miles. The saving in distance offered by the Grand Trunk line led to an agreement ten years ago whereby the freight traffic collected by the Canadian Pacific on its various lines in Ontario west of Peterborough and destined to points reached by the lines of the Canadian Pacific west of Lake Nipissing, and

freight traffic coming from the western parts of the Canadian Pacific and destined to points on the Ontario lines of the Canadian Pacific west of Peterborough, should be hauled at a car load rate over the Toronto-North Bay section of the Grand Trunk, all of this freight being controlled by the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk having no claim upon it. As regards

this freight the Grand Trunk had simply to hitch on to the cars at one end of its line and haul them to the other, having to bear no part of the expense of collecting, distributing or shunting, nor to pay for the use of cars or to furnish any cars. The "car haul" rate covering this traffic was fixed by a prominent United States railway president of large experience in traffic matters, who was agreed upon as arbitrator. The through rate for all passenger traffic and for freight traffic to and from Grand Trunk lines in Ontario were divided on agreed percentages, but the Grand Trunk was not bound to send any of its own traffic to the Canadian Pacific at North Bay. It was free to send its own traffic by way of Chicago, and it notoriously favored the Chicago route even in cases where it lost money by doing so. The "car haul" rate fixed by the arbitrator was \$14 per car load of 24,000 pounds, and six cents per hundred pounds for any excess of that weight. This afforded the Grand Trunk average earnings of about \$16 per car on all Canadian Pacific freight hauled—certainly better earnings than it got on the bulk of the United States freight carried from that time to this and for which the Grand Trunk had to furnish cars or pay for their use and had also to bear the whole or greater part of the expense of collecting, distributing and shunting. The "car haul" rate as fixed ten years ago has not been reduced, notwithstanding the large shrinkage in railway rates which has occurred since that time.

The Grand Trunk company terminated the North Bay agreement by notice, taking effect on 1st February, demanding among the conditions of its continuance an increase of 50 per cent in the "car haul" rate and demanding half the passenger traffic for the Chicago route. For the past twelve years, or ever since the opening of its line north of Lake Superior, the Canadian Pacific has quoted especially low rates for land seekers and immigrants to the Canadian Northwest for the purpose of encouraging the development of that part of the country and to prevent their diversion to the western states en route, a matter from which Canadian interests suffered so seriously prior to the opening of the all Canadian line to Winnipeg.

During the life of the agreement the propriety of this rate was not questioned by the Grand Trunk before the advent of the present management and its proportion of rate was accepted for its line between Ontario points and North Bay without question. The statement concerning the diversion of settlers en route to the Canadian Northwest is verified by the following extract from the recent application of the Grand Trunk Northern Pacific Great Northern and other railway companies to the interstate commerce commission at Washington for a suspension of the long and short haul of the interstate commerce act, so that these lines might be free to strike the Canadian Pacific without hurting themselves. This extract is the very basis of the application, and it should not be forgotten that the Grand Trunk Railway company of Canada was a party to it. "That, prior to the completion of the C. P. R. between the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, the petitioners' lines enjoyed the whole of a large passenger traffic between these provinces, much of which traffic was composed of settlers who were seeking homes in the Northwest. Many of the passengers so



# J. & T. BELL

MANUFACTURERS OF FINE

## BOOTS AND SHOES

Factory: Inspector Street, - MONTREAL, QUE.

L. GODBOLT, WESTERN AGENT, WINNIPEG, MAN.

# GRANBY RUBBER COMPANY

Full Line Lumberman's Gum Goods and Snow Excluders

Fine Jersey Goods in Men's Women's, Misses' and Children's

See our New Frieze Top Heavy Gum Overshoe—The best in the market

OUR TRAVELLERS WILL HAVE FULL LINE SAMPLES ON THE ROAD  
IN APRIL AND MAY

THE AMES HOLDEN CO., LTD., SOLE AGENTS

COMPLETE STOCK OF RUBBER GOODS CARRIED IN WINNIPEG

GRANULAR

# Ogilvie's Hungarian FLOUR

CREAMY

HAS NO EQUAL

HAS NO EQUAL

**S**TANDS 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. Stands unrivalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED

## W. H. MALKIN & CO.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Dealers in

### BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS

Choice California and Local Fruits

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

TRY US.

## J. & A. CLEARHUE

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 Soaps, Woodstock, Ont; Teller, Rathwell Co., Montreal, Parisian Washing Blue. We have a large cool warehouse with good facilities for handling butter and produce in quantities. Consignments received in all lines. Correspondence solicited.

HIDES  WOOL

**NORTHWEST  
HIDE CO.**

HERMAN TELKE,  
Manager

230 KING ST.  
WINNIPEG, MAN.  
TELEPHONE 450

**FUR TALLOW**

HONEST WEIGHT GUARANTEED

carried by the United States lines found inducements to settle in Minnesota and other Northwestern states. With the low rates established by the C. P. R. on the competition of its through line north of Lake Superior, the United States lines could not compete therefor without demoralizing their intermediate rates or sustaining great loss of needed revenue, and, as a result, the entire traffic in question was diverted to the Canadian Pacific railway."

Prior to this application another similar application was made to the Interstate Commerce Commission to suspend the provisions of the act in respect to Kootenay traffic, and another has since been made in respect to the Pacific coast traffic—both that the United States competitors of the C. P. R. might freely strike it and the Grand Trunk was also a party to these applications.

While it is impossible to procure evidence of such a thing, the management of the C. P. R. is convinced that the breaking of the North Bay arrangement was part of a conspiracy between the Grand Trunk and the Northern Pacific and Great Northern to divert from the Canadian Pacific the large passenger business which was expected to move towards the Klondike during the months of February, March and April, and before the opening of lake navigation would enable the C. P. R. to protect itself. It was doubtless to believe, that being compelled to carry its passengers an extra distance of 220 miles, the Canadian Pacific could not hold them against the Grand Trunk's Chicago route. The northern trans-continental lines sold tickets freely at various reductions from agreed rates, and the agents of the Canadian Pacific bought, for a certainty, quantities of these tickets at cut rates for a considerable time before the Canadian Pacific met their action with an open tariff. The Grand Trunk management apparently disclaims responsibility for the cut rates on western traffic in its territory; but its tickets have been furnished in quantities to the Canadian agents of the western lines, and have been, and continue to be, used by them for this purpose. After establishing the responsibility of the Grand Trunk by the actual purchase of tickets, the C. P. R. struck back as best it could. The Grand Trunk management has spoken of offers to arbitrate the difference concerning the North Bay line, and of offers to permit the C. P. R. to use this line for through traffic on a train mileage basis, or something of that kind. While the C. P. R. has at all times been willing to have the rate which the Grand Trunk should receive for the carriage of Canadian Pacific freight determined by arbitration if necessary, it is not willing to submit to arbitration the question as to whether settlers leaving Ontario to seek new homes shall go to the Western States or to Manitoba; nor is it willing to have arbitrators determine whether the miners going to the Klondike in Canadian territory, shall purchase their supplies in Canada or elsewhere; nor is it willing to submit to arbitration the question as to whether it shall make use of and afford support for the Grand Trunk to North Bay, while that company is left free to cooperate with the enemies of the Canadian Pacific in the diversion of its traffic, and the destruction of its rates.

### A Great Fishery Industry.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—Canada's unutilized fisheries yielded last year \$20,400,000 according to the annual report of Sir Louis Davies, just published. This yield was the product of 75,000 men, 30,000 of whom were deep-sea toilers. The capital invested is placed at \$9,750,000, and 36,000 craft of all kinds were employed. The principal fish caught, and their value, were as follows: Salmon, \$4,000,000; cod, \$3,619,000; herring, \$2,900,000, and lobsters \$2,200,000. By provinces the catch was: Nova Scotia, \$6,070,000; New Brunswick, \$4,800,000; British Columbia, \$4,183,000; Quebec, \$2,025,000; Ontario, \$1,605,000; Prince Edward Island, \$976,000; Manitoba, \$362,000, and Territories, \$363,000. New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario show an aggregate increase of \$375,000. The other provinces decrease aggregating \$267,000. There were 41 vessels in the fur seal and Behring Sea fisheries, employing 500 whites and 587 Indians, who secured 30,000 skins, 15,000 of which were got in Behring Sea.

Statistics for the calendar year 1896 show the value of the yield in Manitoba increased by \$111,000. Lake Winnipeg yield \$18,000, the Gimli district \$21,000; west side of Lake Manitoba \$38,000, and Doghead district, Lake Winnipeg, \$39,000. The chief fisheries were, whitefish, \$228,000, and pickerel, \$42,000. The value of whitefish caught in the Territories was \$261,000.

### Horrors of the Klondike Craze.

Vancouver, Feb. 28.—The following letter was received by your correspondent today from one of Mackenzie and Mann's staff, dated Wrangel, Feb. 23: The steamer Joan, with the first outfit of the Mackenzie and Mann party, eighty men and thirty-six horses, reached Wrangel on the 22nd. At Dixon's entrance the Joan narrowly escaped destruction in a fog and furious storm. She ran ashore once and but for the magnificent seamanship of Captain Locke, another wreck with all hands lost would have been chronicled. All the other steamers will be delayed three days, as they dared not face the terrible storm.

Wrangel is crowded beyond my power to describe. Everything is wide open, roulette, black jack, faro, three card monte, any old lake game, are running full blast. Lumber is extremely scarce. It has all been bought up at a fabulous price but there is not enough. People are sleeping on verandahs, in the Catholic mission house and on boards in the open. Wherever there is a sheltered spot they are packed together like sardines in a can. Pork and beans and a six by three board cross a dollar and a half a day. Many sleep in the snow and cerebral spinal meningitis is carrying off numbers. Miners call it "Come and Get 's." Heaven only knows where the next rush of people are going to put up.

No one is going over the trail. It took four men and ten dogs fifteen days to make fifteen miles. The road is clear for fifteen miles, but then the cold wind cannot be faced by man or beast. The snow is fifteen feet deep on the ice. By this means 1,000 miners are blocked at Stikine river. People coming in from Skaguay and Dyea declare that death is king and chaos reigns.

Death camps on the trails and in the town at Skaguay, the death rate, chiefly from spinal meningitis, is ten

per day. On the trails many deaths are occurring but the names of and the number of victims will not be known for a long time to come.

### Grain and Milling News.

A robbery of wheat is reported from Cypress river by boring an augur hole, thereby tapping a wheat bin, through which the wheat was run into a sleigh. Loaded cars of wheat were also operated on in the same way.

Jas. Richardson & Son's elevator at Sidney, Man., was burned on March 1. It contained 13,000 bushels of wheat, some of which was held by farmers. The elevator was a new one, built last fall. Capacity 50,000 bushels. The firm has its headquarters at Kingston, Ontario. E. O'Reilly, grain dealer, Winnipeg, is agent for Jas. Richardson & Son. He says there is considerable insurance on the building and contents, and it will be rebuilt this spring.

Secretary Bell, of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, who went to Ottawa with the deputation to interview the government on the interior route to Yukon and other matters, reports that the request of the exchange and the Winnipeg Board of Trade that the duty on oats and oatmeal should be equalized, was presented to the department at Ottawa, the minister admitting that an anomaly existed, and that a good case was made out by the exchange and board. The finance minister stated that while he could not give any decision before submitting it to the house, the situation of the oatmeal millers in the western part of Canada would be fully considered. The opinion that some measure of relief would be given was general amongst the members constituting the delegation.

At a recent meeting of the South Edmonton Agricultural society, the subject of seed grain was brought up. The members seemed strongly impressed with the necessity of improved seed and it was proposed that the society should take steps to secure pure red fife wheat for sowing this spring. Mr. Ritchie, manager of the Edmonton Milling Co., offered to get the desired quality of wheat and handle it for the society, giving one bushel of the imported article for one bushel of No. 1 Alberta grown wheat, provided it could be brought in freight free, and if not to charge the cost of freight extra, grading of the home grown wheat to be left to a committee of resident grain buyers. Only members of the society will be permitted to share the advantages of this offer. In an article a short time ago The Commercial showed the need of a change of seed grain for Northern Alberta, the wheat now grown there being mostly of a mixed and inferior quality. There is no reason why Alberta should not grow good hard wheat, if the right kind of seed is procured. The move is in the right direction.

### Saskatchewan.

Geo. Will lately sergeant in the mounted police, will open a book and stationery store at Prince Albert.

The Prince Albert board of trade will continue to make special efforts to make known the advantages of the Prince Albert route to Yukon. Mr. Betts, will go east as a delegate from the board, to proclaim the advantages of the Prince Albert route.





**INSURANCE**

**THE GREAT WEST LIFE.**

Those interested in life insurance will find the annual report of the Great West Life Assurance Company given in full in this issue of The Commercial, to be worthy of careful perusal. It is certainly a matter for great satisfaction that this local company has made such a splendid record. From the moment of its organization, the Great West Life entered upon a continuously prosperous career, and it has forged ahead year after year in a wonderful manner. The record for the past year, now made public, fairly eclipses all previous annual statements of this company.

The statement shows 1,746 policies were issued or revived during the year for \$2,477,300 of assurance. The net gain in assurance in force is shown to be \$1,405,830, making a total outstanding of \$7,184,534. Of the 21 life companies doing business in Canada, the Great West heads the list in the percentage of gain in new business written, and stands third in the aggregate gain of business in force, being only very slightly behind the other two companies. This is certainly a great record for a comparatively young company, and shows that the founders of the company did not miscalculate when they decided that a large home company could be built up here. The company also shows the smallest lapse ratio in comparison with other companies working in Canada last year. Other items such as income, assets, etc., show large expansion. A reference to the report will show the good position of the Great West Life in regard to its investments.

**THE EQUITABLE LIFE.**

The financial statement of the Equitable Life deals with figures the enormity of which are almost beyond comprehension. This is not a new feature with the Equitable Life statements, however, though it may be noted that the report for 1897, shows a big gain all along the line, as the following will show:

New assurance 1897 .....	\$156,955,693
New assurance 1896 .....	127,694,084
Increase .....	\$29,261,609
Assurance in effect 1897 .....	\$951,165,837
Assurance in effect 1896 .....	915,102,070
Net gain .....	\$36,063,767
Assets 1897 .....	\$236,876,308
Assets 1896 .....	210,773,947
Increase .....	\$20,102,361
Surplus 1897 .....	\$50,543,174
Surplus 1896 .....	43,277,179
Increase .....	\$7,265,995

The vast sum of \$21,106,314 was paid policy holders last year. It is impossible to calculate how much

good was done by the payment of this great amount of money, but certain it is that many widows and orphans have been saved thereby from dire want. Great as was the amount of new assurance written, a further amount of \$24,491,978 was declined, thus showing that the Equitable Life is protecting the interest of its policyholders by refusing undesirable business.

**INSURANCE ITEMS.**

W. D. Bruce will go to the Klondike to do business for the Manufacturers' Life. The increased premium of about \$5 per \$1,000 which this company is charging on Klondike business, seems moderate enough in comparison with the extra risk incurred.

**"UNEXCELLED!"**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREAT WEST LIFE—A LARGE ATTENDANCE AND SPLENDID REPORT**

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Great West Life Assurance company was held on Saturday afternoon at the head office of the company, 457 Main street, Winnipeg.

In addition to a large representation of Winnipeg shareholders, there were present a number of shareholders from outside points.

The president, Mr. A. Macdonald, presided, and the following report of the directors was read:

Your directors have much pleasure in submitting herewith for your approval the report and statement of accounts for the year 1897, the fifth full calendar year of the company's operations:

During the year 1,874 applications for insurance, amounting to \$2,631,550, were received; 1,746 policies were issued or revived for \$2,477,300, and 138 applications for \$177,750 were declined; the balance being in course of completion or under consideration. The insurance in force on the 31st December was \$7,184,534—a gain for the year of \$1,405,830.

The total cash income for the year was \$219,366.06—an increase of \$49,791.10 over the previous year.

The amount paid for death claims upon policies of the Great-West Life was \$16,361.84; upon the re-insured business of the Dominion Safety Fund the death claims were \$23,685.54; a total of \$40,047.38, all of which was paid within twenty-four hours after receipt of completed proofs. This Company is again able to report no claims unpaid at the end of this year.

All the funds of the Company (outside of cash and the debentures deposited with the Dominion Government, are invested on the security of first mortgages, on improved rent-bearing properties in the west, and on the policies of the Company. The average rate of interest on these investments in 1897 was 6.83 per cent. The satisfactory manner in which payments of interest due have been met is apparent by the fact that only \$51.75 remained unpaid on our books at the close of the year.

The large increase in new business—showing the highest per centage of gain and the lowest lapse ratio of any Company doing business in Canada—is the best indication of the permanent character of the business being done, and the continued low death rate is a still further proof that only the best class of business has been placed on the books of the Company.

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1897.**

Cash income .....	\$219,366.06
Expenditure .....	134,643.14
Assets .....	410,122.87

Winnipeg, Man., February 26, 1898.

To the President and Directors of the Great West Life Assurance Company, Winnipeg, Man.:

Gentlemen—I beg to report that I have made an audit of the books of the Great West Life Assurance Company for the year ending 31st December, 1897, having examined the vouchers connected therewith, and certify that the foregoing financial statement presents a true abstract of the Company's books, and correctly represents its financial standing.

The securities embraced in the assets (with the exception of those lodged with the Dominion Government, amounting to \$56,000, for which we found a sufficient receipt from the Government, have been examined and correspond with the schedules in the Company's books.

Yours truly,

(Signed) E. B. LEMON, Auditor.

The president, in moving the adoption of the report, said: It affords me pleasure to refer to the revival of business throughout the Dominion during the past year, but specially to the marked improvement that has taken place in our own province, and the country to the west of us.

The large yield of grain in 1895, followed by good average crops in 1896 and 1897, and the improvement in price during the past year has proved to those looking for homes that there are few places more desirable than Manitoba and the territory to the west of us. That this is becoming known and appreciated is shown by the large tracts of land taken up by actual settlers during the past year, and there never was in the history of our province such a demand for farm lands as at present.

The result of development in the gold fields of Western Ontario has been most satisfactory. The Kootenay district is making steady progress, the output during the past month being well on to \$1,500,000. The fabulous wealth of the Klondike is attracting the attention of the world, and as all those districts are contributory to our own City and Province, we may with confidence look forward to an era of prosperity, such as will satisfy the most hopeful Westerner.

The business of the "Great-West Life" has responded at once to the general improvement as shown by the fact that of the 21 Companies now doing active life insurance business in Canada for more than one year, the "Great-West" shows much the largest percentage of gain to business written, the smallest lapse ratio, and stands third in the aggregate gain of business in force, being only \$80,000 behind the leading Company.

The order in which the business in Canada of the Companies stand is as follows:

# The Confederation Life Association

HEAD OFFICE  
TORONTO

OFFICE 467 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

There are no conditions as to residence, travel or occupation, in the Unconditional Accumulative Policies issued by this Association. They guarantee Extended Insurance, Paid-up Policies, and Cash Surrender Values.

