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Reserve Fund ..... 6,000,000 00  
Undivided Profits ..... 823,000 00

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Capital Paid up..... 1,984,525.00  
Reserve ..... 1,168,800.00

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Galt.....G. C. Easton....."  
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Port Colborne.....E. C. F. Wood....."  
Rat Portage.....W. A. Weir....."  
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Portage la Prairie, Man.....W. Bell, "  
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**BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.**

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

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Reserve Fund ..... £275,000 "

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H. Stikeman, General Manager.

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Capital Paid up..... 1,500,000.00  
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David MacLaren, Denis Murphy.

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**The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co.**

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

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ASSETS, \$1,500,000.

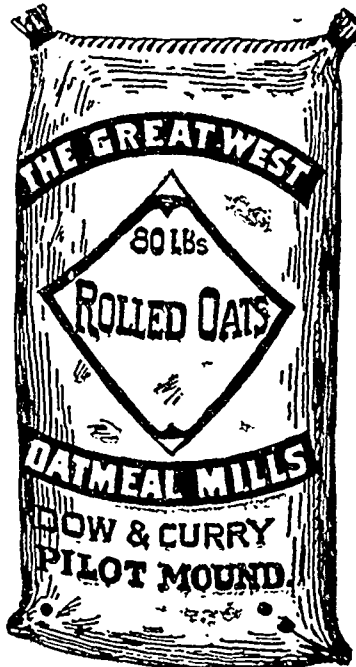
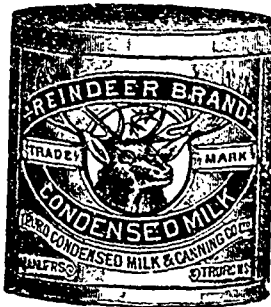
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We are now receiving our supply of  
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Factory—MONTREAL.

# The Commercial

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

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

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 17, 1896.

## Manitoba.

Campbell Bros., hardware, Winnipeg, have assigned.

Funk & Frieson, general storekeepers, Altona, have dissolved.

Dr. Carscallen has sold his drug business at Morris to Lawrie Bros.

D. Ripstein, of the White Rose hotel, Winnipeg, has sold out to J. Donohue.

The stock of J. S. Douglass & Co., Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar, on February 13.

F Weir & Co., hardware, Winnipeg, have dissolved. A. Walker retires, and the business will be continued as before.

W. Watson has opened a butcher shop at Rathwell, and not E. Dagg, as previously reported. The latter is engaged in the general store trade at Rathwell.

The value of goods entered for consumption at the new customs port of Virden for three months ending December 31, 1895, is as follows: Dutiable goods, \$4,614; duty collected, \$1,237; free goods, \$564; total value, \$5,178.

The post office and Wm. Rolston's residence at Whitewater, were destroyed by fire on Feb. 12. Loss \$1,000; no insurance. The fire originated by a child lighting matches. All the mail matter was saved.

A. Turner has disposed of his business at St. Bonifacio to Guilbault, hardware merchant of that place, who will continue both. Mr. Turner will continue in the flour and feed business.

The first number of the new organ of the Manitoba Patrons of Industry has appeared. It is called the Patrons' Weekly Sentinel, and is published at Portage la Prairie by the grand officers. It takes the place of the Patrons' Reporter, which went under for lack of financial support.

The Winnipeg board of trade has received assurances from the controller of customs that the customs postal package department in Winnipeg will be moved from the present inconvenient building in south Winnipeg to the post office building.

The Manitoba Poultry and Pet Stock association has issued a prize catalogue of its third annual exhibition, which will be held at the Lyceum theatre, on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of March. Copies can be had from the office of the association, 277 James

street, or by addressing E. Marston, secretary, box 886.

Fire broke out in Herron's block, Cypress River, on Feb. 10, and the following business places were burnt to the ground: White's hotel, Herron's general store and dwelling, Huston's hardware store, and Pearce's general store and dwelling. The block was composed of wooden buildings. Creighton's new stone store on the west, and Farquharson's new hotel on the east, were saved. The loss is fairly well covered by insurance. Little or nothing was saved.

Mr. Bedford, superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm, recently shipped 560 bushels of seed grain to the Central Farm, at Ottawa. It will be distributed from there in three pound bags to farmers living in all parts of the Dominion. This shipment will supply eight thousand applicants with a three pound bag each. The farmers are requested to sow the grain and report the result. By this means the suitability of the different varieties of grain from all parts of the Dominion will be ascertained, for cultivation in other parts of the country. For instance, if wheat grown in Manitoba will produce much better results in Ontario than wheat grown in that province, it might be shown that it would pay Ontario farmers to buy Manitoba wheat for seed, and so on.

## Assinibolia.

W. Abraham, tailor, Medicine Hat has assigned.

R. B. Ferguson's furniture store at Regina and stock were completely destroyed by fire on Feb. 13. The fire was caused by an overheated stove and was first discovered about 9.30, when it had already gained a good start. The high wall of the McCarthy's brick block on the west side proved an effectual check, but the plate glass front was badly damaged and a photo gallery in the rear of the upper story is almost a complete wreck. McCarthy's stock is badly damaged by the smoke and water. Ferguson's loss will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000.

## Alberta.

Fire broke out in the basement of the dry goods store of A. Allan & Co., Calgary, the night of Feb 8, and did considerable damage before it was extinguished. Loss \$2,500. Insured.

## Saskatchewan.

Last week, under the above heading, The Commercial had the following item: A. MacDonald & Co., who carry on a branch general store at Battleford, have bought out the stock and business of Mahaffy & Clinkskill, general storekeepers of the same place.

This was not exactly correct. Each of the firms named have branch stores at Lethbridge, Alberta, as well as at Battleford, and it was the Lethbridge business which changed hands.

## Grain and Milling Notes.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Company have appointed a resident agent at Edmonton in the person of J. D. Campbell, who has been travelling agent for the company.

The grain exchange are in communication with the inland revenue department to see if under the adulteration act the sale of inferior qualities of bluestone in this country cannot be prohibited.

It is late in the season to build elevators, but still this work is going on in Manitoba. Chalmers Bros. & Bethune, grain dealers, have commenced the erection of a thirty thousand bushel elevator at La Riviere, Man. The structure will be similar to the firm's elevator at Clearwater.

L. E. Bonz, of Wetaskiwin, Alberta, is erecting a small flour mill on the Big Stone Creek at Frank Lucas' place, on the Calgary trail, about six miles north of Wetaskiwin. There will be a saw and planer in connection.

The directors of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company have decided to move the head offices of the company for the Kooewatin and Portage la Prairie mills to Winnipeg. This will combine the mill offices with the offices of the grain buying department, which have always been in Winnipeg.

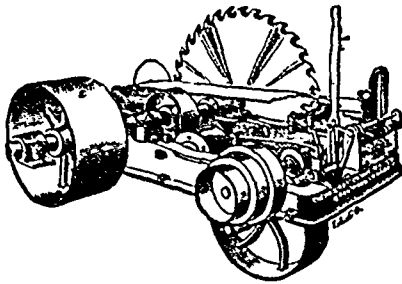
The grain exchange has made arrangements with the railways to supply their agents with samples of good seed grain, with a view to securing transportation of seed grain for the farmers at one half the ordinary rates on such commodity. The Canadian Pacific Railway has already issued circulars to their agents, authorizing them to quote the reduced rates. This is the same arrangement that was in force last spring.

## Legal Decisions.

The case of Pillar vs. Bertrand came up at Winnipeg on Tuesday. Plaintiff was an employee of J. S. Douglas, who carried on business as a furrier on Main street, but left Winnipeg rather suddenly and was subsequently arrested in Montreal. Plaintiff, at Douglas's request, endorsed a note for him for \$5,000, for which Douglas gave him a chattel mortgage on his (Douglas) stock, which contained a proviso that in the event of Douglas selling or in any way disposing of his stock without Pillar's consent the security should become due immediately. Douglas made an assignment to Bertrand a few days after the note was indorsed by Pillar, who commenced this action and asks for an injunction until the hearing to restrain the assignee from disposing of the stock which he has in his possession. Mr. Bradshaw for plaintiff; Mr. Hough, Q. C. for defendant. On the conclusion of the arguments his lordship refused the motion to continue the injunction.

## Duluth and Winnipeg.

The Duluth and Winnipeg Railroad will be sold at auction this month under a foreclosure of mortgage. Starting at Duluth this road runs in a northwesterly direction for about 125 miles, ending in the woods on the shore of lake Winibigoshish. It passes through the important town of Grand Rapids and has a considerable traffic in lumber and other forest products and in supplies destined for logging camps. It has never done much more than earn operating expenses, however, and its financial success evidently depends on its extension to the wheat fields of the Red River Valley. The general understanding is that the Canadian Pacific will purchase the road at the upset price named by the court, and that it will have no competitor in the bidding. The intention of the C.P.R. is said to be to extend the road to a connection with one of its lines at Emerson, Man., and thus to obtain, through this road and its ownership of the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic, a route for grain, cattle and other through traffic from the west, by way of the south shore of Lake Superior that will be preferable to its present route around the north shore. It is barely possible that the Great Northern may think the Duluth and Winnipeg a desirable piece of property to connect the branch which it has started eastward and which has rested at Fosston for several years, and that Mr. Hill may put in a bid. Duluth has witnessed the foreclosure proceedings with no great interest, believing that, whatever becomes of the road, it will have to be operated for the benefit of that city and that its completion as a short line to the lower part of the valley of the Red will only come about when a strong company gets control.—North-west Magazine.

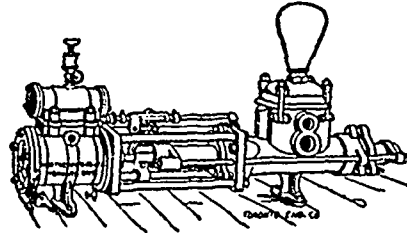


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DRUGS AND MEDICINES

Every requisite for the Drug Trade promptly supplied.

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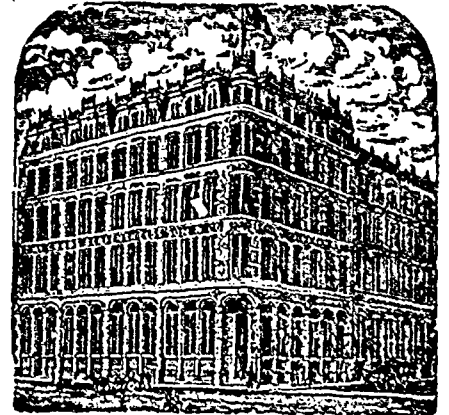
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Representative for Manitoba.

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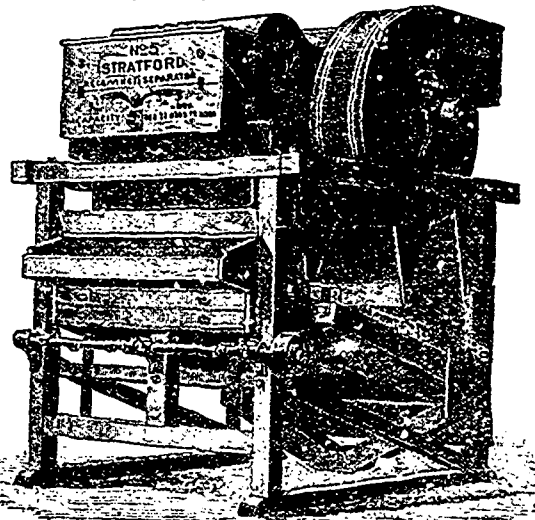
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BRIDGE BUILDING A SPECIALTY.

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Special attention given to import and  
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

REPLYING to Mr. Davin in parliament on Monday, Hon. Mr. Foster said he had asked Lieutenant-Governor Mackintosh for a complete statement of the accounts and liabilities of the Territorial exhibition. As soon as received the government would take the whole matter of settlement into consideration. This looks more hopeful for the creditors of the exhibition. We believe this matter will eventually be settled by the Dominion, and certainly the government is morally responsible in this matter, as the exhibition was certainly regarded as a Dominion Government affair throughout.

THE Montreal Witness has a cartoon bearing on the recent loyalty resolution in the Dominion parliament. The Witness represents Canada as professing loyalty to "England." The resolution made no reference whatever to England. Canada through her parliament declared her loyalty to the Empire, and affirmed her willingness to make great sacrifices to maintain the cause of the Empire. England, like Canada, is a portion of the Empire. When we speak of loyalty, we intend it to mean that we are determined to uphold our own position as a part of the Empire, as well as being ready to defend the general interests of the Empire elsewhere. This is quite a different thing from declaring loyalty to England.

THE fruit growers of British Columbia have organized an association for the purpose of extending their business next season, particularly in the direction of Manitoba and the territories. We understand it is the idea of the fruit growers that they will be able to further their interests by forming a company to ship their fruit direct to the retail dealers, instead of depending upon the assistance of jobbers. So far as Manitoba is concerned we doubt if the growers will gain anything if they undertake to go past the jobbers. On the contrary, The Commercial is inclined to believe that they will find this course to have been a mistake. If the growers will pack their fruit in good shape and place it in the hands of jobbers in first class condition, they will, we believe, come out better in the end than by going to the small retail dealers. The towns are mostly small in this country and most of the retail dealers can take only limited quantities of fruit at a time. Besides their returns would be slow and unsatisfactory to an association such as the growers could form. They would not be in as good position as the jobbers to look after numerous small accounts.

THE remedial act to restore separate schools in Manitoba was introduced at Ottawa on Tuesday. As explained by the Minister of Justice it provides, briefly, for the establishment of a board of education to control the separate schools; the standard of education to be the same as in the national

schools; Catholics may elect to pay taxes to the national schools, thus relieving them of paying taxes to the separate schools; the schools will be subject to provincial inspectors as to efficiency of teaching; school books may be selected by the separate school board from any now in use in Manitoba or in the Ontario public or separate schools, and the choice is limited to these. The board of education may be appointed by the lieutenant-governor-in-council, but in default of such appointments being made by the provincial authorities, the federal governor-general-in-council will make the appointments. The financial basis—really the most important matter—is on the principle of district taxation for the separate schools, Catholics so taxed to be exempt from contributing to the national schools. The question as to the sharing of the legislative grant with the Catholics is left in an indefinite shape, but the act will assert that the Catholics are entitled to share in such grant.

LAST week The Commercial referred in a brief editorial paragraph to the evident need of greater protection for fur-bearing animals. Since then correspondence has appeared in the city papers demanding better protection for deer, and a good case has been made out in support of the demand. Our game animals as well as our fur-bearing animals should certainly be fully protected. There is no doubt but that the game laws are evaded in a wholesale manner. The noblest of all our game, the deer, should certainly receive the most liberal protection. Evidently a more comprehensive and stringent law is required for the protection of game and fur animals. Our game animals are of great value from the standpoint alone of the attraction which they are to the country, and every effort should be made to perpetuate them.

If the Dominion government were approached now, with the object of securing some relaxing of the quarantine regulations, in the interest of immigration to Manitoba and the territories, we do not see that they could very well refuse. The request made by the Winnipeg board of trade in this matter about a year ago, is really moderate compared with the recent relaxing of the quarantine regulations in the East. The government has permitted the bringing in of cattle in unlimited numbers, in car lots or train loads, merely on inspection. The board only asked that bona fide settlers coming into the country should be allowed to bring in their cattle, simply on inspection by a qualified officer. We have not asked that cattle be allowed to come in for commercial purposes. Surely the government cannot refuse, in the interest of the settlement of the West, what it has already done in the East to aid a subsidized steamship line. As it is now we are practically shut out of our best field for immigration purposes, by these quarantine regulations, while we are receiving no benefit whatever in return for this loss. No time should be lost in pressing this matter again upon the attention of the government, if any concession is to be secured in time to be of any value this year.

