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WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 26, 1892.

The Area of Wheat.

Letters from North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, lead the *Milling World* to the conclusion that the total wheat area of the United States is to-day really greater, by at least 2,000,000 acres, than the usually accepted area. It is beyond doubt that in the other states the area sown to wheat has fully held its own, and it is also beyond doubt the increase in the above named states and Minnesota, Wyoming and California has not been adequately reckoned. No observer of market movements can fail to note, year after year, the fact that the area and average yield of wheat fall regularly to account for the crop as revealed by actual movements. The returns by the statistician of the Department of Agriculture regularly fall short by millions, of the movement. The *Milling World* believes that the work of the Department ought to be extended, so far as to cover the cereal area by school districts, by townships and by States. In no other way will the actual crops in this country ever be known.

New York Storage Capacity,

According to the latest annual report the storage capacity of New York was 4,500,000 bushels in railroad elevators and 20,250,000 bushels in regular warehouses, besides 2,525,000 bushels in private warehouses. Within a few days the "West Shore Elevator" has been made regular, increasing the railroad capacity to 6,000,000 bushels. The regular warehouse capacity has been increased to 21,750,000 bushels, while the private warehouses have been reduced to 1,925,000 bushels. The net result is an increase in storage capacity from 27,275,000 bushels to 29,675,000 bushels. This does not include the storage aloft of the Lackawanna, Baltimore & Ohio, Lehigh Valley and Reading roads which have no elevators.

The grain which can be held aloft in canal boats and barges is limited to the number which comes in at the end of the season. The transferring capacity of the New York elevators and warehouses reaches the enormous figure, including the floating elevators, of close on to 500,000 bushels per hour. The warehouse capacity can be further increased so that, with the storage aloft, 40,000,000 bushels of grain can be held here.—*American Elevator and Grain Trade.*

Immense Cattle Movement.

Something like 675,000 cattle arrived at Chicago during the autumn months of October and November, and receipts for the year are running away ahead of last year. During the first eleven months closing with November a total of 3,282,476 cattle arrived, against 2,969,220 for the same period last year, or an increase of more than 300,000 head. Shipment of live cattle during the period named were a little more than a million head against 973,323 for the first eleven months of 1891. The trade seems to be working into fairly satisfactory shape in the recent past, in spite of big offerings, and there is a general good demand for desirable heaves with the English market showing considerable strength. It is nearly five months since as high a figure has been reached as was realized this week. A bunch of fine steers, 59 in number, averaging 1,670 pounds, sold at \$8, for shipment to the East.—*National Stockman.*

Our Mormon Settlement.

C. A. McGrath, of Lethbridge speaking of the Mormon colony in Southern Alberta says: "Of the Mormons as a class the outside world knows very little. They are honest, thrifty and industrious. They obey the laws of this country in every particular. Polygamy is now forbidden by the Mormon church and it is gradually dying out. They are extensive breeders of cattle and sheep and follow agriculture. There are about 500 in the colony.

They have a saw and grist mill in active operation. They are now proceeding to build a stone church and are furnishing one-third of the cost of building a bridge over the St. Mary river—the government furnishing the other two-thirds."

Weather and Crops in Europe.

The weather is becoming more seasonable in character, with sharp night frosts. Until quite recently, however, the weather had been very open and mild, and the early sown wheat was showing above ground very well; nor is the season considered much later than usual. In France also the weather is becoming colder, but had remained mild long enough to enable farmers in the north to sow their usual area with wheat, which at one time did not seem likely. In Germany the weather is fine and cold, and farmers are satisfied with the outlook. In Hungary, according to the latest official report, the early sown winter crops have made a fair start, but mice have done serious damage in some parts. On the Danube the weather up to the present is relatively mild; at Odessa, however, it is cold, and the Azof ports are practically closed by ice. The young wheat and rye plants in Russia are in some parts of the country complained of, but generally speaking there has been some improvement. From the Argentine and Australia, where wheat cutting has now begun, the latest reports are still for good crops.—*Beerbohm.* Dec. 8.

Origin of Fife Wheat.

The *Chicago Elevator and Grain Trade* says: "The Chamber of Commerce at Grand Forks, North Dakota, in talking over the seed wheat question a good many years ago when the fife wheat first began to attain its present popularity and was known as "Scotch fife wheat," thought perhaps superior seed might be ob-

tained in Fifeshire, Scotland, where it was supposed to have originated, and sent to a correspondent in that country an order for 20 bushels "Scotch fife wheat." They were considerably surprised to receive a reply stating that there was no such wheat known in Scotland, and in fact no spring wheat of any kind raised in Fifeshire. This led to an investigation into its origin and after many inquiries it was discovered that the fife wheat originated in Canada in the vicinity of Manitoba. It appears that when Sal Kirk brought over his Scotch colony to Manitoba, about 1853, he purchased for them a supply of seed after their arrival, and among other lots he obtained a supply of seed wheat from a Scotch settler named Andrew Fife, which was so different in character from the rest that it was kept separate and sown by itself and called after the man from whom it had been obtained. Fife seed. Its strength, hardiness and power to resist disease soon made it a favorite with the colony, and it spread into the Red River valley and Minnesota and after a few years was raised extensively."

In the territorial Assembly at Regina last week, Dil presented the report of the standing committee on agriculture drawing the attention of the Canadian Pacific Railway company to the large number of cattle annually killed on the track and intimating a desire that the track be fenced. Davidson moved a resolution asserting that freight rates on wheat and coal were excessive and a hindrance to the progress of the country. The motion was carried unanimously.

Over 200 stars are now known to vary in brightness. Differences in the phenomena observed have led to the following classification, proposed by Prof. Pickering, of the Harvard College Observatory: 1. Temporary or new stars, of which only very few have been recorded. They blaze out suddenly, remain visible for a short time, then disappear, never to return. A small temporary star discovered in 1848 in Ophiuchus is still perceptible, but has faded from the fourth magnitude to the thirteenth. 2. Variable stars, with regular periods of considerable length. The periods range from about 100 to 700 days, and the fluctuations in brightness from about one to more than eight magnitudes. 3. Irregular variables, having no definite period, and usually only slight variation. 4. Variables of short period, most of them under eight days. 5. Variables of the type of Algol, of which only ten have been discovered. At regular intervals the light suddenly fades, and continues diminished for only a small portion—a few hours—of the star's period.

Certain physiologists have been able, with injected fluid, to wash out the system through the natural channels of circulation; and Dr. Max Hildebrand, of San Francisco, states that it is possible to infuse into the veins, without danger to the organism, an amount of fluid equal to four times the normal quantity of blood. In experiments made about three years ago, a 0.7 per cent. solution of salt was injected directly into the veins of dogs and rabbit. At a certain rate, the salt water could be forced for hours, and was promptly discharged in the urine, but too great pressure was fatal, and the injection was safe only when the heart was healthy. By a new method, due to Cantani, the injections are now made hydropically without risk, this process being called "hypodermoclysis." It was first employed to prevent drying up of the tissues after great loss of blood and in cholera, but has been given promising results in cleansing the blood from poisons, such as those of typhoid fever, uraemia, septic blood poisoning, gastric or intestinal ulcers, and snake bites. In asphyxia from chloroform it has saved life when electricity and artificial respiration had failed. The salt water, with antiseptic precautions, is injected into the cellular tissue under the skin, usually of the abdomen, causing a tumor which lasts two or three hours. The usual time for injecting 30 ounces of solution is about five minutes.

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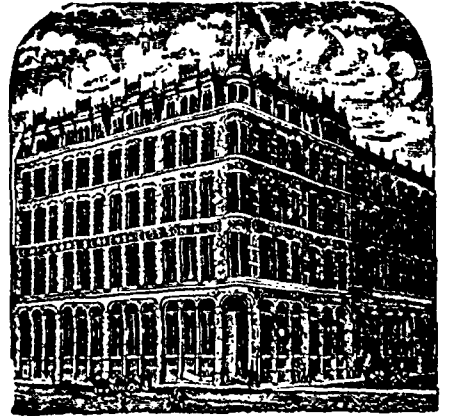
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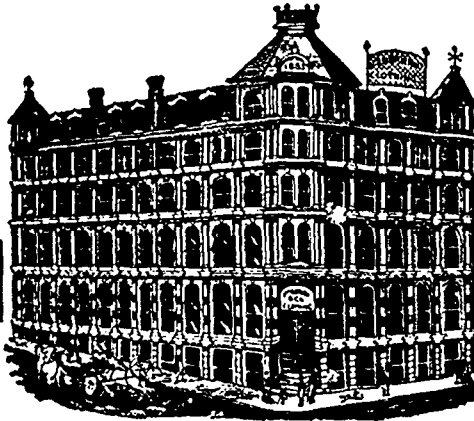
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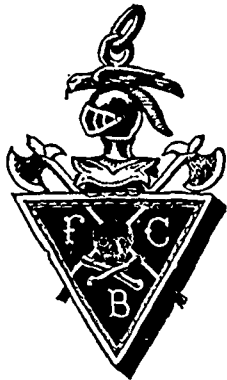
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Represented in Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia, by

D. C. MCGREGOR, - MCINTYRE BLOCK WINNIPEG

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 26, 1892.

CHRISTMAS GREETING.

Without enlarging, THE COMMERCIAL wishes its patrons, one and all, a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

LOW PRICES FOR GRAIN.

It is not in the west alone that depression is caused by the very low prices ruling this season for grain. On account of the great cost of carrying grain from the remote interior to the seaboard, the prices of wheat and other grains are lower in the west than elsewhere, but this is more than counterbalanced by the ability of western farmers to produce more cheaply than those of the east. At a recent meeting of a Manitoba farmers' institute, there were some present who asserted that they could grow wheat at a cost of 30 cents a bushel and less. In Ontario quantities of spring wheat have sold at 60c per bushel, which is probably comparatively lower than prices here, when cost of production is taken into account. It is also lower than prices in Manitoba, on a basis of cost of freight. Ontario millers can buy their local spring wheats at about 60c, but Manitoba hard costs them about 80 cents per bushel, adding freight rates to prices ruling in Manitoba markets.

Across the Atlantic the agricultural interests of Great Britain are again apparently more keenly affected than in Canada, by the low prices of cereals. There the farmers appear to be driven to the greatest straits. British agriculture is sore distressed, and as is usual in such cases, an agitation is springing up looking for some way to remedy the matter. Meetings of representatives of the agricultural interests have been held, and protection for the home produce has been demanded. Under present conditions, British farmers appear unable to compete in their own markets with the imported goods. Here in the west our farmers appear able to grow wheat, pay the freight to Britain, and sell cheaper there than the British farmer can do, with the freight in his favor. As a result, doleful tales are heard in Britain of deserted farms, untilled soil and ruined agricultural interests. While therefore low prices cause depression here in the new world of the west, we are still in better shape than the farmer across the water. Imports of food-stuffs into the United Kingdom are steadily increasing, while home production is decreasing. With an unlimited market at home and freight rates in their favor as against imports, British farmers are being driven to the wall, and the land is going out of cultivation. Imports of food-stuffs into Britain last year reached the enormous amount of \$576,230,000, and this all for commodities, which the country is adapted by natural conditions for producing to good advantage. This is ample proof that British farmers cannot compete with imported commodities. The situation seems dark for the British farmer, and not very bright for the people as a

whole. With such enormous imports of commodities which should be produced at home, and millions of acres of land going out of cultivation, the outlook is not encouraging from any point of view for the British people, who are gradually becoming more and more dependent upon foreigners for their food supply—a source which is liable to serious interruption at any time from war. One of the greatest problems which the British people at home to-day have to face would seem to be how to prevent the further decadence of agriculture, and restore waste lands to cultivation. There is idle land enough in the British Isles to support millions of people, notwithstanding the vast annual imports of foodstuffs from abroad.

PACIFIC RAILWAYS.

The cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis are celebrating the completion of another railway, the Great Northern line being now completed through to Puget Sound. The road will not be ready for active traffic for some time yet. The Great Northern is better known throughout the Northwest as the "Manitobaa" road. Its original line ran from the Minnesota twin cities to the Manitoba boundary, 60 miles south of Winnipeg, where it connected with a branch of the Canadian Pacific, completed in 1880. The Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba railway (the full name by which the Great Northern was until a year or so ago known), was the first road to give Manitoba railway connection with the outside world, and since 1880 through trains between Winnipeg and St. Paul and Minneapolis have been constantly run. The road is therefore intimately associated with the early railway history of this province. Manitobans regret the change which led to the dropping of the word "Manitoba" from the name of the road, but the extension of the road westward to the Pacific necessitated a new name of a less local significance than the one formerly applied to the railway.

Though the Great Northern has dropped the word Manitoba, and has become a Pacific road, yet we hope it will continue to have an active part in the railway affairs of Manitoba. The company now has two lines terminating directly at the Manitoba boundary, and two or three other lines approaching the boundary. The extension of these roads into Manitoba would be welcomed by many. The Great Northern is now dependent upon the Canadian Pacific in running its trains into Winnipeg. Now that it has become a Pacific road, and will soon enter the field in competition with the Canadian Pacific for coast business, some change may be made in the relationship of the two roads at this end. Pacific coast business for St. Paul, Minneapolis and central states' cities is now handled over the Canadian Pacific to Winnipeg, thence south over the Great Northern. This traffic will of course cease when the Great Northern has its own Pacific line in operation, as the latter road will then be in the field to compete in taking the traffic from coast points that it is now receiving from the Canadian Pacific at Winnipeg. The latter road will also have to make a new shift for connection through to central states' points. This it is already preparing for in the construction of the new

road from St. Paul and Minneapolis, across the states of Minnesota and Dakota, in a northwesterly direction, crossing the boundary into Canadian territory near the new town of Estevan, and thence northward to connect with the main line of the Canadian Pacific west of Regina. This road is an extension of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Sault St. Marie railway, controlled by the Canadian Pacific. It will be completed next summer, and will give the Canadian Pacific a shorter and more direct line between central states' points and the Pacific coast, than it now enjoys through its traffic arrangement with the Great Northern, via Winnipeg.

The completion of the Great Northern makes the third Pacific railway extending through the northern wheat region to the coast, and it is worthy of note that these three lines—the Canadian Pacific, the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern—are running daily trains into Winnipeg.

VALUE OF WATER POWER.

The Baltimore Sun says that the city of Augusta, state of Georgia, will realize this year from her canal, in water rents from the people and the amounts paid by the factories for water power at least \$90,000, or 4½ per cent. on \$2,000,000. Augusta's municipal indebtedness is \$1,700,000. If the canal and water works were sold for \$2,000,000 Augusta would be out of debt and have in her treasury \$300,000. But the city has no idea of parting with its canal property, which is yearly increasing in value. Winnipeg has a water power which is running to waste, representing an annual loss estimated to approximate \$200,000 net. Winnipeg's debt is greater than that of the southern city, while the cost of utilizing our water power would not be as great. Why not construct the necessary work and apply the revenue therefrom toward reducing the civic debt.

TRESPASS BY HUNTSMEN.

The other day in Manitoba a quarrel which resulted in the fatal stabbing of one person and the serious wounding of another, occurred through a case of trespass by a huntsman. This calls attention to the question of shooting game on the property of others. In this country the greatest liberty is taken by huntsmen in shooting upon the property of others. The rule here is to pay no regard whatever to the rights of property in following game. We have heard many complaints on account of the custom, and on more than one occasion THE COMMERCIAL has been asked to take the matter up, in advocacy of more stringent law against this form of trespass. So general is the rule to follow game over private property, that shooting on the farm of another is really not considered as a trespass at all. It is simply done as a matter of course. Still, there is quite a feeling amongst farmers against it, and it might be advocated with good reason that the law should prevent persons from shooting upon enclosed lands at least. In this country where the farms are large, and where there are large areas of unbroken prairie, it is difficult to distinguish farm boundaries, unless the land is on

closed with fences, and much of the land not under cultivation is not so enclosed. While it would perhaps be going too far to compel huntsmen by law to keep off a private property, the extension of this prohibition to enclosed lands might be considered reasonable. At present there is no regard for either enclosed or open lands. Complaint has reached us, that huntsmen not only shoot upon enclosed lands, but that they cause annoyance and loss by breaking down fences, in driving across farms, letting out stock, etc. One party in the Winnipeg district who was much annoyed in this way, reports that he had put up notices forbidding such trespass, but no attention was paid to it whatever.

Commercial Men Meet.

The annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Traveller's association was held Saturday evening, Dec. 17, in the board of trade rooms, Winnipeg. The president, L. C. McIntyre, occupied the chair. There were also present: Vice President A. Strang, Secretary J. M. O'Loughlin, and Directors A. L. Johnson, M. R. O'Loughlin, J. M. Lamb and about thirty active travellers. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The secretary then read the following annual report of the board of directors:

To the members of the Northwest Commercial Traveller's Association of Canada.

Gentlemen, In presenting the tenth annual report, your directors have very much pleasure in referring to the continued growth in members of the association this year, showing an increase of twenty-nine per cent over and above last year.

Our relations with the railway companies continue to be pleasant and satisfactory with one exception, that being the matter of the privilege taken away from the travellers of riding on the freight trains on the Canadian Pacific railway, and which has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction and inconvenience to many members of our association, whose route extends from Brandon west to the mountains. Your directors took this matter up with Mr. Whyte, the general superintendent of the western division of the road, both before and since this regulation came into effect; we have had interviews repeatedly with him, and urged strongly the necessity of continuing to allow members of our association the privilege of using the freight trains, and he has promised to try and arrange it, if at all possible, during his visit to Montreal, where he goes to consult with Mr. Van Horn, within the next few weeks.

So far we have been unable to complete arrangements to our satisfaction, but have strong hopes of something being done in the immediate future, so as to meet this requirement.

We have tried to effect an arrangement with railway companies to issue to the members of our association a mileage ticket, at a price of \$25, covering 1,000 miles of transportation, and we have already received assurance from the Northern Pacific railway that they are ready to issue this mileage book as soon as the Canadian Pacific railway company will agree to do the same. We have laid this matter before Mr. Kerr, the general passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific railway. He is now in correspondence with his head office at Montreal, and promises to give us a decided answer at an early date.

We carried during the last year, under our mortuary benefit scheme, life insurance amounting to \$24,182.05, and upon which no calls have been made so far in the year; and according to the resolution passed at the last annual meeting, your directors took up the matter of increasing the amount of the mortuary benefit,

but after going into the details carefully, they concluded that it would not be advisable to increase the amounts over and above the natural annual increase to the members, until such time as our reserve fund was materially increased.

With the view of strengthening the association generally, your directors recommended an increase in their number to be elected for the ensuing year, and in accordance with the change in the by-laws proposed to be made at this meeting, by the increase in their number from seven to twelve. This is for the purpose of having directors elected who reside outside of Winnipeg, at points in Manitoba Northwest Territories and British Columbia; and which course, we think, would strengthen the hands of our local secretary in Victoria, and enable him, through a director resident there, to help increase the membership of our association.

Your directors would also earnestly urge upon each member of the association the necessity of doing all in his power towards making the annual celebration for this, our tenth year, a grand success; and they are pleased to note the satisfaction expressed by many members of the change adopted this year, from the usual dinner as held heretofore.

The directors have to express their sincere regret at the death of their late member, Mr. C. F. Church, caused through accident, and they have taken steps to collect the insurance coming to his estate by virtue of his membership to this association.

In retiring from office, your officers and directors express the hope that prosperity may continue to attend the association, and as the years roll by, the records may show an increase, both in regard to membership and finances.

Before adopting the annual report there were some lively discussions in which J. H. Holman, J. K. Whinnery and others took part. The greatest bone of contention was the clause regarding on freight trains, as no doubt it is one of the most disagreeable circulars that ever was issued by the C.P.R., viz, withdrawing the privilege of riding on freight trains. It was pointed out that it simply means that travellers with light samples are of necessity, only able to do one town a day, whereas with the privilege of riding on freights they could do two or more. After full explanation by the president and vice-president showing the members that the board had done all in their power to rectify the inconvenience by repeated interviews with the C. P. R. officials, the report on motion of D. Hop, seconded by A. Strang, was carried unanimously.