W. C. MACDONALD, Actuary J. K. MACDONALD, Man. Director  
Man., N.W.T. and B.C.—Winnipeg Office, 467 Main St.  
C. E. KERR, Cashier D. McDONALD, Inspector

# The Imperial Life Assurance Co. of Canada

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO

Capital . . . . . \$1,000,000  
Deposit with Dominion Gov't. Over (Market Value) 250,000  
Being the largest Deposit made by any Canadian company

OFFICERS

THE HON. SIR OLIVER MOWAT, P.C., G.C.M.G., Minister of Justice, President.  
JOSEPH W. FLAVELLE, Esq., Managing Director The William Davis Co., Ltd. and Director Canadian Bank of Commerce, Vice-President.  
F. G. Cox, Managing Director.

Head Office for Manitoba and the Territories: Winnipeg, Man.  
I. S. WALLACE, General Agent D. H. COOPER, Manager

# HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Assets \$11,000,000.00

Established over 100 years

Insurance accepted on all classes of property at lowest current rates.

Agencies in all Towns in Manitoba and N. W. Territories.

W. W. SCRIMES, SUPT., NORTH-WESTERN DEPARTMENT  
341 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG

# EXCELSIOR READY RATIONS

These are not extracts or essences of food procured by Chemical or other objectionable process, but pure **Meat and Vegetables Ready Cooked** and ready for use cold or hot. The ready dinner of meat and vegetables. The dried vegetables and all our preparations retain their original flavor. By using our **Tea Wafers** the explorer or prospector can carry **200 Cups of Tea in a Vest Pocket.** Prepared by

LOCKERBY BROS.

ALL GOODS PUT UP IN SMALLEST POSSIBLE BULK

St. Peter St., MONTREAL

# THE SUN LIFE

ASSURANCE CO.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL OF CANADA

THOS. GILROY, Mgr. Man. and N.W.T.  
F. S. BAKER, Cashier

POSITION OF COMPANY  
31ST DECEMBER, 1896

ASSETS - - - - \$8,858,144 66  
INCOME FOR 1896 - - - 1,886,258 00  
LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE 38,196,890 92

A STRONG AND POPULAR HOME COMPANY

Offices: Over  
Molson's Bank WINNIPEG, MAN.

Name of Company.	Business Written.	Gain in Business.	Per cent. age.
Great West	\$2,206,200	\$1,405,830	64
Actua	708,761	431,141	60
Ontario Mutual	3,031,900	1,485,719	49
New York Life	2,681,050	1,274,472	47
Dominion	593,700	256,596	43
North American	3,426,524	1,469,208	43
Provident Savings	916,762	388,144	42
Standard	1,568,750	517,101	33
Sun	4,317,292	1,256,173	29
Canada	3,627,652	1,003,529	28
Temperance and General	1,790,650	501,075	28
United States	239,000	63,260	27
Manufacturers	2,286,688	515,620	24
Confederation	3,132,072	714,649	23
Union Mutual	641,718	138,590	21
Mutual	1,886,850	328,240	17
Equitable	1,704,683	247,522	15
Federal	2,003,850	85,105	4
London & Lancashire	829,000	13,700	2
Travelers	625,650	18,114	*
British Empire	304,150	36,150	*

The small lapse and death rate prove conclusively that we have not sacrificed quality of business for quantity. The same care in selecting the best class of business that has given a low death rate in the past has been continued by our conservative medical board and application committee.

A gain in income of \$50,000 in assets of nearly \$100,000, and in business of almost \$1,500,000, sums up the record of a year that is unexcelled in the history of the company; and I believe in that of life insurance in Canada. (The amount of business in force at the end of the fifth year compares favorably with the other Canadian companies at the same period of their existence, as shown by the following table:

Great-West, at the end of 5 years	\$7,184,534
Ontario Mutual, at the end of 10 years	2,165,412
North American, at the end of 5 years	4,849,287
Canada Life, at the end of 8 years	2,349,609
Federal, at the end of 5 years	3,241,677
Sun, at the end of 5 years	2,414,063
Confederation, at the end of 5 years	3,422,915
Dominion, at the end of 5 years	1,741,405
Manufacturers, at the end of 5 years	7,506,675
Temperance and General, at the end of 5 years	4,068,271

The satisfactory position our company now occupies, and the fact that at the close of our fifth year we stand third in aggregate gain in business in the Dominion, is due to the push, energy and business capacity of our

managing director, J. H. Brock, and should be satisfactory to all interested in the company.

Mr. R. T. Riley, chairman of the Finance Committee, in seconding the motion, said:

The President has dealt with the items of business in the Report, and has left it to me to speak of the investments of the Company and the interest earnings.

I hold in my hand a statement showing that the investments in first Mortgages on Real Estate and on the security of the Company's Policies amounted to \$244,426.95 at the close of the year. On this investment of nearly a quarter of a million dollars we are receiving a yearly interest of \$16,841.14—equal to an average of 6.89 per cent. Of the interest falling due during the year only one item of \$51.79 was unpaid. As the interest earning power of the investments of the Company is a potent factor in determining the cost of Insurance our Policyholders will be pleased to learn that our success in this respect is all that the most sanguine anticipation could hope for.

As we have been able to report on previous occasions we have scrutinized the value of the securities offered with the greatest care, and have declined all loans where the margin of security admitted of any possibility of a doubt.

As we do not require to increase our deposit with the Government all our investments are now being made in first Mortgages and loans on our Policies I call attention to this because it vitally affects the result to Policyholders, whose bonus additions or cash dividends will be increased, over that possible for other Companies to pay, to the extent of the extra interest earnings.

As all other Canadian Companies during their earlier years used the 4-1-2 Tables in computing their Reserve liability, and all but the three oldest still use this standard, the position of the different Companies at the same period in their history will better show how we stand, if compared on the same basis. The following are the figures:

Surplus to Policyholders on a 4-1-2 per cent. basis,—	
Great-West, at end of 5th full year ... ..	\$133,172.42
Confederation, at the end of 6 years ... ..	102,475.27
North American, at end of 5 years ... ..	96,000.95
Sun, at the end of 9 years ..	89,733.61
Dominion, at end of 5 years	69,065.51
Federal, at the end of 5 years ... ..	66,910.85
Temperance and General, at end of 5 years ... ..	42,393.94
Manufacturers', at end of 5 years ... ..	33,676.00
Canada ... ..	Not published.

All of these figures show that The Great-West Life, as compared with other Companies, has been a pretty vigorous institution.

The Managing Director, in supporting the motion, took occasion to read the following from a letter of the Consulting Actuary of the Company.

New York, Feb. 21, 1898.  
To the Board of Directors, The Great West Life Assurance Company, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Gentlemen,—After careful examination of your balance sheet as for December 31st, 1897, and a review of the various business items for the year, I would say that it seems to me that the result of your work and the condition of the Company as for this date, should be regarded as extremely satisfactory.

It must be distinctly borne in mind that owing to the large initial cost

of life insurance business, it takes considerable time to get firmly established with a good working surplus; because it is impossible, in these days of keen competition, to obtain business at such a cost as to avoid making inroads into the reserve of the first year. The deficiency necessarily has to be met, and out of what would otherwise be clear surplus; but this does not in any sense imply bad business policy, because the productiveness of this business in its subsequent years will far more than justify the original outlay necessary to secure it.

In spite of this very consideration, however, there is no doubt in my mind that you would have had a clear working surplus even on the rigid 4 per cent. basis, but for the increased amount of new business which you wrote in 1897. However, as the obtaining of this new business is such an imperative necessity, I think you were fully warranted in having made every reasonable and proper effort to obtain it, and that you are to be congratulated upon having written the amount of new business that you did; being about \$2,500,000 in amount.

In this connection it is very satisfactory to note that your terminations were only about \$850,000, so that your business in force for the year shows a clear gain of \$1,400,000.

Had you been reserving on the basis of most other Canadian companies, you would have shown a clear surplus as large or larger in amount than was shown by any other Canadian company at your period of existence. It is advisable, however, to have a clear surplus even on the 4 per cent basis at as early a date as practicable, and I therefore think it expedient that you should not make any very great effort to do much more than \$2,500,000 of business this year unless you have exceptional facilities for obtaining it at unusual low rates of commission.

The mortality experience on your general business is very favorable indeed, and most conclusively demonstrates the fact that your Medical Department is fully alive to the importance of their duties, and that they are very successfully guarding you against the injection of bad lives.

The maintenance of such a high rate of interest as you are able to show upon invested assets, is a very favorable element in your business and is very promising for those who hold deferred dividend policies, and I am very glad indeed that you are able to make your investments so very productive and still put your funds in only strictly gilt edged securities.

A careful analysis of the items of income and disbursements convinces me that your company is being ably handled and that great care and good judgment are being exercised by the executive officers of the Company, whose business methods I believe fully warrant your fullest endorsement.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. T. STANDEN,  
Consulting Actuary.

Proceeding, Mr. Brock said: As the question of a four per cent. reserve is more easily explained by comparative figures, the Reserve of the six Canadian Companies still reserving on the lower four and a half per cent. basis has been estimated on a four per cent. basis, and it is found that it would take about \$690,000 or

\$200,000 more than the total combined capital of these six Companies to make up the shortage.

As some of these Companies and their Agents have made a business of unfairly comparing results on different standards, it is only right that Policyholders should be reminded that it would take in one notable instance two and a half times the whole capital of the Company to place its reserve on a four per cent. basis. The difference between the two standards is similar to that between the long and short ton of coal or the Imperial and Wine measures.

It may be asked why some of the companies use the higher standard, while others use the lower. The answer is that those using the lower standard all admit that they will have to change as soon as they are able, but it will take years, and during the process the dividends to policyholders will have to be reduced. One of the companies which has made the change already, had to cut down five years' profits to policyholders twenty per cent. to make up the amount required.

In our case, the result of reserving on a four per cent. basis is the deferring of a dividend for a few years, and improving the security to policyholders for all time.

The wisdom of the advice of our actuary, Mr. W. T. Standen, of New York, to put up this high standard from the start is shown clearly by the fact that all the other companies find it necessary to follow our example.

The report was then adopted, after favorable comments from several others present.

On motion of Mr. A. M. Nanton, seconded by Mr. G. W. Allan, E. B. Lemon was elected auditor for the year 1898. Mr. Nanton in recommending Mr. Lemon referred in very complimentary terms to his efficiency as an auditor, and the satisfactory and thorough manner in which he had attended to the duties of the position were referred to by Mr. Riley, Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Provincial Boards, the President and Directors and the Officers, Medical Board and staff and the Consulting Actuary of the Company.

In presenting these motions complimentary remarks were made by Mr. A. Wickson, Manager Merchants Bank; Mr. R. R. Scott, Mr. Andrew Kelly, Mr. G. W. Allan, Mr. R. J. Campbell and Mr. R. D. Richardson.

Dr. Blanchard, in responding for the Medical Board, said:

Mr. President,—I beg to submit, on behalf of the medical board, the following report of the mortality during the past year.

There have been altogether eleven deaths, four having died from consumption, three from accidental causes, two from cancer, one from apoplexy, and one (a woman), from internal abscess.

The total death rate, as compared with the risks involved, remains exceptionally low, but the death rate from consumption appears equal to what might be anticipated.

The total mortality experience, however, of the Great-West Co. is so small that no fair conclusion can be drawn from statistics.

In considering all the deaths from this cause since the inception of the company, we find seven in a total mortality of twenty-three; so that it is evident that however fortunate we may be in regard to other diseases,

# Small's Polar Coat

Reversible -- windproof -- waterproof --  
light weight and tough as wire.

Made of best undyed duck, lined with  
Buffalo Robing, (controlled for this  
purpose by E. A. Small & Co.) a wooly,  
warm, light and wearproof material.

Two big haversack pockets inside,  
two "hand warmers" and two skirt  
pockets outside, braced and stayed

at every corner.  
swinging weight  
in pockets direct  
from shoulder.

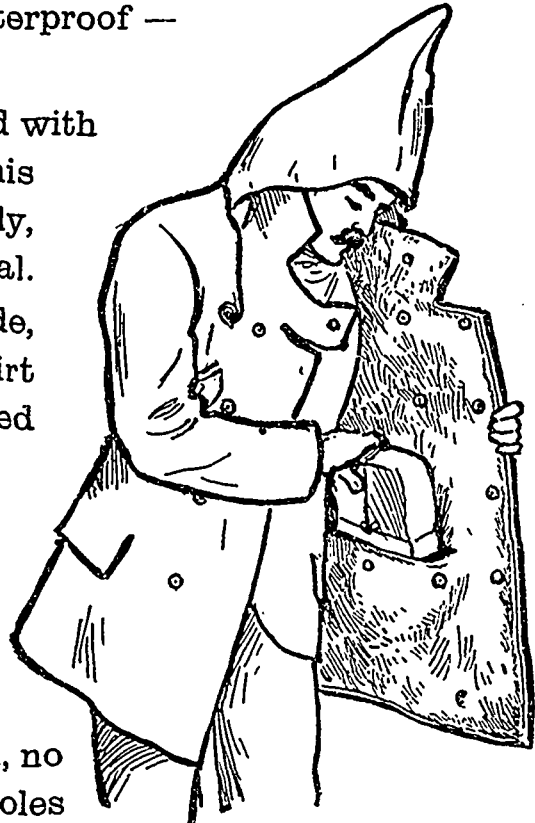
Double sewn  
with the best lin-

en thread, no  
button holes

to wear, snap clasp fasteners only being  
used, which can be opened without  
removing mittens.

Detachable capuchon and collar,  
fur lined to the edge. Coat reversible  
when too warm, or when damp from  
sweat.

For Klondikers, teamsters, hunters, lum-  
bermen, prospectors and farmers.



WRITE FOR WHOLESALE PRICES  
... TO ...

E. A. SMALL & CO., MONTREAL

**Retail Price, \$12.00**

Phthisis will still demand its share of victims.

The general death rate from this cause is higher in Canada and the United States than in Great Britain, where it is about 12 percent. of the total of all ages, so that the relative proportion of deaths from this cause will always be large in our experience, unless in the future measures taken to prevent the sale of tuberculous milk and meat, as well as infection from one person to another, prove more effectual than in the past.

As to the geographical distribution of these cases, we find one has died in Nova Scotia, two in Manitoba, one in N. W. T., and three in Ontario. The average death rate per 1,000 lives exposed in 1897 was 3.82.

As compared with the statistics of the only three Canadian Companies of which we have official record during the first years of their existence, those of the Great-West still appear most fortunate.

Taking these three companies together we find that up to date of their first report the mortality per 1,000 lives insured was 3.16, as against no deaths in the Great-West. Up to time of their second report, 4.8, vs. 1.09. Up to time of their third report 9.45, vs. 2.95. Up to time of their fourth report 6.10, vs. 1.54. Up to time of their fifth report 6.19, vs. 2.43. Up to time of their sixth report 5.76, vs. 3.82.

On motion of Mr. J. A. M. Aikens, Q. C., seconded by Mr. J. B. McLaren, Q. C., Messrs S. R. Parsons and W. McQuaker were appointed scrutineers and the balloting for Directors was proceeded with, resulting in the following being declared elected, viz.:

J. H. Ashdown, E. Crow Baker, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, G. R. Crowe, William Garland, G. F. Galt, A. Kelly, P. C. McIntyre, J. Hebert Mason, A. Macdonald, Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald, Hon. D. H. McMillan, Jas. Redmond, R. T. Riley.

A meeting of the newly elected Board was held immediately after the shareholders' meeting, at which the following officers were re-elected:

President—Alex. Macdonald.  
Vice-Presidents—J. Herbert Mason, Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald, Geo. F. Galt.

### Manitoba

S. E. Riggs will build a large block at Manitou.

Thorn Bros. have let the contract to build a new store at Sidney.

Winram Bros. contemplate building an implement warehouse at Manitou.

The Mercury newspaper, published at Manitou by R. H. Spedding, has been sold to F. B. Rorke, late of Carletonburg, Ont.

Alex. Smith, of Gretna, has purchased the livery stable business of John Hamm, at Rosensfeld, and will add machinery to the business.

The McIntyre block, Winnipeg, burned recently, will be re-built. The McIntyre was the largest business block in the city.

James Herald, recently chief clerk, and Will Arnott, also a former clerk in the Manitou farmers' store, are opening in groceries and boots and shoes at Manitou.

Carter & Lilly, two new arrivals at Dauphin, have leased the building formerly occupied by Cardiff & McLean, and will open a general store.

B. Baxter will open a store at North Eden, Neepawa district, Man.

John M. Klassen has erected a large implement warehouse at Rosensfeld, and is putting in a stock of Massey Harless machinery.

Lamont & Co., boots and shoes, Winnipeg, are out of business. The stock has been partially purchased by A. G. Morgan.

It is reported that T. W. Leslie, formerly of Leslie Bros., Winnipeg, will return to the city and engage in the furniture trade with C. H. Wilson, furniture dealer of this city.

The general store stock of A. H. Baker, of Rosebank, was sold this week by the assignees to Robt. Sample at the rate of 65 cents on the dollar.

The Virden board of trade is one of the most active in the country. The board is publishing a pamphlet giving lists of vacant lands in the district, with a view to encouraging settlement.

H. L. Elliott, general merchant, has disposed of his business at Melita to Mr. Hamlin, at Lauder, who will take possession next week. Mr. Elliott purposes going into the lumber business at Portage la Prairie.

The transactions of the Dominion government savings bank at Winnipeg for the month ending 28th of February, were as follows: Deposits, \$22,605, withdrawals, \$12,626.79; deposits exceed withdrawals by \$9,978.21.

J. M. O'Loughlin, who retired from the Consolidated Stationery company, was presented by the employees with a handsome gold-headed cane with suitable inscription. Mr. Parsons has arrived from Toronto to again take an active part in connection with the company.

The Canadian Pacific railway have purchased the Howard block and property immediately opposite the post office, in Winnipeg. A fine block will be built on this property, which will be used for the city ticket and telegraph office and other purposes.

The proposed drainage of the Boyne marsh, east of Carman, will reclaim 450,000 acres of land. It will cost \$300,000 to do the work, or nearly 70 cents per acre for the land reclaimed, but besides this the drain will be of great benefit to a large section of country now more or less available for cultivation.

Stephen Johnson's dry goods store, at the corner of Ellen and Ross streets, Winnipeg, was broken into during the night recently and a large quantity of clothing was stolen. A short time ago the same store was burglarized. This time the thief was captured and the property taken on each occasion was secured, amounting to several hundred dollars.

The Whitelaw Trading Company of Brandon, which offered a compromise a short time ago, has assigned. The company opened a branch store at Nelson, B. C., about a year ago, which was not a profitable venture. The business of the concern of late has been mainly in country produce. Real estate has also been a cumbersome and unprofitable part of the firm's assets.

Johnston & Stewart is the name of a new implement firm which has opened business in the Henderson block, Winnipeg. The partners are Mr. Johnston the well known implement dealer of Brandon, and Mr. Stewart, lately connected with the McCormick implement business here.

The firm will do a wholesale trade in farm implements, etc. Mr. Johnston will remain at Brandon in charge of the business there, where a large retail trade is also done.

J. T. Gordon, of the firm of Gordon & Ironside, who recently returned from an eastern trip, reports that the firm will go ahead at once with the proposed abattoir and cold storage warehouse in Winnipeg. Property has been purchased on the western outskirts of the city. The establishment will have capacity for handling 1,000 to 1,200 carcasses per day. The main building will be 160x60 feet. It is expected that a demand for dressed meat will come from British Columbia in the west to Montreal in the east. An export trade in dressed meat will not be attempted at the outset, though this will likely come later on.

