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

WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 2, 1896.

Manitoba.

The Oak Lake News is the latest Manitoba publication. The first number appeared last week. R. E. Beatty is the editor.

Robt. McLean, a young man from the state of Michigan, is moving to Dauphin, where he contemplates opening a general store business.

A robbery was committed in A. Acheson's store, at Rosenfeldt, recently, by removing two panes of glass from a window. Several fur coats and other goods were taken.

Wm. Pitcher, from Portage la Prairie, has decided to open a bakery and confectionery business at Dauphin.

The Winnipeg Retail Association will hold a banquet early in November, and a committee has been appointed to take the matter in hand.

C. F. Turner, late of Mount Forest, Ontario, has opened in the hardware trade at Dauphin.

Two stores were burglarized at Winnipeg on Tuesday night. The hardware store of C. A. Baskerville was entered, but nothing was secured, except a little small change in the cash drawer. Mr. McKeichan's dry goods store was also entered and a quantity of goods were taken.

W. B. Der, of Glenboro, has purchased the bakery business of F. C. Martin, of Cypress River.

J. R. Strome, dry goods merchant, of Brandon, has sold his branch store at Rapid City, to a Mr. Tassmore, from Ontario.

The Assiniboine Lumber Co., Brandon, sent their first gang of men for the winter to their timber limits in the north country on Tuesday.

Smith Curtis, a Portage la Prairie lawyer, has moved to Roseland, B. C.

Two men giving the names of Frank Nolan and John Gleason have been arrested at Fort William, charged with the recent robbery of Andrew's jewelry store in Winnipeg.

Mr. Shaughnessy, of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, has offered to reduce the freight on stone for paving in Winnipeg to one-half the former rate.

Mr. Powell has disposed of his interest in the flour mill at Melita, Man., to Thos. Bulloch, and the mill will now be carried on by the firm of Ferguson & Bulloch. Mr. Powell, has, however, been retained as miller.

Alberta.

The article in The Commercial of September 28 last, regarding the shipment of coal by water from the North Saskatchewan to Winnipeg, caused quite a little flutter at Edmonton, so writes a correspondent. Many people at Edmonton regard the proposals, as outlined in The Commercial, as perfectly feasible, and already visions of a large coal industry are looming up there. It is felt that a strong effort should be made to secure the improvement of the water route between Winnipeg and Edmonton, so that this trade could be developed and a great boon thereby conferred upon the people. The Edmonton people expect assistance from Winnipeg in pressing the importance of this question upon the government.

Ross Bros., Edmonton hardware merchants, are erecting a new brick warehouse, size 20x91, two stories, adjoining their store on Jasper avenue.

C. Gallagher, of Edmonton, is buying hogs for packing purposes, and is paying 3c to 8½c a pound live weight. This is from half a cent to a cent lower than he paid last year.

John Cameron, Edmonton, has shipped another carload of vegetables, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, to the Kootenay.

An Edmonton correspondent says that wheat is turning out fairly well. Oats are going up, 20c being paid at the oatmeal mill, and wheat is selling at 65c. Potatoes are being shipped to the Kootenay. They are of fine quality and the crop is large.

Grain and Milling Notes.

A new boiler has been placed in the mill at Holland Man., owned by John Muir, and the mill is now full of orders.

The Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, has received orders for 800 tons of Manitoba flour, from Australia. On Tuesday 100 tons were shipped. The next consignment of 200 tons has been booked for December and the remaining 500 in January next.

Oats were offered ½ to 1c lower at Montreal, on October 23, at 28½c.

The cost of storing grain in Duluth elevators is in all cases and for all grains ½c per 30 days, or part thereof, after the preliminary charges, which are as follows: Wheat, barley, oats, rye and corn—elevating, cleaning and 15 days' storage, ½c per bushel. Flax—Elevating and 20 days' storage ½c per bushel. Flax and barley—cleaning ½ cent per bushel.

Two elevators at Chicago, belonging to the Chicago and Pacific line, were burned on Monday, with 1,100,000 bushels of wheat.

The new-roller mill at Fort Saskatchewan Alberta, is about completed.

The best bids for oats at Montreal on October 26 were 26 to 26½c, showing a considerable decline nominally, there being no sales.

J. W. Cochrane, proprietor of the flour mill at Glenboro, Man., is putting an electric lighting plant in his mill.

Fur Trade News.

Jas. McMillan & Co., in their last circular say: "Of the fur bearing animals we only advise trapping beaver, muskrat and skunk at the present time. Skunk become prime before any other kind. Beaver and muskrat will grade as fall. Mink will commence to be good next month. The prospect is that furs will rate low during the coming season, although little if any lower than the low prices paid for the end of last season's collection. Manufacturers are using but few native furs, consequently a large proportion of the collection has to be sold in Europe. Until the fur manufacturing business in this

country is good and consumes a large part of the native furs the Europeans will not pay high prices, because such large quantities are offered."

Inspection of Wheat.

At the recent meeting of the grain standards board in Winnipeg, a resolution was passed that the chairman be requested to furnish the press with an explanation of the provisions of the classification in the inspection act, so that the public will understand the requirements as to weight, etc., of the standards.

Mr. Spink, chairman of the board, has accordingly furnished the following explanation. The meaning of this provision is quite clear. No matter what may be the weight of the standard samples chosen by the standards board, if any wheat is presented to an inspector for grading which weighs at least as much as the classification calls for and is in other respects equal in percentage of Red Fyfe, soundness and cleanliness as any particular standard sample, the inspector is bound to issue a certificate showing it to be that grade. Thus if wheat weighs 60 pounds per bushel and has the percentage of Red Fyfe, soundness and cleanliness of the standard sample for one hard, selected by the standards board, an inspector is bound to give the grade of one hard to the grain, even if such standard sample selected by the board weighs 61, 62 or 63 pounds to the bushel. The term "commercial grades" is applied to those grades for which the regular classification schedule makes no provision, but for which the standards board, by the general authority given it by the inspection act, selects standard samples, because some peculiarity of the season's crop requires that such grain should be kept separate in handling and in buying and selling. For instance, the present standards board selected samples for commercial grades to be known as Extra Manitoba Hard wheat, and Nos. 8 hard and 1 and 2 frosted wheat, because in their judgment there is considerable wheat of this crop similar to these commercial grade samples, and such should be kept separate and not handled with the regular grades.

The following resolution, not reported last week, was also passed by the standards board. That the department be requested to endeavor to have the grain classifications schedule posted up in all elevators, mills and warehouses where grain is bought.

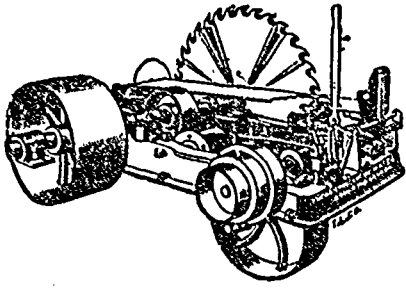
Seneca Root

Jas. McMillan & Co. write The Commercial as follows: "We wish to call your attention to the fact that while a considerable quantity of seneca root was carried over from last year, on account of the light demand, there is not at present an over supply. The low prices which have prevailed during the summer have deterred diggers from securing it, and now the demand equaling the supply prices have risen nearly 10c a pound and may advance still further. It occurred to us that you might wish to place this fact before your readers, so that those who are in a position to do so could dig while the weather is propitious, and could sell their root at the improved prices."

Winnipeg city commercial travellers have decided to organize a permanent association.

The Commercial has received a neat card folder from Robin, Sadlier & Haworth, manufacturers of leather belting, of Montreal and Toronto, showing a cut of their factory, which is certainly an elegant building.

There was an estimate of the next best crop of 4,600,000 tons, which is slightly under general expectations, which range from 4,700,000 tons to 5,000,000 tons.