The treasurer read the following report, which was adopted:

The increasing success which has attended our association during the past year, is again a matter for congratulation. Our membership now consists of the following:—Active, 293; honorary, 19; and honorary life, 4; making a total of 316, as compared with 246, being the total of last year, thus showing a net increase of 70 members. Your directors have succeeded in placing \$3,000 more of the surplus funds upon first mortgage security on real estate, bearing 7 per cent, making a total of \$5,000 invested in that way. There were a number of applications for loans during the past year, which have been declined by the board, because security offered was not acceptable to the directors. The balance of the funds are on deposit in the Commercial and Montreal banks and drawing 4 per cent interest. Interest collected during the past year amounted to \$375.25, and there are no arrears. It is very gratifying to know that our funds continue to show a steady increase, the balance on hand at the end of this year amounting to \$7,978.87 in cash and securities, which shows an increase over the balance of last year of \$2,009.73. There are no unpaid accounts. The books and vouchers have been duly audited and the auditor's report is submitted with statement. I have to thank the secretary for the assistance which he has rendered me, thereby lightening my work to a considerable extent. I have also to thank you, gentlemen, very sincerely for the honor conferred upon me by electing me as your president for the coming year, and I trust that at the end of the year 1903 we shall be able to report as favorably of the success of the association as at the present time.

On motion of A. Strang, seconded by F. Stevens, the amendment to the by-law as read increasing the number of directors to twelve, was carried. In conformity with the above it was decided by the meeting to empower the board of directors to elect a director at any point outside of Winnipeg that they deem advisable.

The letter from H. P. Hansen re grant to Morden Masonic hospital was ordered to be filed and the secretary was instructed to write Mr. Hansen in reference to same.

The scrutineers, W. A. Ronald, J. K. Whinnery, E. W. Low, having completed the scrutiny of the ballots, the following were named as the board for the ensuing year:

President—W. W. Rublee, acclamation.
Vice president—H. Bruce Gordon.
Treasurer—J. Y. Griffin, acclamation.
Secretary—J. M. O'Loughlin, acclamation.
Board of directors—M. R. O'Loughlin, L. C. MacIntyre, J. Mundie, J. C. Gillespie, F. Chilcott, J. H. Holman, A. S. Binns.

After votes of thanks were passed to the retiring officers and board, the auditors and scrutineers, briefly replied to by L. C. MacIntyre, M. R. O'Loughlin and others, the meeting adjourned.

Wheat Trade.

Since the first of December the winter wheat crop has not receded in average condition. The moisture has favored it, and recent snows in many localities have been serviceable. Still there are regions where the crop is far from being in a satisfactory condition. Compared with a week ago there is no essential change to note.

The week closed with larger receipts of wheat in Northwestern markets than the earlier portion of the period suggested, and the visible stocks were further enlarged, reaching 75,670,000 bushels in regular warehouses—about 12,000,000 in excess of the highest record in any previous season.

When the known urgency with which farmers have hurried wheat into market this season, aided by unusually favorable weather conditions, the fact that regular warehouses have acquired 12,000,000 bushels in excess of the previous high record does not appear to be an especially notable matter. It is reasonable to expect that a little later on in the season the margin will rapidly disappear.

There is continued light offerings of wheat at the winter grain markets, and in the interior. There is also an unlagging call from millers southward for supplies in this market and elsewhere centrally situated—suggesting that home supplies have been absorbed, and that the demand from these regions will become more pronounced in the near future. This is an encouraging feature. Against this, however, is the other fact that Northwestern millers, who have pretty fully supplied foreign markets, are now extending their offerings in domestic localities where they have not been seeking business for some time past.—Cincinnati *Price Current*, Dec. 16.

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The manufacturers of the "Myrtle Navy" tobacco invite the very closest scrutiny of its quality. The expert whose trained senses teach him to recognize the exact quality of tobacco, and the smoker who judges by his experience in smoking it, will both come to the same conclusion that it is of the very highest quality anywhere to be found. It is made of the very finest Virginia leaf and is manufactured with the greatest possible care.

Redwood Brewery

Fine Ales, Extra Porter and Premium Lager.

Most Extensive Establishment of the kind in Western Canada.

ED. L. DREWRY,
PROPRIETOR,
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Highest cash price paid for good Malting Barley.

CAUTION.

EACH PLUG OF THE

Myrtle Navy!

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In Bronze Letters.

None Other Genuine.



W. R. Johnston and Co.

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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

OF READY MADE

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Cor. BAY & FRONT STS, TORONTO.

Samples at McIntyre } REPRESENTATIVES.
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Those having **WHEAT** to Sell

will consult their best interests by consigning it to

WILLIAM GREEN

GRAIN, FLOUR and FEED. Car Lots.
34 Young St., Toronto, Ontario. Opposite Board of Trade. I buy large quantities of flour from Ontario millers and have special advantages for selling them **WHEAT** AT A **DISCOUNT** ON **CONSIGNMENT**. Specialty of ungraded wheat. Send large samples and quotations.

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—Wholesale Importers and Manufacturers of—

Men's Furnishings,

Hats and Caps, Small Wares, etc.

We have a fine Stock of Christmas Novelties in Silk Handkerchiefs, Neck Wear, etc.

Our Travellers are now on the road with

NEW SAMPLES FOR SPRING 1893.

Hold your orders until you have inspected our Samples.

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GALT BLEND

BLACK TEA.

½lb, 1lb and 2lb Metal Canisters, packed
48lb in case.

The best article in the market—No grocery stock is
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THE TRADE ONLY SUPPLIED.

Perfect Gem Vegetables and Fruits, California Evaporated Fruits,
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quarter casks, West India Molasses, New Cheese

G. F. & J. GALT,
Wholesale Grocers,
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Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, Etc. Special designs fur-
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GUARANTEED STRICTLY PURE.

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—BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS—

Solid good wearing goods in all lines. Lowest
Prices.

Rubbers!

Discount 40, and 5 and 4 off for cash. 5 per
cent. added for freight.

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PRODUCE!

We are always open for

BUTTER AND EGGS.

AT HIGHEST MARKET VALUE.

Write for full Market Quotations to

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MANUFACTURERS OF REFINED SUGARS OF THE WELL-
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OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY AND PURITY.
Made by the Latest Processes, and Newest and Best
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LUMP SUGAR,

In 50 and 100 lb. boxes.

"CROWN" Granulated,

Special Brand, the finest which can be made.

EXTRA GRANULATED,

Very Superior Quality.

CREAM SUGARS,

(Not dried).

YELLOW SUGARS,

Of all Grades and Standards.

SYRUPS,

Of all Grades in Barrels and half Barrels

SOLE MAKERS,

Of all high class Syrups in Tins, 2 lb. and 8 lb. each.

FURNITURE VARNISH!

EVERY DEALER SHOULD HANDLE

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"UNICORN,"

Furniture Varnish. It is put up in the handiest tin ever
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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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British Columbia Business Review.

December 19, 1892.

Business may be described generally as dull, with a few lines brisk owing to demands peculiar to the season.

As a rule, the merchants in all lines are overstocked with Christmas goods, which means that a great deal will have to be carried over.

The market is glutted with cured meats, and particularly bacon, THE COMMERCIAL'S prediction about the influx of eastern meats having proved true at last. It is later than was expected, but during the past week large importations have been made and there will be difficulty in disposing of it all in the near future.

Poultry is also very plentiful, and as it has to be disposed of within a short space of time there is every probability of a slaughter in prices to achieve that end. Those who have proper refrigerators may carry their stocks over until the surplus is worked off.

The tea business is somewhat dull.

The weather still remains open and mild and only one or two slight frosts having been experienced so far. As a consequence, the dry goods merchants are not selling their heavy stocks of winter goods as freely as they should.

Recently a farmers' market was opened in Westminster and the result has been most satisfactory. Contrary to the expectations of many, it is well attended both by farmers and customers and a rushing business is being done. Produce in a number of lines is cheaper to the consumer than formerly. Up to the present year there was not a market place in the whole province in the true sense of the word.

Mr. Mahon, who is largely interested in the Slovan mining district, has returned and in a long interview has given a great deal of practical information about that country. An extract is here given as to the transactions in sales of mining properties. "A large number of mines have naturally changed hands since their discovery, and while in New Denver, Mr. Mahon availed himself of the opportunity of looking over the records of these transactions. In most cases large prices had been paid, and the following are some of the largest transactions: Two-third interest in the Reco group, \$50,000; Twin Lake group, \$40,000; Stormont group, \$6,000; Jardine group, \$75,000; Ruby Silver, \$25,000; Idaho, \$20,000; half interest in the California, \$8,000; one third interest in the Beat, \$10,000; Last Chance, \$10,000; Slovan Star group, \$25,000; Freddy Lee, \$20,000; Blue Bird, \$25,000; Lucky Jim, \$10,000; Great Western, \$15,000; Washington, 5 12 interest, \$8,000; Washington, 1/4 interest, \$8,500; Washington, 1/4 interest, \$22,000; Dardanelles, 9 16 interest, \$56,000; Mountain Chief, \$15,000; Montezuma, \$25,000. The lowest of these is \$3,000 and there are also a number of other sales recorded under \$5,000 and downwards. The total amount of the transactions reaches the immense sum of \$700,000, and an idea of the increased confidence in the mines can be seen from the different sales of portions of the Washington, a quarter interest having been sold for \$8,500, while shortly after another quarter interest was sold for no less than \$22,000.

It is gratifying to state that the province is now absolutely free from smallpox, the quarantine stations being all closed and all suspects and patients having been released as cured. The hope is general that it may be a long time before such a scourge will visit British Columbia again. It is hard to estimate the loss to trade and commerce which has resulted.

The Port & Winch Co. have brought another cargo of halibut from the north. The halibut fishing is now fairly started by the above Co.

A great improvement is noticeable in the coal mining industry, which last summer was almost stagnant from an overcrowded market. A Nanaimo correspondent says

The New V. C. Co. are employing at present a larger staff of men than ever before. Including the Chinamen who are employed on the top, the pay roll of the company includes about 1,400 men. Extensive operations on new works are being pressed forward, and a vigilant staff of competent miners continually employed and specially detailed to guard against any disaster. A large number of the men are employed in the esplanade shaft, where two electric motors are kept running 16 hours a day, to haul the coal from the interior. A third motor has been received for No 2 level in the same mine, which will greatly assist in increasing the output.

B. C. Market Quotations.

MEATS. — Prices show a tendency to weaken and the market is well supplied. Quotations are: Wiltshire cured hams, 15½c; do backs, 15c; eastern hams, 15c; bacon 14½c to 17c; rolls 11c; smoked sides 12½c; long clear 11½c; barrel pork, \$24; 3, 5 and 10 lb tins lard 13c; 20 lb pails lard 12½c; 50 lb tubs lard, 12c; tierces lard, 11½c. Commission agents quote American meats f.o.b. Victoria, duty paid as follows. Medium hams, 16c per lb; heavy hams, 15½c; choice breakfast bacon, 16½c; short clear sides 13½c; and dry salt clear sides, 12½c. Armour's white label pure lard, 10 lb pails, 15½c per lb.

EGGS.—Eggs are worth from 22c to 24c. New laid eggs are very scarce and are worth from 40c to 50c.

VEGETABLES.—New vegetables, home grown, such as lettuce, cauliflower, etc., are coming on the market. Ashcroft potatoes are quoted at \$18 a ton; Fraser Valley, \$15; Californian onions are 1½c; B. C. onions 1½c; carrots, beets and turnips \$15 a ton; cabbage \$12 to \$15 a ton.

DAIRY.—The market is well supplied and the demand dull. Eastern creamery rules about 28c in 20 and 25 pound tubs, and from 26 to 28c in 50 and 75 pound tubs. Choice dairy is quoted at from 22 to 24c according to quality. In cheese the best factory rules from 13 to 13½c, and small choice family make as high as 15c.

FRUITS, ETC.—The market is well supplied with Ontario apples. Coast apples, however, are not so plentiful. There is a glut of Japanese oranges of inferior quality, and prices are down to 50c a box. Fancy Riverside oranges are worth \$4.25; fancy rivets \$5.25. Sicily lemons are worth \$9. Figs and dates are now selling freely. Dates range from 8c to 11c per lb. Ontario apples are \$5.50 per barrel. California grapes are still in the market, but dear, bringing \$2.50 a box. Raisins are \$2. Cape Cod cranberries \$11 a barrel, and natives 40c a gal. Some of the lemons sent from Montreal have turned out to be of very inferior quality and although payment was refused, the dealers in Montreal pressed for their money and, of course, as it was held they were bought from sample it was settled. This is an evidence of how some dealers in the east regard British Columbia. It is held to be a first-class slaughter market, where surplus stock can always be disposed of, the distance and trouble and cost of litigation being trusted to to avoid payments being contested. THE COMMERCIAL has so often pointed out the mistake of this policy on the part of eastern dealers that it is hardly necessary to revert to it again. It is, however, a policy which may be described as cutting off one's nose to spite his face, for it is bound to revert to the ultimate damage of trade with the east.

FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, ETC.—The market is steady and unchanged. Quotations are: Flour, Manitoba patents, \$5.50; strong bakers, \$5.20; ladies' choice, \$5.50; prairie lily, \$5.30; Delta, Victoria Mills, \$4.75; Lion, \$4.75;

Oregon, \$5.50; Spokane, \$5.05; Enderby mills—Premier \$5.45; three star \$5.50; two star \$5.25; Graham flour \$5.60; oatmeal eastern \$3.40; California granulated in gunnies, \$4.35; National mills, Victoria, \$4.25; rolled oats eastern \$3 to \$3.25; California \$3.75, National mills \$3.65; cornmeal \$3.10; split peas \$3.50; pearl barley \$4.50. Rice—The Victoria rice mills quote wholesale. Japan rice per ton, \$17.50; China rice do \$70; rice flour, do, \$70; chit rice, do, \$25; rice meal; do, \$17.50; chopped feed, \$31 per ton; bran \$24; shorts \$25; Man. oats, \$28 to \$32; B. C. oats; \$26; wheat \$27 to \$32; oil cake, \$40; hay, \$16. Wheat is quoted in car lots for feed No. 2 regular at \$22 to \$23 per ton; oats \$22.50; chop barley \$25. California chop, \$32 to \$33. The Western Milling Co. quote bran in car lots \$10.50 per ton; shorts \$20.50; mixed chop, \$25; rye, \$38; patent flour, \$4.60; strong bakers \$5.30. Graham flour, \$4.40; B. C. wheat is quoted at \$29 to \$30 per ton, and oats at \$25; beans are 4c per lb. Hay is quoted at \$12 ton on the river bank or \$12.50 placed on the scows.

POULTRY, GAME, ETC.—Xmas poultry is on the market in unlimited quantity and a wholesale price can hardly be quoted as a great deal of competition is bound to bring down the price. At present 16c a lb. is an all round price. Game is plentiful. Quotations are Blue grouse, per pair, is worth 75c; pintails, 35c; mallards, 50c; teal, 20c; partridges, 50c; chickens, \$4.50 to \$5.50; ducks, \$6; geese, \$7; turkeys, 15 to 16 per pound, Venison, 5 to 6c per pound.

FISH.—Small fish is plentiful, and another cargo of halibut has reached the market. Salmon is quite scarce. Prices are: Halibut, 8c; Salmon, 8 to 10c, codfish, 6 to 7c; flounders 4c to 5c; sturgeon 4c to 5c; sole 10c; herrings, 5 to 6c.

LIVE STOCK, DRESSED MEAT, ETC.—There is no change in the situation since last week. Competition continues keen. Live steers are quoted from 3 to 4c; cows, 2 to 3c; dressed beef, 7 to 7½c; sheep, 5½ to 7½c; mutton, 12c; hogs, 4½ to 5c; pork, 8 to 10c.

COAL.—The local coal trade has slightly improved. J. W. Harrison writes as follows in reference to the San Francisco coal market. Although the receipts of Australian coal during the past thirty days have been less than 8,000 tons, and the total quantity to arrive within the next sixty days does not exceed 16,000 tons, still the market has met with no improvement as far as prices are concerned. It is true that there is no scarcity of Australian grades here in stock, but it is an assured fact that three months from now the quantity in the yards will be small, and certainly less than our requirements will call for. The fact, combined with the scarcity of tonnage and the full rates demanded, should strengthen values. An advance in the prices of our coast products seems to be generally expected. Quotations for steam coals will probably remain as they are at present.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The California quotations averaging a cent higher than Victoria prices, are—Dry hides, sound, 9c per pound; culls, 6c; brands, 6c kip, 9c; culis and brands, 6c. Heavy salted steer, sound, 7½c; brands and culls, 6½c; do medium, 6½c; brands and culls, 5c. do light 4c; do brands and culls, 3c. Salted cows, over 47 pounds, 5½c; do 30 to 47 pounds, 4½c; do brands and culls, 4½c for medium and 3c for light. Salted kip, 4c; do brands and culls, 3c. Salted veal, 5c; do brands and culls, 4s. Salted calf, 7c; do brands and culls, 5c. Lond wool pelts, 90c to \$1.40 each; medium do, 70 to 90c. short do, 40 to 70c. shearling, 10 to 25c. Deer skins, summer, 37½c per pound; do medium, 30 to 32½c; do winter and long haired skins, 20 to 25c. Elk hides, 10 to 13c. Goat skins, prime and perfect, 30 to 50 each; damaged, 10 to 25c.

SUGARS.—The B. C. Sugar Refinery quote sugar as follows in their weekly price list: Powdered icing and bar, 6½c; Paris

lumps, 6½c; granulated, 5½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellows, 4½c; yellows, 4½c; golden C, 4½c. Above prices are for barrels or bags; half-barrels and 100 pound kegs, ½c more. No order taken for less than 100 barrels or its equivalent.

They quote syrup as follows:—Fine-t golden, in 30 gal. bls, 2½c; ditto, in 10 gal. kegs, 3c; ditto, in 5 gal. kegs, \$2.25 each; ditto, in 1 gal tins, \$4.50 per case of 10; ditto, in ½ gal tins, \$6 per case of 20.

These prices are subject to 2½ per cent discount for cash in fourteen days, and cover delivery in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, or New Westminster.

Jobbers prices are:—Dry granulated, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; fancy yellow, 5c; yellow, 4½c; golden C, 4½c; syrups 3c per lb.

Shipping.—The volume of shipping is pretty well maintained. The tonnage in port is:

Port.	No.	Tonnage.
Vancouver.....	7	7,031
Victoria.....	3	2,402
Nanaimo.....	8	11,375
Cowichan.....	1	,036
Total.....	19	22,704

LUMBER.—The lumber market remains unchanged for lowness of price and lack of demand. Nominal quotations are as follows:—Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet inclusive, per M. feet, \$9.00; deck plank, rough, average length, 35 feet, per M. \$19; dressed T. & G. flooring, per M, \$17; pickets, rough, per M, \$9; laths, 4 feet, per M, \$2.

Vancouver's Foreshore.

Litigation of a very important and interesting character has been carried on for some time relative to foreshore rights as between the city of Vancouver and the C.P.R. Co.

Early in the summer of the present year the city undertook to open Gore avenue, one of the streets in the eastern parts of the city running at right angles to the general direction of Burrard Inlet, to the water front, and constructed a slip there as a citizen's wharf. An interlocutory injunction was obtained on behalf of the railway company to prevent the city from carrying this work to completion on the grounds that the company had the exclusive right to the foreshore and action of trespass was brought against the city. Mr. Justice McCreight on the injunction being argued before him, gave judgment refusing to continue the injunction giving the city the right to proceed with the work. An appeal was made to the full court at Victoria, and on Monday of last week the hearing took place, when the decision of Mr. Justice McCreight was reversed.