### Alberta.

Hainstock Dean Co., dealers in flour feed and meats, have opened business at Olds.

A. McLean & Co., are adding tin-smithing to their hardware business at South Edmonton.

The Hudson's Bay company have opened a hardware store in the old post office building at Macleod.

The Edmonton Bulletin has applied for incorporation, with a capital of \$5,000. The applicants are all residents of Edmonton.

Another hardware business is being opened in Macleod, and the store formerly occupied by Mr. Hewson will be used for the new venture. Mr. Hewson is moving his shop to Mr. Grady's hardware store.

A mass meeting was held at Calgary this week, which passed and forwarded resolutions to Premier Laurier, urging the construction of a wagon trail to Yukon, via Edmonton, Nelson and Liard river at once, without waiting for further exploration, and condemning the Mann-Mackenzie contract for the Teslin Lake route. It would probably have been better if the Teslin Lake contract had not been mixed up with the demand for the opening of the Edmonton route. The one does not necessarily conflict with the other. Both routes are necessary.

### The Lumber Trade.

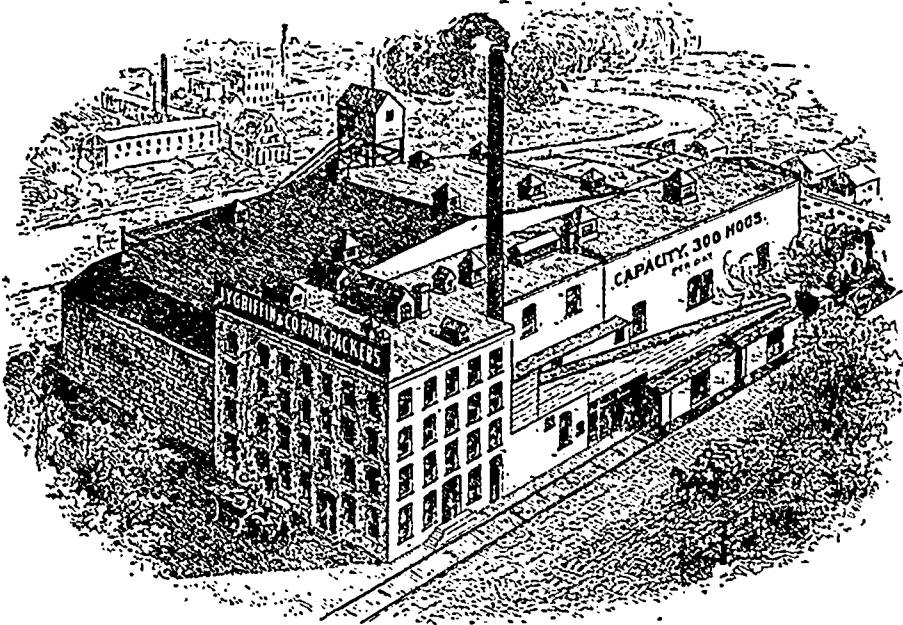
Wm. Krahn & Co., have embarked in the lumber, coal and wood business at Rosensfeld, Man.

Red cedar shingles are selling in Minneapolis market on a basis of \$2.15 for "A's," and there is every reason to believe that they will advance still further. The demand for shingles is such that the west coast manufacturers will not be able to supply the demand and the manufacturers of white cedar and white pine shingles are also looking for a good demand during the season.—Minneapolis Lumberman.

D. C. Cameron, of Rat Portage, and D. Ross, of Whitemouth, were among the lumbermen in the city this week.

Since taking over the Golden Lumber company's business the Columbia River Lumber company have increased their staff, says the Golden Era, to 95 hands at this camp. The sawmill at the camp here has been very busy cutting ties and lumber, 1,200 to 1,500 ties a day being turned out. These are urgently in demand for the Crow's Nest Road. The mill has also turned out 200,000 feet of lumber this season. One hundred and twenty horses are employed in the camp.

# LOOK OUT! IT'S RISKY



\*\*\*\*\*

You can't fool very much with the produce business—its hard enough for an expert. But to consign produce to people who have nothing to recommend them excepting "nerve" pure and simple, is taking bigger chances than any level headed business man is justified in doing. If there's an extra cent per pound to be made on your Butter, the firm of experience and complete organization can make it for you, and not the irresponsible amateur. We are paying TOP PRICES for Live and Dressed Hogs.

WRITE OR WIRE.

## J. Y. GRIFFIN & Co., WINNIPEG.

PORK PACKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

### The Implement Trade.

The trade in farm implements is now becoming active once more. Retailers at country points have been receiving their spring stocks and manufacturers who have agencies at country points have been busy sending out supplies for some time. As the area for crop will be larger this year than ever before, an increased trade is expected. Speaking with Mr. Agur, manager at Winnipeg for the Massey-Harris company, a representative of The Commercial was informed that the outlook was fairly favorable for the trade this season. This firm have already received a large number of orders for seeders, the trade in this implement being now about all in hand, as farmers have made their selections and placed most of their orders for their spring requirements.

Mr. Agur informed The Commercial that they have made a general reduction in the price of Massey-Harris implements this season. This reduction has been made possible mainly owing to the increased production at their factories and the reduction of freight rates. The larger the business they are able to do the cheaper the goods can be turned out. When the companies forming the Massey-Harris company were amalgamated into one concern, it was with the expectation that the larger production which would be concentrated under one management, would enable them to turn out goods at a less cost, to the advantage of the consumer. The reduction made in the price of implements this season and in the past has fully warranted this conclusion. The

large home industry which they have built up is a great advantage to the country at large. Much of the material used in their factories is the product of other Canadian industries. Thus one industry helps to support and build up others, to the advantage and prosperity of the country at large.

Speaking of the spring plow trade, Mr. Agur said that the Verity Plow company, of Brantford, Ontario, with which the Massey-Harris company is associated, will establish one of the finest plow plants in America at that place, to replace the factory burned some time ago. In the meantime the old Harris company's factory at Brantford is being used by the Plow company.

The Massey-Harris bicycle for 1893, Mr. Agur says, has been considerably improved, one important new feature being dust proof bearings. The price has been reduced \$10 compared with last year, though the machine is claimed to be better than ever before. They make only one grade of bicycles, thinking it better to give all their attention to the production of one good wheel than to try to meet the demand for low grade wheels. They have recently shipped 3,000 bicycles to Australia. Two carloads have been received in Winnipeg for the local trade.

Grey & Higgins, contractors, Macleod, have dissolved.

The farmers in the vicinity of Sidney, Man., are making headway in obtaining subscriptions to be given as a bonus to a person who will build a fifty-barrel flour mill.

The Largest Factory of its kind in the Dominion



LION "L" BRAND

PURE VINEGARS

Manufactured under the supervision of the Inland Revenue Department

Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies and Preserves

PREPARED BY

Michel Lefebvre & Co

MONTREAL

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals

Established 1849

20 1st Prizes



# FINANCIAL

## THE BANK STATEMENT.

No more striking testimony could be adduced of the steady progress of Canadian trade and agriculture towards prosperity than is afforded by a comparison of the returns furnished by the chartered banks for the month of January last compared with those of the corresponding month of last year. Taking the seven principal items in the statement we find they compare as follows: Circulation, 1897, \$30,208,157; 1898, \$35,011,722; public deposits on demand, 1897, \$67,023,611; 1898, \$79,195,911; public deposits on notice, 1897, \$126,128,551; 1898, \$140,704,038; balance due from foreign banks, 1897, \$16,391,162; 1898, \$23,015,439; balance due from United Kingdom banks, 1897, \$9,623,745; 1898, \$15,101,061; call loans, 1897, \$13,911,564; 1898, \$20,001,729; current loans, 1897, \$208,433,812; 1898, \$207,532,321.

It will be noticed that in every item, save one, there is a marked evidence of expansion, and in the solitary exception the contraction is an evidence of strength rather than of weakness.

## FINANCIAL NOTES.

T. N. Christie will have charge of a branch of the Union bank to be established at Calgary, Alberta.

The management of the Bank of Hamilton have decided to open a branch at Morden, Man., April 1.

Ronald Leslie, private banker of Stonewall, Man., will open a branch of his business at Shoal Lake, in this province.

The Dominion Building and Loan Association, represented in Winnipeg by W. Findlay, is applying for a change of name to The Dominion Permanent Loan company.

The half yearly report of the Bank of British North America presented at the meeting held in London on March 1, shows a net profit of £39,435. A dividend of twenty-five shillings per share was declared, making a five per cent distribution for the whole year and placing £10,000 to the reserve and carrying forward £3,727.

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Feb. 28.

Times are good in Vancouver. This can be chronicled without fear of contradiction. They were never better. Vancouver may be able to do a bigger business, but she has her hands full now. Klondike stores are open night and day and big staffs of men are employed to handle the steady, ever increasing line of customers. There must be from 250 to 300 arriving daily in Vancouver and Victoria. This number may sound extravagant to some but the Canadian Pacific report that they are handling themselves over 150 Klondikers daily and the number, therefore, can not be far out. Five steamers have left here for the north in two days, so that the strain is being constantly relieved as they keep pouring in. An attempt was made by The Commercial correspondent to get a consensus of opinion from the busy merchants regarding the times,

present and future, but they were all too busy. All they could be induced to say when the question was asked: How is business? was the very brief, but nevertheless satisfactory reply, "Oh, business is good, splendid. Call again, old man, very busy now."

The demand for portable evaporated fruits and vegetables is immense and it seems a trouble to find houses to supply it. Any man who can provide condensed feed for horse, dog or man has a Klondike of his own.

The market is little changed. Australian butter is out. A splendid quality of California butter is selling at 21 cents. Fruits have fallen considerably in price and some lines of dressed meats are higher.

## Dairy Trade Items.

Munroe Creamery Co., Ltd., of St. Charles, Man., has been incorporated.

A small lot of butter held by the Salteats creamery has been purchased by the Parsons' Produce Co., of Winnipeg. This is one of the last lots of last season's butter held in the country.

The Northwest Territory Dairy-men's association will meet at Calgary on March 8. E. N. Hopkins, of Moose Jaw, president of the association; W. Watson, vice president, Wm. Trant, secretary-treasurer, and Angus Mackay, superintendent of the Indian Head farm, will be present as delegates and deliver addresses on topics of interest to the association. From Calgary the delegates will go north to various points along the C. & E. Ry.

## Rubber Prices Advance.

The following announcement has been made by the Canada Rubber Co.: In consequence of the persistent and enormous advances in the cost of crude rubber it is impossible to continue selling at present prices without reducing the quality. Some three months ago all of the mechanical rubber manufacturers in the United States advanced prices ten per cent., and are now contemplating a further advance.

Hoping that the advance in the cost of crude rubber might not be permanent, we have delayed action until it can no longer be avoided. We are therefore reluctantly obliged to notify the trade that on and after March 1st all prices will be advanced ten per cent.

## Grocery Trade Notes.

New crop Patna rice to arrive from Europe by about March 1 was being offered at 5 1/4c for fancy.—New York Journal of Commerce.

The business of Sir Thomas Johnston Lipton, provision, tea and coffee merchant, and fruit preserver, of London, England, is to be converted into a joint stock company, which will be capitalized at two millions. The new company does not take over the Lipton business in the United States.

## The Commercial Men.

R. A. Mather, of the Keewatin Lumber company, was in the city this week.

Walter S. Crone, western representative of Nelson & Sons, Montreal, was in Winnipeg last week.

Mr. Foster, representing E. A. Small & Co., Montreal, is in the city this week.

Mr. Moon, of the British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading company, left Winnipeg on Thursday for Vancouver.

Mr. Gregory, business manager of that admirable publication, the North-western Miller, of Minneapolis, paid Winnipeg a visit this week. Mr. Gregory has recently been on an extended trip in Eastern Canada.

E. J. Boucher, of Rainy River, is in the city. He is on a business trip for the firm of Boucher, Langstaff & Holmes, of which he is senior partner.

J. M. Macdonald, western representative for McIntyre, Son & Co., has returned from a trip to Montreal.

## Prince Albert Route.

Mr. J. F. Betts, of Prince Albert, speaker of the Territorial assembly, is at the Manitoba. Mr. Betts is on his way east to draw the attention of the boards of trade and prospective Yukon parties in the chief centres to the advantages of the Prince Albert water route to Yukon and Peace river, via Fort McMurray. "We are firm believers in our water route," said Mr. Betts last evening to a Free Press representative. "A Yukon traveller after outfitting in our town, takes the wagon trail to Green lake, then to Beaver river, Green Water river and the Athabasca. The only portage is Portage la Loche, eleven and a half miles, between Beaver and Green Water rivers. That is the only one clear through. It is plain water sailing all the way to Fort McMurray. Our board of trade gives a guarantee that the transport charges over the trail to Fort McMurray will not exceed \$2 a hundred. I shall go east as far as Halifax. Our board of trade has already spent about \$5,000 advertising our route, and if we do not get many big parties to go our way we still will have the satisfaction of knowing we have advertised the west. Two big parties have gone our way and I have just received a telegram from a large Hamilton party desiring to see me at once, as they contemplate taking our route."

Questioned about the lieutenant-governorship of the Northwest, Mr. Betts said that the great majority of the people of the Territories, fully 75 per cent. were hoping to see Mr. Forget, of the Indian department, get the position. He would make an efficient incumbent, and is well acquainted with the affairs of the Territories.

## British Live Stock Markets.

London, Feb. 28.—The trade in cattle was weak, especially for United States and Argentine stock, of which supplies were large and prices declined 1-4 to 1-2c. Canadian stock was steady, and unchanged from a week ago. Choice United States cattle sold at 11c; choice Canadian at 10 1/2c; Argentine at 9 1/2c. Argentine sheep declined 1-2c to 11c. Canadian unchanged, at 11c.

Liverpool, Feb. 28.—There was no material change in prices for cattle in this market, Canadians being noted at 9 1/2c to 10 1/2c, and United States at 10 1/2c.

The Commercial house at Austin, Man., has changed hands. Mr. Carew has withdrawn in favor of Mrs. Speed who has leased the hotel.



## Statistical Wheat Reports.

## WHEAT IN CANADA

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

Montreal . . . . .	96,000
Toronto . . . . .	42,000
Kingston . . . . .	
Winnipeg . . . . .	371,000
Manitoba elevators . . . . .	3,005,000
Fort William, Port Arthur and Keewatin . . . . .	1,023,000

Total February 12 . . . . . 4,537,000

## BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains as reported by Bradstreet's on Feb. 19, were 48,248,000 bushels.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 63,473,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

Pacific coast wheat stocks on February 1 were 5,318,000 bushels, compared with 3,005,000 bushels a year ago.

## THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains for the week ended Feb. 26, was 34,083,000 bushels, being a decrease of 1,345,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 43,797,000 bushels, two years ago 64,030,000 bushels, three years ago 78,761,000 bushels, four years ago 75,569,000 bushels.

## WHEAT STOCKS AT U.S. POINTS.

Chicago . . . . .	8,877,000 bushels
Duluth . . . . .	2,593,000 "
Minneapolis . . . . .	12,623,000 "
New York . . . . .	1,525,000 "
Buffalo . . . . .	915,000 "

## STOCK OF OATS AND CORN.

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 13,437,000 bushels, compared with 13,897,000 bushels a year ago. The visible supply of corn is 40,870,000 bushels, compared with 26,408,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

## WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS.

Stocks of wheat in the United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe, on February 1, for a series of years, were as follows, Bradstreet's report: February 1, 1898, 129,123,000; February 1, 1897, 128,629,000; February 1, 1896, 160,425,000; February 1, 1895, 181,419,000; February 1, 1894, 183,927,000; February 1, 1893, 178,058,000; February 1, 1892, 155,308,000; February 8, 1891, 105,087,000; February 1, 1890, 105,533,000.

## CROP MOVEMENT.

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States spring wheat markets from the beginning of the crop year, August 1, 1897, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

	This Crop	Last Crop
Minneapolis . . . . .	57,383,560	44,881,950
Milwaukee . . . . .	6,741,672	5,772,525
Duluth . . . . .	33,644,853	33,050,875
Chicago . . . . .	27,196,169	13,135,779

Total . . . . . 124,966,254 98,841,129

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United

States winter wheat markets from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1897, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

	This Crop	Last Crop
Toledo . . . . .	9,582,819	6,295,820
St. Louis . . . . .	10,475,956	10,060,505
Detroit . . . . .	4,164,650	2,918,109
Kansas City . . . . .	25,392,766	5,980,800
Total . . . . .	49,616,191	25,261,234

## Winnipeg Raw Fur Prices.

Prices as to size and color, for prime skins. Skins taken out of season range much lower:

Badger . . . . .	\$ .05	\$ .50
Bear, black . . . . .	5.00	25.00
Bear, brown . . . . .	4.00	20.00
Bear, yearlings . . . . .	2.00	8.00
Bear, grizzly . . . . .	5.00	16.00
Beaver, large . . . . .	5.00	6.50
" medium . . . . .	3.00	4.00
" small . . . . .	1.50	2.25
" cubs . . . . .	.50	1.00
" castors, per lb . . . . .	2.50	5.50
Fisher, dark . . . . .	6.00	9.00
Fisher, pale . . . . .	3.00	5.00
Fox, cross dark, large . . . . .	5.00	15.00
" cross pale . . . . .	2.50	5.00
" kitt . . . . .	.10	.50
" red . . . . .	1.00	1.60
" silver dark . . . . .	40.00	75.00
" peale . . . . .	25.00	60.00
Lynx, large . . . . .	1.50	2.00
" medium . . . . .	1.00	1.25
" small . . . . .	.50	.75
Marten, dark . . . . .	2.50	5.00
" pale or brown . . . . .	1.50	4.00
" light pale . . . . .	1.00	2.25
Mink, dark . . . . .	1.00	1.50
Mink, pale . . . . .	.75	1.25
Musquash, winter . . . . .	.04	.10
" fall . . . . .	.04	.07
Otter, dark . . . . .	6.00	10.00
Otter, pale . . . . .	5.00	8.00
Skunk . . . . .	.25	.50
Wolf, timber . . . . .	1.00	1.50
" prairie . . . . .	.40	.75
Wolverine . . . . .	1.00	3.50

## Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William, 74@75c; No. 271½c.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, \$2.05@2.10, Bakers, \$1.85@1.90.

Bran—Per ton, \$6.

Shorts—Per ton, \$8.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 20@25c.

Barley—Feed, 21 @ 24c; Malting, 25@28c per bushel.

Flax Seed—Price to farmers at country points, 45@50c per bushel.

Butter—Dairy, dealers' price, 13@16c.

Cheese—Dealers selling at 9½@10c.

Eggs—Dealers were paying 22c net for fresh.

Beef—City dressed, fresh, 5@6c; country beef, 3@4c.

Mutton—5@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 4@4½c.

Cattle—Butchers nominal 2½@3½c.

Hogs—Live, off cars, 3½c for best bacon.

Sheep—Nominal at 3½@4c.

Hides—Green frozen, 6@6½c.