THE party spirit is always carried to extreme lengths in Canada, and this session of parliament it seems to have been even more bitter than usual. It is therefore a great relief to find that at least one discussion has been carried on in parliament this session free from partizan narrowness and party strife. We refer to the so-called loyalty resolution, which was moved by a Conservative, seconded by a Liberal and adopted by the unanimous vote of the house. For once there were neither Tories nor Grits in the house, but all were Britons. Narrow partyism was lost sight of for the time in the universal sentiment of love and admiration for the great Empire—the greatest the world has ever seen—of which we form no mean part. This expression from the Canadian parliament has been called forth by the various dangers which have recently threatened the Empire. Looking at it in the light which we have at the moment, the recent threatening aspect of affairs has vastly contributed to solidify the Empire and has given the Imperial idea a great boost both in the mother country and the colonies. The action of the Canadian parliament is in no sense a menace to the United States. The American republic is the last country in the world which Canadians would care to see the Empire come into conflict with. At the same time those of our southern neighbors who have courted the allusion that Canadians were anxious to change their relations to the British Empire, should just make a note of this debate. It might not prove entertaining reading to them, but it would remove the cobwebs from their eyes, or at least the false impression from their minds.

THE agitation in Winnipeg on the subject of civic taxation has again waxed quite strong, and it seems likely that some changes will be made again. When the system of the business tax was substituted for the old plan of taxing stocks of merchandise, it was thought that a great improvement had been made, but it seems now that there is a very strong feeling among a large section of the business people in opposition to the business tax. Some have even advocated going back to the old system. We do not see, however, how any reasonable person can for a moment entertain an idea of going back to the old system. It is quite true that the system now in force has increased the taxes of a number of business men, in some cases to a serious extent; but even after making every allowance for this, the new system is certainly a great improvement on the old plan, and taken all around is more equitable. There are no doubt some inequalities and hardships under the present business tax, and every effort should be made to either remove these, or try to formulate a better system of taxation. But to go back to the old personal property tax, absurd as it is in principle and practice, is not worthy of intelligent men. The feeling seems to prevail that the wholesale dealers are the principal supporters of the present business tax. The wholesale dealers certainly agitated against the old system, but they are not responsible for the working of the new plan. They opposed the old plan because it was working a great injustice to them. The wholesale trade of Winnipeg is the most im-

portant interest of the city. Winnipeg is a commercial city and its wholesale trade is the one great distinguishing feature of the city. We are not in a position as yet to offer much encouragement to manufacturing interests. Our wholesale dealers have to meet very strong competition from Eastern houses in their own field, while they cannot compete with the eastern houses in their special field. Every effort should therefore be made to place our wholesale trade on as favorable a basis as possible in order to compete with outside houses. This matter of civic taxation is quite an important item to the wholesale trade. If the personal tax system were enforced here to the full extent, it would compel all the merchants to reduce their stocks, and this in itself would be an injury to the commercial interests of the city. Some houses it would no doubt force out of business entirely, while others would carry portions or all of their stock outside of the city limits, and simply maintain offices in the city. Taxation should be arranged so as to be equitable to all, and no idea should be entertained which simply desires the shifting of the grievances from one class to another.

### Immigrant Arrivals.

The Interior report for 1895 reports on immigration as follows:

The whole number of arrivals of the immigrant class at the port of Quebec, Halifax and Montreal during the first ten months of the present year was 23,363 as compared with 25,653 for the corresponding period of last year or a decrease of 2,290. Of the persons coming into the country between the 1st of January and the 31st of October last 17,231 declared their intention of becoming residents of the Dominion of Canada; 18,923 during the same period of 1894 made this same declaration. The persons who signified their intention of making their homes in Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia, numbered this year, for the period of ten months mentioned 4,901, which is a decrease of 1749 as compared with the corresponding period of 1891. As has been explained in previous reports, the immigration agents at the ports of landing count the number of persons arriving by the ocean steamers and obtain from each a declaration as to whether he intends to remain permanently in the country or not, and the province in which he proposes to reside. No attempt is made to keep trace of immigrants arriving from the United States, except so far as they become settlers on homestead lands.

For the ten months of 1895 the number of settlers who came from the United States was 1,822, and they made entries for 529 homesteads. The percentage of entries and cancellations is shown by the report to be three, the lowest on record. The percentage in 1874 was 64; in 1878, 76; in 1885, 29; in 1890, 24; and in 1891, 12."

### United States Wheat Surplus.

It is well known that Great Britain is the principal buyer of wheat. For a series of years, a decade or so ago, the proportion of United States wheat (in grain and flour) in the total British importation, was 51 per cent—a little more than the contributions of all other nations. Perhaps, in view of all that is said of new sources of supply it may be supposed that our present proportion is greatly reduced. This would be a hasty conclusion. Notwithstanding the great Russian crops of 1893 and 1894, and the large Argentine product of the latter year, let us analyze

the importation of the calendar year 1894 and find a percentage from this country little reduced, as follows:

| Grain.             | Cwt.              |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| United States      | 24,658,245        |
| Russia             | 16,777,781        |
| Argentine          | 13,272,152        |
| India              | 5,249,056         |
| Australia          | 3,877,418         |
| Other countries    | 6,291,580         |
| <b>Total grain</b> | <b>70,126,231</b> |
| <b>Flour.</b>      |                   |
| United States      | 15,925,828        |
| Other countries    | 3,209,282         |
| <b>Total flour</b> | <b>19,134,605</b> |

The British statistical office converts flour into wheat by adding 25 per cent. This gives us 19,906,654 cwt. of wheat in flour and increases our proportion to 44,564,899 cwt. out of a total of all imports of 94,048,488, or 47.4 per cent. This is only 3.6 short of our record for a long period (15 years) of our highest prominence in the British supply.

This is for 1894. The proportion is somewhat reduced in 1895, but only by a few points, not so much as we might expect from the increase of Russian and Indian receipts. I am fortunately able to give the British official figures for eleven months of last year, as follows:

| Wheat.             | Cwt.              |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| United States      | 24,812,720        |
| Russia             | 21,874,075        |
| Argentine          | 11,937,860        |
| India              | 8,441,150         |
| Australia          | 3,452,420         |
| Other countries    | 6,886,630         |
| <b>Total grain</b> | <b>76,854,855</b> |
| <b>Flour</b>       | <b>16,894,720</b> |

This makes the total equivalent to 97,935,695 cwt. of wheat for eleven months. At the same rate for December the imports of the year will be about 107 million cwt., an increase of 13 million cwt over the previous year. Most of the flour is from this country, but the exact quantity is not indicated. Our proportion will be reduced from 1895, but it may still be something like four-tenths of the entire British supply.

If the bonanza farms would grow something besides wheat, relegating that culture to rotation farming, prices would be greatly improved. If they insist on enlarging operations, the chances are that they will get no more cash for a big product than they would for a small one. The cotton growers know that from bitter experience, but it may not prevent their taking more bitter in the future; and wheat growers may not have learned their lesson of overproduction yet. The day has arrived in which farmers must fix their own prices, as they can, notwithstanding the minor disturbances of values by manipulations of brokers.—[J. R. D. in the Country Gentleman.

### Binder Twine.

Farm Implements, a journal published at Minneapolis has the following regarding binder twine, which will apply in Canada as well as in the United States, owing to the small duty on twine coming into this country. There is no particular activity in binder twine at the present time, as buying has not commenced in real volume, though retailers are more willing to place early orders for stock than in previous years. The jobbing houses have all made their connections for the year, and a good trade is anticipated. There has been an advance of about half a cent in sisal fibre since the first of the year, and manilla has made an almost equal advance. This has been reflected by a nominal advance of  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent in the price of sisal twine, though no advance has been quoted in other grades. The advance in sisal is nominal

rather than actual, as the general quoted prices are 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents for sisal, 7 cents for standard and 8 cents for manilla. These prices are shaded a fraction of a cent on carlot orders, and the general opinion is that they will rule about the same throughout the season. Sales are made at this time at guaranteed prices, indicating that the retailer does not intend to risk a fall in price, equally as much as the jobber does not anticipate one.

The attempted formation of a syndicate to control the sisal hemp product of Yucatan has had a stiffening influence in that grade, but as the bulk of the twine used in the northwest is manilla, it is of less interest here than further south, and consequently has less effect.

It is reported that a catalogue house in Minneapolis will buy the entire remaining stock of twine in the hands of the Western Twine company in that city. This fact and the prison product will have an unsettling influence on the market in Minnesota, but will also clear the market of all the cheap stuff, and once exhausted, it lies with the manufacturers and jobbers themselves whether additional supplies can be obtained or not. New twine certainly cannot be obtained and sold on the same basis as old stock, and the farmer will as soon pay his home dealer a fair price as to send to a catalogue house for the same goods at the same price.

### Hides, Wool, Furs etc.

Sheep Pelts—The market is steady for all grades, although medium and coarse woolled pelts are in the best demand. At the present low prices of wool and pickled and finished sheepskins, pelts do not average very high by the piece.

Hides.—hides are scarce. For all hides are scarce the market is declining very heavily, and it is hard to find any tanners on account of the financial stringency who are in the market at any price. When we issued our last circular hides were very active, but we intimated that there might be a decline in the market although we did not want to predict it; but the way the market has turned it is proven we were correct. Dry hides and skins did not advance with green and they are dull at old prices.

Furs—The receipts aggregate quite large although we receive them from over a large part of the Northwest. These receipts might not be called extra large in good times, but they are large compared with the demand from manufacturers. The heavy decline in bear and the heavy advance in muskrat has been only partially anticipated, although it was known before the London sale that bear were out of fashion and were going to decline heavily. Dealers generally get the feeling of the sale as it approaches and change their buying prices in anticipation. The sale as a whole resulted as well as was expected, because these furs could not have been sold to United States manufacturers for scarcely anything. Presume what manufacturers have not failed will now want furs to use in their business. The March sale will commence March 16th and close in about ten days.

Wool—The receipts will not cut any figure until the new clip, not enough to quote prices. The market is active and advancing in Europe and declining in this country.

The inspectors of the Samson-Kennedy estate, give a report upon the removal of 82 cases of dry goods from the warehouse of an insolvent firm after suspension, to the warehouse of D. Morrice & Co. W. H. Riddell and Z. A. Lash, Q.C.'s, who were retained, gave an opinion regarding the matter, and instructed the inspectors to report that the removal of the goods under the circumstances was perfectly legal. D. Morrice & Co. will retain the goods.

**To the TRADE!**

Our Travellers are now out with a complete line of new samples of our specialties in . . . . .

**GLOVES, MITTS, MOCCASINS,**  
Etc., for 1896,

Expect an early call and kindly reserve orders till seeing our samples.

**James Hall & Co.**

Ontario Glove Works.  
WINNIPEG BRANCH, 160 PRINCESS ST. BROCKVILLE, ONT.

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**OPENING**

Commencing 25th February and ..Following Days..

LATEST NOVELTIES  
INSPECTION INVITED.

**D. McGill & Co'y.**

WHOLESALE MILLINERY,  
TORONTO - and - MONTREAL.

**RAW FURS**

**WANTED.**

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST.

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Established 1874. LONDON, ONT.

**RUBLEE, RIDDELL and CO.**

Commission Merchants

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Green and Dried Fruits.

15 OWEN STREET,

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**P. J. RUSSELL,**  
WHOLESALE

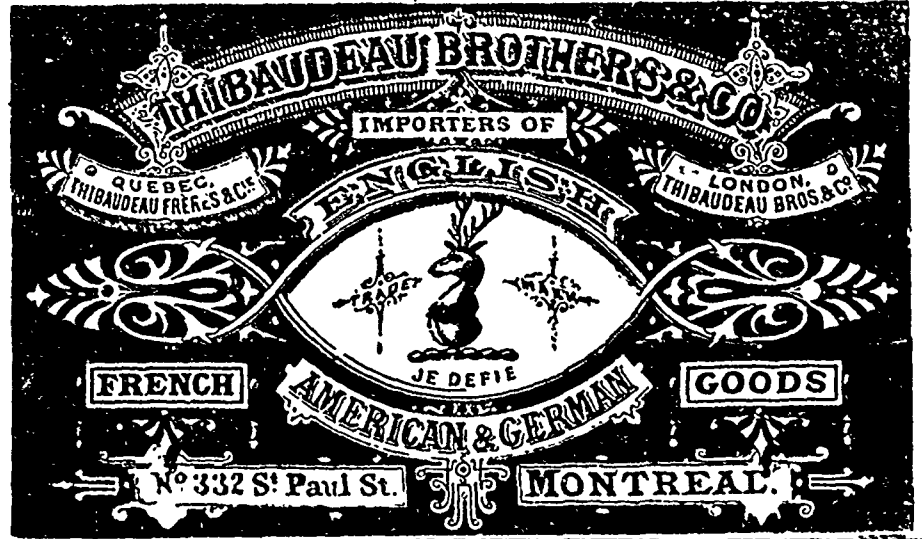
Commission :- Merchant

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NELSON, - - B.C.

Grocers supplies and General Merchandise handled on Commission. Best Cold Storage warehouse in West Kootenay. Correspondence and Consignments Solicited.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE.



SEE OUR SAMPLES OF

**CLOTHING,**

**Hats, Caps and Straw Goods,**

FOR SPRING 1896.

Are you Looking for Lines to Sort up?  
Our Stock is well Assorted.

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**E. OHLEN,**

Export Commission Agent and Direct  
..Importer of..



—INCLUDING—

IRON, STEEL, PAPER, LAMPBLACK, WHITING  
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED  
180 St. James St., MONTREAL.

**PORTER & CO.,**

DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

**Crockery.**

GLASSWARE, CHINA,

Silverware, Cutlery, Lamps,  
Fancy Goods, Etc.

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**STATIONERS,**

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PRINTERS' STOCK,

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HAMILTON, - ONTARIO.

**Enamelled Ware.**

GREY (CRESCENT STEEL,  
WHITE STEEL  
GALVANIZED WARE . . .  
REFINED WARE . . .  
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The Thos. Davidson Mfg. Co. Ltd.  
MONTREAL.

Merrick, Anderson & Co. Agents,  
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| <b>WHEAT</b><br>2 Bushels              | <b>B A G S .</b> | <b>FLAX</b><br>2 and 4 Bushels             |
| <b>FLOUR—Jute</b><br>49, 98 & 140 lbs. | <b>B A G S .</b> | <b>POTATO</b><br>90 lbs.                   |
| <b>BRAN</b><br>80 and 100 lbs          | <b>B A G S .</b> | <b>COAL</b><br>100 lbs.                    |
| <b>SHORTS</b><br>100 lbs.              | <b>B A G S .</b> | <b>FLOUR—Cottons</b><br>24, 49 and 98 lbs. |
| <b>OAT</b><br>4 and 5 bushels          | <b>B A G S .</b> | <b>ALL KINDS</b>                           |

**Sewing Twines, Jute, Cotton and Flax.**  
**Branding Ink, Blue and Red—5 Gallon Kegs.**

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Agents for The Canada Jute Co., Ltd, Montreal, Que.

