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RESERVE FUND, - - - 315,000

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Corner Yonge and Bloor Streets.

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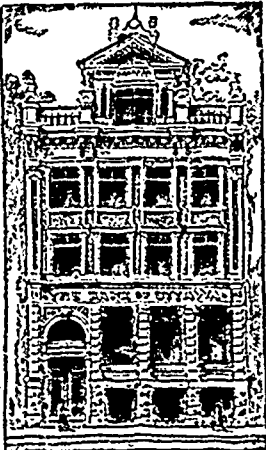
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This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

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Reserve - - - - \$1,000,000

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San Francisco—The Bank of British Columbia.

Chicago—Amer Exchange Nat'l. Bank of Chicago.

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

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Interest allowed on deposits in Savings Dept.

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A General Banking Business transacted.

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H. Sukeman, General Manager.
J. Elmsly, Inspector.

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RESERVE FUND - - - 1,500,000

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R. G. GAMBLE, - GENERAL MANAGER

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Assorting orders by letter for goods in our
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A large stock now on hand and arriving

Special Quotations for Car Lots from Stock
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The Western Loan & Trust Co.

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J. W. Michand, Esq., Accountant W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., Mgr
Solicitors—Messrs. Greenfields & Greenfields.
Bankers—The Merchants Bank of Canada.

This Company acts as assignee, administrator, executors
trustee, receiver, committee of Insalle, guardian liquidator, etc.,
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Debentures issued for three or five years, both debentures
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THE COMMERCIAL

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

Sixteenth Year of Publication
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

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Office: 151 McDermot Street.

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

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 6, 1897.

THE GRAIN POOL

The knowledge that a very extensive combination has prevailed in the Manitoba grain trade this season, has led to a very considerable agitation throughout the country. The only thing which has prevented this agitation from becoming a very disturbing movement is the fact that grain prices have been comparatively high this season. It is difficult to raise an agitation when people are prosperous and contented. Agitations thrive, even without good cause, during periods of close times. When discontent prevails, as it invariably will during close times, the most bare-faced professional agitator will always secure a good following. In Manitoba the lot of the farmer has been a particularly happy one this season, and this has been the saving feature this year. Should the same conditions prevail in the grain trade during a season of poor crops and low prices, it is certain that a very unpleasant time would be experienced.

Even as it is, there has been much muttering against the grain pool, and the agitation seems likely to increase as the winter wears on. We notice by the country press that meetings are being called at different points to discuss the situation. It is a matter for much regret that occasion exists to call forth a movement of this nature. The knowledge that

a grain pool exists in the Manitoba grain trade, is sure, sooner or later, to develop very unpleasant consequences. The very word, "combination," or "combine," is like flaunting a red rag before a bull, to a great many persons, and with or without reason is sure to lead to denunciation. The most circumspect action on the part of the grain men could not prevent a very active agitation, were the circumstances at all favorable for such.

The movement now seems to be taking the shape of an effort to secure the removal of the so-called elevator monopoly. The term "monopoly" is of course, quite wrongly applied to the situation in Manitoba. There is no such a thing as an elevator monopoly, strictly speaking. There are certain railway restrictions, however, governing the shipment of grain at many points, by which shippers are obliged to handle their grain through the elevators. Loading on cars is not allowed at most elevator points. There are also certain rules providing that elevators must come up to a certain standard. These elevator regulations on the whole, we believe, have been a benefit to Manitoba, as they have led to the establishment of excellent grain storage and handling facilities throughout the country, without which our grain trade would be in a chronically congested state during the busy season. The fact that the farmers themselves have gone largely into the establishment of elevators, indicates that they are a great advantage to the farmers.

At the same time, there seems to be something harsh in the regulation that a farmer shall not load his grain directly into a car, providing he wishes so to do and can do it without causing unreasonable delay to traffic, which latter is a very important consideration in our busy season. If farmers and others had the privilege of loading directly into cars, and were to avail themselves largely of the privilege, it would cause such delay to traffic as would almost paralyze the railways in the busy season. We do not believe, however, that the removal of the elevator restrictions would result in any general movement to go by the elevators in shipping grain. The country is now remarkably well supplied with elevator facilities, thanks largely to the elevator restrictions imposed in the past. This being the case, it would seem preferable to abolish the restrictions, rather than have another serious agitation in the country.

DAIRY EXPORTS

The exports of dairy products from Montreal for the season of navigation just closed, as reported by wire in The Commercial last week, show that our export trade in dairy products is still

expanding. Canada has gained a leading position as an exporter of dairy goods, and the results of the present season show that we are still forging ahead in this particular branch. Cheese is still far ahead of butter in the quantity and value of exports. The exports for the season foot up to the large total of 2,100,000 boxes, or an increase of some 370,000 boxes over last year for the same period. Practically all this enormous export of cheese goes to Great Britain. These exports include shipments from Montreal from the first of May to the close of navigation on November 23 last. In addition to exports it is estimated that 627,970 boxes of cheese are still held, which is greater by 177,000 than stocks held a year ago, thus showing that the total production this year has been even greater, compared with previous years, than would appear from the exports. One of the large cheese operators places the total make at 2,689,970 boxes, or an increase of 627,970 boxes over last year. The value of the cheese so far exported will approximate \$15,000,000, notwithstanding the low prices prevailing this season. This shows what a very important industry it is to Canada.

The increased output is no doubt partially the cause of lower prices. Fall cheese realized 1-2 to 1 cent per pound under prices paid a year ago. Prices during the early part of the season, however, were good, so that the average price for the season is not materially lower than last year. The highest price was 10c in August.

The season's export butter trade has not been entirely satisfactory, owing to the weak condition of export markets during the latter part of the season. The butter exports represent 220,252 packages, compared with 157,321 packages last year, thus showing an increase of 62,000 packages this year. Last year's exports were 87,600 packages greater than 1895, and 1895 exports were more than double those of 1894. Our butter trade seems to be developing in a fairly satisfactory manner, and like cheese it practically all goes to Great Britain, which country is the food consumer of the world's surplus in many lines. While our export butter trade is growing, there should be room for a much greater increase than has yet taken place. Great Britain's imports of butter amount to the enormous value of about \$25,000,000 annually, and of this Canada furnishes this year less than \$3,000,000, though our butter exports this year are the largest on record.

The following table of exports of dairy products from the port of Montreal during the navigation season, for 23 years, is compiled by the Gazette of that city:

A. G. ARCHIBALD

GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING-
WINNIPEG, MAN.

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENCY

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

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By Wearing
KING'S SHOES
made with patent

Sleeper Canvas Insoles

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

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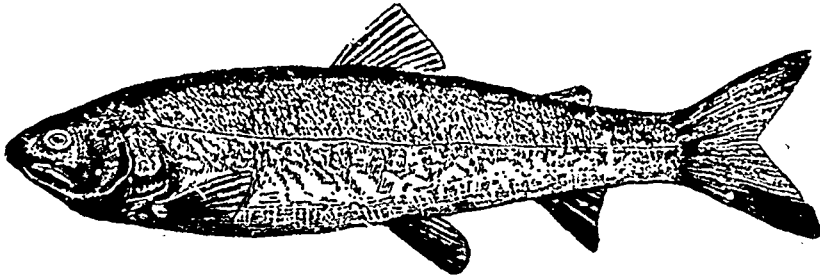
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Keeps on hand a full stock of Overcoats from a low-priced Raccoon Coat to a fine Black Beaver.

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**To Grain Dealers and Shippers
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BARLEY

WANTED

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EDWARD L. DREWRY
WINNIPEG, MAN.

	Cheese boxes	Butter, pkgs.
1897	2,102,985	220,252
1898	1,720,220	157,321
1899	1,710,007	99,864
1894	1,720,038	32,187
1893	1,682,946	76,914
1892	1,608,353	103,139
1891	1,352,070	81,801
1890	1,480,220	30,142
1889	1,157,854	41,957
1888	1,134,349	10,528
1887	1,104,065	80,353
1886	891,065	54,283
1885	1,070,001	86,545
1884	1,108,448	108,187
1883	859,812	92,764
1882	677,211	84,620
1881	551,847	130,481
1880	507,009	194,366
1879	518,249	180,322
1878	407,678	108,399
1877	398,188	87,246
1876	463,060	168,048
1875	507,062	116,417

ONTARIO CROPS

The final crop report for 1897 has been published by the provincial department of agriculture for Ontario. The yield of wheat has been large, and much of it is of first-class quality. But a portion of the crop is not up to the standard in either weight, or quality, as some of the grain "sprouted" during the wet weather. A large area of new fall wheat has been sown, but owing to the dry condition of the soil, much of the seedling was done later than usual. Spring wheat was rather poor in the west, but good in the remainder of the province, although much shrunken grain is reported in some quarters. Rye and buckwheat are evidently being restored to favor, and both were splendid crops this year. Peas have been a great disappointment. A few had good returns, but the yields generally were light. The bug was unusually destructive. Corn was a splendid yield, but some got nipped by the frost. Potatoes were struck by a blight or rot in September, nearly all the older sections of the province suffering more or less. In some places about 50 per cent. of the crop was lost. Fruit trees are in good condition. There is not the usual surplus of pears and apples are scabby and scarce in most parts of the province. Grapes were abundant, but late clusters were caught by the frost.

The area and yield of crops is as follows:

	Acres.	Bushels.	Yield per acre.
Fall wheat	950,222	23,988,031	25.2
Spring wheat	323,305	4,868,101	15.1
Barley	451,515	12,021,779	26.6
Oats	2,432,491	86,318,128	35.3
Rye	187,785	3,382,005	18.
Peas	896,735	13,867,093	15.3
Buckwheat	151,969	3,464,186	22.8
Beans	50,591	981,340	19.4
Potatoes	169,338	10,100,797	95.1
Corn	385,030	24,603,398	73.6

LIVE STOCK EXPORTS

Last week The Commercial gave a telegraphic report of the exports of live stock from the port of Montreal for the season just closed. Exports

from Montreal practically include the export trade of Canada, as shipments from other ports are limited. Some further information regarding the season's live stock trade is gleaned from the very complete report given by the Gazette. The season has been an unprofitable one. It is estimated by most of the prominent exporters that the average loss during the season on cattle is fully \$6 per head, and some of them have even went as far as to say that the above figure, if anything, is below the mark. In round figures, therefore, exporters have lost in the neighborhood of three-quarters of a million dollars. This has been principally due to the engineers' strike in Great Britain, which was in full blast throughout most of the season, demoralizing the markets, while there was a large increase in supplies far in excess of the requirements of the trade, and the inferior quality of stock sent forward from September to the close of the season had a further depressing effect upon values in foreign markets.

The total number of cattle shipped was 119,188 head, of which 12,171 head were from the United States, shipped through in bond. These figures show an increase of 18,823 head as compared with last year. The average cost per head is placed at \$60, making a total value of \$7,151,250, and ocean freight at an average of \$10 per head is \$1,191,880, while the railway carrying charges at \$3.25 per head amounts to \$387,361.

The season opened much higher for choice export cattle than the markets abroad warranted, the ruling price for stall fed and distillery stock being 5c to 5 1-2c at points of shipment, which figures were fully 1-2c per lb. higher than was paid in 1896. This was due to some extent to the competition between United States and Canadian buyers, the former being almost forced into the market on account of the scarcity and high prices prevailing for suitable shipping stock in the United States markets, and as they had the bulk of the ocean space contracted for from United States ports, the stock had to be secured at almost any cost.

Another striking feature of the trade this season has been the active demand from United States buyers for stockers, and large numbers have been shipped out of the country, which will probably have considerable effect upon prices for choice stock next season.

The sheep exporters have shared the misfortunes of the cattle shippers, and those who have sent forward a large number state that the trade during the whole season was bad. The shipments for the season were 61,254 head, showing a decrease of 19,417,

compared with 1896. This industry has fallen off over 50 per cent. since the embargo was passed on our sheep in January, 1896, as the exports for the season 1895 were 130,728 head.

The shipments of horses show a small decrease as compared with last year. The total number exported for the season 1897 was 10,051 head, as against 10,088 in 1896, showing a decrease of 37 head, while in 1895 there were shipped 12,755 head, or 2,704 more than went forward this year. The trade throughout the summer months has been satisfactory to those who were fortunate enough to be in it. The prices realized during the past season for good suitable horses averaged from £20 to £36 per head, and such stock as this would cost shippers in the country from \$60 to \$110 each. Some sales of fancy driving, carriage and thoroughbred animals have been made at prices ranging from £80 to £150 in the London market, but, of course, these figures are very rarely obtained.

The cost of handling horses from point of shipment in the country to their destination is \$35 per head, which includes ocean and railway freight, feed and insurance.

TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

It may not have occurred to many of our readers that The Commercial is giving quite an extensive special telegraphic market report service. Our telegraphic reports last week included the total exports for the season of navigation, then just closed at Montreal, of cattle, sheep, horses, butter, cheese, etc. The Commercial was the only journal in the west to secure and publish these reports.

INSOLVENCY LAW

The Ottawa board of trade has suggested that a meeting of the Dominion board of trade should be held on or about the opening of parliament, to consider the proposed insolvency law question, particularly with a view to impressing the need of such a law upon the government. The Montreal board, however, has not adopted the suggestion of the Ottawa board as to the advisability of holding a meeting of delegates of the various boards of trade, unless the government should fail to introduce a bill, or having introduced it, there should appear to be a likelihood of its not passing the house.

WANTED—TRUSTWORTHY AND ACTIVE gentlemen or ladies to travel for responsible, established house in Manitoba. Monthly \$65.00 and expenses. Position steady. Reference. Enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. The Dominion Company, Department Y, Chicago.

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

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GRANULAR **Ogilvie's Hungarian** CREAMY HAS NO EQUAL **FLOUR** HAS NO EQUAL

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

"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

Messrs the Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, Man.
Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mills, of which we have imported considerable on this crop, has given the highest satisfaction to everyone who has baked it. Glasgow is pre-eminently a city of large baking establishments, some of them with a capacity of 2000 barrels per week, and all managed by gentlemen well qualified to give a sound verdict on the merits of any flour. With remarkable unanimity they have expressed the opinion that nothing finer than your Patent grade has ever been placed on the market. The baking results have been exceptionally high, both in regard to color and out-turn, and we can invariably command a higher price. We are, yours respectfully,

WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

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OGILVIE'S FLOUR
YOU HAVE
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Each bag guaranteed. Sewn with our Special Twine, Red, White and Blue.

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Unequalled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands unrivalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

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THE COMMERCIAL

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Along the C.P.R. West of Winnipeg

TERRITORIAL TOWNS.

INDIAN HEAD.

This town is enjoying a veritable business boom due to the magnificent wheat returns, no point in the west having better crops this year, the average yield being placed anywhere from 20 to 30 bushels, and many crops have gone over 30 by a good deal. This yield, united with the high price and good quality has made farming in Eastern Assinibola double discount all the Klondyke results yet in. There are now five elevators at Indian Head and three at Sintaluta, just east of Indian Head. Much of the wheat between the two points goes indifferently to one or the other, the market being practically the same. Building has taken a great move, brick blocks three stories high being the usual style. A. J. Osment has built a really splendid hotel, a 3-storey brick, with splendid basement, size 50x80. There are 64 rooms, the house has hot and cold water, baths, etc., is lighted with acetylene gas of the best system. The cellars contain cisterns holding 1,500 barrels, all the water from the large roof being conducted to it. The sample rooms are also in the basement, while the ground floor has office, billiard and bar rooms, sitting and dining rooms and kitchen. A. Davidson is to be landlord and he has fitted the building up in every particular to accord with the first-class style of the building, the furnishings being the equal of any hotel in the west.

Geo. Gordon has also commenced the erection of a large 3-storey brick hotel, with stone basement, etc. It will not, however, be completed for this season's trade. Jas. Hastings has erected a three-storey brick block, 25x60, which he will occupy with a confectionery and flour and feed store. Jos. Glenn has also built a three-storey brick, 25x50, the ground floor of which is to be occupied by J. A. McCaul's new furniture store. Mr. McCaul was formerly in Regina. In the lumber business are Mr. Sherwood, formerly farm superintendent of the Bell Farm, and J. Conn, who is also a hardware merchant, and a business man of long standing. J. R. Brook, general merchant, has enlarged his premises this year and has also a branch at Sintaluta. Mr. Osment has leased his store to Reid & Co., formerly of Neepawa, Man., and proposes retiring from business. The firm of Crawford & Co. has recently suffered the loss of Mr. Crawford, Sr., who died some weeks ago. The business is likely to be continued by the sons. A new brick building has been erected this year

next the store for the accommodation of the postoffice. The Union Bank has recently opened a branch in charge of Thos. A. Christie, formerly manager for Skilitor & Co., private bankers. H. H. Fleury will continue the harness business of Densmore & Fleury, his partner, J. Densmore having lost his life through a deplorable accident some time ago. W. R. Boyd, proprietor of the old hotel, has made considerable improvements in his building, which is over-taxed with the big business doing this season. Indian Head has made marked progress this year and is fast building up, the very solid and extensive character of the buildings being a standing advertisement of the strength of No. 1 Hard as a money-making power.

FORT QU'APPELLE.

This sprightly little town is an example of a frontier town, with the disadvantage of being deprived of railway connection. The circumstance however, has not served to check the building of a most satisfactory trade, the several merchants and business men located here, all being in a very satisfactory way as regards prosperous business. Whether it is by virtue of its location or by reason of the enterprise of its citizens, Fort Qu'Appelle is a centre of trade second to none in the west. The business men are a pleasant, intelligent coterie, and the best feature of free, open-handed western life are in evidence. Fort Qu'Appelle is prettily situated in the wide valley of the Qu'Appelle river, between the two large lake expansions of the stream. The high banks of the valley enclose it on north and south. It is twenty miles distant from either Indian Head or Qu'Appelle Station, and is the centre of a rich wheat district, well settled by successful and wealthy farmers. In no part of the west have they had better luck wheat raising, and this year the crop yield is as good as anywhere. North from the Fort is the large ranching district extending to the Touchwood Hills, and producing many head of cattle yearly, another source of wealth to the settlers who are engaged in ranching. The business at the Fort is done by three general stores, a hardware store and harness shop. There is also D. H. Macdonald & Co.'s private bank, a butcher shop, an excellent hotel, a livery stable, and lastly but not least, Joyner & Elkington's roller flour mill. This mill does a large flour trade, having large sales to the ranching country north as well as shipping large quantities by rail from the Qu'Appelle station, and Indian Head. The mill is 75-barrels capacity, and is run night and day. The flour turned out is excellent and as furnishing a local

market for considerable wheat, it is an important industry.