Seneca Root—Dry, 19@20c.

Poultry—Chickens, 6@7c per pound; turkeys, 9@10c per lb.

Potatoes—30c per bushel.

Hay—\$5.00 for baled on track.

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

A first class Country General Store Business. Well established, business increasing. No opposition. Stock and building about \$5,500.00. Terms to suit. Satisfactory reason for selling. Address at once

X. O. C.,  
COMMERCIAL OFFICE, WINNIPEG

## VIRDEN BUSINESS FOR SALE

Flour Feed and Grocery Business established in 1883, very complete stock, a splendid chance, good stand. (Good reason for selling). Apply to

DAVID FRASER,  
Virden, Man.

## PARTNER WANTED

Partner, with moderate capital, to take an interest in an old established Grain and Milling business. Apply to

E. A. C.,

Care The Commercial, Winnipeg

## TO PRINTERS

Quantity of type for sale, sorted up for mail list. Any paper wishing to set up mail list would save breaking their fonts by using this. Also chases for same purpose.

THE COMMERCIAL,

Winnipeg.

## TRAVELLER

Experienced Salesman wants position as Traveller for either a Grocery or Dry Goods firm. Good knowledge of western country and trade. First-class references. Would work for commission or salary. Address

A. R. B.

Care of Commercial, Winnipeg

## AGENTS

"Glimpses of the Unseen." Fascinating book. Sweeps the entire field of borderland subjects. Everybody orders. Marvelous illustrations. Prospectus \$1.

BRADLEY GARRETSON COMPANY, Limited

TORONTO

## AGENTS

"The best life of Her Majesty I have seen," writes Lord Lorne about "Queen Victoria." Agents make five dollars daily.

BRADLEY GARRETSON COMPANY, Limited,

TORONTO

## WANTED!

Men and women who can work hard, talking and writing six hours daily for six days a week, and will be content with ten dollars weekly, address.

NEW IDEAS CO.,

TORONTO.

## AGENTS

"Klondyke Gold Fields," a large, cheap, valuable book, selling like a whirlwind. Beautiful prospectus. twenty-five cents. Books on time.

BRADLEY GARRETSON COMPANY, Limited,

TORONTO.

## WANTED

A few good men for canvassing on yearly salaries.

THE LINSOTT COMPANY  
TORONTO

### Winnipeg Hardware and Metal Prices.

Tiu—Lamb and Flag, 56 and 28 lb ingots, per lb 19@20c.

Tin Plates—Charcoal plates, I C, 10 x 14, 12 x 12 and 14 x 20, \$4.50@4.75; I X, same size box, \$5.75@6; I C, charcoal, 20 x 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50@9; I X, box, 20 x 28, 112 sheets, \$10.50@11.

Terne Plates—I C, 20 x 28, \$8.50 @ 9. Iron and Steel—Bar iron, 100 lbs., base price, \$2.10 band iron, 100 lbs., \$2.65@2.75; Swedish iron, 100 lbs, \$5.25 @6; sleigh shoe steel, 2.75@3; best cast tool steel, lb., 9@11c; imitation Russian sheet, 7@8c; genuine Russian sheet, lb., 12@13c.

Sheet Iron—10 to 20 guage, \$3; 22 to 24 and 28 guage, \$3.25; 28 guage \$3.50.

Canada Plates—Garth and Blaina, 3.00 @3.15.

Galvanized Iron—American, 20 guage, \$3.75; 22 and 24 guage, \$4; 26 guage, \$4.25; 28 guage, \$4.50 100 lbs.

Iron pipe is quoted as follows per 100 feet: ½ inch, \$2.50; ¾ inch, \$2.75, 1 inch, \$3; 1 ¼ inch, \$4; 1 ½ inch, \$5; 1 ¾ inch, \$7; 2 inch, \$8.50; 2 ½ inch, \$11.50.

Lead—Pig, per lb., 4½ to 5c.

Sheet Zinc—In casks, \$6.00 lb., broken lots \$6.50.

Solder—Half and half (guar) per lb., 14@16c.

Ammunition—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American discount 40 per cent; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent, shot shells, 12 guage, \$6 @ 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 6c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6½c. Robin Hood powder, 17 lb kegs, \$10; ¼ kegs, 4½ lbs, \$3; Canister, 9 oz., 60c. Loaded shells, 12 guage, soft shot, \$18 per 1,000. No. 10 guage, \$20.70 per 1,000.

Dupont Powder—Dupont Rifle FFG, 25-lb keg, \$5.00, 12½ lb keg, \$2.75. cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$6.60, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$8.50, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$9.25; Dupont Rifle FFG, 25 lb keg, \$5.25, 12½ lb keg, \$3.00, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$7.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$9.00, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$9.75; Dominion Rifle, 25 lb keg, \$5.75, 12½ lb keg, \$3, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$7, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$11, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$12; Sea Shooting Fg, 25 lb keg, \$6; Manitoba Sporting, 25 lb keg, \$8.00, 12½ lb keg, \$4.25, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$9.00; cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$13.00; Eagle Ducking, 25 lb keg, \$11.00, 12½ lb keg, \$5.75, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$12.00; Crystal Grain, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$14.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$17; Blasting, 25 lb keg, \$3.00. Dupont Smokeless powder, 12½ lbs, \$22.00, 6½ lbs, \$11.25, 3½ lbs, \$5.75, ½ canisters, \$1.00.

Wire—Galvanized barb wire, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; Plain wire and staples, \$3.00.

Rope—Sisal, lb., 7½c base; manilla, lb., 9c base; cotton, ¼ to ½ inch and larger, 16c lb.

Axes—Per box, \$6@9.

Nails—Cut, keg, base price, \$2.45 for 20 to 60d., with new classification of extras; common steel wire nails, 4½@6 inch, \$2.65 per keg, with usual extras for smaller sizes.

Horse Nails—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List price as follows: No. 3, \$7.50 box No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount of above list prices 5 per cent.

Horseshoes—Iron shoes, \$4.15; steel hoqs, \$4.40; Snow shoe, \$4.40 per keg.

### Winnipeg Prices of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc.

Following are close jobbing prices, as to quantity:

White Lead—Pure, \$6.25 100 lbs. Prepared Paints—Pure liquid colors, gallon \$1.15@1.25.

Dry Colors—White lead, pound, 7c; red lead, kegs, 5½c; yellow ochre in barrel lots, 2½c; less than barrels, 3c; golden ochre, barrels, 3½c; less than barrels, 4c; Venetian, red, barrels, 3c; less than barrels, 3½c; American vermilion, 15c; English vermilion, \$1 per lb., Paris green, 18@19c; Canadian metallic oxides, barrel lots, 2½c; less than barrel lots, 3c; English purple oxides, 100 lb. kegs, 4c; less than kegs, 4½c lb.

Varnishes—No. 1 furniture, per gallon, \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50@1.75; hard oil finish, \$1.50@2; brown Japan, \$1; house painters' gold-size Japan, \$1.50; coach painters' do., \$2 @2.25; No. 1 orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

Sundries—Glue, S. S., in sheets, lb 12½ @15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 16 @25c. Stove gasoline, case, \$4; benzine, case, \$4. Axle grease, imperial, case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, case, \$3.75; Diamond axle grease, \$2.25 case. Coal tar, barrel, \$7. Portland cement, barrel, \$4@4.25; plaster, barrel \$3.25; plasterers' hair, P. P., 90c bale. Putty, in bladders, barrel lots, 2½c lb., do., in 100 lb kegs, 2½c, do., less than barrels, 1b, 3c. Alabastine, cases of 20 pkgs., \$6.50@7.50 as to color.

Window Glass—First break is quoted at \$1.80 per box of 50 feet and \$2.05 for second break.

Linseed Oil—Raw, gal., 54c; boiled, gal., 57c in barrels; less than barrels, 5c gallon extra, with additional charges for cans.

Turpentine—Pur spirits in barrels, 55c; less than barrels, gallon, 60c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

Oils—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25@30c gallon; clear machine oils, 33@40c; cylinder oil, 50@75c, as to quality; castor oil, 11c per lb; tanners' or harness oil, 65c; neatsfoot oil, \$1; steam refined seal oil, 85c; pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 gallon.

Refined Petroleum—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 18½c; crescent, 20c; oleophene, 20½c in barrels. Car lots, 1c gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 24c for eocene and 21c for sunlight.

### Winnipeg Lumber Prices.

These prices are retail quotations at Winnipeg, such as contractors and others buy at. The mills quote delivered prices at various points.

Dimension and Timber—No. 1, 2x4 to 2x12, 12, 14 and 16 ft, \$18.50, 18 ft, \$19.50, 20 ft, \$20.50, 22 ft, \$21.50, 24 ft, \$22.50; 3x6 to 3x12, 4x4 to 4x12, 6x6 to 6x12 and 8x8, 12, 14 and 16 ft, \$20.00, 18 ft, \$21.00, 20 ft, \$22.00, 22 ft, \$23.00, 24 ft, \$24.00; 8x10 to 12x12, 12, 14 and 16 ft, \$22.00, 18 ft, \$23.00, 20 ft, \$24.00, 22 ft, \$25.00, 24 ft, \$26.00; 2x4, 10 ft, \$20.50; 2 x 6 to 2 x 12, 10 ft, \$18.00. No. 2 dimension, \$1.50 less than No. 1. Dimension, 26, 28 and 30 ft, \$26.00. Timber, 26, 28 and 30 ft, \$28.00. \$1.00 per M advance on each inch over 12 inch in depth and width. Tamarac dimension same price as pine. Spruce dimension at \$2.00 per M less than pine. Cull plank, all widths at \$12.00 per M. B. C. fir dimension up to 32 feet at \$30.00 per M., 32 to 40 feet, \$33.00, 40 to 60 feet \$36.00. \$1.00

per M extra for each 2 in. over 12 in. in width or depth.

Boards—1st common, red pine, \$25.00, 2nd common, \$18.00, 3rd common, \$16.00; No. 1 cull, \$12.00, No. 2 cull, \$8.00; spruce, \$16.00. \$1.00 per M extra for stock boards. \$2.00 per M less for 10 ft. and under. No. 1 box, 14 in. and up, \$30.00, No. 2 box boards, 14 in. and up, \$26.00. Extra dressing \$1.50 per M.

Siding, Flooring and Ceiling—2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch, white pine, \$36.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch white pine, \$28.00; 1st and 2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$30.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$25.00; 4th, 4, 5 and 6 inch, red and white, \$20.00; B.C. No. 1 fir, \$32.00; B. C. No. 2 fir, \$29.00; B.C. No. 3 fir, \$26.00; B.C. spruce, \$32.00; 4, 5 and 6 inch spruce, native, \$20.00; 8 and 10 inch pine, \$23.00; No. 1 cedar siding and ceiling, \$36.00; No. 2 cedar siding and ceiling, \$30.00; ¼ inch cedar or fir siding and ceiling, \$26.00. \$1.00 per M advance for dressing both sides.

Bevel Siding—No. 1 white pine, \$26.00; No. 2 red and white, \$23.00.

Shiplap—Pine, 6 inch, \$18.00, 8 and 10 inch, \$20.00; Spruce, 8 and 10 inch, \$19.00, 6 inch, \$18.00; cull shiplap, \$16.00.

Shingles—B. C. cedar, per M, No. 1, \$2.50, No. 2, \$2.00; B.C. cedar dimension shingles, \$4.00; B.C. cedar dimension band sawed, \$5.00; No. 1 pine, per M, \$2.50, No. 2, \$2.00, No. 3, \$1.75.

Lath—Pine lath, per M, \$3.00.

Finishings—1½, 1½ and 2 inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$65.00, 3rd clear, \$55.00, selects, \$45.00, shops, \$36.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$32.00; B.C. cedar clears, \$55.00; B.C. fir clears and stepping, \$45.00; \$5.00 per M advance on 2½ inch and thicker. One inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$60.00, 3rd clear, \$48.00, selects, No. 1, \$38.00, selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com) \$30.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$30.00; B.C. cedar, clear, \$55.00.

Oak—Red and White—¼ sawed, \$85.00; 1st and 2nd, 55.00 to \$65.00; common, \$40.00.

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c; lattice, 1x1½, 100 feet lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1½ inch lineal, \$1.25, dito, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; ¼ round and ¾ cove, 75c; 1½ inch mould, \$1.50; 2 inch mould, \$1.75; 2½ inch mould, \$2.00; 3 inch mould, \$2.25; 3½ inch mould, \$2.50; 4 inch mould, \$2.75; 4½ inch mould, \$3.00; 5 inch mould, \$3.25; 6 inch mould, \$4.00; 5 inch window stool, 1½ \$4.50; 6 inch window stool, 1½, \$5.25; 4 inch casings, \$2.50; 5 inch casings, \$2.75; 6 inch casings, \$3.25; 8 inch base, \$4.50; 10 inch base, \$5.50; 12 inch base, \$7.00; hand rail, 2x4, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2½ inch, \$2.35, 3 inch, \$2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1½ stork add 25 per cent; 1½ add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

### THE TARIFF

Every new subscriber to THE COMMERCIAL, sending not less than \$1.00 in advance, for 6 months subscription, will receive a free copy of the NEW CANADIAN TARIFF, in handy pamphlet form. A pamphlet of about 30 pages. Exact official copy complete. A useful reference for every business man.

# WINNIPEG PRICES CURRENT

## GROCERIES

Prices to retail dealers for ordinary lots, with usual discounts for cash or large lots.

Canned Goods		Per case
Apples, 35, 2 doz.	2 25	3 50
Apples, preserved, 35, 2 doz.	3 25	3 50
Apples, gallons (per doz.)	3 00	3 25
Blackberries, 25, 2 doz.	3 25	3 50
Blueberries, 25, 2 doz.	2 50	2 75
Beans, 25, 2 doz.	1 80	2 00
Corn, 25, 2 doz.	2 10	2 20
Cherries, red, pitted 25, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Peas, Marrowfat, 25, 2 doz.	2 25	2 50
Peas, sifted, 25, 2 doz.	3 25	3 40
Pears, Bartlett, 25, 2 doz.	3 50	3 45
Pears, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Pears, Bartlett, 35, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Pineapple, 25, 2 doz.	4 50	5 00
Pineapple, imported, 25, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Peaches, 25, 2 doz.	3 50	4 00
Peaches, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Peaches, Canadian, 35, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Plums, 25, 2 doz.	3 50	4 00
Plums, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz.	4 50	5 00
Pumpkins, 35, 2 doz.	2 25	2 50
Raspberries, 25, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Strawberries, 25, 2 doz.	3 50	3 75
Tomatoes, 35, 2 doz.	3 10	3 25
Salmon, tails, 15, 4 doz.	4 50	5 00
Salmon, Cohoes tails, 15, 4 doz.	4 50	5 00
Per tin.		
Sardines, domestic 1/2s	06	08
Sardines, imported, 1/2s	09	15
Sardines, imported, 1/4s	15	25
Sardines, imp. 1/2s, boneless	20	35
Sardines, Dom., mustard 1/2s	10	12
Per doz.		
Imported Fresh Herring, 15, 1	50	1 75
Imp. Kipperd Herrings, 15, 1	50	2 00
Imp. Herrings, Tom. Sauce 15, 1	50	2 00
Imp. " Anch. Sauce 15, 1	50	2 00
Imp. " Shrimp Sauce 15, 1	50	2 00
Canned Meats		
Per case.		
Corn Beef, 15, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Corn Beef, 25, 1 doz.	1 75	3 00
Lunch Tongue, 15, 2 doz.	6 50	7 00
Lunch Tongue, 25, 1 doz.	6 25	6 50
Braven, 25, 1 doz.	2 50	2 75
Pigs Feet, 15, 2 doz.	6 00	6 50
Roast Beef, 25, 1 doz.	2 75	3 00
Chicken, Duck or Turkey, 15, 2 doz.	50	5 00
Per doz.		
Potted Ham, 1/2s	75	
Devilled Ham, 1/2s	75	
Potted Tongue, 1/2s	75	
Potted Ham, 1/4s	1 50	
Devilled Ham, 1/4s	1 50	
Potted Tongue, 1/4s	1 50	
Coffee		
Per pound.		
Green Rio	12	15
Cereals		
Per sack		
Split Peas, sack 65	2 25	2 50
Hot Barley, sack 65	2 40	2 50
Pearl Barley, sack 65	2 40	2 50
Roll'd Oats, sack 65	2 40	2 50
Standard Oatmeal, sack 65	2 10	2 20
Granulated Oatmeal, sack 65	2 10	2 20
Beans (per bushel)	1 20	1 30
Cornmeal, sack 65	1 45	1 55
Cornmeal, 1/2 sac 49 (per 1/2 sac)	75	0 80
Rice, B.		
Per pound		
Rice, Japan	4 1/2c	4 1/2c
Sago	4 c	
Tapioca	4 c	
Cigarettes		
Per M		
Old Judge	\$5 90	
Athlete	8 90	
Sweet Caporal	8 90	
Sweet Sixteen	5 70	
Derby	6 60	
Cured Fish		
Per case.		
Codfish, whole cases, 100 lbs.	6 00	
Codfish, boneless per lb	04	06
Codfish, Pure per lb	07	05
Herrings, in kegs	3 50	3 75
Dried Fruits		
Per barrel		
Currants, Prov'l Barrels	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Prov'l 1/2 Barrels	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Prov'l Cases	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Vostuzia Cases	07 1/2	08
Currants, Finatrua, lbs	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Filiatrua, cases	07 1/2	08
Dates, Cases	06	07
Figs, Blème, about 10 lb box	12 1/2	14
Figs, Cooking, Sax	05 1/2	06
Prunes, Bosnia, Cases	08	09
Prunes, French, Cases	06	07
Sultana Raisins	10	12

