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BANK OF MONTREAL

ESTABLISHED 1817.

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

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Rt. Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, O.C.M.G., President.
Hon. G. A. Drummond, Vice-President.
A. T. Paterson, Esq., Hugh McLennan, Esq.
W. C. McDonald, Esq., H. B. Angus, Esq.
Edw. B. Greenhalgh, Esq., A. F. Gault, Esq.
W. W. Ogilvie, Esq.
E. S. CLOUSTON, General Manager.

BRANCHES in all the principal cities and towns throughout the Dominion of Canada, and in the following cities: St. John's, Newfoundland, London, Eng., 22 Abchurch Lane, E.C. New York, 60 Wall St. Chicago, 133 La Salle Street.

BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

A. F. D. MACGACHEN, Manager

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL, QUEBEC

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Andrew Allan, Esq., Pres. Hector Mackenzie, Esq., Vice-Pres.
Jonathan Hodgson, Esq., John Cassels, Esq., H. Montagu Allen, Esq., J. P. Davies, Esq., T. H. Dunn, Esq., Robt. Mackay, Esq., Thomas Lung, Esq.
George Hague, General Manager. Thos. Frysh, Joint Gen. Manager
E. F. Holden, Supt. of Branches.

WINNIPEG BRANCH

The Pioneer Bank of the Prairie Province.

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

ARTHUR WICKSON, MANAGER

UNION BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL PAID-UP, - \$1,700,000
RESERVE FUND, - - 325,000

HEAD OFFICE, - - - QUEBEC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

BRANCHES IN MANITOBA AND NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

WINNIPEG—THOS. McCAFFRY, Manager.
GEORGE BOWLES, Assistant Manager.

Boiseville, Man	Deloraine, Man	Moosemtn, N.W.T.
Carberry, Man	Lethbridge, N.W.T.	Neepawa, Man
Carman, Man	Morden, Man	Virten, Man
Minneapolis, Man	Souris, Man	Glenboro, Man
Indian Head, Assa	McLeod, Alberta	

BRANCHES IN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

Alexandria, Ont.	Norwood, Ont.	Smith Falls, Ont.
Hastings, Ont.	Ottawa, Ont.	Toronto, Ont.
Merricksville, Ont.	Quebec, Que.	Wartcn, Ont.
Montreal, Que.	Shelborne, Ont.	Winchester, Ont.

A General Banking Business Transacted.

Safe Deposit Boxes to Rent.

S. A. D. BERTRAND

OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE

For the Province of Manitoba, under the recommendation of the Board of Trade of the city of Winnipeg.

Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.
Special attention to Confidential business Enquiries.

CORNER 2ND AVE. AND 2ND ST. NORTH.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

Imperial Bank of Canada

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

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

DIRECTORS:

H. S. Howland, President. T. H. Merritt, Vice-President
Wm. Ramsay, Robt. Jeffrey (St. Catharines)
Hugh Ryan, T. Sutherland Stajner. Filas Rogers
D. H. Wilkie, General Manager.

BRANCHES IN THE NORTHWEST AND NORTH CENTRAL.

Winnipeg, Man	C. S. Hoare, Manager.
Brandon, Man	N. G. Leslie, "
Portage la Prairie, Man	W. Bell, "
Calgary, Alta	M. Morris, "
Prince Albert, Sask	R. Davidson, "
Edmonton, Alta	R. F. Patrick, Manager.
Vancouver, B. C.	A. Jukes, Manager.
Revelstoke	A. B. Hearn, Manager

BRANCHES IN ONTARIO.

Essex, Ont.	Ingersoll, Ont.
Halt, Ont.	Niagara Falls, Ont.
Hat Portage, Ont	Port Colborne, Ont
St. Catharines, Ont.	Sault Ste Marie, Ont
Welland, Ont.	St. Thomas, Ont.
Yerquis, Ont.	Woodstock, Ont.

Toronto Branches—Corner Wellington Street and Leader Lane
Corner York and Queen Street.
Corner Yonge and Bloor Streets.

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

DEBENTURES—Municipal and other Debentures purchased.

AGENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN—Lloyd's Bank Ltd. 72 Lombard St., London, with whom money may be deposited for transfer by letter or cable to any of the above branches.

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH.

DRAFTS SOLD, available at all points in Canada, United States and Europe.

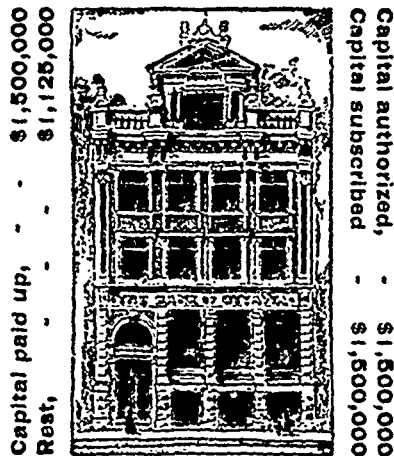
LETTERS OF CREDIT issued, available in any part of the world.

CHEQUE BANK LIMITED. Cheques sold. These cheques are a great convenience to travellers, being payable without the usual trouble of identification in all parts of Europe.

C. S. HOARE, Manager.

BANK OF OTTAWA.

Head Office, Ottawa.



Capital paid up, Rest, \$1,500,000 \$1,125,000

Capital authorized, \$1,500,000

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH, - J. B. MONK, Manager

DICK, BANNING & CO.

Manufacturers of

Lumber, Shingles and Lath

OAK BASSWOOD, FIR, DOORS, SASH AND PICTURE BACKING

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

Ask for Quotations Drawer 1230.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

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

Hon. George A. Cox, President.

Robert Kilgour, Esq., Vice-President.

W. E. Walker, General Manager

J. H. Plummer, Assistant-General Manager.

A. H. Ireland, Inspector.

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

BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Great Britain—The Bank of Scotland.
India, China and Japan—The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

Paris, France—Lazard, Freres & Cie.
Australia and New Zealand—Union Bank of Brussels, Belgium—J. Mathieu & Fils [Australia

New York—Amer Exchange Nat'l. Bank of N. Y. San Francisco—The Bank of British Columbia. Chicago—Amer Exchange Nat'l. Bank of Chicago.

British Columbia—The Bank of British Columbia. Hamilton, Bermuda—The Bank of Bermuda.

Kingston, Jamaica—Bank of Nova Scotia. Minneapolis—North Western National Bank. Duluth—First National Bank.

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

Interest allowed on deposits in Savings Dept.

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

Debentures Purchased.

A General Banking Business transacted.

F. H. MATHEWSON, Manager.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

ESTABLISHED 1856.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER IN 1840.

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

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

COAST OF DISCOVERY—J. H. Brodie, John James Galt, Henry R. Farrer, Gaspard Farrer, Richard H. Glyn, E. A. Hoare, H. J. H. Kendall, J. J. Kingsford, Frederic Lubbock, Geo. D. Whatman A. G. Wallis, Secretary.

Head Office in Canada—St. James St., Montreal.

H. Suleman, General Manager.

J. Emaly, Inspector.

BRANCHES IN CANADA.

Brandon	Kingston	Quebec	Sandus, B.C.
Bramford	London	St. John	Sloan City, B.C.
Fredericton	Montreal	Toronto	Trail (sub-agency)
Halifax	Ottawa	Kaslo, B.C.	Vancouver, B.C.
Hamilton		Rossland, B.C.	Victoria

WINNIPEG, Main Street—N. Bayly, Manager.

AGENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

New York—52 Wall Street, W. Lawson and J. C. Welsh
San Francisco—124 Sanson St., H. M. J. McMichael and J. H. Ambrose.

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

DOMINION BANK

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

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

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

R. D. GAMBLE, - GENERAL MANAGER

FOREIGN AGENTS

LONDON, ENG.—National Bank of Scotland, Limited
NEW YORK—Agents Bank of British North America and National City Bank.

MINNEAPOLIS—Northwestern National Bank.

CHICAGO—Commercial National Bank

BUFFALO—Bank of Buffalo.

BOSTON—Howard National Bank.

A General Banking Business Transacted
Special attention given to Collections

Winnipeg Branch - F. L. Patton, Manager.

SOURIS LIGNITE COAL

Lump Coal, \$1.50 per ton on Cars, Roche Percee
Reduced Freight Rates this Year

D. E. ADAMS

WINNIPEG

Prompt Shipments from Roche Percee, Port Arthur
.. and Duluth ..



The HASSARD is the ORIGINAL MINE, having been operated for nearly ten years. The coal produced is better than that of other mines, being free from outcrop or surface coal.

Best quality LEHIGH VALLEY ANTHRACITE. Also highest grade BLACKSMITHS' COAL at lowest prices.

FROM NEWFOUNDLAND TO THE KLONDYKE

I. GNAEDINGER
SON & CO'S.

FURS

ARE SOLD

DONALD FRASER & COMPANY

Western Selling Agents, WINNIPEG, MAN.

ALL CLASSES DRINK

MAZAWATTEE

It is the representative tea of CEYLON which produces the most LUSCIOUS tea in the world.

KENNETH MACKENZIE & COMPANY

AGENTS, WINNIPEG, MAN.

JOHN W. PECK & CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

**CLOTHING,
FUR GOODS,
SHIRTS**

Dealers in Men's Furnishings, Hats and Caps.

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

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

MONTREAL. WINNIPEG.

When writing mention The Commercial

TO THE TRADE

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

VICHY	RUBINAL CONDAL
HUNYADI	BUFFALO LITHIA
APENTA	FREDERICKSHALL
CARAHANA	VICHY BASSANDIE

We have also our stock of Newfoundland and Norway Cod Liver Oil

PLEASE WRITE FOR PRICES

The Martin, Bole & Wynne Co.

Wholesale Druggists, Winnipeg

OUR STOCK OF . . .

GENERAL STATIONERY

SCHOOL BOOKS
WRAPPING PAPER
BAGS, TWINE, ETC.

Is complete to commence the New Year with Your orders will receive prompt attention.

Love, McAllister & Co.

Winnipeg, Man.

P.O. Box 1240

WINDOW GLASS

SINGLE AND
DOUBLE STRENGTH

A large stock now on hand and arriving

Special Quotations for Car Lots from Stock and for Spring Importation

G. F. STEPHENS & CO.

Market Street East, Winnipeg

The Western Loan & Trust Co.

LIMITED

Incorporated by Special Act of the Legislature.

Authorized Capital, - \$2,250,000.00
Subscribed Capital, - \$2,201,200.00

Office, 13 St. Sacrament St., Montreal, Que.

DIRECTORS

Hon. A. W. Ogilvie	Wm. Strachan, Esq.
W. Barclay Stephens, Esq.	R. Prefontaine, Esq., M. P.
K. W. Knight, Esq.	John Hoodless, Esq.
J. N. Greenshields, Esq., Q. C.	W. L. Hogg, Esq.

OFFICERS

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

This Company acts as assignee, administrator, executors trustee, receiver, committee of insolvent, guardian liquidator, etc., etc., also as agent for the above offices.
Debentures issued for three or five years, both debentures and interest on the same can be collected in any part of Canada without charge.

For further particulars address the manager

CROTTY & CROSS, AGENTS, WINNIPEG

THE COMMERCIAL

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

Sixteenth Year of Publication
ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY

SUBSCRIPTION, CANADA AND UNITED STATES,
\$1.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE OR \$1.25 WHEN
NOT SO PAID; OTHER COUNTRIES, \$3.50 PER
ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

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

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

Office: 181 McDermot Street.

D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

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

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 8, 1898.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

There are all sorts of rumors and theories regarding the situation in China. Each alleged authority has an explanation of the intentions of the countries interested, and various groupings of interests are made. Some represent Great Britain as isolated and all the other powers working in accord, while other writers throw Japan and even Germany in with Great Britain. The probability is that each country is working its own game, and that each one is afraid that the others are trying to secure special advantages. It is very doubtful if there be any general understanding among any group of nations in the matter.

THE YUKON TRADE.

The question of allowing foreigners to take outfits into the Yukon free of duty is agitating trade circles, particularly at the coast. The sensible way to regulate this trade would appear to be to apply exactly the same regulations as govern at other ports of entry. Goods should not be admitted free to our northern gold regions which would not be admitted at any customs port. Regarding the bonding privileges, if the United States will not allow liberal bonding privileges for Canadian goods over the strip of territory along the Alaska coast over which the United States exercises jurisdiction, the Canadian

government could close those routes entirely, and thus force the importation of all goods via the Canadian routes. The trade of the Yukon should be strictly guarded and held for Canada.

REDUCING WAGES.

The new high tariff does not seem to be working well in the United States. The new year is opening in that country with cuts in wages, threatened strikes and the formation of numerous new monopolistic organizations. Operatives of the mills at Fall River, Lowell, Manchester and other places have had their wages reduced, affecting 20,000 operatives at Fall River alone. In the coal districts some of the mines are being closed, throwing large numbers of men out of employment. In the wire, glass, tinware, granite ware and numerous other branches, combinations are being formed.

REDUCED FREIGHT RATES

The reduced freight rates, which went into effect on January 1, as a result of the agreement between the federal government and the Canadian Pacific railway for the construction of the Crow's Nest road, will make a very considerable decrease in the cost of bringing in some classes of merchandise. The percentage of reduction on the different classes of merchandise included in the arrangement, were stated in The Commercial last week. The reduction in car lots from Eastern Canada points to western points amounts to as much as over \$30 per car on some of the commodities. The same proportionate reduction is made on goods shipped from Winnipeg to Western points, so that the local trade will not suffer as a consequence of the reduction in through rates. New tariffs will be issued showing the new rates.

HOLIDAY BUSINESS WITH THE RETAIL TRADE.

A representative of The Commercial interrogated a number of the retail merchants of the city as to the business; they had done during and before the holidays. In no case was dissatisfaction expressed and in most instances the feeling was rather enthusiastic.

E. B. Nixon, of the Hudson's Bay Co., said: "Holiday trade was particularly good, better than last year. The individual days before Christmas and New Year's, were perhaps not quite so heavy as last year, but the two weeks were very much heavier all through. We found people spending more freely, owing no doubt to better times generally. All our high-class Christmas goods went off well. We

were practically sold out on Christmas eve of goods that were anticipated to do till the New Year. We have never been so busy as we have been for the past few months. Trade is changing, competition is keener, but the state of trade should please any business man."

Mr. Preston, of the N. R. Preston Co., Ltd., said: "We had the best Christmas trade in all my long experience here. We had a large crowd the day before Christmas, but for two weeks or more before our trade was good, being spread over a longer period than other years. We noticed that useful articles formed a large percentage of Christmas purchases, though we did a big toy trade and in fancy goods too. For the past two or three months our trade has been almost double in volume of that of a year ago."

Barre Bros., jewellers, said, "the holiday trade was very, very good, almost doubling the same period in '96. People bought heavily, and of the better class of goods, and our stock of those lines was bigger than ever. Mail orders formed a good share of our Christmas business."

Porter & Co., wholesale and retail dealers in china, glass and silverware, said the trade was fully up to expectations, the volume of business exceeded the same period for three or four years past. "People seemed to have the cash and the desire to spend it, and our values gave them the opportunity." This firm had a particularly handsome display for Christmas.

Mr. Fred Ansley, the new manager of the Hart Stationery Co., Ltd., said: "We found the holiday trade exceedingly good; though the majority of purchases were small. High priced editions of poets, and other works did not sell well. The tendency seemed to be to get bargains, and the cheap, showy American editions of books seemed to catch the trade. We did a large mail order business." As Mr. Ansley only reached the city the week before Christmas from St. John's, N. B., his former home, and this is his first experience here he could not compare with other seasons.

W. J. Boyd: "We had a very good month's business, the holiday trade extending more over the whole month of December, and as a consequence, the rush just before Christmas not being so great as in former years. On the whole the holiday trade was very satisfactory." The wholesale confectionery recently established by Mr. Boyd also did a big business in finer lines of goods with the city and provincial retailers.

Alex. Taylor, bookseller and stationer, had his hands full, and with an extra staff for the holiday season made a great many people happy, with books, fancy goods, children's

A. C. ARCHIBALD

GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING
WINNIPEG, MAN.

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENCY

Companies Represented

Fire—Scottish Union and National Insurance Co., of Edinburgh, Scotland.
Inland Marine—Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd., of London, England.
 The Reliance Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, Eng.
Accident and Sickness—The Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation Ltd., of London, Eng.
 All classes of Insurance solicited and accepted at current rates.
 Losses settled equitably and paid from this office.

Mention The Commercial

A COMFORTABLE HOME FOR YOUR FEET....

By Wearing
KING'S SHOES
made with patent

Sleeper Canvas Insoles

Something New, "Light" Flexible.
No Tacks. No Nails. Very Easy. No Squeak.

MADE ONLY BY J. D. KING CO., LIMITED.

The Confederation Life Association

HEAD OFFICE
TORONTO

OFFICE 467 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

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

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

Do Not Be Fooled

With quotations of low prices for

SELECT OYSTERS

LOW GRADE OYSTERS ARE BEING SOLD AS SELECTS AT CUT PRICES

Our Oysters are the choicest in the market, and are sold for exactly what they are. We can supply cheaper Oysters if wanted, but we do not sell inferior stock under the name of Selects.

Everything in the Fish line in the market on hand. Haddies arriving in car lots. Mailed orders filled promptly.

W. J. GUEST 602 MAIN STREET
WINNIPEG

S. GREENSHIELDS SON & CO.

Wholesale Dry Goods

MONTREAL AND
VANCOUVER

We have a magnificent range of Dress Goods. Every line is a seller. Our Dress Serges are computed to be the best values ever shown. All wool from 16 to 85c. per yard. See our Hosiery and Gloves; they are the best profit-makers in the trade. Represented by

R. R. CALLACHER

SAMPLE ROOM
28 MCINTYRE BLOCK, WINNIPEG

Wholesale Millinery

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OUR	}	SEE THEM
SAMPLES		BEFORE PLACING
FOR		ORDERS
SPRING		ELSEWHERE

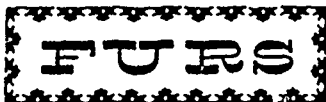
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THE D. McCALL CO. Limited
TORONTO, ONTARIO

F. Osenbrugge

342 KING STREET

Manufacturer and Jobber of



Keeps on hand a full stock of Overcoats from a low-priced Raccoon Coat to a fine Black Beaver.

THE TRADE SOLICITED FOR ORDERS

KID GLOVES

TREFOUSSE GLOVES
FOSTER'S GLOVES
ROUILLON GLOVES

The most reliable makes in the market. Full assortment of sizes in December for Christmas Trade.

Sole Agents in Canada :

McINTYRE, SON & CO.

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS, MONTREAL

Northwestern Agent, J. M. McDONALD
McIntyre Block, Winnipeg, Man.

BARLEY

WANTED

Farmers and others having choice Malting Barley would do well to send us samples. We are prepared to pay highest cash price for good quality.

EDWARD L. DREWRY
WINNIPEG, MAN.

toys, parlor games, etc. A large business was done in the plentiful Christmas editions of London papers.

Mr. Putnam, Hingston-Smith Arms Co., said, though they did not participate so particularly in Christmas trade they had however no cause for complaint, having done a good stroke of business; but they had found it that way all season.

A. F. Banfield, carpets and house furnishings: "People had more money to spend in the holiday season than during any other year of my experience. The mild weather had something to do with it; not so much money having to go for fuel. All through, we have found it the best year on record."

S. Hoover, proprietor of the Commonwealth store, said he had found business from Oct. 1st to Jan. 1st to be more than good, not only in volume but in quality. "It was very satisfactory business," he said; "people seemed to spend freely and as if they expected to see some more money. Useful articles, such as ties, scarfs,

of turkeys, etc., from Ontario, and were now short in filling the demand that still kept up. This firm is devoting their attention more to wholesale business both in live stock and dressed meat, having a large trade with retail dealers.

W. F. White, dealer in native curios, Indian work, furs, mounted birds, heads, etc.: "Business was better than in some years past, though not such a trade in small articles to send away for Christmas presents to the east. This was more than made up by the free purchase of more valuable articles, and these were bought for some time before Christmas and sent so as to reach destinations by that date." Mr. White has been doing a good trade in train dogs for Klondike parties. He has a good acquaintance west and north, around the lakes, and knows where to buy. Already he has sold over 200 and has quite a number now on hand.