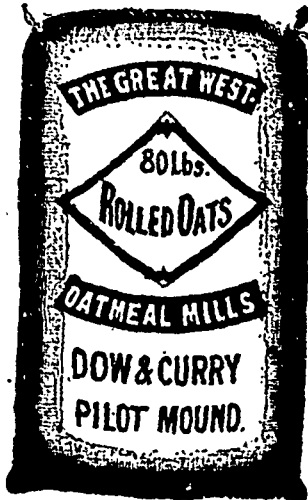
The H. B. Co. have this year built handsome and commodious new quarters to replace the buildings of the old post which have long been almost untenable. The new premises are in a favorable location on a corner opposite Iredale's general store. The building is 50x60, built of stone with brick front. The main building is two story, the upper to be used as a showroom for certain hues. Up here also Chief Factor Macdonald is to have a private office. The front is two handsome plate glass windows. The basement is full size of the building, and is finished in cement. A hot-air furnace heats the building. Altogether, it is an extra good building, well adapted for the business, and reflecting, by the character of the work, great credit on the workmen, as also on Mr. Macdonald, who spent much time studying his requirements.

The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian Industrial school felt factory is situated with the rest of the buildings, four miles away, at the Indian mission. This industry is one peculiarly adapted to this country, both because of the great demand for felt shoes, etc., and the supply of raw material; wool is plentiful. This factory was started a year ago by Mr. Boz, under engagement with the Ottawa government. Mr. Boz is a practical man, born in Germany, where they know all about making felt, and where he learned to make it. Some 400 sheep are kept by the school and wool from outside points is received. As soon as the wool is treated, felt is quickly made, Mr. Boz having had some made in twenty-four hours. All the labor is done by the Indian boys. Shoes of all kinds are manufactured on the premises and the product is becoming deservedly popular wherever it has been placed on the market. It is the intention to steadily increase the output as demand increases. This is one of the many branches of manufacturing industry that can be profitably carried on in the west, as the raw material is abundant and cheap and the market is found at home.

The Industrial school is a large institution with solid brick buildings for accommodation of the pupils, and for workshops in which the several trades are taught. Rev. J. Huggonard is the principal, and practically the founder, the government having, of course, provided the buildings.

QU'APPELLE STATION

Like its neighboring towns, Qu'Appelle Station is feeling the practical benefits of good crops and good prices in conjunction. Business is good, every one is satisfied and busy, and prosperity is the word. A few changes are to be noted in business



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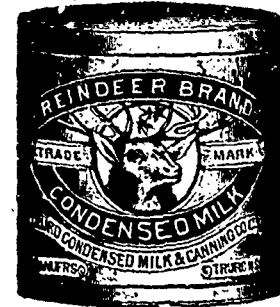
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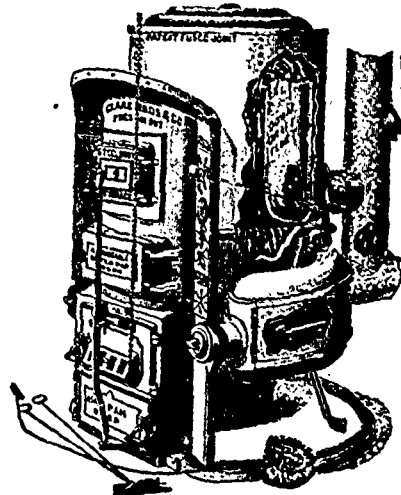


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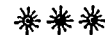
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ROOM 17, GRAIN EXCHANGE, WINNIPEG

Conduct a GENERAL GRAIN BUSINESS.
We are free buyers of all grades of
wheat, f.o.b. cars or in store Fort William.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED

Duncan G. McBean & Co

Brokerage and Commission Dealers

ROOM 5, GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING

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Grain and all kinds of country produce handled

POULTRY

CORRESPONDENCE
SOLICITED



We have a large demand for Dressed Turkeys, Ducks, Geese and Chickens, and can
pay the HIGHEST MARKET PRICE.

We handle a full line of SMOKED AND PICKLED FISH, HADDIES, BLOATERS, HERRINGS
CODFISH.

Orders filled promptly. Consignments received and given careful attention.

THE MANITOBA PRODUCE AND COMMISSION CO.

WHOLESALE

175 McDERMOTT STREET EAST, WINNIPEG, MAN.

at "the station" this year. C. T. Bailey & Co. have opened in general retail business in the place formerly occupied by G. H. V. Baylea; R. Johnstone now runs the cattle and butcher business, which was formerly under the firm name of Scott & Johnstone, Love & Raymond have retired after nearly fourteen years of hotel business in the town and the Leland is now leased to Mr. Blackwell, formerly of Gladstone, Man. Mr. A. S. Empey, another old-timer, has gone out of business and may remove to British Columbia. The old established firms of Caswell & Co. and J. P. Beauchamp still remain in the retail business. J. H. McCaul handles the lumber business, and he reports very considerable sales this year, farmers having bought largely for building and improving. A very good cattle shipping business has been done this season, over 1,200 head of fat cattle having been shipped. Here it is noticed almost for the first time that no stockers are shipped west to the ranches. All such are picked up and taken north to the Touchwood district. Qu'Appelle has two grain elevators and five buyers have been on the market this season. Some 200,000 bushels or more will be the amount marketed this year, besides which is to be reckoned about 75,000 bushels, which the mill at the Fort annually turns into flour, much of which is shipped. The large mill built, undoubtedly, in early days, still stands idle, and this is felt to be a drawback as a good mill would be a great benefit to the town and district. There was some talk a year ago of taking the mill down and erecting a smaller one at a site a quarter of a mile east of its present location, in order to obtain water which has been the difficulty. It is thought, too, that a smaller mill would do, the present one being 250 barrels capacity. There is no doubt that this is an opening for capital and enterprise which would be better than the continual cutting of trade caused by so many investing in the overcrowded retail lines, which is the great weakness of business in this country.

McLean, west of Qu'Appelle, has a new elevator this year and a considerable quantity of grain is taken in. Caswell & Co. have put up a little stone building and bought the business of Dave Shaw, who was the pioneer merchant and now manages for his purchasers.

Balgonic has three elevators. There are two stores, and Mr. Fisher, formerly of Whitewood, has a good hotel. A large quantity of grain has been marketed here this year and the acreage under crop is being increased every year, settlement having gone ahead rapidly of late.

REGINA.

The territorial capital has the bail at its feet at last. Prosperous farmers are now the rule and the wide plains which surround the Royal City are growing good crops of good wheat. That the land is good and the farmers prosperous are both proven by the statement of a prominent real estate man that he had sold many quarter sections this year and mainly to farmers resident in the surrounding district. There are two elevators to accommodate the grain trade, besides the Western Milling Co.'s establishment. Their mill, which is 100 barrels capacity and has a new 85,000 bushel elevator, is under the management of Mr. Geo. T. Marsh. The mill has been thoroughly overhauled and refitted for the season's work and is being run to its full capacity. The large farming country surrounding gives it a big gristing trade and besides flour is shipped west along the line. Very few changes in business are to be noted this year, with the exception of the formation of the Canada Drug and Stationery Co., by the consolidation of the firms formerly in these lines. Business is good in the town and building has gone forward to some extent this year. But the need for building is not as great as in some places for in the past building was pushed to an extent sufficient to accommodate the trade for some time to come. The premises occupied by the Territorial Legislative and executive offices have been considerably rearranged. The withdrawal of the Indian department from Regina left their building to be occupied by departmental offices and the library and reading room under the capable supervision of Mrs. Hayes has been removed to the building which still contains the offices of the members of the executive. The legislative chamber still occupies the same quarters. In the reading room is exhibited an interesting relic, the table claimed to be the veritable board round which the "Fathers of Confederation," sat. It is said to have been removed from Ottawa with other furniture when fitting out the new western capital with office furniture.

MOOSE JAW.

This principal divisional point of the western section of the C. P. R. is coming forward rapidly as a grain centre. There are now three good elevators. T. B. Baker's new one just recently completed, holds 35,000 bushels and is a very complete and up-to-date building. It has a double delivery, a style which commends itself when farmers' teams are standing in a string with their loads. The power is furnished by a gasoline engine in a little brick building entirely separate. Mr. Baker took down his old elevator

which was too small for the increasing grain business. Moose Jaw marks almost the western limits of elevators on the main line, as there are elevators at only the two way stations next past that point. The crop in this district has turned out well this year, like the rest of Assinibola, and times are correspondingly good. Business continues in about the same lines as formerly, few changes having been made during the year. The Ottawa hotel is now in the hands of J. H. Brown, formerly of Souris, Man.

The Moose Jaw creamery has closed after its fourth season. It was the first to be established in the Territories, and is, of course, a Dominion government institution. It is managed by Mr. E. H. Moorhouse, formerly of the dairy department, Ottawa. Mr. Moorhouse spends the "close season" giving instructions in dairy matters at different points, under the direction of the department, and in organizing new creameries. The output of the creamery this year was only 50,000 pounds, while last year it was 75,000 pounds.

Western Loan and Trust Co.

On another page of this issue we give the annual report of the Western Loan and Trust company, which was held at Montreal on November 16. The report shows that notwithstanding the lower interest rates prevailing, this year, the company was able to pay 7 per cent. in dividends, besides adding a surplus of about \$6,000 to profit and loss account. During the year the directors increased the authorized capital by the sum of \$250,000, making it \$2,250,000. The amount of additional stock subscribed during the year was \$439,750.

The company has an amount of debenture stock for sale, on which will be paid 4 per cent. per annum or 2 per cent. semi-annually. This stock is a first lien on the assets of the company and it is payable in five or ten years, at the option of the holder as well as at the option of the company. In either case notice must be given that at the end of five years the same will be paid off, otherwise it runs for the full term of ten years.

One of the strong features of the Western Loan and Trust company is the careful management. While the company has been enterprising in a business way, the report shows that the expenses of management have been remarkably light. One of the features of the annual meeting was the decision to purchase the building in Montreal known as the Stock Exchange, to be fitted up for the head offices of the company.

This company has for some time been doing a good business in Manitoba. It is represented in Winnipeg by Crotty & Cross, agents.

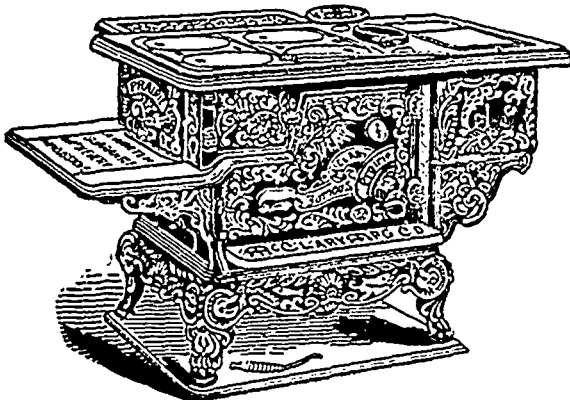
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THE FAMOUS PRAIRIE



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

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

The Newest and
Best Working
Stove in Canada

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

Heats, Cooks and Bakes
Perfectly

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

The Reasons Why

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

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HONEST WEIGHT GUARANTEED

METCALFE & SON

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Also Roll Wheat, Chop or Ground Feed, etc.
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F. S. BAKER, Cashier

POSITION OF COMPANY
31ST DECEMBER, 1896

ASSETS	\$6,358,144 66
INCOME FOR 1896	1,886,258 00
LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE	38,196,890 92

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'Molson's Bank WINNIPEG, MAN.

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BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS

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OUR SPECIALTY—Consignments of pro-
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Prompt returns made on the 15th of each month

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DEALERS IN

Fruits and all kinds of Produce

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

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Ont.; Teller, Rathwell Co., Montreal, Parisian
Washing Blue. We have a large cool warehouse
with good facilities for handling butter and pro-
duce in quantities. Consignments received in all
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Importers of **China, Glass and
Earthenware, Etc., Etc.**

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

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

WM. FERGUSON

WHOLESALE

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

8th ST., BRANDON

Changing their Line

Mackenzie & Mills, who'sale grocers, Winnipeg, have decided upon making a change in their business which they have been contemplating for some time. The intention is to go out of the general wholesale grocery trade and devote their entire attention to several important specialties. With this object in view they have been gradually working off their stock of groceries and are now ready to push their new line.

The principal goods which they will handle will be teas. In this line they will give special attention to packing and blending teas. Several brands of package teas will be put on the market, which will be known as the "Brit. anna," "Beaver" and "Buffalo" brands. Besides these brands, the firm has secured the exclusive agency for Thos. J. Lipton's teas, for Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia. Lipton's teas are widely known, we may say, the world over, and the control of these brands ensures them a large trade from the start.

Besides teas, coffees and some fine lines of jams and possibly a few other specialties will be handled, but the main thing will be the teas, which the large experience of this firm in the trade will enable them to handle to excellent advantage.

Lipton's Teas.

Lipton's teas, which are already well known throughout Canada, are to be introduced more directly to the attention of the consumers of the west. N. G. Conybear, western manager for Thos. J. Lipton, with headquarters at Chicago, was in Winnipeg last week for the purpose of completing arrangements with the local firm of Mackenzie & Mills to handle these goods in this market. In conversation with a representative of The Commercial, Mr. Conybear said that Thos. J. Lipton is the largest tea planter in the world. He went into the business in Ceylon and India at a time when tea estates were held at very low values. He invested quite heavily in tea plantations, and later, when the great "boom" set in in Ceylon and India teas, he found himself wealthy. Mr. Lipton pushed business vigorously, first in Great Britain, and later in the British colonies and foreign countries, in introducing these teas, and this trade is now something enormous. For one week's importations of his teas the sum of £50,513 11s 5d was lately paid in duties to the British government, or equal to about one-quarter of a million dollars. London is the great central market, whence the teas are shipped to all parts of the world.

Mr. Conybear spoke of the efforts being made to intro-

duce India and Ceylon teas into the United States. A large expenditure had been incurred to introduce these teas in the Republic, and in this work his firm has taken a leading part. The trade had been rather slow in the States to take hold of these teas, but good progress was now being made, as would be shown by the fact that while last year 7,000,000 pounds of Ceylon teas had been taken, this year the importations of this class of teas would amount to about 12,000,000 pounds. The superior quality of the Ceylon and India teas, he said, was sure, in time, to be recognized in the United States as in other countries where they had been introduced.

Upon the Lipton estates all the teas, Mr. Conybear says, are handled and packed by machinery, after the picking is done, thus insuring greater cleanliness as well as more uniform treatment, as compared with the custom of handling the goods in China and Japan.

One plan of introducing these teas which is followed in the United States will be resorted to in Winnipeg. Expert tea infusers are sent out by the house to visit the cities where the teas are being introduced. These experts take up their abode for a time in retail stores, where the teas are handled and serve customers, as they come in, with a fresh cup of tea. This plan has worked well in the United States.

A Law Abiding People

Respect for the law has always been a feature of life in Western Canada, and criminal offences are few. A short time ago a highway robbery was reported at Carberry, Man., and a few days later a safe robbery was reported at Lumsden, Assa. It now turns out that the reported sandbagging and robbery at Carberry was a fake, while the alleged safe robbery was discovered to be merely an error in bookkeeping, money having been paid out that had not been charged. Thus, the good name of the west is vindicated.

Consumption of Coal

A New York representative of Black Diamonds, writes that the anthracite coal market there is more "strained and uncertain" than it was, owing largely to rumors regarding the permanence of the agreement to restrict the output for this year to certain figures. The production in 1896 was 43,177,489 tons; in 1895, 46,451,445 tons; in 1894, 41,391,199 tons; in 1893, 43,089,536 tons; in 1892, 41,893,319 tons and the estimated amount for this year is 40,000,000 tons, providing the restrictive policy is carried into effect, but if it reaches 41,000,000 tons, as

now appears probable, it will be less than any year since 1891, when the output was 40,500,000 tons. From which it will be seen that, notwithstanding there should be a natural increase, there has been through the substitution of other fuels, gas and oil, a decided decrease in consumption of coal.