# GRANULAR OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN CREAMY FLOUR. HAS NO EQUAL.

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

WINNIPEG, Oct. 5th, 1893.  
*Messrs. Ogilvie Milling Co.,*

GENTLEMEN:—I have great pleasure in giving you my opinion of the two grades of flour, Patent and Bakers, you are now manufacturing. It excels all other flours that I have ever used, and makes more bread per barrel, and gives me splendid satisfaction in my business, and I am very glad to express my opinion after a number of years experience in flour. Yours is certainly the best I have ever used. H. LISTER, Baker.

—IN HANDLING—  
**OGILVIE'S FLOUR**  
YOU HAVE  
**THE BEST**  
Each bag guaranteed. Bawn with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.  
**OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,**  
Unequalled 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.

**North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Co., Ltd.**

**MONEY TO LEND at Lowest Current Rates.**

**MORTGAGES and DEBENTURES PURCHASED.**

**Osler, Hammond & Nanton,**  
Managers,  
381 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

**GEO. H. RODGERS & CO**

WHOLESALE DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED

**DRY GOODS AND GENTS' FURNISHINGS,**

Now is the time for action!  
Goods are advancing.

We have made ample preparations for this, and can give our customers the benefit.  
Our Spring Samples are now complete, and it will mean \$'s to you to see them before placing your orders.  
Our Mr. F. G. Crawford will call on you shortly, when the favor of your orders will oblige. G. H. R. & Co.

*Best*  
Way to get a practical education is by attending Winnipeg Business College and Shorthand Institute for a term. Circulars free. Address C. A. FLEMING & CO., Winnipeg, Man.

**Kirkpatrick & Cookson**  
Established 1860,

**MONTRIAL,**  
Solicit consignments of BUTTER, ETC.  
ALSO OFFERS OF

**OATS**  
WHEAT of the Various Grades.  
FEED BARLEY.

**WHEAT,**  
OATS AND BARLEY WANTED!

Send Large Samples and Name Prices Wanted.

**THOMAS McLAUGHLIN,**  
Board of Trade, Toronto, Ont

### The Lumbermen Meet.

The annual meeting of the Western Retail Lumbermen's association was held in the McIntyre block hall, Winnipeg, on Wednesday evening last. In the absence of president Campbell of Melita, vice-president A. Black of Winnipeg occupied the chair, and called the meeting to order. He expressed pleasure at seeing so many present, stating that it showed the interest that was still taken in the association. About sixty members were present, representing retail dealers from all parts of Manitoba. There were also present D. C. Cameron, manager of the Ontario and Western Lumber Co. R. Mather of the Keewatin Lumber Co. D. Ross, of Whitemouth, and D. Sprague of Winnipeg. The latter gentlemen, as manufacturers, are honorary members of the retail association.

The secretary was called upon to read the minutes of the previous annual meeting, which were adopted.

The chairman then read a letter from the president, who was absent in Ontario, and thus unable to attend the meeting. It read as follows:

To the members of the Western Lumbermen's association.

Gentlemen,—It is a matter of pleasurable satisfaction to all, that our association meets this year under conditions more favorable than have existed for one or two years past. The abundant harvest, with which our farmers have been blessed, has brought prosperity not only to this the most important class of our population, but also to the general public. In this renewed prosperity, the members of our association, both honorary and active, I am pleased to say, have participated in a satisfactory degree.

Our association has made substantial progress in the way of solidification. It is true that during the past year, we have had some disturbing conditions, but notwithstanding these, I am convinced that we stand stronger than ever. The immense advantages accruing to the members, both honorary and active, is becoming to be more and more appreciated. The general public, too, are recognizing more clearly the laudable object of our association; and are recognizing as well, that while we wish to guard our own interests, we are not unmindful of their welfare, as instance the liberal reduction in the price of lumber the past year. This wider knowledge has considerably dissipated their prejudices, and they are coming to believe that, if we have faults, "they lean to virtues side."

You will notice from the financial statement submitted to you, that our balance is respectable and on the proper side. I would recommend, however, that the fees be restored, if not to their old figure, as nearly so as possible. With a commendable object in view, the fees last year were reduced 50 per cent. We find now, that while the strictest economy has been observed, our expenditures exceeded the accruing dues for the year by a few hundred dollars. It is exceedingly unwise for the depletion of our funds to continue. A strong treasury is an element of general strength, and, as no one can tell when our strength can be tested, I trust you will give this your very serious consideration.

During the past year a number of questions for adjustment, have come before your directors. In every instance they have endeavored to obtain the fullest possible information bearing upon the various questions, and in every instance their conclusions have been based upon a conscientious desire to deal justice to all parties. If they have fallen short in any respect, I am sure your generous nature will forgive what your good sense may have seen wrong in their judgment.

It affords me much pleasure to bear testimony to the indefatigable attention our

secretary has given to the affairs of our association, I do not presume he needs any apology at my hands, but if there be any who have misunderstood his intention, I should simply ask to quote the words of president Tutbill of the Mississippi Valley Lumbermen's association:

"There seems to be in some quarters a disposition to think our secretary is a little too persistent and pushing in the presentation and collection of claims sent to him for adjustment, but you must remember that behind every one of these claims there is a red hot retailer, with every hair turned the wrong way, impatient of his ten per cent regardless of any explanation. It has been a wonder to me, as well as others of the directory, that he gets along with so little friction.

When he gets a claim from any of our members he must ask the accused of making the shipment for an explanation of it in writing so a complete record may be kept of all cases. We have not found our secretary guilty of unbusiness-like or ungentlemanly conduct in his way of doing business, still if he fails to collect the claim promptly he is liable to be accused of being in league with the wholesalers, or on the other hand, is criticised by the wholesaler for over activity in his efforts to get replies to his communications, which are not unlikely to receive as tardy attention as any which come to the wholesaler's desk."

But, as I have said, I am not aware our secretary requires any justification at my hands. The results of his labors are a sufficient commendation.

I cannot omit to make mention of the loyalty of our honorary members to the association. The closer arrangement entered into last year, I believe, has been faithfully observed on their part. Perhaps as much cannot be said of all active members, but I believe any breach of arrangement has been surrounded by extenuating circumstances. Taking it all in all perhaps the new conditions of mutual fidelity between honorary and active members have been as well observed as could reasonably be expected under a change so complete and so sudden.

Several matters will come up for your consideration. As good always comes of discussion, I trust your deliberations will be full and cordial, exemplifying the good sense and harmony that have always characterized our meetings in the past."

Mr. Black took exception to the recommendation of the president as to an increase in the dues. He thought that so long as they had a good balance to their credit, and there was no special object in view to raise a fund, it would be unwise to increase the dues to the old fee of \$10.

The secretary read his annual report and presented his financial statement. It showed that only \$65 in dues was outstanding out of a total collectable of over \$1,000. The financial statement was discussed at length, but no serious objections were made to any item. The statement showed that expenditure last year had exceeded income by about \$200, owing to the reduction in the dues, but there was still a balance on hand of about \$800 carried over.

The membership of the association was shown to be 147. There were twenty withdrawals during the year, nine of whom were parties going out of the business. Twenty-three new members were added, including three re-instated. Five of the new members were honorary.

Much harmony has prevailed among the members of the association the secretary says in his report. He further made reference to the demoralization of the lumber trade at Brandon by the senseless war among the dealers there, and the belief was expressed that the cutting would not likely be continued this year.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows: D. M. McMullan, Morden, president; T. A. Cuddy, Minnedosa, vice-president. Directors: A. Black and J. Arbuthnot, Winnipeg; C. E. Pieper, Grotna; J. M. Taylor, Portage la Prairie, J. M. Neilson, Carberry, J. B. Mathers, Glenboro.

### Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—Holders of red west are asking 82c and 83c for white. Spring wheat is quoted at 80c east. Manitoba wheat is a trifle easier. No. 1 hard is quoted at 79c North Bay and No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern at 78c North Bay. On 'change to-day No. 1 hard was offered at 77c on track Collingwood, Midland freights, with 76c bid.

Flour.—Cars of straight roller are quoted at \$3.80 Toronto freights.

Millfeed.—Cars of shorts west are nominal at \$13 to \$ 3.50 and bran at \$11.50.

Barley.—Holders of fine malting lots are firm, and 45c is quoted for No. 1, 46 to 47c for No. 1 fancy and 89c to 40c for No. 2 east.

Oats.—Cars of mixed sold on the track here to-day at 26c and white at 27c. Cars of mixed north and west are quoted at 22½c and white at 23½c.

Butter.—Dairy tubs, 14 to 15c; medium and low grade dairy tubs, 2 to 12c; dairy pound prints, 15 to 16c; large rolls, 18 to 14½c; creamery tubs, 19 to 20c; creamery rolls, 20 to 22c.

Eggs.—We quote: New laid, 18 to 19c; limed, 18½ to 14c; good cold stored, 12 to 18c; held fresh, 15 to 17c.

Poultry.—Turkeys, 8 to 9½c; geese, 7 to 8c; chickens, 85 to 50c; ducks, 60 to 80c.

Baled Hay.—The sale of a car of gilt edge hay at \$15 was reported to-day. For car lots on the track we quote:—No. 1, \$14.50 to \$14.75; No. 2, \$18 to \$14.

Dressed Hogs.—The market is rather dull, as some of the large packers are not buying, with the idea in view of bringing the market down to at least \$5. Car lots are quoted at \$5.10 to \$5.15 delivered here.—Globe, Feb. 12.

### Live Stock Markets.

At Liverpool on February 10, the tone of the market was weak for both cattle and sheep, and prices declined ½c per lb. for the former and ¼c to 1c for the latter. Trade was slow at 10½c for best States, 9½c for Argentines, and 11½c for sheep. A private cable quoted cattle at 10½c. The decline was owing to heavy supplies.

At the East End abattoir, Montreal, on Feb. 10, the demand was limited and trade slow. The quality of the stock offered showed a decided improvement. Good heaves sold at 8½c; fair, 8c to 8½c; fat cows, 2½ to 3c; common steers, 2½ to 2½c, and inferior, 1½ to 2c per lb. Sheep sold at 8½c to 8½c, and lambs, 4 to 4½c per lb. live weight. The feature of the Point St. Charles market, Montreal, on Feb. 10, was the stronger feeling in live hogs, and prices advanced 25c per 100 lbs., due principally to the short supply. Sales were made at \$4.25 per 100 lbs.

At Toronto on February 11, the cattle market was dull and easy. Receipts were fair, and 10 cars were left unsold. Butchers' cattle were dull, and prices were easy. Good to choice sold at 2½ to 3½c per lb, and common at 2 to 2½c per lb. A few head of fancy cattle sold about 8½c, but there was a scarcity of really choice stock. A few bulls were taken for export at 2½ to 2½c. Stockers and feeders were quiet, at 1½ for light, 2½c for better class and 3c for good feeders. Lambs were a little better, selling at 3½ to 4½c per lb. Sheep were dull at 2½ to 2½c per lb. Hogs were weaker. There were 700 offered, and prices were \$1 per cwt. for choice bacon hogs, and 8½c for stores and light.

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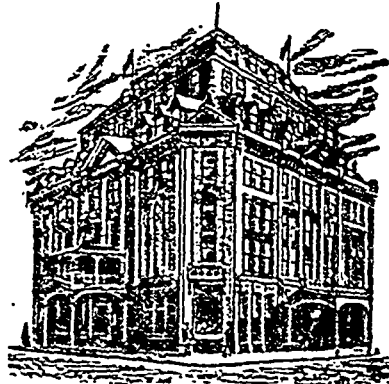
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WINNIPEG, MAN.

**THE BUSINESS SITUATION.**

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Feb. 15, 1896.

The cold stormy weather this week has rather checked those who were in a hurry to get in their spring goods, and it has also retarded deliveries of grain in the country by farmers. If the month of March should be characterized by rough weather the farmers would not be able to market their grain until after seeding was over, as they are holding a lot of grain, which it would take some time to market with favorable weather. Rough weather in March might be followed by a sudden break-up of the roads, and then there would be no chance to market much of the grain until after seeding was finished. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show an increase of 35 per cent. as compared with the corresponding week last year, and an increase of 30 per cent. compared with the like week of 1894.

**WINNIPEG MARKETS.**

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Feb. 8.

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

**CEREALS.**—National Food preparations in cartons: Densicated rolled oats, 2 doz., 2 lb pkgs, per case, \$2.90; densicated rolled wheat, 2 doz. 3 lb. pkgs per case, \$3.25; Densicated wheat, 1 doz., 2 lb pkts., per case, \$2.75; Snowflake barley 2 doz., 2 lb pkgs., per case, \$2.90; Buckwheat flour, 1 doz., 5 lb pkgs per case \$2.75; Buckwheat flour 2 doz., 2½ lb pkts., per case \$2.90; breakfast hominy, 1 doz., 8 lb pkts., per case, \$3.25; prepared pea flour 1 doz., per case, \$2.50; gluten flour, 1 doz., per case, \$3.50; rolled wheat, in 10 lbs., 180 lbs. \$4.50.

**COAL.**—The weather has been cold enough this week to suit the dealers, but it is almost too late in the season to bring the consumption up to the usual thing. Winnipeg prices are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite, \$8.50 per ton, delivered to consumers; Souris lignite, \$4.25 per ton, delivered to consumers, and \$3.85 at the yard here; Lethbridge bituminous \$3.50 to consumers; western anthracite, \$8.50 per ton to consumers.

**CORDWOOD.**—We quote prices as follows for car lots on track here; Tamarac, good, \$1.00; mixed or poorer tamarac, \$3.50 to \$3.75; pine, \$3.25 to \$3.50; spruce, \$2.75 to \$3.00; oak, dead, \$2.75 to \$3.00; oak, good, green cut, \$3.75; poplar, dead, \$2.00; poplar, green cut, dry, \$2.25 per cord.

**DRY GOODS.**—Shipping spring goods has hardly started yet, though in some early lines some lots have gone through to the west. The Toronto Globe dry goods article says: "Advances in gloves by manufacturers are from 7½ to 10 per cent. for repeats. The majority of initial orders were placed at old figures. It is thought this advance on repeats will not hold good; at the same time it is considered not likely that prices will recede beyond the figures on which wholesalers based their present quotations for this season."

**DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.**—Granoble Walnuts, 16c; Tarragona almonds, 16c; princess paper shell almonds, 22c; Sicilly filberts, large, 12c; Brazil nuts, 15c; peanuts, roasted, 15c; poanutz greens, 13c; Ontario black Walnuts, 8c; butternuts, 9c; hickory nuts, 10c per pound; figs, old, 14 oz. boxes. \$1 per dozen; figs, new, 9 lb. boxes, 14c; figs, superior, 85 lb. boxes, 19c; figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb; dates, now, 6 and 7c per lb., apricots, 18½ to 14c.