Rodgers Bros. & Co., of Cheapside: "The two weeks preceding Christmas

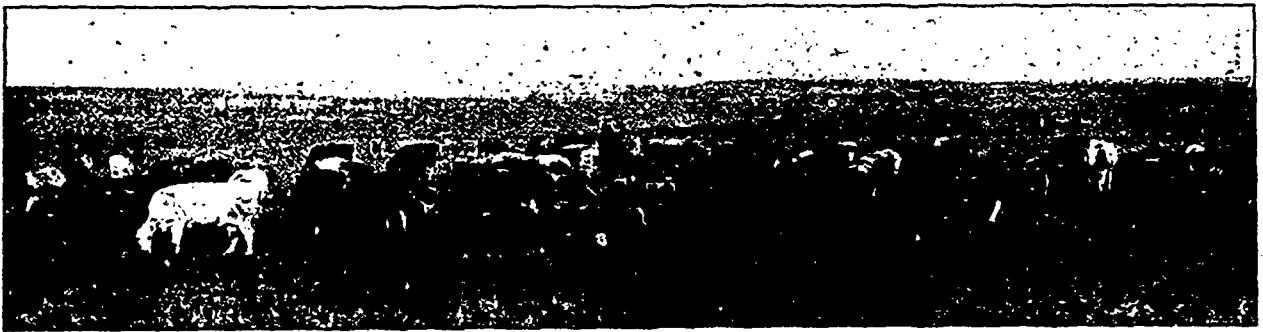
hibition, has always been a surprise to visitors from outside parts. The exhibition referred to has been a great encouragement to the improvement of our herds and flocks, and the rapid progress made of late years is in no small measure due to the influence of the Winnipeg Industrial.

We give this week a view of a well known Manitoba herd as they appear grazing on the luxuriant prairie. The catt'e here shown are the property of Jos. Lawrence, of Clearwater. Anima's from this herd have frequently carried off prizes at the Winnipeg fair, and also made a creditable record at the great Chicago World's Fair.

GOOD ENOUGH AT HOME

The Canadian Gazette of London, England, relates the following.

"A Toronto gentleman of high standing was spending a considerable time in London this summer. He greatly enjoyed the bacon they gave him morning after morning at his



A MANITOBA PRAIRIE SCENE

gloves, vests, etc., were largely in demand and we sold a great quantity of them for Christmas presents, givers seeming to go in for that style of present more this year. Of course, we have been trying to educate them that way in our advertisements and we attribute some of our trade to that."

Kobold & Co., butchers, found the holiday trade better this year than last. They had brought a large quantity of poultry from Smith's Falls, Ont., and they bought all the Manitoba turkeys they could get. They found these latter of better quality than former years. The magnificent Christmas beef they displayed in their stall at the market, sold readily. They had shipped some of it to Montreal.

P. Gallagher & Sons said business was good with them during the Christmas holidays. They had some elegant beef for Christmas display and had received lots of orders for it, many wanting it to say they had some of the show beef. In fowl they did a big trade, having brought two cars

were busy ones with us. People started in to buy for the holidays earlier this year than usual. Good goods and useful articles were greatly in demand. It has been an extra good trade for furs this season. Our heavy winter goods were well sold down. The last day or two before Christmas there was a lively demand for toys and fancy goods. Our customs tailoring department was very busy for several weeks before Christmas."

A MANITOBA PRAIRIE SCENE

Parties travelling in Manitoba in the summer season will observe many fine herds of catt'e grazing on the prairie. A country which was formerly the home of vast herds of wild cattle, and which is yet a great meadow, and should afford special facilities for raising grazing animals. Manitoba farmers have made great progress of late years in improving their herds. The display of live stock at the annual fairs of the Winnipeg Industrial Ex-

hotel—one of the fashionable hotels here. It was called 'Danish bacon' on the bill of fare. 'Tell me where I can get some to take back to Canada with me,' he said to the hotel manager. He went to the city warehouse and saw a trunk packed full of the prime 'Danish.' 'Where shall we send it?' asked the city dealer. To Mr. —, Toronto, Canada,' was the reply. The dealer looked up amazed. 'Oh, well,' he said, 'I may as well tell you this bacon came from your own city of Toronto. It is only "Danish" in name; it is really Canadian, and I buy it in Toronto.'

This little incident, as related by the Gazette, illustrates a sentiment which is too common in Canada. Many people call for imported goods, and pay duty on articles and commodities which are not superior to the home production in similar lines. Japanese manufacturing industries have greatly expanded through the patriotic preference of the people for home goods. This spirit might be cultivated in Canada to good advantage. It is considered fashionable here with

The Rat Portage Lumber Company, Ltd

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LATHS SHINGLES,
BOXES AND PACKING CASES

LUMBER

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

Mills and Offices, Rat Portage, Ontario.

GRANULAR

Ogilvie's Hungarian

CREAMY

HAS NO EQUAL

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

"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

Messrs the Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, Man.
Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mills, of which we have imported considerable on this crop, has given the highest satisfaction to everyone who has baked it. Glasgow is pre-eminently a city of large baking establishments, some of them with a capacity of 200 barrels per week, and all managed by gentlemen well qualified to give a sound verdict on the merits of any flour. With remarkable unanimity they have expressed the opinion that nothing finer than your Patent grade has ever been placed on the market. The baking results have been exceptionally high, both in regard to color and out-turn, and we can invariably command a higher price. We are, yours respectfully,

WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

HAS NO EQUAL

IN HANDLING
OGILVIE'S FLOUR
YOU HAVE
THE BEST

Each bag guaranteed. Sewn 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.

The Imperial Life

**Assurance Co.
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Capital \$1,000,000

Deposit with Dominion Gov't. Over (Market Value) 250,000

Being the largest Deposit made by any Canadian company

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Dealers in

**Teas, Roasted and Ground Coffees
Jams, Etc.**

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Special attention will be given to all orders from Country Dealers. Extra Selects, Plain Selects and Standards. Fine stock and right prices.

STORAGE AND COMMISSION—Can guarantee highest market prices for all description of Produce. Eggs and Poultry Wanted. Write for information. Address

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JAS. MCCREADY & CO.

WHOLESALE

* **Boot and Shoe
Manufacturers**

MONTREAL

W. WILLIAMS, Agent.

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

W. R. JOHNSTON & CO.

(Late Livingston, Johnston & Co.)

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

READY MADE

CLOTHING

Corner Bay and Front Streets, Toronto

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

many people to purchase imported goods. In the boot and shoe trade, for instance, there is a maudlin sentiment in favor of imported goods, which simply means that the purchasers are paying 25 per cent duty on goods which are certainly not superior to the home manufactured article. To bring the question nearer home, in this very article of bacon, we do not need to go past the goods made right here in Winnipeg for a choice article, probably quite equal to the best Danish. While The Commercial would not seek to create any unreasonable prejudice against imported goods, we would certainly like to assist in removing equally unreasonable prejudices against home manufactures, and help to build up a patriotic preference for local productions.

The Dauphin Assignment

The stock, etc., of the firm of McIntosh & Hoegood, general merchants, Dauphin, who assigned recently, is advertised to be sold to-day, Jan. 8th, tenders to be received by Bertrand, Newton & Davidson, assignees, Winnipeg. The assignment, which was voluntary, was made with a view to closing out a partnership, Mr. J. F. Hoegood having withdrawn from the business in May last to engage in the wholesale liquor business, which he still continues. The partnership, however, was not terminated in accord with legal formalities, hence the present motion. The estate is expected to pay 100 cents on the dollar. This is the oldest established general store business in Dauphin, Capt. McIntosh, the founder, having gone there some 12 years ago, and continued in business ever since.

From Vancouver to Yukon.

The Vancouver Board of Trade sends a neat descriptive pamphlet setting forth the advantages of the terminal city as a point of departure for all the (coast) routes to the Yukon. Accompanying it is an excellent map showing routes and part of the pamphlet is taken up with a lecture on the Yukon and different routes, delivered recently by Wm. Ogilvie, of the Dominion geological department, perhaps the best posted man on the geography of the gold region and the history of its discovery.

New Pork Packing Company

The Canadian Produce and Packing Co. is applying for letters of incorporation. The company will have headquarters at Winnipeg and it is their intention to establish a large business. John T. H. McEwan, James Stuart, R. Muir, R. P. Roblin, J. G. Hargrave, John Tizard, Jos. Carman

and John S. Carveth, are the applicants and will be the first directors of the company.

A Worthy Custom

R. H. Williams, of the Glasgow House, one of Regina's leading dry goods merchants, entertained his staff of employees on Christmas eve. Among the guests of the occasion were A. S. Bluns and R. Madill, travelling representatives of R. J. Widla & Co. This Christmas dinner has been an institution of the house for some years and one which, in its "levelling up" tendency is worthy of general imitation.

Along the C.P.R. Souris Branch

NOTES FROM A RAMBLING CORRESPONDENT
HARTNEY.

Since the disastrous fire that nearly blotted out the business portion of the town, much has been done to improve the class of buildings erected. The traces of the fire have almost disappeared, and brick buildings in many places cover the site of the burned buildings. Business has recovered, and a good trade is done in this thriving burg. The five large elevators are an index of the amount of wheat marketed at this point, and the market has had the additional improvement this season of the reopening of the grist mill, which had lain idle so long. Mr. Jas. Innes, from Hamilton, Ont., a practical miller, took charge of this institution last September, and as the new management has an ample financial basis, the mill can be counted as a permanent, live industry. So far, the results have been highly satisfactory. The problem of water supply has been solved by piping from the Souris river, half a mile away, the water being forced by a windmill. The mill has a capacity of 150 barrels, and will do a merchant trade, as well as custom work.

Numerous business changes have taken place in Hartney, and the personnel of the business men has changed considerably. A. E. Hill, a Griswold merchant, has a general store in the big Hopkins block, in charge of his brother. S. K. Colquhoun is also a general merchant, in the old Hartney & Dickson stand. Hopkins & Pack are a new firm, also with a general stock. E. A. Cuthbert carries gent's furnishings and groceries, doing a nice trade. Dr. Woodhull has the drug and stationery store, and continues to publish the bright little Star of Hartney as well. Buettner Bros. have a large and well assorted stock of hardware and do a good trade. F. Chapin and D. Leckie handle the lumber trade, and are each the owner of an elevator. S. Johnson runs the only hotel, a substantial brick building. Hartney is justly proud of her public school build-

ing, and might quite as justly feel proud of the numerous neat and tasty dwelling houses that are the homes of her citizens. That the towns built on open prairie are so rapidly improving in appearance, where nature furnishes so few features of landscape, is a good showing for the contentment as well as prosperity of the people. Not the least attractive of such towns is Hartney, and the rich wheat fields that are cultivated right to the borders are backing for any permanent improvements undertaken.

LAUDER.

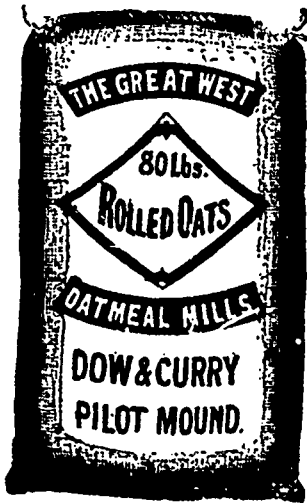
Half way between Hartney and Napinka, this little town is the centre of a large farming district not yet nearly filled up. There are three elevators here and the Lauder Roller mills, which do a good trade. H. C. Hamelin and Scott Bros. have general stores, carrying good stocks.

NAPINKA.

This town derives some business from being the junction of the Deloraine and Glenboro and Souris sections of the C. P. R. The company have a roundhouse and shops here and the Deloraine train stops over here. From this point also the passenger trains and freights running west on the branch to Estevan are made up. At present three trains a week run west, two of them on opposite days to the trains from Winnipeg to Napinka and one returning the same day as it goes out. There are two general stores, H. A. McKinnon & Co., and Hallonquist & Co. The former have this year had a second story put on top of their building and otherwise improved it. Hallonquist & Co. have just completed large new premises, 24x94, the store occupying fifty feet of the length and the remainder of the ground floor and all the upper story to be fitted up and occupied as an hotel, which will greatly add to the accommodation during busy travelling seasons. Titus & Son and J. A. Gaudin have hardware stores, Gaudin having removed from Me. in the past year, J. H. Gaudin is a lumber merchant. F. O'Neil, harness maker and dealer in boots and shoes, has a nice stock and a good trade. J. Kenally is proprietor of the present hotel and travelling men all have a good word to say of the accommodation to be obtained there. Major Cates, the village postmaster, also buys grain and handles feed stuff. The district surrounding this town furnishes a good field for those looking for land, as there is plenty of room for large additions to settlement. So say the business men of the town. A new business just established in Napinka is the grocery, confectionery and flour and feed store of Newberry & Co.

MELITA.

Melita has settled down on a substantial basis and is one of the steady



E. NICHOLSON

Successor to W. F. Hehderson & Co.

Wholesale Commission Merchants

AND BROKERS

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|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Teas | Canned Goods | Molasses |
| Coffees | Dried Fruits | Syrups |
| Spices | Starches | Condensed Milk |
| Salmon | Bags | Beans |
| Canned Meats | Smoked Meats | Lard |
| Oatmeal | Rice | Tapioca, Sago, etc. |

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MOULDINGS, ETC.

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G. W. DONALD, Secretary.

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Complete, in pamphlet form, mailed for 10 cents, or free with \$1 for six months' subscription to The Commercial. Address:

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BROKERAGE

—AND—

COMMISSION DEALERS

ROOM 5, GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Grain and all kinds of country produce handled

Frank Lighteap

DEALER IN.....

HIDES, SHEEP PELTS
WOOL, TALLOW
FURS and
SENECA ROOT

234 King St., Winnipeg

Highest prices paid. Parties consigning to me will be liberally dealt with and returns will be made prompt

progressive towns of the west. True there is not the dash and move of six or seven years ago when the town was abuilding, but there is good business done here. The places of business and the business men too have a thrifty well-kept air that betokens peace and people well-to-do and contented withal. The farming district surrounding the town is a good one, well settled and the farmers are on the whole prosperous and advancing. The district has had its ups and downs, but it is too good a country to be downed by adversity. The quantity of grain marketed this year is much less than usual, but that is true every where. There are three elevators and five or six buyers. The roller mills, owned by Ferguson & Bullock, have a capacity of 100 barrels with floor space sufficient to permit quite an addition to that amount. This mill is splendidly fitted up and turns out an excellent article of flour, the firm doing as much merchant milling as their large custom trade will permit. The building is lighted throughout by electricity, the arc light system being used. As they have a dynamo with a capacity of 700 lights, it would seem to be an easy and cheap method of lighting the town.

Among the business men and firms who have stayed with Melita, from its foundation are: R. M. Graham, the pioneer merchant and postmaster, Geo. L. Dodds, the indefatigable receiver, who also has a general store; H. L. Elliott, general merchant, who has a large and well-kept stock and does a good trade; J. L. Campbell, lumber merchant, and general agent; Mrs. S. Pope, dealer in stationery, fancy goods and confectionery, A. N. Pope, druggist; T. Shearer, lumber merchant; Melita has two very good hotels, one of them, the Commercial, having been leased during the year by Mr. Cobb to H. Taylor, who has had a big business. One of the institutions of Melita is the local paper, the Enterprise, owned and edited by J. B. Graham, who has been there from the earliest days of the town. He gets out a neat, well-printed paper.

Very few changes have occurred in business in Melita in the past year and the season has not been marked by much business building, though considerable improvements have gone on in residential building.

Seven miles west of Melita, in the centre of a grand bit of wheat land stand four elevators at the little town of Elva. This place has developed in the last two years or so, and now does a big grain receiving business. Retail trade is rapidly opening up and buildings being erected. There are already two stores, H. J. Archibald, and McRae & Co. Pierson, the last town on the Souris line, in the prov-

inces of Manitoba, is a substantial little town with several elevators, and this year a very satisfactory trade. Among these in general business are Rebel Bros., and Gould & Elliott. T. A. Blackwell, of Melita, has a store here, too, with a stock of harness, shoes and furnishings. Jas. Dandy is the post master and handles lumber and hardware. The hotel, a temperance house, is owned by W. H. Breaker.

IN THE TERRITORIES.

A succession of disheartening reverses befel the country on the line of the Souris extension very shortly after the building of that line to Estevan. Many had rushed in to secure farms in the district, which was comparatively new, and had been little developed owing to distance from the railway. The taking up of land and settlement in this district was probably the quickest development in the west since boom times. The reverses in the shape of dry seasons, frost and crop failures, caused a reflex action almost as sudden, and many who had taken up land and spent a good deal of time and labor in breaking up the prairie, gave up in despair, and many left for more distant fields. It is true that not nearly all of the new people left nor did the old-timers leave, for there was a considerable proportion of the settlers who had been in the district before the railroad, some of them for a good many years. These, of course, were established, and were better prepared for the bad years and their example no doubt encouraged others to "tough it" through. Those who did are now reaping the reward, and this is the point of these remarks: the district of the Territories next to Manitoba and between that and the Souris coal fields is as prosperous as any part of the west. This year the crop is good enough, with the price, to make every one happy. Nor is it this year alone. The past two or three years have witnessed a steady but material progress, which was gradually putting the plodding settler on his feet. This year has witnessed the completion of his emancipation.

Naturally the towns along this part of the line, directly dependent on the settlers, suffered with the country, so that there are no big places among them. All are, however, equally sharing in the return of prosperity, and the towns are perhaps the surest index of it. Gainsboro, the first place west of the Manitoba boundary, has two good general stores, Lockerbie & Co. and R. B. Elliott. There are two elevators, and a considerable grain trade was done this year. Carlevalle has also two general stores, E. J. Conde and R. J. Gilliland & Co.

Carnduff is perhaps the largest of

all the places on the line. There are two good general stores, J. H. Elliott and J. B. Preston; the latter is a pioneer whose experience make interesting reading and are worthy of future mention. A. H. Foulds has a large tinshop and hardware store. J. H. Taylor has groceries, etc. Dr. R. J. Campbell has a stock of drugs and stationery. The Carnduff Milling Co. is one of the firms which formed the Manitoba Grain Co. S. Ballentine, harnessmaker, carries a good stock and manufactures a large quantity of the harness he sells. The feeling among all the business men, especially those who have been there longest, is one of confidence in the district surrounding their town. Like other parts, they require more settlers for the vacant lands. Between Carnduff and Oxbow a new place, Glen Ewen, is springing up, as wheat production and shipment increases. Already there are two elevators and the store of Preston & Co., with other developments promising.

Oxbow has a past like the woman in the play, but the future is full of promise and the present is very satisfactory from a trade point of view. The merchants express themselves as well pleased with the season's results and no doubt an era of prosperity has come for this district. There are three large general stores, old established places of business, H. C. Disney, Pierce Bros., and Walsh Bros., besides another store opened this year by W. H. Grandy. Walsh Bros., who have a very large trade, also deal in grain. Pierce Bros. were at Melita the year that town started and came from Montreal, where they still have large interests. E. Crossley has a very good stock of general hardware with a tinshop in connection. The Oxbow Milling Co. have a grist mill about two miles from town and have a large custom trade. Alameda is also flourishing in a business way, trade having been good this season. There are two elevators here and considerable grain was handled this fall. Among those in business are J. G. Turriff, lumber and implements; Jas. Gibson, butcher; J. W. Wilcox, general merchant. Estevan, the terminus of the line, is picking up and with the increasing demand for the Souris coal and consequent development of the mines will continue to improve. The movement in the coal is increasing every year and is a factor of importance in supplying a local market for the produce, many merchants along the line having standing orders for butter, &c. A constantly increasing number of employees are kept at work at the mines and the principal shippers, the Souris Coal Co., D. E. Adams, manager, and the Roche Perceé & Mery Co. can scarcely fill orders.

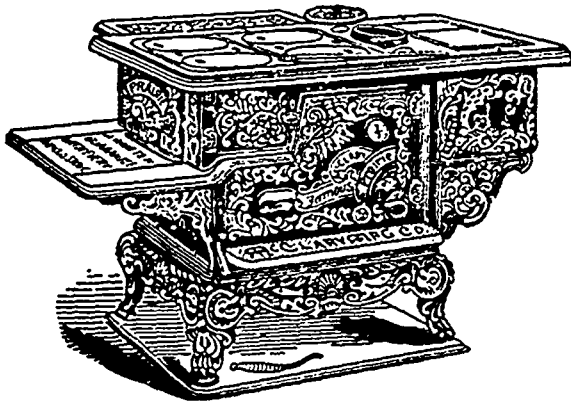
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PACKERS OF

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

THE FAMOUS PRAIRIE



WILL BAKE A
**PYRAMID OF
BREAD.....**

With the same amount of fuel that other stoves use to bake a few loaves

The Newest and
Best Working
Stove in Canada

2 SIZES—No. 9-23 and No. 9-25
2 STYLES—Square, and with
Reservoir. High shelf can be
attached to either style.

Heats, Cooks and Bakes
Perfectly

THE FAMOUS PRAIRIE is the result of our latest efforts, being specially made for Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest, having a roomy fire box, supplying plenty of heat in cold weather, and will burn either Soft Coal, Souris or Lignite Coal, or Wood. Will bake and cook with less fuel than any other stove

The Reasons Why

- Thermometer in oven door shows exact heat.
- Steel oven bottom heats oven quickly.
- Heavily cemented stove bottom prevents heat escaping.
- Fresh air circulation through oven makes wholesome bread.