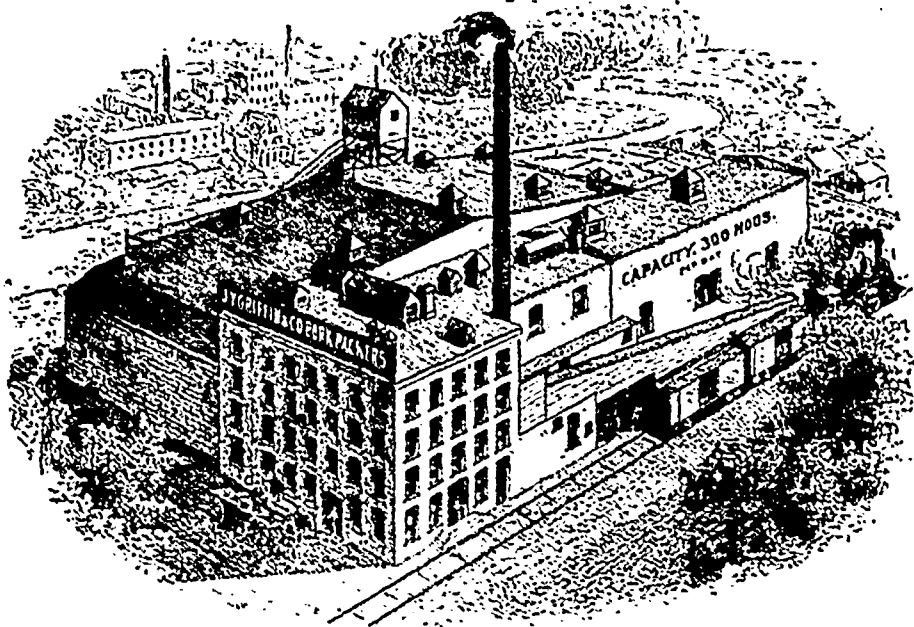
British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Nov. 29.—There are no changes worthy of note in the markets this week. An unusually large number of turkeys from Ontario and Quebec were disposed of for thanksgiving. They retailed at 25 cents a pound. Game has also been extensively purchased, large mallard ducks retailing at 60 cents a brace and venison at 5 cents a pound. Merchants report business brisk and collections fair. The upper country farmers are disposing very readily of their grain and feed products in the mine districts and exceptionally good prices are being realized in the Columbia Valley and in the great district of the Okanagan, occasionally an entire crop being purchased by a single mining company. The coast agriculturists should in cases where they have not already disposed of their crop do well likewise as a result of the big Yukon and Kootenay demand. Applications are increasing for real estate both in Vancouver and Victoria and prices are hardening. On Hastings street, Vancouver, in thirty days, with one or two exceptions, every vacant lot was transferred at owner's prices. The same result has obtained on Water street, next to the inlet. With the birth of the real estate boom the mining stock speculation died. The local market is flat in the extreme and none but stocks in recognized A 1 companies are being sold. The anticipated rush of prospectors for the Klondike has given everyone confidence however in the rapid growth of the coast cities, consequently the purchase of real estate and the immense arrivals of miner's supplies.

The Hudson Bay Railway

If, as is now reported to have been determined by official investigation, Hudson's Bay is sufficiently free from ice for four months of the year to allow navigation, the project of building a railway from Winnipeg to the head of the bay and sending the grain of western Canada to Europe by this new route is not impracticable. Compared with the American scheme of hewing out a channel in which to bring ocean vessels up an elevation of six hundred feet into the interior of the continent, the plan of building 500 miles of railway over a flat country to reach a salt waterway 1,200 miles long to the Atlantic, ready made, and requiring no dredging or locks, seems easy and sensible.—Railway age.

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We are open to buy for cash every Live Hog in Western Canada, bristles and all.

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Telegraph or write us for Prime, Narrow Sausage Casings and Seasoning, Finnan Haddie, Creamery and Dairy Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Bologna and Pork Sausage, Red Cross Hams, Bacon and Lard. The best and quickest selling goods in the market to-day.

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PORK PACKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

CLOSE BUYING—THAT TELLS

How many Merchants get behind in the race, just because they do not use eternal vigilance in their buying. Every store sells Moccasins. Nearly all buy from me. Some don't. They're not the shrewd ones. Snowshoes, too.



ARTHUR CONGDON

WINNIPEG, MAN.

Note.—My stock of Dolge Felt Shoes is not likely to last three weeks. Take the hint.

Bear in Mind...

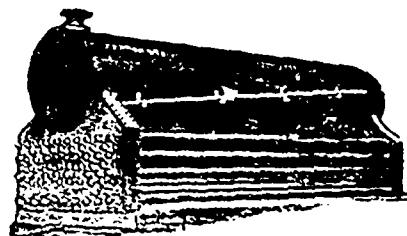
that a Postal Card addressed to JAMES CORISTINE & CO., 469 to 477 St. Paul St., Montreal, will bring anything you may require in Ladies' or Gentlemen's FURS, combining excellence of finish with profit-bearing prices.

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In Wombat and Coon Coats. Grey Lamb and Norway Seal Goods.

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ONE BLOCK FROM UNION RAILWAY DEPOT
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Hudson's Bay Expedition.

Mr. James Fisher, M. P. P., having returned Tuesday by the Northern Pacific railway from his trip to Hudson's Straits and Hudson's Bay, a Free Press reporter waited on him early in the afternoon. He was found already at his desk in his office, but, though busy, he was quite willing to enter into conversation respecting his summer expedition, and to give any information which would not involve the discredit of publishing what his official position required that he should first report to the provincial government.

"I suppose," said the reporter, "we may say that you enjoyed the trip to the north."

"Yes," replied Mr. Fisher, "it was a most enjoyable, as well as a most interesting voyage."

Asked as to the length of time they were on the Diana, Mr. Fisher said they sailed from Halifax on the 3rd of June, and up till their return to Halifax on the 7th of November they were never of the ship for a single night.

"Perhaps," said the reporter, "you would be willing to make a statement as to the objects of the expedition, and as to the general results."

To this Mr. Fisher replied, substantially, as follows: "As to the objects of the expedition, I fancy these are pretty well known to the public. In the first place, and mainly, the expedition was undertaken with the view of ascertaining more fully the conditions of the ice in Hudson's Straits, especially in the month of June, and in the fall season. In the second place, the commander, who has for many years been the chief officer of the fisheries department in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, was instructed to examine into the character and value of the fisheries of Hudson's Bay. It was on the question of the ice conditions that I was to report."

"As to the results of the expedition, in so far as that question is concerned," Mr. Fisher went on to say, "I have the feeling that until I make my report to the government of the province, I ought to confine any remarks in the meantime to a statement of actual facts upon any question put to me, without offering any opinion as to the probable length of the period of navigation. It is probably known already to the readers of your paper that we were beset a considerable time in the ice on the Labrador coast, before reaching the entrance to Hudson's straits. It is known also that we entered the Straits on 22nd June. I may say that at the entrance and for some distance up the Straits there was practically no ice. We steamed in somewhat about 150 miles without meeting ice, except such as a strong ship like the "Diana" could pass through without difficulty. On the 23rd in the afternoon we came up to the close pack of heavy drift ice, and we cruised up and down in front of the pack that evening and I think all next day looking for an opening through it. Finding none it was determined—I think this was on the morning of 25th June—to enter the pack and endeavor to force a passage through it. This was found impossible after we once got into it, and we were closely beset in it from that time until about the 10th of July. For the greater part of that time the ship was absolutely held fast, so as to make progress wholly impossible. At times, under the influence of the outgoing tide the ice slackened a little and we steamed on

for a short time. But on such occasions very little progress was made. Up to the 10th of July we had, it is true, made some progress inwards in our course through the Straits. Perhaps we had made 70 or 80 miles altogether, but much the greater part of this progress had been made not under steam, but by a current that was carrying the ice and the ship imbedded in it up the Straits to the Northwest."

"Is there, then, a natural current of this kind always found in the Straits?"

"Certainly we found such a current," said Mr. Fisher, "and there is apparently evidence that usually it is found there. That is, there appears to be a natural current of more or less strength going inwards on the north side of the straits and outwards on the south side. But it must be understood that this current is greatly affected by the winds, and it is also very considerably affected by the tides. For instance, a south-east wind, which then happened to prevail, had the effect of intensifying the inward current, and at the same time of tightening the ice. Again, the tide, which is very high there, rising and falling about 30 feet, had its effect. The ingoing tide increased the current and tightened the ice. The outgoing tide tended to loosen it a little, and occasionally, under the influence of that tide, we actually drifted back a little, but on the whole the drift of the ship during its imprisonment in the ice was inwards, and towards the north shore."

"Then the conditions, I suppose, had changed before you were released?" suggested the reporter.

"Exactly so," replied Mr. Fisher; "the wind had, if I remember right, changed to westerly or north-westerly, causing the ice to spread abroad, leaving it, of course, much looser. I think it was on the 10th of July we were first able to make any real progress through it. On the 11th, I think, it was, we got clear of the pack, and on the 12th we passed through the straits into Hudson's Bay."

"As already stated in the columns of the Free Press, we made the return passage through the straits with the least possible delay, making only the necessary halts to land the members of the geological party who had gone up with us to the straits. As soon as we completed the return passage through the straits we turned in at once to make another passage and return, and we completed the fourth passage—that is two each way—on the night of July 27."

"Was the ship held fast in the ice at any time after the first trip inwards?"

"No; we were not held fast in any of these later passages. We certainly saw much ice at times, in fact every day it was in sight and around us, and sometimes it was heavy, thick ice, but generally quite loose so that we had no difficulty in passing through it. Of course it was necessary at times to slow down in speed, but practically the ice was not such as to be a serious obstacle to the progress of the "Diana."

"Perhaps I ought to say that in our first return passage through the straits we attempted to reach the coast of Baffin's Land near the entrance of the channel where Dr. Bell was desirous of landing with his party. But on approaching the east end of Salisbury Island, on the 15th of July, I think, we met again with the heavy pack of ice which suddenly closed

around us as fast as ever and we had fears of another long imprisonment. Fortunately, however, a favorable movement in the ice took place which scattered it just as suddenly as it had closed on us; the "Diana" made a hasty retreat and no further attempt was made to reach that coast."

"Did you after the end of July meet with any ice?"

"None to speak of," said Mr. Fisher. "We went up into Cumberland Sound as far as the Arctic circle, reaching that latitude on 15th August. We found no ice there. Returning we went into Hudson's Straits again, I think on 21st August, and passed through the straits and bay to the harbor of Churchill. On this voyage we went up once more towards the northwesterly part of the straits to see the condition of the ice, if any existed to the north of Salisbury Island. Here we saw a body of ice extending northerly and northwesterly towards Baffin's Land and Fox channel. But we did not attempt to enter it, and it did not lie in the way of a clear passage to Churchill. In our last voyage through the Straits, as you are aware, we saw no ice whatever. We passed out of the Straits on the 20th October. It was hoped that we could have remained in the west end of the Straits till at least the 1st of November, but heavy weather and especially the prevalence of severe snow-storms, determined the commander to leave a few days earlier. There was also sufficient frost to make it extremely difficult to work the ship. Under heavy winds and a heavy sea washing over the decks, ice accumulated on the deck and in the ropes and rigging generally. Not that the cold was extremely severe. I think the lowest temperature was 18 degrees of frost, or 14 above zero."

"Were the harbors frozen over at this time?"

"No, we were in the Douglass harbor, on the south side of the Straits, and something more than half-way up towards the west end, on the 29th October, and it was still entirely open. The ponds of fresh water on the land were then frozen solid."

"What about the 'rip' in the ice that the Diana sustained, and where did it happen?"

"This happened near Big Island, on the north shore, about half way up the Straits. Yes, it was a serious rip—or rather, it put the ship in serious peril, and we did not know at what moment we might have to abandon the vessel and take to the ice. There was pressure of this kind for two days, I think, the first and fourth of July. Fortunately, however, we escaped without actual mishap to any of us. True, the ship suffered considerably from the pressure, but not so as to unfit her to proceed on the voyage."

"I suppose that you met with a good many of the natives?"

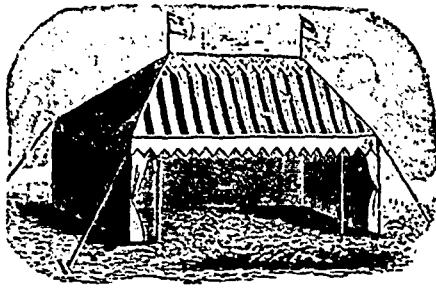
"Yes, we saw something of the Eskimo, and I would be glad to tell you about them, but I am afraid it would be too long a statement for the present."

"You see," said Mr. Fisher, in conclusion, "that I have given this statement hurriedly, without referring to my records, but I have no doubt I have given you the dates correctly from recollection."

The new license act in the territory allows wholesale druggists to sell alcohol in quantities not exceeding five gallons, to retail druggists and physicians. The bill has not been finally passed yet.

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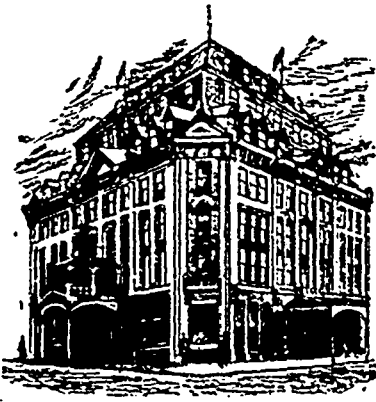


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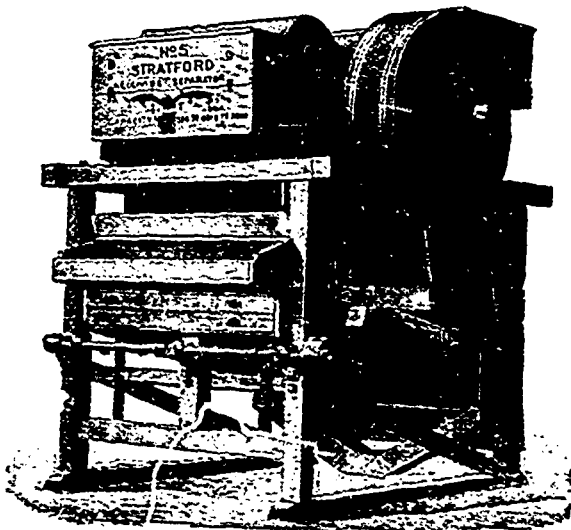
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Manufacturers
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W. WILLIAMS, Agent.
Sample Room—Room M, McIntyre
Block, Main, St. Winnipeg.

Western Loan and Trust Co.

Minutes of a meeting of the shareholders of the Western Loan & Trust Company, Limited, held in the office of the company, on the 16th day of November, 1897.

Present, Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, in the chair, J. N. Greenshields, Esq., Q. C., Wm. Strachan, Esq.; W. L. Hogg, Esq.; W. Barclay Stephens, Esq.; Jno. Hoodless, Esq., Hamilton; R. W. Knight, Esq., Woodstock, and others, representing in person and by proxy 23,950 shares of stock.

On motion the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The directors then submitted the annual report which was as follows: Gentlemen—

Your directors beg to submit the annual report of the company and accounts for the year ending October 31st, 1897, together with the auditor's certificate certifying as to the correctness of the same.

During the last year the rates of interest obtainable were considerably reduced on first class security, hence the net earnings of the company for the year are little in excess of last year. At the same time we have been able to pay two half-yearly dividends of 3 1/2 per cent to shareholders having 25 per cent paid on their stock and having carried to the credit of the Profit and Loss account about \$6,000.

We found it necessary (in order to retain desirable loans already made) to reduce the rate of interest or otherwise accept payment of the loan, as was the borrowers privilege.

The expenses of the company for the last year have been very moderate. The rent \$750, the total amount of directors fees for the year \$355, leaving the amount paid for salary \$3,866.

In the item of sundry expenses including interest and exchange, the item interest and exchange for the year amounted to only \$51 and some cents.

The assignee and liquidation branch is steadily growing, and much of this year's profits from that source will appear only in next year's business, as the estates have not been wound up nor our fees voted by the inspectors of the estate; hence it has been impossible to have them appear in this year's statement.

Your directors during the year increased the authorized capital \$250,000, thus making the authorized capital \$2,250,000.

The amount of stock subscribed during the year was \$439,750, on which \$116,746 was paid.

There is still a little less than \$50,000 of the company's stock unsubscribed.

Your directors likewise recommend the purchase of the Montreal Stock Exchange building as a head office for the company.

Yours respectfully,

A. W. OGILVIE, President.

ASSETS.

Cash on hand	\$ 6,001.68
Cash in bank	21,865.10
Office fixtures and supplies	1,868.46
Agents' supplies	891.26
Contingent account	16,573.36
Loans and accrued interest	1,127,024.22
Stockholders' account	1,639,478.87
Sundry	60,388.98
Accounts receivable	104.64
Real estate owned by the Company	12,896.04
	\$2,887,092.17

LIABILITIES.

Capital account	\$2,201,200.00
Debentures	460,000.00
Debenture stock	153,900.00
Due Company's bankers	17,000.00
Unclaimed dividends	9.03
Balance to the credit of profit and loss account	52,023.13
Trust funds	12,959.61
	\$2,887,092.17

RECEIPTS.

By balance brought forward	\$ 40,523.31
By Sundry earnings	1,057.70
By interest	68,897.78
	\$110,478.79

DISBURSEMENTS.

To dividend No. 9	\$ 9,787.29
To dividend No. 10	13,908.76
To interest on debentures	22,500.00
To interest on debenture stock	7,650.00
To 10 per cent written off furniture and fixtures	207.60
To 10 per cent written off contingent account	1,841.48
To taxes	318.01
To Sundry expenses, including advertising, postage, interest and exchange	2,241.00
To expense of management, including salaries, directors' fees, rent, etc.	5,971.00
	\$64,455.60
By Balance	52,023.13
	\$116,478.79

I hereby certify that I have checked every entry in the books of the Company and found them to be correct. I have also checked the foregoing statement and certify that the same is correct in every particular.

I went through the mortgages of the Company and found in every case a certificate of title issued by the solicitors and insurance policies with the mortgage.

The average of your loans is less than 50 per cent of the appraiser's valuation.

ALEXANDER WOODS, Auditor.

It was moved by Mr. Hoodless that the report as read be received and adopted. He remarked that in moving the adoption of the report but few words were necessary, as it spoke for itself, but he wished to particularly call the attention of the shareholders present to the fact that the expenses of the company for the past year barely exceeded \$8,000, including rent, etc., and thought that there was no company in Canada that transacted the same amount of business at the same expense.

After a few congratulatory remarks by some of the shareholders, the report was then adopted.

It was resolved that the shareholders do now proceed to elect Directors for the next ensuing year and that the President be instructed to cast one ballot. On the ballot being cast, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected: Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, Wm. Strachan, Esq., W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., R. Presontaine, Esq., M. P., J. N. Greenshields, Esq., Q. C., R. W. Knight, Esq., John Hoodless, Esq., W. L. Hogg, Esq., W. H. Comstock, Esq.