Chief Justice Begbie held, and his colleagues on the Bench concurred, that by their special Act the company had the right, in plain words, to the whole of the foreshore to use and build upon, and the city was debarred from any occupation.

It is said the City of Vancouver will appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, and if the appeal be sustained there the matter will in all probability go to the Privy Council of England, as the issue is one of far reaching consequence and neither side is inclined to give in.

A brief synopsis of the case will be of interest. The contention of the railway company is based on the following clause in the special Act referred to:

"The company shall have the right to take, use and hold the beach and land below the high water mark on any stream, lake, navigable water, gulf or sea, in so far as the same shall be vested in the Crown." It was contended by the city of Vancouver that this concession was intended to be subject to the common law right of the public to have access to the harbor for the purpose of navigation and otherwise; and that the right to prevent access on the part of the public to the foreshore could only have been claimed if a fee simple in the lands covered by their works had been vested in the railway company by their special act. In the year 1855, the

lands in question having been vested in Messrs. Donald A. Smith and R. B. Angus as trustees for the railway company, they had caused a plan to be prepared and registered, which was accepted by the government, showing Gore avenue as opened down to the high water mark, and it was contended for the city of Vancouver that this plan constituted a dedication by the company to the public of the right of access to the sea to the same extent as the right of access over the land would have been dedicated by a similar plan and registration. It was held by Mr. Justice McCreight in effect that this plan and its registration constituted such a dedication, and that section 18 of the special act only granted to the company the right of user to such an extent as was necessary for the purposes of their railway, and was subject to the pre eminent common law right of the public to the foreshore.

On appeal counsel for the railway contended that there was no dedication by the plan in question, because the company did not obtain by its statutory grant any right to alienate the property in question either by express grant or by implication for law, but that the only right was to use it themselves for the purpose indicated but that the right of user included by implication the exclusion of all others; that the foreshore of the harbor was vested in the Dominion Government.

On behalf of the city of Vancouver it was not claimed that it derived any right which infringed upon the rights of the Crown. The erection of any obstruction upon the foreshore for the purpose of obtaining access to the water is something that could only be complained of by the Dominion government. The C. P. R. did not acquire any absolute right to the property by their railway tracks and works. They only obtained under their special act the right to take, hold and use the property for the purpose of their railway; that is, to infringe upon the common law right of the public in relation to the foreshore only in so far as is necessary to carry on the operation of their railway. The company were there in the occupation of the foreshore for a distance of about ten miles along the harbor, and to hold that they have the exclusive right would be to prevent the public from using that harbor at the option of the railway company, all along the line, which could not have been the intention of the statute. If the statute had intended to produce that result, either a grant in fee would have been given to the company, or special words would have been introduced to show that it was intended that the right of access of the public was to be destroyed.

The court delivered judgment holding that there was no dedication; that the company had no right to alienate, but only themselves to hold for the purpose of their railway; that the special act, sec. 18, vested in the company the exclusive right to use the foreshore and exclude others.

It is scarcely necessary to observe that as a case involving purely commercial interests, if from no other point of view, the issued will be looked forward to with general interest.

Brief Business Notes.

Albert & Tudman, tailors Vancouver, have dissolved.

Barker & Climo, plumbers, Victoria, have dissolved.

W. J. Pollard, toys, tobacconist, etc., has opened in Nanaimo.

W. J. Quinn, tailor, Vancouver, is reported closing out entire stock.

Murdoch Allan Morrison, carpenter & builder, Victoria, has assigned.

A. Haslam, Nanaimo, has disposed of his electric light works to a Victoria company.

Nicholles & Byars, Clarence saloon, Victoria, has been closed out by the sheriff.

D. S. Curtis, druggist, was elected mayor of Westminster by a good majority.

A. Kelly has purchased the store of Hessing & Irving, Abbott street, Vancouver.

Kaslo is to have a private bank doing business under the name of John M. Burke & Co.

Hughes & O'Brien, grocers, Victoria, have assigned for the benefit of their creditors.

Hori Windebank has purchased the Ontario House, Mission City, and is remodeling it.

M. P. Morris, of the World business staff, has been appointed Chilean consul at Vancouver.

The steamer Victoria sailed from Victoria last week with a good freight list and 200 Chinese.

The Chilean barque India from Valparaiso is loading a return cargo of lumber at the Moodyville Mill.

T. R. Smith, formerly of the Hudson's Bay Company, has been appointed Belgian consul at Victoria.

The official statement of the salmon pack for the year 1892 is 221,707 cases, against 312,211 cases for 1891.

The revised rating of the buildings in New Westminster has been adopted by the Board of Fire Underwriters.

J. Kerr and A. Phillip, Westminster, have entered into partnership in the real estate and general agency business.

The first coal shipped from the Protection Island coal mine, owned by the new Vancouver Coal Co., has arrived in Victoria.

The Empress of India, due this week from China and Japan, has 35 saloon passengers, 50 Chinese and 1,950 tons of freight.

Capt. Webster, manager of the Us Co., is going home to England this week on important business connected with his company.

The British barque Frederick is loading for England. The cargo is principally made up of salmon, of which she has 32,493 cases.

The estate of A. J. Smith, contractor, Victoria, who recently assigned, has paid his creditors in full and has a balance remaining.

G. I. Wilson, Vancouver's oldest and best known dry goods merchant, is giving up business on account of ill health, and is selling out.

The Empire Mutual Loan & Investment Co. limited liability, has established a local agency in Nanaimo, with Moreus Wolfe as resident agent.

The value of imports of the port of Vancouver for November was \$76,274; exports, \$51,722; free goods, \$14,951; dutiable goods, \$61,323.

Jacob Schl has purchased the interests of James Hastie & R. Erskine in the Schl, Hastie, Erskine Co., and will resume the active management.

Mr. Wilson, manager of the Lisgar farm on the Harrison river is setting out 100 acres of fruit. He is trying the experiment of growing figs and olives.

The Royal City mills are making heavy shipments daily, of car sill timber, to the Crossen car works, at Cobourg, Ont. The timbers are all 70 feet long.

A large number of the leading citizens of Victoria have formed themselves into an association for the purpose of nominating and electing an Aldermanic ticket for the year 1893.

I. R. Robison is going into the lard refining business in Victoria and is at present fitting up premises. The refinery will have a capacity of two tons per week.

The B.C. Iron Works, Vancouver, has secured the right of manufacturing for the Marion (Ohio) Steam Shovel Co., west of Winnipeg, with the privilege of exclusive sale as well.

Port Moody is somewhat excited over the alleged discovery of coal there. Mr. Bellamy, an expert, has been engaged prospecting and reports favorably. Boring will likely take place to test.

(Continued on page 419)

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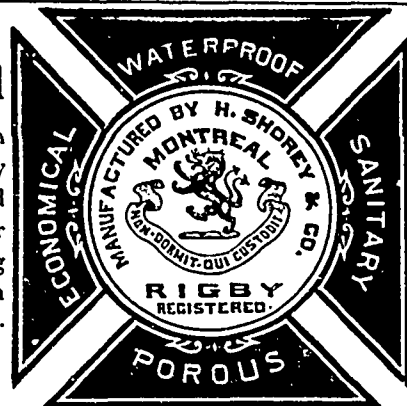
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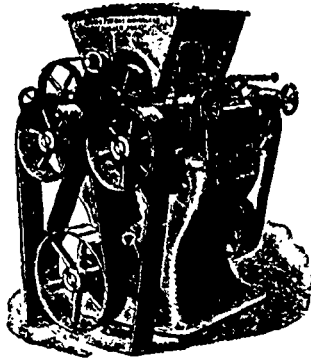
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WINNIPEG MARKETS.

(All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are whole sale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reductions for large quantities and to cash discounts.)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, December 24.

Business in general wholesale lines has of course partaken of the usual holiday quiet, with the exception of the few branches which experience a little rush immediately previous to Xmas. The general condition, however, is one of quietness, and there is a good deal of complaint regarding slow collections. There is no denying the fact that the country is hard up. The low prices of all cereals, following a rather light crop, has left very little profit to the farmer from his season's operations, and trade is feeling the result heavily.

DRIED FRUITS—New prunes are scarce and costing high. Dealers have delayed buying on account of high price, but latest advices show continued firmness in values abroad. New layer figs are in good supply at 14 to 18c per pound as to quality for fair to good stock. Fine Elemes are held at 18c, while poor stock may be had as low as 12c per lb. We quote: Dried apples 6 to 6½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c; figs, layers, 12 to 18c; dates, 6 to 8½c. Valencia raisins, \$1.75 to \$2; London layers, \$2.75 to \$2.80 box; Sultanias 9½ to 10c lb. Currants, 6½ to 8½c; prunes, 7 to 9c. Evaporated fruits are quoted: Apricots, 19 to 20c; peeled peaches, 17½ to 18c; unpeeled peaches, 12 to 12½c; pitted plums, 11 to 11½c; cherries, 13 to 13½c; pears, 12½ to 13c.

FISH—Prices are: Jackfish, 3c; pickerel, 4c; whitefish 6c; trout 10c; B. C. salmon 15c; Cod 10c; smoked haddies 10c; Yarmouth blotters \$1.75 per box; oysters \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.25 for selects; can oysters 50c each for standards and 55c selects; Oysters have been sold as low as \$1.50 per gallon in some instances.

GREEN FRUITS—Florida Oranges are easier. Some Catawba grapes in 5 lb baskets have been offering, at 50c each. A large country trade has been done on small orders for Xmas. Apples held at steady prices, fancy stock, selected varieties, selling at \$4 per barrel, and other varieties \$3.50 to \$3.75 as to quality. Florida oranges of good quality held at \$5.00 to \$5.50 and up to \$6.00 per box for desirable sizes. Lemons, new Messinas, good, at \$6.50 to \$7; Malaga grapes, \$9 to \$10.50 per keg as to size of package; cranberries, \$10.50 barrel; California winter pears \$4.50 per box; Apple cider, 35c per gal.

NUTS—Prices range as follows: Almonds per pound, 16 to 18c; walnuts, per pound, 12 to 17c; pecans, 15c to 16c; filberts, 11 to 14c; Brazils 10 to 13c; peanuts, 14 to 15c; chestnuts, 14 to 15c; coconuts, \$9 to \$10 per 100.

SUGARS—In the Winnipeg market yellow is quoted at 4 to 4½c; granulated at 5½ to 5¾c, the inside price is for barrels, and a fraction higher for bags. Lumps, 6c; icing, 6½ to 7c; sugar syrups, 2½ to 3½c; maple sugar, 9 to 12c a lb.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION—The closing weeks of the year is generally a quiet season in wheat, and it was not expected that this week would do much toward helping wheat out of the depression which has so long surrounded it. Prices have continued weak and declining. On Monday there was no particular change in prices, markets being quiet and uninteresting. Cables were lower. The visible supply statement showed an increase of 2,750,000 bushels for the week. Stocks at principal points in the United States and Canada, east of the mountains, now amount to the vast aggregate of 78,320,000 bushels, as compared with 43,303,243 bushels a year ago. On Tuesday prices continued dull, being unchanged to slightly lower

in most markets. On Wednesday *Bradstreet's* reported an increase in stocks in United States and Canada of 4,677,000 bushels. Cables were lower. Duluth receipts were 365 cars and Minneapolis 324, a total of 690, as compared with 762 on Tuesday, and 647 cars the same day a year ago. Thursday was the only strong day of the week, and prices looked up ¼ to ½ in United States markets. The advance was due to speculative influences, partly owing to reported danger of rebellion in France. On Friday prices were slightly easier again. Most markets closed on Friday and will not resume business until Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Total receipts on the four principal United States spring wheat points since Aug 1, the beginning of the crop year, foot up: Minneapolis, 35,922,777 bu; Duluth, 26,448,512 bu; Chicago, 35,668,401 bu; Milwaukee, 8,235,396 bu; making a total of 106,275,086 bu, against 100,201,949 bu during the same time last year and 48,496,705 bu in 1890. The total receipts of wheat at the four principal winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City from July to date are 58,947,467 bu, against 50,223,124 bu in 1891 and 19,239,348 bu in 1890.

LOCAL WHEAT SITUATION—Wheat has continued very dull, and with the further sagging in prices, there is little disposition to do business. Bids are lower, and the trade is generally unsatisfactory. Eastern Canada buyers of Manitoba wheat are bidding considerably lower, and little is wanted. The movement is gradually decreasing. In Manitoba country market prices to farmers range mostly from 47 to 50c for best samples of hard wheat. Stocks continue to accumulate. There was an increase of 231,643 bushels in wheat in store at Fort William for the week ended Dec. 17, making the total 1,807,579 bushels. Fort William and interior stocks in store aggregate approximately 4,750,000 bushels.

FLOUR—Flour prices are unchanged locally. Manitoba brands of flour are selling very low in the east, prices being correspondingly lower than here. There is great depression in the milling industry in Ontario, and many of the smaller country mills are not making any profit whatever. Prices of wheat are low, but flour is correspondingly lower, and prices are almost unprecedented. Prices here are quoted as follows to the local trade in small lots per 100 pounds: Patents \$2.05; strong bakers' \$1.85; XXXX 80c to \$1; superfine 65 to 70c. Less than 100 pound sacks 5c extra per hundred. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10c under these prices, even in small lots.

MILLSTUFFS—We quote bran selling to local dealers at \$8 to \$9 per ton, as to quality, and shorts \$10 to \$11 per ton.

OATS—There is continued depression in oats, which are slower sale and easy in values. At the low prices ruling abroad, the high freight rates render the exportation of oats practically prohibitory, while the demand in eastern Canada is dull. Oats are therefore slow sale even at the low prices quoted. In Manitoba country markets farmers receive 13 to 14c per bushel of 34 pounds. On the Winnipeg street market, prices range from 19 to 20c, and some inferior quality have been taken at 18c. Prices in Winnipeg are higher than in country markets, owing to the large local demand here, and farmers near the city have the advantage of local freight rates in their favor.

BARLEY—Barley is very slow sale, being even more difficult to dispose of than oats. Dealers hardly want to touch the grain at all, as it is hard to sell in the east. Montreal papers quote feed barley at 38c per bushel and upward, but dealers here claim they cannot get bids equal to the lowest quotation; 34 to 36c per bushel is said to be the best bids which can be got for Manitoba feed barley in Montreal this week. The Winnipeg street price for barley ranges from 19 to 23c, the latter for good malting samples. Prices in Manitoba country markets, on present basis of values east, would be from 12 to 13c per bushel of 48 lbs.

GROUND FEED—Best quality of grain chop

brings \$13 to \$14 per ton, as to quality, and lower qualities \$11 to \$12 per ton. Some mill feed is offered as low as \$9 per ton, composed of wheat and other mixtures.

MEATS, ETC.—There is no change in oatmeal. Rolled and granulated oatmeal held at about \$1.85 to \$2 per sack, according to brand, and standard meal 5c lower, these being prices to retail traders. Cornmeal \$1.65 to \$1.70 per 100 lbs. Split peas \$2.60 to \$2.65 per 100 lbs. Beans, \$1.75 to \$1.90 per bushel. Pot barley, \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Pearl barley, \$4.00.

BUTTER—Butter remains about the same as last week, with fairly liberal receipts. Single tubs of choice dairy have sold at about 19 to 20c, and we quote round lots of good to choice dairy at 15 to 17c.

CHEESE—Jobbing at 10 to 10½c per lb.

EGGS—A little easier for limed. Single cases quoted at 20c per dozen, larger lots 18 to 19c as to quality. Fresh not quotable.

CURED MEATS—Prices are very firm everywhere for cured hog products. Chicago prices continue firm at the big advance, and the shortage in the western hog crop is considered a certainty. In eastern Canada market prices are advancing, and very high prices are being paid for dressed hogs by packers, which means that provision prices will have to be considerably advanced yet. Toronto and Montreal packers have been paying 7½ to 7¾c for dressed hogs, which is 2c per lb higher than prices a year ago. December pork in Chicago is \$6 per barrel higher than a year ago. In the Winnipeg market prices have not advanced in proportion, as holders of stocks bought before the advance, continue to sell at old prices. Still the tendency is to advance, and as old stocks are used up, there must be an appreciation in values. Local prices are: Dry salt long clear, bacon, 9 to 9½c; smoked long clear, 10½c; spiced rolls, 10½ to 10¾c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13½c; smoked hams, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$17 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 9c; bologna sausage, 9c; German sausage, 9c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per half lb packet.

LARD—Compound held at \$1.65 to 1.70 per pail. Pure at \$2.20 to \$2.30 per 20 pound pail. In tins, 12 to 12½c per pound.

DRESSED MEATS—As usual quite a display of dressed meats is being made by city butchers. Some very good mutton is shown from local and Ontario stock. Western range cattle have been brought in, to add to the local supply of beef. Prices are about unchanged. Good ordinary beef quoted at 4½ to 5c by the side or carcass and rough 3 to 4c. A little fancy Xmas beef has sold at 5½ to 6½c. Mutton steady at 10 to 11c for city dressed. There is some difference of opinion as to the price of hogs, but it appears that really good hogs will bring 6½c. Packers desire nice fat hogs, ranging from 125 to 200 pounds, but the average is heavier than 200 pounds each. Hogs, as to quality, we quote at 6 to 6½c, and a few fancy light hogs have been taken by butchers at up to 7c. Some retail butchers have announced reductions in prices of meats, equal to 4 to 5c per lb. below the usual retail prices for different cuts, best steaks and roasts being advertised at 10c, and down to 3 to 4c for stewing and boiling beef. It is not likely, however, that a general reduction in retail prices will follow.

DRESSED POULTRY AND GAME—The market is liberally supplied with poultry, local supplies being augmented by car lots from the east. Prices have been a trifle easier for eastern stock. We quote prices the same as last week for Manitoba poultry. Dressed chickens are taken at 8 to 10c, turkeys 11 to 13c; geese and ducks 10 to 11c per pound. Eastern stock which sold ½ to 1c higher than these prices, is easier. Game in the shape of venison is plentiful, especially large deer, moose and elk being worth about 4c per pound by the carcass, and small varieties dear 3c lb. The small deer dress out much better than the moose and

elk, the forequarters of the latter being almost useless to the butcher.

VEGETABLES.—Vegetables have an advancing tendency, owing to depletion of stocks in store and cold weather. Following are prices at which dealers buy on the street market: Potatoes 35 to 40c per bushel; turnips 25c bushel; cabbage 40 to 75c dozen; celery 30 to 50c dozen. Onions 2 to 2½c per lb. Carrots 30 to 40c a bushel; beets, 30 to 40c bushel; parsnips, 1½ to 2c lb. Spanish onions, \$1.50 per crate.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—Hides are firmer, frozen hides being taken at a higher range. Country frozen hides bring 3 to 3½c, unless spotted as they run, which is a good figure in comparison with prices of inspected stock, as a large proportion will grade No. 2, and inspected No. 2 are worth only 2½c per pound. We quote: No. 1 cows, 3½c; No. 2, 2½c; No. 1 heavy steers, 5c; No. 2 steers, 4c; No. 3, 2c lb. Real veal 8 to 13 lb skins, 4 to 5c per pound, or about 40c per skin. Kips about same as hides. Sheep and lamb skins 50 to 60c each for recent take-off. Tallow, 4½c rendered; 2½c rough.

WOOL.—Prices range from 9 to 10c for unwashed Manitoba fleeces, as to quality. A few lots are still coming in. The London wool sales show firm prices. The speculative feeling for Canadian wools is stronger, owing to a prospect of the duty being taken off wool imported into the United States. Higher bids have already been reported for round lots of Canadian wools, to hold.

HAY.—Baled held at about \$4.75 to \$5 per ton on track at point of shipment. Loose hay on the street market plentiful at about \$4 per ton.