Made by **THE McCLARY MANUFACTURING CO.** London, Toronto, Montreal
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HIDES WOOL

**NORTHWEST
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FUR TALLOW

HONEST WEIGHT GUARANTEED

Land and Water Routes

TO THE YUKON

With Maps, Illustrations and full information re routes, necessary supplies and where to get them, costs of outfits, etc. Just published. One copy 15c or 2 for 25c.

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Incorporated 1895

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STEEL ENAMELLED WARE

OUR BRANDS:

CRESCENT, ROYAL and WHITE

Plain, Pressed, Japanned & Lithographed Tinware
Gold Miners' Pans, Folding Camp Stoves, etc.

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Agents for Manitoba and the Territories

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339 and 341 St. Paul St., MONTREAL

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

A. C. Beach, their old reliable traveller, will represent them in Manitoba, the Territories and B. C. He is now on the road; headquarters for the present, LELAND HOUSE, WINNIPEG.

All communications addressed to him there will be promptly attended to.

THE SUN LIFE

ASSURANCE CO.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL OF CANADA

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

POSITION OF COMPANY

31ST DECEMBER, 1896

ASSETS	\$8,368,144 86
INCOME FOR 1896	1,880,258 00
LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE	38,196,890 92

A STRONG AND POPULAR HOME COMPANY

Offices: Over
Wolson's Bank **WINNIPEG, MAN.**

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

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BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS

Choice California and Local Fruits

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

TRY US.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS

DEALERS IN

Fruits and all kinds of Produce

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

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

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

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Consignments Solicited of Hides, Tallow, Skins,
Furs, Castoreum, Senega and other Northwestern
Canadian Export Products.

HIGHEST REFERENCES PERMITTED

WM. FERGUSON

WHOLESALE

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

8th ST., BRANDON

Rather a strange lack noticed on the Territorial portion of the Souris line is in the local newspaper field, there not being one published west of the Manitoba boundary.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, January 3.

There are numerous changes in the market this week as will be seen by reference to the quotations. There is a slightly lower tendency in dairy produce owing to continued green weather in British Columbia. Fresh meats are all higher, and will advance more. Hay is also destined to reach a much higher price than at present. There is also a considerable change in poultry owing to the heavy demand during the holiday season. Among the industries, the lumber trade, perhaps the most prominent, is not so brisk as in former years. Not that the demand from foreign countries is not as brisk as ever, but it is impossible to get foreign ships for charter as they can make more carrying wheat, while the coast ships are all chartered for the Yukon trade, so that the only thing that has saved the lumber business is the spirited demand from Manitoba and that incident upon the Crow's Nest Pass construction. In the meantime the rush has well commenced with the opening of the year and every vacant store has been filled with Yukon outfittings, while the merchants are busy getting ready for the big trade. Thirty people left here for the Yukon this week by the steamer City of Seattle for the frozen north. They were from Australia, England, America and Eastern Canada. The Seattle had on board 300 passengers, and every available space was taken up with their outfits.

British Columbia Lumbermen and the Tariff.

A meeting was held in Vancouver, British Columbia recently, to consider the lumber duties. The discussion brought out that, while the Dominion government had placed lumber and shingles on the free list, the United States were imposing a prohibitory duty on these same articles. After discussion, the following motion was unanimously carried: "Resolved, That, while admitting our willingness to take our chances, should a reciprocal arrangement be made between the Canadian and United States governments, placing lumber and shingles on the free list, we are of the opinion that the present tariff on these articles is eminently unfair to us, and, we submit, quite unpatriotic. It is, further, the opinion of this meeting that the peculiar conditions of our industry in this province are not sufficiently understood by our government, and that a memorial be presented to the Dominion government, praying that an import duty be imposed on lumber and shingles, similar to the import duty imposed by the United States."

"Summarized briefly, our conditions are: The very same products that we manufacture are manufactured in those states lying to the south of us; their manufacturers have every facility for reaching our main Canadian markets that we have; they buy nothing from us; they are able to purchase machinery and all mill supplies from 20 to 33-1-3 per cent cheaper than we can; their general cost of living is 25 per cent cheaper than with us; consequently they are enabled to manufacture cheaper than we can. And, while they do not cater to any regular and legitimate Canadian trade, they regularly disturb our conditions and prices by using our markets as a dumping ground in which to unload their over-stock, at prices lower than we can possibly produce a like article, on account of the reasons above set forth. At the same time, the benefit of cheaper goods is going largely, if not altogether, to the few dealers, and not to the many consumers.

"We would point out that, by reason of the active competition, many of the mills in our province have stood idle for several years past, while the mills that have been operated claim to have made no headway for the past four or five years.

"We would particularly draw your attention to the fact that, as the tariff now is, we would pay us to move our plants to the state of Washington, as, if we operated there, we would not only enjoy the advantages as above outlined, but we would have a United States market, in addition to a Canadian market within our reach. Already one of our firms has established itself in Washington and others are discussing the advisability of taking a similar step, should the tariff remain as it is."

British Columbia Items.

Geo. White, butcher, Golden, is out of business.

A. S. Young has opened a lumber yard at Nelson.

Mrs. M. Besworth, baker, at Silverton, has given up business.

D. Goldberg, dealing in clothing, dry goods, etc., Trail, advertises discontinuing business.

The Trail Furniture Co., have sold out their business.

H. McKay, baker, Siccan City, has sold out to M. Markeson.

F. M. Wetzel has opened a boot and shoe store at Vancouver.

The creditors of W. J. Halliday, confectioner, Nelson, meet on the 20th inst.

David Oppenheimer, of Oppenheimer Bros., wholesale grocers, Vancouver, is dead.

Alexander Hagen has started business at Victoria as a sail and tent-maker.

Yorke & Co., butchers, Siccan City, have purchased the business of H. Stoecke.

Tenders are asked for the purchase of the estate of the Nelson Saw Mill Co. (in liquidation).

Cassidy & Co. have leased the mill of the Burrard Inlet Red Cedar Lumber Co., Ltd., Port Moody.

An official liquidator is to be appointed on Jan. 21st for the Kootenay Brewing, Malting and Distilling Co., Trail.

G. A. Rondall & Co., general merchants, Boundary Falls and Greenwood City, have closed the business at the former place.

The following are reported out of business at Greenwood City: A. B. Hart & Co., contractors, removed; A. D. Morgan, photographer; W. R. Paton, furniture dealer; Robt. Buckley, harness maker, away.

Several stern-wheel steamers will be built at J. H. Moir's shipyard at New Westminster, for the Stikine river service. The British Columbia Iron works, of Vancouver, will supply the machinery. Mr. Moir also has orders for a couple of tugs.

The deal by which an English firm was going to buy up the majority of canneries on the Fraser river is off. The firm have called that the Klondike craze has spoiled all schemes destined to promote legitimate industries.

Grocery Trade Notes.

The sugar crop of Cuba last season is placed at about 212,000 tons, and estimates for the present crop vary from 150,000 to 150,000 tons, the majority, however, ranging in the neighbourhood of 300,000 tons. It is said that there is enough cane standing to yield a crop of half a million tons provided it could be harvested. This, however, is said to be unlikely, but, allowing for interference and destruction, many are hopeful that 300,000 tons of sugar will be made during the season in the western half of the island.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: Heavy transactions in canned goods have been put through during the past few days, some 20,000 to 25,000 cases in all having changed hands, most of which have been sold for account of San Francisco and British Columbia houses, amounting in all to about \$50,000 in value. All kinds of canned goods have advanced in price. Among the latest sales is that of three cars of tomatoes at \$1.10 at the cannery in the west, equal to \$1.18 laid down here. Corn has sold at 80c, and now held at 90c to \$1. A week ago gallon apples sold at \$2.50 and \$2.75 had been asked. Since then \$2.75 and over has been paid, and \$3 is now asked.

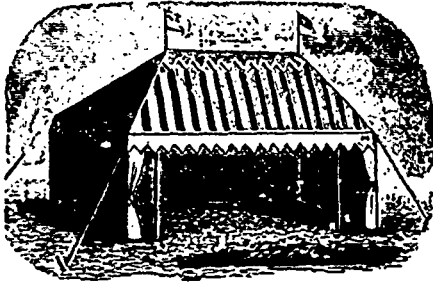
The Montreal market for Barbadoes molasses is very strong, with sales at 28c. The sale of 300 puncheons of Porto Wico to close out a lot was made at 26c. The market is cleaned up as regards round lots, and higher prices are looked for. Syrups are quoted firmer at 17-8c to 21-2c for Canadian in wood. A further advance of 1-8c per lb. was established in refined sugar, granulated being put up to 43-8c and lowest yellows to 35-8c, subject to the usual discount. This makes a rise of 3-16c during the past two weeks. A cargo of Holo sugar was offered to a Montreal refinery at 9s 11-2d cost and freight, which shows an advance of 7 1-2d within a week or ten days.—Trade Bulletin.

C. M. Lamson & Co.'s sale of salted fur skins on December 9 resulted as follows. Alaska, unchanged; Northwest coast, 20 per cent higher than in December, 1896; Lobos Island, 27 1-2 per cent lower; Cape of Good Hope, 10 per cent lower; Cape Horn, 10 per cent higher than in December, 1896.

The New York Fur Trade Review says: The new law regarding pelagic sealing, and prohibiting the importation into the United States of seal-skins taken in designated waters, will, we feel confident, prove in operation extremely detrimental to the business interests of American manufacturers.

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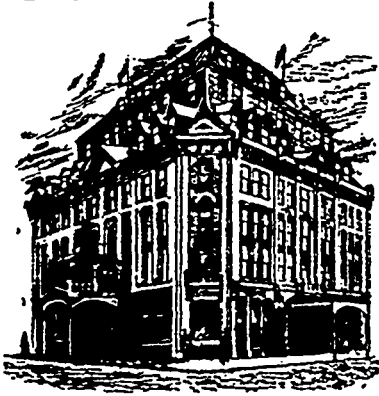


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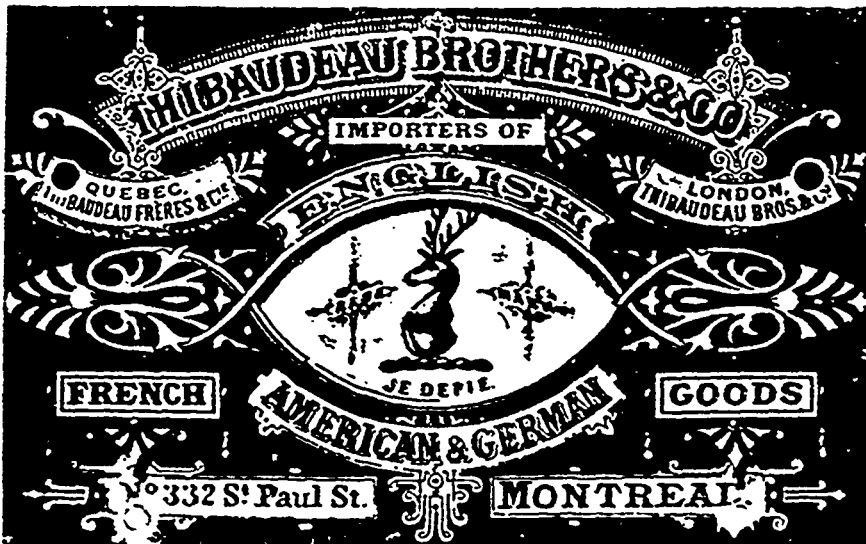
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FINANCIAL

BANK STATEMENT FOR NOVEMBER

With the closing of navigation in November there comes a lull in the business activity, which is dependent upon the ocean steamers and other vessels having the main port of Canada open. However the shipping conveniences of Halifax and St. John may be developed, or those of Portland be made more attractive for Canadian freight, Montreal will ever remain the great port of this Dominion, and its temporary closure during winter a hindrance to trade. This gives such importance to the question of harbor improvements, as the shorter the time the port is open the greater should be its capacity to handle whatever business offers in the limited time. The bank returns every November bear out this view by showing how business contracts as the shipping disappears.

Last month the circulation of bank from \$11,580,000 to \$10,143,000, a decline of \$1,437,000. Last year the circulation on Nov. 1st stood at \$85,955,000, and on the 30th at \$35,262,000, a decrease in the month of \$893,000, the percentage of the fall being close upon two per cent. This year the fall in November was nearly three and a half per cent. But the circulation having risen in October to a higher figure than ever before, it was to be expected that the reverse action would be proportionate to the exceptional rise, as the sudden increase of circulation in the fall, and its rapid decrease at the touch of winter, are closely related phenomena. An unusually high tide always carries back when it turns, a larger volume of water than the ordinary tide. The circulation at close of November was five millions in excess of the amount at same date 1896, and there is every prospect of its volume exceeding that of a number of preceding years. We trust this may be the case as the storekeepers will be greatly helped by the sales, which will be made should current money be plentiful.

The current loans and discounts declined in November from \$208,485,000, to \$205,724,000, a fall of \$2,761,000. The shrinkage in current loans and discounts during November is part of the same movement of trade which caused a decline in circulation. While the crops are being moved seaward, or into storage by grain and produce buyers, their operations are assisted by loans from the banks, and their obligations are liquidated as they pass on the goods to foreign purchasers. The expansion and contraction of loans and note-issues which goes on without affecting the money market in Canada, to any appreciable extent are tributes to the wisdom of our currency system.

Since January, this year, the banks have increased their credit balances in the United Kingdom from \$9,623,000 to \$16,579,000. This increase of funds by seven millions, held in the old land, indicates the large extent of our exports this year, which doubtless has given considerable business to the banks, which is some compensation for their having so large a sum as 16 1-2 millions placed where it is not earning as much as they would like.

The deposits in November reached \$219,230,000, in January they stood at \$193,452,000. The increase of \$25,778,000 in these funds during the current year is unprecedented. Should these funds fail to find a more remunerative outlet than they are doing at present the banks will have to consider the advisability of a further reduction in the rate of interest.—Journal of Commerce.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

Mr. Wickson, manager of the Merchant's bank, left this week on a western trip.

The crown case against the Newfoundland bank directors have been withdrawn.

The Manitoba Trust company has declared a half yearly dividend at the rate of 6 per cent.

The Sun Savings and Loan Co., G. H. Gadby, general agent, have just established a local board at Morden.

The Merchants Bank of Canada will open a branch at Edmonton, Alberta, about January 15. Mr. Wickson, manager of the Winnipeg branch of this bank, recently visited Edmonton and secured a lease of premises for this purpose.

A party of Molson's bank officials who have been travelling in the West for three weeks, returned east Saturday. The members of the party were: S. Thomas, general manager; W. Molson Macpherson, president; H. M. Molson and S. Finley, directors. These gentlemen have been visiting in the west looking over the country with a view to opening new branches of their bank. It has been decided to open four new branches, at Victoria, Vancouver and Revelstoke, B. C., and Edmonton, Alberta.

Grain and Milling News.

Oats advanced to 27 1-4c at Montreal the first of the week, being 1-4c advance over our Saturday's wire.

The official estimate of the wheat yield of New South Wales, is 9,745,000 bushels. There will be a small surplus available for export.

A seventy-five barrel flour mill has been completed at Kesthern, N. W. T., for Peter Newfeldt, by the John Abell company. Mr. Petch, who superintended the work, has gone east.

The report that Joseph Kidd's mill at Prince Albert, was badly wrecked by the bursting of a wall from the weight of grain stored therein, proved to have been largely exaggerated. The Commercial has a letter from Mr. Kidd, which shows that the damage to the machinery was so slight that the mill was running again in less than a week, though the building suffered considerably. Mr. Kidd says: On Thursday evening, Dec. 23, owing to having a large quantity of wheat on the top floor of the mill, the floor gave way and let the wheat down to the next floor. The wheat then forced a way out of the end of the mill and into the basement. But little harm was done, only breaking the floors and some spouts. Everything was got ready again by the 29th, when the mill was started up again.

The Toronto representative of The Commercial writes: Oats in Ontario appear to be coming out quite freely. Although there were many thin, poor oats in the last crop unfit for milling the proportion of good, heavy, white milling oats appears to

be larger than last year. There is a fair demand for Manitoba wheat from Ontario millers. The stock in Ontario are not large and the probability is that the demand will increase soon. The reason is that the sprouted wheat in Ontario is not turning out as well in the flour as it did before the cold weather set in. Early in the fall a good deal of sprouted wheat, of which there was more in the last crop in this province than for many years, was mixed in with sound wheat and gave good satisfaction. But as soon as the weather got cold, it appears to have affected the flour. The bakers complain that the bread will not rise as well as it did earlier in the season, and some lots of flour exported have been turned back on the millers. The millers say the difficulty can be overcome by mixing in Manitoba wheat with the Ontario grain and this will probably have to be done to a greater extent this season than ever before. This may help to advance the prices for Manitoba wheat, which at Ontario points is now selling 20c over the prices for Ontario winter grades.

Hardware and Paint Trade

Coil chain is lower in the east. Another advance of 3-8c is reported from the east on sisal and manilla rope.

It is rumored that a movement is on foot to form a combine in the United States of manufacturers of enamel ware and tinware.

An eastern report says: The price of Canadian linseed oil, which for some time has been 2c to 3c below the English article, has been advanced 8c per gallon, and it is now quoted at 48c for raw and 51c for boiled, freight paid to any railway station in Ontario.

Winnipeg Inland Revenue Returns.

The inland revenue collections for the years 1896 and 1897 are given below:

	1896.	1897.
Jan.	\$ 32,702.86	\$ 24,790.16
Feb.	27,451.85	26,263.98
March	30,161.47	68,850.97
April	31,195.36	44,028.87
May	34,337.37	5,994.46
June	34,659.60	5,444.65
July	35,803.33	12,066.87
August	33,825.19	33,662.29
Sept.	42,979.51	36,317.59
Oct.	51,025.64	50,317.30
Nov.	38,085.37	50,823.26
Dec.	38,131.11	40,438.85

\$430,418.66 \$398,991.25

The total for 1896 was \$430,418.66 that of 1897, \$398,991.25; a decrease of \$31,427.41 for the last year. Two exceptionally large months' business in 1897, March and April, were the result of the tariff scare, May and June show the re-action.

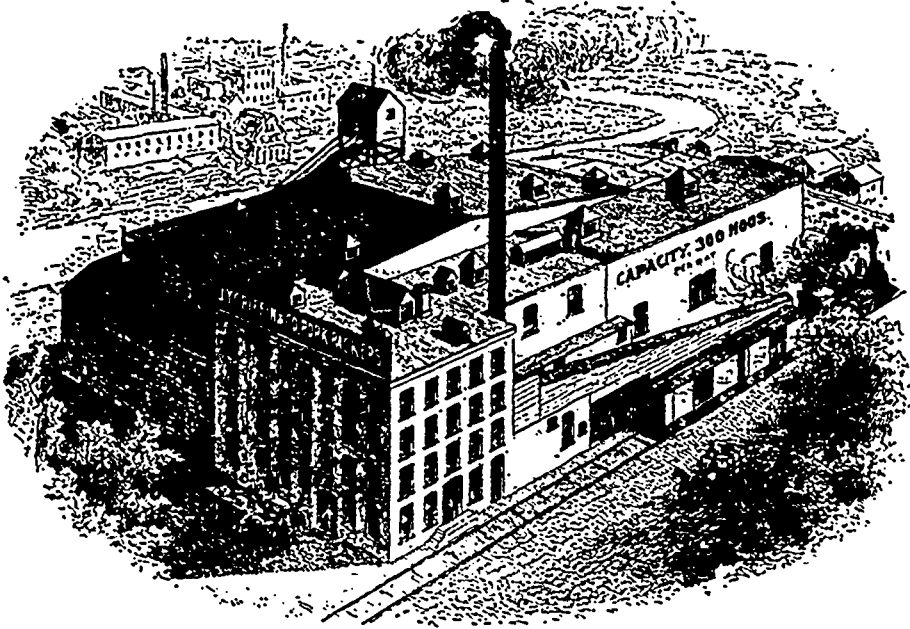
The inland revenue collections for the month of December, 1897, were as follows:

Spirits	\$26,001.16
Tobacco	10,065.62
Malt	2,049.15
Cigars	1,528.20
Raw leaf	168.10
Methylated spirits	379.99
Petroleum Imp. fees	256.63

\$40,438.85

During the same month last year the collection were \$38,131.11, an increase of \$2,307.74.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR



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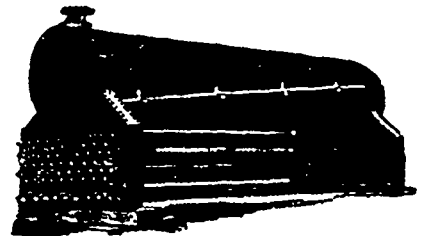
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IN

THE COMMERCIAL

It Reaches the Trade

INSURANCE

BOARD OF TRADE INSURANCE.