It was then moved by W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., seconded by John Hoodless, Esq., that Alex. Woods, of Montreal, and J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, Ont., be appointed Joint Auditors of the company for the next ensuing year.—Carried.

Mr. Hoodless said that he had wished to present a resolution as to increasing the Manager's salary, but that Mr. Stephens had requested him not to do so this year, nevertheless he thought it should be done.

He also stated that he wished to make a slight recognition to the president. Two years ago he took the trouble to enquire if the president gave the time and trouble that they

in the west deemed necessary, to the company's business, and found that he was giving more time than was expected, and especially so as he was receiving no remuneration whatever, so he proposed the following resolution:

Moved by Mr. Hoodless, seconded by Mr. Knight, that in view of the constant care and careful supervision given by the president, for which no remuneration has been given, and having in view the increased volume of business which our company is doing and the need of his constant advice, it is hereby resolved that the sum of \$500 be tendered to him as a token of esteem and a slight recognition of his services.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Knight expressed his satisfaction at being present and stated that a few years ago all that he knew of the company was what he saw on paper and what he learned from his interviews with Mr. Stephens, and that last year he went home from the annual meeting very well satisfied with the company and directors. I might state that it is in my opinion a very slight recognition to Senator Ogilvie and a resolution that I am very much pleased to second.

Senator Ogilvie, Gentlemen:—To say that I am not pleased would be far from the truth. In my early days I had very good luck and very hard work and amassed wealth. I did not enter this company for money (not that the money would not have been of use to me) and I may say that I do not think I have ever been called upon by any officer of the company and been found unwilling to give my time and advice. It is worth more to me to know the feeling that the shareholders have for me. It is worth a good deal more to me than money, because when you are getting old, odium is apt to be connected with your name and deeds, but I thank God that so far no one has been able to say that I have been anything but an honest man. I am about seventy years of age and it is too late now to leave these tracks.

It was moved by Mr. Hoodless, seconded by Mr. Hogg, that section 42 of the by-laws, page 11, be changed and the words "First Monday in December" be substituted for the words "Third Tuesday in November" and that in future the dividends be paid half yearly on the first of January and the first of July.—Carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hoodless, and seconded by Mr. Hogg, that section 26 of the by-laws be changed by adding the words "or assistant manager" after the last word "manager" and that the word "accountant" be struck out between the words "president" and "vice-president." Also that section 29 be changed by inserting the words "or assistant manager" after the word "manager" in the first line.—Carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hoodless, seconded by Mr. Greenshields, that the board of directors be authorized to purchase the building that is at present occupied by the company, comprising about 80 feet frontage on St. Sacramento street, known as the Montreal stock exchange at a cost of \$43,000, and to expend in refitting and putting in first class order, a sum not to exceed \$20,000.—Carried.

Mr. Hoodless then moved, seconded by Mr. Strachan, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Manager and employees of the Company for their faithful and efficient work as

well as application to business during the last year.—Carried.

Mr. Stephens said in reply. I am very much obliged for the kind resolution that has been tendered to myself and the other employees of the Company. I do not think, however, that these resolutions should be made or passed at every annual meeting. Of course when reading the usual annual reports it is always customary to pass such resolutions. I take the stand that when a person is paid to do a certain work it is but right to do it to the best of their ability. No thanks is due to him who but faithfully performs his duty. I can assure you on behalf of the employees of this Company that they will continue to look after your interests in the future as efficiently as they have done in the past.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, it was moved by Mr. Hoodless, seconded by Mr. J. N. Greenshield, that Hon. A. W. Ogilvie be re-elected President.—Carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hogg, seconded by Mr. Knight, that Wm. Strachan, Esq. be re-elected Vice-President. — Carried.

W. BARCLAY STEPHENS, Manager.

Financial and Insurance Notes

The Union Bank of Canada has decided to establish a branch at Moose Jaw, Assa.

The recent issue of Fort William debentures, for the amount of \$13,000, at 4 1-2 per cent., and running twenty years realized \$600 premium. Previous issues of debentures of this town have been sold at 98.

The severe fire in the town of Carberry should be taken as a warning to other towns without fire protective appliances. By-laws to provide funds to purchase a fire engine, etc., have twice been voted down in Carberry. There are other towns in quite as bad shape as Carberry.

The Winnipeg offices of the Central The Manitoba Trust company, Canada Loan and Savings company, and the Imperial Life Assurance company will be moved to the Canada Permanent block, corner Main street and Portage avenue. The ground floor in this block is being fitted up for offices, a portion of which will be occupied by these companies.

The law does not compel you to insure your life—at least, the statute law does not, says the Weekly Statement. But the law with which lawyers and courts have to deal covers only a minimum part of human duty. The most sacred duties—those so delicate that legal phrases cannot make them effective—lie beyond all judicial terms, outside of the functions of state. Nearly all of these, however, are overwhelmingly important. Among the first that is to be considered is life insurance. Merely to live up to the civil law is better, of course, than to be hauled into court, but doing this alone makes a very poor specimen of the genus homo.

The statement of the affairs of the Massachusetts Benefit Life Association, filed at Osgoode hall, cannot rejoice the Canadian creditors of that institution. The document was produced by Mr. Sutton, the liquidator, before Mr. Hodgins, master in ordinary, showed that the Canadian assets are \$130,000, while the death claims aggregate \$57,000, and the total dis-

ability \$68,000. The aggregate amount claimed is accordingly \$155,000, showing an apparent shortage of \$25,000. Of the death claims so far examined, certain of them amounting to \$25,000, have been agreed to, while others to the amount of \$14,000 are in dispute. The balance has yet to be investigated. The disability claims allowed aggregate \$30,000.

Freight Rates and Railway Matters.

Coal freights advanced to 30c, Buffalo to Duluth, for the week ended Nov. 27.

The Canadian Pacific has reduced working expenses to 49 per cent. of the gross earnings. That is a very low record.

The last steamer of the season to leave Kingston to take on a cargo of wheat at Fort William for Montreal, was chartered at 53-1 to 6c from Fort William to Kingston and Prescott.

Dominion Minister of Public Works Tarte seems strongly in favor of the proposed extension of the Intercolonial system to Georgian Bay, by assisting connecting roads. This would give another through grain route from lake ports to eastern points in competition with the Canadian Pacific Railway and Grand Trunk.

The Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk are said to be commencing a fight in rates to the Klondike by way of Vancouver and Seattle respectively. Tariffs were increased by each at a similar figure, but the Canadian Pacific claim they are entitled to a differential in the western business and have announced a slight cut.

The Free Press says. The bottom has been knocked out of the Interstate Commerce Act by a judgment of the United States Supreme Court, which upholds a railway company in the South in giving a less rate for a long haul than for a short haul. Competition, the judgment says, is a factor in making rates. It was mainly to establish the contrary that the act was passed. Competing points were not to have any advantage over points that were not competing.

Leather, Hides, Wool, etc.

The Toronto Globe says of hides: There is a good demand and the market is firm. Local dealers are paying 9c for green hides, and cured are quoted at 9 1-4c to 9 3-8c. The market for sheepskins is firm at 90c; country skins are quoted at 65 to 60c. Tallow is dull and the market is weak. Local dealers are offering 3c.

The Montreal Gazette says: Undiminished strength continues to characterize the market for both sole and black leather, with an upward tendency in the latter, some tanneries in the west having demanded 1-2c per foot advance for grained upper. One tanner, writing from Ontario, says that, owing to the high price of hides and the probability for still higher rates in the near future, he will have to get more money for his leather or close his factory. Others write in a similar strain. The stocks of black leather were never before known to be as small as at present, either in dealers' or tanners' hands, and manufacturers find it difficult to make selections. The sale was reported of a lot of Ontario splits at 20c, and another lot at 21c, although some say that choice splits are not

to be had under 22c. A lot of common was placed at 10 1-2c. There is still a good demand for Dongola skins, one of our large tanners being sold considerably ahead. Sole leather has sold at 22c for No. 2 B. A. a lot of poor No. 2 selling at 20c. Domestic wools are quiet at Boston, but the tone is firmer, and dealers feel that their holdings are good property.

Hides Bring High Prices.

The great western cattle slaughterers have sold hides of about every selection this week and at the full quoted rates. Despite the decline of quality coincident with the season and the utmost efforts of buyers to depress prices, the market shows no signs of weakness. Since our midweek report spread native steer hides sold at 12c, heavy native steers brought 11 1-4c, and butt-branded 10 1-4c. Colorado steers and branded cows went at 9 1-4c, and heavy and light native cow hides realized 10 1-2 and 10 3-8c respectively.

Many people think the top of the market has been reached. Hides are declining in quality and at the present price leather is being produced at a serious loss. To place the leather industry on a remunerative basis it is absolutely imperative that hides should decline and leather advance. It is impossible to bring the cost of hides and the selling price of leather to a parity without a change in both commodities. There is some hope that green salted hides may be imported as a means of relieving the situation. Hide prices are lower in Europe, but unfortunately the new tariff imposes a duty of 15 per cent and imports are impossible until there is a serious inequality in prices. The highest price for heavy ox hides in England at the Nov. 8 auctions was 4 1-2d, or 9c in our money. Cow hides of the best selection brought 3 7-8d, or 7 3-4c in American money. Our prices are 11 1-4c for steers and 10 3-4c for cows.—Chicago Shoe and Leather Review.

The Travellers Meet.

The Commercial Travelers association met in the board of trade rooms, Winnipeg, on Saturday evening, Nov. 27. The principal business was the nomination of officers and directors for the ensuing year. As all the positions were filled by acclamation, there will be no contest for any office this year. Following is the result of the nominations:

President—J. C. Mundie.
First vice-president—F. W. Drowry.
Second vice-president—W. Hargreaves.

Treasurer—L. C. McIntyre.
Directors—A. L. Johnston, A. P. Jeffrey, F. J. C. Cox, Horace Wilson, C. R. Steele, Kenneth McKenzie, G. F. Bryan, R. M. McGowan, J. T. Persse.

Regarding the annual entertainment of the association, it was decided to hold a conversazione on Monday, December 28, at the Hotel Manitoba. Those wishing to attend may procure tickets from the secretary.

The minister of customs has decided that packages through the post on which there is duty to pay will now go direct to the customs house nearest to destination. Exporters will also be required to make a return to the railway companies of goods shipped from Canada, to insure greater accuracy in the figures furnished to the authorities.

Carberry Scorched.

Carberry, Nov. 30.—Between two and three o'clock this morning fire broke out in the rear of the News office, which soon enveloped that building and communicated to Morton's harness shop. The flames went across the street and burned all the buildings which were of frame down to Third avenue; thirteen business places in all. Owing to a strong northeast wind the fire would have crossed Third avenue and consumed another large part of the town, had not the heroic efforts of seven or eight citizens who got on the top of the Sanford building and in spite of the intense heat and cold, by the most heroic efforts stopped it. The saving of the Sanford building was almost miraculous. The intrepid defenders had to keep themselves drenched in the water, which was at times frozen.

The fire is the most disastrous in the history of the town, and property to the extent of \$40,000 was destroyed. A large part of Main street is completely gutted. The alarm was given at a little before 4 a. m., when flames were seen issuing from the rear of the premises occupied by the Carberry News. The building was a frame one, and in a few minutes after the fire being discovered, it was plain that it, as well as the adjoining premises, were doomed. Fanned by a strong breeze from the northeast, it spread in a few minutes to Green and Morris' store and to Morton's harness shop and McPettridge's shoe store, Alkenhead & McEwen's implement warehouse was soon in flames and the Massey-Harris building was the next to go. The fire had meantime leaped to the west side of Main street and Thompson Elliott's blacksmith shop. The Woodbine livery, the St. Julian restaurant and the county court office next succumbed. The crowd had been working to take the stock from Alex. Robertson's furniture store, of which about half was saved, the building being the last in the long list. The intersection of Third avenue and Main and the strenuous efforts of some volunteers alone prevented the whole of the west side of Main street from being destroyed.

THE LOSSES.

The losses, as far as ascertained are as follows:

Green & Morris, The Bazaar, loss on building \$1,500, contents \$600; insurance \$100; also loss of \$100 on furs and clothing for sale on commission; building owned by H. W. White.

J. Ridington, Carberry News office, loss on building \$1,500, on contents \$2,500; insurance on building, \$1,500; on contents \$1,000; building owned by H. W. White.

Ed. Morton, harness store, loss on building and stock \$3,500; insurance \$1,000; building owned by Ed. Morton.

Thos. McPettridge, shoe repair shop, loss on building \$1,500, on contents \$1,500; insurance about \$750.

Alkenhead & McEwen, implements, loss on building \$2,500; stock \$3,000; no insurance on stock, building insured; building owned by Sylvester Bros.

Massey-Harris Co., loss on building, \$2,500; on contents, \$4,000; insurance not known locally.

Thompson Elliott, blacksmith shop, loss on building, \$600; contents, \$400; insurance, \$300.

I. Walker, Woodbine livery, loss on building, \$1,000; on contents, \$250; insurance, \$600 on building; building owned by H. E. Walker.

W. J. May, loss on personal property, \$800.

Alex. Robertson, loss building, \$2,500; contents, \$3,000; building owned by Alex. Robertson; insurance, \$3,500.

G. S. Haslam, stock damaged to the extent of \$250.

J. B. Henderson, stock suffered \$1,000 injury.

H. A. Manville, stock of clothing, suffered to the extent of \$1,000.

Geo. Kennedy, restaurant, loss on building, \$1,000; contents, \$500; insurance not known; building owned by Jos. Thompson.

These last three were covered by insurance.

J. Khas, goods damaged to the extent of \$500; insured.

W. M. Boyd, loss on removing goods, \$500; insured.

Sanford company, damage to building.

County court office, loss on building, \$500; contents, \$300; insurance on building, \$300; building owned by W. Logan.

Dr. Lipssett, lost his books and accounts.

The insurance on the Massey-Harris building and stock was \$1,500 in companies represented by Agur and Beck, of Winnipeg.

Grain and Milling News.

Oats were 1.2c higher at Montreal on Monday.

Oatmeal advanced 10c. at Montreal on Monday last.

The large elevator of Richardson & Sons, at Kingston, Ontario, was totally consumed by fire on Dec. 1. The loss will be \$60,000, about three-fifths insurance.

Receipts of wheat at Minneapolis and Duluth so far are in round figures 60,000,000 bushels, with only 10,000,000 bushels more to come, in the next eight months, 10,000,000 of which is between farm granaries and Minneapolis and Duluth, leaving some 30,000,000 bushels in farmers' hands, to sell for shipment here and to Duluth, an amount too small to meet the demands for grinding and shipment to outside mills.—Minneapolis Market Record.

Hardware and Paint Trade.

Adulterated linseed oil is said to be becoming a common thing in the United States.

Stocks of glass are light in eastern Canada markets, the fall trade having been larger than was expected.

A great scarcity of cement is reported from the east. Stocks are almost nil at Toronto, and at Montreal supplies are light. This is a remarkable situation for this season of the year.

Dry Goods Trade.

Bradstreet's says of the situation in the United States: Cotton fabrics are generally maintained, and the feeling is that no material decline will be forced. Raw cotton is coming forward freely, and the decline appears to be checked for the present at least. Printed fabrics are moving in a hand-to-mouth way, with ginghams quiet. Dress woollens are slow, but the tone is firm, and it is only fancy goods that are liable to get out of season that holders show inducement to sell. The tendency is higher for all woollens. In men's-wear goods the mills are well sold ahead for spring fabrics. Fall goods for next year are opening slow, as higher prices are the rule all along the line.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Canned tomatoes are firmer in eastern markets, and some brands are quoted 5c higher.

The market for French prunes of the large sizes in the primary market is firm and tending upward, but small sizes are reported to be easier, according to cable reports.

The market for Barbadoes molasses remains very firm, stocks being gradually reduced by 50 to 100 bbls at a time, and to-day it is said that 25c would have to be paid for a round lot of choice 1897 product. The lot of Porto Rico held here is being gradually worked off at about 26c. Small lots of Barbadoes are selling at 20c to 27c. Syrups are in fair demand, and sales of good sized lots of Canadian in half-barrels are reported at 13.4c to 17.8c up to 21.2c for smaller lots.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

The Lumber Trade.

General Russell A. Alger, the secretary of war in the United States government is said to be in favor of a lower rate of duty on white pine lumber.

The Minneapolis lumberman says: Out on the west coast the shingle mills are now nearly all shut down, and the downward tendency of red cedar shingle prices has been checked.

D. Sprague, of the Winnipeg saw mills, has sent a third gang of lumbermen to his camps on the Rossau river. Mr. Sprague intends to largely increase his cut of logs this winter.

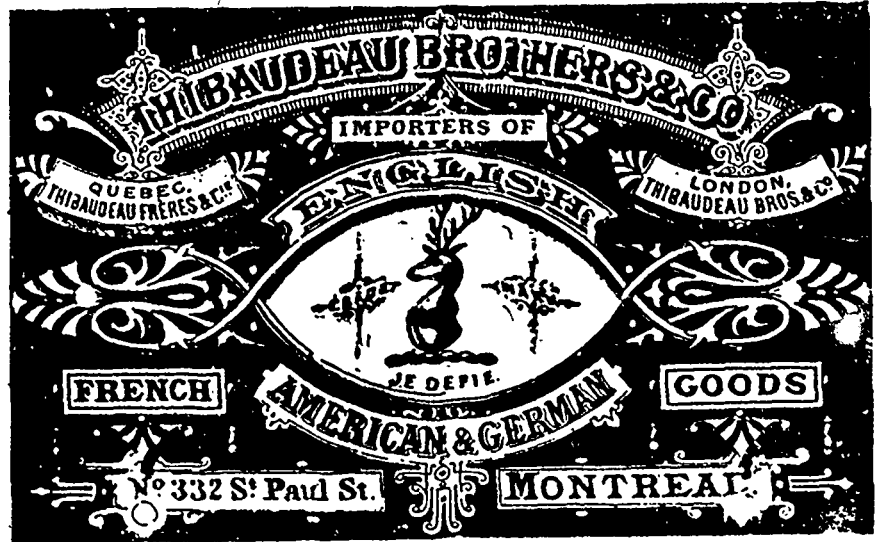
Boots and Shoes.