Montreal Cattle Market

The local business on cattle was good at the abattoirs to-day, owing to the demand on account of holiday wants, but there were few really good cattle offered and the first-class butchers were disposed to hold off to a certain extent on account of the supplies of Northwest stock available. However, there was a pretty good clearance to note at the Eastern abattoir, a fair demand being encountered on the basis of 4½c to 5c, two specially nice bullocks fetching \$210. Lambs were scarce and in very good demand at 4½c to 4¾c, and sheep at 3½c to 3¾c. Good calves could hardly be purchased the few offered selling rapidly at 4½c on the scales.—*Gazette*, Dec. 19.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

Quotations below are per bushel for regular No. 2 wheat, which grade serves as a basis for speculative business. Corn and oats are per bushel for No. 2 grade; mess pork quoted per barrel, lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.

On Monday wheat was weak, opening ½c lower, advanced ¾c, but again declined ½c, recovered and closed a shade lower than Saturday. Corn, oats and provisions were easier and tendency lower. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat	69½	70½	70½
Corn	41	42½	46½
Oats	30	30½	34½
Pork	—	15 82½	16 92½
Lard	—	10 10	9 95
Ribs	—	8 22½	8 42½

There was not much change in wheat on Tuesday. May closed unchanged. Corn, oats and provisions were lower. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat	69½	70½	70½
Corn	41	41½	46½
Oats	29½	30½	34½
Pork	—	15 52½	15 95
Lard	—	10 07½	9 77½
Short Ribs	—	8 02½	8 22½

On Wednesday wheat continued quiet, and with a slight range in prices. Prices declined ½c, but recovered and closed a fraction higher. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat	70	70½	76½
Corn	40½	41½	45½
Oats	29½	30½	34½
Pork	—	15 70	16 12½
Lard	—	10 40	9 97½
Short Ribs	—	8 30	8 37½

On Thursday wheat was strong on reports of liberal exports and talk of an outbreak in Paris and a feeling that the complications might involve other countries. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat	71½	71½	77½
Corn	40½	41½	46½
Oats	—	30½	34½
Pork	14 40	15 50	16 02½
Lard	10 30	10 30	9 80
Short Ribs	8 17½	8 17½	8 32½

On Friday wheat was firm early, but there was an evident disposition to open up trades for the holidays, and the market closed unchanged. Change then adjourned until Tuesday, Dec. 27. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat	71½	71½	77½
Corn	40½	41½	46½
Oats	—	30½	34½
Pork	14 40	15 50	16 02½
Lard	10 15	10 20	9 65
Short Ribs	8 10	8 10	8 27½

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Cash, 65c; May, 71½c.
 Tuesday—Cash, 61½c; May, 71c.
 Wednesday—Cash, 64c; May, 70½c.
 Thursday—Cash 65c; May 71½c.
 Friday—Cash, 64½c; May, 71c.
 Saturday—Holiday.

A week ago cash wheat closed at 65c, and May delivery at 71½c. A year ago cash wheat closed at 38½c, and May at 95½c.

Handling Grain.

Chas. Braithwaite writes the *Farmers' Advocate* as follows, making some points worthy of perusal. He says:—

"First don't raise smutty wheat. I have seen wheat this year that ought to have been worth 55 cents to 60 cents, yet, because of a little smut, it went begging at thirty to thirty-five cents, a loss of twenty-five cents per bushel, or \$5 per acre on a 20 bushel yield, or \$500 on 100 acres; when by an outlay in cash of one and one-half cents per acre for bluestone, and one and one-half cents labor, this could be prevented. One pound of bluestone, costing five to seven cents per pound, will dress eight bushels, and a man, when he has things ready, can dress 20 bushels an hour.

Thus, by an expense of \$3 you may increase your income \$500, besides giving the product of our country such a name. In the meantime I would advise the putting of an addition to all our farmers' elevators, and the putting in of a small scouring and brushing machine, so that if bluestone did not effectually destroy the smut every year, we should have the means at hand to prevent it ever going on the market until it was scoured and cleaned.

Secondly.—There is a difficulty, especially this year, to get cars as fast as they are needed. I believe the C. P. R. are doing their utmost. They can not get and could not afford to have men and rolling stock enough to move twelve million bushels in to months. They are, and have been for a month and over, bringing in from 150 to 200 cars per day, besides their ordinary traffic. If this four months' heavy traffic could be spread over eight months, it could be done cheaper and better—cheaper, because men working overtime must have an inducement to do so, in the shape of extra pay; better, because there would not be such a strain on men and rolling stock, consequently there would be a better and cheaper service; and, remember, all this increased cost comes out of the farmer, not out of the stockholder.

I want to suggest that the Company, in order to bring about a change, make a discrimination in rates between the different seasons. We all know that when navigation closes on the lakes, and the all-rail rate comes in, that wheat invariably drops three to five cents per bushel. This comes out of the farmer, too? [NOTE.—Why should it all "come out of the farmer?"—And how much more does an all-rail haul really cost

in winter than fall?] Now, if the Company continued their present rates to Fort William for September, October and November, then instead of making a 27 or 28-cent rate to the seaboard, if they carried for 24 cents per bushel the balance of the year's crop, the farmer would not drop this 3 or 4 cents, and the Company would make more, because done at an ordinary time with less strain, and therefore done better and cheaper, and the farmers would not rush their grain on the market during the first two months for fear of a drop.

I want to suggest the amendment of the Inspection Act, and allow at least one-third farmers, if not one-half of the total number. Let the Board be composed of the very best talent that could be got together. Take samples of wheat grown in all the different districts of the province and territories, and of all grades and conditions of grain, and from these make say, ten grades of wheat, and instead of grades have them numbered; and say four grades of oats, and three of barley. Then when the different grades are determined, let them be finally fixed Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Manitoba or Northwest wheat, and let the crop of each year fit itself to the different numbers, as values determine; and let it be enacted that there shall be a difference of three cents a bushel between the first 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, and five cents between 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. If this were done, there would be ample room for the crop, no matter how diversified, and it would be practically selling on sample; because, if a farmer's load did not come up to No. 1, it could take the next No., which would only be a drop of three, or at most five cents, instead of as now, when, if it don't make a 2 H., it must go into a 3 H. at a drop of eight to ten cents, when in reality there is only a difference of two or three cents in actual milling value. Then in oats I would follow the same rule, making No. 1, milling oats; No. 2 milling oats 2 cents less than No. 1; feed oats same as No. 2 milling, and 2 feed oats 2 cents less. In barley, make No. 1 malting barley; No. 2, malting barley three cents less, and feed barley from same as No. 2 M. down three cents, according to quality. And in all cases make damp and musty grain "no grade," and as to smutty grain, let it be cleaned, scoured or brushed, if by that means it can be made merchantable. If badly "tagged," let it be "feed" or "no grade."

THE Northwest Areated Water Company remembered THE COMMERCIAL staff at this festive time, with an assorted box of the delicious beverages prepared by this company, which is duly appreciated.

Exports of wheat this week from the United States and Canada were 4,200,000 bushels. One week ago we exported 3,277,000 bushels, and in the same week a year ago 3,558,000 bushels.

No means have been taken by the manufacturers to push the sale of their "Myrtle Navy" tobacco except giving from time to time a simple statement of the facts connected with it in the public press. The large and rapidly increasing demand for it has been the result of the experience of smokers which these statements suggested. There advice to business men is to advertise largely if they have the right article to back up the advertisement with.

A fact which even political economists are apt to forget is that a manufacturer's rate of profit is not the only essential element to success; the aggregate profit at the end of the year is of far greater importance, and this in most cases is greater out of a low rate of profit than out of a high rate, because of the increased business, which the lower price gives rise to. It was on this principle that Messrs. Tuckott & Son acted in introducing their now famous "Myrtle Navy" tobacco, and to this principle they have ever since adhered. This is one of the reasons why people of Canada are smoking the best tobacco which can be produced, at a cheaper price than any other people can buy a similar article.

Winnipeg Wholesale Prices Current.

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.							
WHITE LEAD, pure, ground in oil, Association guarantee, in 25 lb irons and 100 and 200 lb. kegs.....	\$6.00 to 7.00	Black.....	25 to 30	Oplum.....	4.00 to 4.25	SHORT IRON—1 to 20 gauge..	3.75 to 4.00
White Lead, No. 1, per 100 lbs. 0.10 to 6.50		" Lard.....	70	Oil lemon, super.....	2.75 to 3.50	" 22 to 24.....	3.75 to 4.00
" No. 2.....	5.50 to 6.00	CASTOR OIL, per lb.....	12	Oil peppermint.....	3.75 to 4.25	" 20.....	4.00 to 4.25
" assorted, 1 to 5 lb. tins, per pound..	1.00	Mica and grease, per case.....	3.75	Orallo acid.....	1.13 to 1.18	" 28.....	4.25 to 5.50
PREPARED PAINTS, pure liquid color, per gallon.....	1.85 to 1.4	Gem.....	3.20	Potass iodide.....	4.25 to 4.50	CANADA PLATES.....	3.75 to 4.00
" " " second quality.....	1.10 to 1.20	Imperial.....	2.50	Saltpetre.....	1.10 to 1.12	IRON PIPE—40 to 45 per cent. off list.	
DRY COLORS, white lead, per lb.	8	SUNDRIES, Coal tar, per barrel.....	8.00	Sal rochelle.....	.30 to .35	GALVANIZED IRON—Queen's Head—	
Red lead, per pound.....	7	Portland cement, per barrel.....	4.75 to 3.50	Shellac.....	.35 to .40	16 to 24 gauge, per lb.....	.06 to .06 1/2
Yellow ochre, per lb.....	8	Michigan plaster, per barrel.....	3.25 to 3.50	Sulphur flowers.....	.33 to .5	26 gauge, ".....	.06 1/2 to .06 3/4
Golden ochre, per lb.....	6	Putty, in bladders, per pound..	.03 1/2	Sulphur roll, per keg.....	.33 to .5	28 ".....	.06 1/2 to .07 1/4
Venetian red, French.....	8 1/2	" in barrels of bladders.....	.03	Soda bicarb, per keg of 112 lb	3.75 to 4.25	CHAIN—	
Venetian red, Eng.....	8 1/2	Whiting, barrels, per 100 lbs.....	1.25	Sal soda.....	2.00 to 3.00	Proof Coil, 3-16 inch, per lb	0.7 to 0.7 1/2
English purple oxide.....	4 1/2	Alabastine, per case, 20 p'ks.....	7.00	Tartaric acid, per lb.....	.45 to .65	" 5-16 ".....	0.6 1/2 to 0.7
American oxides, per lb.....	4	Abestine, per case of 100 lbs.....	7.00	LEATHER.		" 7-16 ".....	0.6 1/2 to 0.6 3/4
These prices for dry colors are for broken lots. 10 per pound less when full kegs or barrels are taken.		WINDOW GLASS, 1st break.....	1.00	Spanish sole, best, No. 1 per lb	.28 to .30	Traco, per doz pairs.....	4.00 to 8.00
Zanzibar vermillion, kegs.....	18	WOOD.		Spanish sole, No. 1.....	.28 to .28	ZINC SPELTER.....	0.7 to 0.7
Less than kegs, per pound.....	20	Mixed tamarac, or oak, per cord.....	\$1.00 to 4.50	" No. 2.....	.24	ZINC SHEET.....	0.7 1/2 to 0.8
English vermillion, in 50 lb bags.....	1.00	Poplar, per cord.....	\$2.50 to 3.25	Slaughter sole, heavy.....	.30	LEAD—Pig, per lb.....	0.5 1/2 to 0.6
Less than bags, per pound.....	1.10	Prices are for car lots on track; 50c per cord more at yards; \$1 per cord more delivered in city from yard.		" light.....	.27	Sheets, 2 1/2 lbs. per square	0.0 to 0.7
VERMILION, No. 1, furniture, gal.....	1.00	COAL.		" No. 1.....	.28 to .28	It.....	0.0 to 0.7
Extra furniture, per gal.....	1.35	COAL, Pennsylvania Anthracite, per ton.....	\$10.50	Upper, heavy, best.....	.35 to .46	SOLDER—	
Elastic oak, per gal.....	2.00	Pennsylvania, soft.....	8.00	light.....	.23 to .30	Half-and-half (guar) per lb	.22
No. 1, carriage, per gal.....	2.00	Lethbridge coal.....	7.50	Harness, heavy, best.....	.23 to .30	ANTIMONY—Cookson's, per lb	.25
Hard oil finish, per gal.....	2.00	The above are retail prices for coal, delivered; price at yard 50c less. The retail price for Estevan or Souris coal at present is \$5 o. \$4 on track in car lots.		" light.....	.28 to .28	AMMUNITION—Cartridges—	
Brown Japan, per gal.....	1.00	DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.		Buff.....	.17 to .17	Rim Fire Pistol, Amer. dis., 35%	
Gold Size, Japan.....	1.50	Alum, per lb.....	.03 1/2 to .04 1/2	Russsets, saddlers', per doz..	12.50	" Cartridges, Dom., 50%	
No. 1, orange shellac.....	2.00	Alcohol, per gal.....	4.75	Linings, colored, per foot ..	.12	" Military, Amer., 5% advance.	
Pure orange shellac.....	2.50	Bleaching powder, per lb.....	.06 to .8	METALS AND HARDWARE.		Central Fire Pistol and Rifle, Amer., 12 1/2"	
These prices are for less than barrels, and would be shaded for full barrel lots.		Blue vitrol.....	.6 to .10	TIN, Lamb and Flag, 56 and 28 lb ingots, per lb.....	.26 to .28	" Cartridges, Dom., 30%.	
LINSEED OIL, Raw, per gallon.....	61c	Borax.....	.11 to .13	Strip.....	.23 to .30	SHOT—Canadian.....	0.6 to 0.6 1/2
" Bolted, per gallon.....	64	Bromide polish.....	.44 to .55	TIN PLATES—Charcoal Plates, Bright.		WABS.—Eloy's, per 1,000.....	25 to .75
These prices are in barrels, but would be shaded 2c for ten barrel lots.		Camphor.....	.75 to .85	Bradley M. L. S.....	Per box.	AXLE GREASE—Per gross.....	10.00 to 14.00
TURPENTINE, Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon.....	63c	Camphor cuncoes.....	.80 to .90	I. C., usual sizes.....	\$7.50 to \$7.75	WIRE—Clothes line, galv., p.	
Less than barrels, per gallon.....	72	Carbolic acid.....	.40 to .65	I. X.,.....	8.25 to 8.50	Wire Barb.....	4.85 to 5.00
GLUE, S.B., in sheets, per pound.....	15	Castor oil.....	.11 to .15	Raven and P. D. Grades—		ROPE—Sisal, per lb, 10 1/2 to 11 1/2,	
" White, for kalsomining.....	20	Chlorate polish.....	.25 to .30	I. C., usual sizes.....	5.75 to 6.00	Manilla, per lb., 14 1/2 to 15 1/2,	
BURNING OILS, Eocene.....	34	Citric acid.....	.65 to .80	I. X.,.....	7.00 to 7.50	Cotton, 25 to 27.	
" Sunlight.....	23	Copperas.....	.03 1/2 to .04	Dean or J. G. Grade—		NAILS—Cut 5 in. and upwards, per keg base,	
" Silver Star.....	20	Cocaine, per oz.....	\$2.20 to \$9.75	I. C. 20 x 23, 112 sheets ..	\$10.00 to 11.50	price, 3.00.	
" Water white.....	33	Cream tartar, per lb.....	.23 to .35	IRON AND STEEL—	Base Price.	Wire nails, 4.00.	
" Opalero.....	20	Extract Logwood, bulk.....	.14 to .18	Common Iron, per 100 lbs.....	\$3.00 to \$3.25	HORSE NAILS—Canadian, dis., 50 to 45 per cent.	
Stove gasoline, per case.....	3.50	Epsom salts.....	.03 1/2 to .04	Band.....	3.50 to 3.75	HORSE SHOES—Per keg, 4.50 to 5.00.	
Benzine, per case.....	3.50	German quinine.....	.30 to .40	Swedish ".....	5.25 to 6.00		
Benzine and gasoline, Per gallon.....	50	Glycerine, per lb.....	.20 to .25	Stiehl Shoe Steel.....	3.75 to 4.50		
LUBRICATING OILS, Capital cylinder.....	53	Howard's quinine, per oz.....	.50 to .60	Best Cast Steel, per lb.....	.13 to .15		
" Eldorado Engine.....	35	Iodine.....	\$5.50 to \$8.00	Russian Sheet.....	.12 to .13		
" Atlantic rod.....	35	Insect powder.....	.35 to .40	BULKY TUBS—40 per cent. off list.			
" Golden Star No 1.....	33	Morphia sul.....	1.75 to \$1.90				
" Extra.....	35						
" Eldorado Castor.....	38						
" Golden.....	32						

THE CANADA JUTE COMPANY, LTD.

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Winnipeg.

The Bank of Ottawa.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of The Bank of Ottawa was held on the 14th inst. in the board room of the bank. On motion the president took the chair, and the general manager acted as secretary.

The Chairman asked the secretary to read the Report of the Directors.

The Directors are called upon to record, with deep regret, the loss which the Bank has sustained since the last annual meeting, in the death of James MacLaren, who presided over its affairs since the time it commenced business in 1874. His constant and untiring interest in its welfare, together with his long and varied business experience, contributed in no small degree to its past success. To fill the vacancy caused by his death, the Directors elected Davis MacLaren a member of the board.

The balance at the credit of profit and loss account on the 30th November, 1891, was \$ 28,678 62
 Net profits for the year ending 30 November, 1892, after deducting expenses of management, reduction in bank premises, and making necessary provision for interest due to depositors, unearned interest on current discounts, and for all bad and doubtful debts \$ 182,705 10

Appropriated as follows:
 Dividend No. 32, paid 1st June, 1892 \$ 48,833 26
 Dividend No. 33, payable 1st December, 1892 \$ 50,216 17
 Carried to next account \$ 65,000 00

Leaving a balance to be carried forward at the credit of profit and loss account of \$ 47,229 20

And making the next account \$ 639,463 50
 To which has to be added the premium from the new stock paid in since last statement \$ 68,080 75

Total next account \$ 707,544 25

The bank has done a satisfactory business during the past year, its net earnings showing a considerable advance in amount over those of the preceding one.

A branch office was opened at Hawkesbury, Ont., in April last, and the result so far has been fairly satisfactory.

The usual inspections of the various offices of the bank have been made.

The directors have pleasure in testifying that the employees of the bank continue to discharge their respective duties satisfactorily.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES MAGEE,
 President.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS,

As on 30th November, 1892.—Condensed.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital paid up.....	\$1,335,410 00
Reserve.....	707,519 25
Notes in circulation.....	1,069,857 00
Deposits.....	3,839,554 00
Balances due agents in Great Britain and hankers in Canada.....	77,659 27
Rebate on current discounts and reserved interest and exchange.....	56,558 17
Dividends unpaid.....	50,325 67
Balance profit and loss account.....	47,229 20
Total.....	\$7,184,240 65

ASSETS.	
Specie, legal tenders, Dominion Govern- ment debentures, bank balances, cash, and call loans on stocks.....	\$1,350,339 21
Loans and discounts.....	5,733,186 74
Overdue debts.....	22,875 13
Real estate and mortgages.....	26,639 57
Bank premises.....	51,000 00
Total.....	\$7,184,240 65

GEO. BURN,
 General Manager.

The usual votes of thanks to the president, directors and members of the staff were proposed and carried unanimously, also a motion to change by-law No. 7, and another authorizing

the directors to establish a Guarantee Fund and to contribute thereto from the funds of the Bank, after which the election of directors was proceeded with.

The scrutineers reported the old Board re-elected.

At a meeting of the directors held subsequently, Chas. M. Esq., was re-elected president, and Robert Blackburn vice president for the ensuing year.

Wheat Prices in Britain.