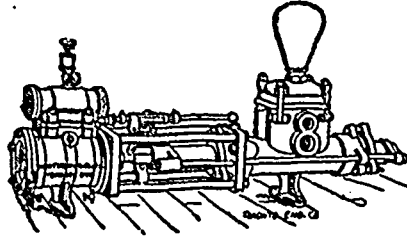


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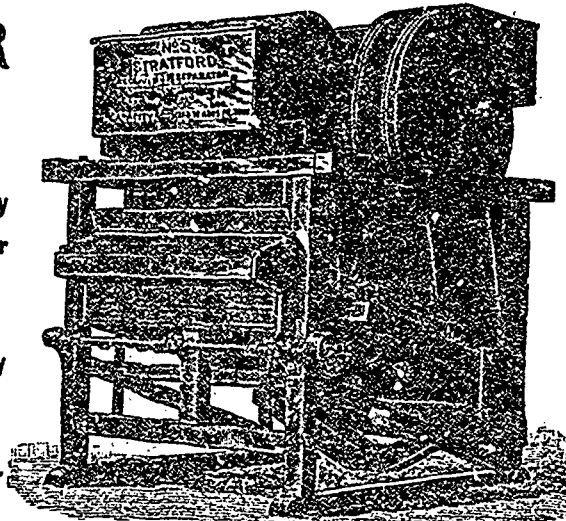
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 2, 1896.

INSPECTION OF MEATS

At a recent meeting of the Winnipeg health committee, one of the aldermen brought up the question of the inspection of meats. It was pointed out in reply to the alderman, by a health officer of the city, that a public abattoir would have to be provided before any satisfactory system of inspection could be put into effect. This fact has been pointed out in *The Commercial* on several occasions. Only a few weeks ago, when discussing the need of a system of inspection of meats, etc., *The Commercial* said:

What is required in order to provide a proper inspection, is a central station, where all slaughtering for the city should be done. With a central station provided, and slaughtering there made compulsory, it would be an easy matter to provide for an efficient inspection of animals before slaughtering.

Besides the facilities which it would afford for inspection, a central abattoir would do away with the present objectionable system of having slaughter houses scattered about the outskirts of the city. Aside altogether from the question of inspection, these slaughter houses scattered about the suburbs of the city, are not at all desirable institutions.

The Commercial regards the inspection of foodstuffs, and meats in particular, as a very important and urgent question. It is a matter which this journal has repeatedly urged upon the attention of the civic authorities. Complaints have frequently come to our knowledge of the sale of fish, poultry, meats, etc., which were unfit for food. The winter season will soon be on, when frozen stuff is offered on the market, and in this form it is very difficult to detect damaged stuff. Many persons are in consequence imposed upon through the purchase of fish, poultry, etc., which, when thawed out, is found to be in a partially decayed condition.

Complaints have recently been made that a large number of lump jawed cattle are being slaughtered and sold for food in the city. We were informed that one party alone slaughtered eight of these diseased animals in one week recently. Animals afflicted with this disease are generally regarded by experts as unfit for food. The slaughter of such animals for food is prohibited in some cities. If animals afflicted with this and other diseases, or badly wounded or bruised, are unfit for food, their slaughter and sale for food should be prohibited. Unscrupulous persons will always be ready to handle this class of stuff. In fact they can make more money out of these animals than they can by handling healthy ones, the diseased or bruised animals can often be bought very cheap, sometimes for only a few dollars per head, while the dressed meat from them is sold at only a moderate reduction from the ruling market price.

The inspection of live animals can be carried out to much better advantage than in the case of dressed meats. In the case of live animals, an expert would have no difficulty in detecting any that were unfit for food. Animals which would be readily detected as unfit for food while alive, would, no doubt, sometimes pass inspection in a dressed form. An inspection of live animals is, therefore, of the greatest value from a sanitary point of view, and in the summer season an inspection of this nature would cover almost everything offered for sale in the city. In the winter season, when frozen stuff is being shipped into the market from outside points, a closer inspection of dressed meats, etc., is necessary. In order to establish an efficient system of inspection, a public abattoir, as before stated, is necessary.

THE WHEAT SITUATION.

There is no question but that the wheat situation is a strong one, and indications have not for years been so favorable for higher prices. The late advance in wheat in its early stages was a legitimate one, and was based on actual conditions favorable to an advance. Then came a few days of wild excitement and a very rapid advance, which produced a top heavy condition and led to the inevitable collapse. This wild excitement and rapid advance was the worst thing the market could experience, as in the reaction which followed, prices were carried down to below what the market conditions would warrant. Prices were coming along very nicely. The market was advancing quite fast enough and might have kept on slowly appreciating for some time, if the "boom" which started on Saturday, October 17, and kept up during the early days of the following week, had not set in and unsettled every thing. At the time of writing the market has not yet shown much evidence of recovery, but we believe it will recover and we look for a firm market on this crop. The great political contest in the United States, which has now almost reached a crisis, draws attention from wheat for the present, but it cannot alter actual conditions, and when things have cooled down a bit, there should be an improvement in wheat.

America is in a position this year to compel importing countries to pay fair prices for wheat. All the wheat which this continent has to spare, will be wanted this year. Of course if prices are "boomed" too much, consumption will be turned to other commodities and the amount of wheat consumed will be greatly reduced; but at fair prices the surplus carried over will be very small. Times are good in Great Britain and Europe, and on this account the people there will be willing to pay fair prices. On this continent the outlook for good times is also favorable. If the silverites are beaten in the United States, as it is now believed they will be, we may look for a great awakening of industrial activity in that country. Factories have been closed or running on short time for a long time, and purchases of raw material have been of a hand to mouth order. With the political situation settled favorably, active buying and general business activity may be

expected. This will help further to strengthen the cereal markets.

Of course the main point in wheat, as in other products, is supply and demand. The world's supply of wheat, which reached enormous proportions in 1893 and 1894, has rapidly declined since the latter date, and is now believed to be smaller than in any year since 1890, and the outlook at present would indicate a considerable further shrinkage in the supply for the present crop year. The last wheat crop in India was a small one, amounting to about 175,000,000 bushels, compared with 232,000,000 in 1895, and 252,000,000 bushels in 1891. The estimated home consumption of India is 300,000,000 bushels. The present growing crop in India is expected to prove very poor, and the prospect for the future, together with the poor crop last year, has advanced prices to such an extent in India, that it has been found possible to ship wheat from California to that country. The shipment of California wheat to India is one of the causes which led to the recent "boom" in the wheat markets here.

Australia has never been a large producer of wheat, but that country has usually had a limited quantity for export. The last Australian crop, however, was so small that Australia has been obliged to import wheat and flour from America. Even if the new Australian crop, which comes to market in January, turns out an average one, it will not cut any figure, as supplies have been reduced very low in that country by the failure of the last crop, and there will not be much for export from the new crop. India, and possibly Australia, will be out of the list of exporting countries for the next year, and both are importers at the moment, to a limited extent.

Russia, the principal exporter of wheat in Europe, has a small crop, but is supposed to have large reserves of old wheat, but Russia is not expected to be a large exporter of wheat during the present year. On October 1st this year European visible stocks were 80,000,000 bushels less than a year ago, and smaller than in any previous year by 20,000,000 to 25,000,000 bushels since 1890.

Stocks in Argentina are not large and even if the new crop in that country, which comes to market in January, is an average one, it will not be sufficient to depress the markets to the point of low prices.

The wheat crop in the United States is undoubtedly somewhat smaller than any year since 1890, being probably a little smaller than the crop of 1893. With the reduced supplies elsewhere, there is sure to be a larger demand than in recent previous years, upon this continent. In fact this is already apparent, as during the past three months, July, August and September, exports from this continent were equal to 41,500,000 bushels, flour included, compared with about 27,000,000 bushels for the corresponding period of last year. This large demand for American wheat is likely to continue for some time, and there is apparently every reason to believe that all our surplus will be wanted at fair prices.

Robt. Smith, harness maker, of Neepawa, contemplates opening a harness shop at Dauphin.

MIXING WHEAT.

The grain standards board while recently in session in Winnipeg, passed a number of resolutions of more or less importance to grain trade interests. One of these resolutions asked the government to prohibit the mixing of scoured wheat (that is wheat that has been cleaned for smut) in the grades of No. 1 and No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern. Last year scoured wheat was allowed to be mixed in all the grades but No. 1 hard. The government has accepted the recommendation of the standards board, and henceforth scoured wheat will not be mixed in the grades specified.