Manufacturers are busy on sorting orders, which have come in pretty lively of late, and all our leading houses report a fair amount of spring orders coming in from travellers, who have been out for two or three weeks. Prices keep firm and are likely to continue so as long as hides and leather keep strong with an upward tendency. Remittances are satisfactory.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

In the Winnipeg city council Ald. Arbutnot brought up the question of a city meat inspector; he said that every little town of 8,000 or 10,000 inhabitants had such an officer. In showing the necessity for such inspector he said that this city was made a regular dumping ground for lumpy-jawed cattle. He had heard of three that were killed on Sunday, and their heads buried to get them out of sight.

The Christmas number of the Canadian Magazine is well worthy of special mention. It contains 200 pages, is specially illustrated and has a bright holiday cover. Goldwin Smith, Principal Parkin and Gilbert Parker are the three chief contributors. The leading story is "John Crew's Christmas," by Charles Gordon Rogers. Other stories are contributed by Gilbert Parker, Fergus Hume, Ella S. Atkinson, James Workman and Katharine L. Johnston. In poetry the contributors are Louis Frechette, Arthur J. Stringer, W. V. B. Thompson, Jessie A. Freeland, Florence Hamilton Randall and Geo. J. Low. Dr. Bourmet has an article on the "Founders of New France," and Robert Larmour gives his personal reminiscences of Booker's Column and The Fenian Raid of 1866.

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Statistical Wheat Reports.

WHEAT IN CANADA.

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

Montreal	119,000
Toronto	38,000
Kingston	10,000
Winnipeg	209,000
Manitoba elevators	4,119,000
Fort William, Port Arthur and Keewatin	1,782,000

Total Nov. 20. 6,277,000

BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains as reported by Bradstreet's on Oct. 20, were 48,758,000 bushels.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 79,103,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains for the week ended Nov. 27, was 33,656,000 bushels, being an increase of 948,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 58,914,000 bushels, two years ago 63,903,000 bushels, three years ago 85,159,000 bushels, four years ago 78,091,000 bushels.

WHEAT STOCKS AT U.S. POINTS.

Chicago	5,287,000 bushels
Duluth	3,284,000 "
Minneapolis	9,826,000 "
New York	3,497,000 "
Buffalo	1,513,000 "

Wheat and Flour

The following statement shows the quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported into and exported from the Dominion of Canada during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897:

Exports—	Wheat.	Flour.
Countries to which exported.	bush.	brls.
Great Britain	12,948,889	248,441
Australia	100,805	91,641
United States	18,603	5,218
Germany	20,559	3
Newfoundland	15	124,706
Belgium	64,467	
Brazil		300
B. W. Indies		199
B. E. Indies		1,300
Hong Kong		3,000
China		2,420
Haiti		683
U. S. of Colombia		75
Holland		160
St. Pierre		3,521
Danish W. Indies		37
	23,142,338	481,764

Imports from—	Wheat.	Flour.
	bush.	brls.
Great Britain	20	28
United States	5,845,119	84,797
	5,845,139	84,825

Exports, less imports 7,296,199 396,939
 Net exports wheat and flour, equal bush wheat 9,082,425

Wheat and flour received from the United States and transhipped at the port of Montreal (not included in above exports):

Great Britain	219,542	811,766
Argentine Republic		1
Newfoundland		220,026
Germany		715
	219,542	1,032,508

It will be seen that the net imports of wheat and flour during 1896-97 amounted to 9,082,245 bushels, as compared with 9,808,893 bushels in 1895-96; the quantity transhipped in bond at the port of Montreal in 1896-97 was 219,542 bushels wheat and 1,032,508 barrels flour, as compared with no wheat and 1,363,683 barrels flour in 1895-96.

The above statistics are prepared by Mr. R. H. Lawder, being furnished from a statement furnished by the minister of customs for Broomhall's (Liverpool) Corn Trade News.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT CROP.

Sydney, N. S. W., Nov. 29.—An unofficial report places the wheat yield of New South Wales at 11,000,000 bushels, and anticipates the exportable surplus of wheat from Australia to be 5,000,000 bushels.

The M. & N. W. R.R. Litigation

A meeting of the holders of the scrip certificates issued by the committee representing the holders of the £510,000 6 per cent first mortgage bonds of the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway Company, was held on Wednesday, Nov. 10, at Cannon street hotel, London, for the purpose of receiving a report as to various matters and sanctioning the borrowing or raising by the committee of further funds. Mr. Edward F. Coates, chairman of the bondholders' committee, presided, and stated that the agreement approved at the last meeting, giving the Lake Manitoba Co. running powers over a portion of the bondholders' division of the road, had been duly signed and acted upon. With regard to their litigation with Messrs. Allan, he regretted to say that their appeal to the privy council was not successful. The committee employed the best counsel they could, but, on the case going into court, they were deprived of the able advocacy of Sir Edward Clarke, Q. C., who returned his brief, and had received no fees. The committee had called the bondholders together on that occasion to confer with them on the present position of affairs, and also to ask them to uphold the committee in the further litigation they were advised to commence. The support the committee had received from the bondholders was very satisfactory, the number of bonds at present lodged representing £487,000. Although the expenses incurred appeared large, they had been watched minutely, and, while not afraid to spend money in the interests of the bondholders, they had never done so without careful consideration; and, in asking for further power to borrow up to 2 per cent. of the nominal amount of the bonds deposited, he might say that it was hoped there would be no need to spend anything like so much. They had, however, to fight powerful people on the other side, and it was necessary to have the shrews of war. Early in the year an unofficial scheme of reconstruction was proposed to the committee by Messrs. Allan, but it was one that they could not see their way to adopt, and nothing satisfactory had been the outcome of subsequent negotiations on the same subject. He believed the bondholders possessed a first-rate property, and that in time they would reap the advantage of the committee's pertinacity. If they had won their case before the privy council there would have been a large sum (about £30,000) standing to the credit of the first division of the road, and it was the intention of the committee to have distributed some of that money among the bondholders. In the present circumstances the railway company were applying for control of the £30,000 for the payment of old debts, etc. To this the committee naturally objected. The committee believed that the road had a future, and that a strenuous effort should be made to obtain possession of it. They were advised that this could only be accomplished by further litigation. It was also felt that the granting of a subsidy, to be applied for by Messrs. Allan at the next meeting of the Canadian parliament, in connection with a certain extension, should also be opposed unless adequate protection was provided for those whose money was invested in the first division of the road. In conclusion, he moved the adoption of the report, and that the meeting should sanction the borrowing by the committee of further funds

provided that the additional amount of principal money so sanctioned should not exceed 2 per cent. of the nominal amount of the bonds deposited with the committee. Mr. S. Gardner seconded the resolution, which, after some discussion, was agreed to.

Policy re Seals.

Ottawa, Nov. 28.—The Dominion government cannot consent to the request of the United States for the suspension of pelagic sealing for one year, from January 1, as such suspension would not be legal, except by authority of the imperial parliament and the U. S. congress.

Supposing Canada attempted to enforce it, the government would be liable for heavy damages. The position of affairs stands thus. The United States is anxious to secure the total prohibition for all time of pelagic sealing. Canada is not unwilling to accede to this, provided such national concession to the States is met with corresponding national advantages to Canada, such as free lumber, free coal, free barley and free fish, a general agreement on all questions at issue between the two countries, and compensation to sealers for the capital they lost. Canada claims if these subjects are handled by a joint commission, and an agreement reached, the finding can be given effect by statutory enactment before sealing commences next August.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The state department declined to say anything to-day respecting the answer of the Canadian government on the seal question further than to state that no communication on the subject had been received from either the British embassy or from Ottawa. The published report of the conference which took place between Mr. Foster and the British and Canadian representatives on the 16th inst., shows that the proposition now reported from Ottawa as having been formulated by the Canadian government was proposed at that time and definitely declined by Mr. Foster. It was then distinctly stated that the government of the United States could not consent to make the seal question dependent upon the complex question of reciprocity, revision of tariff, or other matters unless there should be a suspension of the slaughter of the seals while the negotiations and resulting legislation were pending. It is not likely that the president will reverse the decision of the government upon a renewal of the proposal.

Co-Operative Creameries.

Ottawa, Nov. 29. — Commissioner Robertson is well satisfied with the results of the first season's work in co-operative dairying in the Northwest Territories. Two creameries at Innesfall and Red Deer are to be continued in operation all winter and after Christmas the output of these creameries is to be packed in one and two pound tins for the Klondike trade. Prof. Robertson thinks there should be a great market for Northwest products in Yukon from this out. A new package has been adopted for butter to be shipped to Japan from the Northwest. It is to be put up in 14-pound boxes and sent through in cold storage. Packing of Northwest butter in tins will be also generally encouraged with a view to developing a market in the West Indies. Messrs. Marker and Kinsella, who

have had charge of the work for the department of agriculture in the Territories, will spend the greater portion of the winter in British Columbia, lecturing on dairying, to farmers. Mr. Kinsella has already been sent there to look over the ground. Montreal, Nov. 29. — Canadian Pacific Railway company's earnings for October, 1897, were as follows: Gross earnings, \$2,790,001; working expenses, \$1,375,263; net profits, \$1,414,738. In October, 1896, the net profits were \$939,641, and for the ten months ending the 31st of October, 1897, the figures are as follows. Gross earnings, \$19,186,313; working expenses, \$11,125,753; net profits, \$8,060,559. For the ten months ending 31st of October, 1896, there was a net profit of \$6,321,001. This increase in net profits over the same period last year is, therefore, for October, \$175,098, and from January 1st to October 31st, \$1,739,558.

Live Stock Markets.

Liverpool, Nov. 29.—The market advanced 1-2c for United States cattle at 11 1-2c; choice Canadian steady at 11 1-2c.

At the Point St. Charles stock yards, Montreal, on Nov. 29, the supply of sheep and lambs was small, for which the demand was good, sheep selling at 3c to 3 1-4c and lambs at 4c to 4 1-2c. The supply of hogs was fair, for which the demand was good, and prices ruled steady at 4 1-2c per lb. live weight, off cars.

London, Nov. 29.—There was a firmer market to-day for cattle, as supplies were not excessive. Prices scored another advance of 1-2c for both cattle and sheep. Canadian ranchers were 1c higher and States cattle 1-2c. Choice States sold at 12c; choice Canadians, at 11c; ranchers at 10 1-2c; Argentine at 11c; Canadian sheep at 11 1-2 to 12c, and Argentine at 11 1-2c.

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on Nov. 29, the demand was slow, and a number of cattle were left over, owing to the fact that butchers had in large supplies last week. Choice cattle sold at 4 1-4c; good at 3 3-4c to 4c; fair at 3c to 3 1-2c, common at 2c to 2 3-4c, and inferior at 1 1-4c to 1 3-4c per lb., live weight. A fair trade was done in sheep, at 3c to 3 1-4c for good to choice and at 2 1-2c to 2 3-4c for culls. Lambs were firm at 4c to 4 1-2c.

The Montreal Gazette says: The export live stock season for 1897, from this port, has been concluded, but it will be continued by way of St. John, N. B., and Portland during the winter months. The first shipment goes forward by Portland this week, consisting of 350 cattle and 34 horses. The steamship Alcides also sails from St. John, N. B., to Glasgow, with 250 cattle. All the ocean freight space has been engaged from the above port to Glasgow by United States shippers for the months of December and January at 42s 6d.

Manitoba Farm Lands.

It is learned from Portage la Prairie that the section about four miles north, known as the McLaren farm, and owned by Alloway & Champion, has been sold to Dr. Cowan. The consideration was \$14,000. The Portage Graphic says this is the largest real estate deal made for many years, probably the largest since the boom broke in 1882.



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ASSURANCE CO.

before 31st December, 1897, will at the next Division of Profits, receive

Three Years' Profits

being one year's additional bonus over those policies issued in 1898. Enquiry should be made without delay from LOCAL AGENTS by intending assurers.

A. G. RAMSAY

President

W. T. RAMSAY

Superintendent

R. HILLS, Secretary

A. McT. CAMPBELL, Manager,

Manitoba and N.W.T. Branch, Winnipeg.

The W. J. Boyd Candy Company

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

Pure High-Class CONFECTIONERY

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

FACTORY AND OFFICE

262 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William, 78@79c; No. 2 hard, 76@76½c.

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

Bran—Per ton, \$6.

Shorts—Per ton, \$8.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 24@25c for new and 26@27c for old.

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

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

Butter—Dairy, good to choice, 14@16c as to quality for round lots.

Cheese—Dealers selling at 8½@9½c.

Eggs—Dealers were paying 20c net.

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

Mutton—5½@6c; lamb, 5½@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 4 @ 5c.

Cattle—2@2½c.

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

Sheep—2½@2¾c off cars. Lambs, 3c.

Hides—Green frozen, 5c.

Seneca Root—Dry, 20c.

Poultry—Chickens, 6@7c per pound; turkeys, 10@12c per lb.

Potatoes—25c per bushel.

Hay—\$5.00 for baled on track.

British Columbia Markets.

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

By wire to THE COMMERCIAL.

Vancouver, December 4, 1897.

Butter—Manitoba dairy 19@20c; Manitoba creamery 23½@25c. per lb.

Eggs—Eastern eggs, 18½@19c. per doz. Local, 40c.

Cheese—Manitoba 11½@12½c. per lb.

Cured Meats—Hams 13c; breakfast bacon 14c; backs 12½c; long clear 10c; short rolls 10½c; smoked sides 11½c; Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per lb, in pails and tubs 9½c lb.

Fish—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; spring salmon 14c each; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon 10c; finnan haddie 10c; kippered herring 12c; Columbia river oolochans 7c lb.; fresh halibut, 6c; coho salmon 4c. lb.

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

Green Fruits—California lemons \$4.00; California grapes, \$1.40 @ \$1.50 box; apples, 75c@\$1.25; bananas, 1.75@\$2.00; Japan oranges, 55c.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$2.75; 2 45 pounds sacks \$2.80; 4 22½ pound sacks \$2.90; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00 Oatmeal 10 10's, \$3.25; 2 50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.50 per sack.

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

Grain—Oats, new, \$17@18 per ton; wheat, \$25@26 per ton.

Ground Feed—National mills chop, \$23.00@24.00 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts \$21.00 ton; bran \$19.00, oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

Hay—\$13.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats—Beef \$5.75 @ \$6.25; mutton 7½@8c; Australian mutton, 6c; pork 6@7½c; veal 6@8c lb.

Live Stock—Steers, grass feed \$3.25 @ \$3.50 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$3.75 @ \$4.00 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.00 per 100 lbs; cows \$2.75@3.00 per 100 lbs live weight.

Poultry—Chickens \$4.50@5.00 a doz.; hens, \$4.50 doz.; ducks, \$1.50 doz. turkeys, \$25.00 a doz.

Game—Venison, 5c lb; grouse, 75c brace; mallard, 50c brace.

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

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

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

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

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

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

MAKE YOUR OWN GAS

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

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

WINNIPEG PRICES CURRENT

GROCERIES

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

Canned Goods Per case

Table listing various canned goods such as Apples, Peas, Corn, and Pears with their respective prices per case.

Per doz.

Table listing imported fresh herring and anchovy sauce prices per dozen.

Canned Meats Per case

Table listing various canned meats including Corn Beef, Lunch Tongue, and Pigs Feet.

Per doz.

Table listing prices for Potted Ham, Devilled Ham, and Potted Tongue.

Coffee Per pound

Table listing Green Rio coffee price per pound.

Cereals Per sack

Table listing various cereals like Split Peas, Pot Barley, and Rolled Oats.

Per pound

Table listing prices for Rice and Tapioca.

Cigarettes Per M

Table listing prices for Old Judge, Athlete, and Sweet Caporal cigarettes.

Cured Fish

Table listing prices for Cured Fish, Codfish, and Herrings.

Dried Fruits

Table listing prices for Currants, Raisins, and Prunes.

Dried Fruits Per pound

Table listing Raisins, Loose Muscatels, and London Layers.

California Evaporated Fruits

Table listing Peaches, Pears, Apricots, and Prunes.

Matches Per case

Table listing Telephone and Tiger matches.

Nuts Per pound

Table listing Brazils, Taragona Almonds, and Shelled Almonds.

Syrup

Table listing Extra Bright, Medium, and Molasses syrups.

Sugar

Table listing German Standard Granulated, Extra Ground, and Maple Sugar.

Salt Per pound

Table listing Rock Salt price per pound.

Per barrel

Table listing Common, Dairy, and Dried duck sack prices per barrel.

Spices Per doz.

Table listing Assorted Herbs price per dozen.

Per pound

Table listing Allspice, Cassia, Cloves, and Nutmegs prices per pound.

Teas Per pound

Table listing China Blacks, Indian and Ceylon, and Young Hysons teas.

Tobacco Per pound

Table listing various tobacco products like T. & B., Cream, and Tuckett's Cherub Cigarette.

Wooden Ware Per doz.

Table listing Pails, Tubs, and Butter Tubs prices per dozen.

CURED MEATS AND LARD

Table listing Lard, Smoked Meats, and Dry Salt Meats.

Barrel Pork Per barrel

Table listing Heavy mess and Short cut barrel pork prices.

Ment Sundries

Table listing Bologna sausage, Ham, and Pickled tongues.

FRESH FISH, OYSTERS

Table listing Whitefish, Pickerel, Salmon, and Smelts.

DRUGS

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

Large table listing various drugs and chemicals like Alum, Alcohol, Borax, Camphor, and Iodine.

LEATHER

Table listing various types of leather like Harness, Sole, and Penetring.

FUEL

Table listing Coal and Stove wood prices.

These are prices for car lots, on track Winnipeg.

Table listing Tamarac, Pine, Poplar, and Oak prices.