The London MILLER reviews the course of the wheat markets during November as follows:

"The month's trade began with Liverpool dull, 6s. 9d. per cental being taken for Californian, and 5s. 9d. for red winter (equivalent to 33s. 9d and 28s. 6d. in London). The metropolitan market of the 22nd quoted 31s. for red winter, small bargains, but 28s. 6d. for cargoes. Glasgow declined 6d. per sack for flour, under an importation of 34,000 sacks. Bristol on the 3rd was 6d. down for foreign wheat and flour. The imperial average on the 5th was 28s. 9d., or 3s. 1d. below the mean. On the 7th London quoted all sorts of wheat and flour dull at 6d. decline. Minnesota first bakers' flour made 20s. 6d. per sack. At Liverpool on the 8th Californian made only 6s. 7d. per cental, but red winter made 5s. 10d. Glasgow on the 9th was again 6d. lower. On the 10th Birmingham, Bristol and Manchester were fairly firm, but the agricultural markets showed no power of maintaining prices, and the weather being wet, samples were in very poor request. The imperial average on the 12th was 28s. 3d., or 3s. 10d. below the mean. On the 14th London was firm for Indian wheat, but weak for all other sorts. Manitoba made 30s. 9d. per qr. On the 15th at Liverpool the prices of the 8th were repeated. On the 16th Glasgow fell 6d., making 1s. 6d. on the three weeks for both wheat and flour. London was 3d. lower for Manitoba wheat. On the 18th, for No. 2 Calcutta cargoes, 30s. 3d. was all that was made. The imperial average on the 19th was 27s. 11d., or 4s. 6d. below the mean. On the 21st Minnesota first bakers' at Mark Lane made 20s. per sack. The fall in foreign wheat was 6d., in English 1s on the fortnight Liverpool on the 22nd was dull, but not cheaper from the 15th. No changes of note took place on the 23rd, 24th or 25th. On the 26th the imperial average was 27s. 5d., or 5s. 2d. below the mean. On the 28th at Mark Lane the top price of flour fell 1s. 6d. per sack, and other sorts 9d. The 29th was marked by some reaction at Liverpool, Californian wheat selling as low as 5s. 6d. per cental, and red winter for 5s. 9d. The last markets of the month quoted No. 2 Calcutta cargoes at 30s., Manitoba at 30s. 6d., Kansas at 28s. 3d., and Australian new crop, prompt to London at 32s. 9d. per qr.

The decline in the price of English wheat during November amounts to 1s. 4d. per qr. On most foreign sorts it has been rather less. There has, however, been no recovery, and demand is, if anything, worse from a month ago. Owing to the wet weather both threshings and plowings have been less than usual. The September and October sown wheat on the continent and in the United States has made a good start, and the season has been singularly mild and open for by far the greater portion of the month. Blizzards, however, are now reported from States west of Chicago, and a severe frost has set in throughout Russia, from the White Sea to the Black. We cannot expect any further shipments from the Sea of Azoff, and the Baltic must now be regarded as uncertain.

DECEMBER will probably do something to lighten the existing severe depression. Demand is bound to freshen with a wintry touch, such as the approach of Christmas promises. The abnormal mildness of the last six weeks has kept consumption at little above a summer level. With improved enquiry value may pick up slightly, but no important recovery is probable. The stocks and the quantity on passage combine to prohibit it."

A Printers' Failure.

A portion of the plant and stock of H. Buckle & Sons, printers, Winnipeg, was sold by the sheriff last week, and was bought by D. Scott, at 40 cents on the dollar. The balance of the plant is covered by a chattel mortgage held by Miller & Richard, of Toronto, for about \$7,000, which probably represents its full value, though it is nominally valued higher. It will be sold on Tuesday, an upset price of \$5,050 being placed on it. The portion of the estate sold by the sheriff is nominally valued at \$7,000, against which there are three judgments, aggregating about \$5,500. The first judgment is held by the bank of Ottawa, for paper endorsed by a Mr. Hilton, who is father-in-law of one of the Buckle's, junior. This latter fact of a relative coming in with first judgment, is not a pleasant feature for the other creditors, though it is not considered that there is anything wrong about the transaction. Hilton endorsed paper for the firm, and the claim appears sound enough. The second judgment is held by A. Pearson, being \$500 for money loaned. Parsons Bell & Co. come third with a claim of \$1,000. Besides these three judgments and the chattel mortgage, there are quite a number of other creditors, who will of course be wiped out, as total liabilities aggregate about \$20,000. The firm was burnt out some years ago, and secured large credit following the fire, launching out with a large outfit immediately after, though it appears there was really no financial basis for credit at the time. H. Buckle & Sons have done a reckless business right along, cutting and slashing prices, regardless of cost. They have long been a thorn in the side of legitimate printing business in Winnipeg, and have succeeded in making the industry not only disastrous for themselves, but unprofitable to some extent for others. A very bad failure, such as they have now arrived at, is the natural result of such unbusinesslike procedure. The creditors of course, have to suffer for the folly of the firm. It is not yet known what further disposition will be made of the establishment.

Prospective Values.

Wheat for May will touch 65c before the May deal closes, said a very successful wheat dealer Saturday. When questioned closely as to the reason for his opinion, he said that the situation at this season of the year was never before so bearish. The principal bearish feature, however, he admitted, was that the stocks are so very large that nothing short of calamity to the next crop can possibly cause any important advance. The exports are not large enough to remove the surplus, now in sight, before another crop will be in the market he said. The nearest approach to the existing conditions was in 1887, when in January the visible supply had reached approximately 63,000,000 bu against 78,000,000 now. Against that it is argued that there is a large export demand that will go over into 1893, with the answer that there was such an one in 1887 during the marketing of the crop raised in 1886. The United Kingdom alone took 56,000,000 bu or more than it had taken since until last year. Cash wheat sold down to 70 for No. 1 hard in June that year with sales for July below it. During that season India exported heavily which it is not doing now, although, with the promise there is for the next crop in that country, it may do so this season, after March. The South American countries and the Australasian are said to promise better than a year ago. The promise in Europe seems to be at least equal to the average, and in this country the conditions are not behind last year. It follows, that while there are fluctuations to come that will carry prices above the present level, really high prices are dependent upon something to happen that is not now in sight.—Minneapolis Market Record.

The Manitoba Wire Company is in financial deep water.

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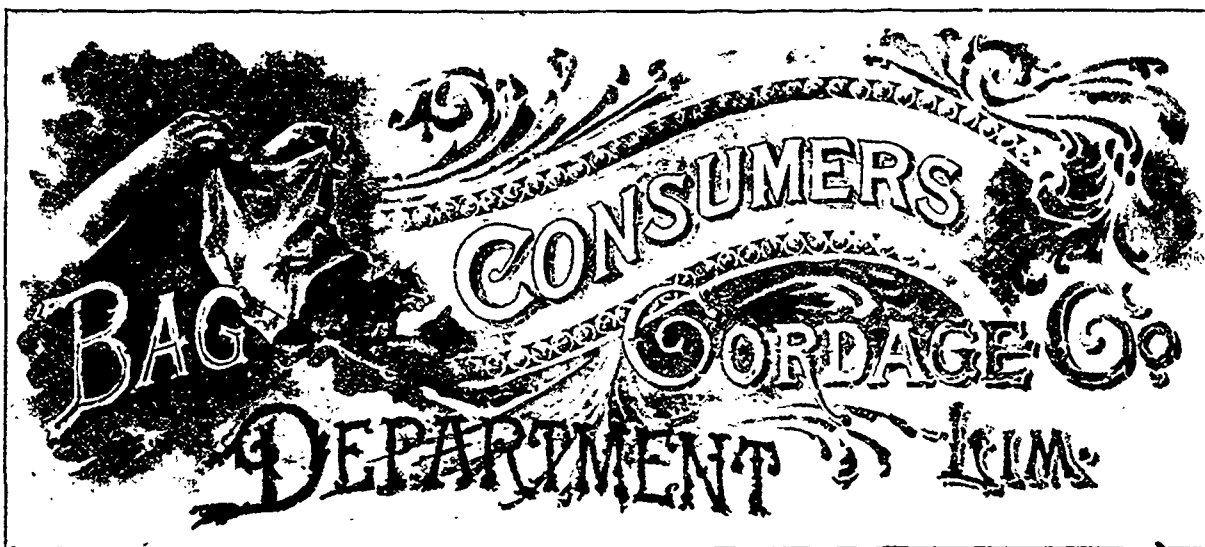
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Green and Dried Fruits.

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Brief Business Notes.

(Continued from page 410)

Tenders for the construction of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway will be asked for about Feb. 1st, and it is the intention of the promoters to let the work to British Columbia contractors if possible.

The post office department has let a contract to Capt. Troup of the Columbia & Kootenay Navigation Company to carry two mails per week from Nelson to the coast. The benefit will also be shared by Kaslo, Pilot Bay, Ainsworth and Balfour.

A bill is to be introduced in the Legislature next session to change the name of the Canada Western Central Railway to the British Pacific Railway. The surveyors are expected to have by this time the line located to Campbell river, whence they will move south.

The extensive saw mills of the Michigan Lumber Co., Vancouver, operated by Morse & Boggs, were completely destroyed by fire last week. Loss \$75,000; insurance \$32,000. The sash and door factory belonging to the same concern was burned down a short time previously.

At the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly an application will be made for an act to incorporate a company to construct and operate a line of telephone and cable between Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver and Westminster, and other places on the coast.

A letter was received from the steamer Eliza Edwards, owned by Capt. Edwards, Vancouver, a few days ago, announcing that she was on a sand bar at the mouth of a river in Central America. She has been chartered by a Panama company and is running between Panama and other Central American ports.

A project is on foot in which the Albion Iron-works Company of Victoria and English capitalists are interested for the development of the Sooke iron mines and the utilization of their ores by a large manufactory giving employment to upwards of 500 men. The company will seek incorporation with a capital of \$5,000,000.

A local exchange has this to say:—It is perhaps not generally known that the skin of the dog salmon, when put through the process of leather tanning, turns out a valuable fine grained and most durable leather, impervious to moisture, and almost, if not quite as tough as any known to the trade.

J. E. Devereaux, C. E., who is engaged in laying out a townsite at the foot of the Beaufort hills, tells of great things to be done in the district by the American capitalists he is working for. Among other industries they will start, are wire and soap factories, also a condensed milk factory; a tramway is to be operated. Electricity to supply the motive power for all the concerns.

The Spokane Falls & Northern Railway Co. and the C. & K. Navigation Co. intend keeping the route open all winter to Nelson, Kaslo, Ainsworth, Pilot Bay and Balfour, via Little Dalles and Robson. The Spokane Falls & Northern Railway is being rapidly pushed ahead from Little Dalles to the British Columbia line, and the Northern Pacific R.R. Co. has instructed its agents to continue accepting all business, both passenger and freight, that is offered for above points.

An application has been made on behalf of the creditors, to wind up the Telegram Publishing Co., of Vancouver. This is one of the worst and most disastrous failures to both the creditors and shareholders, that has occurred here for years, the only exception being the late manager, who was able to buy back the plant, and pay cash for it, and will publish a weekly paper. None of the creditors, outside of the employees, have been paid, and they not fully. The liabilities are large, and the shareholders will be sued for the amount of their unpaid stock. The plant was sold by the sheriff, and what represents an investment of about \$40,000 was bought from the hammer at \$3,100.

Bank of Ottawa.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Ottawa was held on the 14th inst. in the board room of the bank. Among those present were Messrs. Sheriff Sweetland, Hon. Senator Clemow, Denis Murphy, E. Mehr of Arnprior, T. W. Kenny of Arnprior, J. D. Fraser, Andrew Mason, Wm Scott, T. C. Keefe, R. Blackburn, Hon. George Bryson, George Hay, David MacLaren, Charles Magee, John Mather.

The financial statement shows a net profit for the year of \$182,705. Two dividends, one of \$48,333, and one of \$50,246 were paid during the year, and \$65,000 carried to rest account, leaving a balance to profit and loss of \$47,299. The total rest account is \$707,649. The bank has \$1,069,857 of notes in circulation.

The bank has done a satisfactory business during the past year, its net earnings showing a considerable advance in amount over those of the preceding one. A branch office was opened at Hawkesbury, Ont., in April last and the result so far has been fairly satisfactory. At the expiration of six months from the date of the recent allotment of stock, the directors decided to sell, as authorized by the Bank Act, the balance of fractional and unallotted shares, fifty-four in number. Tenders were asked for, and the price realized was at the rate of \$155 per share; the extra premium over the rate allotment (\$737.50), being included in the profits of the year.

The late revision of the Bank Act, which came into force last year, authorizes the formation of Guarantee and Pension Funds for the employes and the contributing thereto from time to time out of the funds of the Bank. The directors deem it advisable to commend the adoption of this measure for the Bank of Ottawa in so far as a Guarantee Fund is concerned.

British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, of Dec. 19, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: English wheats have advanced 5d during the week owing to the comparatively good condition of London millers. In 44 out of 60 retail markets prices have favored buyers. Twenty-five shillings was not an unusual price in the west and southwest. American wheats have fallen 6d, and a further decline was only checked by the firmness of the New York market. The prices ruling in Market Lane indicate that only the higher grades of American flour can now be profitably exported. The large Russian shipments continue.

The Monetary Conference.

A report was submitted this week by the committee appointed by the Brussels conference to consider the various projects submitted to that body. The report, however, is an unsatisfactory one, and does not bring the business of the conference any nearer to a conclusion than it was before. No plan is recommended in the report, which sets forth that in considering the various proposals submitted to it it confined itself to the study of general principles and did not discuss the details necessary to give the several proposals effect. After some discussion of the arguments for and against the several plans proposed, the report says, that having regard for the fact that the conference had not pronounced on the general question, the committee did not feel justified in taking a vote upon the projects referred to it or in attempting to formulate a compromise between the varying monetary doctrines advanced. It is understood that the conference will adjourn early next week, to meet again, perhaps, in June. In the course of the proceedings on Thursday some of the delegates to the conference urged the American delegates not to press

a vote upon the main question at the present stage. Senator Allison, in reply, said that he and his colleagues did not ask for a vote upon the main question. He criticised the proposals already advanced as being of such a character that they would, if adopted, impose a heavy burden upon America. He said that the American delegates could not make concessions without compensating amendments, but promised that the United States would accept any scheme that met with general approval.—*Bradstreet's*, Dec. 17.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

Below is shown the number of cars of wheat inspected at Winnipeg for five weeks:

Grade.	Nov. 19.	Nov. 23.	Dec. 3.	Dec. 10.	Dec. 17.
Extra Manitoba hard.....	3	9	1	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	30	62	10	44	52
No. 2 hard.....	140	103	157	157	207
No. 3 hard.....	63	36	67	53	62
No. 1 Northern.....	10	9	26	13	17
No. 2 Northern.....	6	6	14	13	14
No. 3 Northern.....	2	1	0	0	2
No. 1 White fyte.....	2	1	1	4	12
No. 2 White fyte.....	1	1	3	4	2
No. 1 Spring.....	0	0	0	0	2
No. 1 Frosted.....	17	14	11	9	21
No. 2 Frosted.....	19	12	13	14	26
No. 3 Frosted.....	2	2	0	1	0
Rejected.....	43	51	70	54	33
No Grade.....	5	5	5	8	13
Feed Wheat.....	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	276	349	312	419	457
Same week last year.....	617	417	722	431	638

Wm. McAulay, one of the best known business men of Hamilton, Ont., succided on Dec. 22 by hangidg. Inflammatory rheumatism and heart disease had unhinged his mind. He just completed the sale of his wholesale dry goods establishment to Gordon, McKay & Co., of Toronto, and had decided to go south for the benefit of his health.

Haultain's railway assessment bill has passed the committee of the whole, at Regina, in spite of energetic and persistent lobbying. Under the bill the right of way and grounds, stations, freight sheds, dining halls, elevators and section houses are to be made taxable in the territories. The rest of the superstructure is exempt. The Manitoba and Northwestern will be exempt for twenty years if 150 miles are built in five years.

Nelson Bickerdike, says the Montreal Gazette reports a very satisfactory demand for the dressed beef he is handling for the Cochrane Ranch company of Alberta. Notwithstanding the very mild weather he has found no difficulty in selling all he has received and says his customers appear extremely well pleased with the article. He will receive two more cars from the Cochrane ranch this week and another car next week, which will be the last of the season. He has made arrangements with the Waldron Ranch company to handle beef from them all winter. This company will enter the market next week and will market 100 head of cattle per week right through the winter or as long as the weather keeps cool enough.

The Government has informed ranchers in the territories that they can now purchase ten per cent of their leasehold and convert it into freehold for \$2 per acre. This will enable them to have a smaller range of territory, which they can fence in and so do away with the "squatter" trouble, about which they complain so much at present. A rancher for instance, who holds 100,000 acres can purchase 10,000 acres for \$20,000. When the lands were leased to ranchers in the first instance a clause was put in the agreement that the owner could purchase a homestead farm. The amount of such homestead was not specified. It has now been definitely decided to make this ten per cent of the leasehold. As to complaints about wolves destroying cattle, the Dominion Government cannot see their way to give a reward for each animal killed. That is a matter which belongs to the Northwest Territories.

Manitoba.

S. J. Woode, harness, Carman, has assigned John Deacon has just erected a bakery at Holland.

C. B. Burgess, cabinet maker, Virden, has been sold out under chattel mortgage.

W. C. Edgar, tailor and furnishings, Virden, has sold his tailoring department to Alex. Dingwall.

Three hundred thousand bushels of grain have been marketed at Pilot Mound this winter to Dec. 17.

The first number of the *Wawanesa Enterprise*, E. A. Bailey's new paper, is out. The paper has an interesting budget of local news.

Shilson Bros., farmers, Star Mound, have this season, raised 21,000 bushels of grain. This does not include about a dozen stacks that have not yet been threshed.

Harry Hogan, proprietor of the St. Lawrence Hall hotel, Montreal, paid *THE COMMERCIAL* a visit last week. He is on his way out to visit his sons, who are ranching in Alberta territory.

With the winding up of the threshing season, cases of hardship are becoming known, through the failure of some parties to pay up their men. Wages are allowed to run behind, and in a few instances the men never received their pay. It is a pity that such parties cannot be summarily dealt with.

The Manitoba and Southeastern Railway company will apply at the next session of Parliament for an act amending the act of incorporation of the company by providing for an extension of time for two years for the construction of the company's line of railway and for other purposes.

Mr. Kirchoffer, of Brandon, has been appointed to the senate, no doubt as the choice of the new minister from Manitoba, Mr. Daly. The gentleman has only a local reputation, and that only as a genial person. Otherwise, he has never distinguished himself in any way in Manitoba, and could hardly be considered a public man.

Four by-laws were voted on in Winnipeg last week, and all were defeated, except the one to provide for a system of public parks. The defeated by-laws were:—To issue \$54,000 debentures for a bridge across the Assiniboine river on Main street; debentures to the amount of \$400,000 for a new system of water works, and debentures to the amount of 15,000 for an overhead bridge over the Canadian Pacific railway.

An adjourned meeting of the council of the Winnipeg board of trade was held on Monday to finish the business of last week in connection with the report of the board of flour examiners, and the discussion of the question of chattel mortgages and liens. A committee was appointed consisting of J. H. Ashdown, W. B. Scarth, J. H. Bousser, H. S. Westbrook, R. T. Riley, A. B. Bethune, S. Nairn and Wm. Georgetown, to inquire into the whole matter.

The civic elections in Winnipeg for 1893 were quiet, owing to the election of the mayor by acclamation. There were contests in three wards only for aldermen, A. Dawson being elected in ward 3 over J. Callaway; D. W. Bole in ward 4 over Jas. Scott, and J. C. Sproule in ward five over W. J. Ross. The city council for 1893 is as follows: Mayor—Thos. W. Taylor. Aldermen—ward one—Donald Ross and L. A. Nares. Ward two—Robert Wyatt and Thos. Gilroy. Ward three—G. H. West and A. Dawson. Ward four—R. W. Jameson and D. W. Bole. Ward five—Alex. Calder and J. C. Sproule. Ward six—G. F. Carruthers and J. B. Henderson.

Assinaboia.