There has been considerable difference of opinion among the grain men regarding the mixing in of scoured wheat with the regular grades. The millers of Eastern Canada have been the strongest opponents of the custom, and they have carried on an agitation against it for some years. They claim that when they buy Manitoba wheat of any of the grades specified they want it free from scoured grain. So long as inspectors were instructed to give certificates for wheat containing an admixture of scoured grain, however, they were obliged to take grain bought on grade. J. L. Spink, of Toronto, recently prepared a very strong article against the mixing of scoured wheat in the regular grades and showing how it operated against Eastern millers. This article was published in The Commercial of October 19. Manitoba millers are not so deeply interested in the matter, as they buy their wheat direct from the farmers on sample. In the local grain trade there is a considerable difference of opinion on this question, some favoring and some opposing this kind of mixing. Last year there was a very large quantity of smutted wheat, and it was claimed the farmers would have had difficulty in disposing of it if mixing had not been allowed. This year there is a very trifling amount of smutted wheat, so that the prevention of mixing it in with the other grades specified, will not make any difference to dealers. There will be no difficulty in disposing of all there is this year on sample or in car lots.

Another important matter dealt with by the standards board was the resolution against the mixing of different grades of wheat together, in shipping cargo lots from terminal points, such as at Fort William, for instance. This is another matter upon which there is much difference of opinion even among local grain men, and some of the local shippers as well as Eastern millers are opposed to this class of mixing. The mixing of different grades together has been allowed to facilitate making up cargo lots for shipment. There are too many grades, and it is a very difficult matter to make up sufficient quantities of all the different grades for shipment expeditiously. The bulk of the crop goes into a few grades, leaving a dozen or more grades of which there is only a limited quantity of each. If this stuff cannot be mixed together to make up cargoes for export it will be very difficult to handle it. The millers tell us they only want the high grade stuff, and if this is true it means that the car lot trade for these low grades will be very small. It certainly cannot be to the advantage of the farmer to hamper the exporter and make it more difficult for

him to dispose of his grain to the best advantage. Any unnecessary restrictions placed upon the trade would naturally operate indirectly against the farmer, as well as directly against the dealer. Still, it is felt by some of the grain men themselves, that the privilege of mixing has been abused and should be corrected.

There is another point to be remembered. The prevention of mixing in shipping cargoes from terminal points, might operate against some of the smaller dealers and shippers. If mixing is prohibited in shipping cargoes from Fort William, shippers who have the elevator facilities for doing it, will prepare their cargoes by doing what mixing they wish at points west of Fort William, while those who have not facilities for mixing will be at a disadvantage with some of the larger shippers. The farmers would certainly not wish to place any of the smaller shippers at a disadvantage with the larger exporters who have elevator accommodation of their own for mixing their grades.

The idea among the farmers, as The Commercial understands it, is that the quality of our high grades is reduced by mixing, so that when it is exported it does not command as high a price and as ready a sale as if it were not so mixed. If this is the idea, the matter could be settled on a compromise basis. The bulk of the crop goes into the grades of No. 1 and No. 2 hard. There is no difficulty in making up cargoes of these grades. The mixing of other grades in with cargoes of these two grades might be prohibited. In the case of the long list of grades of which there is only a limited quantity of each, mixing might be allowed, to the advantage of both producer and shipper. That would ensure the shipment of straight cargo lots of No. 1 and No. 2 hard, so far as it is possible to do it by official regulations, while the trade would not be hampered by having a great lot of small parcels of a dozen or more different grades, which it would be very difficult to dispose of unless it could be mixed together and made up to certain desired standards, to facilitate export. The theory that wheat should grade out of terminal elevators as it grades in, is all right, but in practice it will be found a very difficult matter to handle the great variety of grades which we have here, without more or less mixing.

Another resolution passed by the standards board was that the government should re-establish the grade of extra Manitoba hard, which was dropped a year ago. Standards were struck for this grade by the board.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DURING the recent "boom" in the wheat markets the papers have been filled with exciting reports regarding the situation. Much that has been written about wheat is mere hearsay gossip, and is certain to prove very misleading to farmers and other persons who are not familiar with the wheat situation and the peculiarities of the option markets. Many of the reports circulated of late regarding the wheat situation, both local and general, are very far from being correct. The Commercial will endeavor to report only

facts and will omit the gossip which is so freely repented about wheat, much of which is either contrary to fact or at least misleading to the average reader. The constant study given to the wheat situation enables The Commercial usually to quickly segregate fact from fiction in reporting the markets.

THE Winnipeg retail association, at its last meeting, discussed the question of municipal reform. It is quite proper that business men, collectively as well as individually, should take hold of this question vigorously. If the business men of the city allow themselves to shirk their responsibility in this matter, to whom are we to look for the bringing about of the much needed change in the management of civic affairs? It would be an excellent thing if all the business organizations in the city could be induced to make a joint effort to bring about the reform of our municipal system.

WHILE politicians and the press are agitating over the proposal to subsidize a fast line of steamships running between Great Britain and Canadian Atlantic ports, the question is to some extent being solved in a regular business way. A fine new steamship, the Canada, has recently been put on the St. Lawrence route by one of the trans-Atlantic lines, and it is rumored that the Allan line will have two new steamships ready early next season for the same route, all of a faster and superior type to anything heretofore on the Canadian lines. It will be much better if a satisfactory service can be established in this way, instead of having to subsidize a line.

THE post office savings banks of Canada have \$28,933,008 to the credit of depositors. This large sum, it must be remembered, is the small savings of the people. The people of Canada have great confidence in the regular banks, and they have also vast sums on deposit in these institutions. The large deposit in the post office savings banks, is therefore not owing to any mistrust of the regular business banks. This situation indicates that Canada is a thrifty and prosperous country. For the last official year deposits in the government savings banks increased about three-quarters of a million dollars.

ONE or two farmer representatives on the standards board, which recently met at Winnipeg, were evidently much disgusted because they could not bring the other farmer members of the board around to their own way of thinking. One of the farmers, a Mr. Elder, of Virden, writes to the Free Press, complaining that the grain men beguiled the farmers into their service. Poor, deluded farmers, to come down to Winnipeg, after all this agitation, and do just what the grain men wanted them to do! This is the way the said Mr. Elder looks at it. The inference is that all the farmers on the board but himself were consummate fools. The whole trouble is that Mr. Elder and a few others undertook to press the government to make certain changes in the grain grades. The

Continued on Page 180.

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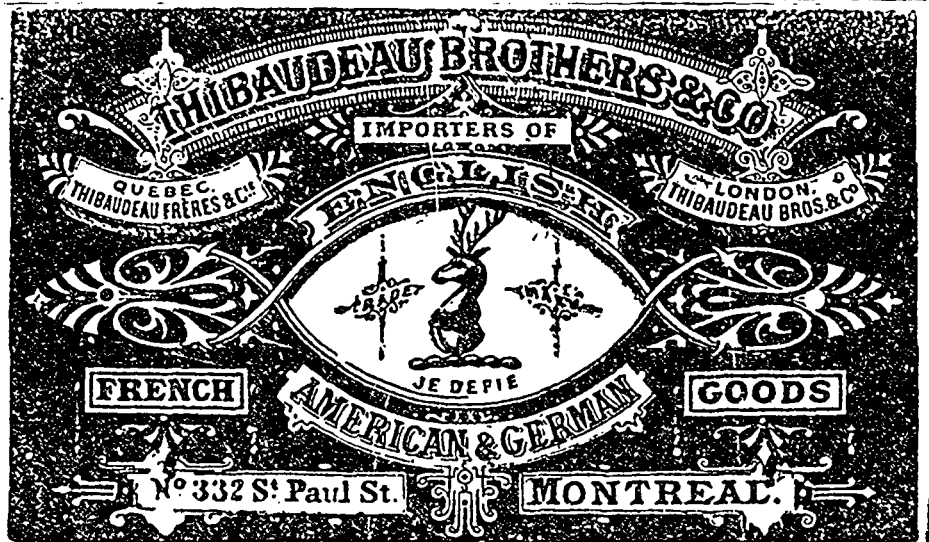
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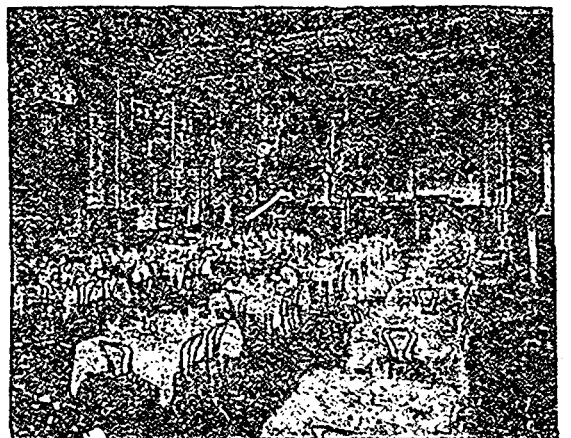
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WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

The Live Stock Trade.