**DRUGS.**—Following prices are for small parcels, and will be shaded considerably

for full package orders: Allum per pound, 9½ to 4½c, alcohol, \$4.75; bleaching powder, per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 4½ to 5c; blue vitrol, 5 to 8c; borax, 11 to 13c; bromide potash, 55 to 75c; camphor, 75 to 85c; camphor, ounces 80 to 90c; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chloride potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c. coppers 8½ to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$7.50 to \$8.00; cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 8½ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 30 to 40c; glycerine, per pound, 20 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 40c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 35 to 45c; iodine, \$5.50 to \$6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25, Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.25 to 2.75; oil, peppermint, \$4.00 to \$4.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.25 to 2.75 per gallon; oxallice acid, 13 to 16c; potass iodide, \$4.25 to 4.50; paris green, 17 to 18c lb; saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rocnello, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3½ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3½ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c.

**FLUID BEEF, ETC.**—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminal—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz., \$5.10; do, 8 oz., \$7.65; do, 16oz., \$12.75. Fluid Beef Cordial—20oz. bottles, \$10. Milk Granules—In cases of 4 dozen, \$5.10. Milk Granules with Cereals—In cases of 4 dozen, \$4.25

**FISH.**—Good prices are being paid this winter by exporters for the fish being caught in the Manitoba lakes. Shippers at Selkirk, says the Record, are paying the following prices to fishermen:—Whitefish, boxed, 5 to 5½c; whitefish, loose, 4½c; pickerel, boxed, 4 to 4½c; loose, 3½ to 3¾c; jackfish, boxed, 1½c; jackfish, loose, 1½c; tullibees, 1½ to 1¾c; sturgeon, 5c; catfish, 4½c per pound. In the Winnipeg market, jobbing prices are: Cod, 9c a lb; haddock 9c a lb; salmon, 14c; halibut 12½c; smelts 9 to 10c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; whitefish, 5 to 5½c; pickerel 4c; pike 2c; perch 2 to 2½c; sturgeon 6c; finnan haddies 7½c, or \$2.25 per box; kippered gold-eyes 30c doz.; oysters \$1.90 to \$2.00 for standards and \$2.15 to \$2.25 selects, per gallon, extra selects \$2.35 to \$2.45; oysters, in cans, selects, 55 and standards 50c per can; shell oysters, \$7.50 to \$8 per barrel. Cured fish are quoted: Boneless codfish, 40lb boxes 7c, do crates 7½c; boneless fish, 40lb boxes, 5c; smoked herrings, 19c box; dry cod \$6 per box of 100 lbs.; salt whitefish \$5 per barrel of 100 pounds; salt lake trout \$3 per barrel.

**GREEN FRUITS.**—Lemons are easier, in consequence of offerings of new fruit. Prices are: Lemons, New Messinas, \$5.50 to \$6 per box; California navel oranges, \$4 to \$5 per box, as to size; Bananas \$3 to \$4 per bunch as to size; Apples, eastern Canada choice red varieties, \$5 to \$6 per barrel; Greenings and russets, \$4 50 per barrel, Southern red apples, \$4 per barrel; Malaga grapes \$7 to \$9 per keg as to size; Cranberries \$9.50 per barrel for frozen stock; Apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 90 gallon barrels; Fresh comb honey, 22c per lb.

**GROCERIES.**—There is no further change in sugars. The last summary of the statistical position of sugar, stocks in the United States and Cuba together of 181,770 tons, against 181,827 tons last week, and 252,653 tons last year, a minus of 70,883 tons from last year, against a plus of 57,025 tons stock on January 1. Stocks in Europe, 2,383,050 tons, against 2,381,000 tons last week, and 1,971,200 tons last year. Total stocks of Europe and Amer-

ica, 2,681,470 tons, against 2,664,574 tons last week, and 2,290,823 tons last year at the same uneven dates. The surplus of stock is now 393,617 tons, against 395,886 tons last week, 758,248 tons December 27, 1895. The Statistical Sugar Trade Journal says that "the German Bundesrath has accepted the new sugar bounty law, and the new tariff is now before the Reichstag. It provides for the same increased bounties as before, and limits production of Germany to 1,400,000 tons. The production this year is 1,570,000 tons, against 1,811,583 tons last year. The average crop of Germany for the past five years is 1,400,000 tons. As explained in our statistical of December 12, any excess in the production of each sugar factory, determined by its average output during the past five year, will be subjected to a specially high impost. We asked the opinion of our friends in Germany by cable to-day of the effect of this law if passed, and they reply this afternoon:—"The limitation of 1,400,000 tons production must push prices upward materially. London expressed the opinion that it will cause a strong demand for refined sugar for German home consumption." A report from Toronto says: "canned goods are in a good position. The stocks of tomatoes and peas are rather scarce, and consequently prices are firm. Stocks of corn held here are fair."

**HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.**—There is no life in the local trade yet. We note in another column the decline in plain wire in the East. Turpentine has declined 2c at Montreal. Paris green and glass are very firm. Prices are as follows:

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb, 20 to 21c.

TIN PLATES. — Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.50 to 9.00.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.50 to \$2.65; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$3.00 to 3.15; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs., \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.25 to 3.50; best cast tool steel, per lb, 12 to 13c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

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

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.00 to 3.10.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 5c; 26 gauge, per lb., 5½c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5¾c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list. CHAIN.—Best proof coil, 3-16 inch, per lb. 6½ to 6¾c; ½ inch, per lb, 6 to 6¾c; 5-16 inch, per lb., 5¾ to 6c; ¾ inch, per lb., 5½ to 5¾c; 7-16 inch, per lb., 4¾ to 5c; ¾ inch, per lb., 4¾ to 5c.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4¾c. SHEET ZINC—In casks, 5¾c lb., broken lots, 6c.

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

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 35 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 per cent.; rim fire military, American, 5 per cent. advance; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 80 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5¾c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 8 to ¾c base; manilla, per lb., 11 to 11½c base; cotton, ¾ to ¾ inch and larger, 16c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$2.85 to \$3; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.50 per keg, 8 to 4 inch, \$3.80 keg, 2½ inch, \$4.09 keg, 2 inch, \$4.38 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box, No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box, No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 50 to 50 and 10 per cent.

HORSE SHOES.—Per keg, \$4.50 to \$4.75; snow pattern horse shoes, \$4.75 to \$5.

WHITE LEADS.—Pure, ground in oil, association guarantee, 5.75 per 100-lb, white lead, assorted 1 to 5-lb. tins, per lb., 9c.

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

DRY COLORS.—White lead, per lb., 8c; red lead, 5½c; yellow ochre, 2½c, golden ochre, 4c; Venetian, red, French, 3½c, Venetian, red, English, 3½c; English purple oxides, 4½c; American oxides, per lb., 3 to 4c. These prices for dry colors are for broken lots ½ per lb. less when full kegs or barrels are taken. American vermilion, kegs, 15c, English vermilion, in 30-lb. bags, 90c per lb.; less than bags, per lb., \$1; Paris green, 18 to 20c.

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50, elastic oak, \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$2; hard oil finish, \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50, No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50. These prices are for less than barrels, and include cost of cans.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 17 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$4.00; benzine, per case, \$4.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$4.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.00; plasterer's hair, 90c. per bale; putty, per lb., 2½c. for less than barrels; barrels, per lb., 2½c.

WINDOW GLASS.—1st break is quoted at \$1.65 per box of 50 feet.

LINSEED OIL.—Raw, per gal., 63c; boiled, per gal., 66c in barrels.

TURPENTINE.—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 60c; less than barrels, per gallon, 65c.

OILS.—Range about as follows. Black oils, 25 to 30c per gallon; clear machine oils, 33 to 40c; cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb.; lard oil, 70c per gal.; tanner's or harness oil, 65c, neatfoot oil, \$1.00; steam refined seal oil, 85c, pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 per gallon.

REFINED PETROLEUM.—There is no change in burning oils. Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 24½c; crescent, 27½c; oleophone, 29½c in barrels. In car lots 2c per gallon discount is allowed off prices in barrels. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 3½c for cocoon and 30c for sunlight.

LUMBER.—There is no movement yet, but manufacturers are preparing for the spring trade. Some planers have been put in operation at the Lake of the Woods mills, and the new sash and door factory of the Ontario and Western Lumber Co. will soon be completed and ready for operation. No definite word has been received here regarding the proposed formation of an association to take in all the Pacific coast mills, though it was rumored this week that the association had been completed. If the association goes into effect it will no doubt mean higher prices for lumber there, and this in turn will advance British Columbia lumber in this market. Lumber has been sold by the coast mills at wonderfully low prices for the past few years,

and something is needed to put the business on a better paying foundation.

RAW FURS.—It is now getting late to ship furs in time for the next London sales, which open on March 16. The March sale is the most important of the year and as goods not sold then will have to be held a long time, it is usually thought desirable to get all the furs shipped in time for these sales that it is possible to do. The following quotations give the range of prices here. The prices cover the range from small to large skins size color and condition being considered though skins are sometimes offered which are not worth the minimum quotations, on account of being killed out of season.

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Badger               | \$0 15 to \$0 60 |
| Bear, black or brown | 5 00 to 26 00    |
| Bear, yearlings      | 2 00 to 8 00     |
| Bear, grizzly        | 5 00 to 25 00    |
| Beaver, large        | 5 50 to 7 50     |
| " medium             | 3 00 to 4 50     |
| " small              | 50 00 to 2 50    |
| " cubs               | 25 to 60         |
| " castors, per lb    | 2 50 to 5 50     |
| Fisher               | 3 00 to 8 00     |
| Fox, cross           | 2 00 to 15 00    |
| " kitt               | 10 to 40         |
| " red                | 25 to 1 50       |
| " silver             | 20 00 to 75 00   |
| Lynx, large          | 1 50 to 2 50     |
| " medium             | 1 00 to 2 00     |
| " small              | 75 to 1 25       |
| Marten dark          | 1 00 to 4 50     |
| " Pale or Brown      | 1 00 to 3 50     |
| " Light pale,        | 75 to 1 75       |
| Mink                 | 50 to 1 50       |
| Musquash, winter     | 03 to 07         |
| Otter                | 2 00 to 9 00     |
| Skunk                | 25 to 80         |
| Wolf, timber         | 1 00 to 2 75     |
| " prairie            | 25 to 75         |
| Wolverine            | 1 00 to 4 00     |

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—GENERAL SITUATION.—Wheat has been weaker this week and prices have averaged lower. Large receipts of spring wheat in the Northwest States, easier cables on some days, small decrease in stocks, etc., have contributed to this feeling. The decline, however has not been heavy. Shipments from all exporting countries last week reached 7,000,000 bushels, Argentine shipments showing a heavy increase.

WHEAT.—LOCAL SITUATION.—The easier feeling in leading markets exerted a depressing influence upon the local trade. As Manitoba country markets have been decidedly above a parity with leading United States markets, the decline this week at Chicago and elsewhere was particularly depressing here. Still, prices in Manitoba country markets, to farmers, were well maintained all the week on the basis of 50c per bushel for No. 1 hard at 18 and 19 cent freight rate points, and 1c lower at 20 cent freight rate points to Lake Superior ports. These prices are really based on speculative ideas, as they are above actual values at the moment, based on prices in importing markets. Farmers have been marketing very little wheat this week, but this could be accounted for by the cold, rough weather which has prevailed, aside from the tendency to hold which has been evident all winter so far. It is to be hoped the weather will be favorable for marketing grain for the balance of the winter, to enable farmers to market the large supply they still have on hand. With rough weather and consequent bad roads, the farmers would be unable to market their grain until after seeding was completed. There is a considerable movement of wheat from Fort William elevators to Montreal, thus relieving the elevators there sufficiently to enable them to keep taking in wheat from the west. Receipts at Fort William for the week ended Feb. 8 were 174,481 bushels; shipments 181,-

547 bushels; in store 8,617,000 bushels. Receipts for the corresponding week a year ago were 21,857 bushels, shipments 8,911 bushels, and in store 890,000 bushels. Stocks in store two years ago 1,991,000 bushels. Owing to shipments from Fort William to Montreal and small marketings by farmers, stocks at lake ports and west have decreased slightly. It is expected that a drop of about 2 to 8c will go into effect in Manitoba country markets on Monday.

FLOUR.—A further advance in Manitoba flour of 10c on patents and 10c on bakers per barrel, was reported from Montreal on Saturday last, but there has been no further change here. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.85 to \$1.90 for patents and \$1.65 to \$1.70 for strong bakers per sack of 98 pounds, delivered to city retail dealers; second bakers \$1.35 to \$1.45; XXXX \$1.20 to \$1.25, delivered. Brands of country mills are offered at 5 to 10c under these quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—City mills are selling at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots.

OATS.—The market has continued firmer, owing to light deliveries by farmers, and higher prices east, where there has been further fractional advances. At Manitoba country points, for shipment east, cars are worth from 12 to 14½c, as to quality and freight rate. In the Winnipeg market dealers are paying 16 to 17c for farmers loads, per bushel of 3½ pounds.

BARLEY.—Barley seems almost unsalable. Car lots at Manitoba country points quoted at 14 to 16c, as to quality and freight rates for from feed grade up to No. 3, but there is very little demand from any quarter. Winnipeg street market at about 17c for feed barley, per bushel of 48 pounds, and 20 to 21c for malting samples.

WHEAT.—Local farmers' market.—The price paid at the city mills for farmers' loads is 50c per bushel of 60 pounds for best quality.

GROUND FEED. Prices range from \$11 to \$13 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is selling at about \$1.25 per sack of 80 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers. An advance of 10c per barrel was reported from Montreal on Tuesday on all grades of Ontario meal.

OIL CAKE.—Oil cake has declined to \$16 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

FLAX SEED.—Prices to farmers in Manitoba country markets are about 60c per bushel.

BUTTER.—No change in butter to report this week. We quote good to choice dairy tubs at 12 to 14c per lb, and lower grades at 8 to 11c. Good rolls 9 to 11c, but as high as 12 to 14c has been paid for fancy boxes of small rolls or bricks of uniform size, color and quality. Ordinary lots of assorted rolls are very slow and harder to move than good tubs.

CHEESE.—Cheese is jobbing here in small lots at 9½ to 10c for large and 10½ to 11c for small sizes.

EGGS.—Dealers are paying 18 to 19c this week for receipt of good fresh stock. So far receipts have been better quality than in former years at this season the evil practice of mixing old held stock with fresh not being so noticeable this year.

LARD.—Prices are: Pure, \$1.80 for 20 pound pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8½c pound.

CURED MEATS.—Hog products are firm. Smoked meats are quoted Hams, assorted sizes, 11c, breakfast bacon, bellies, 11½c; do., backs, 10½c; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7½c long rolls, 7½c; shoulders, 6½c.

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smoked long clear, 9c; smoked jowls, 5½c. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½c per lb; shoulders, 5½c; backs, 8½c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$18.00; clear mess \$18.00; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel, pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; German sausage, 7c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2½c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 80c lb.

**POULTRY.**—Prices are firm owing to light receipts. For native poultry dealers are paying 10 to 11c for turkeys, 9c for ducks, and 8 to 9c for chickens, according to quality and geese 10c. There is really a scarcity of poultry, and nice, tidy looking stock would bring 1c or more over these prices. A further supply of Ontario poultry for the local market is expected shortly.

**DRESSED MEATS.**—There is no change in fresh meats this week, except in hogs, which have again sold a little higher, though Eastern Canada markets have shown a lower tendency this week. Here as high as 5½c has been paid by butchers for a few fancy hogs, but this was the extreme price, and 5½c was the usual figure paid by packers. Hogs are firm owing to light offerings and we quote \$5 to \$5.25 per 100 pounds. We quote country beef at 3½ to 4½c as to quality, good frozen beef has brought 4½c and sells mostly at about 4c to 4½c per lb. by the side or carcass. Fresh, unfrozen, city dressed beef, 5 to 6c, as to quality. Mutton steady, and we quote 6 to 6½c for good mutton.