Large advertisement for '15c. Will Secure THE COMMERCIAL for balance of the year'.

Winnipeg Hardware and Metal Prices.

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

Tin Plates—Charcoal plates, I C, 10 x 14, 12 x 12 and 14 x 20, \$4.50@4.75; I X, same size box, \$5.75@6; I C, charcoal, 20 x 28, 112 sheets to box, \$3.50@9; I X, box, 20 x 28, 112 sheets, \$10.50@ \$11.

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

Sheet Iron—10 to 20 guage, \$3; 22 to 24 and 26 guage, \$3 25; 28 guage \$3.50 @Canada Plates—Garth and Blaina, 3.00 @ \$3.15.

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

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

Lead—Pig, per lb., 4½ to 5c.

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

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

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

Dupont Powder—Dupont Rifle FFG, 25-lb keg, \$5.00, 12½ lb keg, \$2.75, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$6.60, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$8.50, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$9.25; Dupont Rifle FFG, 25 lb keg, \$5.25, 12½ lb keg, \$3.00, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$7.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$9.00, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$9.75; Dominion Rifle, 25 lb keg, \$5.75, 12½ lb keg, \$3, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$7, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$11, cases of 48 ½ lb canisters, \$12; Sea Shooting Fg, 25 lb keg, \$6; Manitoba Sporting, 25 lb keg, \$8.00, 12½ lb keg, \$4.25, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$9.00; cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$13.00; Eagle Ducking, 25 lb keg, \$11.00, 12½ lb keg, \$5.75, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$12.00; Crystal Grain, cases of 4 6½ lb kegs, \$14.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$17; Blasting, 25 lb keg, \$3.00. Dupont Smokeless powder, 12½ lbs, \$22.00, 6½ lbs, \$11.25, 3½ lbs, \$5.75, ¼ canisters, \$1.00.

Wire—Galvanized barb wire, \$2.70@ 2.75 100 lbs.; Plain wire and staples, \$2.55@2.90.

Rope—Sisal, lb., 7c base; manilla, lb., 8½c base; cotton, ½ to 1 inch and larger, 16c lb.

Axes—Per box, \$6@9.

Nails—Cut, keg, base price, \$2.50 for 20 to 60d., with new classification of extras; common steel wire nails, 4½@6 inch, \$2.65 per keg, with usual extras for smaller sizes

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

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

Winnipeg Prices of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc.

Following are close jobbing prices, as to quantity:

White Lead—Pure, \$6.25 100 lbs.

Prepared Paints—Pure liquid colors, gallon \$1.15@1.25.

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

Varnishes—No. 1 furniture, per gallon, \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50@1.75; hard oil finish, \$1.50@2; brown Japan, \$1, house painters' gold-si pan, \$1.50; coach painters' do., \$2 @.25; No. 1 orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

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

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

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

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

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

Refined Petroleum—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 18½c; crescent, 22½c; oleophene, 23½c in barrels. Car lots, 1c gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 27c for cocene and 24c for sunlight.

Winnipeg Lumber Prices.

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

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

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

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

Siding, Flooring and Ceiling—2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch, white pine, \$36.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch white pine, \$23.00; 1st and 2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$30.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$25.00; 4th, 4, 5 and 6 inch, red and white, \$20.00; B.C. No. 1 fir, \$32.00; B.C. No. 2 fir, \$29.00; B.C. No. 3 fir, \$26.00; B.C. spruce, \$32.00; 4, 5 and 6 inch spruce, native, \$20.00; 8 and 10 inch pine, \$23.00; No. 1 cedar siding and ceiling, \$36.00; No. 2 cedar siding and ceiling, \$30.00, ½ inch cedar or fir siding and ceiling, \$26.00. \$1.00 per M advance for dressing both sides.

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

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

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

Lath—Pine lath, per M, \$3.00.

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

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

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c; lattice, ½x1½, 100 feet lineal, 75c, ½x1½, 100 feet lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1½ inch lineal, \$1.25, ditto, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; ½ round and ¾ cove, 75c; 1½ round mould, \$1.50; 2 round mould, \$1.75; 2½ round mould, \$2.00; 3 round mould, \$2.25; 3½ round mould, \$2.50; 4 round mould, \$2.75; 4½ round mould, \$3.00; 5 round mould, \$3.25; 6 round mould, \$4.00; 5 round window stool, 1½, \$4.50; 6 round window stool, 1½, \$5.25; 4 round casings, \$2.50; 5 round casings, \$2.75; 6 round casings, \$3.25; 8 round base, \$4.50; 10 round base, \$5.50; 12 round base, \$7.00; hand rail, 2x4, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2½ inch, \$2.35, 3 inch, \$2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1½ stock add 25 per cent; 1½ add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

ADVERTISE

BUSINESS FOR SALE

PARTNERS WANTED, ETC.

IN _____

THE COMMERCIAL

It Reaches the Trade

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the Board of Trade was held Tuesday afternoon. The president reported that, as instructed by the board, circulars respecting the Edmonton-Yukon route were forwarded to all the boards of trade in Canada, and most of the leading newspapers. Many of the boards have replied that they will take up the matter and urge it upon the attention of the government.

Correspondence with the trade and commerce department of the government respecting trade with the West India Islands, was read for the information of members.

Requests from the boards of trade at Montreal and Hamilton, for the assistance of this board in urging on the Dominion government the necessity for insolvency legislation, were referred to the insolvency legislation committee of the board, which will deal with the matter and report back to the council.

Letters from Immigration Commissioner McCreary and others, respecting the necessity of steps being taken to secure the settlement of the vacant lands in the vicinity of Winnipeg were referred to a special committee for report.

The matter of the import duty on oats and oatmeal was brought before the board by an oatmeal milling firm in the province. It was shown that owing to the high price of oats in this province, that oatmeal could be imported under the 20 per cent. duty cheaper than it could be manufactured in the province. Some discussion took place, when the consensus of opinion expressed was that no change could be made in the rate of duty on either oats or manufactured meal, except by parliament, and before that could be done the oatmeal milling season would be practically over. In the meantime farmers are getting high prices for their oats, owing to the exceptional scarcity.

The committee on a beet root manufactory reported that they had secured a mass of information on the subject, which it would take them some time to digest, and they could only now report progress.

A committee was appointed to take up with the railway companies the advisability of their granting special passenger rates to actual trading merchants at regular dates, to enable them to visit the city for the transaction of business.

Immigration Commissioner McCreary was elected a member of the board, and Messrs. T. Harry Webb and A. C. Archibald were elected auditors.

Manitoba

F. Baird, clerk of the Seymour house, Winnipeg, is taking the Bate-man hotel at Virden.

Jos. Kerr, undertaker, Winnipeg, has sold out his branch furniture business at Manitoba to Saunders, Hill & Co.

The Grandview hotel at Alexander, has been sold by the proprietor John McLeod, to W. Douglas and Robert Hayse.

Bell & Clark, customs brokers, Winnipeg, have dissolved. Mr. Bell will continue in business with J. C. G. Armytage, under the firm name of Bell & Armytage.

On the night of the 29th, fire broke out in the third story of the Merch-

ant's hotel, Brandon, occupied by Howard Main. The building was damaged considerably, but the contents suffered more severely from smoke, steam and water. P. J. Flanagan, is owner of the buildings and contents were insured.

John McKechnie, who has purchased the Vulcan Iron Works, Winnipeg, is laying the details relating to the purchase completed as fast as possible, though he is already practically in possession of that important industry. E. G. Barrett, who has been bookkeeper for the firm for a number of years, will probably take an interest in the business with Mr. McKechnie.

Assiniboia.

The felt factory at the Industrial school, near Qu'Appelle, was totally destroyed by fire on Nov. 27. Loss \$5,000. Owing to the wind being in a favorable direction the other buildings of the school were saved.

The following items are reported from Yorkton. Chas. Eyre has received a license for the Commercial hotel, and R. C. Arnold a license for the Arnold house. This makes three hotels in town now.—V. H. Plekerling, banker, of Minnedosa, is about to start a bank here.—Thos. Meredith is building a large flour and feed warehouse.—A. T. Walley, one of the pioneer merchants of the town, has left for the Kootenay.

Application has been made to incorporate a joint stock company, under the title of the Harmony Co-operative company at Harmona. The object of the company is to acquire lands to build homes for the members to produce sufficient to ensure its members a livelihood, to own and operate factories, mills, stores, etc., to provide educational and recreative facilities of the highest order, and to promote and maintain harmonious social relations upon the basis of co-operation for the benefit of its members and mankind in general. The proposed capital is \$10,000 in twenty-five shares of \$400 each.

Alberta.

John Looby has opened a harness shop at Edmonton.

Oats and hay for the Crow's Nest railway construction supplies are being brought in from Montreal, in addition to supplies received from the Edmonton district and Manitoba. A lot of hay has been shipped from the Winnipeg district.

The Pandearer newspaper, published at South Edmonton, has issued a very creditable pamphlet on the Edmonton route to Yukon with a large map showing the various routes to the great north country. Both the map and the pamphlet are quite as good as many of the publications issued relating to the same matter, and give much information which would prove of value to those contemplating the trip. Map and pamphlet will be sent for \$1.00 to any address.

Notice has been given by Loughheed & Bennett, of Calgary, that an application will be made to the Territorial government for an ordinance to incorporate the Klondike-Alberta Transportation company, with authority to construct and maintain roads and operate a transportation and tramway company from a point on the Saskatchewan river, in the district of Alberta, to points on the Yukon, Pelly,

Liard or Peace rivers, or other northern waters, also to own and operate barges and other vessels in connection with ferries, power to build bridges, to levy tolls thereon, and to trade generally.

Legal Decisions

Foster vs Municipality of Lansdowne—In his statement of claim alleged that the defendants constructed a ditch in a negligent and improper manner, and his land was over flowed with water, by reason of which he had suffered damage, and he claimed \$1,000. Defendants demurred to the plaintiff's statement of claim, on the ground that even if the plaintiff suffered the damages complained of by reason of the ditch or the faulty construction thereof, the plaintiff had no right of action, but should avail himself of the provisions of the municipal act respecting arbitration, to obtain compensation. Mr. Justice Dubeau over-ruled the demurrer with costs, and defendants appeal to the full court. When the case was called on Mr. McKechnie took objection that there should have been an order for the hearing of the demurrer before the trial, the objection was taken at the hearing of the demurrer but not decided then. No order having been made the demurrer could not be proceeded with. The court held that the proper practice was to obtain an order for the hearing of a demurrer first before a trial but as the judge had heard the demurrer he must be taken to have given such leave. Hon. Mr. Cameron, attorney-general, and Mr. James for defendants, Mr. Metcalfe and Mr. E. E. Sharpe for plaintiff. Judgment reserved.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

Following are the returns of wheat inspected at Winnipeg—including Emerson—for the month of November.

Week ending Nov. 6.—1 hard, 144 cars; 2 hard, 75 cars; 3 hard, 7 cars; 1 white fls, 2 cars; 1 northern, 6 cars; 2 northern, 4 cars; 1 spring, 2 cars; 1 rejected, 14 cars; 2 rejected, 4 cars; no grade, 2 cars. Total, 260 cars.

Week ending Nov. 13.—1 hard 104 cars; 2 hard, 56 cars; 1 northern, 12 cars; 2 northern, 2 cars; 1 white fls, 1 car; 1 spring, 1 car; 1 rejected, 13 cars; 2 rejected, 9 cars. Total, 198 cars.

Week ending Nov. 20.—1 hard 13 cars 2 hard 52 cars; 3 hard 1 car; 1 northern 6 cars; 2 northern, 2 cars; 1 white fls, 1 car; 1 spring, one car; 2 spring, one car; 1 rejected, 14 cars; 2 rejected, 11 cars. Total 220 cars.

Week ending Nov. 27.—1 hard, 129 cars; 2 hard, 80 cars; 3 hard, 5 cars; 1 northern, 10 cars; 2 northern, 2 cars; 1 rejected, 11 cars; 2 rejected, 8 cars; Total 245 cars.

Bank of England Statement

London, Dec. 2.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes, compared with the previous account: Total reserve decreased £490,000; circulation increased £471,000; bullion decreased £18,297; other securities decreased £137,000; other deposits decreased £454,000; public deposits increased £164,000; notes reserve decreased £179,000; government securities increased £275,000. Proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 49.70 per cent, is now 48.95 per cent. The Bank of England rate of discount remains unchanged at 3 per cent.

New York Wheat.

New York, Nov. 29.—Receipts, 305,000 bushels. exports, 116,975 bus., sales, 3,065,000 bushels futures; 320,000 bushels spot. Spot weak. No. 2 red, in store and elevator, 99c f.o.b. afloat. No. 1 Northern, New York, 99 1-4c f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.02 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, \$1.00 1-4 f.o.b. afloat. Options opened weak under bearish cables, foreign selling and big Northwest receipts, and declined all day with few exceptions, influenced further by liquidation and light export demand; closed 1 3-4c to 2 1-8c net lower. No. 2 red, Jan., 97 1-2c to 98 3-8c, closed 97 1-4c; May, 93 5-16c to 94 1-2c, closed 93 5-8c; November closed 97 3-8c; Dec., 97 1-16c to 98 5-8c, closed 97 7-8c.

New York, Nov. 30.—Wheat receipts, 339,275 bushels; exports, 283,517 bushels; sales, 2,495,000 bushels futures, 160,000 bushels spot. Spot steady. No. 2 red, 98c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, \$1 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.01 1-2; No. 1, New York, 99c f.o.b. afloat. Options opened weak, under big Northwest receipts and disappointing cables, and after further declines in consequence of liquidation, recovered on enormous clearances, and closed 1-1c net higher on May, but 1-4c lower on December, the latter being subjected to special pounding by traders. No. 2 Jan., 96 5-8 to 97 1-8c, closed 97c; May, 93 3-16 to 94c, closed 93 7-8c; Dec., 96 9-16 to 97 1-16c, closed 97c.

New York, Dec. 1.—Wheat — Receipts 262,725 bushels; exports 173,772 bushels, sales 3,565,000 bushels futures; 16,000 bushels spot. Options opened steady on foreign buying, eased off under local selling pressure; advanced sharply on a squeeze of December shorts, and strong late cables, but finally collapsed under a bear raid, and closed 1-4 to 1-2 net lower. No. 2 red Jan. opened 96 3-4 to 97 13-16, closed 96 3-4; May opened 93 3-16 to 94 7-16, closed 93 1-4; Dec. opened 96 3-1 to 98, closed 96 3-4.

New York, Dec. 2.—Wheat receipts, 309,100 bushels; exports, 221,932 bushels, sales, 2,155,000 bushels futures; 160,000 spot. Spot easy. No. 2 red, 97 3-4c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, 99 3-4c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.01 1-4 f.o.b. afloat; No. 2 Northern, New York, 98 3-4c. Options opened steady on foreign support, ruled alternately firm and weak at mid-day, on conflicting news, including weak cables and big clearances, broke badly later under liquidation, but finally rallied on export talk and closed steady at 3-8c to 1-2c net decline. No. 2 red, Jan., 96 3-8c to 97c, closed 96 3-8c, May, 92 3-8c; to 93 3-8c, closed 92 3-4c, Dec., 96 to 97 1-8c, closed 96 3-8c.

New York, Dec. 3.—Wheat — Receipts 214,000 bushels; exports 138,111 bushels; sales 1,925,000 bushels futures, 240,000 bushels spot. Options opened firm on small Northwest receipts, broke sharply under weak late cables, bearish on Thoman report and liquidation, but finally rallied on clearances and export trade, and closed unchanged to 1-8c net lower. No. 2 red Jan. opened 95 3-4 to 96 1-4, closed 96 1-4; May opened 92 1-8 to 93 3-16, closed 92 3-4. Dec. opened 95 3-4 to 96 3-1, closed 96 1-4. Spot easy; No. 2 red 97 1-2 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.00 1-1 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.01 1-1 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 Nor. New York 98 3-1 f.o.b. afloat.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices

Chicago, Nov. 29.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, No. 2 Nov., 95 3-4c; Dec., 96c; May, 90 1-2c to 90 5-8c.
Corn, No. 2, Nov., 25 3-4c; Dec., 25 3-8c; May, 29 1-8c.
Oats, No. 2, Dec., 20 3-8c; May, 21 7-8c.

Mess pork, Dec., \$7.25; Jan., \$8.17 1-2; May, \$8.40.
Lard, Dec., \$1.07 1-2; Jan., \$1.22 1-2; May, \$1.40.
Short ribs, Dec., \$1.15; Jan., \$1.17 1-2; May, \$1.30.

Chicago, Nov. 30. — The leading futures closed as follows:
Wheat, No. 2, Nov. and Dec., 95 3-4c; May, 91 1-8c.

Corn, No. 2, Nov., 25 1-4 to 3-8c; Dec., do; May, 29 1-8c.
Oats, No. 2, Dec., 20 3-8c; May, 22 1-4c.

Mess Pork, Dec., \$9.15; Jan., \$8.20; May, \$8.45.

Lard, Dec., \$1.07 1-2; Jan., \$1.25; May, \$1.42 1-2.

Short Ribs, Dec., \$1.15; Jan., \$1.20; May, \$1.32 1-2.

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

Wheat—No. 2 Dec. 96 1-4, Jan. 91 1-4; May 90 3-8 to 90 1-2.

Corn—No. 2 Dec. 25 1-2; May 29 1-8 to 29 1-4.

Oats—No. 2 Dec. 20 3-4; May 22 1-8.

Pork—Dec. \$7.12 1-2; Jan. \$8.15; May \$8.40.

Lard—Dec. \$1.07; Jan. \$1.22 1-2; May \$1.40.