At London on October 28 there was no important change in the catt'e market. Prices being steady all around. Choice United States cattlo sold at 11c, Canadians at 9c to 10c, and sheep at 10c.

A private cable received from Liverpool noted an advance of $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢ per lb in the price for both cattle and sheep as compared with a week ago. Choice United States steers sold at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, choice Canadians at 9 to 10c, and sheep at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

A private cable from London quoted good States cattlo at 11c, Canadians at 10c and sheep at 10c.

At the East End abattoir market, Montreal on October 26 the market was glutted with common and inferior cattlo, while good to choice heaves were somewhat scarce. A few small bunches of good stock were picked up for shipment at 8c per lb. Good to choice butchers' stock sold at 8 to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, common to fair at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, and lower grades at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2c per lb., live weight. There was a better demand for sheep for shipment, and a fair number were picked up at \$2.50 to \$2.60 per 100 lbs. Sales of lambs were made freely at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, and fair to good at 3 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. while common sold at \$1.50 to \$2 each. At the Point St. Charles market the receipts of hogs were 250 head, for which the demand was fair, and prices ruled about steady at 4c per lb. live weight.

At Toronto on Tuesday a few picked cattlo touched 4c. The general price was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ and one car of export cattlo sold at 8c. Butchers' cattlo ruled at 2 to 8c and a lot were unsold. Good stockers were going at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. One car sold at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Shipping sheep 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, bucks 2c; lambs \$2.25 to \$3.25 each. Butchers' sheep very dull at \$2.25 to \$2.50 each. Hogs were firm. Best sold at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ off cars; heavy lots, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; sows 3c.

Chicago, on October 29, hogs were in good demand at the decline of the previous day. Common lots sold at \$3 to \$3.15, most going at \$3.15 to \$3.30; packers \$3 to \$3.25. The range of prices has been narrowing for some time past and prime hogs of all weights are now selling close together. Packing lots closed 5c lower.

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MAIL CONTRACTS.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster-General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, 11th December next, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's mails on proposed contracts for four years, over each of the following routes from the 1st February next:

(1) WINNIPEG AND RAILWAY STATIONS, seven or six (6) times per week or more or less frequently as may be required, being sixty four times per week between Postoffice and Canadian Pacific Railway station, computed distance $\frac{1}{2}$ mile; and twelve (12) times per week between Postoffice and Northern Pacific Railway Station, computed distance $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

(2) THE TRANSFER OF THE MAILS as may be required between the mail trains arriving at and departing from the Winnipeg Canadian Pacific Railway station.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contracts may be seen and blank forms of tender obtained at the Winnipeg Postoffice and at this office.

W. W. McLEOD,
Postoffice Inspector.

Postoffice Inspector's Office,
Winnipeg 16th October, 1896.

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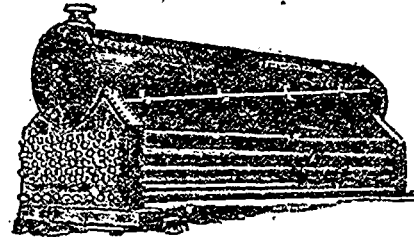
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THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, October 31, 1893.

The drop in the price of wheat has checked deliveries in Manitoba, indicating that farmers intend to hold until prices look up again. Oats are very firm and higher locally, owing to the light and poor quality of the crop.

Eggs are higher and dairy butter is firm and higher. Cold weather has continued the good demand for winter fabrics. Saw mills are closing for the season and gangs of men are now being sent to the woods for the winter, to cut timber and cordwood. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week were three per cent less than for the corresponding week last year, but about 27 per cent greater than for the corresponding week of 1891.

There are 37 business failures reported in Canada this week against 48 last week and a like number the same week one year ago and forty-six two years ago.

A feature of the week was a big squeeze in the United States money markets. Short time loans going at 50, 75 and even 100 per annum on Thursday. Yesterday New York were easier, but rates at 30 to 60 per cent were made on loans for a few days, and one for three days touched 100 per cent. Call money at New York yesterday was quoted at 6 to 7 per cent, prime mercantile paper 7 1/2 to 10 per cent., bar silver 61 1/2, silver certificates 65c, Mexican dollars 50 1/2.

In the United States this week hides were easier, oat flour, cotton and print cloths were lower, leather, Bessemer pig iron lard, sugar and petroleum were higher.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Oct. 31.

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

COAL.—There is no change in coal. The demand for native soft coals keeps large, on account of the high price of anthracite. At Duluth pea coal has advanced 50c per ton, owing to larger demand for this size from factories, but stove and furnace sizes are unchanged. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10, western anthracite \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton, Lethbridge \$3.50. These prices are delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal are held at \$3.85 to \$3.90 per ton.

DRUGS.—There is no change here. Glycerine has advanced east, owing to the recent advance abroad. Castor oil is higher East. Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; blanching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 23 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; copperas 3 1/2 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00; cream tartar per pound, 80 to 85c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 1/2 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 1 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do. African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.30 to \$2.00; Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00, oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, pepper-

mint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon as to brand, oxalico acid, 18 to 16c; potass iodide, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 80 to 85c; shallac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 1/2 to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 1/2 to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

DRY GOODS.—The cold weather has led to a considerable demand for some lines of dry goods, and the retail trade is enjoying a fair business. There was a report from Montreal that clothing and woolen manufacturers were moving to shorten credits. Prices are firm and cottons are strong, an advance in the latter being expected.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal.—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminial—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz, \$3.10.

FISH.—Finnan Haddies are scarce, as supplies are coming forward slowly. They are selling at \$11c per lb. by the box. Prices of fresh fish are: Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Pickarel, 4c; Sturgeon, 8c; salmon, 14c; halibut, 12 1/2c; Cod, 10c; Haddock, 10c per lb; smelts 10c; Oysters, \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.50 for selects; smoked goldeyes, 30c dozen; smoked salmon, 15c lb.

GREEN FRUITS.—There is no material change in fruit prices this week. The principal feature is the large sales of apples, the consumption being very large owing to the remarkably low prices. The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. brought in 100 cars of Ontario apples last week alone, and the consumption of apples here will probably be almost double what it was last year. Peaches are now about out of the market entirely. Ontario pears are becoming scarce. Ontario grapes are selling fairly well yet. There are no new dried fruits or nuts in yet, but new nuts are on the way. Prices are as follows: Good winter apples \$1.50 per barrel, fall apples, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per barrel, as to quality, snows \$2.50 to \$3; California lemons \$5.50 \$6 per box; Jamaica oranges \$5.50 box; Mexican oranges \$5.50 to \$6; Cape Cod cranberries \$8 to \$9.50 barrel; Washington pears \$2.50 box; Ontario pears 30c per basket of 20 pounds; California tokay grapes \$2.50 per box; Ontario concord grapes 30 to 40c per basket of 10 pounds; Rogers and Niagara grapes 40 to 50c per basket. Tomatoes, 75c per basket of 20 lbs. Sweet potatoes \$1.50 to \$5 per barrel.

GROCERIES.—The remarkable strength in nearly every line of dried fruits is the most important feature in the grocery trade. We print several articles this week in other parts of the paper showing the sharp advances in several classes of dried fruits. The new crop of figs appears to be very short and prices are high. Valencia raisins are advancing to almost fancy prices, and jobbers who neglected buying early will get caught badly on this line. California raisins have also experienced a further sharp advance. Both the California and Valencia crops are short. California evaporated peaches and apricots are also higher, and European prunes have sharply advanced. The latest report is to the effect that Valencia raisins have advanced 2s more at Dania. There is much talk of late about a serious shortage in the tea crop of Japan and also in some districts of China, particularly in Pinguoys, Formosa, Amoy and Foochoo. The Japan crop is said to be 30 per cent. under last year, and in some districts of China, the crop is said to be 40 per cent. short. The markets are firm.

HARDWARE—Prices are as follows.

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb. 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$3.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.00 to 8.50.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.85 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs.; \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb. 12 to 13c

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

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.10

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 guage, per lb., 4 1/2c; 26 guage, per lb., 4 1/2c; 28 guage, per lb., 5c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.25.