The Toronto Board of Trade met on the 17th inst. to consider the life assurance scheme carried on by the members in respect to which great dissatisfaction had arisen. The plan was known as the Gratuity Fund, a name which rather implies some form of eleemosynary aid being granted to those it was designed to benefit than the payment of money equitably and legally due, like the amount of a policy of life assurance. Without giving details the Gratuity Fund Scheme may be described as a plan based on the assessment system. The too-familiar trouble which is inseparable from this plan had broken out in the Toronto Board of Trade. As the members advanced in age, and as "new blood" was not flowing in to any extent, it was becoming more apparent than pleasant that the younger members who had been received on the same terms as the older ones were paying increasing assessments without any corresponding advantage. The "gratuity" character of the assessments was becoming too apparent, and their "equity" aspect was becoming a vanishing point. For any body of men to voluntarily tax themselves to assist the widows and orphans of deceased members is an act of charity worthy the highest commendation. But for members of such a body to become liable to payments for this purpose, which they have agreed to pay under an entire misapprehension as to the growing extent of such a liability, is certain to end in a revolt against and collapse of the scheme. The Toronto board of trade, by a majority of 200, decided to wind up its "Gratuity Fund" and to abandon its assessment insurance scheme. Legislation will be sought to effect this so as to have the distribution of the funds on hand made as fairly as possible. Boards of trade are boards of trade; they are not friendly societies, nor life assurance companies. The business of those societies and companies should be left to be conducted by their officials.—Insurance Chronicle.

INSURANCE NOTES.

A farm implement journal says that life insurance companies secure many of their most successful agents from the ranks of those engaged in selling farm implements.

The Sun Life Assurance company of Canada has just closed a very satisfactory year's business. Sixteen and a quarter millions of dollars of new insurance were applied for during the year. This exceeds the previous year's business by over five millions.

J. S. Wallace, general agent of the Imperial Life, at Winnipeg, received a New Year's telegram from F. G. Cox, managing director of the company, informing him that the new business of the company for 1897 would aggregate \$1,250,000. Considering the fact that it was well on toward the end of the year before this new company was ready to receive business, the result must be considered very satisfactory.

The December number of Money and Risks, a financial and insurance journal published at Toronto, has a number of portraits of leading insurance men of Canada with short sketches of their business career. Among others are J. K. Macdonald, managing director of the Confederation Life Association, F. G. Cox, managing director of the Imperial Life Co.; J. F. Junkin, manager of the Manufacturers' Life Co., and R. Macaulay, president of the Sun Life Co., of Canada. Of the latter company the paper remarks that "The veteran Thos. Gilroy, of Winnipeg, a one remains of all its agency staff in 1874."

The Lumber Trade.

Mr. Ritchie, of Arvon Man. is stabilizing a saw mill on a timber claim which he owns in the Philadelphia Co.

Mr. Sissons of the Winnipeg branch of the British Columbia mills, Timber Trading Co., contemplates leaving the end of the week on a visit to the coast.

Local lumbermen who are familiar with British Columbia, regard the statement made in a letter to an English paper, to the effect that British Columbia could supply the world with lumber for 100 years, as very absurd. While British Columbia has great timber resources, there has been an enormous waste from bush fires, and this waste still goes on year after year.

J. C. Graham, manager of the Winnipeg branch warehouse of the Rat Portage Lumber Co., says that they are very busy at present at the large sash and door factory of the company at Rat Portage. Twelve car loads of British Columbia cedar have recently been purchased, for working up into doors at the factory. A large stock of sash, doors, etc., is being placed in the Winnipeg warehouse, to be ready for the spring trade.

A United States exchange says: The past year has seen a marked advance in the price of hardwood lumber, and especially those grades adapted to the use of implement manufacturers. This class of lumber is scarce and the price is high, being fully five dollars a thousand more than a year ago. The Mississippi Valley Lumberman contains the following comment: The feature of the Chicago hardwood trade at present is the heavy demand for dry wagon stock, which is being held at firm prices. There is also a very decided scarcity of blocky stock, and it is probable that there never has been a time when so little was to be found, notwithstanding the fact that prices are the highest ever known. Sales have been made from the south as high as \$80 per thousand.

An enormous cut of logs is being made this winter in those districts in Ontario which are exploited by United States saw mill owners, as they will be prevented after this season, by the new regulations, from cutting logs in Canada. The Toronto representative of The Commercial says: "Much money is being spent by the lumbermen in the Ontario timber limits this winter. They have larger gangs of men at work than for some seasons past, and the expectation is that the United States owners of timber limits will take out more logs this season than for the past three years. The reason is obvious: The intention of the Ontario government being to prevent

the export of logs more effectually than the placing of an export duty on them, by providing in the next licenses that all logs cut shall be manufactured in Canada, appears to be having the effect of inducing the American log exporters to get out a supply that will last them for several years. There is an active demand for supplies for the lumber camps, and business at Parry Sound and other points contiguous to the scene of operations is more active than for some years. There is a good demand for oats for the lumber camps.

C.P.R. Land Transactions

Land Commissioner Hamilton was particularly gratified last evening when at 6 o'clock he was handed the total returns for the land sales during the year. The figures showed an increase of 130 to 140 per cent. over 1896, as will be seen by the following.

Date.	Acres.	Value.
1897... ..	199,482	\$665,636
1896... ..	87,878	308,930
Dec.		
1897... ..	20,938	67,433
1896... ..	16,457	53,608

The increase during 1896 over 1895 was 50 per cent., so that this year the showing is wonderful. Among the interesting statistics furnished for December are the districts from which the 1,261 purchasers came: Great Britain 239, other parts of Europe 74, Canadians 844, United States 95, miscellaneous 9. Of these two arrived in the country before 1869, 65 before 1879, 561 before 1889, 439 before 1896, and 144 during last year. This goes to show that resident farmers of the country were the largest purchasers. During the year farms were sold to people who came from Great Britain and Ireland, Norway, Germany, Russia, Austria, France, Belgium, Hungary, Iceland, Bohemia, China, South Africa, New Zealand, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Kansas, Montana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, New York, Rhode Island, Oregon, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Washington, besides the Canadians. Ten of the purchasers were native born.

"We are becoming very independent," remarked Land Commissioner Hamilton last evening to the Free Press representative. "Last year we closed all our transactions with those who held the land for speculative purposes and none of it is now in the hands of any one but bona fide farmers. In fact we do not want any one but tillers of the soil to buy our land, and we do not care to have our farmers overburdened with too much, and in consequence I have had to return money recently sent in to several would-be purchasers just for that reason. From the letters we receive daily and from the reports of our agents widespread interest is being aroused in Canadian land in the west and we confidently look for a continued large sale of land all through the year 1898."

C. N. W. LAND CO.

The following returns of the sales of the Canada Northwest Land Co.'s property, now handled by the C.P.R. land department, have been furnished by Mr. L. A. Hamilton. The showing is nearly double that of the previous year: 1897, 38,000 acres for \$208,000; 1896, 20,100 acres for \$114,000.

E. Doldgo, contractor, Winnipeg, has assigned.

Winnipeg Customs Returns.

A better trade barometer cannot be found than customs statistics. In prosperous times the imports will always be heavier than during depressed periods, owing to the freer circulation of money. While the figures of the Winnipeg customs house do not by any means represent the value of trade done in the city, they are a good indication of the general improvement that marked all lines of business during the past year over 1896, and in this connection the subjoined report of the goods entered for consumption at the port of Winnipeg in 1897, together with the duty collected thereon, and comparative statement for the previous year, will be read with interest. It should be noted that the value and duty given for December is only an estimate for three days, it being impossible to obtain the complete report for the month.

	1896.	
	Value.	Duty.
Quarter ending 31st March	\$ 650,535	\$161,422.05
Quarter ending 30th June	609,823	138,988.05
Quarter ending 30th Sept.	952,194	203,409.17
Quarter ending 31st Dec.	577,038	133,087.40
Totals	\$2,789,090	\$836,907.87
	1897.	
	Value.	Duty.
Quarter ending 31st March	\$ 671,799	154,688.20
Quarter ending 30th June	691,634	153,095.78
Quarter ending 30th Sept.	1,157,256	251,296.49
Quarter ending 31st Dec.	942,966	217,461.91
Totals	\$3,463,655	\$776,542.38

Trade Returns

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The following extracts from the trade and navigation reports show a large increase in the trade of Canada for the five months of the current fiscal year to Nov. 30th. The exports compared with the corresponding five months of 1896 are as follows.

Produce of Canada.	1896.	1897.
Agricultural products	\$ 7,280,002	\$14,290,988
Forest	17,400,271	7,793,291
Minerals	4,048,004	6,248,428
Fish	6,260,503	6,298,283
Animals and their produce	21,597,491	25,874,997
Manufactures	4,039,777	4,331,768
Miscellaneous	93,989	59,102
Other	229,90	486,082

Total

1896.	\$60,968,867	\$75,382,839
1897.	\$73,346,000	\$29,321,000
Free goods	18,970,000	22,376,000

Total

1896.	\$46,316,000	\$51,597,000
1897.	\$54,376,000	\$27,945,000

The imports for the five months increased \$14,336,000 as follows.

	1896.	1897.
Dutiable goods	\$7,346,000	\$29,321,000
Free goods	18,970,000	22,376,000

Total

1896.	\$26,316,000	\$51,597,000
1897.	\$46,316,000	\$27,945,000

The duty collected during the five months amounted to \$8,594,000 in 1897 as compared with \$8,310,000 for same period of 1896, an increase of \$284,000.

The aggregate trade, imports and exports, for the five months of 1896 was \$112,085,000, while for the same period of 1897 it was \$134,694,000 or an increase in the aggregate trade of Canada for the first five months of the present fiscal year of \$22,609,000. The total increase for the twelve months of the last fiscal year in the aggregate of trade was about \$20,000,000, so that the increase for less

than one-half of the current year is greater than for the whole of last year. A noticeable feature of these returns is that exports of agricultural produce, domestic, have doubled in five months of the current year.

Savings Bank Returns.

Subjoined is a statement of the transactions at the Dominion government savings bank here for the month of December, and also for the half year ending December 31st, compared with the same period of 1896. It will be noticed that the deposits for the half year just closed are more than double the deposits for the corresponding period of the previous year.

Transactions for the month ending 31st December, 1897:

Deposits	\$26,714.00
Withdrawals	24,254.24

Deposits exceed withdrawals

...	\$ 2,459.76
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Comparative statement for the half year ending 31st December, 1897, with the half year ending 31st December, 1896.:

For half year ending 31st Dec., 1897.—	
Deposits	\$160,268.46
Withdrawals	113,794.93

Deposits for half year exceed withdrawals by

...	\$ 46,473.53
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For half year ending 31st Dec., 1896.—	
Deposits	\$139,926.00
Withdrawals	117,471.40

Deposits for half year exceed withdrawals by

...	\$ 22,454.60
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Insolvency Law.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—As a result of the conference between Crawford Ross, President Henderson, Vice-President and Wm. Scott, of the Ottawa board of trade, John McKergow, Jas. Craithern, Chas. F. Smith and Henry Miles, of the Montreal board, and Guernev, president of the Toronto board, it has been decided to issue a call for a meeting of representatives of all the Canadian boards of trade, to be held early in February in this city, with a view to making united representations to the Dominion government as to the urgent need of insolvency legislation. The representation at this meeting is to be based upon the number of the board's membership, one delegate and one vote being allowed for each one hundred members. A circular is being prepared to be sent to each Canadian board of trade, inviting their attendance at the meeting and outlining certain general principles of insolvency legislation. Each board will be requested to consider these beforehand, so that the delegates may be prepared to vote thereon at the meeting. A vote will thus fairly represent the commercial views of the country.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Canadian Pacific Railway company has placed Rossland on the same basis regarding freight rates as Nelson, B. C., which means a reduction of thirty cents a hundred pounds on first class freight and a corresponding reduction on other classes.

Dutiable Packages

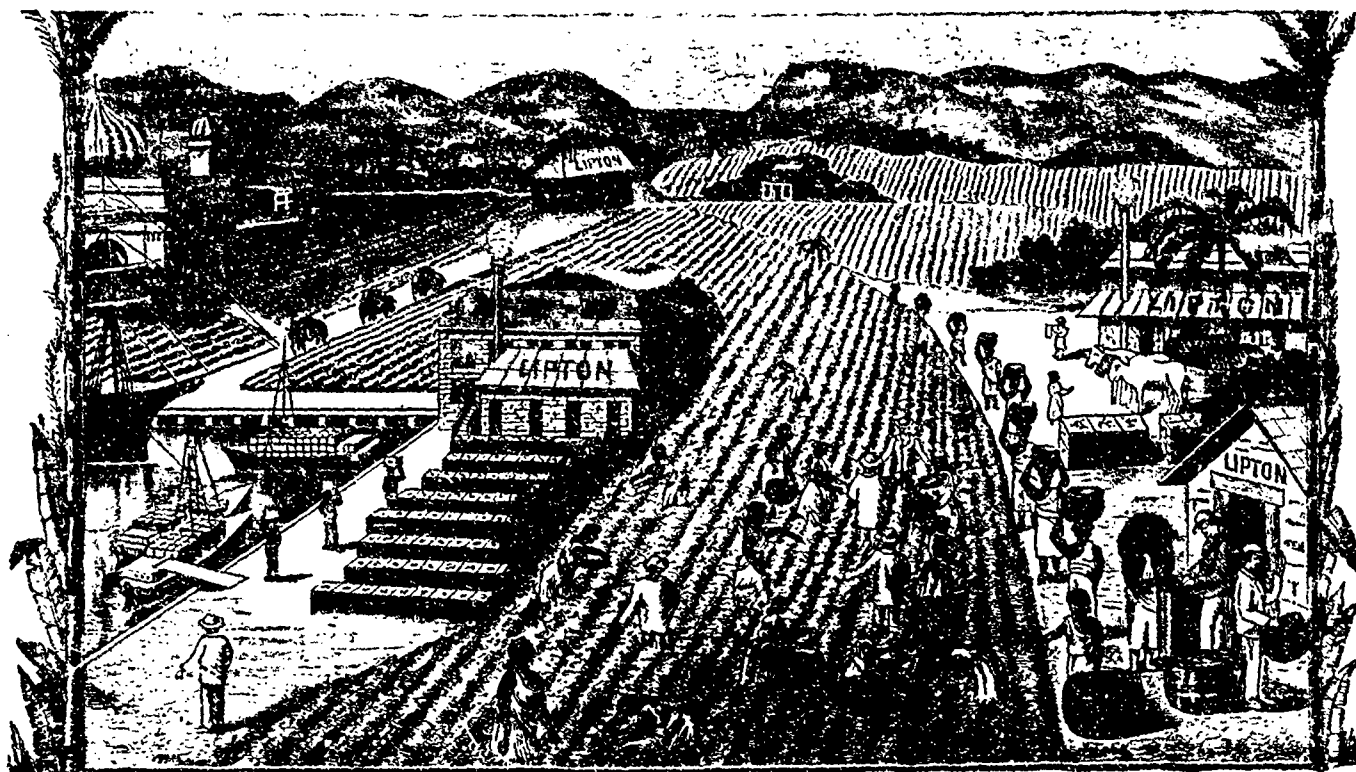
Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The new regulations governing the treatment of packages and parcels arriving in Canada through post offices go into effect on January 1st. Heretofore all such packages have been sent to

the fifty-seven offices, known as exchange offices, throughout the Dominion, necessitating much trouble on the part of persons living at a distance from any of these offices in procuring their parcels. Every package arriving by mail from any place outside the Dominion is to be sent without manifesto to the collector of customs at the nearest port or sub-port to the place to which the package is directed for examination as to liability of the contents to customs duty. On arrival of the packages the postal officer must affix to each parcel a red label with his memorandum thereon directing how the parcel is to be dealt with by the customs. In fifty-four places, chiefly in Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia, postmasters are authorized to collect customs duties on postal packages. These offices include the following: Archibald, Birt's, Carberry, Crystal City, Gladstone, Minnedosa, Oak Lake, Neepawa, Pilot Mound, Rapid City, and Stonewall, in Manitoba; and in the Territories: Banff, Battleford, Broadview, Cardston, Canmore, Grenfell, Indian Head, Maple Creek, Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, Moccasin, Pincher Creek, Qu'Appel Station, Wapella, Whiteoak, Wolseley, and Yorkton. Duties, however, to be collected at these points must first be assessed at the nearest port or sub-port.

The Leiter Wheat Deal.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—This was settlement day on the board of trade, and in a certain sense the market closed what was considered the biggest deal in wheat, so far as handling the actual article was concerned, ever engineered. Up to last night probably 8,500,000 bushels of contract trade wheat have been delivered on December contracts to Joseph Leiter, who has been the leader in the deal, which is practically every bushel of high grade wheat in Chicago. It was the prevailing opinion to-day among traders before the opening of change that the session would be devoid of the excitement usually attendant upon the closing hours of such a magnitude as it is believed that the short interests had in the last fifteen days been practically eliminated from the market. No "squeeze" was therefore looked for, and the big December deal was expected to pass into history in a very quiet manner. There was no indication of any excitement on the curb before the opening on change. There was not a quotation for December wheat, which closed last night at 94 1/4c. When the big gong sounded on the board for the final session of 1897, May was quoted at 92 5/8c to 92 3/4c, and in the first fifteen minutes of trading the price did not vary much more than 1/4c from these figures. In that time not a single quotation had been made on December.

The first sale of December wheat was at 94 3/4c, an advance of 1-2 cent compared with last night's figures, about equal to the advance in the other options. The Allen-Grier company, the agents of the Leiter clique, attracted some attention by buying December and selling May at 2 cents premium for December. The trade, however, was comparatively small scale, with price changes merely fractional and an hour after the opening the would be spectators of a brilliant finish had about given up hope.



LIPTON'S TEA ESTATES.

LIPTON IN CEYLON

TO ALL LOVERS
—OF THE—
FRAGRANT BEVERAGE.

MR. LIPTON has pleasure in intimating to his Customers and the Public in general that from the position he occupies as **ONE OF THE MOST EXTENSIVE TEA PLANTERS IN CEYLON**, besides having his own Shipping and Export Stores at Calcutta, he is enabled to supply the most delicious Tea the World can produce at prices impossible for any other Tea Dealer to sell at.

His Estates, which cover many Thousand Acres of the best Tea land in Ceylon, are at an elevation of about 5,000 feet, where nothing but the choicest Teas are grown; and an idea of the labor required in the Cultivation and Manufacture of Tea on these Estates may be formed from the fact that **Several Thousand Natives**, independent of Europeans, are constantly employed.

Who Pays the most TEA DUTY to the British Government?

LIPTON

Unquestionably pays more Duty to her Britannic Majesty's Customs for Tea supplied direct to the Consumers than any other firm in Her Majesty's Dominions. This undoubtedly is the **Strongest Possible Proof** of the Extraordinary Value and High-Class Quality of **LIPTON'S FAMOUS TEAS**.

Over One Million Packets LIPTON'S TEAS Sold Weekly.

MACKENZIE & MILLS

SOLE AGENTS FOR
MANITOBA
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Also Packers of **Britania, Beaver** and **Buffalo Teas** in lb. and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Lead Packets.



From the Klondyke

Dawson City to Winnipeg—six hundred miles upon the ice of frozen rivers and lakes and over mountains, seven hundred miles on the Pacific, twelve hundred miles by rail—is the journey begun November 21st and completed yesterday at noon, when Mr. H. H. Tremayne stepped from the C. P. R. train at the Winnipeg station. Mr. Tremayne was one of the Winnipeg party which left last spring for the Yukon and he is the first and only member of the party to return. He does not come back disappointed or disgusted, but on the contrary is very much impressed with what he has seen, and while he denies as misleading a great deal of the sensational rubbish that has appeared in the American and other papers, he takes a very optimistic view of the future of the country. He has acquired interests in several claims and will return in the spring "with the rush." Naturally the first question of the reporter who had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Tremayne last evening was concerning the welfare of the Winnipeg boys.