Dried Fruits		Per pound
Raisins, Val., box of 25 lbs	1 70	1 90
Raisins, Val. Layers, per box	25	2 55
Loose Muscatels, 2 crown	06	6 1/2
Loose Muscatels, 3 crown	07	7 1/2
Loose Muscatels, 4 crown	08	8 1/2
London Layer, 20 lb Boxes	1 90	2 00
Apples, Dried	07	
Evap. Apples, finest quality	11	12
California Evaporated Fruits		
Peaches, peeled	15	20
Peaches, unpeeled	11	13
Pears	11	12
Apricots, new	10	11
Pitted Plums	11	12
Prunes, 100 to 120	5 1/2	6
Prunes, 90 to 100	6	6 1/2
Prunes, 80 to 90	7	7 1/2
Prunes, 70 to 80	7 1/2	8 1/2
Prunes, 60 to 70	8 1/2	9 1/2
Prunes, 40 to 50	10	11
Matches		
Per case		
Telegraph	\$3	60
Telephone	3	40
Tiger	3	25
Nuts		
Per pound		
Brazils	12 1/2	15
Taragona Almonds	13	15
Peanuts, roasted	13	15
Peanuts, green	10	12
Grenoble Walnuts	15	15
French Walnuts	13	15
Sicily Filberts	11	15
Shelled Almonds	25	30
Syrup		
Extra Bright, per lb	3 1/2c	4c
Medium, per lb	3c	3 1/2c
Maple, case 1 doz. 1/2 gal. tins	\$7	00
Molasses, per gal.	35c	45c
Sugar		
Extra Standard Granulated	5 1/2c	
German Granulated	4 1/2c	
Extra Ground	6 c	6 1/2c
Powdered	6 c	6 1/2c
Bright Yellow Sugar	4 1/2c	
Maple Sugar	12 1/2c	15c
Salt		
Per pound		
Rock Salt	1 1/2c	1 1/2c
Per barrel		
Common, fine	1 00	2 00
Common, coarse	1 00	2 00
Dairy, 100-1	3 25	3 50
Dairy, 60-5	3 15	3 30
Per Sack		
Dairy, white duck sack	00	50
Common, fine jute sack	00	45
Spices		
Per doz.		
Assorted Herbs, 1/2 lb tins	75	90
Per pound		
Allspice, whole	15	20
Allspice, pure ground	15	20
Allspice, compound	15	20
Cassia, whole	15	20
Cassia, pure ground	20	25
Cassia, compound	13	18
Cloves, whole	17	25
Cloves, pure ground	25	30
Cloves, compound	18	20
Pepper, black, whole	10	15
Pepper, black, pure ground	13	15
Pepper, black, compound	10	13
Pepper, white, whole	20	25
Pepper, white, pure ground	25	35
Pepper, white, compound	15	20
Pepper, Cayenne	30	35
Ginger, whole, Jamaica	25	30
Ginger, whole, Cochin	20	25
Ginger, pure ground	25	30
Ginger, compound	15	25
Nutmegs, (per pound)	60	1 00
Mace (per pound)	1 00	1 25
Teas		
Per pound		
China Blacks—		
Choice	35	40
Medium	25	35
Common	17	20
Indian and Ceylon—		
Choice	33	40
Medium	25	35
Common	22	25
Young Hysons—		
Choice	35	45
Medium	28	35
Common	22	30
Japan—		
Finest May Picking	35	40
Choice	30	35
Fine	25	30
Good Medium	20	25
Common	15	20

Tobacco		Per pound
T. & B., 35, 45, and 95 Cads	00	76
Lily, 85, cads	00	63
Cresant, 85, cads	00	60
T. & B. Black Chewing, 85, 16s	00	64
T. & B. Mahogany Chewing, 85, 16s	00	64
T. & B. 1-12 pkg, cut	00	59
T. & B. 1-5 pkg, cut	00	91
T. & B. in pouches, 1-4	00	91
T. & B. in 1-5 tins	00	99
T. & B. in 1/2 tins	00	87
Orinoco, 1-12 pkg.	00	85
Orinoco, 1-5 tins	00	91
Orinoco, 1/2 tins	00	86
Tuckett's Cherub Cigarette 1-12	00	87
Brier, 75, cads	00	65
Derby, 35, cads	00	68
Derby 75, cads	00	68
P. & W. Chewing, Cads	00	66
P. & W. Chewing, Butts	00	66
Wooden Ware		
Per doz.		
Pails, 2 hoop clear	1 50	1 60
Pails, wire hoop	2 25	2 40
Tiger	2 25	2 40
Pails, Star fibre	4 00	
Tubs, No. 0 common	9 50	10 50
Tubs, No. 1 common	8 50	9 00
Tubs, No. 2 common	6 50	7 00
Tubs, No. 3 common	5 50	6 00
Per nest.		
Tubs, nests (3)	1 65	1 75
Tubs, wire hoop (3)	2 25	2 40
Per doz.		
Tubs, fibre, No. 0	16 50	
Tubs, fibre, No. 1	14 50	
Tubs, fibre, No. 2	12 50	
Tubs, fibre, No. 3	10 50	
Per nest		
Tubs, fibre, (3)	3 20	
Butter Tubs, wire hoop (2)	50	55
Butter Tubs, wire hoop (3)	75	80

## CURED MEATS AND LARD

Lard, pure, 20 lb pails	\$1	70
Lard, pure, 50 lb pails	4	15
Lard, pure, in 3, 5 and 10 lb tins, per case of 60 lbs	5	75
Lard, Tierces, per lb	7 1/2	8
Smoked Meats		
per lb.		
Hams	11	11 1/2
Breakfast bacon, bellies	11	11 1/2
Breakfast bacon, backs	10	10 1/2
Spiced rolls	8 1/2	9
Shoulders	5	5 1/2
Long Clear	9 1/2	9 1/2
Dry Salt Meats		
Long clear bacon	8 1/2	8 1/2
Boneless Shoulders	8 1/2	8 1/2
Backs	9	9 1/2
Imported Short Clear	8 1/2	8 1/2
Barrel Pork		
Per barrel		
Heavy mess	15 00	15 50
Short cut	16 00	16 50
Meat Sundries		
Fresh pork sausage, lb	7	
Bologna sausage, lb	6 1/2	
Ham, chicken and tongue, doz	\$1	20
Pickled hocks, per lb	03	
Pickled tongues	05	
Pickled pigs feet, pail 15 lbs	1	40
Sausage casing, lb	20	25

## FRESH FISH.

CISTERS		Per pound
Whitefish, lb	4 1/2	05
Pickrel, lb	03 1/2	
Trout, lb	09	
Lake Superior Herrings, doz	20	
Pike, lb	02	
Salmon, lb	12	
B.C. halibut, lb	10	
Smelts, lb	09	
Cod, lb	08	
Haddock	08	
Roasters, per box	1 25	
Findon haddock, lb	06	
Smoked goldeyes, doz	30	
Oysters, standards, gal	1 80	2 00
Oysters, select, gal	2 00	2 20
Oysters, shell, barrels	7 50	7 75
Salt Whitefish, per 1/2 bbl	6 50	6 50
Salt Trout, per 1/2 bbl	7 50	7 50

## DRUGS

Following are prices for parcel lots, with usual reductions for broken packages.

Alum, lb	3 1/2	4 1/2
Alcohol, gal.	50	5 75
Bleaching Powder, lb	06	07
Bluestone, lb	11	13
Borax	65	75
Bromide Potash	65	75
Camphor	65	75
Camphor, ounces	40	65
Carbolic Acid	15	17
Chlorate Potash	25	30
Citric Acid	55	65
Copperas	55	65
Cocaine, oz	4	50
Creosote Tartar, lb	30	35
Cloves	20	25
Epsom Salts	03 1/2	04
Extract Logwood, bulk	11	15
Extract Logwood, boxes	15	20
German Quinine	35	45
Glycerine, lb	30	35
Ginger, Jamaica	30	35
Ginger, African	20	25
Howard's Quinine, oz	45	55
Iodine	50	55
Insect Powder	35	40
Morphia, sul	10	25
Opium	40	50
Oil, olive	1	1 40
Oil, U.S. Salad	1	1 40
Oil, lemon, super	1	1 40
Oil, peppermint	4	50
Oil, cod liver, gal.	1	50
Oxalic Acid	75	80
Potass Iodide	3	40
Paris Green, lb	10	12
Saltpetre	30	35
Sal Rochelle	30	35
Shellac	35	40
Sulphur Flowers	3 1/2	4 00
Sulphur Roll, krg.	3 1/2	4 00
Soda Bicarb, keg of 112 lbs	3	75
Salt Soda	45	50
Tartaric Acid, lb	45	55
Strchnine, pure crystals, oz	45	1 00

## LEATHER

		Per pound
Harness, oak		33
Harness, union oak No. 1		33
Harness, union oak No. 1 R.		33
Harness, hemlock No. 1, anchor brand		33
Harness, hemlock No. 1 R. anchor brand		33
Harness, hemlock country tannage, No. 1		32
Do., No. 1 R		31
Black collar leather		36
Sole, union oak		30
Listowell, sole		27
Penetang, sole		27
H. F. French calf		1 25
H. F. French kip		05 1/2
Canada calf		65
Canada Calf, Horseshoe		90
Horseshoe Brand Kip		80
Karn Kip		80
Wax upper		35
Kangaroo, per foot		35
Dolgoona, per foot		25

## FUEL

		Per cord
Coal		
These are retail prices, delivered to consumers in the city, or 50c per ton less at the yards, except western anthracite nut size, which is 40c less at the yards.		
Per ton		
Pennsylvania anthracite—		
Stove, nut or lump		10 00
Pea size		7 50
Western anthracite, stove		9 50
Western anthracite, nut		7 25
Leithridge bituminous		7 50
Hocking		7 50
Souris Lignite		4 80
Souris, car lots F.O.B. mines		1 30
Bloussburg smithing		9 50
Cordwood		
These are prices for car lots, on track Winnipeg.		
Per cord		
Tamarac, good, last winter's cut		4 25
Pine, green cut, dry		3 75
Pine, dead cut		3 50
Spruce		2 50
Poplar, green cut dry		2 50
Poplar, dead cut		2 25
Oak, green cut dry body		4 50
Oak, dead cut		4 00

**Busy Edmonton.**

Edmonton, Alta., March 1.—The task assigned to your special correspondent is indeed a hard one, viz., to chronicle events in the neighborhood of Edmonton; for the town is so full of life and bustle, with every man so busy on his own affairs. How rare this is in the world? That no sooner does one approach him with a view to ascertain special news or interesting matter than with a brief apology, the individual rushes off to what he doubtless considers more important duties.

The hotels are crammed to their utmost limit, and the rates, though still reasonable, have in some instances been raised at them as well as boarding houses. Tents are pitched and hundreds are now on the road, and in the various camps formed on the outskirts. The weather is magnificent in the day, though cold at night; it is feared that a break-up of the snow is imminent and this will materially affect the prospects of those who have only just started. Several large parties left on Sunday and more departed to-day. Every form of transport is being used, from the heavy sleigh, light bob-sleigh, to fat sledge and dogs; in fact there is no possible scheme conceivable which will not meet with some supporters. A very prominent party is one provided with bright red sleighs with a blue covered top which is intended to be used as a boat when necessary. Another outfit carries a boat in sections, one contained within the other. Another party are said to be provided with tent and other articles made of aluminum. With regard to the tent, your correspondent cannot speak from personal knowledge, but he would warn rich prospectors who seek to lighten their weight by using articles made of this costly material, that they should not purchase cups, spoons, etc., as the heat is retained so long as to make them practically useless. Camp kettles (four in a nest) and other cooking utensils are made and should be very valuable where heat is to be retained for a considerable period.

With reference to the uses of this town for outfitting purposes by intending explorers, I need only say that everything necessary is obtainable with patience and at comparatively small extra expense, when one considers that freight charges have to be added; but the run has been so great on the hardware and cere trades that, although orders were given some time since, there is some difficulty in supplying certain articles. It is only justice to the tradesmen and merchants of Edmonton, to say that the fault does not apparently lie with them, but rather to delay in arrival. Oats are fetching as much as 34 cents a bushel from this cause. Horses are pretty plentiful, running from \$25 to \$45 per head, but very few indeed of these have been broken in, and the consequence is that many a camp is the scene of much excitement; whilst it is no uncommon sight to see a horse, or pair, dashing through the street, followed by a bevy of curiously attired men using language not always of the choicest.

Major Helpman and the remainder of his party were yesterday morning at 11 o'clock two miles north of St. Albert, all going well; at four o'clock they were again reported as appearing in very good condition, although a minor fatality had occurred in

which one of the subordinates had received an injury to the eye. Surely after such a run of bad luck the turn of the tide must arrive shortly, and they deserve at least bon voyage. Another unfortunate party, the Chatworthy, which has been broken up through disagreements, have appointed a receiver who will sell the stores, which cannot be amicably divided, by auction in the course of a few days.

It is to be regretted that certain prospectors have so little regard for suffering as to take their wives with them. One lady left here to-day, and the best wish for her sake, is that the pair may have the sense to follow the example of one man who left with two ladies not long since, but speedily retraced his steps. The roads are said to be very bad indeed, two men who left on Saturday with the object of travelling express to the banks of the Pelly, found it impossible to make headway through the snow with dog teams, so one returned, whilst the other continued northwards towards Peace River Crossing.

Enterprise is prominent everywhere here; varying from a man who bought up three casks of eggs in the roadway and immediately sold them at a good profit to a large store, to the great amusement of a select body of friends, to the enterprise shown by the N. W. Trading Co. and Peterborough Canoe Co., who are sending forty men with two steam launches and twenty-four canoes up the Mackenzie, via Athabasca and Fort McPherson. This party is supposed to leave on the 15th April. Probably the largest party leaving to-day has been the "Dead Sure" who tracked off well, although the start was delayed by one animal managing to leave the contents of its sledge on the roadway. The exodus of "Klondikers" is fairly afoot, and it only remains for those who seek the bubble "gold" to carefully consider the question where to go? for though the term of "Klondiker" is used to denote anyone going north of Edmonton, very few propose, or expect, to go so far as Dawson City. Next, they should consider the dangers and difficulties in the way and whether their health, and previous training, are such as to permit of a reasonable hope of enduring the undoubted hardships of climate, extremes of heat and cold, with the probability of insufficient supplies of food, and the absolute certainty, that not one in fifty will do more than make the journey sufficiently remunerative to recoup them for the labor and expense incurred. It is a serious problem and one which I am convinced is lost sight of in the majority of cases; for very few out of the scores I have talked to, know even the most elementary principles of geology or mineralogy but rely on "luck," or, in other words, in locating on the next available claim that may be vacant, where gold is said to have been found by parties on the ground.

It will be impossible to stem the rush I know, but it is the duty of the press to warn all those who are not able to bear the strain physically; as well as to find means for a thorough equipment, that they are simply joining in what may become another mad rush, culminating in disaster to themselves, and ruin to family and friends in many instances.

Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton are engaged in rivalry as to outfitting; but I am unable to particularize one as being far in advance of the other.

C. H. STEWART WADE.

**B.C. Boards Resolve.**

Victoria, March 2.—At a largely attended public meeting here last night the following resolutions were moved by G. A. Kirk, president of the Victoria board of trade, seconded by W. T. Stien, secretary Vancouver board of trade, was passed unanimously. These preliminaries being settled, Mr. Geo. A. Kirk, president of the British Columbia board of trade, moved the first resolution. He did not need to make any long speech upon the subject, he said, because the resolution was self-explanatory and contained his sentiments. The resolution reads: Whereas the discovery of gold in the Canadian Yukon has resulted in an unexpected rush of miners to that country, and will, in all probability, continue for years to come; and whereas the trade attendant to this influx of population amounts to many millions of dollars per annum; and whereas, it is at present impracticable to reach the gold bearing region without passing through Alaskan territory; and whereas the United States government's customs and coasting regulations interfere with and harass the trade of our Canadian merchants, which trade reasonably belongs to the Dominion of Canada; and whereas a fair share of the northern trade can be secured to Canada by the opening up of an all-Canadian route, such as a railway from a port in British Columbia to connect with the Stikine-Teslin railway; and whereas the building of such a line would open up for settlement the northern portion of British Columbia, which contains agricultural, grazing and rich mineral lands sufficient to sustain a very large population, and which would be particularly suitable for the thousands of miners returning from the country further north; and whereas the northern trade will be very valuable for all time, and will be removed beyond the sphere of foreign competition by the building of the aforesaid railway; therefore, be it resolved that the Dominion and provincial governments be urged to grant such assistance as may be necessary to secure the construction of a railroad from a British Columbia port to the Stikine river simultaneously with that between the Stikine river and Teslin lake.

Resolved, further, that a copy of this resolution be telegraphed to the hon. minister of railways at Ottawa and copies mailed to all the ministers and to the representatives of British Columbia, and a copy be forwarded to the honorable, the premier of British Columbia.

The second of this resolution was Mr. W. T. Stien, secretary of the Vancouver board of trade. He calculated at the rate of trade now being done there was \$24,000,000 being lost to British Columbia yearly. The importance of the immediate construction of this line was enlarged upon by all the speakers, and the consensus of opinion was that the government should allow no considerations to delay the immediate consummation of their plans to this end.

Lucas, Steel & Bristol, of Hamilton, Ontario, have been sending out a useful railway map of Ontario, a copy of which has reached The Commercial.

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, March 5, 1898.

Business with the city jobbing trade is opening out in a very satisfactory manner, and the volume all around is larger than last year. Winnipeg is not getting any very great benefit from the Klondike rush. A little outfitting is being done here, but it is hardly noticed in the general volume of trade. Winnipeg jobbers in some lines, however, are filling orders through coast houses for Klondike supplies, so that directly and indirectly the Klondike business will form a feature in the trade of the city. The Klondike fever is not absorbing attention entirely from more practical and staple investments. Manitoba lands, for instance, continue to improve in demand. The sales of the Canadian Pacific railway land department were three fold greater during last month than for February of last year, and other reports are equally hopeful. It is not to the Klondike rush that we look for business, but to the development of the greater Klondike right at home in the rich lands of the prairie region. The continued improvement in the demand for lands for settlement is the most hopeful feature in the situation. Railway traffic is very heavy, due largely to the Klondike rush. Trains sometimes have to be run in two sections.

Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week were \$1,566,141, compared with \$944,596 for the corresponding week last year and \$1,001,155 for the like week two years ago. For the month of February this year clearings at Winnipeg were \$5,517,340, compared with \$3,551,013 for February last year and \$4,052,551 for February of 1896.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Saturday, March 5  
BIKCYCLES.

Consumers are not buying yet, but dealers are getting in their supplies for the spring trade. Prices of standard wheels will be \$5 to \$10 lower than last season. In Winnipeg bicycles have been used more or less all winter.

### FISH.

Winter fishing is about over. A good many whitefish have been taken in Lake Manitoba but it is said the fish caught at Lake Winnipeg have been mostly pickerel, the whitefish having evidently gone farther north this winter than usual. Haddies are selling at 6 to 7c. Other prices are about the same.

### FUEL.

There is no change in the local situation. Prices are the same and business is moderate, owing to mild weather. A report from Duluth says, "Hard coal was advanced to \$5.25 a ton this week, a rise of 50 cents a ton. The circular price has all along

been \$5.25, but for a month or two has been entirely disregarded, and \$4.75 has been the ruling price. Hard coal nearly always advances in the spring, but the raise comes earlier this year than usual. It is done to get business in shape for next year, so the companies say. Hocking coal still sells at \$2.60 and Youghiogheny at \$2.75. The stocks of coal left here at the close of navigation will be about what they were in past years. Instead of a shortage of 200,000 tons in soft coal which many expected, there may be a surplus of that amount."

### GREEN FRUITS.

Oranges and lemons are easier. Mexican oranges have been reduced 50 to 75c per box. In order to clear out balance of stock. Navels have been reduced 25 to 50c per box. Some seedlings are now offered at about \$3. The new stock now offering is good quality, but there is some poor held navel which are selling as low as under \$3 box. Lemons are 25c box lower. Choice apples hold firm, but off quality are selling at buyers' prices. Cranberries are getting scarce. Prices are as follows: Mexican oranges, \$3.00 to \$3.50; navel oranges, \$3.75 to \$4.25; bananas, per bunch, \$2.50 to \$3.50; California lemons, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per box; apples, Ontario stock, \$4 to \$4.50 per barrel for good to choice; southern apples \$4 per bbl.; off quality, \$2.00 to \$3.50 per bbl. as to condition; cranberries, unfrozen, \$8 to \$8.50 a barrel; frozen stock, \$7 to \$7.50 per bbl.; sweet potatoes \$5 per bbl.; Malaga grapes \$7 to \$7.50 per keg; Ontario black walnuts \$c lb.; cocoanuts, \$1 per doz.; Sicily filberts, large 11 to 12c per lb.; Grenoble walnuts, 13c; figs, fancy elemes, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 10 lb. box. 30 lb. boxes, 16c; 50 lb. boxes, 17c per lb.; dates, 7 1-2c per lb.; shelled walnuts, 20 to 25c per lb.; imported celery, 60 to 75c per doz.