Ribs—Dec. \$1.17 1-2; Jan. \$1.20; May \$1.32 1-2.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Wheat, Dec. opened 96 1-8c, closed 95c. b. May opened 90 1-4c, closed 89 3-4c. July opened 84c, closed 83 1-2c. Corn, Dec. opened 25 3-8 to 1-2c, closed 25c. May opened 29 1-8c, closed 28 1-2 to 5-8c. Oats, Dec. opened 20 3-4c, closed 20 3-8 to 1-2c. May opened 22 to 1-8c, closed 21 3-4 to 7-8c. b. Ribs, Jan. \$1.17; May \$1.30. Pork, Dec. \$7.15; Jan. \$8.15; May \$8.40. Lard, Jan. \$1.22; May \$1.40.

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

Wheat—Dec. 95; Jan. 90 1-2; May 89 7-8.

Corn—No. 2 Dec. 24 7-8; May 28 3-8.

Oats—No. 2 Dec. 20 3-8; May 21 3-4.

Mess pork—Dec. \$7.15; Jan. \$8.17 1-2; May \$8.42 1-2.

Lard—Dec. \$1.10; Jan. \$1.22 1-2; May \$1.40.

Short ribs—Dec. and Jan. \$1.17 1-2; May \$1.30.

Receipts—Hogs, 31,000.

(See Saturday's Markets on another Page)

Business in Canada.

Toronto, Dec. 2.—R. G. Dun & Company's weekly statement of trade in Canada says: With the advancing season, the trade movement at Montreal is naturally less active, particularly in heavy goods, such as metals, oils, paints, glass, chemicals, etc., supplies of which were rushed forward before the close of navigation, but all things considered, the distribution at the moment may be considered satisfactory for this time of year. In wholesale dry goods circles the regular stock taking is absorbing all attention, still there is a fair amount of business doing, and there have been some large buyers in town who are in the habit of looking for jobs, which a good many wholesalers are willing to clear out at a concession, rather than carry them over. With regard to the city dry goods trade, while the large department stores are busy, there is more or less complaint among dealers of moderate calibre, that sales are not so active as they would like to see them. In the country stocks seem to be moving off fairly. It is gratifying to note further reports of returning activity among the woolen mills, and some mill agents report that their principals are booked to their full capacity. Stocks of raw wool continue very low, and firm prices prevail. A cargo of Cape wool is now unloading in New York for this market, and it is reported as already more than half sold. A good sorting distribution prevails in general groceries. Refiners have advanced granulated sugar a point, canned goods are all very strong; gallon apples especially

have shown great advance. Shoe orders continue to come in well and the leather market shows all the strength noted. Hides, too, are very firm, with some scarcity of supplies. Some western tanners have been seeking to buy on this market, and say they will probably have to look for supplies in Europe. Comments have not been advanced from 5 to 10 cents a barrel, as deliveries will now have to be made from store. Collections continue fair on the whole and failures few. The money market is bountifully supplied but the call rates rule steady at 4 per cent.

The wholesale trade at Toronto is practically unchanged. The more seasonable weather has stimulated the demand for heavy goods, which, with furs, etc., are in good demand. There is some improvement also among the boot and shoe trade, while seasonable lines in hardware are moving freely. Generally speaking, trade is fair, and the outlook most encouraging. Prices continue to rule firm and remittances are up to the mark. Failures are still comparatively small throughout the Dominion. Although profits are not large, there is a fair margin of profit on most lines of goods. The imports of merchandise at Toronto for the month of November, show a further increase and the bank clearings are the largest reported in years. A large export in flour and oats was done the past month and shippers have made money. The money market is easy. Dividends paid to shareholders on the first instaut were over a million and a half dollars and a large part of this is being invested. Stocks in consequence are strong and higher in many instances. Toronto railway, Toronto Electric and Northwest Land preferred, show the greatest gains. The latter stock is said to be looked for a further advance. The Bank of England discount rate is unchanged at 3 per cent., while British consols are held at the highest prices on record.

Failures for the week were 28, as against 55 for the same week of last year.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, Dec. 3.—12.30 p.m.—Wheat—Spot quiet. Corn—Spot quiet. Wheat—Spot No. 2 red western winter 7s 10d to 7s 10 1-2d. Receipts of wheat during the past three days were 355,000 cwt., including 221,000 American. Receipts of American corn during the past three days were 191,700 cwt.

3.45 p.m.—Wheat—Spot No. 2 red western winter steady at 7s 9 1-2d. Corn—Spot American mixed steady at 3s 3d. Feb. quiet at 3s 1 7-8d. Hope at London firm at 24 10s to 25.

NEW YORK MONEY.

New York, Dec. 3.—Money on call easy at 1 1-2 to 2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3 to 3 1-8. Sterling exchange easy with actual business in bankers' bills at \$1.85 3-4 for demand, and at \$1.83 to \$1.83 1-8 for sixty days. Posted rates \$1.84 and \$1.87. Commercial bills \$1.82 1-2. Bar silver 59 1-8; Mexican dollars 16 7-8. Government bonds strong.

BRITISH STOCKS.

London, Dec. 3.—1 p.m. closing: Consols for money 112 11-16; consols for the account 112 15-16. Canadian Pacific 82 1-2. Bar silver firm at 27 9-16d. Money 2 1-4 to 1-2 per cent. The rate of discount in the open market for both short and three months bills was 2 15-16 to 3 per cent. Atchison 13 1-8. Louisville 56 3-4.

American securities, after a dull and rather weak opening, are firmer, but rather inactive. There are no special features. The close was firm, with generally light demand.

VISIBLE SUPPLY.

New York, Nov. 29.—Statement of visible supply: Wheat, 33,656,000; increased, 945,000.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 4
Navigation is still open at our lake ports. The recent sharp weather indicated an early closing of navigation, but yesterday it turned quite mild again, and as we have now had a cold spell, we may have a week or so of moderate weather, in which case wheat shipments will continue via the lake route. The last steamers of the season on the regular lines cleared from Fort William on Tuesday, for Owen Sound and Sarnia, but boats have been clearing with wheat all week, and a number of boats are chartered to carry wheat, which have not yet arrived. Bank clearings at Winnipeg for November were \$13,550,761, compared with \$8,895,175 for November last year and \$503,272 for November, 1895. Clearings for this week were 2,275,360 compared with \$2,151,399 for the corresponding week last year and \$1,573,870 for the week two years ago. A summary of live stock exports for the season will be found in another column.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 4
CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Mr. Porter, of Porter & Co., wholesale crockery, etc., Winnipeg, says they are now closing up their orders for the holiday trade and in a week or ten days the jobbing trade will be about wound up for the season. Their business has been about 20 per cent. greater than last season.

DRY GOODS.

The outlook is for a firm market in woollens, wool markets being firm generally. Cotton is steadier, but the general tendency of the market has been weak and downward. A good sorting trade is doing in the local market.

FISH.

Winter fishing will commence on the Manitoba lakes next week, the close season on Lake Winnipeg ending Nov. 30 for white fish. Haddies are 1-2c lower this week, notwithstanding that they have been somewhat scarce, as they have been coming forward somewhat slowly.

GROCERIES.

The market for sugars and molasses is firm. Slightly higher prices have been reported on some brands of sugar in the East, but there has been no general advance, and no change in prices here. Domestic canned goods are firm, particularly for tomatoes, and advances on some brands are reported from the East. Evaporated apples are quoted 1c higher here, and are very scarce. Dried fruits are firm. In cereals pot barley is quoted 10c per sack higher and oatmeal is quoted 5c higher on the inside price for rolled and 10c higher for granulated and standard meal.

GREEN FRUITS.

Jamaica oranges are now out of the market and are replaced by Mexican oranges which are of fine quality and offering at lower prices. Bananas are costing very much higher, as they now have to come in by express. Some

brought in so-called heated ears were frozen on arrival. California lemons are now arriving. They are good stock, though on the green side. Cranberries are 50c lower. Some choice imported celery is offering. No dates or Grenoble walnuts are to hand yet but they are expected soon. Prices are as follows: Mexican oranges, \$5 to \$5.50; bananas, per bunch, \$3 to \$4; California lemons, \$5 to \$5.50 a box; Washington and Oregon pears, \$2 to \$2.25 per box; apples, Ontario stock, \$4 to \$4.75 per barrel; southern apples, \$4 to \$4.25 per bbl.; Cape Cod cranberries, \$8.50 to \$9 per bbl.; sweet potatoes, \$5.25 to \$5.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$9 per keg, for medium, and \$8.50 for heavy weights; Ontario butternuts 9c lb; Ontario black walnuts, 8c lb; coconuts, \$1 per dozen; Sicily filberts, large 11c to 12c per lb.; fles. fancy elemes, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 10lb box; celery, 60c dozen.

HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.

The feature of the market is the strength in glass, and the advance predicted by The Commercial recently. It has gone into effect, quotations this week having been marked up 5c. The market is very firm at the advance, and a further upward movement would not be surprising, as the Winnipeg market, as we explained last week, was 14c below a parity with Montreal, and is still 9c below the latter market. A great scarcity of cement is reported from the East, which will be a big thing for Canadian manufacturers, as the winter rates now in effect would make new importations cost higher.

Sisal rope has been advanced in this market 1-4c to 7c base, and Manila rope is quoted at 81-1c base. These are close prices in comparison with eastern markets. Horse shoes have also been advanced and are now held at \$4.15 iron and \$4.40 steel. See quotations on another page.

LEATHER.

Prices are about the same here, though eastern markets are higher. All leather markets, both in the United States and Canada, are very firm, and prices have tended upward. Leather has been selling, and is still quoted below a parity with hides, so that the outlook is for higher prices. Sole lines, in both sole and black leathers, have advanced about 1c in eastern markets within a few weeks.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—Leading United States markets have been irregular, with a lower tendency this week, on most days. In this market there has been scarcely any business doing during the week. Shippers as a rule had plenty of wheat at Fort William to fill all the space engaged and with the cash market much higher than futures, there was no disposition to buy wheat to hold. Local dealers have been very anxious to get their wheat shipped out before the close of navigation, owing to the same reason that cash wheat is worth a good deal more than futures. On this account it does not look favorable to carry wheat over until next May, with carrying charges to be added to its costs, when it can be sold now at an advance on May quotations. Freight rates have advanced sharply. Latest charters have been made at 5c per bushel, Fort William to Buffalo. Some boats, which were chartered earlier at 2c, have been trying to work an advance, since

the increase in rates. Clearances of wheat from Fort William were fairly large this week, and several boats are yet to arrive to load. The mild turn in the weather yesterday indicates that navigation may remain open for some time yet. Last year, the inner harbor at Port Arthur was frozen over on December 1, and on the same date the steamer Sauber was frozen in at the elevator at Fort William. Several other steamers arrived to load wheat about the same date, but they were frozen in the river at Fort William. The Algonquin got away from Port Arthur on December 2, being the last boat of the season. In 1895 the last boat from Fort William cleared on December 5, and in 1894 the last boat cleared on December 2.

The value of wheat here is very uncertain, in the absence of buying. Yesterday car lots at country points were quoted at 76 to 77c for No. 1 hard, equal to 89 to 90c afloat Fort William. These prices are high compared with May quotations, and above a parity with Duluth.

FLOUR—No change has occurred in the flour market here. We quote patent, \$2.55 per sack of 98 lb.; Strong Bakers, \$2.35, second bakers, \$1.80 and XXXX \$1.40. Prices to local dealers here less 5c per sack for net cash.

MILLFEED—The demand is good on local account, and owing to the high price of coarse grain, shipments of millfeed are being made freely to country points west. Prices are more profitable to ship west to country points than to ship east. Millfeed is being shipped west even from the Keewatin mills to country points, and delivered at a cost of \$10.50 to \$11.50 for car lots of bran and \$2 per ton higher for shorts. Here ton lots are held at \$10 for bran and \$12 for shorts, and \$9 per ton less in large lots, and the market is very firm.

GROUND FEED—Pure grain feed is quoted at 20 to 22c for oats and barley, the outside price for rolled oat feed. Anything under 20c per ton is inferior mixed mill feed. Corn feed is quoted at \$16 to \$17 per ton. Oil cake \$17 per ton.

CEREALS—Pot barley is 10c higher. Oatmeal is 10c higher for standard and granulated, and 5c higher on the inside price for rolled meal. The local mills are doing very little and the market is mainly supplied with meal imported from the south. A car or two of Ontario meal has also been brought in, but it can hardly compete with the imported article.

OATS—Have been offering rather more freely, at about the same prices as were quoted last week. The demand for corn has greatly checked consumption of oats as much corn is now being used locally for feed as other varieties of feed grains, and at all points where oats are subject to local freights the corn is the cheaper feed. From 36 to 37c is quoted here for cars of feed oats, per bushel of 34 pounds. The street price to farmers here is 34 to 36c as to quality. In Manitoba country markets 27 to 30c per bushel has been paid to farmers.

CORN—Corn is coming in freely from the south. It can be laid down here at 39 to 41c per bushel of 56 pounds in cars lots on truck as to grade. This makes it a cheaper feed than oats. There is a considerable demand from country points also for corn for feed purposes, and car lots are moving freely to many provincial points.

BARLEY—Feed barley is quoted at 32 to 35c per bushel of 48 pounds. No cars are offering, but these prices are paid to farmers for loads. Up to 400 is being paid for malting barley here.

WHEAT—Local farmers' market—From 80 to 81c has been paid by millers to farmers, for wheat, delivered here, on to quality, fancy samples bringing the outside price, and in a few cases 82c was paid. Marketings have been liberal, and more wheat has been delivered here by farmers than at any other country points, lately.

FLAX SEED—There is scarcely anything marketing, and 60c is quoted to farmers in country markets.

BUTTER—Creamery, quiet and easy. We quote dealers selling price at 21c to 22c as to quality and quantity.

BUTTER—dairy—The market is quiet and rather easy. Dealers quote 14 to 15c for round lots of country dairy. Fresh rolls quoted at 16c to 17c, selling price here, which means less commission to shippers.

CHEESE—Nothing doing in cheese, except in a very small way, in the line of purchases of local retail dealers. Dealers quote 11c.

EGGS—Dealers are offering fresh cold storage stock at 18c and lined are offering at the same figure.

POULTRY—There is a good demand. Some small lots of eastern turkeys and geese have been brought in, and car lots are now beginning to arrive. Dressed chicken bring from 7 to 8c per lb., old fowl about 7c. Turkeys bring 10c to 12c. Country lots shipped here would not these prices, less commission; and geese and ducks 8c to 9c per lb. dressed. The tendency of prices is easier.

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

LARD AND CURED MEATS—There is no change in these goods. See quotations on grocery list page.

DRESSED MEATS—Packers quote from 4 1-2c for heavy rough hogs up to 5 1-2 to 5 3-4c for choice weights, and as high as 6c has been paid by butchers for choice hogs, but 5 3-4c is usually the outside price realized. Beef is steady at 4 to 5c as to quality. Mutton easy at 5 to 6c, and lamb 6 to 7c. Veal 5 to 6c.

HIDES—We quote No. 1 city hides, 7c; frozen country hides, 6 to 3-4c; flat rate, uninspected; kip, hides, 6 to 7c; calf, 7 to 8c lb; sheep and lambskins, 35 to 50c each; horse-hides 75c to \$1.25 each.

SENECA ROOT—Quoted at 18 to 20c. Vegetables—Prices are: Potatoes, 35 to 40c per bushel, carrots 60 to 70c per bush., onions 2 to 3c per lb., celery 40c to 60c per dozen bunches, cabbage \$3 to \$4 per 100, beets 30c to 40c bushel, turnips 15 to 20c bushel, parsnips 1 1-2 to 2 per lb.

WOOL—We quote 8 to 9 1-2c here for unwashed fleece, about nominal.

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

HAY—Held at \$6 for cars on track here, of baled, or about \$5 to \$5.50 per ton at point of shipment.

LIVE STOCK.

The export season is now over and a summary of shipments will be found in another column.

Cattle—There is very little doing for the local market as butchers are well stocked up. A few odd carloads are arriving. The feeling is a little

firmer. We quote 2 to 2 3-4c for butchers' stock, as to quality.

SHEEP—The quotation is nominal at 2 1-4 to 2 1-2c live weight. Lambs 2 3-4c to 3c. A few loads are still to arrive, but there will be very little doing until late in the winter, as large stocks of frozen mutton are now held.

HOGS—There has been no change in prices here. Receipts are fairly liberal. We quote choice bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 lbs., at \$4.50 per 100 lbs.; 250 to 300 lbs., \$4.00; heavy hogs, over 300 lbs., \$3 to \$3.50, as to quality, live weight, off cars here.

MINNEAPOLIS MARKETS.

Corn is quoted about 1-2c lower. Oats lower. Barley 2c lower. Flour unchanged. Poultry mostly lower.

Flour—Prices in barrels: First patents, \$5 to \$5.20; second patents, \$4.85 to \$5.05.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$7.50 to \$7.75; bran in bulk, \$7.25 to \$7.50; corn feed, \$10.00 to \$11.00 per ton.

Corn—Quoted at 23 1-2 to 24c for No. 4, 24 to 24 1-4c for No. 3, and 24 1-4 to 24 1-2c for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.

Oats—Held at 21 1-2c for No. 3 white and 21 1-4c for No. 3 per bushel of 32 pounds.

Barley—Feed quoted at 22 1-2c.

Flax seed—\$1.03 per bushel.

Eggs—14 1-2 to 15 1-2c for strictly fresh, the latter including cases; cold storage 12 to 1-2 1-2c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, 9 to 10 1-2c fair to good, 7 1-2 to 8c.

Butter—Creamery, 20 to 21 1-2c; seconds, 17 to 18c; dairy, 12 to 19 1-2c.

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

Potatoes—Car lots, mixed 30 to 35c; choice, named varieties, 35 to 45c.

Poultry—Chickens 6c; old fowls, 4c 5c; turkeys, 7 to 9 1-2c; ducks, 7 to 8c; geese 6 to 7c.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Special to The Commercial. Mullins & Wilson wire The Commercial the following reports of prices realized at the semi-weekly live stock market at Toronto, on Friday, December 4.

Toronto, Dec. 4.

Twenty-one carloads were offered yesterday, including 283 hogs and 228 sheep and lambs.