"When I left on Nov. 21st," said Mr. Tremayne, "the Winnipeg and Selkirk boys were all in the best of health and spirits, and there has been no accidents to any of them. Four, Archdeacon McKay, W. McDonald, H. Jones and P. McKenzie, own claims on Hunker Creek, which has, from strikes made upon it recently, become almost the equal of Bonanza and El Dorado. Nearly all the party have claims somewhere, and are now engaged in various ways, not being in a position to go on and develop their own holdings. There will be no starvation in Dawson City this winter, for though there is no superabundance of food, there is enough. All the Winnipeg boys are well supplied in this respect."

"You succeeded in making the journey out without hardship?"

"Some of the travelling was none too pleasant, but I could not say there was at any time any particular danger. We left Dawson on the 21st of November, and were twenty-seven days travelling from there to Dyea. There were five in the party, and we drove eight dogs. About 250 miles of the river travel was exceptionally bad owing to ice jams, running from six inches to twenty feet in height having to be traversed for that distance. The total distance of ice journey was about 600 miles. We had good weather en route except for one week when the thermometer ranged between 65 and 62 degrees below zero. However, we never hung up for this in spite of what the old timers told us about not travelling when it was more than 40 below. There is no wind as a rule with the extreme cold; should the wind blow you hastily retire to your residence, wherever that may be, until it subsides. We crossed by the Chilkoot pass in a blizzard. It was necessary to throw away everything at the foot of the summit in order to get over, but we accomplished the feat satisfactorily."

"Dawson City still continues to flourish," said Mr. Tremayne in answer to a question concerning the northern metropolis, "and has now a population of some 7,000 souls." Two big fires took place during November, the first, which occurred on the 22nd of November, destroyed a combined church and lodging house together with a lot of food. The second, which was only three days after, burned Mc-

Cauley's opera house and two adjacent saloons, including a large quantity of liquor. Whiskey was worth \$40 a gallon when I left and I guess it will touch \$100 or \$150 now. There are about 250 of the fairer sex in Dawson. About sixty of these are living with their husbands. Of the others some wash clothes at 75c a piece, others make from \$15 to \$40 a day sewing, others about \$1,000 a month dancing, and so on, which shows that women as well as men can make a living up there."

"Had Major Walsh reached Dawson City when you left?"

"No, Major Walsh and his party we passed at the Big Salmon, some 250 miles from Dawson. He was hung up there waiting for dogs. These we passed at Lake Bennett. The cause of the delay in getting the dogs forward was a pen water on Lake Bennett. Ours was the first party to cross Lake Bennett on the ice. The rivers freeze in the north before the lakes farther south and in this way we were able to travel out while they were still unable to start from Lake Bennett."

"Have the police been able to keep order?"

"The police have been most effectual in keeping the very mixed population in the best of order and very few serious violations of the law have occurred. At Little Salmon we were rather unwilling participants in the first sitting of the supreme court of that territory, being witnesses in the first case which has been dealt with. Judge McGuire presided and the charge was one of theft, of \$8,634 in gold dust, preferred by a man named Hill against two men, Elmore and Johnstone. The three, with two hired men, and a man named Van Alston were living in the same cabin. The dust was in one corner of the cabin wrapped in a coat and a pair of blankets and on the day it disappeared the hired men were absent getting dog meat and Hill was only away from the shanty for about an hour. Suspicion fell on Elmore and Johnstone and their packs were searched and all the tracks through the snow followed up by Indians without finding any trace of the stolen property. The prisoners were acquitted, there being no direct evidence against them. Our party were held as witnesses. This illustrates the danger of attempting to carry about large sums of money."

"How are the mining regulations of the Dominion government affecting the miners?"

"They are very unsatisfactory indeed. A deputation is now en route to Ottawa and should pass through here in about ten days to appeal to the government for the abolition or at least a modification of these regulations. Misleading statements have been made concerning the amounts taken out of single pans, and have led to the impression that the gold can be got without labor. Some phenomenal pans have been reported but it was not stated that they were "picked pans," that is pans into which the very richest looking portion often picked out with the fingers were thrown. Four dollars a pan is nearer the mark when all the dirt is washed and no picking done. From claim No. 3, El Dorado, one of the richest creeks, \$26,000 was taken last year, but it cost \$20,000 to do it. Now, however, they have struck the pay streak and the product will be much greater and the expense less."

"Did the threatened reduction in wages from \$15 to \$10 a day take place?"

"Wages have been reduced. There were two strikes over the matter in Dawson this year, but the elements were against the men, and when I left quite a large number of them were going back to work at from \$1 to \$1.50 per hour."

"Are many attempting to come out now?"

"On our way out we passed about sixty on the trail, many of whom were pulling their own sleighs. Some of them had been on the trail since the 20th of October, and had not reached Skaguay when we left. Many of them were almost out of grub, but were able to obtain all they wanted from the Hoolalinka up to Lake Bennett, by paying \$1 to \$2 per pound for it."

"I was much surprised at the growth of Skaguay and Dyea. When we went up in June there had not been a tree cut down in Skaguay, but there is now a town of 2,500 inhabitants. Dyea has about 1,200 people. There has been a good wharf erected at Skaguay, and none so far at Dyea, though there is one in course of erection at that point. This fact alone accounts for the larger population at Skaguay, and not the facilities of the trail, which is probably the worst in the world over which an attempt was ever made to pack goods. The Chilkoot trail is a good one, the only difficulty (which is not a very great one) being the summit itself, which is a short steep pitch. After that all is plain sailing."

"Do you intend remaining in the city?"

"I shall be in Winnipeg a week and perhaps longer. I have seen a great many outfitting lists for the Yukon and while some of them are good as far as they go, they all omit a great many necessities, which, if not taken into the country, will have to be purchased there from traders or the stores at most exorbitant prices. This, taken into consideration with the terribly exaggerated reports circulated regarding the fortunes made, and in fact everything connected with the country, the absorbing interest which Winnipeggers whom I have met at the coast and elsewhere assure me is felt in the Prairie City relative to the Yukon, and the sublime innocence of the work to be done in there and the general conditions of the country, prevailing among those on the outside. All of these together with the fact that during a short stay in Winnipeg it will be utterly impossible for me to interview everybody, have persuaded me that the only satisfactory way out of the difficulty will be to give a lecture, which I hope to do one day this week, when I shall endeavor to give a faithful account of the trip in and out, the work to be done there, the chances for those intending to go in the spring, the time to go and best trail to use, prices of wages, food, etc., together with authentic figures regarding the amount of gold taken out of claims, the big panning, figures at which claims have sold and fortunes realized and brought out of the country by various miners."

NEWS BY STEAMER.

Victoria, Jan 3.—The steamer Corona arrived yesterday and brought forty miners, who left Dawson City between November 1 and 25. They are all men who are interested in claims or have made money in other

speculations and consequently brought out a large amount in drafts and gold dust. One party alone, headed by Dr. Van Sant, of Peoria, and consisting of eight men, brought \$80,000, so that the aggregate amount brought by the forty men must be very large. Provisions in Dawson are not just so plentiful as might be, but there is no immediate fear of famine, although before spring some will have to go on short rations. There has been a considerable exodus, which with shortness of food and candles will greatly lessen the output. Some recently discovered gulches which are expected to turn out well will not be worked this winter on this account. Considerable money taken in has been invested in claims and in many cases the purchasers are coming to the coast to endeavor to sell these claims, most of them hardly developed, at an advance.

A fire at Dawson City on November 18 destroyed a church and a lodging house over it, the lodgers losing all their provisions and outfits. On the 25th another fire destroyed Macdonald's and Machulay's and the Dominion saloons, a meat shop and another building. Loss by the two fires is estimated at \$200,000.

The trip out was made very hard by reason of the extreme cold, the thermometer ranging from 30 to 70 below and at Lake Tagish several parties were caught in a snow storm and had to make their way through soft snow to the coast. The ice along the river is piled up as high as fifteen feet and only the best dog teams can get over it. Many outfits which started down in boats were met along the river, being frozen in and where they have to remain until the ice goes out. A party of police with sixteen horses and twenty tons of provisions were met at Bennett Lake on the way down to Big Salmon, where Major Walsh is waiting for them. The men coming out say the police cannot get through with horses and provisions.

All the men on the Corona are more or less frost bitten and others who started with them could not continue the trip and left at the stations along the route. There will not be many more men out now until after the wash-up. Claims on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks are being worked for all they are worth but on the other gulches many claims will not be touched.

Men are refraining from recording their claims hoping in this way to escape the royalty.

Port Townsend, Wn., Jan. 3.—There was \$627,500 in gold dust and nuggets on the steamer Corona, which arrived from Alaska. One of the nuggets weighed as high as 15 ounces. From a careful estimate it is safe to say that in drafts and gold dust, there was about \$1,200,000 wealth aboard the Corona.

Prince Albert Route.

The latest issue of the Prince Albert Times has the following letter from Wm. Spencer, one of Dr. Rae's party of searchers for Sir John Franklin:

Prince Albert, Dec. 17, 1897.
The President of the Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your enquiries regarding the Prince Albert, Green Lake, Fort McMurray and river route to the north and as a means of entering the Yukon country, I will start by saying that I was for thirty-five years in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company,

of which time I was twelve years in the Isle la Crosse district, which post is situated on this route and is the headquarters post of the district. Out of this time I was for twelve years in charge of Portage la Loosche transport for the Athabasca and Mackenzie river supplies, which passed through my hands in transit for the north and also the packs of furs returning. Each season eight boat-loads, of 75 pieces of goods each weighing 92 pounds for the Mackenzie river district, and from six to seven boat loads carrying a similar amount for the Athabasca district, or roughly, 1,125 pieces, total weight of 103,500 pounds passed yearly over the Portage la Loosche on their way inward to supply the posts of the north. Besides this about 300 packs of furs weighing 82 pounds each, amounting to 24,600 pounds were carried over the portage on their way to Canada and the European markets making a yearly total across Portage la Loosche of 128,100 lbs. This portage is on the direct, and for over one hundred and seventy-five years, used route between Prince Albert and Fort McMurray and the rivers to the north, a route which is at present much used and would be entirely so were it not for railway communication to Edmonton inducing the company to experiment with the Athabasca Landing and Edmonton route for Fort McMurray, but which is in my opinion proving like many experiments of the company a failure and will be abandoned notwithstanding the large amount of money they have already expended in trying to force an artificial route against what as His Lordship Bishop Pascal describes as "the way nature intended." The number of valuable lives already lost on the dangerous passage of the Athabasca between Athabasca Landing and Fort McMurray and loss and damage of boats, to say nothing of time and expense, must compel this wealthy company for their own interests to abandon a theory and accept the inevitable and convey as heretofore their goods and furs over the old established route via Prince Albert, Green Lake, Portage la Loosche and Fort McMurray.

And now as to boats. The company in my time used thirty-two feet keel boats, with a crew of eight men, and carrying 175 pieces. A medium size of twenty-two feet, with a crew of five men, would, in my estimation, be preferable, carrying 40 pieces, that is, 4,000 pounds, or 200 pounds per man. Still, I am of the opinion that for small parties going out the Peterborough canoe of large size is preferable to any class of boat, as the entire distance is down stream to Fort Simpson. If the Laird route is adopted, or Fort Macpherson if the Northern and Porcupine route is used. The weight of boats, with the exception of portages at Portage la Loosche, which is quite easy of transit, and a long portage at Fort Smith, is a matter of small consequence, but in ascending the Laird to its source and across to the head waters of the Yukon—or ascending the Rat River East (Huskie river) from near Fort Macpherson and down the Porcupine, boats of light draught will be found not only convenient, but absolutely necessary.

I thoroughly agree with Mr. Thos. Scott, an old and experienced officer of the company, in relegating to the past the birch bark canoes. Doubtless this native production has been serviceable, and in the hands of Indians or those accustomed to their use, and

with infinite care and almost constant patching or smearing with gum, can still be utilized, but the Peterborough canoe is in every way preferable. They can be carried across portage with almost the same ease as the birch bark and are stronger and more enduring.

And now, Sir, I cannot see what more I can say. The subject is not open for discussion as to the possibility or adaptability of the route. It is no new scheme for the first time brought before the public, but as I have previously stated is and has been for over 125 years the highway to and from the north of the Hudson's Bay company. In conclusion I have no hesitation in recommending this, the poor man's route to all intending miners anxious to reach the Yukon cheaply, safely and expeditiously. And as any quantity of fish of many varieties and of the best quality can be caught in the streams and lakes traversed and water fowl and game abounds along the line of travel, the amount of provisions should be principally confined to flour and such canned vegetables and fruits as may be considered advisable, thus saving a large amount of provisions and consequent labor and permitting of a longer time spent on the road if desired and the arrival at the destination with a large surplus of provisions. I would certainly, after a careful consideration, give this route the preference to any other.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM SPENCER.

C. P. R. Traffic Receipts.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Canadian Pacific Railway company's traffic receipts for the week ending December 31 were \$797,000; for the same week of last year they were \$691,000.

Gold Production.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The director of the mint from information now at hand, says that there is substantial evidence that the world's product of gold for the calendar year 1897 will approximate if not exceed \$240,000,000, an increase of nearly 20 per cent over 1897. The gold product of the United States for 1896 was \$53,000,000; for 1897 it was approximately \$61,500,000, an increase of \$8,500,000. The product of Africa for 1896 was \$44,400,000; returns received up to December 1, 1897, indicate that the gold product of that country for the year will be \$58,000,000, an increase of \$13,600,000. Australasia for 1896 was \$45,200,000; for 1897 the indications are that it will be not less than \$51,000,000, an increase of \$6,800,000. Mexico for 1896, \$8,330,000; for 1897 it is estimated that it will be \$10,000,000, increase of \$1,670,000. The Dominion of Canada for 1896, \$2,800,000; it is estimated for 1897 at \$7,500,000, or an increase of \$4,700,000. India's product for 1897 is estimated at \$7,500,000, an increase of \$1,400,000 over 1896. Russia's gold product for 1896 was \$21,550,000; for 1897 estimated to approximate \$25,000,000, an increase of \$3,450,000.

An English syndicate has been formed to erect palatial hotels at various points in Canada under one management. The syndicate will erect hotels at Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Niagara Falls.

WINNIPEG PRICES CURRENT

GROCERIES

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

Table listing various grocery items such as Canned Goods, Canned Meats, Coffee, Cereals, Cigarettes, Cured Fish, and Dried Fruits with their respective prices.

Table listing various grocery items including Dried Fruits, California Evaporated Fruits, Nuts, Syrup, Sugar, Salt, Spices, and Tea with their respective prices.

Table listing various tobacco and wooden ware items such as Tobacco (per pound) and Wooden Ware (per dozen).

Table listing various cured meats and lard items such as Cured Meats and Lard with their respective prices.

Table listing various fresh fish and oysters items such as Fresh Fish and Oysters with their respective prices.

Table listing various drug items such as Drugs with their respective prices.

Table listing various leather items such as Leather with their respective prices.

Table listing various fuel items such as Fuel with their respective prices.

Table listing various cordwood items such as Cordwood with their respective prices.

Advertisement for KLONDYKE, Description of Land and Water Routes to Yukon via Edmonton, with maps, illustrations, and complete information as to necessary supplies, etc.

Winnipeg Hardware and Metal Prices.

Tin—Lamb and Flagg, 56 and 28 lb ingots, per lb 19@20c.

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

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

Sheet Iron—10 to 20 guage, \$3; 22 to 24 and 26 guage, \$3.25; 28 guage \$3.50

Canada Plates—Garth and Blaina, 3.00 @ \$3.15.

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

Iron pipe is quoted as follows per 100 feet: 1/2 inch, \$2.50; 3/8 inch, \$2.75; 1/2 inch, \$3; 3/4 inch, \$4; 1 inch, \$5; 1 1/2 inch, \$7; 2 inch, \$8.50; 2 1/2 inch, \$11.50.

Lead—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2 to 5c.

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

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

Ammunition—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American discount 40 per cent; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent, shot shells, 12 guage, \$6 @ 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 6c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6 1/2c. Robin Hood powder, 17 lb kegs, \$10; 1/2 kegs, 4 1/2 lbs, \$3; Canister, 9 oz., 60c. Loaded shells, 12 guage, soft shot, \$18 per 1 No. 10 guage, \$20.70 per 1,000.

Dupont Powder—Dupont Rifle FFg, 25-lb keg, \$5.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$2.75, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$6.60, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$8.50, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$9.25; Dupont Rifle FFFg, 25 lb keg, \$5.25, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$3.00, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$7.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$9.00, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$9.75; Dominion Rifle, 25 lb keg, \$5.75, 12 1/2 lb keg \$3, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$7, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$11, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$12; Sea Shooting Fg, 25 lb keg, \$8; Manitoba Sporting, 25 lb keg, \$8.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$4.25, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$9.00; cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$13.00; Eagle Ducking, 25 lb keg, \$11.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$5.75, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$12.00; Crystal Grain, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$14.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$17; Blasting, 25 lb keg, \$3.00. Dupont Smokeless powder, 12 1/2 lbs, \$22.00, 6 1/2 lbs, \$11.25, 3 1/2 lbs, \$5.75, 1/2 canisters, \$1.00.

Wire—Galvanized barb wire, \$2.70@2.75 100 lbs.; Plain wire and staples, \$2.85@2.90.

Rope—Sisal, lb., 7c base; manilla, lb., 8 1/2c base; cotton, 1/2 to 1/4 inch and larger, 16c lb.

Axes—Per box, \$6@9.

Nails—Cut, keg, base price, \$2.50 for 20 to 60d., with new classification of extras; common steel wire nails, 4 1/2@6 inch, \$2.65 per keg, with usual extras for smaller sizes

Horse Nails—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List price 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, \$5.60 box. Discount of above list prices 5 per cent.

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

Winnipeg Prices of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc.

Following are close jobbing prices, as to quantity:

White Lead—Pure, \$0.25 100 lbs. Prepared Paints—Pure liquid colors, gallon \$1.15@1.25.

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

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

Sundries—Glue, S. S., in sheets, 1b 12 1/2 @15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 16 @25c. Stove gasoline, case, \$4; benzine, case, \$4. Axle grease, imperial, case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, case, \$3.75; Diamond axle grease, \$2.25 case. Coal tar, barrel, \$7. Portland cement, barrel, \$4@4.25; plaster, barrel \$3.25; plasterers' hair, P. P., 90c bale. Putty, in bladders, barrel lots, 2 1/2 lb., do., in 100 lb kegs, 2 1/2c, do., less than barrels, 1b, 3c. Alabastine, cases of 20 pkgs., \$6.50@7.50 as to color.

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

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

Turpentine—Pure spirits in barrels, 60c; less than barrels, gallon, 63c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

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

Refined Petroleum—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 18 1/2c; crescent, 20c; oleophene, 20 1/2c in barrels. Car lots, 1c gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 2 1/2c for cocene and 2 1/2c for sunlight.

Winnipeg Lumber Prices.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shiplap—Pine, 6 inch, \$18.00, 8 and 10 inch, \$20.00; Spruce, 8 and 10 inch, \$10.00, 6 inch, \$18.00; cull shiplap, \$16.00.

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

Lath—Pine lath, per M, \$3.00.

Finishings—1 1/2, 1 1/4 and 2 inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$65.00, 3rd clear, \$55.00, selects, \$45.00, shops, \$30.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$32.00; B.C. cedar clears, \$55.00; B.C. fir clears and stepping, \$45.00; \$5.00 per M advance on 2 1/2 inch and thicker. One inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$60.00, 3rd clear, \$48.00, selects, No. 1, \$38.00, selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com) \$30.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$30.00; B.C. cedar, clear, \$55.00.

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

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c; lattice, 1/2x1 1/2, 100 feet lineal, 75c, 1/2x1 1/2, 100 feet lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1 1/2 inch lineal, \$1.25, ditto, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; 1/2 round and 1/4 cove, 75c; 1 1/2 round mould, \$1.50; 2 round mould, \$1.75; 2 1/2 round mould, \$2.00; 3 round mould, \$2.25; 3 1/2 round mould, \$2.50; 4 round mould, \$2.75; 4 1/2 round mould, \$3.00; 5 round mould, \$3.25; 6 round mould, \$4.00; 5 round window stool, 1 1/2, \$4.50; 6 round window stool, 1 1/2, \$5.25; 4 round casings, \$2.50; 5 round casings, \$2.75; 6 round casings, \$3.25; 8 round base, \$4.50; 10 round base, \$5.50; 12 round base, \$7.00; hand rail, 2x4, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2 1/2 inch, \$2.35, 3 inch, \$2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1 1/2 stock add 25 per cent; 1 1/2 add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

THE TARIFF

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

Manitoba

R. Hawthorn will build a store at Oak River.

T. Holloway is opening a furniture store at Stonewall.

D. Kirk will open in the jewelry business at Hamlet.

James Todd is going into the furniture business at Oak River.