### GROCERIES.

The feature of the local market is the upward tendency in domestic canned goods. All lines are firm, and corn and tomatoes are again quoted higher this week. Sugars are firm. The tendency here is to advance prices 1-8c, in sympathy with the advance reported last week in the east. The prices we quote on sugars are net prices and they will probably be advanced 1-8c. In cereals pot barley and rice are higher, Japan being quoted at 5 3-8c. Oatmeal is also firm and higher for rolled oats. Dried apples cannot be had at the inside price quoted recently. Currants have appreciated from the inside price quoted a short time ago. See quotations on another page.

### HARDWARE.

Business is moving very satisfactorily in this line. The price changes this week are a decline of 5c on cut nails to \$2.45 base price, and the advance of 2c, noted elsewhere, on linseed oil. Binder twine is moving some, though buying is not active yet for this article. The market is very firm for this article. Cordage has been advancing steadily for some time, owing to the increased cost of both raw manilla and sisal, and binder twine is of course affected the same as rope by the advance in the price of the raw material. Quotations for binder twine are about the same as last year, the removal of the duty having been fully counterbalanced by the increased cost of the raw material, with a firm tendency.

### LEATHER.

The market is very firm. A while ago it was said that leather would have to go up and hides would come down, so as to equalize prices between hides and leather. The hide market, however, has held very firm and the tendency has been higher, consequently the feeling in leather is very strong. Harness leather advanced 1c in the east last week. Prices here are firm and may go higher. Business is good.

### LUMBER.

A rather better feeling prevails in the trade this week. Differences between dealers, both wholesale and retail, are being adjusted on a satisfactory basis. One principal trouble between the wholesale and retail trade is understood to have been removed this week. The outlook is a so more hopeful for a better understanding between the city retail dealers. It will certainly be very much better for the dealers to work harmoniously than to engage in price cutting, which only results in business demoralization and loss. Any gain to consumers from price cutting is not a public gain when it results in loss. Prospects are good. There will certainly be more building this year, both in the city and country, than there has been for some time.

### PAINTS, OILS, ETC.

Lined oil, which has been very firm for some time has advanced 2c to 54c and 57c for raw and boiled respectively, in barrels. Turpentine is also stronger and may be higher. Business is opening out nicely. Orders have been coming in from western points for some time, and now nearby points are beginning to place orders for their spring requirements.

### PAPER BAGS.

Paper bags have been selling at very low prices for some time, owing to keen competition among manufacturers. The competition was carried to such an extent that there was nothing left in the business for jobbers, as manufacturers were selling small orders about as low as for larger orders. The prices were cut so fine that manufacturers felt they could not meet any discounts for large orders. Recently manufacturers have come together and arranged the business on a more reasonable basis. A graduated scale of prices has been established, in proportion to the size of orders, and values have been advanced about 10 per cent. The new basis of prices will enable jobbers to handle bags on a small margin of profit, as by buying in large lots, thereby getting car lot freight rates as well as the lower price for large purchases, they will be able to sell to the trade here at about mill prices for small lots.

### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—The markets opened firm this week, advancing sharply on Monday, made a further gain on Tuesday, held steady on Wednesday, declined slightly on Thursday, and declined 1c on Friday. Argentine shipments have been large so far this year, compared with last year. The visible supply is declining more rapidly. It is expected Monday's statement will show a decline of 1,500,000 bushels this week. The decline in the visible last week was 1,345,000 bushels.

The local market has been dull. There was some buying of May wheat at \$1. Fort William. Cash wheat ranged from 97 to 99c during the week. Yesterday 97 1-2c was quot-



ed for cash No. 1 hard and \$1 for May delivery, Fort William. In Manitoba country markets prices to farmers declined to about 82c at the opening of the week, but advanced to 86c, and were quoted yesterday at 84c to 85c for No. 1 hard, to farmers. In the Winnipeg market 90c was paid to farmers, but yesterday the price was dropped to 89c for No. 1 hard. Very little wheat is being delivered in the country, farmers deliveries in Winnipeg being larger than at most country points. Receipts of wheat at Fort William elevators last week were 17,931 bushels and shipments 35,921 bushels. In store Fort William 723,068 bushels, compared with 3,000,000 bushels a year ago.

**FLOUR**—The market is steadier and more regular. We quote Patent, \$2.50; best bakers \$2.30; second bakers \$1.90; XXX, \$1.40 per sack of 48 lbs., with discount of 5c net.

**MILLFEED**—Prices are unchanged. There is a good demand for bran and prices are firm. We quote bran at \$11 and shorts \$13 per ton in bulk. Large lots \$1 per ton less.

**OATMEAL**—Prices are firm. Rolled meal is generally held at \$2 in small lots.

**GROUND FEED**—Pure grain feed is quoted at \$22 to \$24 for rolled oat feed. Inferior mixed mill feed, \$18 to \$20 per ton. Ground corn feed is quoted at \$16 to \$17 per ton. Oil cake \$22 per ton.

**OATS**—The market is a little firmer, but prices are about the same. We quote 35 to 37c per bushel of 34 pounds as to quality, for car lots here. There is some demand for choice white oats for seed, and as such are very scarce, high prices have been paid. About 34c per bushel has been paid for car lots in the country, equal to about 40c on track here.

**BARLEY**—Feed barley is quoted at about 35 to 38c, nominal. Very little demanded. Maltng samples 38 to 43c as to quality, and 1 to 2c higher for fancy samples.

**CORN**—We quote 39 to 40c per bus of 56 lbs., for cars on track here.

**BUTTER, creamery**—A little fall creamery is still held, which is selling at 23 to 23 1/2c.

**BUTTER, Dairy**—Market is steady. There is no accumulation and there is very little held fall stocks this year, stocks having been well sold out all the season. Rolls will hardly bring as good prices as tubs. We quote dealers paying 16c net for good dairy tubs and 1-2c less for ordinary lots of rolls. Dealers are selling at 17 to 18c per lb., as to quantity and quality.

**CHEESE**—Dealers are selling at 10 to 10 1/2c. Stocks limited.

**EGGS**—Eggs are steady. Dealers have paid 16c for receipts of fresh country eggs. We quote 16 to 19c for fresh, as to quality.

**DRESSED POULTRY**—Chickens will bring 9c and turkeys 12 1/2c; geese 9 to 10c. Ducks would bring about 8c.

**DRESSED MEATS**—Holders of frozen beef are becoming alarmed as the season advances. It is understood that a lot of frozen beef is still held, which is now very slow sale. The season has been a disappointing one as stocks were bought up at high prices in the early part of the winter and large stocks have been held all winter for higher prices. A lot of frozen mutton is also held, but this is in fewer hands, and mutton can be kept in cold storage after warm weather sets in, while cold storage beef is not saleable at any price. Dressed hogs hold very firm.

We quote: Frozen beef 3 to 4 1/2c. Fresh killed beef 6 to 6 1/2c. Mutton, good to choice, 6 to 7c; hogs, round lots, 6 1/4 to 6 1/2c. Choice hogs in small lots to butchers, 7c.

**CURED MEATS and LARD**—Prices are firm. See quotations on another page.

**HIDES**—Prices are the same here, though advices reported eastern markets lower. There are scarcely any hides offering here, and high prices are being paid. We quote: Green frozen hides, 7c to 7 1/2c flat, 5 lbs tare; kip 7c; calf, 8 to 9c per lb; deacon skins, 15c to 25c each; sheep pelts will average 4c to 75c each; horse hides, 75c to \$1.75 each, colts, 25c each.

**WOOL**—Nominal at 8 to 10c here for unwashed fleece.

**TALLOW**—Quoted at 3 1/2c for No. 1, and No. 2 to 2 1/2c for other grades as to quality.

**SENECA ROOT**—The market is weak. About 18c is now offered.

**VEGETABLES**—Prices as follows: Potatoes, 35 to 40c per bushel; carrots, \$1 to \$1.20 per bushel; onions, native, 2 to 2 1/2c per lb; imported, 3c; celery, 60 to 75c per dozen bunches; cabbage, 40c to \$1 per dozen; beets, 30 to 40c per bushel; turnips, 20c per bushel; parsnips, 1 1/2 to 2c.

**HAY**—\$6 per ton is the usual price for baled hay f.o.b. country points. Some ask 50c more.

#### LIVE STOCK.

**CATTLE**—The market is still stocked with frozen meat and only a few cattle are being killed to supply butchers who do not eat frozen meat. We quote 31-2 to 33-4c for good butchers' cattle here. Reports from the west say the winter has been very favorable and the cattle on the ranges have done well. If March is a good month the range cattle will likely come into the market earlier than usual this year.

**HOGS**—The market for live hogs is firm at unchanged prices. We quote c.o.c.e bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 lbs at \$5 per 100 lbs; 250 to 300 lbs \$4.25 to \$4.50, heavy hogs over 300 lbs, \$3.25 to \$4 as to quality, live weight.

**Horses**—The horse market has been very dull this winter. Lately a lot of horses have died from some epidemic disease, and this will make more buying, especially as farmers will soon have to start their spring work. Some horses from Montana and other points in the States are being brought in.

#### C.P.R. Annual Report

Cobourg, March 2.—Wm. Dorris, em-paclic Railway company's annual report announces that the Crow's Nest Pass line will be completed to Kootenay Lake before the end of August. A temporary connection will be made with Nelson by means of a train ferry whereby a through train service may be established pending the completion of the railway along the shore of the lake to that point, a distance of sixty miles.

The maximum gradients through the Rocky and Selkirk ranges of mountains are only one foot in one hundred, or barely one half the maximum of any other railway crossing either of these ranges.

The company also announce that it is necessary to move on westward from the Columbia river at Robson, the western end of the C. P. R. line, so as to reach the Boundary Creek district, about one hundred miles distant. During the present year, authority will be asked to make this expenditure.

The company also announce the purchase of the Columbia and Western railway, extending from Robson to Re-land, for the sum of \$800,000. Along with this purchase the company have acquired the smelting works at Traff Creek, and about 270,000 acres of land in the vicinity.

#### Northwest Ontario.

C. Godfrey is opening a drug store at Dryden.

Thomas Davidson will open in the tobacco business at Rat Portage.

The machinery for the new electric light plant at Fort William is being installed.

The Ottawa house at Rat Portage has changed hands. Mr. Laurin, the former proprietor, is retiring in favor of Louis Cardinal.

A new boat is being built at Fort Centre. Rainy Lake City and Bell City. the lake between Fort Frances, Mine Frances by Coates & Mosler, to ply on.

John Galt, of Toronto, has been engaged by the water and light commissioners as engineer to draw plans for the proposed waterworks at Fort William.

#### Minneapolis Markets.

The market shows an advance on corn, oats and barley. Flour 5c lower; Eggs 3-4c lower. Butter up 1c.

Flour—Prices in barrels: First patents, \$5.15 to \$5.25; second patents, \$5.00 to \$5.15.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$9 50 to \$10; bran in bulk, \$10 to \$10.50; corn feed, \$11.25 to \$13 per ton, as to quality.

Corn—Quoted at 27 3/4c for No. 3. Oats—Held at 26 1/2c for No. 3 white.

Barley—Feed quoted at 30 1/2 to 31c.

Flax seed—\$1.21 1/2 per bushel.

Eggs — 11c for strictly fresh, including cases; seconds, 6c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, \$1-2 to 9 1-2c; fair to good, \$ 1-2 to 7c.

Butter—Creamery, 18 to 19 1-2c; seconds, 14 to 16c; dairy, 11 to 18c.

Dressed meats — Mutton, 4 to 6c; lambs, 5 to 8 1-2c; hogs, 4 1-2c for heavy and 5c for medium and light.

Potatoes—Car lots mixed, 36 to 38c; choice named varieties, 40 to 55c.

Poultry — Chickens, 9 to 10c; old fowls, 4 to 8 1-2c; turkeys, 9 to 11c; ducks, 8 to 9c; geese 7 to 8 1-2c.

Hides—Green, frozen hides, 8 to 9c; bulls oxen and brands, 6 to 7 1/2c; sheepskins, 40 to 70c each; tallow, 2 1/4 to 3 1/4c; seneca root, 18 to 22c.

Cattle—Sales: 7 stockers, average 690 lbs., \$4.10; 1 stecker, average 536 lbs., \$4.30; 2 cows, av. 1,036 lbs., \$3.25; 3 cows, av. 996 lbs., \$3.20; 1 av. 910, \$2.50; 3 bulls, 1,034 lbs., \$3.25.

Hogs—Sales. 47 hogs, av. 200 lbs., \$3.87 1-2; 73 hogs, av. 231 lbs., \$3.87 1-2; 70 av. 178, \$3.85.

#### Money

There has been some talk of mortgage loans having been taken at lower rates, recently, but it is said this has been mostly on transactions with private funds. The loan companies claim to be holding rates steady at 8 per cent for ordinary transactions in farm property security. Small city loans are usually quoted at 7 per cent, but of course much better terms have been secured for large desirable loans. Bank discount rates 6 to 8 per cent.

**TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, March 5.

**Dry Goods**—Dry goods were active and sales much larger than last year. Payments on paper maturing yesterday very satisfactory. The mills have reduced cotton flannels five to ten per cent, pillow cottons ten to twelve per cent, and bleached cottons 1-2 to 3-4c. Unbleached sheetings have been reduced twelve and half to fifteen per cent. Rubber cloth goods are ten per cent. higher. Woolen knitted goods are 5 to 8 per cent. higher. Credits have been reduced one month and discounts reduced from 12 to 9 per cent. The millinery openings were a big success. There was heavy buying. Among the visitors were a number of Manitoba buyers.

**Groceries**—Groceries are active and prices advancing. Gelatine is 2 and canned beef 10 cents higher. Considerable shipments of canned vegetables are being made to Manitoba and the west.

**Hardware**—This branch is improving, large shipments of guns, knives, and ammunition are reported for British Columbia.

**TORONTO GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, March 5.

The grain trade is dull. Feed barley has advanced. Eggs have been declining. Butter is firm owing to limited offerings, amounting to an actual scarcity. Flour 5c up.

Flour—Manitoba patent, \$5.55; bakers, \$5.05, Ontario straight roller, \$4.20 to \$4.30.

Wheat—Ontario wheat, 86 to 87c.

Oats—White 30 to 30 1-2c, mixed 29 1-2c.

Barley—Quite at 41c for No. 2; 38 for No. 3 extra, and 36 to 37c for feed.

Millfeed—Shorts, \$13.50 to \$14 per ton; bran \$12 per ton.

Oatmeal—\$3.70 to \$3.80 per barrel for car lots.

Eggs—New laid, 15 to 16c; hmed, 12 to 13c.

Butter, dairy—Tubs, choice 17 to 18c, medium, 13 to 14c. Creamery, tubs, 20 to 21c.

Hides—No. 1 green, 9c, the latter for steers; cured, 9 3-4c; sheepskins, \$1.00 to \$1.25 for fresh killed; tallow, 2 3-4 to 3 1-2c.

Dried apples—Firm at 4 to 4 1-2c; evaporated, 9c.

Honey—6 1-2 to 7c per lb. in bulk. Beans—70 to 80c per bushel.

Dressed hogs—\$6 to \$6.25 per 100 lbs for choice.

Wool—Fleece 20 1-2c. Pulled, 19 1-2 to 21 1-2c; extras, 22 to 23c.

**TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, March 1.

Offerings today were 28 carloads. These include 275 sheep and lambs, 900 hogs.

**Export Cattle**—Prices were steady at 3 3-4c to 4 1-4c per lb. for good steers, and \$3.30 to \$3.60 for fat buls.

**Butchers' Cattle**—Offerings light and prices firm, ruling from \$3.10 to \$3.80 per cwt. for good to choice; common to medium, 3c to 3 1-4c per lb. All offerings sold.

**Stockers and Feeders**—Some good feeding buls bring 2 1-2c to 2 3-4c. few are coming forward; they sell at 3 1-2c to 3 3-4c for distillery men and feeding buls bring 2 1-2c to 2 3-4c. Sheep and Lambs—Lambs were

firm; demand export active at 5c to 5 1-4c per lb; sheep 3 1-2c; bucks 3c.

**Hogs**—The market was firmer at 5c to 5 1-8c for the best bacon, weighed off cars; thick fat \$1.50 to \$1.65 per cwt., and light \$1.70 to \$1.75; sows, \$3 to \$3.25; stags, \$2. Choice hogs are wanted.

**FRIDAY'S MARKETS.**

Toronto, March 4.

Receipts of live stock of all kinds at the semi-weekly market today were 66 carloads, including 3,500 hogs. Owing to large receipts, cattle were weaker. Sheep were 1-1c lower. Others unchanged. Prices per 100 pounds were as follows.

Butchers' choice cattle	3.50	to	3.75
Export cattle	\$3.75	to	4.25
good	2.75	to	3.30
Butchers, common to medium	2.75	to	3.30
Bulls	2.75	to	3.60
Feeders	3.50	to	3.75
Stockers	3.00	to	3.25
Export sheep	3.00	to	3.25
Butchers' sheep	2.75	to	3.00
Lambs	5.00	to	5.25
Choice bacon hogs	5.00	to	5.10
Light hogs	4.70	to	4.75
Thick fat hogs	4.55	to	4.65
Stores	4.40	to	4.60
Sows	3.00	to	3.25
Stags	2.00	to	2.25

**MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, March 5.

Turpentine has advanced 1c. United States coal oil has been advanced 1c. Trade is fairly active.

White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c, red lead in kegs, 4 3-4c; linseed oil raw, 45 to 46c; boiled 48 to 49c; turpentine 51 to 52c; bar iron \$1.40 to \$1.50, tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90, I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75, Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.90 to \$4; spout in bulk, \$1.65; in bladders, 80; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

**MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, March 5.

Granulated sugar has been reduced 1-16 to 4 3-8c at the refineries. Other lines unchanged. Spices are advancing.

Quotations are: Granulated sugar, standard, 4 3-8c at the refineries; Canadian-German granulated, 4 1-8c; yellows, 3 11-16 to 3 7-8c; imported best granulated, 4 1-8c. Molasses, 29 to 30c; syrups, 2 to 2 1-2c as to quality; Valencia raisins from 4 3-4 to 5 1-2c; Valencia layers, 6 1-2c; currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c, as to brand; coffee, Rio, 8 1-2 to 10c; Mocha, 18 to 20c; Java, 17 to 20; rice, Crystal Japan, 5c, B. 3 1-2c.

Canned goods—Tomatoes, \$1.25; corn, 90c to \$1; peas, 90c to \$1.

**MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, March 5.

Millfeed is in active demand and higher. Oatmeal has been irregular in price. It is quoted 5 to 10c higher. Butter is firm at 1c higher for dairy and 1-2c to 1c higher for creamery. Cheese quiet.