**GAME.**—Rabbits, 6c each; jack rabbits, 50c each.

**VEGETABLES.**—Following are prices on the street market: Potatoes, 20c per bushel; cabbage 40 to 75c per dozen, as to size; celery 25 to 40c per dozen bunches; onions 40 to 50c per bushel; turnips 10 to 15c per bushel; parsnips, 40 to 50c per bushel; carrots 30 to 40c; beets 25c bushel.

**HIDES.**—We believe 5c was paid in some cases this week for green frozen hides, but this was in extreme cases for a few hides only. It is doubtful if any dealer would buy a large lot at over 4½c and the latter figure was the general price quoted. Advices from Chicago were firmer on hides this week, but there is no room for an advance here, as the local market is much above a parity with other markets. We quote prices here as follows: Green frozen hides, 4½c, 5 lbs tare off. We quote: Calf, 8 to 15lb skins, 5 to 6c per lb; deacons, 15 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 4½c; sheep and lambskins recent kill, 50 to 60c. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

**HAY.**—Hay is dull. Baled prairie is quoted at about \$5.00 to \$5.50 on cars here. Loose hay on the street market, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per ton.

**LIVE STOCK.**—Prices are nominal in the absence of any business at 2½ to 3½c for fair to choice butchers' cattle. Sheep nominal at about 3 to 3½c. Hogs are steady at 4c off cars here.

**Wheat Stocks.**

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Feb. 8, 1896, shows a decrease of 615,000 bushels, against a decrease of 1,051,000 for the corresponding week last year and a decrease of 800,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 417,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains.

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There are some important points not covered by this statement:

|            | 1895.      | 1894.      | 1893.      | 1892.      |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|            | bushels.   | bushels.   | bushels.   | bushels.   |
| Jan. 2...  | 83,681,000 | 80,228,000 | 81,238,000 | 45,907,000 |
| Feb. 5...  | 83,376,000 | 79,843,000 | 81,393,000 | 43,161,000 |
| Mar. 4...  | 78,785,000 | 75,569,000 | 79,083,000 | 41,559,000 |
| April 1... | 74,308,000 | 71,458,000 | 77,654,000 | 41,038,500 |
| May 6...   | 62,106,000 | 65,168,000 | 73,069,000 | 36,190,000 |
| June 3...  | 52,229,000 | 59,394,000 | 71,080,000 | 27,910,000 |
| July 1...  | 41,61,000  | 54,657,000 | 62,316,000 | 24,262,000 |
| Aug. 3...  | 38,617,000 | 49,01,000  | 58,124,000 | 28,079,000 |
| Sept. 7... | 36,751,000 | 49,183,000 | 56,149,000 | 33,769,000 |
| Oct. 7...  | 41,832,000 | 73,614,000 | 69,275,000 | 51,256,000 |
| Nov. 4...  | 51,990,000 | 50,017,000 | 71,305,000 | 64,717,000 |
| Dec. 2...  | 63,905,000 | 55,179,000 | 76,091,000 | 72,680,000 |

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on February 1 is as follows:

|   | Bushels.  |
|---|-----------|
| Montreal.....                             | 272,000   |
| Toronto.....                              | 29,000    |
| Kingston.....                             | 15,000    |
| Winnipeg.....                             | 217,000   |
| Manitoba interior elevators               | 2,708,000 |
| Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin..... | 2,816,000 |

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on February 1, 1896:

|                               | Bushels.    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| East of the Mountains.....    | 97,592,000  |
| Pacific Coast.....            | 5,899,000   |
| Total stocks a year ago were: |             |
| East of the Mountains.....    | 106,917,000 |
| Pacific Coast.....            | 13,118,000  |

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Feb. 1, shows a decrease of 844,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 97,592,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks on January 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and abroad for Europe) were 169,978,000 bushels, which is nearly 15,000,000 bushels less than the corresponding total one year ago, more than 20,000,000 bushels less than were so held two years ago, nearly 18,000,000 bushels less than three years ago, but nearly 14,000,000 bushels more than were so held on January 1, 1892, 58,000,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1891, and about 55,000,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1890.

**Winnipeg Markets A Year ago.**

**Wheat.**—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William May, 65 to 65c; Manitoba country points, to farmers, 50c.

**Flour.**—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.85; Bakers, \$1.65.

**Bran.**—Per ton, \$11.

**Shorts.**—Per ton, \$13.

**Oats.**—Per bushel, car lots, 27½ to 29c.

**Barley.**—Per bushel, feed 32 to 33c, cars.

**Flax Seed.**—35c to \$1.

**Butter.**—Round lots country dairy 12 to 18c.

**Cheese.**—Small lots 11c.

**Eggs.**—Fresh, 15 to 16c round lots.

**Beef.**—Frozen country, per lb., 3 to 4c, unfrozen butchers, 5½ to 6c.

**Mutton.**—Fresh, and lamb, 5 to 6c.

**Hogs.**—Dressed, 4 to 4½c.

**Cattle.**—Butchers, 2½ to 3c.

**Hogs.**—Live, off cars, 3½c.

**Sheep.**—3½ to 3¾c.

**Sonoca Root.**—

**Poultry.**—Chicken, 50, turkeys, 8 to 9c, geese, 7 to 8c, ducks 6c.

**Hides.**—Frozen Hides, 3 to 3½c.

**Potatoes.**—40 to 45c per bushel.

**Hay.**—\$4.00 per ton, car lots.



**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

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

On Monday wheat was weak, influenced by lower cables, foreign selling, small decrease in stocks, heavy shipments from exporting countries, and large receipts of spring wheat. Prices closed  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  under Saturday. Closing prices were:

|              | Feb.               | May.               | July.            |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Wheat.....   | 64 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 66 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn.....    | 28                 | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats.....    | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Mess Pork..  | 10 05              | 10 25              | —                |
| Lard.....    | 5 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 65               | —                |
| Short Ribs.. | 5 10               | 5 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —                |

Prices continued weak on Tuesday, and there was a further decline of  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1c. Closing prices were:

|              | Feb.               | May.             | July.            |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wheat....    | 63 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn.....    | 27 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 31               |
| Oats.....    | 19                 | 21               | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Mess Pork..  | 9 85               | 10 00            | —                |
| Lard.....    | 5 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 60             | —                |
| Short Ribs.. | 5 00               | 5 20             | —                |

There was no meeting of the board on Wednesday, it being a legal holiday.

On Thursday wheat opened weak, influenced by large spring wheat receipts in the Northwestern States and easy cables. Later large exports and buying by shorts led to a sharp advance in prices. Closing prices were:

|            | Feb.                | May.                | July.            |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Wheat....  | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 63 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn.....  | 28 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats.....  | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$    | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork.....  | 10 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 10 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —                |
| Lard.....  | 5 52 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 5 70                | —                |
| Short Ribs | 5 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 5 37 $\frac{1}{2}$  | —                |

On Friday wheat was somewhat irregular, with some firm movements but the advances were no held. Closing prices were:

|             | Feb.             | May.             | July.            |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wheat....   | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn.....   | 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —                |
| Oats.....   | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —                |
| Mess Pork.. | —                | —                | —                |
| Lard.....   | —                | —                | —                |
| Short Ribs. | —                | —                | —                |

On Saturday, Feb. 15, wheat was weak and closed about  $\frac{1}{2}$  lower, at 65 $\frac{1}{2}$  for May delivery. A year ago May wheat closed at 55c.

**Duluth Wheat Market.**

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

Monday—Feb. 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., May, 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.  
 Tuesday—Feb. 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. May, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.  
 Wednesday—Holiday.  
 Thursday—Feb. 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. May, 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.  
 Friday—Feb. 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., May 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.  
 Saturday—Feb. 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., May, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

A week ago to-day, (Saturday) prices closed at 61c for May. A year ago May delivery closed at 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Two years ago May closed at 67c. No. 1 hard was quoted at about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ c over No. 1 northern, No. 2 northern, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

**Montreal Grain and Produce Market.**

Grain.—The local grain market was quiet to-day, and, but notwithstanding the decline in prices in United States markets for the past three days, the tone here is firm and values fully maintained. Prices are: No. 2 oats, per 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 31c; barley, feed 38 to 39c; Barley malting 53 to 55c.

Flour.—business in flour was somewhat quiet to-day and the volume of business transacted was not as large as usual, but the tone was

firm and values are sustained. Prices are: Winter wheat, \$1.40; Spring wheat, patents \$1.25; straight roller, \$1.10; Straight roller bags \$1.95 to \$2; extra bags \$1.75 to \$1.85; Manitoba strong bakers, \$1.

Notwithstanding the recent advance of 10c per barrel in prices for oatmeal made by Ontario millers there are some holders of rolled oats offering round lots at \$3. Prices are: granulated, brls \$3 20 to \$3.30; Rolled oats, brls \$3 10 to \$3.20; Rolled wheat, per 100 lbs, \$2.40 to \$2.50.

Feed.—there was no change in feed, business being quiet and values unchanged. Prices are: Bran, \$14 to \$15; Shorts, \$15 to \$16.

Cured Meats.—There was no change in the provision market. Canadian short cut, clear, \$14.50 to \$15; Canadian short cut, mess, \$15 to \$15.50; hams, city cured, per lb, 9 to 10c; lard, Canadian, in pails, 8c; bacon, per lb., 9 to 10c; lard, common, refined, per lb., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Dressed Hogs.—The market for dressed hogs was quiet to-day, and the feeling, if anything, was easier, but values show no actual change. We quote car lots, \$5.40 to \$5.50, and jobbing lots at \$5.50 to \$6 per 100 lbs.

Cheese.—Prices are quotable at 9c to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for fall makes, and 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ c for summer goods.

Butter.—The butter market is quiet and steady. Creamery jobs out in a steady basis, at 20 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 21c, and western rolls at 14 to 15c.

Eggs.—The feature of the egg market was the weakness in new laid stock, and prices have declined 2c per dozen, which is due to larger receipts. Fresh, 20c; Montreal limed, 18c to 14c, and western limed, 12 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per dozen.—Gazette, Feb. 12.

**Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.**

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

| Grade.                   | Jan. 11 | Jan. 18 | Jan. 25. | Feb. 1 | Feb. 8 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------|
| Extra Manitoba hard..... | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0      | 0      |
| No. 1 hard.....          | 27      | 34      | 18       | 61     | 83     |
| No. 2 hard.....          | 34      | 32      | 10       | 20     | 39     |
| No. 3 hard.....          | 18      | 32      | 15       | 23     | 33     |
| No. 1 North'n..          | 6       | 6       | 7        | 5      | 11     |
| No. 2 North'n..          | 2       | 0       | 3        | 5      | 5      |
| No. 3 North'n..          | 1       | 0       | 1        | 1      | 0      |
| No. 1 white fyte         | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0      | 1      |
| No. 2 white fyte         | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0      | 0      |
| No. 1 Spring...          | 0       | 0       | 0        | 2      | 3      |
| No. 2 Spring...          | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0      | 2      |
| No. 1 Ostd... ..         | 16      | 13      | 7        | 15     | 23     |
| No. 2 Frosted ..         | 16      | 9       | 4        | 11     | 4      |
| No. 3 Frosted ..         | 0       | 2       | 3        | 3      | 9      |
| No. 1 Rejected..         | 10      | 11      | 10       | 16     | 24     |
| No. 2 Rejected..         | 43      | 32      | 18       | 45     | 61     |
| No Grade.....            | 0       | 1       | 0        | 0      | 2      |
| Feed.....                | 1       | 3       | 5        | 7      | 13     |
| Total.....               | 175     | 175     | 107      | 213    | 365    |
| Same week last year..... | 31      | 51      | 30       | 30     | 51     |

Oats—For week ended Feb. 8—No. 1 white, 9; No. 2 white, 27; No. 3 white, 0; No. 2 black, 0; No. 2 mixed 21, feed, 9, total, 65.

Barley—For week ended Feb. 8—No. 2, 0; No. 3, 5; feed, 1; total, 6.

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

**Winnipeg Clearing House.**

Clearings for the week ending February 13 were \$982,579; balances, \$221,925. For the previous week clearings were \$1,036,228. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$642,440, and for the week two years ago, \$681,650. For the month of January clearings were \$1,997,200 as compared with \$4,067,403 for January, 1895, and \$1,813,346 for January, 1894.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

|               | Feb. 6.      |
|---------------|--------------|
| Montreal..... | \$10,809,406 |
| Toronto.....  | 7,140,918    |
| Halifax.....  | 1,270,990    |
| Winnipeg..... | 1,066,228    |
| Hamilton..... | 693,636      |
| Total.....    | \$20,475,178 |

**Our Annual.**

The annual number of The Commercial will be issued about the middle of February, giving a review of commercial developments for the past year. It will be handsomely illustrated. These annual numbers of The Commercial are the finest things of the kind published here. The one issued in a few days will be superior to previous efforts in many respects. Extra copies can be had on application. Price 25 cents. New subscribers to The Commercial, paying \$2 for one yearly subscription in advance, will be sent a free copy of the Annual.

Allan & McDonald, hotel, Vancouver, have been sold out by bailiff.

ORANGE JUDD COMPANY,  
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WEEKLY.

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Each edition contains special local features characteristic of its section, perfectly adapting it to the wants of the farmers of the different states in that section. Thus each edition becomes to the farmers as much their home agricultural paper, as though published at their own state capital.

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Short Stories Latest Fashions, Fancy Work, The Good Cook, Talks with the Doctor, Puzzle Contests, Library Corner and Young Folks' Page. Combine to make this department of as much value and interest as most of the special family papers. Questions answered on Law, Medicine, Veterinary and other topics free of charge.

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We are making Men's Cape, Long Sacque and Spring and Fall Overcoats, Bicycle Suits, Coachmen's Livery Overcoats and Ladies' Golf Capes of the Rigby Porous Waterproof Cloth.

We are selling Rigby Cloth in Costume Cloths, and Ulsterings of various weights and colorings for Ladies' Wear, also Tweeds and Worsteds for Men's Suitings.

It costs very little extra to have clothing waterproofed by the Rigby process, and does not alter the feeling or texture of the material. There is no rubber in the compound, and the marvellous thing about Rigby is that it remains porous. Patterns and price lists will be forwarded on application from the trade only.

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PURE VINEGARS.

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**Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies**  
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FANCY SILK AND WOOL MIXTURE DRESS GOODS in Persians, Taffetalines, shot and plain colors, Poplins, ditto, Reys, ditto, Glorias, ditto, Crepons, Black and Colors.

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FANCY COTTON DRESS GOODS in Muslins, Zephyrs, Artorgandy, Brocaded and ripe Plisse, Printed Crepons, Japonaises Levantines, Simille Percales, French Cambrics, Batiste Faccounee and Neigeuse, French Sateens, Plain and Fancy Stripe Linen Grenadines.

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**J. M. MACDONALD, McINTYRE BLOCK.**

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Feb. 11, 1896.