Robert Hawthorne, blacksmith, Oak River, has sold out to John McCallum.

D. G. Allman, formerly in the H. B. Co.'s service, is to open a gents' furnishing business in Winnipeg.

The provincial legislature will be called together for business in the second or third week of February.

Dr. L. T. Cullen will open a branch drug store at Whitewater in connection with F. D. Peters' general store.

The firm of Bell & Clark, customs brokers, Winnipeg, has been dissolved. Mr. Clark will continue business alone.

The publisher of the Hartney Star has issued a handsome Christmas number. It is in book form, and profusely illustrated with views of Hartney and district.

The general stock of the estate of K. W. Rehner, of Steinbach, will be sold at Winnipeg on Jan. 13. Stock amounts to \$3,475, and book accounts to \$2,600.

E. L. Drewry is adding to his business a department for handling glassware for the accommodation of the hotel trade. He will carry a large stock, exclusively of hotel glassware, flasks, etc.

The Winnipeg Business college opened on January 8 with twenty new students, and about ten more came in the next day. These, with the old students in attendance, make the largest classes ever formed at the college.

The John Abell Engine and Machine Works company, of Toronto, have opened a branch in Winnipeg, at 144 Princess street, with T. Hartshorne as manager. The company formerly had only an office here, with Mr. Hartshorne as their representative.

D. Naismith, who was manager of the wholesale grocery business of Turner, McKeal & Co., for some years past, left for the east on Sunday last. Before leaving Mr. Naismith was the guest of honor at a complimentary supper, given by a number of his friends, at the Manitoba hotel on New Year's night.

Alberta.

O. H. Bush has opened a grocery store at Edmonton.

H. Goslin & Co. have opened a real estate insurance and commission office at South Edmonton.

J. H. McDonald, publisher of the Plaindealer at South Edmonton, has admitted a Mr. Skinner in partnership.

A French newspaper to be called L'Ouest Canadien will be started at Edmonton. It will be owned by a stock company.

F. Fraser Thms, has moved from Fort Saskatchewan to Edmonton, and will open a commission agency in connection with Klondike trade.

Calgary, Dec. 31.—In many respects this has been a jubilee year for Alberta. In common with the remainder of the territories she has obtained almost provincial status, a fact crystallized in this session's legislation at Regina. Early in the season existing creameries were taken over by the government and

new ones established. This has given a ready and profitable market for butter, and has proved a valuable source of income in a season when there is nothing else to look to. The lowering of the freight rates to the Kootenay has proved perhaps the greatest benefit to the district and given rise to a trade in live stock and farm produce that may attain to immense proportions as Alberta and British Columbia develop. On the other hand, the shipments of cattle to the old country markets have gone on apace. The building of the Crow's Nest Pass railway has given employment to a great many Albertans and opened a ready and accessible market for horses as well as farm produce generally. The trade consequent on the rush to the Klondike has been of vast benefit to the towns of Calgary and Edmonton, and the country surrounding. Taken all in all, this has been a jubilee year for Alberta.

Assinibola.

R. P. Betts, Yorkton, is starting in the livery business.

Ranson & Hans are opening a general store at Fleming.

The Qu'Appelle Felt Boot Co., Ltd., is applying for incorporation.

A flour and feed store has been opened at Regina by Milan Bros.

Crawford & Co., general store, Indian Head; sty. o. n. o. v. W. M. Crawford.

C. C. Evans, merchant tailor, Indian Head, will add to his business a stock of gents' furnishings.

R. H. Williams, of the Glasgow house, general store, Regina, admits J. M. Young, who has been for some time with the house, to an interest in the business at the beginning of this year.

Northwest Ontario.

Wright & Barber, from Winnipeg, have opened a butcher shop at Wabigoon.

Live Stock Markets.

At London, on Jan. 3, there was a weaker feeling in the market for United States cattle, and prices declined 1-4c, choice selling at 11c. Choice Canadians were steady at 10c, and Argentines at 10c. Choice Canadian sheep sold at 10c, and Argentines at 11c.

At the East End abattoir market, Montreal, on Jan. 3, a few choice beefs changed hands at 4 1-4c; good at 3 1-2 to 4c; fair at 3 to 3 1-4c, and common at 2 1-4 to 2 3-4c, per lb. Sheep sold at 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c, and lambs at 3 3-4 to 4 1-4c per lb. live weight.

The Turner-Mackeand Estate

The grocery stock of the estate of Turner, Mackeand & Co., wholesale grocers, which was advertised for sale by tender has been disposed of to Thompson, Codville & Co., wholesale grocers of this city, at 70 1-2 cents on the dollar, cash. The office furnishings, etc., were included in the sale. It is satisfactory that this stock has fallen into the hands of an established and reputable firm as Thompson, Codville & Co., and that it will not be used to the detriment of established interests, both wholesale and retail.

London, Jan. 7.—A board of trade statement for December shows decreases of 2,286,687 pounds in imports, and 1,016,678 pounds in exports,

Movements of Business Men

F. D. Peters, merchant, Whitewater, came into the city on Tuesday.

D. K. Elliot, of R. J. White & Co., Winnipeg, went east on Thursday.

J. M. O'Loughlin, of the Consolidated Paper Co., went east on Thursday.

R. A. Mather, manager of the Kewatin Lumber Co., was in the city this week.

F. T. Eames, proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, Brandon, was in the city on Tuesday.

J. F. Boyd, a successful hardware merchant, of Minnedosa, came into the city on Monday.

F. W. Huckell, publisher of the Carberry Express, was in the city for a brief visit this week.

H. P. Hansen and J. H. Ruddell, two leading business men of Morden, were in the city this week.

E. J. Oliver, general merchant, Delta River, who was in the city some days, returned home on Thursday's Dauphin train.

S. R. Parsons, of Toronto, formerly of the Winnipeg wholesale house of Parsons, Bell & Co., went east this week, returning from a business trip to Winnipeg.

W. Gardner, a leading merchant of McLeod, Alta., who came in from the west this week, speaks in enthusiastic terms of the business prosperity in the western town.

S. Cruthers, who recently sold his banking business at Manitoba to the Bank of Hamilton, was in the city this week on his way east. He will return to Manitoba after a short time.

Kenneth Mackenzie, of Kenneth Mackenzie & Co., wholesale grocers, Winnipeg, has returned from a trip to Edmonton. While at Edmonton he arranged for an enlargement of the premises occupied by his branch business at that place.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending January 6, for three years are as follows.

1898.....	\$1,761,077
1897.....	1,515,109
1896.....	1,540,306
Bank clearings at Winnipeg for the past three years show as follows.	
1897.....	\$84,435,832
1896.....	64,146,438
1895.....	55,873,630
Clearings for December, 1897,	\$9,784,498.

Clearings for the week ending January 6, for three years are as follows. 1898, \$1,761,077; 1897, \$1,515,109; 1896, \$1,540,306.

Bank clearings at Winnipeg for the past three years show as follows. 1897, \$81,435,832; 1896, \$64,146,438; 1895, \$55,873,630.

Clearings for December, 1897, \$99,784,498.

Oats advanced again at Montreal on Tuesday 1-4 to 1-2c per bushel, with sales of car lots at 27 1-2 to 28c.

A New York state legislator proposes to introduce a bill providing a tax of 10 cents per day for each alien laborer employed in the state. The bill proposes to compel every employer to report the number of aliens under him, and to pay the tax under a heavy penalty for failure.

Reduced Freight Rates.

Traffic Manager Robert Kerr, of the Canadian Pacific railway, west of the Great Lakes, was called upon by a Free Press representative Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Kerr was surrounded by piles of letters and telegrams, all waiting to be answered, but although an interview. Naturally the new exceedingly busy he courteously granted special commodity tariff, recently issued, was the first subject of discussion.

"At the present time," said Mr. Kerr, "the new tariff only covers the articles under the government bill passed in connection with the Crow's Nest railway. The first articles on which there is a reduction of 10 per cent are agricultural implements, carriage and binder twine, felt for roofing and placing on the sides of houses and barns, household furniture (new and old), window glass, iron (including horse shoes, nails, spikes, sheet iron, etc.), paints and oil, paper for building and roofing, wire and woodware. These are staples chiefly used by the agricultural population in the Canadian west and the reductions will cheapen the cost of buildings erected as well as the materials used in farm work.

The second reduction is 20 per cent on coal oil. This will be appreciated as everybody uses coal oil in the Northwest and the cut will be a great relief. Under group 3 a big stain, that of 33 1-3 per cent, has been made in green and fresh fruits. The Canadian Pacific railway is anxious to remove from out of the list of luxuries, fresh fruit. We therefore intend to do our part to make it a common article of consumption. In this dry climate of ours fresh fruit is needed for the physical well-being of our system and we desire every person to use it freely in his family. Large fruits have hitherto been an impossible product on a farm in the west and small fruits are little cultivated, but under this new tariff arrangement the trade of Ontario farmers will be promoted and fresh fruit placed within the reach of every resident in the west. This has been our chief motive in making the slash in rates.

In a few days the tariff on live stock will be issued and the reduction will be 10 per cent on all westbound Ontario shipments.

A comparison of the new rates with the old will be of interest. For instance in shipping a carload of agricultural implements from Montreal to the city the old rate per 100 pounds was 82 cents, whereas it will now be 74 cents. A carload of nails and spikes shipped from Montreal to Nelson, B. C., will go for \$1.26 per 100 pounds, compared with \$1.45 under the old tariff.

A carload of coal oil in wood, very largely used in the Northwest, from Montreal to Calgary for instance, will go for \$1.29 per 100 pounds against \$1.61 under the old rate. Apples in ear lots can be shipped after the first of year from Montreal to Regina for 87 cents per 100 pounds compared with \$1.30 as in the past. These are a few illustrations of the difference in figures picked at random from the new tariff. There is a proportionate decrease for shipments in less than ear lots.

"When will the new rate on wheat come into effect?" Mr. Kerr was asked.

In reply, he said: "There will be a reduction of a cent and a half on the

rate between Fort William and the west in time to affect the shipments of the '98 crop. The tariff will be issued early in September. One year later another reduction of a cent and a half will be made."

"What arrangements have been made for transportation to Yukon by the C. P. R.?"

"We have two 4,000 ton boats, ocean vessels, the Atheneum and the Tartar. These ply between Vancouver and the Stikine river, to the port of Wrangell. Six river boats will run on the Stikine river to Glenora. From there transportation companies will convey supplies to Teslin lake and a three days' sail will take travellers from there to Dawson City. However, we will work in connection with the Canadian Pacific navigation company, and will ticket people to Dyea, Glenora, Skaguay and other points from such centres as Montreal and Winnipeg." Mr. Kerr left on Wednesday afternoon for St. Paul to attend a meeting of the freight traffic managers of the transcontinental lines.

Brandon Objects.

Brandon, Jan. 6.—Pursuant to notice, a special meeting of the Brandon Board of Trade was held here yesterday in the city hall, with the president, John A. Christie, in the chair. It is gratifying to note the meeting was essentially a representative one, and almost every business interest in the city was represented by prominent citizens. It is quite evident from the remarks of the different speakers that the merchants are alive to the importance of the questions which were referred to in the resolution subsequently passed. Other meetings of the board will be held for the purpose of discussing this and other subjects.

After a general discussion of all the resolutions, the following were passed:

Moved by Mr. K. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Whyte:

"That in the opinion of this board the existing discrimination against the city of Brandon, in the matter of freight rates, is unreasonable and most unjust.

"And the continuance of such discrimination can only result in seriously retarding the natural development and progress of our city and district.

"We therefore beg to suggest that a committee be appointed to gather necessary information and lay our case before the railway authorities, with a view of securing more advantageous rates.

"And failing a satisfactory adjustment, that immediate steps be taken towards bringing the matter up before the railway committee of the house of commons.

Moved by K. Campbell, seconded by E. B. Smith:

"That the following be a committee to compile the necessary information to enable our delegates to present a good case to the C. P. R. and other railway officials.

"Nation & Strome, dry goods; Frank Smith, groceries; P. C. Mitchell and E. H. Johnson, hardware; W. F. Wilson & Rankin, furniture; Chas. Adams, boots, shoes and furniture; W. L. Parrish, grain; W. Johnston, implements; J. A. Christie, lumber.

Moved by D. M. McMillan, seconded by A. D. Rankin, "That Messrs. Adams, Fraser, M. P. P.'s., and W. F. Wilson be delegates to interview the C. P. R. officials of Montreal, also the Dominion government, with regard

to discrimination in freight rates to and from the city of Brandon, and other matters affecting this city with regard to railway connection and accommodation."

Moved by D. M. McMillan, seconded by F. Nation:

"That in the opinion of this board of trade of the city of Brandon, it is highly expedient, in consequence of the discriminating rates existing, and which have existed since the opening of the C. P. R., that a railway commission be appointed for Canada, with powers similar to those vested in railway commissions by the interstate commerce law of the United States, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Hon. Mr. Blair and Hon. Mr. Sifton. Carried.

Mr. Chas. Adams, M. P. P., addressed the board on the prospects and desirability of getting direct railway communication with the Dauphin district.

DELEGATION EN ROUTE.

A delegation from the city of Brandon arrived in the city Friday on their way to Montreal to interview the Canadian Pacific railway officials on freight rates in the interest of the merchants of the Wheat City. The delegates are Mr. Chas. Adams, M. P. P., Mr. A. C. Fraser, M. P. P., and Mr. Philip, of Cameron & Phillip, Mr. Christie, president of the board of trade, Brandon, accompanied the delegation as far as the city.

Immigration.

In round figures the immigration returns for the Canadian Northwest, Manitoba and the Territories, total up 14,000 persons. Up to the end of November 10,400 new comers had been reported at immigration hall as having arrived in the city over the C. P. R. December was a light month, only 200 coming in, but the figures taken at the local offices are 35 per cent less than the actual returns, according to Commissioner McCreary, as they do not include the arrivals from the south or those settlers who came in by the Kootenay to Calgary and went up the Edmonton line. "I do not see why we should not have a big immigration next year," said Mr. McCreary to a Free Press reporter. "We have never had our work in the United States so well looked after as it is now and the reports from agents and delegates are unanimous in regard to the bright prospects. The press of the cities and centres where we hope to secure our best settlers devote columns to our country where two or three years ago they were in utter ignorance of the rich heritage awaiting the honest and conscientious farmer. We have the class of country that is now in great demand amongst grain and stock men, we are well advertised and the movement in our direction, I am thoroughly convinced, is bound to commence next year in a manner that will be peculiarly gratifying to all well wishers of our great west land."

High prices for dressed hogs are reported from Ontario, \$6 to \$6.40 per 100 lbs. being paid at country points for ear lots, or equal to \$6.50 to \$6.75 at Montreal.

Application has been filed at Toronto for a winding up order in the matter of the Army and Navy retail dry goods store. The liabilities of the concern are placed at \$140,000. The president is W. A. Thompson, of the John Eaton company.

Statistical Wheat Reports.

WHEAT IN CANADA

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

Montreal	123,000
Toronto	49,000
Kingston	Elevator burned
Winnipeg	410,000
Manitoba elevators	3,120,000
Fort William, Port Arthur and Keewatin	1,079,000

Total December 25 4,781,000

BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains as reported by Bradstreet's on Dec. 25, were 52,738,000 bushels.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 72,899,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

Pacific coast wheat stocks on December 1 were 6,944,000 bushels, compared with 6,548,000 bushels a year ago.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains for the week ended Jan. 1, was 38,816,000 bushels, being an increase of 2,200,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 54,651,000 bushels, two years ago 69,842,000 bushels, three years ago 88,581,000 bushels, four years ago 80,228,000 bushels.

WHEAT STOCKS AT U.S. POINTS.

Chicago	10,983,000 bushels
Duluth	2,095,000 "
Minneapolis	12,696,000 "
New York	3,471,000 "
Buffalo	1,749,000 "

STOCK OF OATS AND CORN.

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 12,337,000 bushels, compared with 14,089,000 bushels a year ago. The visible supply of corn is 38,421,000 bushels, compared with 19,852,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS.

Stocks of wheat in the United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe, on December 1, for a series of years, were as follows, Bradstreet's report: December 1, 1897, 129,603,000; December 1, 1896, 148,485,000; December 1, 1895, 161,348,000; December 1, 1894, 184,610,000; December 1, 1893, 190,386,000; December 1, 1892, 175,814,258; December 1, 1891, 157,748,775; December 1, 1890, 107,669,274; December 1, 1889, 117,255,000.

CROP MOVEMENT.

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

	This Crop	Last Crop
Minneapolis	46,900,129	38,517,380
Milwaukee	5,458,657	5,207,210
Duluth	31,255,332	31,257,355
Chicago	25,018,711	13,015,973

Total 108,632,550 88,437,918

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

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

	This Crop	Last Crop
Toledo	8,792,004	6,006,143
St. Louis	9,659,868	9,435,738
Detroit	3,071,235	2,691,269
Kansas City	22,579,950	5,363,400
Total	44,703,057	23,496,550

Winnipeg Raw Fur Prices.

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

Badger	\$.05 @	\$.50
Bear, black	5.00 @	25.00
Bear, brown	4.00 @	20.00
Bear, yearlings	2.00 @	8.00
Bear, grizzly	3.00 @	16.00
Beaver, large	5.00 @	9.50
" medium	3.00 @	4.00
" small	1.50 @	2.25
" cubs	.50 @	1.00
" castors, per lb.	2.50 @	5.50
Fisher, dark	6.00 @	9.00
Fisher, pale	3.00 @	5.00
Fox, cross dark, large	5.00 @	15.00
" cross pale	2.50 @	5.00
" kit	.10 @	.50
" red	1.00 @	1.60
" silver dark	40.00 @	75.00
" peale	25.00 @	60.00
Lynx, large	1.50 @	2.00
" medium	1.00 @	1.25
" small	.50 @	.75
Marten, dark	2.50 @	5.00
" pale or brown	1.50 @	4.00
" light pale	1.00 @	2.25
Mink, dark	1.00 @	1.50
Mink, pale	.75 @	1.25
Musquash, winter	.04 @	.10
" fall	.04 @	.07
Otter, dark	6.00 @	10.00
Otter, pale	5.00 @	8.00
Skunk	.25 @	.50
Wolf, timber	1.00 @	1.50
" prairie	.40 @	.75
Wolverine	1.00 @	3.50

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William, 78c; No. 2 hard, 2½c under No. 1.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, \$2.30@2.45, bakers, \$2.10@2.25.

Bran—Per ton, \$6.

Shorts—Per ton, \$8.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 22@25c

Barley—Feed, 20 @ 24c; Malting, 25@28c per bushel.

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

Butter—Dairy, round lots, 13@15c; creamery jobbing, 22@23c.

Cheese—Dealers selling at 8@10c.

Eggs—Dealers were paying 20c net for fresh, and lined out of market.

Beef—City dressed, 4½ @ 5½c; country beef, 3@4c.

Mutton—5@5½c; lamb, 5½@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 4 @ 4½c.

Cattle—Ordinary butchers, 2½@3c.

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

Sheep—2½@3c off cars. Lambs, 3c.

Hides—Green frozen, 5c.

Seneca Root—Dry, 20c.

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

Potatoes—25c per bushel.

Hay—\$5.00 for baled on track.

British Columbia Markets.

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

By wire to THE COMMERCIAL.

Vancouver, January 8, 1898.

Australian creamery butter is now coming in, and fresh eggs are arriving from Oregon. Oats have advanced \$2 per ton. Chop feed is up \$1 to \$2 per ton and hay has advanced \$1 per ton.

Butter—Manitoba dairy 19@20c; Manitoba creamery 22½@23½c per lb; Australian creamery 2½c.

Eggs—Eastern eggs, 18½@19c per doz. Local, 35c; Oregon eggs, 2½c.

Cheese—Manitoba 11½@12½c per lb.

Cured Meats—Hams 12½c; breakfast bacon 13½c; backs 12c; long clear 9½c; short rolls 10c; smoked sides 11c; Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per lb, in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Fish—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; frozen salmon 6c lb; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut 16c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon 10c; finnan haddie 15c; kippered herring 9c; Columbia river oolochans 7c lb; fresh halibut, 6c.