R. Street, butcher, Fleming, is moving to Moosomin.

Coal from the Hassard mine, Souris river, is

now offered for sale in car lots at all railway points. The coal from the Hassard mine is said to be fully equal to the product of the Estovan mines and the proprietors claim it surpasses the latter. Thos. T. Thomson, of Oxbow, has the handling of the coal. The Hassard mine coal is drawn from the mine to the nearest railway point, five and a half miles distant.

Alberta.

Little and Maloney intend opening a brick yard in the spring in Edmonton.

Northwest Ontario.

The stave factory at Keewatin has closed down for the season, after cutting about 1,000,000 staves.

Receipts of coal at Fort William for the season of 1892, from Buffalo, were 14,085 tons, as compared with 20,863 tons last year, and 5,070 tons in 1890. Port Arthur received 3,400 tons this year, 3,860 tons in 1891 and 2,065 in 1890.

The stock of Lavin and Weidman, grocers, clothing, etc., Rat Portage, has been moved to Winnipeg, and will be sold by the sheriff on Dec. 26th.

Grain and Milling.

The Farmers' Milling Co. are pushing their new mill at Oxbow, and expect the machinery on shortly, the building being completed.

During the navigation season of 1892, 5,418,000 barrels flour and 40,994,700 bushels grain, passed through the Soo canal, a gain in the case of the former of 43 per cent., and in the latter of 6 per cent.

The committee appointed to solicit subscriptions and bonuses in aid of the new flour mill at Prince Albert, says the *Times*, are meeting with good success, the farmers generally responding in the most satisfactory manner.

There is a little trouble being experienced with the flour mill recently erected at Killarney, Man., which is for the present closed. The firm who put in the machinery not getting their money per agreement, owing to an alleged flaw in the by-law, so it is said, the matter is now being looked into and an effort made to straighten things out. The citizens are anxious that the affair be satisfactorily arranged and the mill started.

The Duluth board of trade has under consideration the adoption of rules governing the members on the question of rates of commission to be charged for handling grain. Heretofore this matter has been left to the individual firms. There is a feeling of opposition to the proposed rules, and, if adopted, the vote will probably not be unanimous. The opposition to the measure is based on several grounds, chief of which is the fact that its opponents think the adoption of such fixed rates will be placing a lever in the hands of the Superior board of trade, which will not be restricted to any set of rules in this respect. The new rules are posted now and, probably, will be acted upon some day this week.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The *Chicago Trade Bulletin* of Dec. 17 says: The business with the railroads was not as active and the eastbound lines are handling only a moderate amount of flour and grain, but are furnished with a fair quantity of provisions. Rates to New York remained steady at 25c per 100 lbs for flour and grain, and 30c for provisions. Through traffic to Liverpool was slow and rates easy at 31½ to 33½c per 100 lbs for flour, 17½ to 18c per bu for grain, and 39½ to 45½c per 1000 lbs for provisions. A fair demand existed for boats to load wheat and corn, and three were chartered to go to Buffalo early in the week at 3½ to 4c for corn. The same

figures were also secured for wheat to load and take cargo to Buffalo in the spring. At the close these rates were difficult to secure.

The Minneapolis *Northwestern Miller* of Dec. 16 says: From all accounts, east-bound rates on flour from Minneapolis are rather demoralized. The action of the Soo line in putting into effect a tariff allowing a 2c differential via Mackinaw, over all-rail rates, is said to have induced the Kooawaunee line to do still a little better, and it is hard to tell just what are bottom rates. Both of these routes, transferring cars, as they do, without broaking bulk, are generally regarded as practically all-rail lines, and a great deal of feeling exists about the matter. Talk is yet indulged in to the effect that all-rail rates are being shaded to the extent of 2½c per 100 lbs. Dec. 15 is the date set for the advance in the through rate on wheat and its products, Minneapolis to Chicago, making the rate on all shipments, whether for local points or the seaboard, uniformly 12½c per 100 lbs. Heretofore a rate of 10c has been made on shipments destined for points east of Pittsburgh and Buffalo. No corresponding advance is made west of Minneapolis. Through rates from Minneapolis obtainable Wednesday for prompt shipment, were as follows, in cents per 100 lbs: To London 41c; Liverpool 39c; Glasgow 42c; Leith 44½c; Bristol 43c; Amsterdam 45.

Silver.

Bradstreet's:—The silver market has been dull and unexcited for the past week. Its comparative steadiness is partly the result of a reaction from the downward action caused by the expected failure of the Brussels conference, and is to a certain degree attributable to the decreased production. Whether the latter fact can be ascribed to the low prices or to the advent of the winter season, with its natural restriction of mining operations in the west, is, however, a question. The announcement from London is that the Indian mints will not be closed to the free coinage of silver also had a sustaining influence. The reduction of the amount of silver bullion on hand at New York against outstanding certificates goes on steadily, the total at the close of the present week being only 951,887 ounces. This fact, of course, checks further activity in the certificates. Prices Dec 16 were, Lond. bars. 38½d. N. Y. bars. 84c.

During the last two or three years, trials have been made in the French army of the quite remarkable telephonic system of Capt. Charolais, which depends upon the use of the Martin bimetallic wire of steel core covered with copper. This wire is stronger and rusts less readily than that ordinarily used. With a magnetic receiver at either end, the wire is unwound upon wet or dry earth, or even in water, and without insulation—contrary to usual theories—conducts sounds to a considerable distance. The military telephonists are organized in sets of two men, each set having equipment for a mile line. The simple receiving and transmitting apparatus are fixed to the military cap; and the wire is carried on reels in a sort of breast plate, being so light that a man's ordinary equipment weighs less than six pounds. The wire is rapidly laid by foot soldiers, cavalrymen or bicyclists. By successive sets of operators a line fourteen miles long was established in five hours and taken up in one hour; and an order of assault, setting in motion two army corps, was received and put in execution in ten minutes.

In all imitations of the "Myrtle Navy" tobacco yet attempted, either inferior stock has been used or the plug has been made a trifle lighter in weight. The latter defect is apt to escape the attention of the consumer until he finds that he is smoking a greater number of plugs than before. The "Myrtle Navy" is made three plugs to the pound and each plug is carefully weighed.

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Grain Commission Merchant,
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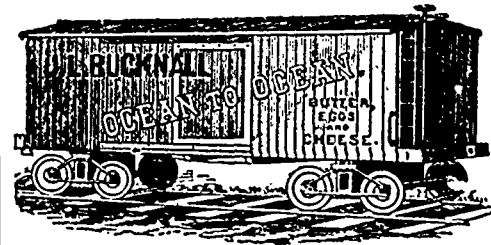
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A Partner's Death.

IN EVERY PARTNERSHIP there are two factors of great importance—the managing brain and the capital employed, and if death removes either the business must suffer. It often happens that the brains belong to one man and the capital to another. If the manager dies the capital is worth less than before, and if the capitalist dies and his capital is withdrawn, the manager is crippled. It is clear that each has an insurable interest in the life of the other because the profits of each depend in part upon the life of both. The firm should, therefore, insure for the benefit of the business on either the ten-twenty plan or the modified natural premium life plan of the MANUFACTURERS'. The care the plans best adapted to suit the requirements of such cases. Let this statement be tested by comparison.

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Manager for Man., N.W.T. & B.C.,
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THE MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE CO.
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Creamery Butter, Dairy Butter,
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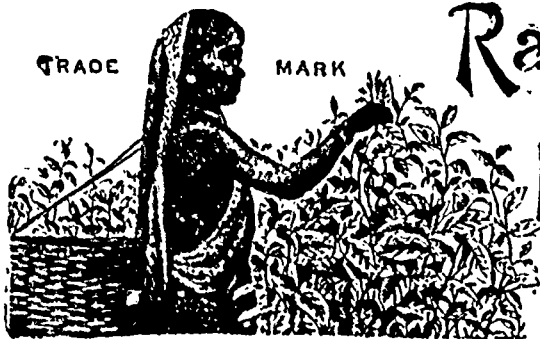
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GUARANTEED ABSOLUTELY PURE
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J. & T. BELL FINE BOOTS & SHOES MONTREAL.

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LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO.

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Barrel Factory at the Mill and Grain Storage Capacity of 550,000 bushels in addition to which we have a system of handling Elevators throughout the Northwest.

All Grades of HARD WHEAT FLOUR in Barrels and Bags.

Offices at: MONTREAL. KEEWATIN. WINNIPEG.

E. A. Small & Co.,

—MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALEERS OF—

Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing.

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Represented by Mr. W. H. Leishman, Sample Room 32 McIntyre Block,
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THE LOCK POCKET PATENTED Attached to our Garments only.
See it before Purchasing Spring Goods.

S. C. MATTHEWS.

W. C. TOWERS.

Still to the Front.

We are showing an EXTRA large and WELL SELECTED range for coming Spring and Summer Trade. Our SANITARY UNDERWEAR, PATENT BRACES, (our own), TIES, etc., being specially worthy of attention.

We trust our friends will kindly wait on Mr. S C Matthews usual call, he being now on his journey, and oblige.

MATTHEWS, TOWERS & CO.

WHOLESALE MEN'S FURNISHINGS,

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Northwest Wire Co'y., Ltd.

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BARBED WIRE, PLAIN TWISTED WIRE AND STAPLES.

A large quantity of Wire always on hand. Orders filled promptly. Send for our Samples and Prices before ordering elsewhere.

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Secretary-Treasurer

WISHING

MY CUSTOMERS

—AND THE—

TRADE GENERALLY,

A VERY HAPPY X'MAS

—AND—

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR,

I remain,

Yours truly,

Thos. Clearhue.

HOPE & CO.

—SEE OUR LINE OF—

Feathers DOWN
AND
Pillows

AND ALL FANCY ARTICLES IN
THE DOWN LINE.

Cash Paid for Feathers.

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Every Attention paid to Guests. First-class in
every Respect. Appointments Perfect.
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Free Trade.

Senator Bolton, as previously announced in THE COMMERCIAL, has been delivering a course of lectures in Manitoba on Free Trade. His lecture in Winnipeg was given before a political club, and on that account probably was not as largely attended as if it had been given in a more public way. Following is a summarized report of his lecture, taken from a local paper:

"He began his lecture by stating, from his view, the position of the two political parties. The Liberals advocated freer trade; another name was reciprocity; the Conservative party advocated protection of the most extreme character, favoring freer trade relations with Great Britain. He advocated full fledged free trade; all his public utterances had been of a free trade character. The Conservative party had lent themselves to protection and now protection had got them. He traced the struggle for free trade in Great Britain from 1838 to 1846, when Cobden, Bright and such men were its advocates, and showed how Russell and Peel sunk their party prejudices when it was shown that the welfare of their country demanded a change, and the adoption of a free trade policy, which was necessary then, just as a change in the Canadian policy is necessary at the present juncture. He believed that, as any intelligent man would, from a study of the statutes of 1891. What did free trade do for Great Britain? In 1840, during the days of protection, the trade of Great Britain amounted to \$665,000,000; in 1880, under free trade, it had increased to \$3,000,000,000; and in 1889 to \$3,725,000,000. This was evidence of enormous growth in the purchasing power. It showed the great development under free trade. The same results would accrue to the people of Canada in a minor degree if they adopted free trade. Wheat going to the seaboard realized very much less in consequence of the restrictive tariff policy. Under free trade in Great Britain he showed that the tonnage had increased from 2,000,000 in 1840 to over 4,000,000 tons in 1890. What had been the increase in Canada under protection? The tonnage, according to government blue books, was actually less in 1892 than in 1873. What causes the difference? It is the difference between the protective commercial policy of Canada and the free trade policy of Great Britain. Why was the national policy brought into force? To develop the manufacturing power. Has it done this? He quoted from the blue books that there were 370,000 men, women and children engaged in manufacturing; \$80,000,000 were invested in plant, not including buildings or real estate. He divided the industries under three different headings: first, those engaged in manufacturing raw material, that is, those employed in saw mills, fish curing, ash and dool factories, fruit and meat canneries, etc. These numbered 137,000 out of the total of 370,000. Protection was not essential to the development of these industries, and it was a class of industries that employed able-bodied men; women and children were not found around saw mills. The second class embraces blank book manufactures, carpenters, joiners, blacksmiths, all put down as manufacturers. There are 9,395 blacksmith shops and 12,053 blacksmiths, about one man to each factory. This, he considered was most misleading, but he found in the blue book, gunsmiths, those employed in electric light manufactures and such like, were all included, and the second class numbered 104,000 out of 370,000. This only left 59,000 engaged in the manufacture of raw materials; he had made a fair division of the classes. No one would for a moment think that those of the first class would be injured, and the latter class would also be benefited by a free trade policy. The latter class had 41,000 establishments, \$19,000,000 capital invested and 59,000 men engaged, and a great many of the manufactures were in existence before the national policy was established. Had the woolen mills, the bookbinderies, the agricultural implement manufactories

developed under protection? Under the protective policy they had only to manufacture for 5,000,000 people. The moment that number was supplied the manufacture ceased. Why don't we export more? Because the cost of manufacture is so dear; the protective policy makes everything that enters into many of our manufactories so dear that it prevents us from competing with free trade England. He showed that the average duty was 32 per cent on \$72,000,000 of manufactured articles imported into Canada, thus raising a revenue of \$24,000,000, but he showed that the people were actually paying, owing to the protective policy, \$48,000,000 or \$30,000,000. He took a binder for instance. It was supposed to cost \$80 at the factory in Canada. Every single thing in that binder, except a little wood, is subject to a tax of 32 per cent. If this were knocked off and the articles were admitted free the binder could be made for \$54. Surely that was as plain as a pikestaff. By manufacturing the binder for \$54 instead of \$80, Canada could compete for the trade with India, Russia and Australia; she would be manifestly benefited by a free trade policy; all she required was a fair field and no favor; free trade will not injure, but will make Canada a great manufacturing country and give us increased population. The results of a free trade policy would astonish the people themselves. He pointed to the open market of Great Britain. The latter country imports to day \$10,000,000 worth of paper; Canada, with all the natural products for the manufacture of paper, does not export one dollar's worth; Great Britain imports \$35,000,000 worth of leather, an article Canada is specially able to supply. What will put us in a position to compete with France and Germany? A free trade policy. The argument that the markets of the world would be closed to us is no argument at all. Free trade would strengthen the bond of unity with the mother country and strengthen our own people, as was the case when the free trade policy was introduced into Great Britain. He asked if the National policy had increased our population, and quoting from the Dominion government census blue books showed that in New Brunswick there had been no increase in population during the past ten years; no natural increase; the same in Prince Edward Island; in Nova Scotia hardly any increase; in Quebec 150,000, very largely in the city of Montreal; in Ontario 190,000, much of it in Toronto, and 90,000 in Manitoba and the Territories. In thirty-seven electoral districts in the east there had been a decrease. The result of the census shows that the productive power has decreased. Labor is the foundation of wealth; if we cannot keep the labor, it is evident we are going behind instead of advancing. He referred to the great reduction in prices of sugar, coal oil, pig iron, boiler steel, etc., showing that Canada had not benefited therefrom; that the protective policy had counteracted the effects which would have been beneficial had we had free trade. The citizens of Winnipeg had free trade in street railways at present; he observed that one company, as a consequence, was advertising 12 tickets for 25 cents. Instances might be pointed out where some single corporation might suffer, but the people at large would be immensely benefited; "let the manufacturers fade or flourish according to the circumstances of the country." The speaker dealt with the imports and exports of Canada under the National policy. Finance Minister Foster had recently said that the exports had increased during the past two years, but the imports had not kept pace with the exports, a fact which the people of Canada were not very much concerned about. He (Boulton) said this was evidence that Canada had not got the purchasing power. Only 14 per cent of our trade, according to statistical information, was transacted in bullion, the balance in barter. If we export \$100,000, our imports should be proportionate. The wealth of the people was not so great to-day as some years ago. The export in dairy produce was the same in 1891 as 1881. Two million people in Denmark exported \$25,

000,000 of dairy produce, while five million in Canada only exported \$10,000,000 worth. This shows that the height of our productive power has not been reached. He claimed that Canada, geographically, was in just as good a position as Great Britain to declare for free trade. We would never develop under a false, restrictive policy. Show the people of Great Britain that we have the same intelligence as they, change our policy, and English money will flow in by millions, because there is a very good investment for it. Every man has to go through a certain experience, and if a wiseman, he could profit by that experience and if necessary change his ways. We have gone through an experience, and it is now wise to make a turn, and declare for free trade. He feared, from an utterance he had read in the Toronto Empire, that the protective policy would be continued and extended by protecting the farmers as well as the manufacturers by giving them an export bounty. This would mean the taxation of our people to make butter cheaper for other nations. Let the farmers alone; give them a fair field and no favors; that is all they want. The Senator next dealt with the wheat question, arguing that if we had free trade England would send out her buyers. The English people would never consent to preferential trade with the colonies and the imposing of a tax on \$180,000,000 worth of food which they purchase annually. It would not be well for Canada, because it would reduce the purchasing power of the people. In free trade England he showed that bread was actually cheaper than in Chicago. In closing Senator Boulton dealt with the revenue question.

The Shortage In Hogs.

Nothing crops out more decidedly from general correspondence these days than the fact of a wide-spread scarcity of hogs. Every man who alludes to the subject at all speaks of hogs as extremely scarce. Such a universality of expression of this kind could not occur without there being really a great scarcity of this stock, a circumstance which fully accounts for the phenomenal strength of hogs at this time. Hogs are higher for a reason, and when selling in December at about or near the highest price of the year the conclusion is irresistible that the claims of shortage are well founded. With an abundance of hogs in the country such prices as now rule would be practically impossible.—Chicago National Stockman.

Lowest Flour Prices on Record.

The New York Commercial Bulletin has the following:—"The prices of flour are now the lowest through the whole list on record. A comparison from the books of a large receiver of prices on December 1st last year and this shows the decline in one year as follows, on trade brands of spring wheat flours: Choice patents, then and now, \$5.25 and \$4.60; choice bakers' extras, \$4.80 and \$3.60; choice rye mixtures, \$4.70 and \$3.25; choice straights, \$5.10 and \$4.10; and choice winter straights, \$4.90 and \$3.80, all in barrels. But this does not show the entire decline from last crop prices. September 1st to October 1st, 1891, the price, on the same grades respectively were \$5.50, \$5, \$4.80, \$5.25 and \$5.10. These are not the extreme top prices on last crop, nor the extreme low ones on this. Low springs or export grades have suffered a still greater shrinkage, not being wanted, whereas last year they could not be had, and bakers' extras, in sacks, have sold as low as \$2.75 to \$3, against \$4.75 to \$5 last crop, and even \$5.10 to \$5.25 on one or two occasions. Spring fine in sacks sold last year as high as \$3.75, and now sells at \$1.60 to \$1.70, and spring superfine and No. 2 do are unobtainable at much more than fine for feedstuffs; No. 2 winters, then and now, \$4 to 4.25 and \$2 to 2.25; superfine do, 10 to 25c less, and No 1 do 25 to 50c more."

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—SOLE AGENTS FOR—

THE INKWELL FOUNTAIN PENS

AT VERY LOW PRICES. REQUIRE NO FILLER AND ANY OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS PENS CAN BE USED IN THEM.

Self Filling.

Self Feeding.

Cut Showing the No. 1 or Pocket Pen, two thirds exact size.



Cut Showing the No. 2, or Desk Pen, two thirds exact size.



MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE OUR PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION.

Wholesale Paper, Stationery and General Jobbers,
AND STEAM PRINTERS.
 134 and 136 Second Avenue North, **WINNIPEG, MAN.**

Toronto Hardware Prices.

Pig iron is easier, owing to increasing production in the United States. Copper appreciates steadily, and the highest price is not supposed to have been touched yet, though 13½ to 14½ represents what would be charged by local holders. Ingot tin has surprised the metal trade by taking a turn from its downward course. In New York and London prices have gone up. In the former city the improvement is supposed to be due to the over selling of shorts. There the price is slightly over 20c.

Antimony, Cookson's per lb, 13½ to 14; other makes, per lb, 13 to 13½c.