This week business improved with the weather. Wholesalers now report trade good and collections fair. Outdoor work has commenced on an extensive scale and there are few idle men in the cities. The lumber trade is very brisk and owing to the advance in prices more hopeful for all concerned. One very important feature in the lumber is the fact that at the present time there are some 14 vessels loading at the mills at this part, their combined capacity being about 18,300 tons. Besides these 14 vessels there are two more unloading merchandize and sugar. In a few days the Australian and Oriental steamers will be in, when the harbor and foreshore will present a scene of mercantile activity never before witnessed. The days some have prophesied, when the shipping of Vancouver would be 5 or 6 times greater than the present may not be so far off. The wholesale market is generally firming up. Cured meats will be a cent higher next week, while fresh meats will also advance. Sugar has made another fractional advance and is firm at the higher price. The third raise has taken place in flour, on account of the rapid advance of the Canadian article it is almost impossible to keep track of the United States brands. Fruits are becoming firmer. All the imported eggs are coming from Oregon just now. They are purchased at the train in Oregon at 15c fresh, and rushed through to Victoria, Vancouver, Westminster, and Nanaimo, and sold faster than they can be delivered at 22c. Ranch eggs are in great demand at 25 cents wholesale. The Delta creamery butter is selling retail at 30 cents, but thanks to the government education of the farmers of British Columbia excellent dairy can be had at 22 or 25c retail.

## British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, February 15, 1896.

**Butter.**—Dairy butter, 18 to 20c; creamery 25 to 26c; Manitoba cheese 10½c per lb.

**Cured Meats.**—Strengthening. Hams 12c; breakfast bacon 12½c; backs 11½c; long, clear 8½c; short rolls 9c; smoked sides 10c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10½c per pound; in cails and tubs 10c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$15.

**Fish.**—Prices are: Flounders 3c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 9c; halibut 7c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel heads, 8c; finnan haddies, 10c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 8c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c.

**Game.**—Mallards, 50c; pintails 40c; widgeons, 35c; venison, 5c.

**Vegetables.**—Potatoes new, \$10 per ton; onions silver skins, 1½c; cabbage, 1½c; carrots, turnips and beets, ¾ to 1c a lb.; sweet potatoes, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.

**Eggs.**—Weak.—Fresh, local, 25c; Oregon, 22c per dozen.

**Fruits.**—California seedling oranges \$3.00, navels, \$1.00; native apples \$1.00; California lemons, \$1.00 to \$1.50; California apples, \$1.20 to \$1.30; Jap oranges 50c.

**Evaporated Fruits.**—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

**Nuts.**—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

**Flour.**—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$4.70; strong bakers, \$4.40; Oregon, —; Oak Lake patent \$1.50; do strong bakers \$4.30.

**Meal.**—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½

pound sacks, \$3.30; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.00; 2-50's, \$2.75. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 45's \$2.35.

**Grain.**—Washington State wheat \$28.00 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

**Ground Feed.**—National mills chop, \$21 to \$23 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$18.50 ton; bran \$16.50; oil cake meal, \$26 ton: F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

**Hay.**—Nominal at \$8 per ton.

**Dressed Meats.**—Beef, 7c; mutton, 7½c to 8c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 9c per lb.

**Live Stock.**—Steers, 8½ to 4c lb; cows 3 to 3½c; sheep, \$3.75 to \$1.00; hogs, 5 to 5½c.

**Poultry.**—Chickens, \$1 to \$6 per dozen.

**Sugars.**—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 6c; granulated, 5c; extra C, 5½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow 4c per lb.

**Syrups.**—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.25 each; 1 gallon tins, \$3.75 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.50 per case of 20.

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

### British Columbia Business Notes

H. McIntosh, hotel, Vernon, has sold out to Hamilton & McGillivray.

The new Kaslo and Slocan Railway has carried 1000 tons of ore

Emanuel Merman, jeweller, Wellington, has sold out to Leiser & Hamburger.

Ed. E. McFarlane, baker, Wellington, has been succeeded by Binck & McFarlane.

A Spring Creek claim, the Arlington, has been bonded for \$50,000 by J. A. Finch.

This week a heavy body of ore was found by at Deadwood, running 150 ounces of silver.

Owing to keen rivalry among the dealers Anthracite coal has dropped to the following prices: nut, \$6.50; furnace, \$8.00; stove \$8.50.

The directors of the Delta creamery, the one and only creamery of British Columbia met this week, congratulated themselves on the financial statement, increased their capital stock and reelected the old officers.

Chilian Council Morris has handed the Commercial correspondent interesting pamphlets on the use of nitrate of soda (Chili's great product) as a fertilizer. From these pamphlets it is learned that the nitrate industry of Chili is at its zenith, the exports last year being \$40,000,000, while in the port of Iquequi 80 to 100 ships are continually loading nitrate. Mr. Morris says he will mail these pamphlets free to any farmer giving him his address.

The total amount of coal exported from the new Vancouver coal mine for January to the States was 14,232 tons. As this is but the export of one mine an idea can be got of the large coal shipment to the States going on at the present time, and all Canadian coal is sold immediately off the boats when it reaches United States ports.

Canadian Japanese council Nossie leaves Vancouver this month for Eastern Canada, to study the business methods of Canadians for his government, with a view of advertising Canada in Japan. Mr. Nossie says that most Japanese think Canada a state under the stars and stripes. Winnipeg and Regina will be visited.

The incoming Miowere has 100,000 pounds of overland freight, 50 tons of local freight and 20 cabin passengers. The Empress of China has half a million pounds of overland freight and 1100 tons of local freight, 20 cabin passengers and 100 Mongolians.

The Provincial Government has given notice that all unpaid taxes up to Dec. 31st

must be paid by Feb. 29th or they will be collected with costs.

A Montreal syndicate has taken a bill of sale of the "Monarch" mine, Boundary Creek for \$12,500.

The Quesnell River Hydraulic Co. will dig a four mile ditch and bring water to their mine from Big Lake. They have leased 490 acres.

The lost vein of the O. K. has been found; J. L. Warner, of Seattle, representing a syndicate the old company sold out to. The ore is gold and copper and runs \$80 to the ton.

Interest in mining has commenced to revive with the approach of spring. The report is to hand that the shipment of ore from the Kootenay for the week ending Jan. 25th was 1558 tons, valued at \$117,700.

Cariboo is all prepared for next year. The famous Horseshy company are making very extensive preparations. Pipes, gates, pumps, and monitors are going forward by sleigh.

The Elk Mining Co., newly incorporated \$10,000, are to work a base on Goose Creek, Cariboo. The whole creek will be taken by a flume through a canyon to dry ground to be worked.

Trade between the interior and the British Columbia coast merchants is improving. Twice a week (the days when connections can be made,) a car load of British Columbia mercantile men leave for the Kootenay, to push business and perfect connections and do some enquiring on their own account.

At Trail Creek, South Kootenay, all is enthusiasm. At the Le Roi the further the workmen get down the richer is the ore. In the Little Darling the ore is improving at 60 feet. In No. 3 tunnel of the Iron mask \$300 ore has been struck. The War Eagle is shipping 60 tons a day.

The great excitement, however, is over the big strike of \$250 ore in the Le Roi. This mine was shipping 100 tons a day; they will ship 400 tons a day, and expect to declare dividends of \$50,000 a month. The War Eagle Co. are to build a smelter. The Trail Creek Tram Co. have commenced operations. Before the summer is out the much talked of Red Mountain railway will run into Rossland.

Greenwood is the boom town of the famous Boundary Creek country. A saw mill and a large general store have been erected, a smelter is to be built and other buildings are going up very fast. Mining properties have been located in large numbers in the immediate vicinity. When these properties are worked, the whole district will be an immense mining camp. The ore so far is low grade, but inexhaustible and easily worked, while, as at Trail, the ore richens as it goes down. This town and Grand Forks are in direct communication with Spokane, where all supplies come from.

## British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, of Feb. 10, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: "English and foreign wheats have been firm, No. 1 California being quoted at 28s 6d. Flour has risen from 6d to 1s. To-day American wheat was in request; red winter wheat fetched 28s, and spring 28s. Flour was quiet and corn and barley 8d cheaper."

## Grain Standards.

It is rumored from Ottawa that legislation may be introduced this session to do away with the board and fix the standards permanently by act of parliament in accordance with suggestions made by Western members. High officials in the government favor the views of western members, and will make a recommendation accordingly.

All the difference in the World Between a **Mixture and a Blend**



The old style formula of mixing half a dozen teas together and attempting to disguise their dissimilar qualities with a liberal dose of scented Orange Pekoe, only resulted at best in a nauseating mixture seldom twice alike in varying degrees of disappointment.

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How different the results in the use of our

# PURE BLENDED TEAS.

WE HAVE IN STORE a carload of these SUPERB TEAS direct from the plantation. The high standard quality is more than sustained; they are without doubt the choicest values ever shown on this market.

We shall be pleased to show you samples, they are to be had for the asking.

BLENDED to infinitesimal niceties by Experts on the Estates where grown. The absolutely unvarying high standard excellence of these goods is the basis on which they have not only won but kept their reputation as the most satisfactory goods on the market.

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Consignments received in all Lines. Liberal Advances Made.

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FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.

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

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AGENTS Bridgegate Oil Works, B.C.; D. Richards, Laundry Soaps Woodstock, Ontario; Teller, Rothwell 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.

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WHOLESALE DEALERS IN-

BUTTER, EGGS, FRUITS AND PRODUCE

A PERFECT SYSTEM OF

COLD STORAGE.

280 ABBOTT STREET, - VANCOUVER, P. O. BOX NO. 288.

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

### WANTED!

Feed Wheat for Chickens

QUOTE PRICE

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19 and 21 Hastings Street,

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### OSMUND SKRINE & CO.,

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WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, FLOUR AND FEED.

CALIFORNIA FRUITS,

Sole Agents for, British Columbia for Alexander, Kelly & Co's. Celebrated Rolled Oats and Flour.

Special Attention given to consignments of Produce from Manitoba and N.W.T.

121 TO 123 WATER STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C.

### MAJOR & ELDRIDGE, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Vancouver, - B.C.

Butter, Eggs, Cheese and Pork Products FRESH EGGS WANTED.

Sole Agents for Vancouver, New Westminster and District for Leitch Bros. Celebrated Oak Lake Manitoba Flour.

### A GOOD OPPORTUNITY

For a man with moderate capital To be sold as a going concern, on account of advertiser having other large interests away from Victoria; a profitable manufacturing business, with plant complete, located in the city of Victoria, B.C. A long lease of premises can be had at very low rental. Liberal terms. Address: "X. Y. Z." Commercial Office, Winnipeg.

### Live Stock Associations.

Second annual convention of the Manitoba live stock breeders will be held under the auspices of the Sheep and Swine Breeders' and the Pure Bred Cattle Breeders' associations, in the government dairy school, Bannatyne Street, East, Winnipeg, on Thursday, February 20th, commencing 9.30 a. m.; afternoon and evening sessions at 1.30 and 8.00 p. m. Following is the programme of the meetings:

Sheep and Swine Breeders convene 9.30 a. m. Business session.—Address and reports of officers. Reports of committees and unfinished business. New business. Election of officers. Election of representatives to Fair Board.

Pure Bred Cattle Breeders' convene 1.30 p. m.—Business session—Report of officers and new business. Five minute addresses by representatives of each breed of cattle.

Sheep and Swine and Cattle Breeders convene 8.30 p. m. Joint meeting for the delivery of the following addresses, if all business has been completed: "A Retrospective and Prospective view of the Cattle Breeding Industry," by H. O. Ayearst, President of the P.B.C.B.A.; "A Retrospective and Prospective view of the Sheep and Swine Industry," by Jas. Elder, president of the S. & S. B. A.; "How I am feeding my Breeding Stock this Winter," by R. L. Lang, Oak Lake; "A Criticism of the Papers on Swine in the 1895 Bulletin," by W. W. Fraser, Emerson; five minute addresses by the representatives of each breed of swine; "The Adaptability of Manitoba for the Raising of Sheep and their Management," by Jas. Riddell, M.P.P., Tobacco Creek; "Mutton Sheep in Manitoba," by Wm. Wallace, Niverville; five minute addresses by the representatives of each breed of sheep.

Evening session. 8.00 p. m.—"The Live Stock Interests of Manitoba," by Hon. Thos. Greenway, Minister of Agriculture; "The Swine Industry of the Northwest Territories," by Angus McKay, Indian Head Experimental Farm; "Why I like the Shorthorn," by Walter Lynch, Westbourne; "The Principles of Breeding," by Dr. Rutherford, M.P.P., Portage la Prairie; "Fattening Steers," by S. A. Bedford, Brandon Experimental Farm.

### Important Suit re the M. & N.W.R.R.

At the court house at Winnipeg, on Feb. 10, the full court delivered judgement in Grey vs. Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company. In 1893, the Messrs. Allan obtained the appointment of a receiver for the whole line of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company by decree of the court. Messrs. Grey and Heron-Maxwell, the trustees for the bondholders of the first 180 miles of the road, then filed a petition for leave to commence an action to have a receiver appointed on their behalf for their division; for foreclosure of the road; for immediate possession, and for sale of the railway. The court held that there was no authority authorizing a foreclosure of the road or possession, but granted leave to bring an action for a receiver and sale.

In this suit, Justice Dubuc, on an interim application, appointed A. M. Nanton receiver. The case came on for hearing before Justice Killam, who confirmed the appointment of a receiver but directed a sale of the road.

From this decision of Judge Killam's the company appealed to the full court on the ground that under the railway act only a complete section of the road could be sold. The only completed section was the first 180 miles; the balance of this was situated in the Northwest Territories, and over this portion the court had no jurisdiction. Not being able to sell this part of the road, they could not sell that portion which was within this province, because that is neither an integral section of the road within the meaning of the

railway act. The company further contended that the appointment of the receiver was wrong, because the earnings of the road, mortgaged to the trustees, were subject to the working expenses of the whole railway. The receiver had been appointed to receive all the earnings of the road, and they asked that this appointment be varied and that an inquiry be made to ascertain what were the working expenses of the road, and that those expenses be first paid out of the receipts.

The case came up for argument before the full court in July last. Judgment was delivered allowing the appeal, setting aside the order for sale of the road, and declaring that the earnings of the road, mortgaged to the plaintiffs, were subject to the working expenses of the whole railway. As the receiver is still continued in his position to a certain extent, no costs are allowed for the hearing, but the company was allowed the costs of the appeal.

After the decision had been rendered, Mr. Phippen was seen and questioned as to the effect it would have on the claims of the old creditors of the company. At the time the first receiver was appointed the company owned a considerable amount to various creditors throughout the province, and as their debts were not secured by mortgage, the receiver refused to recognize their claims, and the result has been, that nothing has been paid out on account of these. This was a great hardship, Mr. Phippen admitted, and he stated that if the present judgment was upheld it was quite probable that these claims would be paid in full.

In the majority of cases, they are what would probably be held to be "working expenses" of the railway, and if so, entitled to payment in priority to the claims of the bondholders.

### World's Wheat Stocks Totals.

Details of stocks of wheat available, both coasts of the United States and Canada, on February 1, as reported to Bradstreet's, are contrasted with those on like dates in preceding years as follows: Feb 1, 1893, 103,481,000 bushels; Feb 1, 1895, 120,035,000 bushels.

The world's totals of stocks of wheat on Feb. 1, 1896, present a more bullish aspect than for several months. This is due not so much to the falling off of available supplies in the United States as to restricted takings by Europe and the recent shrinkage of reserves, both on the continent and in the United Kingdom.