Vegetables—Potatoes \$12@14 per ton ashcroft \$19.50; California onions 2c lb; onions 1½c lb; cabbage 1½c lb; carrots turnips and beets \$10.00 a ton.

Green Fruits—California lemons \$3.25 @ \$3.75; apples, 75c @ \$1.25; Japan oranges, 40@50c.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$2.75; 2 45 pounds sacks \$2.80; 4 22½ pound sacks \$2.90; 10 7 sacks, \$2.00 Oatmeal 40 10's, \$3.25; 2 50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.50 per sack.

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

Grain—Oats, \$2.00 per ton; wheat, \$25@26 per ton; barley, \$25 per ton.

Ground Feed!—National mills chop \$21.00@25.00 per ton; ground barley \$24 @ 26 ton; shorts \$22 ton; bran \$20; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

Hay—\$15.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats—Beef \$5.75 @ \$6.25, mutton 8@8½c, Australian mutton, 8c, pork 6½@7½c; veal 7@9c lb.

Live Stock—Steers, grass feed \$1.25 @ \$3.50 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$4.00 @ \$4.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50 @ 6.00 per 100 lbs; cows \$2.75@3.00 per 100 lbs live weight.

Poultry—Chickens, 8c lb; ducks, 10c lb; turkeys, 15c lb.

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

Evaporated Fruits—Apricots, 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums, 9@10c; prunes, French 5@7½c; loose muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6@8c lb.

Nuts—Almonds, 15c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnut, 13c lb.

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

Syrups—30 gallon barrels, 1½c pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$4 case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$4.75 case of 20.

Teas—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good 18c; choice 20c. Ceylon: Fair, 25c; good 30c; choice, 35c lb.

Business in Canada.

Toronto, Jan. 6.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly statement of trade in Canada says, Montreal wholesale and manufacturing interests have hardly yet reached the past fortnight. The sixth instant is a legal holiday in this province, being Epiphany, or old Christmas, up to which date many factory operatives prolong their New Years merry making and with a good many wholesale houses the figuring out of the results of the year just closed is still in progress. It is regrettable that the new year should open out so early with reports of trouble among city dry goods and clothing retailers, several of whom, in quite an important way of business, have made assignments within the past few days, but in other lines of trade matters seem comparatively healthy and general country collections are very fairly sustained. The wholesale dry goods trade report that the proportion of country payments met on the 1th is a good average. Travellers, who have been mostly home for the holidays, are quickly getting out on their respective routes, and next week will probably see a resumption of activity in wholesale circles to a fair degree. There has been a notable advance in lincseed oil, to the extent of two cents a gallon. The activity in canned goods is continued with considerable buying being done on speculative account. In the money market there is no change; call funds are offering in plenty, but the rate continues steady at 4 per cent.

There is nothing of special importance to note in wholesale trade at Toronto this week. Business is quiet, which is usual at this season of the year, but indications point to some activity in the near future. Country stocks are smaller than usual, in accordance with the active demand before the Christmas holidays. Manufacturers are kept busy filling orders for spring deliveries. Prices of the leading staples continue firm, with occasional advances in quotations. January payments have been better than for several years, and the number of failures comparatively small. The railway traffic is good. During the month of December the gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific were \$2,320,000, an increase of \$397,000 as compared with the corresponding month of 1896. Grand Trunk earnings last month were \$2,186,523, an increase of \$261,781 as compared with December, 1896.

There is a moderate sorting-up demand in groceries, dry goods, hardware, leather, boots and shoes, etc., and spring deliveries are likely to be large. There is a lull in the wheat trade owing to lower cables and decline in leading United States markets, but it is likely to be only temporary. Peas are in demand and higher, with sales at 47c on Ontario points.

Money on call firmer at 4 to 4 1/2 per cent. Speculation in stocks is more active, with advances in many issues. Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, Cable, Toronto Electric, assurance stock, and Toronto railway shares are all higher. The latter is selling at better prices than ever before.

Failures for the week were 32, against 62 for the same week of last year.

A cable from London to-day announces that a deal for the sale of eighteen canneries to an English company is off, as, owing to the prevailing Klondike craze, people will not subscribe for industrial enterprises.

IT REACHES THE TRADE

Advertise Businesses for Sale, Stocks of Goods for Sale; Situations Vacant or Wanted in Business Establishment, etc., in

THE COMMERCIAL

The only Journal that reaches the trade of Western Canada from Lake Superior to the Pacific.....

* *

Special Low Rates for Situations Wanted or Vacant

Reducing Wages.

Whitinsville, Mass., Jan. 5.—Whiting Bros., of this town, who operate cotton mills at North Uxbridge, Linwood, Saundersville, and Whitinsville, have posted notices announcing that the wages of the operatives will be reduced on January 10th.

Lowiston, Me., Jan. 5.—The reduction of the wages of the cotton mills of Lowiston, which goes into effect Jan. 17th, will amount to from 10 to 11 1/2 per cent., and the other mills in Maine, as far as known, will adopt either one or the other of these rates. It is estimated that nearly 20,000 operatives will be affected in this state.

Nashua, N. H., Jan. 4.—Notices of a reduction in wages were posted at the cotton mills of the Nashua and Jackson corporations here this morning. The new scale of prices will take effect on Monday, Jan. 17th, and will affect 2,500 hands.

Shipments of Newfoundland dogs for the K'ondiko are being made. An unlimited number is obtained at \$5 each on the island.



SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Heating Apparatus," will be received until Monday, January 24th, 1898, for the construction of a heating apparatus in the public building at Portage la Prairie, Man.

Plans and specifications can be seen and form of tender and all necessary information obtained at the post office, Portage la Prairie, at this department and at the office of D. Smith, clerk of works, Winnipeg, Man.

Persons are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed form supplied and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

E. F. E. ROY,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, Dec. 22nd, 1897.

Newspapers inserting this advertisement without authority from the department will not be paid for it.

The W. J. Boyd Candy Company

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

Pure High-Class CONFECTIONERY

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

FACTORY AND OFFICE

262 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg**PARTNER WANTED**

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

E. A. C.

Care The Commercial, Winnipeg

GENERAL STORE BUSINESS

Stock of General Merchandise for sale. Store and fixtures to rent. For particulars apply to

M. H. RITCHIE,
Poplar Point, Man

AGENTS Sell "KLONDIKE GOLD FIELDS" like a whirlwind. Prospectus 25 cents, worth \$1. Big pay. Capital unnecessary.

BRADLEY GARRETON COMPANY, Limited,
TORONTO**If You Are Energetic and Strong**

If you are above foolish prejudice against canvassing for a good book, write and get my proposition. The information will cost nothing.

I have put hundreds of men in the way of making money, some of whom are now rich.

I can do good things for you, if you are honorable and will work hard.

T. S. LINSFOTT, Toronto.

WANTED**Industrious Men of Character**THE LINSFOTT COMPANY
TORONTO**CARBIDE OF CALCIUM**

MAKE YOUR OWN GAS

100 lb. tins, \$4.50
Large Quantities
Write for Prices

R. A. WYLLIE, Western Agt., Western Canada Bk., Winnipeg, Man.

New York Wheat.

New York, Jan. 3.—Wheat receipts 118,775 bushels; exports, 39,175 bushels; sales, 1,615,000 bushels futures, 56,000 bushels spot. Spot weak. No. 2 red, \$1.00 5/8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba, \$1.03 1/8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern, New York, \$1.01 7/8 f.o.b. afloat. Options opened weak under cables, declined further on the heavy visible supply increase, and closed 3-4 to 11-8 net lower, having received very little support from any source during the day. No. 2 red, Jan., 97 1-2 to 97 3-4, closed 97 3-4; Feb., 97 1-2 to 97 5-8, closed 97 5-8; March, 96 1-4 to 96 7-8, closed 96 5-8; May, 93 3-8 to 93 3-4, closed 93 5-8; July, 87 1-4 to 87 7-8, closed 87 5-8.

New York, Jan. 4.—Wheat: Receipts 130,425 bushels; exports 207,169 bushels; sales 3,375,000 bushels futures; 440,000 bushels spot. Spot firm; No. 2 red \$1.00 5-8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth \$1.02 3-8 do.; No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.02 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern New York \$1.01 3-8 do. Options opened weak and sold off all the forenoon under short selling and some liquidation inspired by lower cables and foreign selling, but finally rallied sharply on export business, closing only 1-8 to 3-8c net lower. No. 2 red Jan. opened 97 to 97 5-8, closed 97 5-8; Feb. opened 96 3-4 to 97 3-8, closed 97 3-8; March opened 95 11-16 to 96 1-2, closed 96 1-2; May opened 92 3-4 to 93 1-4, closed 93 1-8; July opened 86 1-2 to 87 1-2, closed 87 1-4.

New York, Jan. 5.—Wheat — Receipts 126,725 bushels; exports 151,685 bushels; sales 2,255,000 bushels futures 80,000 bushels spot. Spot weak. No. 2 red \$1.00 5-8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth \$1.01 5-8 do.; No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.02 3-8 do.; No. 1 northern New York \$1.01 1-8 do. Options opened easy under a bearish crop report, rallied on covering, but again declined under liquidation, weak late cables and disappointing export figures, closing 1-4c to 1c net lower. No. 2 red Jan. 97 5-8c to 97 7-8c, closed 97 5-8c; Feb. 97 1-8c to 97 3-8c, closed 97 1-8c; March 96c to 96 3-8c, closed 96 1-8c; May 92 1-2c to 93 3-16c, closed 92 5-8c; July 86 3-8c to 87 1-4c, closed 86 3-8c.

New York, Jan. 6.—Wheat — Receipts 76,775 bushels; exports 129,933 bushels; sales 3,015,000 bushels futures; 136,000 bushels spot. Spot firm; No. 2 red \$1.00 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.01 3-4 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.02 1-2; No. 1 Northern New York \$1.00 3-4 f.o.b. afloat. Options opened weak on cables, declined under liquidation, short selling and scarcity of buying orders, but finally rallied very sharply on covering due to stronger late Antwerp cables and good export demand, closing 1-4 to 3-8c not higher on near, and 1-8 to 1-4c lower on distant months. No. 2 red Jan. opened 97 1-16 to 97 7-8, closed 97 7-8; Feb. opened 96 3-4 to 97 1-2, closed 95 3-4; March opened 95 1-4 to 96, closed 96; May opened 91 11-16 to 92 1-2, closed 92 1-2; Jan. opened 85 3-8 to 86, closed 86.

New York, Jan. 7.—Wheat: Receipts 97,100, exports 143,533 bushels; sales 3,010,000 futures; 280,000 spot. Spot strong. No. 2 red 101 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba 103 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern New York 102. Options opened firmer on cables, was active all day on a brisk enquiry for cash wheat from both millers and exporters, heavy clearances and a cold wea-

ther scarce, closing 7-8 to 11-8 net higher. No. 2 red Jan. 97 7-8 to 99, closed 99; Feb. 97 1-2 to 93 1-2, closed 93 1-2; March 95 15-16 to 97 1-8, closed 97 1-8; May 92 3-8 to 93 9-16, closed 93 1-2; July 86 to 87 1-8, closed 86 7-8.

On Saturday January 8, wheat closed at 98 5-8c for January and 93 1-8c for May option. A week ago May wheat closed at 94 1-4c. Exports from Atlantic ports this week were 3,481,000 bushels.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices

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

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

Wheat—Jan. 90 3-4, May 91 1-2 to 91 5-8; July 83 1-4.
Corn—Jan. 26 1-2; May 29 to 29 1-8, July 30 1-8 to 30 1-4.
Oats—Jan. 22; May 23 1-4.
Pork—Jan. \$9.97 1-2; May \$9.32 1-2.
Lard—Jan. \$4.80; May \$4.95.
Short ribs—Jan. \$4.52 1-2; May \$4.72 1-2.

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

Wheat—Jan. 90 3-8; May 91 1-4 to 91 3-4; July 83.
Corn—Jan. 26 1-2; May 29 1-8; July 30 1-8.
Oats—Jan. 21; May 23 1-4.
Mess pork—Jan. \$9; May \$9.20.
Lard—Jan. \$4.72 1-2; May \$3.82 1-2.
Short ribs—Jan. \$4.47 1-2; May \$4.65.

Chicago, Jan. 5.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Jan. 89 3-4c, May 90 5-8c, July 82 1-8c.
Corn—Jan. 26 1-2c, May 29 1-8c, July 30 1-8c.
Oats—Jan. 21c, May 23 1-8c.
Mess pork—Jan. \$9.15, May \$9.35.
Lard—Jan. \$4.77 1-2, May \$4.90.
Short ribs—Jan. \$4.57 1-2, May \$4.72 1-2.

Chicago, Jan. 6.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Jan. 90 1-4; May 90 3-4; July 81 1-2.
Corn—Jan. 26 5-8; May 29 1-4 to 29 3-8, July 30 1-4 to 30 3-8.
Oats—Jan. 21 1-2; May 23 1-2 to 23 5-8.
Mess pork — Jan. \$9.05; May \$9.22 1-2.
Lard—Jan. \$4.57 1-2; May \$4.82 1-2.
Short ribs — Jan. \$4.50; May \$4.62 1-2.

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

Wheat—Jan. 92; May 91 7-8; July 82 3-8.
Corn—Jan. 26 3-4 to 26 7-8; May 29 3-8; July 30 3-8 to 30 1-2.
Oats—Jan. 21 3-4; July 23 7-8.
Mess pork—Jan. \$9.25; May \$9.35.
Lard—Jan. \$4.77 1-2; May \$4.87.
Short ribs—Jan. \$4.55; May \$4.77.

On Saturday, January 8, May wheat opened at 91 5-8c and ranged from 91 1-4 to 91 7-8c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—Jan. 92 3-4c; May 91 3-8c, July 81 7-8c.
Corn—Jan. 26 7-8c, May 29 1-4c.
Oats—Jan. 21 3-4c, May 23 7-8c.
Pork—Jan. \$9.27 1-2, May \$9.40.
Lard—Jan. \$4.77 1-2, May \$4.90.
Ribs—Jan. \$4.60, May \$4.72 1-2.
A week ago May option closed at 92 5-8c. A year ago May wheat

closed at 81 1-2c, two years ago at 59 3-8c, and three years ago at 58 1-8c.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

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

Monday—May 90c.
Tuesday—30c.
Wednesday—May 89 5-8c.
Thursday—May 89 7-8c; July 98c.
Friday—May 91c; July 89 1-2c.
Saturday—May 90 1-2c, July 89c.
Cash No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at 91 1-2c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 91c.

Last week May option closed at 91 1-8c.

A year ago May option closed at 81 3-8c, and two years ago at 57 5-8c, three years ago May option closed at 63c and four years ago at 63 1-2c.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Saturday, January 8, No. 1 Northern closed at 89 1-2c for May option and 83 1-4c for July. A week ago May wheat closed at 89 3-4c.

BARLEY.

Barley is offering a little more freely at the end of the week. Some cars have arrived in the Winnipeg market from northern Alberta, and as high as 44c has been paid. Mr. Nairn has secured a car of Edmonton barley for making pot barley at his Winnipeg mill.

NEW YORK MONEY.

New York, Jan. 7.—3 p.m.—Money on call easier. Prime mercantile paper 3 1-2 to 4 per cent. Sterling exchange firm, with actual business in bankers bills at \$4.85 1-8 for demand, and at \$4.82 7-8 for sixty days. Postpaid rates, \$4.82 1-2 and \$4.86. Commercial bills, \$4.82. Bar silver, 57. Mexican dollars, 45 3-4. Government bonds strong.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, Jan. 7.—12.30 p.m.—Wheat—Spot quiet. No. 1 California 8s 1d to 8s 11-2d. Corn—Spot firm. American mixed 3s 2 1-2d. Peas—Canadian 6s 1d.

New York, Jan. 5.—There is trouble in store for anyone, man, woman or child, who hereafter attempts to enter the United States wearing anything made of sealskin. The instructions issued by the treasury department to collectors at the different ports of entry are of the strictest possible kind. No garment of seal unless it bears the Pribyloff Island stamp will be admitted to the country, no matter whether the garment was originally purchased in the United States or not. A lady who arrived here yesterday from Great Britain on the Aurania wore a sealskin sacque that had been purchased in London. At first the customs inspectors told her that she would have to take the jacket off and that it would be confiscated. Of course, the lady was indignant, and there was a lively scene. The matter was referred to Collector Bidwell. It was then discovered that the lady had left London and was on her way to the United States prior to December 29, the date of the coming into force of the new regulations. She was therefore, allowed to retain her jacket. Collector Bidwell stated that hereafter it would be mandatory for the customs officers to send to the public stores all sealskin garments whether on consignment or on their owners' backs.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 8.

Business with the wholesale houses is very dull, as usual at this time of year, and there is some talk of collections being slow. The sorting trade this season has not been up to expectations. It now appears that the consuming power of the country was somewhat over-rated. The large increase in business during the fall season led many to suppose that a large trade would be done throughout the season. It would appear, however, that a good deal of extra buying was done by retailers in expectation of a big trade. While the business done has been large, the goods purchased early in the season proved ample for requirements, hence the light sorting trade. In fact in some cases country retailers appear to have rather over-bought. The outlook for spring trade is favorable, though it will, of course, be a mistake to over-judge the consumptive requirements of the country and push in more goods than are needed.

WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 8.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Reports from eastern manufacturers say that they have heavy orders in for the spring trade, the number of orders now in being considerably in excess of last year. Western travelers report that their spring orders are showing up well. Prices are firm, owing to the firmness in the leather market.

FUEL.

Souris coal is now in more plentiful supply and dealers are able to fill orders promptly. Some cordwood is coming in from the Dauphin road, which makes a new source of supply. Tamarac wood from this line sold as high as \$4.60 and \$4.65 for car lots, choice tamarac being scarcer than other kinds of wood fuel. The Winnipeg Water Works are asking for tenders to be in by January 15, for 1,400 cords of jack pine or other suitable cordwood fuel. See quotations on another page.

GROCERIES.

The only change in the local market is the advance on granulated and yellow sugars, as will be seen by reference to quotations on another page. Local prices have not followed the sharp advances in eastern markets. Our special telegraphic reports from Montreal and Toronto the past few weeks show that grocery staples are very strong, and sharp advances have been made on molasses, canned goods and some other lines. Winnipeg prices on these goods are therefore much below eastern markets, making this the cheapest grocery market in the country, freight considered.

GREEN FRUITS.

Business is very quiet. Dealers expect to begin landing heated cars for country points about January 15th to 20th. There is nothing new in the market and no change in price. Prices as follows. Mexican oranges, \$4.50 to

\$5; navel oranges \$4.50 to \$5; bananas, per bunch, \$3 to \$3.50; California lemons, \$4.50 to \$5.00 a box; Washington and Oregon pears, \$2 to \$2.25 per box; apples, Ontario stock, \$4 to \$4.75 per barrel; southern apples, \$4 to \$4.25 per bbl.; Cape Cod cranberries \$7.50 to \$8 per barrel; sweet potatoes \$5.25 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$7.50 per keg for medium, and \$8 for heavy weights; Ontario black walnuts, 8c lb; coconuts, \$1 per dozen.; Sicily filberts, large 11c to 12c per lb; Grenoble walnuts, 13c; figs, fancy elemes, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 10 lb box, 30 lb boxes 16c; 50 lb. boxes, 17c per lb.; dates 7 1-2c per pound; imported celery 50 to 60c per doz.

HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.

The only change in the market this week is the sharp drop in refined petroleum. Quoted brands of imported oil have declined 3c per gallon and the higher grades of Canadian oil have been reduced 2 1-2c to 3c. Silver star remains unchanged. The reduction is said to be owing to local competition.

LUMBER.

There is still some speculation as to the possibilities of an advance on pine lumber. The market is very firm and the indications point to an advance in prices for the spring trade. At any rate, the advance in the States and in British Columbia lumber renders the market very strong. While British Columbia cedar shingles are quoted 25c higher on the new lists, it is known that a good many shingles were sold last fall, for delivery after January 1, at the old price of \$2.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—Wheat was easier the the first or two days of the week in leading United States markets, though there was no very great change in values. Yesterday prices took a turn upward, just about recovering the loss of the previous few days. The easier feeling in European markets was attributed to liberal offerings of Argentine wheat. To offset this severe drought was reported from the wheat districts of California. Exports from Atlantic ports last week were 5,495,000 bushels compared with 2,708,000 bushels for the corresponding period of last year.