Tin—Lamb and flag, 56 and 58 lb ingots, per lb., 23c; Straits, 100 lb ingots, 23½c; strip, 24 to 25c.

Copper—Ingots, 13½ to 14½c; sheet, 16 to 18c.

Lead—Bar, 4½ to 5c; pig, 3½ to 3¾c; sheet per roll, \$4.75 to \$5.25; shot, Can. dis. 12½ per cent.

Zinc—Sheet, 6½ to 6¾c; zinc, spelter, 4½c domestic; imported 5½c; solder, hf and hf, 18 to 19c.

Brass—Sheet, 21 to 28c.

Iron—Bar, ordinary, \$2 to \$2.10; bar refined, \$2.60; Swedes, 1 in. or over, \$4 to \$4.25; Lowmoor, 5½ to 6c; hoops, coopers, \$2.60 to \$2.65; do, band \$2.50 to \$2.60; tank plates, \$2 to \$2.25; boiler rivets, best, \$4.50; sheet, 10 to 20 gauge, \$2.75 to \$3; 22 to 24 dc, \$2.75 to \$3; 26 do, \$3 to \$3.25; 28 do, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Russia, sheet, per lb, 10 to 12c.

Galvanized iron—16 to 24 gauge, 5 to 5½c; 26 do, 5½ to 5¾c; 28 do, 5½ to 5¾c.

Iron wire—Market bright and annealed, Nos. 1 to 16 net list, from stock 15 per cent. discount from Montreal for Hamilton or Toronto add 10c per 100 lbs; market tinned per lb, 4½ to 8c; galvanized fence, same discount as bright and annealed; barbed wire, 4½ to 4¾c; coiled chain, ½ in, 5½ to 5¾c; ¾ in, 4½ to 4¾c; 1 in, 4 1-5 to 4¾c; 1 1-5 in., 3½ to 3¾c; 2 in., 3 1-5 to 3¾c; iron pipe, off list, 60 to 62½ per cent. discount; galv., off list, 35 to 37½ per cent. discount; boiler tubes, 2 in., 13c; do, 3 in., 18½c.

Steel—Cast, 13 to 14c; boiler plate, ½ in., \$2.30; 5 16 do, \$2.25; ¾ do, \$2.25; sleigh shoe, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Nails—American list basis, \$2.30 f.o.b. Toronto and Hamilton, nails, mouldings and wire, 75 per cent. off the new list.

Horse Nails—Can. dis. 60 and 10 off for C. and 60 and 10 and 5 off for P. B. and M.

Horse shoes—Per keg, \$3.65 f.o.b. Toronto and Hamilton; \$3.70 f.o.b. London.

Canada Plates—Blaine, \$2.75 to \$2.90; other \$2.90 to \$3.1.

Tin Plates—IC coke, \$3.65 to \$3.75; 1C

charcoal, \$4.25 to \$4.50; IX charcoal, \$5.25 to \$5.50; IXX charcoal, \$6.25 to \$6.50; DC charcoal, \$4 to \$4.25.

Gunpowder—Can blasting, per keg, \$2.50 to \$2.75; can sporting, FF, \$5; can sporting, FFF \$5.25; can rifle, \$7.25.

Rope—Manilla, 10½c basis; sisal, 9½c basis. Axes—Per box, \$7 to \$12.

Glass—Fourth quality star, 1st break, \$1.30 to \$1.40; 2nd do, \$1.50; 3rd do, \$3.30; 4th do, \$3.60; 5th do, \$3.90.

For old material we quote dealers paying prices as follows: No. 1 heavy scrap, 65 to 70c per 100 pounds; stove cast scrap, 40 to 45c; burnt cast scrap, 15 to 20c; No. 1 wrought iron, 60 to 65c; No. 2 including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 30c; new scrap copper, 8½c; heavy scrap copper, 9½c; old copper bottoms, 8c; light scrap brass, 5½c; heavy yellow scrap brass, 7½c; heavy scrap brass, 8½ to 8¾c; scrap lead, 2c; scrap zinc, 2½ to 2¾c; scrap rubber, 2½ to 2¾c; country mixed rags, 80 to 85c per 100 pounds; clean, dry bones, 50 to 60c per 100 pounds; ploughshares, 60 to 65c; railroad iron, 65 to 75c; malleable scrap, 2½c.—*Empire.*

The paint trade that is done now is of small proportions. The travellers are off the road and business is considered to be over for the season. There are still sales made of white-lead, however, which continues to be quoted at variable prices, 4c sometimes being touched, and 4½c being usually quoted. That quotation is generally overcome, however.

Paints, Oils and Colors.—We quote on large lots only: Pure white lead, ground in oil, association guarantee, 4 to 4½c. Prepared paints (½, ¾ and gal tins)—Pure, per gal, \$1.10; second qualities, per gal, 90c. Colors in oil (25 lb tins (standard quality)—Venetian red, per lb, 5c; chrome yellow, per lb, 14c; chrome green, per lb, 8c; French imperial green, 14c. Colors, dry—Yellow ochre (J.C.), in barrels, per cwt, \$1.35 to 1.40; Venetian red (R.C. 2), per cwt, \$1.50; English oxides, in barrels, per lb, 3½c; American, in barrels, per lb, 2½c; Canadian, in barrels, 1¾c; Paris green, 12 to 15; burnt umber, per lb, 5c; chrome yellow, per lb, 11 to 12c; chrome greens, per lb, 12c; Indian red, 6c for ordinary, 10c for pure; agricultural red, 20 to 22c; golden ochre, 3½c allowed for freight. Turpentine, in barrels.—Selected packages, per gal, 50c for 1 to 3 barrels, freight allowed. Glue, common, broken, in barrels, 10 to 11c; French medal, 11 to 12c; cabinet makers, 17 to 18; white, 16 to 17. Castor oil, per lb, 7½ to 8½c. Patty, \$2 per cwt. Resin, \$1 per cwt. Pine tar (pint tins), \$2 per doz.

Toronto Markets.

Flour—Dull and easy. Manitobas are offering at \$3.80 to 3.90 for bakers', and \$4.20 to 4.40 for patents.

Millfeed—Local mills have brought their jobbing prices down to \$12 for bran and \$13 for shorts. The outside demand is dull and the market easier.

Wheat—Dull and lower. Red was bought outside at 61c straight, and white offered at 63c. Goose in fair demand, with purchases at 56c middle and 57½c Toronto freights. On call 79c was bid for No. 1 hard ten cars or less, with sellers at 81c North Bay, Winnipeg, or Port Arthur inspection and to arrive at 80c. No. 2 hard wanted at 70c for 50 cars or less, spot or to arrive: Fort William stuff offered at 66c. No. 3 hard wanted at 69; it was offered at Fort William at 62c. For No. 1 frosted 55c was bid with sellers to arrive at 60c for ten cars or less; 56c was bid for 15 cars to arrive. One car No. 3 frosted sold at 49c and more offered at 48c.

Barley—Quiet, but steady. A round lot of good two rowed sold outside at 34c.

Oats—Steadier, with sales here at 30c for white and mixed. Odd cars mixed sold west at 27c. For 10,000 bushels 27½c was bid for export and 28c asked.

Grain and Flour—Car prices are: Flour (Toronto freights), Manitoba patents, \$4.35 to \$5.45; Manitoba strong bakers', \$3.90 to \$4.10; Ontario patents, \$3.40 to \$3.50; straight roller, \$2.95 to \$3.30; extra, \$2.65 to \$2.70; low grades per bag, \$1 to \$1.25. Bran—\$12.00 to \$13.00. Shorts—\$12.50 to \$13. Wheat—straight west and north points)—White, 63 to 64c; spring, 60 to 62c; red winter, 62 to 63c; goose, 55 to 56c; spring Midland, 62 to 63c; No. 1 hard, North Bay, 80 to 81c; No. 2 hard, 78 to 78½c; No. 3 hard, 71 to 72c; No. 1 frosted, 61c; No. 2, 53 to 55; No. 3, 47 to 48c. Peas (Outside) 54 to 55c. Barley—No. 1, 50 to 51c; No. 2, 42 to 44; No. 3 extra, 38 to 39c; No. 3, 35 to 37c; two-rowed, 54 pounds, averaging about No. 3, extra in color (outside), 38 to 43c. Corn—57 to 58c. Buckwheat—Ontario 39 to 40c. Rye—56 to 57c. Oats—29½ to 31c.

Produce—Receipts of poultry were light today and prices firmer for everything. Dealers are looking for heavy offerings to-morrow. Fresh eggs are in good demand, and firm at 18c. Lined stock is a little easier at 14 to 15c. Baled hay and baled straw are moving slowly at the old prices. Potatoes are firm; cars of good stock are held on track here at 70 to 72c. Quotations are: Beans, per bush, out of store, \$1.30 to \$1.35. Dressed meats, per lb—Beef, fore, 4 to 5c; hinds, 7 to 8c; veal, 6½ to 8c; mutton, 5½ to 6c; lamb, 7 to 8c. Dried apples—Jobbing at 4½c. Eggs—Fresh, 15 to 18½c; lined, 14½ to 15c. Hay—Timothy, on track, now, \$9. Straw—\$5.50 to \$6. Hides—cured—5 to 5½; green, No. 1 cows, 4½c. Skins—Sheepskins, 96c; calf, 5 to 7c. Hops Canadian, 1892 crop, 18 to 20c; yearlings 12c to 15c. Honey—Extracted, 8 to 10c; comb 12 to

13a. Potatoes—Per bag, out of store, 75c to 80c; on track, 70c per bag. Poultry—Chickens, per pair, 25 to 35c; geese, per lb. 6 to 6½c; ducks, per pair, 40 to 75c; turkeys, 9½ to 10c per lb.

Dressed Hogs and Provisions.—Dressed hogs were firm at yesterday's advance. Butchers took the bulk of the receipts, paying \$7.50 for most of them. Packers secured a few rail and street lots at \$7.35 to \$7.50. Products firm but quiet. Quotations are: Mess pork, Canadian, \$17 to \$18; short cut, \$18 to \$18.50; bacon, long clear, per lb, 8½ to 9c; lard, Canadian, tierces, 9½ to 10½c; tubs and pails, 10½ to 11; compound do, 7½ to 9c. Smoked meats—Hams, per lb, 11½ to 12½c; bellies, 11½ to 12c; rolls, per lb, 9 to 9½c; backs per lb, 11 to 11½c.

Butter.—Receipts have been moderate lately and the market is slightly steadier. Prices are unchanged, large rolls selling at 16 to 17c for the best grades, and 13 to 15c for common to good. Dairy tub butter, owing to the scarcity, is firm at 18 to 18½c for choice grades, and 14 to 15c for medium. Quotations are: Butter, good to choice selected dairy, tubs, 16 to 18½c; medium do, 13 to 15c; large rolls, good to choice, 16 to 17c; medium do, 13 to 14c; creamery, in tubs and crocks, 24 to 25c. Cheese, choice colored, jobbing at 11 to 11½c.

Cheese.—Firm: Dealers are selling small lots at 11 to 11½c. English markets are steady at 53s for both white and colored cheese.

Apples.—The holiday demand for fancy apples, oranges and lemons is unusually good. Following is a present range of prices: Apples, per bbl, \$1.50 to \$2.50

Cattle.—For ordinary cattle there was no change in either price or demand. A large number of Christmas cattle were offered, however, and for these there was a keen demand both from local and outside dealers. Several loads of extra choice fat animals, which came from the vicinity of Guelph, sold at the highest figures 5½c per pound a small lot of picked heifers bringing the outside figure. Choice fat heifers of from 1,100 to 1,300 pounds usually sold in loads at from 4½ to 4¾c per pound. Everything offered changed hands before the close of the market.

Sheep and Lambs.—Only a few sheep were offered, and these were mostly bunched in with lambs. About 250 lambs were placed on the market. The demand was good, and prices steady at from \$3.25 to \$4.50 per head. One bunch of 44 choice fat lambs sold at \$4.40 per head.

Hogs.—The market was firm and higher. Best straight fat hogs, weighed off ear, \$5.60 to \$5.80 per cwt.; store hogs, \$5.25 to \$5.50 per cwt.; roughs, at \$1.50 to \$4.75 per cwt. Not quite 700 hogs were offered to day, and the market owes its firmness to this and the very favorable weather—*Empire*, Dec. 17.

Honey and Maple Syrup.

It is currently believed that honey, both strained and in the comb, is largely adulterated, many asserting that honey-combs are artificial, made and filled by machinery, and that bees have been superseded.

Comb honey is not adulterated. The mistaken belief in its adulteration has arisen from the fact that in large apiaries, where honey is produced in large quantities, a wooden box is set in the hive, in which the bees first build a partition wall, dividing it in two; and many owners of bees have this wall made from the last year's wax, thus saving a great deal of time that the bees would consume in building it. This artificial wall is somewhat thicker than the natural one, and in cutting the comb in two, this partition can readily be discovered. It is said that some unscrupulous dealers have placed tubs of glucose outside of the hives for the bees to feed upon, thus allowing nature to make her own adulteration; but this method has not been general.

Strained honey is so commonly adulterated

It began and ended in Smoke.

Oholly, ever smoke two cigars at once? No deal boy, what for? Too expensive for me, don't cher know. Why to distinguish between the flavahs. Ah; nevah though of that—did you? No Choley, Tasse, Wood & Co., gave me the wrinkle. I was lighting an ordinary ten center don't cher know when my friend handed me one of theirs, same price, and told me to smoke them alternately. Well, did you smoke them alter—go on. Yes—did and Tasse's cigar lasted over an hour and tasted sweet to the end. And the other bloomin weed? Burnt crooked and was used up in twenty minutes.

with glucose that very few consumers ever get a pure article.

Like honey, maple syrup is very generally adulterated, and the consumers rarely get a pure article. Most of the compounds called maple syrup are mainly glucose and common sugar. There are two grades of genuine maple syrup. The cheapest is made by melting the sugar and adding water; and a delicious and wholesome syrup can be thus made. The finest syrup, however, is that made from the pure sap of the maple tree, boiled down, and that has never been made into sugar,

Toronto Grocery Market.

Sugars—Granulated, 4½ to 4¾; Paris lump, boxes, 5½c; extra ground, bbls, 5½ to 6½c; powdered, bbls, 4½ to 5½; refined, dark to bright, 3½ to 4½c; Demerara, 4½c; Trinita, 3½ to 3¾c; Barbados, 3½ to 3¾c. Syrups—U., 1½ to 2½c; M., 2½ to 2¾c; B., 2½ to 2¾c; V.B., 2½ to 2¾c; F.V.B., 2½ to 2¾c; ex super, 2½ to 2¾c; N.X., 2½ to 3c; N.X.N. and special, 3 to 3½c. Molasses—West Indian, bbls, 30 to 50c; New Orleans, open kettle, 45 to 55c; Centrifugals, 30 to 40c; inferior low grades, 25 to 28c.

Teas and Coffees—There is very little doing in either teas or coffees. Teas are dull and unchanged, the demand being for small lots only. Coffees are firm and stiffer prices are talked off. Prices are: Rios, 19 to 21c; Jamaica, 19 to 20c; Java, 25 to 31c; Mocha, 23 to 32½; Porto Rico, 23 to 25c.

Dried Fruits—New "U" prunes, both Atlas and Sphinx brands, are now in stock and are selling at 7½ to 8c. Second shipments of dates are going at 5½ to 5¾c. A small lot of California table raisins is offering; the quality is not as fine as the Mediterranean fruit, being somewhat heavier and coarser, but they look very well; in 6 lb cartons they offer at \$1.30 to \$1.50. Valencias are easier, as some cheaper goods are offering at 4½ to 5c, but prime off-stalk are held at 5½ to 5¾c; layers are scarce at 7 to 7½c. Sultanas in good demand at 6½ to 10c, as to quality. In Malaga fruit there is an active trade doing at \$2.25 to \$2.50 for London layers, \$3.50 to \$3.75 for Connoisseur clusters, \$4.50 to \$4.75 for blue baskets, and \$3.75 to \$4 for black baskets. Currants—Barrels, 5½c; half-barrels, 5½ to 6½c; cases, 6 to 7c; Vostizza, cases, 7½ to 9½c; Patra, bbls, 6½c; cases, 6½ to 7c. Raisins—Valencias, 4½ to 5¾c; layers, 6½ to 7½; Sultans, 6 to 11c; loose Muscatels, \$2.25 to \$2.40; London layers, \$2.25 to \$3; black baskets, \$3.75 to \$4.00; do ½ boxes, 80c to \$1.00; blue basket, \$4.50 to \$4.75; ¼ boxes, \$1.25 to \$1.35. Figs—Em-s, 10 lbs and up, 9½ to 13c; white Malaga figs, 6½ to 7c. in, 25 lb boxes; natural do in bags, 4½c, mats do, 4½c; 14oz, 9 to 9½c. Dates—Hallowey, 5½ to 6c. Prunes—Cases, 7½ to 8c. Nuts—Almonds, Tarragona, 13½ to 17c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; do, shelled Valencia, 29 to 33c; filberts, Sicily, 9½ to 10c; walnuts, Grenoble, 11½ to 15c; Marbots, 12c.

Canned Goods—The best brands of corn, peas and tomatoes are selling, but other packs

are slow. There is not a very active consumptive demand, but most retailers are buying for holiday window displays. Prices are steady at \$1 for equal qualities, and quotations range down to 80c for unknown brands; fancy corn has sold \$1.25 to \$1.35, and fancy peas \$1.05 to \$1.10. Beans have been more active than usual at 90 to 95c. Pumpkins quiet at 90c. Fruits are rather more active. Peaches are wanted at \$2 to \$2.75 for 2's and \$3.25 to \$3.75 for 3's. Raspberries and strawberries are selling at \$2; other fruits quiet. Salmon in better demand, with best brands offered sparingly at \$1.60 to \$1.65, with medium brands at \$1.45 to \$1.55. Lobsters quiet. Fish—Salmon, 1's flat, \$1.60 to \$1.80; salmon, 1's tall, \$1.45 to 1.55; lobster Clover Leaf, \$2.95; lobster, other 1's, \$1.75 to 2.25; mackerel, \$1 to 1.25; finnan haddie, \$1.40 to 1.50; sardines, French, ½s, 40c; sardines, French, ¾s, 17c; sardines, American, ¾s 6 to 8c; sardines, American, ¾s, 9c. Fruits and Vegetables—Tomatoes, 3's, 80c to \$1; corn, 2's, 85c to \$1.05; peas, 2's, 90c to \$1.00; beans, 90 to 95c; pumpkins, 75 to 90c; strawberries and raspberries, 2's, \$2.00; apples, ga's, \$1.75 to \$2; 3's, 85c to \$1; peaches, 2's, \$2.00 to \$2.75; peaches, 3's, \$3.25 to \$3.75; plums, 2's, \$1.40 to 1.75; 3's, \$2.65; pears, 2's, \$1.60 to \$1.75; 3's, \$1.75 to \$2.10.

Spices, Rice, &c.—Rice, bags, 3½ to 4; do, off grades, 3½ to 3¾; do, patina, 4½ to 5½c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; sago, 4½ to 5c; tapioca, 4½ to 5c; pepper, black, 11½ to 12c; do, white 18 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 18 to 20c; cloves, 10 to 15c; allspice, 10 to 13c; nutmeg, 90c to \$1.10 cream tartar, 28 to 35c.

Peels.—Jobbers are running light stocks of all kinds. Prices are firm to stiffer. Lemon is going at 15 to 16c; orange at 17½ to 18c, and citron, 26 to 30c.—*Empire*, Dec. 16.

Russian Wheat Prospects.

An Ottawa correspondent of the *British Trade Journal* writes under date November 23 regarding the future crop that they "have up to now no reason to be dissatisfied. In October and the beginning of the present month we had plenty of rain, which is one of the chief conditions for a good crop next year. Everywhere our farmers have been able to sow their winter seeds in due time and under favorable conditions, and they look forward to a fine harvest in 1893, provided the necessary rainfall occurs in April. It would, indeed, be a blessing for Russia if we—after three years of disappointing crops—should have a rich harvest next year."

NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.
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Importers and Dealers in
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MANUFACTURERS OF
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Corner King and Alexander Streets, - WINNIPEG

Points for the Tea Trade.

The following very interesting paper was read by Harold Lamb before the Hamilton Retail Grocers' Association at a recent meeting of that body:

In the first place, I take it that you gentlemen are only interested in the class of teas which are best suited to our district. All I need to know, and what interests both of us most, is what we can sell to the best advantage, and what gives the best satisfaction. Of course the subject of tea covers a much wider ground than this, but this is what we, as grocers, are most interested in. We all know that the minor divisions are very varied, and I should say that they are oftentimes best unknown. From my experience I think I may state as a fact that we are a black tea drinking people; when I first came to this country, 20 years ago, Upper Canada was a green tea drinking country, but now we have become black tea drinkers.

One of the points which is of great importance to us, in my opinion, and one which is very much overlooked as a rule, is what kind of water rules in the district in which we live. Different district teas will liquor entirely differently in different localities, according to the water. Now, practically throughout the province, or this peninsula at any rate, we have hard water, and I would say to you that there are certain Congous—the finest teas grown in China—that you cannot get anything out of in hard water. This I think is something worth paying attention to. With your permission, I will tell you what Congous draw best with the water we have. They are what we tea men call North China Congous, the leading brands being Monings, Niogchows, Keemums, Kiatacks and Oofaas, but the vast majority are commonly called Monings. Why this is so, and the difference between them I could not explain to you in words what constitutes a Moning Congou. A great many of you know the difference when you have the tea in your hand; you know it by the appearance and liquor; experience is the only teacher in this matter. In this district you will get the best results out of North China teas, or what are commonly called Monings. Now I will speak of the direct opposite, South China teas, or, as they are commonly called, Kaisows. Why I take Monings and Kaisows is because in the first place Monings are considered the best brand of North China teas, and Kaisows the best brand of South China teas. South China teas (Kaisows) are much less suited to this district. If we had soft water, and particularly if we had very soft water, there is no class of tea to which I could so highly recommend to you to give good results as Kaisows. But we have not soft water, and it requires very soft water to get good results out of this class of tea. Therefore, eschew South China teas, which include Kaisows, Packlums, Packlums and Soochongs—the latter are out of date now altogether.

All you gentlemen are perfectly well aware of the immense change which has come over the tea trade within the past 15 years particularly within the past seven or eight years. Fifteen years ago the amount of tea sent from China into London alone—which is the tea market of the world—was about 170 million pounds. The amount then sent from India, including all brands—the number is legion now—was not over 20 million pounds, and the amount sent from Ceylon was infinitesimal; it did not amount to 1,000 pounds. What is the position to-day? China sends to London about 70 million pounds, India sends from 100 to 120 million, and Ceylon from 50 to 55 million pounds. You see from this the immense revolution that has taken place in the tea trade. The imports from China include greens as well as blacks. Now why is this? Simply because China is a badly governed country. I know that from what I read about her. I was never there. We all know that her rulers have taxed everything they could; they have imposed both internal and export duties. Also machinery has super-

sed cheap labor. India and Ceylon make their teas by machinery almost entirely. And also the peculiar soil of these countries produces much more pungent and stronger tea than China's soil does. China has been burning the candle at both ends; they have been working out their soil and taxing to the utmost the greatest product of their country, until they have ruined their trade. And also, in trying to compete with Indian tea, they have sacrificed the quality of their tea, and lost their trade thereby. I am not a particular lover of Indian and Ceylon teas. I admire their qualities, they are very valuable; properly used they are invaluable; but I tell you, gentlemen, there is this about them which we must bear in mind; of course, we are traders, not physicians and we sell as a rule what pleases the public best, but Indian and Ceylon teas are fruitful of dyspepsia; they are very powerful and need to be used judiciously. Perhaps it is out of place for me to say this, but it is just as well to recognize what is going on. When I am asked for Indian and Ceylon teas, I sell them if possible, but the use of Indian and Ceylon teas is going to make the nation a race of dyspeptics, when they are largely used, because they are so impregnated with tannin, and this wears away the stomach. Still these teas—Indian and Ceylon—form the principal part of the tea trade, and the demand for them is increasing every day. Of course the figures which I just gave you are only approximate, as the quantity varies continually. Now what I was going to say is this: We as traders have to deal in Indian and Ceylon teas. I recognize their value. They are indispensable to a man who wants to sell a good Congou at a moderate price. But I think as a rule they are not judiciously used in this country. I think we are drifting very much towards the use of Indian and Ceylon teas intact, by which I mean un-mixed, and I do not think it a good way; there is a much better way of using them. We all here have blends no doubt. The majority in this room perhaps make their own blends, others buy them, and I think the majority, if you will forgive me speaking so frankly, make a mistake in making their own blends, as they have not sufficient experience, I never made a business of blending, and do not deal in blends, but I recognize their value, and a man must have experience to make blends. You will perhaps allow me to tell you what I think make the best blends, and where I think a great many errors are made. In the first place a great mistake is made in mixing a very fine tea with a common tea. A man will have something which he made a mistake in buying, and of which he wants to dispose of; it is unsaleable, but he must work it off. It is usually poor stuff; in fact it naturally is. Now this man is very apt to buy something fine to mix with it. If you will allow me, I will try to make my ideas plain to you by using the old time phrase, first introduced by Pauch, I think by saying "Don't." Don't mix a common tea with a fine one. If you want a medium tea you will buy it very much better as a medium. Sell the poor tea for what it is worth, but do not spoil a good tea by mixing the common tea with it; the rasp of that common tea will stand out every time. The fine quality of the upper grade which you bought will be lost in the smokiness, or whatever it may be, of the common tea.

There is one other thing on which I feel very strongly—I glean it from what I hear in the sample room—and that in the use of scented teas, which were very much in vogue at one time. Gentlemen, don't use scented teas; they are villainous. The only use for them is when you are in a district where water will not bring anything else out. That is the only use of scented teas in my opinion. You will spoil anything you put a scented tea into. It is to my mind an abomination to put a scented Orange Pekoe or Capor into a good Congou, and I think as a rule your customers will agree with me. If you want to use a scented tea put it into a common Congou. If you have some old nasty flavored goods which it is im-

possible to sell, put in a scented Orange Pekoe or Capor, but never put them into a good Congou. You probably know as well as I do that the scented teas have an artificial flavor entirely. It is only a common tea which is given the scent by means of a flower, "Caulaa" is the name, I think. Its flavor is altogether artificial, and the leaf which is so impregnated has no practical value; good tea leaves are not used to make scented teas. Of course every man is, or should be, interested in the work in which he is engaged; he likes to know all about it, he likes to understand it, and he has a certain sense of his own worth, and I was going to say, possibly he overrates his own knowledge. I know I have been that way myself, I thought I knew a great deal more than or fifteen years ago than I do now. And blending is a thing which a man must make a study of, and I think that as a rule the retail grocer of this country has far too much to attend to to make his own blends of tea, and that it can be far better done for him by men who are in the business and make a study of it. I hope I do not offend in speaking so frankly. One man's judgment is as good as another's when he has had experience. And in my judgment you will find your blends much better made by men whose business it is to make them than if you made them yourselves. Of course there are exceptions. A man may have a keen sense of smell and a fine taste, and such a man no doubt could make some very happy combinations, but this is not the rule. I would say to you, be chary of blending. When you find a man that offers you a blend that suits you taste and suits your customers' taste, let him do the work. He can possibly buy his primary goods cheaper than you can, and he has a better collection of samples to choose from than you can get. When you are blending, however, there are one or two things I would like to point out to you which I think are wrong, although very often done. I have heard formulas of blends now and again from private dealers, and I read them occasionally. Some men say, "I put so much of this and so much of that," and my opinion is that as a rule there are several very bad mistakes made. I will say to you that what I consider a good blend of Congous is the North China tea with Ceylon—these will give the best results. Do not use Assam tea unless it is very mild and free from that particular stringency which is found in so many Assam teas. As a rule use North China Congous (Monings) and Ceylon teas. If you use Assam, be particular that they are not harsh, unless you are making up a very common tea where you want stringency. I have heard men say, showing me a sample of a very nice, rich blend of Ceylon, "I use so much of that, say three pounds, put in common Kaisow Congou, and I use about three pounds of good strong Assam." Well, gentlemen, the good strong Assam is damnation to that blend—it is going to kill the beauty of the Ceylon tea which they put in; they put in a beautiful thing and kill it with a bad thing; they ruin the Ceylon by the Assam. It is like putting a drop of creosote into a gallon of wine—you will taste it. Unless you are very careful, it is an absurdity to put an Assam and a Ceylon together, and to me, and I am a little fond of the trade, it is always an aggravation to see them spoil some really good goods in this way. My advice is, never mix these teas. I think I will not say anything further in regard to blending now, but if you will ask any questions I shall be only too glad to answer them. It is a large subject, and one that it would take a long time to explain.

Now there is one thing which I think we as a body are making a mistake about. I do not know how you regard it, and you will accept my remarks with mitigation at any rate. I refer to package teas. I do not quite understand why the trade are selling package teas. I do not refer more to the retail trade than to the wholesale trade, but it does seem to me that the handling of package tea is an injury to the grocer and the grocery trade. I do not see

why a man should spend a good many years of his life acquiring a knowledge of a certain subject, and then throw it into the hands of somebody who has not spent any time in that particular pursuit, and it seems to me that in handling package teas we are drifting that way. I have never taken it up myself, and you will excuse me speaking of it from that point of view, but it seems to me that the man who handles package teas is putting a premium upon ignorance. That is after spending years of his life in acquiring a knowledge of his business, he makes it easy for anyone—druggist, drygoodsman, confectioner, saloon-keeper—to handle the tea trade. Brands got in and become known. Jones handles them at a certain price, Smith handles them at a stated price, and Simpson thinks he must handle them at a lower price. Pardon me for referring to this; it is none of my business possibly; but it seems to me that the package tea business is a mistake on the part of the trade, and they would better serve their interest by leaving it alone. Blended teas, understand me, I do not include, I am speaking of package teas with stated brands.

Then there is another thing about which I would like to speak, although I am rather timid of doing so, but it has been before the tea trade a great many years, and it is a fact which we must recognize, and that is, that the tea trade has to a certain extent drifted out of the hands of the grocers. What is the reason for such a thing? There must be some reason and also a remedy. The reason I conceive to be that the grocer as a rule misjudged the proportion of profit which tea should bear. In our anxiety to do business we must have cutting lines; one thing is cut here, another there, under the stress of business—we know how hard it is to hold our trade and make money—until at last it gets so that the poor article of tea must bear a large proportion of the retail grocer's profit, and that was a great pity. It had its results in taking the tea trade out of the hands of the grocers and putting it into the hands of men who are much less fitted to handle it. We all know to whom I refer—men who call themselves specialists, but who were as a rule much more ignorant of the tea business than the retail grocer, and who also had poorer credit, and were less able to buy good value. But they obtained the trade because I think the retail grocer got into the habit of loading up his tea with too big a profit. I am glad to say, however, that I think the grocer has recognized this, and that he is to-day making an effort to regain his tea trade, and is largely regaining it. It certainly is a thing to be stamped out. Everything should bear its fair proportion of profit, but the grocer makes a great mistake in thinking that he can load up his tea with 50 or 100 per cent. profit. It may stand 50 per cent., but that seems to me to be too much. He can handle his business more cheaply than a pedlar, because his expenses are not so great in proportion to his business, his facilities for buying are better, his credit is better, he can buy better value, and consequently sell better. Forgive me touching on this.

I think I have about concluded now, unless I go into details, advising on certain blends and so on. It is a big subject, and I have considered it under a few headings only, and I think I have said all that I can say in a short time; perhaps I have said too much and detained you too long. If there is any further information I can give you I will be glad to do so. I trust I have offended nobody here; I have spoken frankly; but am not speaking for my own personal business interests, but just what I think on each question. Any questions you may ask me I shall be only too glad to answer in an intelligent manner if possible.

One thing which I did not speak on, but which is of no particular interest to us, as Hamilton grocers, is: Who are the great tea drinking races? You probably know as well as I do, but it may be of interest to some of you to know just how it stands. Who are the biggest tea drinkers in the world, excluding China, as there is no means of arriving at that?

Australia is the greatest tea drinking country in the world; Great Britain stands next; Canada stands third—not bad for us. That was brought to my notice a few years ago. The Australians use two pounds per head more than Great Britain, and Great Britain uses about one pound more than we do. The United States are pretty good tea drinkers, but they come low on the list, as they use a good deal of coffee. The United States stands fourth. Australia uses 63 lbs per head, Great Britain 43 lbs, we use 32 to 4 lbs, and the United States drops down to 1½ lbs, as they drink coffee in the south in many districts.

Russia takes about one pound per head or less. Russia is a country that takes the finest teas in the world; it takes the best of everything, and it also takes the poorest. Splendor and abject poverty are combined in Russia.

Montreal Markets.

Flour—A fair trade transpires in city strong bakers, sales having been reported of good round quantities at \$1 up to \$1.15 to \$1.20 for small lots delivered. Manitoba ground strong bakers has sold at \$3.75 to \$4, and medium bakers at \$3.25 to \$3.50. There is still a fair demand from the lower provinces direct from the mills for Ontario straight rollers at low prices, sales being reported of ordinary straight rollers at \$3.50 to \$3.67 c.i.f. Halifax, N.S., and St. John, N.B. Straight rollers are offered freely at \$3 f.o.b. at the mills west of Toronto. Car lots of Ontario straight rollers are freely offered at \$3.45 on track here and 90 per cents at \$3.55 to \$3.60. Extra is very slow sale, and can be bought at \$3 in car lots on track, and we quote \$3 to \$3.15 as to quantity. Compared with the prices millers in the west are getting for their maritime province orders prices here are very fair. Patent, spring, \$4.20 to \$4.35; put-over, winter, \$3.95 to \$4.15; straight roller, \$3.45 to \$3.65; extra, \$3.00 to \$3.15; superfine, \$2.61 to \$2.83; fine, \$2.25 to \$2.50; city strong bakers, \$1.00 to \$1.10; Manitoba bakers, \$1.45 to \$1.60; Ontario, bags, ex ra, \$1.50 to \$1.55; straight roller, \$1.91 to \$2.00, superfine, \$1.30 to \$1.45; fine, \$1.10 to \$1.15.

Oatmeal—Car lots of rolled oats and granulated offered on track here at \$3.85 per barrel but the quality is said to be not of the best. Best grades, however, can be bought at \$3.95 on track, although some mills ask \$4. There is a fair jobbing business at the following quotations: Rolled and granulated \$4.05 to \$4.15; standard \$3.90 to \$4.05. In bags, granulated, \$2.05 to \$2.10, and standard \$1.95 to \$2.00.

Mil Feed—The market for bran is quiet but steady, with sales of car lots at \$13.00 on track, and we quote the range at \$13 to \$14. Shorts are quoted at \$14.50 to \$15, and moullies at \$19 to \$24 as to grade.

Wheat—In this market there is no business reported on spot. At North Bay sales of No. 1 Manitoba a hard one reported at 80½c, and No. 2 hard at Port Arthur at 64 to 65c. At points north and west of Stratford, red and white winter wheat have sold 62 to 64c, and spring 50 to 62c; goose wheat has been placed at 55c.

Barley.—Sales are reported of 5 cars No. 1 malting barley at 56c, and we quote 48c to 56c. Feed barley is quoted at 33 to 40c.

Oats.—A round quantity of No. 2 oats was offered in the country at equal to 32c laid down here, and refused. We quote \$2 to 33c per 34 lbs., with very little doing on spot. Manitoba white oats are quoted at 39 to 31c North Bay.

Pork, Lard, &c.—In Canada short cut sales are reported at \$19, and we quote \$19 to 19.50, choice heavy short cut mess pork being quoted at \$20 to 20.50. On the basis of the prices paid for dressed hogs, however, Canada short cut mess pork would cost \$21 to 22. Lard is firm, with an upward tendency in prices, and we

quote compound at \$1.60 to 1.70 per pail, and pure Canadian lard \$2 to 2.10 per pail of 20 lbs. Smoked meats are in good demand, hams selling at 11½ to 11½c for large size, and at 12 to 12½c for choice small and medium size. Bacon continues scarce, and sells well at 11 to 12c. Dry salted flanks and bellies 9c, and long clear bacon 9 to 9½c.

Dressed Hogs.—The price of hogs continues very firm, with sales of car lots of choice bright description at \$7.25 to \$7.50. Sales have been made in a jobbing way at \$7.60 to \$7.75.

Butter.—The market is quiet but steady, with some business reported in creamery on export account at 22c. If the shipping demand again sets in to any extent, it will impart a healthier tone to the market all round. In dairy butter a fair volume of business has been done in a small jobbing way at 20 to 21c, single packages of choice selected bringing 22c. In western the market keeps steady at 17 to 19c. Rolled butter receipts have been larger, and prices are easier, sales of western having transpired at 18 to 19c and of Morrisburg at 19 to 20c per pound. We quote prices as follows: Creamery, choice fall, 22½ to 23c; creamery, good to fine, 21½ to 22c; Eastern Townships dairy, choice fall, 20½ to 21c; Eastern Townships good 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 19 to 21c; Western, 17 to 19c. About 1c may be added to above prices for choice selections of single tubs.

Cheese.—Sales of finest western Septembers and Octobers have been made at 10½c but holders are now firm at 11c. A few lots of August have sold at 10½ to 10½c. Quite a good enquiry has been experienced over the cable, and if holders choose to accept about 4c less than they are holding at, they could dispose of every box in the city within 24 hours. The situation has a decidedly healthy look. Early cheese on the other side is becoming scarce, and prices for such grades in Liverpool have advanced 1s to 2s. The Liverpool public cable is firm at 53s for finest, although sales are taking place every day at 1s to 2s above that figure.

Eggs.—Montreal limes sell fairly well at 16c to 17c. Western limes have been placed at 14½ to 15½c. Held fresh are quoted at 18 to 20c as to quality, and new laid at 22 to 24c.

Dressed poultry.—Sales of turkeys have taken place at 9 to 10c, the latter figure for choice large birds. Although the demand has been a little slow, an improved business is expected if cold weather sets in after the late snow fall. Choice young chickens are sought after, and meet with a ready sale at 8c, while old hens only bring from 5 to 6c. There is not much demand for geese, which are quoted at 6c for choice dry picked, with sales of scalded at 5c per lb. Ducks are a little scarce with sales at 8 to 9c.

Apples.—Round lots of winter varieties quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.75 as to quality.

Dried Fruit.—Dried apples 4½ to 5c, evaporated 6 to 7½c; dried peaches steady and meeting with good demand at 14 to 15c. Apricots, domestic good at 14 to 14½c. Evaporated vegetables in large cases at \$4. Evaporated peaches are selling at from 13 to 14½c per lb.

Fish and Oils.—Cod oil is firm, 36 to 37½c being the current rates for Newfoundland. Gaspe is quoted at 35c and Nova Scotia 33 to 34c; cod liver oil is firm at 65 to 70c. In seal oil, steam refined is quoted at 26 to 37c for pale and 34 to 35c for straw. Pickled Fish—Green cod is quoted at \$4.75 for No. 1. Large is quoted at \$5 to 5.25, and draft \$5.25 to 5.75. Dry cod is firm at \$4.50. Herring are quiet, fine Canso and Cape Breton August and September catch being quoted at \$4.50. Smoked Fish—Yarmouth bloaters \$1.25 per box of 60; smoked herring 12½c per box; boneless cod fish 5½ to 7c, and fish, 3½ to 4½c.—Trade Bulletin, Dec 16.

An extension of the clock's usefulness has been sought by a St. Petersburg inventor. His dial is a human face, whose mouth, by a phonograph attachment, is made to call out not only the hour, but any directions that may be left with the apparatus.