Oats—Steady at 34 to 34 1-2c per bushel for No. 2 white.

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$4.95; Manitoba patents, \$5.35 to \$5.40.

Millfeed—Bran \$15 per ton; shorts, \$17, including sacks.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.90 to \$1.95 per bag.

Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.

Eggs—Picked, 14 to 15c per dozen; new laid, 19 to 20c.

Butter—Dairy, 16 to 18c.

Butter—Creamery, 19 to 20 1-2c.

Cheese—7 3-4 to 8c.

Dressed hogs—\$6.25 to \$6.75 per 100 pounds.

Dressed beef—Front quarters, 3 1-2 to 4 1-2c; hinds, 5 1-2 to 7 1-2c.

Dressed mutton—Lamb, 7 to 8c; mutton, 6 to 7c.

**MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.**  
 Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Feb. 29.

Receipts at the East End abattoir yesterday were 500 cattle, 500 calves and fifty sheep and lambs. Cattle were easier, owing to liberal supplies, and the recent advance of 1-3 to 1-4c was lost. All offered, however, were taken at the decline. Choice cattle sold at 4 to 4 1-4c; good at 3 1-4 to 3 3-4c, and lower grades at 2c to 3c per lb. Offerings of sheep and lambs were small. Sheep sold at 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c per lb., and lambs at 4 1-2 to 5c per lb., live weight. About 500 hogs were offered at the Point St. Charles stockyards and all were taken at 5 to 5 1-4c. It is stated that exporters are losing \$5 per head on cattle recently sent forward.

**THURSDAY'S MARKETS.**

Montreal, March 4.

At yesterday's market prices were steady for cattle. Sheep, however, were firm and advanced 1-4 to 1-2c. Hogs were in good demand and 1-4c higher.

Cattle—Choice 4 1-4; fair to good, 3 1-4 to 4c.

Sheep—3 1-2 to 4c per lb.; lambs 4 1-2c to 5c.

Hogs—5 1-4 to 5 1-2c.

**CROW'S NEST LABORERS.**

Mr. Alex. Calder, the C. P. R. employment agent, arrived in the city Thursday night from Toronto with a party of 130 laborers for the Crow's Nest Pass railway construction work. Mr. Calder returns Saturday to London and Toronto and expects to get at least 500 more men from these cities. Between three and four thousand more men will be required to complete the building of this railway by August. There are 1,000 men working in the wood camps between here and Fort William, and 2,000 between Port Arthur and Sault Ste. Marie. These laborers will be available in a short time. Several parties from Newfoundland are on the way up, and one party went through a few days ago. About 3,000 men will be required on the Teslin Lake railway by April, but Contractor Munn says he can secure any number of laborers in Vancouver and the coast cities. The question of getting Canadians for work on the Crow's Nest Pass railway is a very difficult one. Mr. Calder now has four or five agents in Ontario employing all available laborers.

**NEW YORK STOCKS.**

New York, March 4.—3 p.m.—Money on call firm, 2 to 2 1-2. Last loan 2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4 to 4 1-2 per cent. Sterling exchange weak, at \$1.94 1-8 for demand and \$1.81 1-2 to \$1.81 3-4 for sixty days. Posted rates, \$1.83 and \$1.85 1-2. Commercial bills, \$1.80 3-4. Silver certificates, 54 1-8 to 54 5-8. Bar silver, 54 1-4. Mexican dollars, 45. Government bonds weak.



**Chicago Board of Trade Prices**

Prices are quoted per bushel of 60 pounds for wheat, bushel of 56 pounds of corn, bushel of 32 pounds of oats, per barrel for mess pork, and per 100 pounds for lard and short rib bacon; flax seed per bushel of 56 pounds.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Feb. \$1.04 3-4; May \$1.04 3-4; July 89 3-4 to 7-8.

Corn—May 30; July 31 1-8 to 1-4; Sept. 32 3-8.

Oats—May 26 1-4; July 24 1-4.  
Mess pork—May \$10.40; July \$10.12 1-2.  
Lard—May \$5.15; July \$5.22 1-2.  
Short ribs — May \$5.12 1-2; July \$5.17 1-2.

Chicago, March 1.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, March, \$1.05 1-2; May, \$1.05 1-2; July, 91 1-8c.

Corn, May, 30 5-8c; July, 31 7-8c; Sept., 32 cents.

Oats, May, 24 1-2c; July, 24 5-8c.  
Mess pork, May, \$10.12 1-2; July, \$10.45.

Lard, May, \$5.17 1-2; July, \$5.25.  
Short ribs, May, \$5.15 1-2; July, \$5.25.

Chicago, March 2.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, March and May, \$1.06 7-8; July, 91c.

Corn, May, 30 1-4c to 3-8c; July, 31 1-2c; Sept., 32 5-8c.

Oats, May, 26 3-8c to 1-2c; July, 24 3-8c.

Mess pork, May, \$10.15; July, \$10.50.  
Lard, May, \$5.15; July, \$5.27 1-2.  
Short ribs, May, \$5.17 1-2; July, \$5.25.

Chicago, March 3. — The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—March, \$1.05 1-2; May, \$1.06; July, 91 3-4.

Corn—March 30 5-8; July, 31 3-4; Sept., 32 7-8.

Oats—May, 26 7-8; July, 24 3-4 to 24 7-8.

Mess pork — May, \$10.67 1-2; July, \$10.72 1-2.

Lard—May, \$5.30; July, \$5.37 1-2.

Short ribs — May, \$5.27 1-2; July, \$5.35.

Chicago, March 4. — The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat — March, \$1.03 3-4; May, \$1.04 3-4; July, 90 1-4 to 90 3-8.

Corn — May, 30 1-4; July, 31 1-2; Sept., 32 1-2 to 32 5-8.

Oats—May, 26 3-4 to 26 7-8; July, 24 5-8.

Mess pork — May, \$10.47 1-2; July, \$10.52 1-2.

Lard—May, \$5.20; July, \$5.27 1-2.

On Saturday, March 5, May wheat opened at \$1.05 to \$1.05 1-2, and ranged upward to \$1.05 3-4. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May \$1.05 3-4; July, 90 5-8c; Sept., 78 7-8c.

Corn—May, 30 1-8c; July, 31 3-8c.

Oats—May, 26 7-8c; July, 24 1-2c.

Pork—May, \$10.37 1-2; July, \$10.45.

Lard—May, \$5.15; July, \$5.22 1-2.

Ribs—May, \$5.12 1-2; July, \$5.20.

Flax seed—Cash, \$1.25; May, \$1.24.

A week ago May options closed at \$1.02 1-2. A year ago May wheat closed at 76 1-8c, two years ago at 65 1-4c, and three years ago at 55c.

**New York Wheat.**

New York, Feb. 28.—Wheat—Receipts 77,700 bushels; exports 70,445 bushels.

Options opened firm at a partial 1-4c advance, and with exceptions ruled strong all day, closing 11-4 to 11-2c net higher. The rise was directly attributed to a scare of shorts over an unexpectedly Liverpool cable, a big reduction in visible supply and foreign buying, exporters were shut out by the advance. No. 2 red March closed \$1.05 5-8; May opened 99 to \$1.00 5-8, closed \$1.00 3-8; July opened 91 5-8 to 92 5-8, closed 92 1-4; Sept. closed 82 1-2.

New York, March 1.—Receipts, 138,750 bushels; exports, 47,616 bushels. Options opened easy and unchanged, selling off under bearish cable news. A rally on covering, due to clique support, followed, the market ruling dull until near the close, when a spurt in corn scared shorts again and prices left off at the top, or 1-8c to 1-2c higher than last night. No. 2 red, March, \$1.05 1-8 to \$1.05 3-4, closed \$1.05 3-4; May, \$1 to \$1.00 7-8, closed \$1.00 3-4; July, 91 7-8c to 92 3-4c, closed 92 3-4c; Sept., 81 7-8c to 83c, closed 83c.

New York, March 2.—Wheat receipts, 20,860 bushels; exports, 59,883 bushels; Options opened firm at 1-8c advance, and later showed positive strength on support of bullish Argentine and foreign buying. The trade overloaded, however, and in an afternoon effort to get profits, broke prices sharply. The close was 5-8c up on near, and 3-4c off on late months. No. 2 red, March, closed \$1.06 3-8; May, \$1.00 7-8 to \$1.01 7-8, closed \$1.01 3-8; July, 92 3-4 to 93 1-10, closed 92 3-4; Sept., 82 3-16c to 83 1-2c, closed 82 1-4c.

New York, March 3.—Wheat receipts 193,325 bushels; exports, 32,105 bushels; sales, 3,405,000 bushels futures, 40,000 bushels spot. Spot steady. No. 1 red, store and elevator, \$1.08 1-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 northern Duluth, \$1.12 2-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard Manitoba, \$1.12 3-4 spot f.o.b. afloat. No. 1 hard Duluth, \$1.14 3-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive. Options opened firm and 1-8 to 1-2 cents higher, but developed considerable irregularity. Near months advanced on clique support and reduction of the Spanish duties on wheat, closing 3-8 to 5-8 net higher, although somewhat off from the top, late deliveries being affected by bearish crop news, weakened and closed 3-8 to 5-8 cents net lower. No. 2 red March, \$1.06 3-4 to \$1.07 1-4, closed \$1.07; May, \$1.01 5-8 to \$1.02 5-16, closed \$1.01 3-4; July closed 92 1-8; Sept., 81 7-8 to 82 1-2, closed 81 7-8.

New York, March 4.—Wheat receipts 123,950 bushels; exports, 23,943 bushels. Options opened firm at 1 cent advance and after a further rise on cable news turned very weak. Bears hammered the market all day and in absence of clique or outside support broke prices decidedly, close being 3-4 cent net lower. No. 2 red, March \$1.06 1-8 to \$1.07 5-8, closed \$1.06 1-8; May, \$1.00 11-16 to \$1.02 1-4, closed \$1.00 7-8; July, 91 1-8 to 92 1-2, closed 91 3-8; Sept., 81 1-4 to 82 1-4, closed 81 3-8.

On Saturday, March 5, No. 2 red wheat closed at \$1.00 5-8c for May option, and 91 5-8c July; A week ago May wheat closed at 98 7-8c.

**D LUTHI WHEAT MARKET.**

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

Monday—May 98 7-8c; July 96 3-4c.

Tuesday—May \$1; July 97 7-8c.

Wednesday—May \$1; July 97 3-4c.

Thursday—May 99 3-4c; July 97 1-2c.

Friday—May 99c; July 96 3-4c.

Saturday—May 99 1-4c; July 97c.

Cash—No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at 99 3-4c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 99 1-4c.

Last week May options closed at 96 1-2c.

A year ago May options closed at 76 1-8c, and two years ago at 63c; three years ago May options closed at 60 3-8c, and four years ago closed at 61 1-2c.

**WINNIPEG CLOSING WHEAT.**

Wheat closed to-day firmer at about 98c afloat Fort William for No. 1 hard and 87c for car lots at country points.

**BUSINESS IN ONTARIO.**  
Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, March 4.—Now that the general elections are over, business in the country will go on more smoothly. The cheap railway fares brought in many buyers every day this week, except on election day when only one solitary buyer from the country was in the city, and he came from Parry Sound, where he said his absence would make no difference in the contest. Orders coming in here especially the coast, Manitoba and the Northwest are very firm. One leading house reports that they have booked orders for dry goods representing an increase of \$75,000 more than for the same time last year. Prices are very firm. Woollen knitted goods and blankets have advanced from 5 to 8 per cent. Rubber fabric goods, for which there is an active demand for miners' outfits, have been advanced 10 per cent this week, and the three factories in Canada making these goods are all very busy on orders. Sugars are weaker in sympathy with the decline in New York and are likely to be lower. The deliveries of wheat and coarse grains are larger owing to the improvement in the country roads, and prices for wheat, oats and peas are lower. The demand for Manitoba flour is very slow here. Dealers in the province of Quebec and eastern Ontario loaded up with Manitoba flour some time ago in expectation of an advance in the price of wheat; they were disappointed and are now trying to unload without a loss.

**MONTREAL STOCKS.**

Montreal, March 4.—Com. Cable, 182; C. P. R., in London, 87 1-4.

**BANK STATEMENT.**

London, March 3.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes as compared with the previous account: Total Reserve decreased £878,000, circulation increased £683,000, bullion decreased £194,761; other securities increased £536,000; other deposits decreased £848,000; public deposits increased £216,000; notes reserved decreased £817,000; government securities decreased £7,000. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 44.10 per cent, is now 43.02 per cent. The rate of discount of the Bank of England remains unchanged at 3 per cent.

**LIVERPOOL MARKETS.**

Liverpool, March 4.—12.30 p.m.—Wheat—Spot dull. No. 1 red northern spring 8s 1d. Corn—Spot American mixed new 3s 5d.

**MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.**

On Saturday, March 5, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 97 1-4c for May option, 96c for July and 77c for September. A week ago May wheat closed at 94 7-8c.

**A CHICAGO STORY.**

New York, March 4.—The Evening Post's Chicago correspondent says he heard in St. Paul the other day that the Dominion government influence is at the bottom of the C. P. R. cut in rates, and that the real motive is to secure for the Canadian towns on the Pacific coast, Vancouver and Victoria, the profitable business of outfitting miners which is now enjoyed by United States towns on Puget Sound. The outfitting trade has already been worth millions of dollars to the Sound cities, to divert it to the Canadian ports would be a shrewd business scheme.

## British Columbia Markets.

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

BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL

Vancouver, March 5, 1898.

Australian creamery is out of the market, as is also New Zealand creamery butter. Fresh grass California butter is selling well.

Butter—Manitoba dairy 19@20c; Manitoba creamery 22½@23½c. per lb; Ontario creamery, 24c

Eggs—Eastern eggs, 17c. per dozen. Local, 35c; California, 21c.

Cheese—Manitoba 11½@12½c. per lb.

Cured Meats—Hams 12½c; breakfast bacon 13½c; backs 13c; long clear 10c; short rolls 10½c; smoked sides 11c; Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per lb, in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Fish—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; frozen salmon 6c lb; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon 10c; finnan haddie 9c; kippered herring 8c; Columbia river oolochians 7c lb.; fresh halibut, 6c; spring, salmon, 7c; frozen white fish, 10c lb.

Vegetables—Potatoes \$12@14 per ton ashcrofts \$20; California onions 2½c lb; cabbage 1½c lb; carrots, turnips and beets \$10.00 a ton.

Green Fruits—California lemons \$3.00 box; apples, 75c@\$1.25 box; Navel oranges, \$3.00; seedling oranges, \$2.25.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$2.75; 245 pounds sacks \$2.80; 4 22½ pound sacks \$2.90; 10.7 sacks, \$2.50 Oatmeal 10 10's, \$3.25; 2 50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.50 per sack.

Flour—Delivered B. C. points—Manitoba patent per barrel \$6.50; strong bakers \$6.25; Oregon, jobbers price \$6.00.

Grain—Oats, \$28.00 per ton; wheat, \$25@26 per ton; barley, \$26 per ton.

Ground Feed—National mills chop, \$26.00 per ton; ground barley, \$26 ton; shorts \$24 ton; bran \$22; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

Hay—\$18 per ton.

Dressed Meats—Beef 6@6½c; mutton 11c; Australian mutton, 10c; pork 6½@7½; veal 7@9c; Pemican 40c lb.

Live Stock—Steers, grass feed \$3.50 @3.75 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$5.25@5.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50@6.00 per 100 lbs; cows \$2.75@3.00 per 100 lbs live weight.

Poultry—Chickens, 11c lb; ducks, 11c lb; turkeys, 15c lb.

Game—Venison, 4c lb; grouse, 60c brace; mallard, 30c brace.

Evaporated Fruits—Apricots, 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums, 9@10c; prunes, French 5@7½c; loose muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6@8½c lb.

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

Sugars—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C. 4½c; fancy yellows 4c; yellow 3½c lb.

Syrups—30 gallon barrels, 1½c pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon tins \$1.65 each; 1 gal. tins, \$4.25 case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$5.00 case of 20.

Teas—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good 18c; choice 29c. Ceylon: Fair, 25c; good 30c; choice, 35c lb.

## Toronto Hardware Market.

Iron—Bar, ordinary, \$1.65 basis per, refined \$1.90; Swedes inch and over, \$3.25 @ \$4.25; Lowmoor, 5½c@6c; hoops, cooper, \$2.25 basis; boiler rivets, best, \$4.50; sheet 10 and 12 gauge, \$2.20 and 2.50; 22 to 24 do, 2½c @ 2½c. 26 do, 2½c; 23 do, \$2.75; Russian sheet, per lb 10c @12c.

Iron Pipe—1 to 3 inch, 65 per cent. off; ½ to 2 inch, 67½c @ 70½c and 10 off.

Tin—Lamb and flag, 28 to 56 lb. ingots, 16½c per lb.

Copper—Ingot, 12½c; sheet, 17c @ 28c.

Lead—Bar, 4½c @ 5c; pig, 4½c; sheet, per roll, \$4.75@5.25; shot, can., dis., 12½ per cent.

Steel—Cast, 2c@14c; boiler plate, ½-inch, \$1.90; 7 16 do, ¾ do, sleigh shoe, \$2.15.

Canada Plates—Half bright, \$2.50; all bright, \$3.

Tin Plate—IC coke, \$3.15; IC charcoal, \$3.75@4; I ½ charcoal, \$4.75 @ 5; IXX charcoal, \$5.75@6; DC charcoal, \$3.75@4.

Zinc—Sheet, 5½c@5½c; zinc, spelter, 4½c; domestic, imported, 5½c; solder, hf. and hf., 13c@14c.

Brass—Sheet, 21c@28c.

Galvanized Iron—18 to 21 gauge, 4½c; 26 do. 4½c; 28 do. 25c.

Horseshoes—Per keg \$3.35.

Barb Wire—2½c.

Wire and Coppered Spring—30 per cent. for Montreal, Hamilton and Toronto market; tinned, per lb, 4½c@8c; galvanized, fence, same discount as annealed; coiled chain, ½-inch, 4½c; ¾-inch, 4½c; 1-inch, 3½c; galvanized, off list, 50c discount; boiler tubes, 2-inch, 15c; 3-inch, 18½c.

Horse Nails—Canadian dis.; 50 per cent. Canadian Horse Nail Co., "C" brand, f. o. b., Montreal, 50 p. c. "M" brand, 50 p. c.

Nails—Cut nails (iron) basis, 50 to 60 dy., \$1.95 f. o. b., Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, London. Cut nails (steel), add 10c to the prices in list for iron nails. Wire nails, \$2 per keg, Toronto; for places outside factory points \$1.90 f. o. b., Montreal. Carload lots, 5c per keg less than above figures. Brads and finishing nails, special sizes, 50 p. c. from new list. Rope—Manilla, 7½c basis; sisal, 6½c basis.

Axes—Per box, \$6@11.

Glass—Fourth quality, star, 1st break, \$1.50; second do, \$1.60; third do, \$2.55; fourth do, \$2.85.

Binder Twine—Pure sisal, 5c@5½c; mixed, 5½c@6½c.