In the United States and Canada, both coasts, the falling of in total supplies Feb. 1 as compared with last year shows a shrinkage of only a little in excess of 16,000,000 bushels, about 13 per cent., but the total held, as described, on the 1st instant was only 103,481,000 bushels, as contrasted with 120,035,000 bushels one year ago, with 109,455,000 bushels on February 1, 1894, as compared with 118,712,000 bushels on February 1, 1893. On the corresponding date in preceding years the range of total stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada both coasts, was from a total of about 52,000,000 bushels to 72,000,000 bushels, and to 84,000,000.

The least bullish feature of the movement of the domestic and Canadian wheat crops is that for January. The net falling off in the quantity available east of the Rocky mountains last month was only 157,000 bushels, as contrasted with the enormous decrease in January, 1895, of 6,790,000 bushels. For seven months of the cereal year ended January 30, 1896, the net decrease in available wheat supplies in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, is only 41,267,000 bushels, as compared with 55,247,000 bushels in the like seven months in the preceding cereal year, but is much heavier than the corresponding falling off in the cereal year 1893-94.

The seven months' decrease in available wheat stocks on the Pacific coast, amounting to 1,794,000 bushels, is in surprising contrast to the corresponding decreases there in preceding years, the falling off for seven months in 1894-95 having been 5,293,000 bushels, and in 1893-94 8,741,000 bushels.

The not decrease in available wheat stocks in the United States and Canada, both coasts, during the seven months under discussion is 46,061,000 bushels, whereas in the like period in the preceding cereal year the falling off was 60,480,000 bushels, and 84,938,000 in the previous year.

The total quantity of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantity afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on February 1, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's, is as follows:

|              | Grand total. |
|--------------|--------------|
| Feb. 1, 1896 | 160,425,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1895 | 181,419,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1894 | 183,927,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1893 | 178,088,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1892 | 155,308,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1891 | 105,087,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1890 | 105,538,000  |
| Feb. 1, 1889 | 119,459,000  |

Grouping stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe with total stocks available in the United States and Canada, the grand total for February 1, this year, is found to be 160,425,000 bushels, about 21,000,000 bushels less than on February 1, 1895, nearly 24,000,000 bushels less than on the corresponding date in 1894, nearly 18,000,000 bushels less than were held on Feb. 1, 1893.

Berbohm's special cable to Bradstreet's this week announces the final official Russian report, that the wheat crop of the empire will be 80,000,000 bushels less than in 1894, and that the rye crop, the principal food product there is 115,000,000 bushels smaller, which means reduced supplies to wheat-importing countries from Russia, as well as from Australia and India.

For months past wheat afloat for Europe from all sources has been decreasing, which is in sharp contrast to the increasing totals afloat a year ago up to the month of May. Moreover, the United Kingdom is reported to require 24,000,000 bushels more to be imported than at the corresponding period a year ago, unless it is to intrench upon its reserves.

### Montreal Grocery Market.

There has been no important change in the situation of the sugar market during the past week, except that in New York the Sugar Trust reduced the prices for refined 1-16c, which the market did not warrant. However, this has had no effect here, and refiners state that values are firmly held. The demand is slow, and business rules very quiet, and, until outside holders work off their present stock, little improvement is anticipated. Granulated sold at 4½c in 250 barrel lots and over; 4 11-16c in 100 barrel lots, and 4½c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3½ to 4½c, as to quality, at the factory. Private cables from London, this morning, reported the market steady and prices unchanged. Beet, 11s 9d February, and 11s 10½d March.

Business in syrups continues very quiet, which is usually the case at this season of the year, but values are firmly held at 1½c to 2½c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

The demand for molasses has been of a limited character and the market, in consequence, is quiet but prices are very firm at 37c for Barbadoes, 35c for Porto Rico and 25 to 35c for N.O.

There has been no material change in rice. The demand is fair and an average business is doing for the season. The following quota-

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

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

Sold only in the Northwest by  
**G. Vollo. Strong & Co. G. F. & J. Galt. J. M. Carey**  
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tions are what millers sell at:—Japan Standard, \$1.25 to \$1.40; crystal Japan, \$1.75 to \$3; standard B., \$3.45; English style, \$3.30; Patna, \$1.25 to \$5; and Carolina at \$6.50 to \$7.50.

A fair business is reported in spices, there being a good demand for small lots and prices are steady. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only:—Penang black pepper, 6 to 7½c; white pepper, 10 to 12½c; cloves, 7½ to 9c; cassia, 8½ to 9½c; nutmegs, 60 to 90c, and Jamaica ginger, 15½ to 18½c.

The demand for coffee has continued slow, and few sales of importance have taken place. We quote: Maracibo, 19 to 20c; Rio, 18 to 18½c; Java, 24 to 27c; Jamaica, 17½ to 18½c, and Mocha, 27½ to 30c.

The tea market has shown signs of more activity during the past week, and a decided better feeling prevails. The volume of business done has been larger, there being a better demand from both local and Western buyers, and some fair sized lots have changed hands. There has been considerable enquiry for low grade Young Hyson, which are very scarce, the market being almost bare of stock at present. A round lot of low grade Ping Suez was placed at 12 to 13c, a lot of 300 packages of Japan changed hands at 15c, a lot of 500 packages of China green sold at a range of 10 to 18c, and several small lots of Japans at 12 to 14c.—Montreal Gazette.

## G. P. B. Report.

At a meeting of the board of the Canadian Pacific Railway company, held at Montreal on February 10, the following statement of the business of the past year was submitted: Gross earnings, \$18,941,036; working expenses, \$11,460,066; net earnings, \$7,480,950. Add interest earned on deposits and loans, \$112,246; add interest due from Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic Railway company on consolidated bonds held by the company against debenture stock issued, \$589,383; less advanced by company, \$148,716; making a total of \$8,033,863. Deduct fixed charges, including interest on land bonds and debenture stock issued against the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic consolidated bonds held by Co. \$6,659,478. Surplus, \$1,374,385. From this there has been charged off the half yearly dividend on preference stock, two per cent. paid on first of October, 1895, \$128,480, leaving a surplus from the year's operations of \$1,245,905. After paying the October dividend on preference stock from this surplus the board declared a dividend of two per cent on the preference stock for the half year ended December 31st, and of one and a half per cent. on the common stock for the year 1895, both payable April first. Traffic for the week ending February 7th amounted to \$353,000. In the same week last year it was \$281,000

## Financial and Insurance Items.

The new local fire insurance company, organized in Winnipeg last spring under the name of the Canadian fire Insurance Co., held its first annual meeting on February 4. The first annual report showed 651 policies in force, representing a sum of \$833,580. For the first year the business of the company was confined to Manitoba, but this year business will be extended to the territories. In moving the adoption of the report, the president reviewed the formation of the company, its reception by the public, and commented on the favorable showing of the balance sheet, the distribution of the risks, the low cost of acquiring the business, and emphasized the fact that insurance was being written for cash only, and anticipated the declaration of a dividend on June 1 next, when the company will have completed its first year's business. Votes of thanks were tendered to the directors and officers, and after re-appointing D. B. Hanna as auditor, the following were elected as directors for the year 1896: J. H. Ashdown, F. W. Stobart, G. R. Crowe, E. F. Hutchings, J. A. Richard, E. J. Campbell and R. T. Riley. The board of directors met immediately after the general meeting and appointed J. H. Ashdown, president; F. W. Stobart, Vice-President; R. T. Riley, Managing director; F. K. Foster, Secretary.

T. S. Vipond & Co., fruit merchants, Montreal, have assigned, with liabilities of \$250,000. Among the creditors are the Merchants Bank of Canada, for \$94,506, and Molson's bank for \$21,171.

## Partner Wanted.

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

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**PARTNER P P., Commercial Office, Winnipeg.**

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25 Quotations and Samples on Application.

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Of rich black soil, situated on Lulu Island, North Arm Fraser River, B. C. being composed of west halves of lots 12 and 13 and part of 1, Block 4 North, Range 7 West, 200 acres more or less; over two-thirds under good cultivation, mostly in meadow, the balance having been plowed once or twice and yielding abundance of grass for stock; has a very large barn, house and orchard of good bearing trees, all well fenced with stakes and boards; all well dyked and ditched, and about 3-4ths well underdrained; it is six or seven miles from the city of Vancouver; good roads, with stages to and from Vancouver daily; the river at the door teems with salmon, and has excellent shooting for ducks, geese and snipe; also pheasants in the near future; good school and churches near by; climate lovely and scenery simply charming.

For further particulars apply to J. H. TODD & SON, owners, Victoria, B. C. or to Messrs. Rand Bros., Vancouver.

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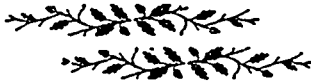
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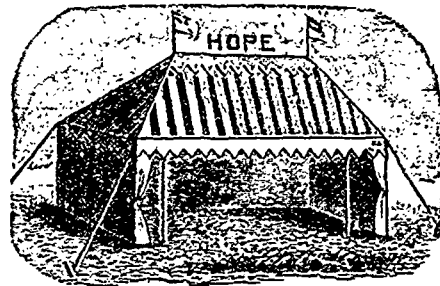
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### Decline in Plain Wire.

During the past ten days or so the plain wire market has developed a very unsettled feeling, owing to free offers of American oiled and annealed wire in Western Ontario. These are the first since the American iron market improved last spring, and as our own makers have advanced their prices, sales agents for American houses booked quite a number of orders. The competition was felt most keenly on certain gauges of oiled and annealed and plain annealed wire. It finally culminated this week in a shading of domestic maker's prices on certain lines, and further changes may follow if low American offers are kept up. The declines so far consist of a reduction of 20c on the price list of No. 10 oiled and annealed to \$2.60, and 30c in No. 11 ditto, to \$2.60. In plain annealed wire, No. 14 has been reduced 25c, to \$3. These reductions have led to the cancelling of quite a few orders placed last week for forward delivery with American selling agents. The trade discount continues unchanged at 20 per cent. of the lists. Terms remain the same, also 4 months or three per cent. off 30 day's lots of less than 1,000 pounds f.o.b. Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton freight prepaid to points where rate does not exceed 25c per 100 pounds.—Montreal Gazette.

### High Fur Price Lists.

The Commercial has often warned shippers from paying attention to high price lists of furs. The following from 'The New York Fur Trade Review,' will prove interesting in this connection:

"Warrants were issued late yesterday afternoon by United States Commissioner Graves for the arrest of Chas. H. Mosher and Chas. G. Doriot, partners in the Detroit Raw Fur Company, charging them with fraudulent use of the United States mail.

The warrants were placed in the hands of United States Post Office Inspector Eugene Parsell, who made the complaint against them, for service. The inspector left on the afternoon train on the Wabash road for Columbia City, Ind., where he placed the men under arrest.

Lyman C. Mosher, who was engaged with the men in their business in Detroit was arrested at their store, 44 Jefferson avenue, by Deputy United States Marshal Large, and taken before the commissioner, where another warrant was issued charging him with being implicated with them in their operations. In default of \$500 bail he was remanded to jail and his examination was fixed for next Thursday afternoon.

All of the defendants reside in Columbia City, Ind., where they are engaged in the same business they carried on in Detroit, the buying and selling of furs. They established

their Detroit business about three months ago.

The charge against them is that they used the United States mail for the distribution of circulars in which they promised to pay liberal prices for all furs shipped them, and that they did not fulfil their promises, thereby perpetrating a fraud.—Detroit, (Mich.), Tribune, December 29, 1895.

Charles G. Doriot, junior member of the firm of Charles H. Mosher & Co., the Indians who comprise the Detroit Raw Fur Company, came to this city this morning, appeared before Commissioner Graves and pleaded not guilty to a charge of using the mails with intent to defraud. He was released on his personal recognizance to appear for examination when notified, and Mosher, the clerk, was also released from jail on the same conditions. Mr. Doriot stated that his partner would come here for examination upon notification. The case will probably not be taken up until next week.—Detroit Journal, December 31, 1895.

Postmaster Enright received on Thursday from the postmaster-general at Washington an order declaring the business of the Detroit Raw Fur Company to be fraudulent and forbidding the delivery of all mail addressed to that company. This is the first fraud order that has been issued affecting Detroit parties in a long time.—Detroit Tribune, January 4, 1896.

Unlawful use of the United States mails is the charge against Charles G. Doriot and Charles H. Mosher, of Columbia City, Ind., partners in the Detroit Raw Fur Company, and Lyman C. Mosher, their storekeeper in this city. They are alleged to have sent out circulars soliciting the shipment of furs, with the intention of paying for the furs received below their market value. To show this alleged state of affairs, a number of witnesses were examined by assistant United States attorney Charles T. Wilkins, the examination taking place in the court room before Commissioner Graves.

The first witness was Chas. Dyer, of New Haven. He testified that he had shipped \$20 worth of furs to the Detroit Raw Fur Company early in December. On December 18 the firm sent him a cheque for \$11.60. He sent the cheque back and demanded the return of his furs, but the firm only returned the cheque, saying that was all the furs were worth, and it was impossible to send them back as they had become mixed up with the other furs. This was the same answer given all the subsequent witnesses, who had requested the return of the goods.

Geo. E. Hunt, of Flint, swore he had sent the firm a quantity of furs on December 1. for which he had been offered \$10.50 by one and \$10.77 by another buyer. The Detroit Raw Fur Company sent him a check for \$5.68. This he returned, with a demand for his furs,

but he got the check back again with the usual answer. Wm. Schroeder, of Bay City, a fur buyer for Traugott, Schmidt & Sons, of this city, swore that on December 19 he had examined the furs and offered Hunt \$10.50 for them. He stated that they could not have lost half of their value during the shipment to Detroit. Similar testimony was offered by Mark Slomon, a Detroit fur dealer, who had looked the furs over on the same day and offered \$10.77 for the lot.

Albert Kelly, of Smith Creek, shipped the firm some furs on November 27, for which he had paid \$1. He received a check for \$1.20, and when he wrote the firm demanding full value or his goods back he got neither. Subsequently he came to Detroit to make things hot for the firm, as he said, and though he was given \$3 more.

Edward Brenner, of Port Hope, shipped a lot of furs to Detroit in November, for which he had paid \$8.25, and which he claimed to be worth between \$13 and \$15. He received thirty-seven cents in postage stamps, which he sent back asking to return the furs. The firm sent the stamps back to him, accompanied with the usual answer. Brenner sent the stamps back again and demanded the return of his goods at once. In reply he received the thirty-seven cents again and a horse hide which he had sent with the furs. Brenner testified that he subsequently sold the horse hide to Berry Bros., of this city, for \$1.80.

Other witnesses were examined and the defendants were bound over to appear at the next term court on bail of \$1,000 each.

### "The Flying Squadron" and Corned Beef.

The New York Press says: "If England's flying squadron were to attack the United States she would use United States munitions of war against Americans. The fleet is stocked with beef, canned in the United States. A day or two before the squadron was ordered to sail west, the British government bought 500,000 pounds of corned beef of a Chicago firm. The meat was already in the company's London storeroom, so that there was no need of a shipment from this port. For nearly three years the British government has bought no United States canned beef, but has depended on supplies from its colonies. This sale is taken as indicating that Australian supplies have been exhausted. United States houses, since the complications abroad have caused comment, have increased their stocks at foreign ports, and the Chicago house was able to supply the government of Great Britain at the shortest possible notice. The Chicago house has sold recently a lot of beef—2,000,000 pounds—to the French government."