Locally the wheat market is very quiet. A good many buyers have been withdrawn from Manitoba country markets, only one buyer for the combination being left at a number of markets, besides of course independent buyers and millers. The millers have been taking most of the wheat which has changed hands in car or round lots; and they have also been buying direct from farmers, as usual. Prices paid to farmers averaged about 76c at Manitoba points and 78c has been the ruling price for car lots, at country points, based on a 19 cent freight rate to Fort William. Dealers were offering quite freely at this figure on Thursday, but yesterday the feeling was firmer. The dealers who are buying from farmers and turning over their grain to millers, have just about been making profits of operating their elevators. The price paid for car lots in the country is equal to 90 to 91c at Fort William, which is above export basis. No. 2 hard 3c less than No. 1. No. 1 northern nominal at about 1c under No. 1 hard.

FLOUR—We have at last a change to report in flour, the market having

experienced a decline this week of 10c per 98 lb sack, except on second bakers, which declined 5c. We quote patents \$2.45 per sack of 98 lbs; strong bakers, 2.25; second bakers, \$1.85 and XXXX, \$1.35. Prices to local dealers here less 5c per sack for net cash.

MILLEED—Ton lots are held at \$10 to \$11 per ton for bran and \$12 for shorts, and \$1 per ton less in large lots. The demand for large and the market is very firm for bran, \$1 per ton higher being asked by some millers. Millers in fact can hardly supply the present local and western demand, and no shipment, are being made east in consequence.

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

CEREALS—The oatmeal market is firmer. Oats are a little higher in the States and the imported meal is costing a little higher to buy it down here, the cost to the jobbing trade being about \$1.65 in round lots. We quote rolled oat meal in lots to retail dealers at \$1.60 per sack.

OATS—Prices are about the same. Quotations hold at about 35c to 37c as to quality. The street price to farmers here is 34 to 35c as to quality. In Manitoba country markets 28 to 30c per bushels has been paid to farmers. Farmers are marketing nearly enough to supply the city demand. In fact some city dealers say they are getting more oats direct from farmers than they require for their local trade hence the demand for car lots is not active. It is said quite a large quantity of oats are held in store here by some of the exporting grain firms, the amount being variously estimated at 20,000 to 60,000 bushels.

CORN—Corn is in good demand from consumers, but dealers appear to be well stocked. At any rate a few cars which hung fire, were sold at cut prices, ranging from 35 1-2 to 36c, though the regular quotation is 37 to 38c per bushel of 56 pounds in car lots on track as to grade.

BARLEY—We quote 35 to 38c for feed and 38 to 42c for malting, per bushel of 48 lbs.

FLAX SEED—Nominal at 60c to farmers in country markets.

BUTTER—Creamery, quiet. We quote dealers selling prices at 21 to 23c as to quality and quantity.

Butter dairy—There is nothing new to say of butter this week. The market is quiet. Dealers quote 14 to 15 1-2c for round lots of country dairy. The outside quotation for late made dairy could only be realized for choice lots; and held goods are quoted at 13 to 14c, the latter being the very outside for well kept lots of held goods.

CHEESE—Dealers quote 10 1-2c to 11c.

EGGS—Dealers are paying 18c net for receipts of fresh and selling at 20c. Lined are offered at 16 to 17c.

POULTRY—Dealers are paying from 7 to 7 1-2c per lb. for chickens, 10c for native turkeys, and for geese and ducks 8 to 8 1-2c per lb., Ontario turkeys holding at 13c.

LARD AND CURED MEATS—Prices unchanged. See quotations on another page.

GAME—Dealers are paying 5c each for rabbits, Jack rabbits quoted at 40c per pair.

DRESSED MEATS—Dressed hogs are in good demand at firm prices. The quantity of country frozen beef offering is small this winter. From 4 to 4 1-2c has been paid for country beef freely, and 5 to 5 1-2c for good city dressed meat. Fresh unfrozen beef is held at 6c. Choice dressed hogs are taken at 6c, and heavy weights and less desirable hogs at 5 1-4 to 5 3-4c, as to quality. Mutton is steady at 5 to 6c, and lamb at 5 to 7c.

HIDES—The tendency is easy. We quote: Butcher hides, 7 to 7 1-4c for good lots, or 7c for No. 1 and 6c for No. 2. Green frozen hides 6 1-2c; bulls, oxen, stags and brands, 4 1-2 to 6c; kip hides, 6 to 7c; calf, 8 to 9c per lb.; sheep pelts will average 40 to 60c each; horse hides, 75c to \$1.75 each; colts, 25c each.

WOOL—We quote 3 to 10c here for unwashed fleece, nominal.

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

SENECA ROOT—Quoted at 18 to 20c.

VEGETABLES—Carrots are scarce and higher, and cabbages are higher. Prices are: Potatoes, 35 to 40c per bushel; carrots, 90c to \$1 per bushel; onions, native, 2 to 2 1-2c per lb.; imported, 3c; celery, 40 to 60c per doz. bunches; cabbage, \$4 to \$5 per 100; beets, 30 to 40c per bushel; turnips, 15 to 20c per bushel; parsnips, 1 1-2 to 2c per lb.

HAY—Baled hay is held at \$6.50 to \$8 for cars on track here, or about \$6 to \$7 per ton at points of shipment. Loose hay, \$5.50 to \$6 per ton on the street market.

LIVE STOCK.

The number of cattle feeding for the spring market is limited. The mild weather and light snow fall this winter has been favorable for the wintering of cattle. In some sections of Southern Manitoba cattle are said to be out grazing on the prairie, there being very little snow on the ground. As the fall was very dry, the grass is well cured on the ground. There is no business doing in cattle or sheep, butchers' cattle are nominal at 2 3-4 to 3c and sheep at 2 1-2 to 3c, but prices will probably be higher by the time supplies are wanted.

HOGS—The market for live hogs is firmer and a shade higher prices have been paid, 5 to 10c advance having been paid this week. We quote choice bacon hogs, weighing 150 to 250 lbs at \$4.50 to \$4.60 per 100 lbs; 250 to 300 lbs, \$4.00; heavy hogs, over 300 lbs, \$3 to \$3.50, as to quality, live weight.

British Columbia Items.

Huelat & Bray, dry goods, K. 13, are out of business.

McCallum & Thompson, butchers, have opened at Sandon.

W. B. Cornock, is opening a general store at Greenwood City.

A. A. Brownell, general store, Duncan, is succeeded by E. D. Maude.

T. Pannick, fish, fruit, etc., New Westminster, has sold out to R. Benson.

Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale drugs, Victoria, style changed to Henderson Bros.

The Kootenay Wire Works Co., Trail, has been dissolved and business discontinued.

The following items are reported from Vancouver: Faulkner, Foreman & Co., wholesale produce, are starting business. Oben & Taylor,

confectionery, have dissolved; J. Oben continuing. R. C. Lawrence, has opened in groceries.

The following items are reported from Roseland: Weeks & Bell, liquors, reported opening. Houghton & Bannett, clothing, etc., advertise giving up at this place. A. Klockmann has purchased the International hotel.

The following items are reported from Nelson: P. Genelle & Co., Nakus, saw mill, have opened a lumber yard. Hair & Eustice, plumbers, have opened business. Newland & Co., have also opened business in the same line. M. Falsetto has opened in groceries. Spencer & Bail, tinmiths, have dissolved, Spencer continuing. T. Booth, fruit, confectionery, etc.; style now Booth & Mills.

The following items are reported from Fort Steele: M. McInnes, of Calgary, has opened a branch butcher shop. T. Love has opened a general store. Robson & Sucksmith, butchers, are succeeded by Robson & Rogers. H. J. Edson, hotel, has given up business. G. B. McDermott, general store, is giving up business.

Vancouver, Dec. 31.—Official returns give the British Columbia salmon pack for the past year at 1,007,838 cases. This is larger than that of any previous year, while the Fraser river pack 400,000 cases more than the pack of 1893, the previous best year. Sixty-four canneries were operated last year.

Victoria, Dec. 31.—The boards of trade, backed by members of parliament, are protesting to the Dominion government against allowing United States relief expedition stores to be admitted to Canada free of duty. They contend that relief is not needed in Dawson, and even if it was Canada is able to attend to it.

Western Business Items.

W. Wood & Co., boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has sold out.

D. Sinclair, livery, Winnipeg, has sold out to Bysanette.

D. D. McDonald has opened in clothing at Grenfell, Assa.

E. L. McDonald, jeweller, Winnipeg, mortgagees in possession.

J. Lovering, butcher, is starting business at Dominion City, Man.

J. Russell, fruit and confectionery, Winnipeg, has sold out to J. W. Carson.

Ed. Boyce, carriage maker, Winnipeg, has sold out to Corregan & Lawrence.

Morisette & Setherington, general store, Norman, have assigned. Sheriff in possession.

A. G. McDonald, tailor, Port Arthur, has assigned to John Ferguson, Toronto.

The Ontario Mutual Life has furnished The Commercial with a very useful calendar for 1899.

La Rue & Picard, general merchants of Edmonton, have issued a neat calendar with a reproduction of a photograph of a pack train for Klondike, just starting from their store.

Mrs. C. McDougall, hotel, Birtle, Man., has sold out to B. Fenwick.

W. Johnston, implements, Brandon, is admitting A. M. Stewart into partnership.

Melville S. Parry has been appointed general agent for British Columbia for the Confederation Life Co. Mr. Parry has been in the office of

the company in Winnipeg for the past three years, and here, where he is well known, he is highly esteemed.

Mr. Wickson, manager of the Merchants bank, Winnipeg, returned on Friday from a western trip. Mr. Wickson visited Prince Albert among other places, where he went to look over the ground with a view of establishing a branch of the bank there. In his opinion however, the time has not yet arrived for the starting of another bank in that town.

U.S. Wheat Outlook.

New York, Jan. 5.—The special crop report of the New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says: "Final returns make the area of winter wheat 28,683,000, as compared with 23,930,000 acres harvested last year, an increase of 11.4 per cent. The increase on the Pacific coast, that is, California, Oregon and Washington, is 4.5 per cent, the approximate acreage being 3,909,000, as against 3,798,000 last year. There has been a material increase in wheat seeding in the southern states, due to the low price of cotton. Favorable weather during December improved the condition of wheat. The present average is 87.8 per cent, as against 84.1 per cent last month. In the six principal states east of the Rocky mountains the improvement has been more noticeable. The condition is now 84.8 per cent., as compared with 79.5 per cent on Dec. 1. According to the January returns there are 240,000,000 bushels of wheat held on farms, which is 41.3 per cent of last year's production. On the corresponding date last year there were held in the same position 190,000,000 bushels. Of this total the six principal winter wheat states east of the Rocky mountains have 83,000,000 bushels, or 41.4 per cent of the last crop; Minnesota and the Dakotas 59,000,000 bushels or 41 per cent, and the Pacific coast 30,000,000 bushels or 38.9 per cent. The present estimated supply of wheat in all positions is 315,000,000 bushels. Domestic requirements for bread to next July are 150,000,000 bushels, and for spring seeding say 20,000,000 bushels more, in all 170,000,000 bushels, leaving a surplus for export during the ensuing six months and for home reserves at the end of June of 145,000,000 bushels.

A corlago manufacturers' deputation waited upon the Dominion government on Thursday to endeavor to secure the reimposition of a duty on twine.

A stronger feeling prevailed in dressed hogs at Montreal on January 5, and prices scored a further advance of 25c per 100 lbs. Sales of light weights were made at \$6.75 to \$7, and heavy at \$6.25 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs., in a jobbing way.

A slight improvement in cheese was reported from Montreal this week, but buyers may or may not follow the tendency to advance.

At a meeting of Canadian furniture manufacturers at Toronto recently, it was given out that the export trade, particularly to England, has grown so large that the manufacturers have difficulty in meeting all demands.

London, Jan. 6.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes, compared with the previous account: Total reserve decreased £21,000; circulation increased £790,000; bullion increased £768,550; other securities increased £252,000; other deposits increased £1,199,000; public deposits decreased £212,000; notes reserve increased £42,000; government securities increased £999,000. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 40.01 per cent, is now 39.13 per cent. The bank's rate of discount remains unchanged at 3 per cent.

MINNEAPOLIS MARKETS.

Flour is again quoted lower for patents. Mill stuff is held firm. Corn, slightly lower; oats, 1 to 1-4c lower; feed barley, 1-2c higher; butter, 1 to 2c lower; poultry higher, all round.

Flour—Prices in barrels. First patents, \$4.95 to \$5.05, second patents, \$4.80 to \$4.95.

Millfeed—Shorts, in bulk, \$8.00 to \$8.25; bran in bulk, \$8.00 to \$8.25; corn feed, \$10.00 to \$11.00 per ton.

Corn—Quoted 25c to 25 1-4c for No. 4 25 1-4c for No. 3, 25 1-2c for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.

Oats—Held at 22 1-2 for No. 3 white and 22 1-4 to 22 1-2c for No. 3 per bushel 32 lbs.

Barley—Feed quoted at 24 to 24 1-2c.

Flaxseed—\$1.16 for No. 1 per bush.

Eggs—15 to 15 1-2c for strictly fresh, including cases; cold storage, 11c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, 8 1-2 to 10c; fair to good, 7 1-2 to 8c.

Butter—Creamery 19 to 20 1-2, seconds, 15 to 16c; dairy, 12 to 19c.

Dressed meats—Mutton, 4 to 6 1-2c; lambs, 5 to 8c, hogs, 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c for heavy and 4c for medium and light.

Potatoes—Car lots, mixed, 38 to 40c; choice, named varieties, 43 to 50c.

Poultry—Chickens, 6 to 8 1-2c; old fowls, 4 to 5c; turkeys, 7 to 10c; ducks, 7 to 8 1-2c; geese, 7 to 8c.

MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 8.

Oats are quoted 1-4c higher, though reports from Ontario say country deliveries have increased and are large. Flour is easier and Manitoba brands are 5 to 10c lower. Hides are easier. The outside price is less frequently paid. Butter rather firmer. Cheese held firm at outside prices. Dressed hogs are in good demand at 1-4c higher.

Oats—No. 2 white in car lots on local account, 27 1-2c.

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

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, including sacks, \$11.50 per ton. Shorts, \$12.50.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.

Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.

Eggs—Candled, 16 to 18c; new and, 21 to 22c.

Butter—Dairy, 15 to 16c.

Butter—Creamery, 19 to 19 1-2c.

Cheese—3 3-4c.

Dressed hogs—\$6 to \$6.50 per 100 pounds.

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

Dressed mutton—Lamb, 6 1-2 to 7c, mutton, 5 to 6c.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 8.

The live stock market has been very quiet since the Christmas demand was filled. Cattle and sheep are 1-4c lower on the outside range. Hogs, steady and firm.

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

Sheep—3 to 3 1-2c per lb.

Hogs—5 to 5 1-4c.

MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 8.

Sugars hold at the advance of last week. Molasses has moved up another 1c. Rio coffee is 1-2c higher on the

inside price, 9c now being the inside range. Canned goods are firm.

Quotations are: Granulated sugar, 43-8c at the refineries; yellows, 35-8 to 4c Molasses 28 to 29c. Syrups 13-4 to 21-2 as to quality. Valencia raisins from 43-4 to 51-2c. Valencia layers 6 1-2c. Currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c. as to brand. Coffee, Rio, 9c to 11c. Mocha and Java 20 to 24c.

Canned goods.—Tomatoes, \$1.20 to \$1.25, corn, 90c to \$1; peas, 90c to \$1.

MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 8.

Business is quiet and prices steady. Quotations for staple lines are as follows:

White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c; red lead in kegs, 4 3-4c; linseed oil, raw, 43c, boiled 46c; turpentine, 48 to 49c; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90; I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.90 to \$4; putty in bulk, \$1.50; in bladders, \$1.65c; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

TORONTO GRAIN AND PRODUCE
MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 8.

Special to The Commercial.

Flour—Manitoba flour, patent \$5.35; strong bakers, \$4.85.

Wheat—Ontario wheat, 88c; Manitoba wheat \$1.01 1-2 Toronto freights and 98 1-2 Sarnia.

Oats—No. 2 white 25c.

Barley—Quiet, at 32 to 33c for No. 2; 28c for No. 3 extra and 25c to 27c for feed.

Mill feed—Shorts \$10.50 to \$12 per ton; Bran, \$7.50 ton.

Eggs—New laid, 18c to 19c, fresh 16 to 16 1-2c; cold storage 14 to 15c; limed 13 to 14c.

Butter—Dairy, tubs, choice, 15 to 16c; medium, 12 1-2 to 14c.

Hides—No. 1 green, 9c; cured, 9 1-2c; sheepskins, \$1 to \$1.05 for fresh killed.

Dried apples.—Firm at 5 to 5 1-2c; evaporated, 8 to 8 1-2c.

Honey—6 1-2 to 8c per lb. in bulk.

Beans—75 to 80c per bushel.

TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE.
Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, January 8.

Business is active. Payments on paper maturing on the fourth the best for several years. United States printed goods are coming in here, and underselling Canadians. Canadian ginghams will be advanced ten per cent. Harnessmakers have advanced prices, and boot and shoe manufacturers talk of advance in prices.

Dressed hogs are 25 cents higher, and as a result of the high price of cured hog product here, round lots of short ribs are being imported from Chicago.

Groceries active. Tomatoes, 5 to 15 cents higher. Canned corn advanced 5 cents. Raisins five off stalk 1-2c up. Currants are dearer. Provincial have advanced 1-2c and other grades 1-4c.

Ontario wheat, 1c higher; corn, 1-2c higher. Peas, 2c higher.

Manufacturers of cut nails have fixed basis of discount at 30, 40, 50 and 60 instead of 50 to 60 days, to make them comply with wire nails discount. The discount on tacks has been changed

to four months 3 per cent., instead of six months and 5 per cent.

Money firmer; call loans, 1-2 cent higher.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKETS.
Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Tuesday, Jan. 4, '98.

At the Western Cattle yards to-day, offerings were heavier, a fair amount of business being done. Total receipts at the two yards for 1897 were: Cattle, 185,103; sheep and lambs, 86,917; hogs, 209,610. There is much talk of the proposed change of the market site; most of the cattle men opposing any change.

Cattle—Export cattle, scarce, demand steady, 4 to 4 1-4. Butchers, demand improved, a few extra choice brought 4c, but 3c to 3 3-4c ruled, the latter for choice. Stockers, \$2.80 to \$3.25 per cwt., demand light; feeders not in demand.

Sheep—For shipping 3c to 3 1-4c, butchers \$3 to \$4 each; lambs, 4 3-4c. Trade quiet.

Hogs—An advance of 1-4c per lb. is noted to-day. Choice bacon hogs brought 5c off cars light, and thick fat hogs, \$4.40 to \$4.50 per cwt. Market is firm.

FRIDAY'S MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 8.

Receipts of cattle at the market yesterday were 36 carloads. Hogs advanced 1-4c to 5 1-8c for best bacon. Cattle and sheep steady.

Cattle—Export cattle brought 3 3-4 to 4 1-4c. Butchers cattle, 23-4 to 3 1-2c. Fat bulls, 3 to 3 1-2c; stockers, 2 3-4 to 3 1-4c; feeders, 3 to 3 1-2c; stock bulls, 2 to 2 1-2c.

Sheep—Export sheep, 3 to 3 1-2c per lb.; bucks, 2 1-2c; lambs, 4 1-2 to 4 7-8c.

Hogs—Hogs, best bacon, 5 1-8c lb, thick fat, 4 1-4c, and light fat, 4 1-4c per lb., weighed off cars.

BUSINESS AT TORONTO.

Special to The Commercial.
Toronto, Jan. 7.—Travellers are now out on their routes again, business in spring lines is again quite active and quite a few liberal sized orders have been coming in this week. The payments on dry goods and other paper on the fourth were very satisfactory. The payments on Northwest paper falling due at the banks here were well met and on the whole the proportion of renewals asked for was considerably less than in January last year. A considerable number of travellers for eastern houses are preparing for trips to the Northwest and to the coast. A specialty is being made by a good many houses of goods especially suitable for mining camps and a big increase in the Northwest and Pacific coast trade is expected this year.

Stocks in the hands of retailers throughout Ontario are small and it is believed wholesale stocks which are now complete will be well broken into within the next six weeks. Values of dry goods are generally firm and stocks not being excessive price cutting is not likely to play any important feature in the season's trade.

The business in furs has been somewhat disappointing this season. The mild open weather which lasted till a few days before Christmas, kept back orders in this province and stocks have not been reduced as much as expected.

The woollen mills are still busy. Some of them are working overtime on Klondike orders for blankets.