Sheep and lambs were firmer and brought a shade higher prices on the outside range. Cattle were much the same as last week. Hogs have declined sharply again and sold 3-8c lower than a week ago, but the prospect is for an advance at the next market day, owing to light receipts.

Cattle—Butchers cattle 2 3-4 to 3 1-2c. Fat Bulls, 3c to 3 1-2c. Stockers, 2 1-2c to 3c. Feeders, 3 to 3 1-2c. Stock bulls, 2 to 2 1-2c.

Sheep—Export sheep, 3 to 3 1-2c lb., hucks 2 3-4c, lambs 4 to 4 1-4c.

Hogs—Hogs, best bacon, 4 3-8c lb.; thick fat, 4 to 4 1-8c; and light fat, 4 1-8c per lb.; weighed off cars.

MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Dec. 4.

Oats are firmer. Oatmeal has advanced 5c per bag. Eggs are 1c higher. Creamery butter 1-4c lower. Dairy butter and cheese unchanged.

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

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Manitoba: patents, \$5.40.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, including sacks, \$11.50 per ton. Shorts, \$12.50. Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.

Hides—8 1-2c for No. 1.

Eggs—Candied, 15c; new laid, 20c.

Butter—Dairy, 14 to 16c.

Butter—Creamery, 18c to 18 1-2c.

Cheese—8 1-4 to 8 5-8c.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Dec. 4.

Choice to extra cattle ruled firm and 1-4c higher was made for the best. Other lines unchanged.

Cattle—Choice 4 1-4 to 4 1-2c, ordinary butchers, 3 to 4c.

Sheep—2 1-2 to 2 3-4c per lb.

Hogs—4 1-4 to 4 1-2c.

MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Dec. 4.

Prices in staple lines are without any change this week. Business quiet and prices steady.

White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5. Linseed oil, raw, 43c, boiled 46c; turpentine, 48 to 49c; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90; I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$1.90 to \$4; putty in bulk, \$1.50; in bladders, \$1.65.

MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Dec. 4.

The only change is staple groceries this week is an advance of 1-16 on granulated sugar. Dried fruits and canned goods are generally very firm. Other lines unchanged.

Quotations are: Granulated sugar, 4 1-8 in lots of over 250 barrels, and 4 1-4 for 100 barrel lots, at the refineries; yellows, 3 3-8 to 3 3-4c. Molasses 26 to 27c. Syrups, 1 3-4 to 2 1-2c as to quality. Valencia raisins from 4 3-4 to 5 1-2c. Valencia layers 6 1-2c. Currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c, as to brand. Coffee, Rio, 7 to 10c; Mocha and Java 20 to 24c.

Canned Goods—Tomatoes, 85 to 90c; corn, 65 to 70c; peas, 80.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Wheat—Sales of rfd winter at 83c north and west. Manitoba, wheat was steady at 98c Sarina.

Flour—Cars of straight roller are quoted at \$4 west.

Millfeed—Steady at \$10 to \$11 for shorts and \$7.50 for bran west.

Barley—25c for feed west, 31c to 32c for No. 2, and 27c for No. 3 extra outside.

Oats—Rather easier at 23c for mixed and 24c for white west.

Butter—The receipts now consist mostly of large rolls, for which there is a good demand at 15c to 15 1-2c. Choice dairy tub is rather scarce and firm at 15c to 16c. Low grade is quoted at 12 to 14c.

Eggs—16 to 16 1-2c for strictly fresh gathered, 13 to 15c for held fresh and cold storage, and 13 1-2c for lined.

Live Stock—Choice butchers' cattle have been rather scarce. Offerings light this week in all lines. Stockers for shipment to Buffalo quiet.

MONTREAL STOCKS.

Montreal, Dec. 3.—Com. cable Montreal 161 1-2; C. P. R. London, 82 3-4.

Live Stock Exports

SUMMARY OF THE SHIPMENTS FOR THE SEASON.

The live stock export trade for the season is now over, and the result is somewhat disappointing as regards the exports of fat cattle. The total exports of fat cattle from Manitoba and the Territories, for the season, foot up about 15,000 head, in round numbers. This is smaller than was expected. This result is due to the fact that grass cattle did not do well this year. There was too much rain, making the grass soft and less suitable for fattening cattle. About forty per cent of the shipments were range cattle, the balance being domestic cattle.

The trade developed a new feature this year, in the exportation of stocker cattle to the United States. It is estimated that approximately 20,000 head of stocker cattle were shipped from Manitoba to the United States. This is the first year in which this trade has assumed any importance. About the same number of Manitoba stocker cattle were shipped west to the territorial ranges, and these will later be moved eastward again as fat cattle.

Prices have not been favorable for export business to Great Britain, though in the early part of the season business was fairly profitable. The Montreal Gazette estimates that cattle exported this year averaged a loss of \$6 per head. This is no doubt an extravagant estimate. While the season has not been a good one, shippers of western cattle at least are not nearly as badly off as this would indicate. In fact it is quite possible that there has been some profit in the business, big loss reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

Exports of sheep show a falling off, prices having been unfavorable throughout the season, in British markets.

Early in the season quite a number of hogs were shipped to eastern Canada markets, where they found a ready sale at profitable prices, prices for hogs having ruled high this season. The following shows the shipments of live stock from Manitoba and the Territories for the past four years:

	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Cattle	30,000	50,000	35,500	35,000
Sheep	4,000	15,000	9,200	10,000
Hogs	10,000	15,000	3,300	8,000
Horses	200	400	300	400

*Exports of cattle in previous years represented practically all fat cattle, while this year the figures include about 20,000 stockers. The latter is an approximate estimate.

SUGARS ADVANCE.

Special to The Commercial, Montreal, Dec. 3.

Granulated sugar has advanced 1-16c at the refineries.

Reduction in Wheat Rates.

Montreal, Dec. 3.—The Canadian Pacific Railway company have decided upon a step of great importance to the export trade. Freight rates have been reduced from 26 cents to 20 cents per hundred pounds from Fort William to Montreal and at other points east on the system, where the rate heretofore has been 28 cents.

This reduction will enable the farmers to sell wheat for shipment to St. John, instead of being obliged to pay elevator charges for storage, through the winter, and will enable Canadian millers to compete with United States millers for European, British and West India trade on more equal terms.

The report was received on the board of trade with a good deal of satisfaction, and the general opinion was, it will prove an immense benefit to the grain and flour business. Certain, it is a change that will largely help the Manitoba farmers as well as the millers. There is still any quantity of grain to come forward, and it is not unlikely the new rates will set a lot of grain and flour moving that might otherwise have been held up west, until the opening of navigation in the spring. The lower rates will go a long way toward encouraging the traffic, which will be a necessary compliment to the government's scheme of helping a genuine winter port in Canada.

It Helps Trade

Calgary, Nov. 27.—The number of Klondikers in town is really surprising. There are two separate parties of Englishmen of twelve each under the leadership of Captain O'Brien and Mr. Clatworthy respectively. Still another English party consisting of five men under Captain Bernard. Then there is a fourth party from Illinois. These men are all taking upwards of twelve months' provisions, besides ammunition, mining tools and gold testing instruments. They will all proceed overland in a few days. They have provided themselves with an adequate supply of horses, husky dogs, sleeping bags and tents, and experienced cooks, and should travel prove impossible at any stage of the route, through excessive snow or frost or accident, they can at least form a merry camping party till winter breaks. Many of the parties are already accustomed to Arctic travel.

A train of dogs, four, was seen on the streets yesterday practicing for the Klondike by hauling two stalwart policemen. Two of the voyageurs are practicing to-night with sleeping bags. They are going to attempt to sleep in them out in the open prairie, and as the thermometer is already 30 degrees below zero it should afford excellent practice. Already this season over a thousand ponies have been purchased by the gold seekers. One sturdy lad, clad in red leather cowboy hat and spurs, was gallantly keeping his seat on a half frozen broncho this morning, the mercury hovering about 25 degrees below, while a photographer was struggling to blow enough heat into his hands to enable him to take the shivering young voyageur's photo. How wild and woolly the west will look to this young gentleman's friends.

The parties have outfitted at London, Eng., Montreal, Winnipeg and Calgary.

There is a coal famine in the city in both hard and soft coal. The an-

thraxite furnace ^{of the} particularly in demand. In consequence of the supply of fuel at the hospital giving out the water pipes were frozen and much inconvenience occasioned. In private houses, wood has been resorted to.

Manitoba Wheat Movement.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ending November 27, aggregated \$21,000 bushels, the shipments by water from that port for the same period were 307,000 bushels and the quantity left in store at Fort William was 7,899,000 bushels.

The amount of wheat marketed by farmers in Manitoba and the territories to date is estimated at 16,000,000 bushels. Of this about 4,000,000 bushels are still held at interior points west of Fort William, including Keewatin and Winnipeg. The balance has been exported or consumed by the flour mills, except what is held at Fort William. Navigation closed a year ago with 1,547,081 bushels in store at Fort William.

M. and N. W. Train Service.

A new time table came into effect on the Manitoba and Northwestern railway on Sunday next. The change is made necessary by the establishment of a twice-a-week service on the Yorkton division instead of the rather unsatisfactory once-a-week service that the company has put on that portion of the line for some time past. The change will be of benefit to residents of the city for the reason that the departure of the M. & N. W. train being by the new schedule, 10.30 a.m. instead of 9.55 gives merchants and others a better chance to get replies to letters received from M. & N. W. points off by the return train.

By the new schedule the M. & N. W. train leaves the C. P. R. depot Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10.30 a. m., arriving in Portage la Prairie at 12.20. It reaches Neepawa at 3 p. m., and Minnedosa forty-five minutes later. A mixed train leaves Minnedosa on Thursdays for Rapid City at 4.10 p. m. Returning, the train leaves Rapid City at 2 o'clock on Friday, connecting with the express at Winnipeg. On Tuesdays and Saturdays the Winnipeg train as a mixed, goes on west from Minnedosa to Yorkton, reaching Blueearth at 9.40 p. m., and Yorkton at 1.10 a. m. next morning. Returning this train leaves Yorkton at 6 a. m. connecting with the regular express for Winnipeg at Minnedosa. A train leaves Blueearth for Russell on Thursdays and Saturdays, returning Fridays and Saturdays.

It will be noticed that the 56 miles between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie will be made by the trains under the new schedule in considerably better time than under the old.

Thoman's December report just out makes the increase in area of winter wheat seeded 7.1 per cent over the area harvested; on the Pacific coast the increase is 3 per cent. He makes the proportion of last year's wheat remaining in farmers' hands 48 per cent, or about 275,000,000 bushels, which is about 50,000,000 in excess of last year at the corresponding date. He makes the exportable surplus of wheat to next July 125,000,000 bushels. John Dilly, of Chicago, considers all these estimates excessive.

Raw Furs.

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

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

Friday's Wheat Prices.

The wheat prices paid at C. P. R. points Friday were as follows.

Main line—Portage la Prairie 7c, Carberry and Seveill 7c, Brandon and Elkhorn 7 1/2c, Alexander, Griswold, Oak Lake, Warden and Hargrave 7c, Fleming, Moosomin, Wolsley, Sintaluta, Indian Head and Moose Jaw 7 1/2c, Wapella, Whitewood, Regina and Lumsden 7 3/4c, Balgonie and Pense 7c.

Souris branch—Souris 7c, Hartney and Pierson 7 1/2c, Elva 7 1/2c, Carnduff 7c.

Glenboro branch—Alameda 7c, Carman 7 1/2c, Rathwell and Treherne 7 1/2c.

Deloraine branch—Rosenfeld, Altona, Plum Coulee, Winkler and Morden 7 1/2c No. 2 hard, Thornhill and Boissevain 7 1/2c, Manitou and La Riviere 7 1/2c, Pilot Mound 7 1/2c, Crystal City 7 1/2c, Killarney and Ninga 7 1/2c.

Stonewall branch—Stonewall 7 1/2c. Emerson branch—Emerson 7 1/2c and Otterburne 7 1/2c, both No. 2 hard.

British Columbia Items.

Geo. Bell & Co. general store, are opening branch at Fairview.

Pittendrich Bros. general store, Brownsville, are out of business.

The Kaslo Dairy, Produce & Provision Co. is the name of a new concern starting at Kaslo.

The Kamloops Sentinel has issued a neat map of northern British Columbia, showing routes to Teslin Lake and the Yukon via Kamloops.

The West Vancouver Coal company, in which H. C. Halliday and other San Francisco capitalists are interested, will develop their coal mines at the north end of Vancouver Island and establish a coaling station for Alaska steamers.

The following items are reported from Victoria. The Gold Miners' Forwarding and Investment Co. has been

incorporated, R. Roberts, tailor, is out of business. S. Marks, clothing, is opening a second store in Victoria.

The following items are reported from New Westminster: S. Svalin, baker, is adding confectionery; Marshall Sinclair, flour and feed, has given up business; E. A. Dalziel, painter, is out of business; Johnson & McKenzie, grocers, have changed style, to McKenzie Bros.

The following items are reported from Vancouver. Duplick Book & Stationery Co., Ltd., stock sold to Co'quhoun & Fraser; J. G. C. Wood, stationery, is starting business; Mrs. Saunders, jeweler, advertises giving up business.

President Van Horne, of the C. P. R. authorized the statement that his road will build an independent line into Rossland. He denied that the company would acquire the railway and franchise possessed by F. Aug. Heinz.

Northwest Ontario.

W. W. Birdsall has opened in drugs at Fort William.

Mrs. Peeblow, confectioner, Fort William, is out of business.

H. Humby has opened in confectionery at Fort William.

W. S. Potts, of Russell, Man., is taking a lease of the Wabigoon Hotel, Wabigoon, from Mr. Cudney.

The Lake Superior & North Shore Transportation company is the name of a new steamboat company which is being organized to operate a line of boats between Duluth and Port Arthur and intermediate points next season. The capital of the company will be \$50,000, divided in shares of a par value of \$25 each.

Western Business Items

Wm. Seilers is opening in lumber at Holmfild, Man.

Mr. Langdon is starting a bakery at Oxbow, Assa.

W. A. Findlay is opening in furniture at Shoal Lake, Man.

Cameron Bros. are opening in furniture at Roland, Man.

W. J. Scott, saddler, is starting business at Treherne, Man.

C. B. Kickush, confectionery, Winnipeg, is in trouble with the bailiff.

W. Irwin has added hardware to his lumber business at Newdale, Man.

The Manitoba Elevator company contemplate erecting a grain warehouse at Calgary.

Hall Bros., butchers, Portage la Prairie, Man., have admitted John McCormick as partner under the style of Hall Bros. & McCormick.

CHICAGO WHEAT AND PRODUCE.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, wheat opened at 94 1/4c for December option and ranged up to 95c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—Dec. 95c, May 89 1/2c, July 82 3/4c.
Corn—Dec. 25c, May 28 1/2c.
Oats—Dec. 20 3/4c, May 22c.
Pork—Dec. \$7.27 1/2, Jan. \$8.52 1/2.
Lard—Dec. \$4.27 1/4, Jan. \$4.45.
Ribs—Dec. \$4.20, Jan. \$4.32 1/2.
Flax Seed—Cash \$1.12 1/2, Dec. \$1.09 1/2, May \$1.12 1/2.

A week ago December wheat closed at 87 3/4c. A year ago December wheat closed at 79 1/2c, two years ago at 57 7/8c, and three years ago at 54 7/8c.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Saturday, December 4, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 87 7/8c for December and 87 3/8c for May option. A week ago December wheat closed at 90 3/4c.

NEW YORK CLOSING WHEAT.

On Saturday, December 24, wheat closed at 96c for December, and 92 1/4c for May option. A week ago December wheat closed at 99 1/2c.

Exports for the week from Atlantic ports were 6,699,000 bushels.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

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

Monday—Dec. 88 7/8c, May 88 7/8c.
Tuesday—Dec. 88 5/8c, May 89 1/4c.
Wednesday—Dec. 88 1/8c, May 89c.
Thursday—87 1/2c, May 88 7/8c.
Friday—Dec. 87 3/8c, May 88 1/2c.
Saturday—Dec. 86 7/8c, May, 88 3/8c.

Cash No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at 87 1/4c and cash No. 1 Northern at 87c.

Last week December option closed at 90c.

A year ago December option closed at 80 3/8c, and two years ago at 54 3/8c, three years ago December option closed at 58 1/2c, and four years ago at 60 3/8c.

WINNIPEG CLOSING WHEAT.

The principal feature to-day is the big cut in through all-rail wheat freight rates to eastern points, announced this (Saturday) morning by the Canadian Pacific railway. Dealers are now figuring on doing a winter shipping business, on the basis of these rates, though prices are still too high here to admit of business. Trading is very slow; 76 to 77c is quoted for car lots, country points, but is about nominal, and prices will have to be reduced to admit of much business.

MOVEMENTS OF BUSINESS MEN.

R. T. Riley has returned from a western trip.

R. H. Hall, chief factor of the H. B. Co. at Victoria, arrived in Winnipeg on Wednesday. Mr. Hall is here for the purpose of discussing with the commissioner of the Hudson's Bay company the best means to promote the new conditions of trade caused by the Yukon movement.

MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The transactions of the Dominion government savings bank, Winnipeg, for the month ending Nov. 30, were: Deposits, \$26,798; withdrawals, \$21,289.02; deposits exceeding withdrawals by \$5,508.98.

The customs collected at the port of Winnipeg during the month of November amounted to \$70,151.23, compared with \$47,868.67 in the same month last year.

VERY REMARKABLE.

A patent medicine advertisement in a Winnipeg daily paper reads: "For several years I was troubled with fulness after meals," etc., etc. If one shouldn't have a sense of fulness after meals, when should they have it.

WANTED—TRUSTWORTHY AND ACTIVE gentlemen or ladies to travel for responsible, established house in Manitoba. Monthly \$65.00 and expenses. Position steady. Reference. Enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. The Dominion Company, Department Y, Chicago.