### Third Congress of the Empire.

Mr. Kenrie Murray, the secretary of the London chamber of commerce, has issued a circular stating that many indications of approval of the third congress of chambers of commerce of the empire, proposed to be held in the city of London in June next, had been received from Canadian bodies. Mr. Chamberlain, M. P., secretary of state for the colonies, has accepted the position of honorary president.

The council of the London chamber of commerce, who now convene the conference, state that prominence was given at the second congress to the subject of commercial relations between the mother country and her colonies and possessions. In this connection the council of the London chamber note with satisfaction the 1891 Ottawa conference, the negotiations opened up between Canada and the Cape of Good Hope for closer commercial relations, the discussion of intercolonial free trade by Australian governments, and the passing of the Colonial Customs act in 1895, removing disabilities of Australian colonies in negotiating tariff treaties with other self-governing colonies.

The congress recommended the organizing of boards of labor conciliation and arbitration. Since 1892 not only have a number of such boards been formed in the United Kingdom, but also in the colonies.

Special legislation has also been passed in several colonies. It was recommended by the second congress that every endeavor should be made to codify the commercial law of the Empire. Certain obstacles were pointed out by the lord chancellor to the summoning of a conference for affecting this object, but his lordship took every available opportunity to push forward the codification for the United Kingdom. Examples of action in this direction are the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, codifying the law on this subject, the Sale of Goods Act, 1893, and the Bill of Sale Act, 1893.

The second congress recommended that the Merchandise Marks Act should be extended to all British possessions and enacted in all British colonies. This recommendation has, in the main, been carried out, inasmuch as only the Bahamas, Malta, New South Wales and Queensland have failed to adopt special legislation in this direction.

Although Imperial penny postage, as approved by the congress has not yet been introduced, it is to be noted that the colonial rates of postage to and from the United Kingdom have been uniform since 1892.

The second congress expressed a decided opinion in favor of the total abolition of light dues levied in the United Kingdom on vessels visiting its port. This much-to-be-desired remission has not yet been effected, but a departmental committee appointed by the board of trade has been considering the whole subject of the dues and their incidence. Their report has not yet been presented.

The council thinks that some, if not all, of the following questions might be usefully discussed by the congress, preference being naturally given to questions of an imperial rather than those of a merely local character:

- 1, commercial relations between the mother country and her colonies and dependencies;
- 2, boards of labor conciliation and arbitration;
- 3, codification of the commercial law of the empire;
- 4, bills of lading reform;
- 5, commercial education;
- 6, the decimal system of weights, measures and currency;
- 7, imperial penny postage;
- 8, light dues;
- 9, railways—light railways—railway communication with India and the east;
- 10, intercolonial trade relations;
- 11, arbitration for international disputes;
- 12, imperial trade marks registration and patent law;
- 13, cable communication—construction—rates—code;
- 14, steamship communication, rates, subsidies, war risks, insurance;
- 15, closer connection between

government and chambers of commerce—by establishment of commercial advisory or consultative councils, home and colonial; 16, bills of exchange, uniform procedure; 17, supply of government publications to chambers of commerce, and natural interchange of documents; 18, parliamentary commercial parties, home and colonial; 19, representation of United Kingdom in colonies, and of colonies in the United Kingdom to make up for want of consular officers, who are only appointed to foreign countries; 20, appointment of an imperial council to consider questions of imperial interest; 21 copyright.

### Cattle Exports of Australia

The London Times says: "A valuable report on the cattle exports of New South Wales and Queensland has been made by the United States consul at Sydney. He points out that New South Wales has an area of 310,700 square miles, or about six times that of Iowa. Queensland occupies 668,500 square miles, or thirteen times the area of Iowa. But in both colonies together there is probably not as much of what Americans would regard as good agricultural land as would make half of Iowa, yet fully enough pastoral land to make ten such states as Iowa. Hence, there are vast possibilities for pastoral industries. The scanty rainfall and insufficient water supply are now being supplemented by artesian borings, the success of which has greatly extended the pastoral capacities of these colonies. The borings have been prosecuted by both government and private enterprises. The Coowaburrah in New South Wales has a daily flow of 5,000,000 gallons, and the aggregate discharge in the colony is put at 40,000,000 gallons per day. In Queensland 300,000 gallons daily are furnished by the Charleville well.

"Land being very cheap, it is held in large tracts. As there are practically no winters, cattle can fatten all the year round on natural grasses, and hence are prepared for market at little cost. In New South Wales one-half of the alienated lands, or 21,000,000 acres, are held by 677 persons, with an average holding of 31,000 acres. Only 23 per cent. of the 198,818,000 acres are alienated, while 66 per cent. are leased, the leaseholds being enormous tracts. All but 10 per cent. of the lands of New South Wales are either alienated or leased. Of the 427,800 acres in Queensland but 12,500,000 acres are alienated, while 280,500 acres are leased. Some of the leaseholds aggregate fully 1,000,000 acres, and portions of this cost no more than a farthing per acre per annum for rent. Twenty-two per cent. of Queensland lands are neither sold nor leased, probably being almost worthless.

"At current values cattle can be raised in Queensland at a profit for their hides alone. On apparently reliable information there are about 7,000,000 head of horned cattle in Queensland and 2,500,000 head in New South Wales. The people of the United States have about five-sevenths of one head of cattle per capita, the people of New South Wales about two head, and the people of Queensland nearly twenty head.

"For several years there has been considerable export trade from Sydney in frozen and preserved meats, but the greater advantage of having meat slaughtered nearer to the markets of consumption determined the colonists to make an effort to participate in the live stock export trade to Europe. With this object 520 cattle were shipped on the Southern Cross for London, via Cape Horn, and the result has been too recently before the British public to need detailing again.

"The annual 'cattle crop' of New South Wales is about 400,000, with an annual consumption in Sydney of 110,000 head. The Queensland cattle crop is about 1,000,000 head, with a consumption which may be put

at 50,000 head. Most of the cattle hitherto exported have been fattened in Queensland and conveyed by rail to Sydney. Fat cattle, averaging about 1,600 pounds, are worth about £21 per head in Sydney—sold by the pound net or estimated dressed weight. The freight to London, including fittings and free storage for food, is £8 per head. The average weight of those shipped has been about 850 pounds dressed—1,600 pounds gross. It is asserted that cattle do not shrink when taken off the pasture and put on prescribed shipping food.

"No co-operative movement has yet arisen in this branch of the cattle trade, but as prices are very sensitive under competition, the possibility of the expansion of this antipodean industry is urged upon American cattle feeders as deserving of their attention. Whilst the people of the United States have an advantage of from 9,000 to 12,000 miles in distance, yet in the face of much cheaper production, or of lower purchase price, together with the reduction of freights, the shorter distance from the United States would, it is contended, hardly outweigh the advantages possessed by Australian exporters, should their trade become well established.

"The Australian pastures are about as far from the centres of meat consumption as it is possible to get. Yet, says the consul, with a successful trade that would justify specially fitted ships and regular cargoes, fine, well-fattened cattle of an average weight of 1,600 pounds could be put into the London market from Australia more cheaply than from any other port of the globe."

### Wheat in Argentina.

The almost brilliant promise of the wheat crop has been changed to a prospect of disaster by a most heart breaking spell of bad weather. The damage done already is large, and each fresh downpour serves to put another nail in the coffin of the harvest. Quality and quantity will alike be affected, and it only remains now to humbly pray that the quality will not be worse than last season's, and the estimate of an expert of 1,500,000 tons must now be looked upon as well-nigh impossible, the likely total being something about 1,250,000 tons.

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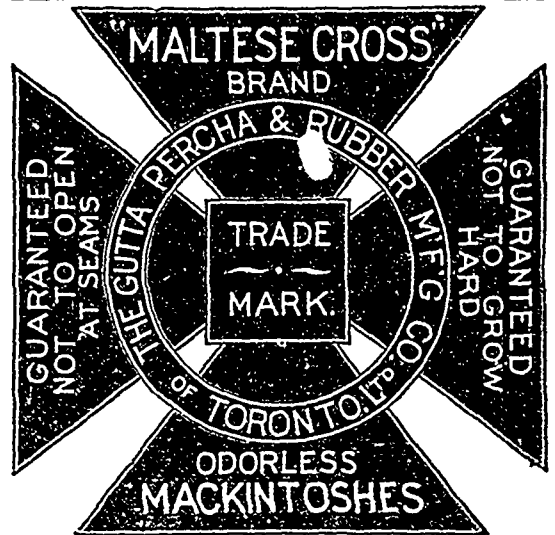
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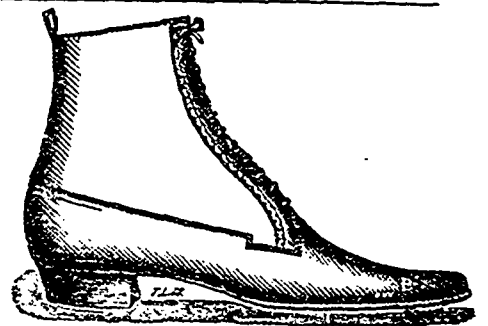
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## Fur Trade Matters.

The Leipzig correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review writing on January 11 says. "The usual number of visitors from German and Austrian cities attended the New Year fair with a general demand for furs. One article—nutria—was missed by them, as it has been imported during the past winter only in small quantities, trappers in South America reporting the catch extremely light. The few skins on hand, together with those which had been repurchased from abroad, were quickly sold at advanced values. Opinions regarding the future of American furs are diverse here, some fur merchants believing that all articles excepting musquash will decline, and that skunk will be very cheap. Other fur merchants, a smaller number, state that all American articles, skunk excepted, will be dearer. Of course, one or the other must be nearly right, but we are inclined to believe that a great deal will depend upon the financial condition of the various buyers. Many firms had heavy losses through bad debts during the past year but as they could stand the loss it is not improbable that they will speculate to a considerable extent in order to retrieve their losses. Musquash has sold fairly well, and stocks are small, and an advance in prices is fully expected. Mink and marten have had a smaller sale than in good years. However, there are no stocks anywhere, and it is thought that both articles will hold their own. Raccoon was cheap in 1895 and considering the situation in general, we think this article will do better in the spring, as the different dyed productions have met with a regular demand. There are no views for better prices for American opossum, as dyed skins are no longer in extended use. There is no apparent reason for higher prices for bear, and moderate values are expected. As beaver will be used to produce a number of articles heretofore made of nutria, lower prices need not be looked for. Owing to the trouble in the Orient, prospects cannot be regarded as good for red fox. Gray fox is at present in very little demand on the continent. Lynx suffers for the reason affecting red fox, and though prices are very low now customers are not found and the article has not proved a success, even when dyed in the new shades, the only demand and that a limited one, being for black-dyed skins. Otter has been in good demand—the dark skins for men's coat collars and the pale skins for plucking. Low prices are not expected. Blue fox is neglected. Wolf for rugs is only in limited demand. Australian opossum sells only in consequence of the present very low prices, but only small quantities are in demand. The same is true regarding wallaby and wombat. Japanese fox sells well as heretofore, especially blue dyed skins. There is the usual good demand but no stock of real chinchilla. Bastard chinchilla is in good request. In Russian furs astrachan receives a good deal of attention. Prices of raw skins in Russia have declined considerably, and naturally Leipzig holders of dyed skins are not eager to sell. It is thought that at the present prices the article will again be taken for America. Persian met with a fair demand until the beginning of December, but has been rather quiet since that date. Some small lots of old skins were recently sold at the low prices generally prevailing at the end of the year, but fresh skins will be dear if purchases become general. Raw skins in Russia are in small quantity, and held at high prices. Prices for broad-tails are somewhat easier than last year, and sales limited in quantity. Some important transactions have recently been noted in white hares, French, English and German firms being the buyers, a good proportion of the skins being taken for brown dyeing. Superior grades were preferred and prices were firmer than before. White fox have

sold only to a limited extent and prices are lower than they were one year ago. Ermine sells more slowly than during the past season, but we regard it as a favorable condition that prices are not as high as formerly. Sable of medium grade has been purchased here for France and other countries. Slightly dyed sable, prepared by Russian sable artists, makes a good article for French and German use. Thibet has been a little cheaper since the first of December—a consequence of large supplies. There has been a continued demand for black-dyed skins of superior quality, as it is expected to be in good request again next autumn. Several parcels of Russian squirrel belly linings, especially dark sorts, have been taken for England at moderate prices. Raw squirrels have had a slow sale. Squirrel tails are in good request and twisted tails are selling very slowly. Boas sell slowly."

## History of the Horse Shoe

Horse shoeing dates from the development of the Christian era. The earliest histories we have of the use of horses dates back, probably 1600 or 1700 before Christ. In the first era of civilization the horse travelled with the Nomad Invaders over Europe, reaching the northern parts of Denmark and then into western Europe; but down to historical times the horse was probably only used irregularly and naturally horse shoeing was hardly needed. The first representation we have of a horse in historical times was about 2,000 years before Christ. Simultaneously, among the monuments of Nineveh and Babylon, we have representations of the horse, so distinct that they show the true Asiatic race. Following that are representations of the horse in Greek art, and in Grecian sculpture. After Greek art had begun to affect Italian art, we find representations of the horse so distinct that even the ornaments of the bits, with the reins and caparisons appear. Yet there is no representation of shoes on a horse up to that time. Afterwards, in Xenophon's account, which has already been referred to, and in all the accounts down to the time of Michridates the Great, where he speaks of the cavalry being stopped on account of the horses' feet being sore, we have no representation whatever of the shoe of the horse.

It is not until about the second century that we find traces of the shoeing of the horse in certain shoes which are now in the museum at Mayence, Germany, which evidently were only used as a protection to feet which had become sore—two shoes, one of them a flat plate with a metal cap coming to the front part of the hoof, and sets of rings to fasten it to the pastern, the other a shoe consisting of a cup with four sets of rings with which also to fasten it to the pastern. Such shoes undoubtedly could not have been used at all for any purpose beyond that of protecting a sore foot. About the fifth century, in Rome, we find horse shoes which began to approximate to those used to-day. Mr. Russell referred a while ago to the shoe having been developed in northern countries, where caulking was required on account of the ice. The traces of the earliest horse shoes have been found show evidently that they developed among the Huns, and in the northern part of France among the Normans, in the neighborhood of the fifth century. A few centuries later, about the tenth century, at the time of the early crusades—from 1091 on to 1200—the horse shoe had been developed to a far greater state of perfection and the use of caulks came in. The shoes of the first century were held on with two nails, sometimes with four nails.

In the tenth, eleventh and twelfth centuries shoes were found with ten and sometimes with six nails, with caulks at the heels and toes. At an earlier period shoes were found among the Huns, during their migrations, and they were in general use among the Normans, and in the northern part of Spain and

in Italy. In the neighborhood of the fifteenth century the shoe had reached almost the perfection of the ordinary horse shoe of to-day. Among the crusaders from Italy we find a horse shoe with four nails, evenly made. Since that time there has been little change except in certain modifications in special parts of the shoe.—Dr. R. S. Huidekoper before the New York Farmers' Club.

## Silver.

There is very little life in the silver market at present. Quotations have varied fractionally this week, but the tone may be described as strong. Silver prices on Feb. 7 were: London 30½d; New York 67½c.

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