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

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, not list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 guage, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 1/2c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs. Closer prices have been made for large lots.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7 1/2 to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9 1/2 to 10 1/2c base; cotton, 1/2 to 3/4 inch or 1 larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.21 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.85 per keg; 3 to 4 inch \$4.17 keg; 2 1/2 inch, \$4.50 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS.—The only line moving freely is glass, and for that there has been a good demand. Some good sales of plate glass have been reported. The price of glass here is comparatively low, this market not having followed the advance in the east and abroad. Linseed oil has not changed, but prices are very firm. The short crop outlook in India may lead to higher prices of English oil, as India is a considerable exporter of flax seed. Turpentine continues to advance, but is unchanged here.

Prices here are.

WHITE LEADS.—Pure, ground in oil, association guarantee, 5.25 to \$5.50 per 100-lbs white lead, assorted 1 to 5-lb. tins, per lb., 9c.

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

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

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50;

elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1 orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 18 to 20c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$4.00; benzine, per case, \$4.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$4.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. \$1 per bale; putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2½c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2½c.

WINDOW GLASS.—1st break is quoted at \$1.75 per box of 50 feet and \$2 for second break.

LINSEED OIL.—Raw, per gal., 52c; boiled, per gal., 55c in barrels; less than barrels 5c per gallon extra.

TURPENTINE.—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 55c; less than barrels, per gallon, 58c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

OILS.—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 30c per gallon; clear machine oils, 33 to 40c; cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb.; lard oil, 70c per gal.; tanner's or harness oil, 65c, neatfoot oil, \$1.20; steam refined seal oil, 85c; pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 per gallon.

REFINED PETROLEUM.—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 21½c; crescent, 21½c; oleophene, 20½c in barrels. In car lots 2c per gallon discount is allowed off prices in barrels. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 81c for eocene and 27c for sunlight.

RAW FURS.—A few small lots of skunk have come in, which is about the only thing this week. They are not prime yet, though skunk are about the first fur to become prime. Furs will improve fast now, with the present cold weather. Prices are not settled yet, but the outlook is for low prices this season, especially for lynx and rats. However, after the elections are over in the United States there may be some improvement in business generally there, which might help the fur trade. United States fur manufacturers have been doing very little buying of furs, and this is one of the factors in depressing prices.

WOOD.—Prices are very firm for good wood owing to the light supply of dry wood available. There is scarcely any wood offering on track. Prices for car lots on track here are quoted at \$1.50 to \$1.75 for tamarac as to quality. Pine \$3.75 to \$4.25, as to quality; poplar \$3. Poplar and pine are particularly scarce.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE MARKETS.

WHEAT. — GENERAL SITUATION.—Wheat has been somewhat irregular this week, but the markets have been much stronger than could have been expected under the adverse circumstances prevailing. The final week in the exciting election contest in the United States was enough in itself to paralyze the markets, and added to this was the tight money markets, money going at panic prices at New York and Chicago on Thursday, and yesterday, 100 per cent for loans for a few days, having been touched. The fact that wheat made sharp advances under such circumstances, indicates how strong the actual situation in this cereal is. There were further cargo lots of wheat taken in California this week for India and Australia. Cables were firm or higher except on Tuesday. Receipts at Minneapolis and Duluth, however, were large and United States and Canadian stocks show fairly large increases. The visible supply east of the Rocky Mountains is about 7,000,000 bushels larger than a year ago, but

21,000,000 bushels smaller than two years ago, and 12,000,000 bushels smaller than three years ago. The total exports of wheat, flour included, from both coasts of the United States, amounted to 8,316,000 bushels this week, exclusive of shipments from Galveston, no report of which has been received; compared with 4,067,000 bushels last week, 2,748,000 bushels in the last week of October, 1895; 2,931,000 bushels in the like week of 1894; 2,860,000 bushels in 1893, and 8,714,000 bushels in the corresponding portion of 1892.

There is no doubt but that the outlook for wheat is very strong, and if the Argentine crop, which will be harvested next month, should turn out poor, there would be nothing to prevent very high prices in the near future. Even with a good average crop for Argentine, the outlook is strong. This continent holds the key to the situation this year, and we can demand fair prices for our surplus, which importing countries must have and will have it, if prices are not pushed up to a point which will check consumption.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION.—Since the drop in prices in Manitoba country markets, noted in The Commercial last week, deliveries by farmers have received a sudden check. The farmers got a taste of high prices, in the "boom" prices that were paid during the late splurge in wheat, and they evidently intend to hold for another advance. In this policy they are pretty safe. Prices are not likely to go any lower, at least more than a temporary drop. Millers and dealers now hold a lot of dear wheat, and they will be interested in keeping up prices. Besides this, the general outlook is very strong. So long as farmers have plowing or other work to do at their farms, they can probably employ their time to better profit than marketing wheat, and they do not run much risk in allowing the crop to remain in their granaries. Unless another big spurt in prices should come soon, it is likely that the rush at country markets is over for this crop, and we expect that the balance of the crop will come out slowly. This will not be favorable to dealers, who have to maintain buyers at country points, but it looks as if it will be the course followed, unless, as we have said, another big "boom" takes place in prices. The falling off in deliveries has enabled the railways to relieve the crush at country points, and all is working smoothly now. The revised official crop report for Manitoba reduced the total crop to 14,871,000 bushels, or a reduction from the August estimate of 4,191,000 bushels. The crop in the territories has been officially estimated at 4,000,000 bushels, but this is too high, and from the best information The Commercial can obtain we would not place the crop at over half the amount stated, making a total crop of about 16,400,000 bushels for Manitoba and the territories. From that total we will not have a surplus materially over 12,000,000 bushels, after deducting home requirements for seed and food, for shipment in wheat and flour to eastern Canada and for export abroad. The eastern and western milling demand will take possibly two-thirds of this surplus, leaving one third for export as wheat. This is only a rough estimate, as the quantity of Manitoba wheat taken by eastern millers is liable to great variation. However, it looks as if about all the best milling wheat will be wanted for milling in Canada. At any rate, prices have been, since the season opened, and still are above an export basis for Manitoba wheat. This fact would be in favor of selling now were the outlook less strong, as Manitoba farmers are receiving higher prices than are being paid in the States, south of the boundary. The receipts of wheat at Fort William for the week ending October 24 were 594,555 bushels. During the same period the shipments were 402,000 bushels,

and there is a total of 1,618,719 bushels in store at that point. About 3,000,000 bushels were in store at interior points, including milling points west of Fort William. A year ago stocks at Fort William were 2,076,000 bushels, 1,529,000 bushels two years ago and 1,201,000 bushels three years ago. For the corresponding week last year, receipts at Fort William were 998,000 bushels, and shipments were 720,000 bushels. For the like week two years ago, receipts were 893,000 bushels, and shipments 890,000 bushels.

Prices in Manitoba country markets have been easier, the general tendency being to drop prices, and country buyers have been held down to their limit, and wild bulges have been prevented. The general range of prices to farmers at country markets was from 57 to 61c according to local conditions and freight rates. At most points to 60c is the rate. Business in the Winnipeg market has been done on an extreme range of 70 to 80c for No. 1 hard, about Fort William 75c was the lowest point touched on the break the first of the week. On Thursday, Friday, and today 80c was touched each day for a small lot, possibly one sale going through at this price on each of the three days, but the general view has been 79 to 79½c. No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern held at 6c under No. 1 hard.

FLOUR.—Local prices have been maintained for flour notwithstanding the drop in wheat. Prices however have been a little irregular. The principal feature is the booking of an order for 800 tons, by one of the city mills for Australia, for present and future shipments. Prices per sack of 98 pounds were quoted at \$2.80 for patents, \$2.10 for street bakers, \$1.70 for second bakers, and \$1.30 for XXXX. These prices are delivered in the city to retail dealers.

MILLSTUFFS.—There is no change in bran and shorts. City mills are selling at \$7 per ton for bran and \$9 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots. These prices do not include sacks. Larger orders have been filled at \$5 and \$8 per ton.

OATS.—Business in oats has continued very slow, on account of the light offerings. Only a few cars were offered on track here, and they were held at 25 to 26c per bushel of 34 pounds. These were old oats. A lot was in store in the city of good old oats, sold at 25c. There were no new offers, except a few farmer's loads, which were taken at 16 to 20c per bushel, as to quality, which averages poor. In Eastern Canada markets there has been a considerable decline in prices so that shipments could not be made east at prices quoted here, but there are a few cars going to lumbering and other points along the north shore of Lake Superior. Holders of old oats are very independent and firm, in view of the poor crop and poor quality of the new crop.