## Toronto Grocery Market.

Sugar—Standard granulated sugar, 4 11 16c; No. 2 granulated, 4½; Dutch granulated, 4 3 8c; yellows, 3 15 16c@4½c.

Syrup and Molasses—Syrup mediums, 32c@38c; special bright, 40c@42c. Molasses—West Indian, brls, 32c@45c; New Orleans, 28c@30; for medium and 35c@50c for bright.

Teas—Japan, low grade, 15c@17c per lb; mediums, 18c@24c; fines, 30@35c; Hysons, low grades, 24c@37c; Congous, low grades, 10c@15c; mediums, 22c@25c, and fines, 40c@55c; Oolongs, 25c@65c;

Coffees—Green, Rio, 7½@12½c; Mocha, 27½c@30c; Java, 30c@33c.

Canned goods—Tomatoes, \$1.20@1.30; peas, 95@1; sifted peas, \$1.05@1.20; corn, 90@95c; beans, 75@90c; pumpkins, 75@80c; strawberries, 2's, \$1.60 @ 1.80; raspberries, 2's, \$1.50@1.75; peaches, 2's,

\$1.40@1.65; 3's, \$2@2.40. Cohoes Salmon, 95c@1; sock-eyes, \$1.17@1.30; mackerel, \$1.30@1.40; lobsters, halves, \$1 60@1.70; tall lbs, \$2.40@2.65; flats, \$2.90@3.

Dried Fruits—Raisins, Valencias, off-stalk, 4½c@5c; fine, off stalk, 5½c@5½c; selected, 6c@6½c; layers, 6½c@7c; Provincial, currants, 6½c; Filiatras, 6½c@7c; Patras, 7c@7½c; Vostizzas, 8c@8½c; California evaporated fruits—Apricots, 9c@14c; pears, 9c@10c; peaches, 10c@14c; prunes, 40's to 50's, 10c@11c; 50's to 60's, 8c@8½c; 60's to 70's, 7½c@8c; 70's to 80's, 7c@7½c; 80's to 90's, 6½c@7c; 90's to 100's, 6@6½c. Bosnia prunes, 5½@6½c; Sultanas, 9½c@12½c. Peel—Orange, 12c@15c per lb; citron, 18c@20c; lemon 11c@14c. Halloween dates, 5½@6½c. Malaga, London layers, \$1.50@1.65 per box; black baskets, \$2.25; blue baskets, \$2.50; royal clusters, \$4.50; quarter flats, London layers, 65c; black baskets, 75c; blue baskets, 85c; Dehesia, clusters, \$1.25. Figs—Matts, 3½@4c; Eleme figs, 10 oz., 7½c; 5, 10 and 12 lb boxes, 10@12c; 6-crown, 12½c; 7-crown, 15c; bags, 4@4½c; 4-lb Glove boxes, 14@15c.

Nuts—Marbots, 10@11c; filberts, Sicily, 8½@10c; Grenoble Walnuts, 11@12c.

Rice—Rice, bags, 3½@4c; do Patna, 5½@5½c; do Japan, 5½@6½c.

Spices—Ginger, Jamaica, 27c; Cochin, 12@20c; cloves, Zanzibar, 15@18c; Amboy, 18@25c; allspice, 16c; nutmegs, 50c@\$1; cream tartar, pure, 28c, 22 @25c for compound.

## PROVISIONS.

Mess Pork—\$16 for Canada mess; short cut, \$16@17.00; clear mess, \$14.

Dry Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, car lots 7½@8c, ton and case lots, 8c. Smoked Meats—Breakfast bacon, 10½c @11; hams, large 10c and 10½c to 11c for small; picnic hams, 8½c to 9c; rolls, 8½ to 9c; green meats out of pickle are quoted 1c less than smoked.

Lard—Tierces, 7c; tubes 7½; pails, 7½c.

## W. R. JOHNSTON &amp; Co.

(Late Livingston, Johnston & Co.)

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

READY MADE

## CLOTHING

Corner Bay and Front Streets, Toronto

Samples at McIntyre Block, Winnipeg. Representatives: A. W. Lasher, W. W. Armstrong.

## OUR SEEDS

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## COMMISSION SEEDS

Commission Houses usually allow a discount of 40 per cent on the seeds sold. The Merchant therefore pays 3 cents for each 5 cent packet, or \$30.00 per thousand for the seeds he sells on that plan. We sell our Seeds at one and one half cents a packet, or \$15.00 a thousand. A Saving of One Hundred per cent.

## R. ALSTON

SEED GROWER  
MERCHANT

WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

Wholesale and Retail Catalogue mailed to any dealer on receipt of address.

In writing mention The Commercial

### The Alaska Trade

Washington, March 4.—After a debate lasting several days the senate late to-day passed the bill extending the homestead laws and providing for right of way for railroads in the district of Alaska. Comparatively little discussion of general interest was created by the bill. Section 13, providing for certain bonding concessions to Canada, in lieu of privileges to be extended by the Dominion government to this country, however, induced a pretty lively debate, as it brought into the controversy the old fisheries question on the New England coast, which has been pending between the United States and Great Britain for 100 years. The statement was made on the floor of the senate that there was every reason to believe that by the passage of the bill the fisheries question could be settled without great effort as assurances to that effect had been received from a large and influential element in Canada. The reading and amending of the bill, while long and tedious, was accomplished without particularly important debate until section 13 was reached. This provides for the extension to Canada of the bonding privileges on Alaska trade with Canada at the port of Wrangel, in Alaska, on condition that certain concessions are given this country by the Dominion, among them being the right of our fishermen to enter Canadian ports for the purchase of bait or other supplies.

#### THE BILL OPPOSED.

Mr. Turner, Washington, moved to strike out that part of the section which related to the entering of Canadian ports by United States fishermen. He did not, he said, make the motion because he was hostile to the New England fisheries, but because he deemed it unfair to burden this measure with a demand upon the Dominion government that it yield a contention it has made for one hundred years.

Mr. Hale, Maine, inquired if Mr. Turner did not think it would be of advantage to the United States to obtain the fisheries concession from Canada.

Mr. Turner replied that it would be of advantage if we could obtain it, but he did not believe it could be obtained.

Mr. Hansbrough, North Dakota, said that the committee on public lands was in possession of information that Canada would accept the conditions imposed by the section. He was firmly of the opinion that the Dominion government would yield on the fisheries question in view of the concession made to it by the bill.

Mr. Hoar, Massachusetts, expressed the hope that Mr. Turner would not insist upon his motion. The fisheries question was not a local one to New England, but a national question, a question too particularly applicable to the people of the Northwest, where the fisheries interest was annually becoming greater. He felt that the fisheries problem was of immense importance to the people of the Northwest and ought not to be stricken from the measure.

In supporting and supplementing what Mr. Hoar had said, Mr. Fry, Maine, said that the pending bill was of national importance. From a little town near where he lived in Maine 500 people had gone to Alaska, and many more, of course, had left the States for the Klondike. He thought

there was never a better opportunity to secure concessions from the Canadian government than at the present time, when the Canadian government wanted something from the United States. He did not think the motion ought to prevail, because we have long been giving Canada much and receiving little in return. Mr. Fry believed that if it were not for the captiousness of Canada, there would not be the slightest trouble between this country and Great Britain.

Mr. Wilson supported the contention of Mr. Turner, and thought it the height of absurdity to tack the fisheries question to a bill providing for the encouragement of railway construction in Alaska.

Mr. Carter agreed with Messrs. Hoar and Fry that the fisheries question, so far as it was considered in this bill, was of national importance. The fisheries industry in Alaska and the Northwest now yielded \$6,000,000 per annum and was growing in importance every year. Concerning the mineral resources of Alaska, Mr. Carter said he was satisfied not from government reports alone, but from the very best authority in this country, that the output of gold in a year or two would be larger from that district than from any other part of the earth's surface. One authority, in which he said he had the utmost confidence, estimated that in Alaska gold to the amount of \$10,000,000 a year would be produced in a comparatively short time. He said that if section 13 should be adopted as presented, Canada would be compelled to abandon that all-Canadian route and he believed that this country would obtain every concession which was demanded of Canada by the pending section.

Mr. Turner's motion to strike out the fisheries portion of the section was defeated by a yeas and nays vote 34 to 16. The section was adopted without division.

#### THE COERCION CLAUSE.

The bill was then passed without division. As agreed to section 13 is as follows. That under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the secretary of the treasury, the privilege of entering goods in warehouses and merchandise in bond or of placing them in bonded warehouses at the port of Wrangel, district of Alaska, and of withdrawing the same for exportation to any place in British Columbia or the Northwest Territories without payment of duty is hereby granted to the government of the Dominion of Canada and its citizens or citizens of the United States whenever and so long as it shall appear to the satisfaction of the President of the United States, who shall ascertain and declare the fact by proclamation, that no exclusive privilege of transportation through British Columbia or the Northwest Territory goods or passengers arriving from or destined for other ports in Alaska is granted to any persons or corporations by the government of the Dominion of Canada, and that the privilege has been duly accorded to responsible persons or corporations operating transportation lines in British Columbia or the Northwest Territory of making direct connection with transportation lines in Alaska and the government of the Dominion had consented to, and is allowing on behalf of the citizens of the United States the entry free of duty of all miners' outfits and supply of provisions and clothing, the whole not exceeding in quantity one

thousand pounds for each citizen of the United States proposing to engage in mining in British Columbia, or the Northwest Territories, and that the government of the Dominion of Canada has removed all unequal restrictions as to the issue of miners' licenses to all citizens of the United States, operating or intending to operate in British Columbia or the Northwest Territories. And, further, that fishing vessels of the United States, having authority under the laws of the United States to touch and trade at any port or ports, place or places in the British dominions of North America, shall have the privilege of entering such port or ports, place or places, for the purpose of purchasing bait and other supplies and outfits in the same manner and under the same regulations as may exist therein applicable to trading vessels of the most favored nations, and of transshipping their catch to be transported in bond through said Dominions without payment of duty in the same manner as other merchandise destined for the United States may be thus transported."

#### The Tea Tariff

St. Paul, March 4.—The managers of the Northern Pacific railway have complained to the state department at Washington that the Canadian discriminating duty of 10 per cent. on tea imported into Canada indirectly by way of the United States, works injury to the interests of United States railroads, and with corresponding benefit to the Canadian Pacific. The traffic manager of the Northern Pacific has asked the department that the matter be called to the attention of congress, with a view to heavy remedial legislation enacted. The state department will take no action, since it is not in its province to advise congress with respect to legislation on tariff questions, but has referred the matter to the treasury department.

According to the statement of the railroad officials, its loss of traffic on account of the Canadian discrimination cannot be very large, but its loss by the Canadian Pacific competition in the handling and regular transportation of entire cargoes of tea, raw silk, silk goods and other products of China and Japan to the eastern parts of the United States, must be very extensive. In the case of shipments of tea, the Northern Pacific is permitted to carry imports of the product to the amount of 24,000 pounds over Canadian territory, but is prevented from depositing broken packages along the line.

The state department officials have notified the Northern Pacific people that the advantage complained of as possessed by the Canadian Pacific can't be remedied by that department as it is not touched by any treaty agreement with Great Britain or agreement with the Canadian government, but is purely a question of trade regulations by tariff rates. It is not known what steps will be taken by the treasury officials in the matter.

#### Assiniboia.

J. A. Trussler, tailor, Qu'Appelle, advertises his business for sale. Lang & Campbell, harnessmakers, Wolcley, have dissolved. The business will be continued by Campbell.

**British Columbia Items.**

J. L. McKay, grocer, Wellington, has assigned.

J. Hastie & Co., lumber, Nelson, have dissolved.

A. McBryan, general store Shuswap, assigned.

Mills & Lott, groceries, Nelson, have succeeded C. J. Mills.

Gould & Doty, general store, started business at Kuskanook.

The Empey Bros., grocery, Rossland; style now F. A. Empey & Co.

D. D. Hood, of Sloean City, is opening a general store at Kuskanook.

T. M. LaPointe, cattle dealer, Central Park, is out of business.

Lamont & Co., books, stationery, etc., Kaslo; style now Lamont & Young.

J. F. Travers, hardware, Rossland, store building wrecked by snowslide; loss estimated at \$2,000.

J. A. & F. G. Finkis, general store, Revelstoke, have succeeded to the branch store of C. B. Hume & Co.

The following items are reported from Victoria: The British Columbia Pulp and Mill Paper Co., is incorporating. A. C. Howe, wood, etc., sold out to J. E. Grice, J. Hastie, is opening in stationery, etc. J. Cox, grocer and baker, is burnt out.

The Metropolitan Cigar Co., has opened a warehouse on Cordova street, Vancouver. L. J. Cross, western representative of Brener Bros., London, Ont., is manager. They carry Valdes & Co., and Brener Bros. goods, as well as imported stock.

The Scott-Milne Co., is opening a general commission business with warehouse on Water and Cordova street, Vancouver. Mr. McDonald a well known western traveller, is manager, and the new firm, which will be in their premises about March 15, have secured agencies for a number of good houses, among them McKenzie & Mills of Winnipeg, handlers of packet teas.

The following items are reported from Vancouver—T. Gray, tailor, has sold out; E. P. Queen, Waverley hotel, has left for Klondike; J. G. Crawford & Co., wholesale commission, have secured a license for the sale of liquors. Creed, Slater & Co., wholesale cigars, etc., have secured a liquor license; T. Scott, confectionery, has sold out; M. Goudron, hardware, has sold out to R. R. Sils; D. Panablanco, grocery, has been closed out by the sheriff; J. G. Campbell, tailor, advertising giving up business; R. E. Pounder, saloon, is succeeded by Fairon & Co.; Turner, Beeton & Co., Victoria, dry goods, etc., are opening a branch here.

**Western Business Items.**

Geo. Baschman is opening in implements, at Rosenfeld, Man.

Robt. Winning is opening business as merchant tailor at Neepawa, Man.

Williams & Hilton, manufacturers, spees, etc., Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

B. Van Blaricom has added tin-smithing to his hardware business at Arden, Man.

S. Graham, general storekeeper, Balduf, Man., has assigned. Liabilities, \$4,000—assets, \$500 more.

It is reported that J. S. Donahue has bought the stock in trade of the Western Milling company, of Regina, Man.

The grocery of J. G. Hargrave, Winnipeg, was burglarized Wednesday night, and a quantity of goods were carried off.

G. A. Mackenzie, V.S., of Deloraine, Man., has decided to locate in Neepawa for the practice of his profession.

Josh Ritchie has taken the livery stable in connection with the Queen's hotel at Minnedosa, Man. He will also deal in horses and other live stock.

J. Mills has disposed of his interest in the blacksmithing and machine business at Neepawa, Man., to his brother, Rodney Mills, who will continue alone.

McLean, of Brandon, has purchased an interest in the blacksmith business of Stevenson & Brooks at Douglas. Brooks retires. The business will be continued by McLean & Stevenson.

J. S. Jamieson, formerly with Alexander Kelly & Co., flour millers, Brandon, has entered into partnership with A. McKinnon, of Portage la Prairie, for the purpose of establishing an oatmeal mill at Rapid City, Man. He has gone east to purchase the machinery.

The C. P. R. shops in Winnipeg are working double shifts at present and over 500 men are employed. This is unusual for this time of year, such activity only being looked for in the busy fall season.

Mr. Bell, of the Consolidated Stationery Co., has returned from a buying trip to New York and other points. In Eastern Canada he reports business good. Factories are busy turning out goods, and there is greater difficulty than usual in getting orders filled promptly.

A meeting of the council of the Pharmaceutical association was held in Winnipeg this week for the election of officers. C. Flexon, Winnipeg, was chosen as president; W. R. Bartlett, Brandon, vice-president, and E. D. Martin, Winnipeg, treasurer. W. D. McDougall was reappointed registrar. The following were elected as a board of examiners: C. Flexon, W. Pufford, Alex Campbell, Winnipeg; W. R. Bartlett, Brandon, and A. R. Leonard, Stonewall.

**En Route to Yukon.**

One of the largest and most important parties for Yukon that has yet arrived in the city, came in Friday night on the delayed express. The party numbered thirty-one persons, who were in charge of Dr. Gilchrist, of Detroit. They are travelling in a special tourist car and remain in the city until to-night in order to purchase dogs to transport their goods across the passes. The doctor stated on Friday to a Free Press representative that this was his fourth trip into Yukon. He has claims on Hunker creek, and came out last fall with the intention of organizing parties to develop these claims and prospect for others. He was successful in getting together four parties. Two are already in Victoria, having left Detroit last Tuesday; another follows from the east on Saturday and he will leave the Canadian coast cities with 190 men, including carpenters, blacksmiths, cooks, engineers, etc., well qualified to undertake the responsibilities of gold digging in Klondike. They are all travelling via the C. P. R., and outfitting entirely in Canada—at Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Victoria and Vancouver. The

members of the party are from the state of Michigan and the vicinity of Windsor in Canada. They carry machinery for boats which will be built on the rivers when navigation opens, and have also steam boilers and pipes for thawing out the ground, a more modern process, the doctor thinks than the old one of burning timber on the frozen ground. W. F. White was wired to meet Dr. Gilchrist and Saturday they selected several trains of dogs.

**Hudson's Bay Route**

London, March 4.—In the course of an interview yesterday Rear Admiral Albert Markham, the well-known explorer of Hudson strait and bay, expresses his surprise at the account received at Ottawa of the experiences of the exploring steamer Diana, while along the Labrador coast and in Hudson strait and bay. This account, he said, was at variance with all previous experience. In his opinion the Hudson bay route is open certainly four months and possibly six months a year. He declares that it would be an immense boom to commerce, cheapen the transport of cattle and wheat to Great Britain, be invaluable from an imperial standpoint in saving time in the transport of men and stores to the naval base at Vancouver and afford a duplicate British route should the Canadian Pacific railway be seized by the United States in time of war.

According to the report which is the subject of Rear Admiral Markham's remarks, the Diana was only able to reach the mouth of the Hudson strait as late in the season as June 22, even then passage was badly blocked with ice. The steamer's daily journal from that date furnishes a terrible record of hardships and difficulties in making the passage. The Diana stuck fast in the ice for days together and was frequently jammed and crushed in terrible ice floes. Her rudder was lost, her screw smashed and the vessel was frequently thrown entirely out of the water. At times her situation was so critical that the lifeboats were made ready to quit the ship. Captain Wakeham, her commander, says that no heavy vessel could have withstood the ice which was often twenty to thirty feet thick. The whole time until July 16 was occupied in pressing through the strait into the bay.

**INLAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS.**

The inland revenue collections in the Winnipeg February were as follows:

Spirits	\$17,800.12
Malt	1,578.43
Tobacco	14,235.63
Methylated spirits	47.78
Patroleum (inspection)	211.80
Cigars	1,101.15
Seizures	150.00

Total ... .. \$35,124.91  
Collections, Feb. '97 ... .. 26,253.98

Increase... .. \$ 8,870.93

**LONDON MONEY.**

London, March 4.—4 p.m. close—Consols for money, 111 15-16; consols for the account, 112 1-4. Bar silver, steady, 25 1-4d. Money, 2 3-4 per cent. Rate of discount in the open market, short bills 2 7-8 per cent, do., for three months bills, 2 15-16 per cent.