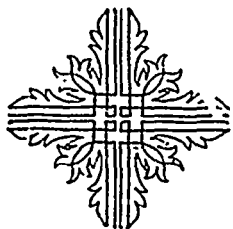
BARLEY.—No cars moving either on local or shipping account. A few farmer's loads of barley of feed quality have been taken here at about 20c per bushel of 48 pounds, and brewers are paying the same for malting grades, but there is scarcely any offering. Prices are too low east to allow barley to be shipped at a profit, and farmers will find it more valuable to use this grain at home for feed.

FLAX SEED.—The prices quoted to farmers is still 45 to 5½c per bushel.

GROUND FEED.—Prices range from \$8 to \$14 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed. Ordinary mixed mill feed is held at \$11 to \$12 per ton.

OATMEAL.—Prices are irregular but firm, in view of the scarcity of oats in the new crop fit for milling the crop being very glut and chaffy. A sharp advance in oatmeal was reported from the east, but prices of oatmeal declined there since the advance. Round lots are quoted at \$1.30 for rolled

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lb sacks, and \$1.50 for standard and granulated, but these prices have been cut. In fact it is said that rolled oatmeal has sold as low as \$1.05 to \$1.10 to jobbers. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.65. Pot barley, \$1.70 in round lots.

OIL CAKE.—Oil cake holds at \$16 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

BUTTER.—There is nothing to report in creamery, factories being sold out and no lots changing hands. There is very little creamery consumed in this market, there being always a good supply of dairy grades, which seems to meet the local requirements very well. We quote 20 to 22c for creamery, in a jobbing way. Dairy butter is firm and about 1c higher again, up to 14c having been paid for lots of choice, fresh goods, and we quote 10 to 14c as to quality, with the jobbing price at 15 to 17c for good to choice dairy, as to quantity and quality. There is some local demand for good fresh rolls, and if neatly put up and the quality is right, they will sell at 15 to 17c. At Montreal yesterday creamery was quoted at 19 to 20c, fine in boxes being quoted at 19½ to 20½.

CHEESE.—There is very little held by factories, and good lots would bring 8½c to factories. Small lots are jobbing at 8½ to 9½c as to quality. Advices from the east this week reported an easier market and purchases made from factories at ¼ to ½c lower than a week previous. At Montreal yesterday Quebec cheese was quoted at 9½ to 9¾c and Ontario at 10 to 10½c.

EGGS.—Prices are again higher, being 2c above a week ago. The regular quotation most of this week has been 17c net for receipts.

POULTRY.—Country lots are beginning to come in and the demand is improving. Chickens hold at 40 to 45 cents per pair as to quality. Spring chickens 30 to 40c per pair. Turkeys bring 10c per lb live weight. Ducks and geese, 10c dressed weight. Wild ducks, 20 to 30 per pair. Wild geese 50c each; waxies 80c each.

LARD.—Prices are: Pure \$1.60 for 20 lb. pails, and \$4.00 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins, \$3.25.

CURED MEATS.—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11½c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c; short spiced rolls, 7½c shoulders, 7½c smoked long clear, 8½ cents; Fancy clear, 8½ cents; Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 6½c per lb; shoulders, 6½c; backs, 8c; barrel pork, clear mess \$13.50; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel. Pork sausages, fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package, pickled hocks, 3c; pickled tongues, 6c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—Prices are about the same all around, though mutton has been offered somewhat lower, selling in some cases as low as 5c. Good lamb is rather scarce. Very few country dressed hogs have been offered yet, and the price holds firm. The general price for good beef is 4½c, and some is going at 4c. Mutton is quoted at 5 to 6c, 5½c being the usual price. Dressed lambs, 5½ to 7c, but usually selling about 6c; city dressed hogs 5c, country dressed, 4½c; Veal, at 5c.

HIDES.—The market is firm, though hides are beginning to get long haired and are intrinsically worth less money. The usual quotation is 5c for No. 1, but it is reported that ½ to ¾c more has been paid in some cases. We quote: Hides, green cured, No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; No. 3, 3c; calf, 8 to 15c lb. skins, 4 to 6c per lb. skins 1 to 2c. Each; kips 4 to 5c; sheepskins range all the way from 15 to 40c, according to quality,

but the average is about 20 to 30c each. Horsehides, 75c to \$1.25.

WOOL.—Wool markets are firmer, and if the election in the United States is settled to the satisfaction of the sound money people, prices may advance, as manufacturers will begin buying stocks more freely. It is reported that some of the ranchmen of the territories have sold recently to eastern parties, though some are still holding. We quote 7 to 7½c here for unwashed fleeces.

TALLOW.—Prices are higher, in sympathy with the general situation in other markets. Dealers are paying 8½c for No. 1 tallow and 2½ to 3c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

SENECA ROOT.—Prices continue firm. A fraction over 20c has been paid for some lots this week, but there is very little offering. We quote 20c per lb for dry root.

HAY.—Held at about \$5 per ton for baled prairie on track here.

VEGETABLES.—Potatoes are firmer and sell on the street market at about 25c per bushel. Onions about 1 to 1½c per lb; celery 30c per dozen bunches; cabbage 25c per dozen.

LIVE STOCK.

Exports have been quite active this week in cattle. The yards here were full of cattle yesterday, there being over 2,500 head in range cattle predominating. There was also a lot of about 1000 sheep in from White-wood, for export, though some out of the lot were sold here. It is to be hoped these sheep will prove more profitable than previous export shipments this year. Cables this week reported a better market in England.

CATTLE.—Prices are about the same. Butchers will not pay over 2½c for good loads, and we quote from 1½ to 2½c, as to quality, for butchers', and up to 3c for export.

SHEEP.—There is no change in sheep. Lambs are scarce. Car lots for the local market have sold at 2½c here, and 2¾ to 3c for lambs. One lot of sheep was reported sold at under 2c here.

HOGS.—No change in hogs. We quote. Good bacon stock weighing 150 to 300 pounds 8½c. Sows and heavy hogs 2½ to 3½c, according to quality. Stags 1½ to 2½c, off cars here.

British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, October 31, 1897.

[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.]

Grain prices will likely be higher next week. Too many apples in the market.

Butter—Manitoba Dairy butter, 17 to 18c, Manitoba creamery, 24½c; eastern creamery, 21½c; local creamery, 25c; Manitoba cheese, 11c; local cheese, 11c.

Cured Meats.—Hams 13½ cents; breakfast bacon 12½c; backs 12 to 12½c, long, clear 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per pound; in pails and tubs 9c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 3c; smelt 4c, sea bass 4c, black cod 6c, rock cod 4c, red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 7c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel head, 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c, salt oolachan, 25 and 50 lb. kits \$3.75 and \$3.50; smoked salmon 10c.

Vegetables.—New potatoes, \$12.00 per ton, onions, silver skins, 1c per pound, California onions 1½c, cabbage, ½c lb, carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

Eggs.—Ranch 22 to 25c, Manitoba, 17c to 18c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches,

inside measurement, and contain from 283 to 310 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. California lemons, \$3.75 to \$4; Australian oranges, \$3.25; Tomatoes, 2½c per lb; Peas, 40 lb. box, \$1.25; California apples, 50 lb. box, \$1.85; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$1.00.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 4½c to 7c, loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 7½c.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks \$2.40, 10 7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 45's \$2.35

Flour.—Cost prices—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.50, strong bakers \$5.10, Oregon \$5.25, Oak Lake patent \$5.50, do. strong bakers \$5.10.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$27.00 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats \$18.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$21 to \$22 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton, shorts, \$20.00 ton, bran \$18.00, oat cake meal, \$30 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—\$3.50 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 6 to 7c, mutton, 6 to 7c; pork, 6 to 6½c; veal, 7 to 8c.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$3.00 to \$3.50; per hundred lbs., sheep, \$3.10 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per 100 lbs, lamb \$2.75 to \$3 per head.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$3.50 to \$4.50; ducks, \$5 per dozen.

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

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound. 10 gallon kegs, 2½c, 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

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

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

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

Grade.	Sept 26	Oct 3	Oct 10	Oct 17	Oct 24
Extra Blag 11 d	0	0	0	0	7
No. 1 hard.....	51	44	93	20	375
No. 2 hard.....	33	15	35	163	12
No. 3 hard.....	5	7	13	2	31
No. 1 North'n ..	9	2	8	16	26
No. 2 North'n ..	0	3	3	4	2
No. 3 North'n ..	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 white type	3	2	0	2	2
No. 2 white type	0	0	0	2	0
No. 1 Spring ...	3	0	0	2	2
No. 2 Spring ...	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 frosted ...	1	0	1	10	11
No. 2 frosted ...	0	0	0	5	3
No. 3 Frosted ...	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Rejected..	5	1	2	8	11
No. 2 Rejected..	7	1	2	8	3
No Grade	4	2	2	1	0
Fced	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	59	103	419	610
Same week last year.....	259	457	522	311	476

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



JUST THE THING YOU HAVE BEEN WANTING TO BURN LIGNITE COAL

WE HAVE been experimenting for some time with grates for burning this coal successfully, and have now succeeded in making them to burn it successfully and without waste of coal.

They are constructed with a series of caps placed above the draft openings in grate without obstructing the draft, and allowing nothing but ash to drop through into ash-pan. Air blast is also admitted through openings in side linings and bottom. Shaking and dumping arrangements are also provided.

The McClary Manufacturing Co., Winnipeg

LONDON TORONTO MONTREAL VANCOUVER



J. & T. BELL,

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Fine Boots and Shoes

MONTREAL

 Representative for Manitoba, N.W.T. and British Columbia
 L. GODBOLT, MONTYRE BLOCK, WINNIPEG.

KILGOOR, RIMER & CO.,

WHOLESALE

Boots, Shoes

Overshoes, Rubbers, Mitts & Moccasins

—AGENTS FOR—

Harvey & VanNorman, Toronto,
 The Rubber Shoe Company, Toronto.
 The Cardigan Overshoe, Stratford,
 The Manitoba Felt Sole Boots.

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C. A. CHOUILLOU & CO.,

BROKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

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Foreign Wines, Brandies
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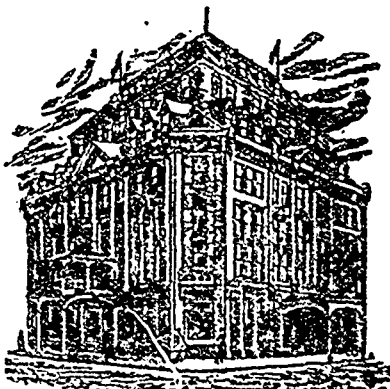
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 Butter and Wools
 Consignments solicited, and receive
 prompt returns at full market rates

Large Storage Accommodation Free, and in Bond.

CORRESPONDENCE IN FRENCH,
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487 St. Paul Street, MONTREAL.

HOTEL LELAND,



The palace Family and Commercial
 Hotel.

→ RATES, 2.00 TO \$4.00 A DAY. ←

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 Stock up with —

RAMSAY'S
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 UNICORN MIXED PAINT.
 UNICORN OIL STAINS.
 COLORS IN OIL.
 VARNISHES, Etc., Etc.

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 Representative for Manitoba.

A. RAMSAY & SON,
 MONTREAL.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

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

Wheat opened higher on Monday, influenced mainly by higher Liverpool cables. December option starting at about 70c, and advanced to 71½c. There was also good export buying in New York. A weak feature was the large receipts of spring wheat at Minneapolis and Duluth, and the large increase in the weekly visible supply statement. Prices closed 1c higher than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	May	Jan.
Wheat.....	68½	70½	75½	—
Corn.....	29½	21½	28½	—
Oats.....	17½	18½	21½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 05	—	7 90
Lard.....	—	4 92½	—	4 52½
Short Ribs.	—	3 70	—	3 90

Wheat opened about 1c lower on Tuesday, influenced by lower cables, large receipts at Duluth and Minneapolis and tight money rates. Prices declined most of the day. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	May	Jan.
Wheat....	68½	68½	74½	—
Corn.....	29	21½	27½	—
Oats.....	17½	18½	21½	—
Mess Pork..	—	6 97½	—	7 82½
Lard.....	—	4 80	—	4 50
Short Ribs.	—	3 62½	—	3 87½

The loss of Tuesday in wheat was fully recovered on Wednesday. The early market was steady on firm cables. Then reports of purchases of California cargoes for Australia and India started prices up and a sharp advance was made. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	May	Jan.
Wheat....	68½	70½	75½	—
Corn.....	29½	21½	28½	—
Oats.....	17½	18½	21½	—
Mess Pork..	—	6 90	—	7 80
Lard.....	—	4 80	—	4 50
Short Ribs.	—	3 62½	—	3 87½

On Thursday wheat was quite strong again, influenced by higher cables, good local and foreign buying, and Pacific coast exports to Australia. December option advanced to 73½c at one time during the day, but the tight money market forced prices down and at the close 71½c was the price quoted. On the curb, after the board closed, December option was quoted at 70½c. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	May	Jan.
Wheat....	69½	71½	76½	—
Corn.....	29½	21½	28½	—
Oats.....	17½	18½	21½	—
Mess Pork..	—	6 90	—	7 80
Lard.....	—	4 25	—	4 45
Short Ribs..	—	3 60	—	3 82½

On Friday, wheat was strong nearly all day, influenced by exports to Australia, and firmer late cables, though early cables were easier. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	Jan.	May
Wheat....	71	72½	—	77½
Corn.....	21½	25	—	28½
Oats.....	17½	18½	—	21½
Mess Pork..	—	6 95	7 85	—
Lard.....	—	4 22½	4 42½	—
Short Ribs..	—	3 62½	3 90	—

On Saturday December wheat opened at 73½ to 78½c and ranged between 72½ and 78½c. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.	Jan	May
Wheat....	70½	72½	—	77½
Corn.....	21½	25½	—	28½
Oats.....	17½	18½	—	21½
Mess Pork..	—	—	8 00	—
Lard.....	—	—	4 50	—
Short Ribs..	—	—	3 97½	—
Flax Seed..	71½	80	—	74

A week ago Dec. wheat closed at 69½c and a year ago at 58½c and two years ago at 58½c and three years ago at 52½c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, No. 1 Northern wheat closed as follows: Oct. delivery at 70½, December at 72c, and May at 76c. A week ago December wheat closed at 68c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, October 31, December delivery closed at 80c and May option at 83c. A week ago December option closed at 76½c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday - Sept. -	Dec. 70½c.	May 75½c.
Tuesday - Sept. -	Dec. 61c.	May 73½c.
Wednesday - Sept. -	Dec. 71½c.	May 75½c.
Thursday - Oct. -	Dec. 72c.	May 76½c.
Friday - Oct. -	Dec. 73½c.	May 78½c.
Saturday - Oct. -	Dec. 73½c.	May 77½c.

A week ago December delivery closed at 69½c. A year ago December delivery closed at 51½c. Two years ago Dec. closed at 53½c and three years ago at 59½c.

On Saturday cash wheat closed at 72½c for No. 1 hard and 71½c for No. 1 northern.

Bread Declines.

It is understood that the agreement among Winnipeg bakers has fallen through, and bread will decline at once to 18 and possibly to 20 loaves for \$1. The price was recently advanced from 20 to 16 loaves for \$1.

Minneapolis Markets.

The Market Record of Oct. 29, reports the demand very slow. Prices are as follows, in bbls. f.o.b.: First patents, \$3.35 to \$3.95; Second patents, \$3.50 to \$3.65. First clears, \$3.00 to \$3.50; second clear, \$2.90, Export baker's, \$2.25 to \$3.35; second export bakers' \$2.90 to \$3.15. Red Dog, per ton, 140 for 1st. jute, \$10.50.

Millstuffs—Bran in bulk, \$5.00 to \$5.50; bran in sacks, 200 lbs., \$3.00 to \$6.25; bran in sacks, 100 lbs., \$6.50 to \$9.75; shorts, \$5 to \$6.25; middlings, fine, \$7.00 to \$7.25.

Oats.—Range at 13c for light up to 16½c for No. 3 white.

Barley—Quoted at 21 to 25c per bushel. Flax.—Quoted at 66½c per bushel. Hay.—Prairie, \$3.50 to \$6.50 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, October 29.

Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending Oct. 29 were 1,856,323; balances, 281,315. For the previous week clearings were 1,961,482. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 1,914,744 and for the week two years ago, 1,477,891. Clearings for the month of Sept. were \$4,630,706, compared with \$4,008,906 for September, 1895, and \$3,975,406 for September, 1894. Clearances for all Canadian cities this week were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$10,593,814
Toronto.....	6,191,270
Halifax.....	1,200,730
Winnipeg.....	1,886,923
Hamilton.....	681,721
St. John.....	455,240

Total bank clearings at Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax amount to \$20,583,000 this week against \$21,856,000 last week, and 22,476,000 in the same week a year ago.



MAIL CONTRACTS

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, 27th November next for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on proposed contracts for four years over each of the following routes from the 1st January next:

Brandon and Rapid City, six times per week, computed distance 20 miles. Courier to call at Forest Station Post Office twice per week on his trip to Rapid City.

Gretna and Railway Station fourteen (14) times per week, computed distance half a mile.

Portage la Prairie Post Office and Custom House, six times per week, computed distance ½ mile.

Portage la Prairie Post Office and C. P. and M. & N. Railway Stations (20) twenty times per week. Computed distance half a mile.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contracts may be seen and blank forms of Tender obtained at the Post Offices on the respective routes and at this office.

W. W. McLEOD,

Post Office Inspector

Post Office Inspector's Office,

Winnipeg, 9th October, 1896.

Established 1860.

Incorporated 1895.

"Crescent"

Steel Enamelled Ware

Tinware of every Description
Manufactured by

The Thos. Davidson Mfg. Co. Ltd.

MONTRÉAL

Merrick, Anderson & Co. Agents,
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RAW FURS

WANTED.

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST.

R. C. MACFIE & CO.,

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Carriage Dealers

Our stock of Gears, Wheels, Shafts, Spokes, Tops, Trimmings, etc., is now complete. Write us for prices.

R. Cochrane & Co.,

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A Miracle in Leather

"Sire, if thou wilt but place thy foot upon this measure, I will in twelve hours, cover the earth with leather!"

How a Monk of the third century accomplished this feat is told in "THE CRAFT OF ST. CRISPIN," a neat little illustrated book which unfolds the history of the boot, and tells of its foot forming influences down to the ripened period of the SLATER SHOE.

Every page is rich in foot-lore and shrewd suggestions

on choosing, buying, and taking care of, the correct kind of Shoes. Secrets of the last, the newest shapes, and most foot fitting forms, the different tannages, and latest colorings, of leather, are revealed and described in simple terms.

A limited number of copies will be given away free,

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The
Slater
Shoe



Makers

Geo. T. Slater & Sons, Montreal.

Editorial Notes:

Continued from Page 171.

farmers as a whole do not want these changes, and they have repudiated the dictatorship of the clique. The action of the farmers on the standards board is a severe cut, it is true, for the few presumptuous persons who almost succeeded, through the blunderings of the interior department, in forcing obnoxious changes in the grain grades upon the country. It would be policy for those persons, however, to keep mum, and not show their chagrin by representing the farmers who were on the standards board as a lot of fools and simpletons.

The Hon. Mr. Tarte, while in Winnipeg last week, was interviewed by a large committee of citizens regarding the improvement of the Red river, particularly in the matter of St. Andrew's rapids. Mr. Tarte promised to wire for his chief engineer to come to Winnipeg at once, and on his return from the Pacific coast he would go into the matter fully. In the meantime, it is presumed, the engineer would be able to make some investigation so as to be able to report to the minister on his return from the coast. Mr. Tarte would not make any direct promise regarding the work, beyond the statement that he would look into it carefully. This was of course quite proper under the circumstances. It is to be hoped, however, that the department will come to a favorable decision and push the work through. The people of Winnipeg have set their hearts on having the Red river made navigable between the city and Lake Winnipeg. In view of the vast importance of the work, it is not strange that the construction of this canal is so earnestly desired. Sums sufficient to build the proposed St. Andrew's canal have several times over been expended on works of far less importance in the East. If the federal authorities will not undertake any important public enterprise in the West, it will indeed look as though the government cares little for western interests. Members of the new Federal Government, however, have several times declared that the government would enter upon a vigorous policy of western development, and it is only reasonable that they should be given time to show how much they are in earnest in these professions.

Grocery Trade Notes.

The New York Commercial Bulletin says: According to mail advices received to-day the total shipments of new crop figs from Smyrna to September 19th amounted to 9,000 cases and 12,000 bags, against 24,000 cases and 42,000 bags for the corresponding period of a year ago. Figs are firm. There have been quite large arrivals of new crop during the past two days, but some of the goods go to Canada, and a considerable part of the remainder, it is understood was sold previously. The market is firm and for the best grades of layers up to 17c is asked. New bags are selling at 5 to 8c. Old layers are somewhat nominal at 5½ to 6c. Sultana raisins are arriving more freely, but it is understood that the bulk of the stock has already been sold. The market is firm. It is understood that there will be comparatively few California Sultanas this year.

The New York Commercial Bulletin says: Owing to the wet weather which prevailed

during the gathering and curing season it is stated that the quality of the Turkish figs this year will be considerably poorer on the average than for many seasons past. A considerable part of the output, we are informed, has been rain-damaged, and the first arrivals, according to statements made by receivers, is of that kind of goods. High or even good grades are comparatively scarce, and command prices at least 2c per lb above those which were paid a year ago for new arrivals. Up to this time in 1895 we had received 10,255 cases and 16,577 bags, while so far this season the arrivals have amounted to but 4,514 cases and 2,875 bags. Late advices from Smyrna are to the effect that the crop will not turn out more than one-half of that of last year, which was only of ordinary size.

Valencia raisins are advancing. The crop this year, it is stated, will not exceed 25,000 tons, and a considerable part of this is likely to be rain damaged. Currants are firm and unchanged.

Advices from the primary market by cable indicate an upward movement for Valencia raisins owing to a short crop. Well authenticated advices place the total output of Sultana raisins at 23,000 tons, against 33,000 tons last year. Smyrna reports by cable are very strong and higher prices are quoted for shipment.

A Montreal report says: "Some further large sales of British Columbia salmon were again made this week. Several thousand cases were booked at \$1.00 f.o.b. coast, and about five hundred were sold at \$1.25 f.o.b. coast, to be shipped to eastern markets.

Currants are reported as very firm in Greece, and owing to the decline in exchange some sellers, it is reported, have advanced their quotations for early shipment to 10s 9d., although it was understood that others were still prepared to accept 10s 8d.

The crop of raisins in California for five years have been as follows:—

1891	.....2,600,000	52,000,000
1892	.....2,850,000	57,000,000
1893	.....4,250,000	95,000,000
1894	.....5,150,000	103,000,000
1895	.....4,568,000	91,860,000

The crop of 1896 is estimated at not more than 60 per cent of that of 1895.

Cable advices report a more encouraging situation in the old country for sugar. A reduction in the estimate of the French crop has created an improved feeling in the markets. In New York prices of refined were 1-16c to 3/8c firmer last Saturday.

A New York report says:—The third shipment of Dania fruit has arrived and fine off-stalk is selling to-day at 6c, selected at 7c. Prices for future delivery in about two weeks, 5½c for fine off-stalk and 6½c for selected. Currants are firm and show an advance in the primary market.

Live Stock Items.

P. McLean, who comes from the Falkland Islands, South America, has determined to commence business as a sheep rancher in Alberta, and for this purpose has bought 1,800 sheep from Frank White, of Mitford. Mr. McLean will take the sheep to the Namaka farm of the G. A. O. & Co., of which he has obtained a lease.

One thousand sheep and 100 fat cattle were shipped from Whitewood, Assa., on Monday, all for export, except one car of sheep for the Winnipeg market. The sheep belonged to Mr. Harkness, and Mons. de Quercizie, both of Moose Mountain. Among them was a carload of remarkably prime wethers belonging to Harkness.

The Calgary Herald says it is understood that one of the largest cattle deals which has taken place in Calgary has just been con-

summated. Mr. Symons acting for the estate of the late A. B. Few, having turned over some 1,800 head of cattle on the North Fork Ranch of Old Man's river, to W. R. Hull. The price has not been made public.

A London cable says: "If the cattle trade is to be kept on a good basis Canadian shippers will have to move carefully in the selecting of stock for shipment. Importers here hope most earnestly that the idea of an inspection of stock at the port of shipment will be carried out. This would, of course, prevent a lot of poor stock being sent over." It is no doubt quite true, as the London cable would indicate, that much poor stuff has been shipped from Canada this year. Both in the East and the West cattle have not been up to average quality this year, and consequently there has been a temptation to make up space with cattle which should never have been shipped. These cattle have to be slaughtered on arrival on the other side, regardless of their condition, and the prices realized are correspondingly low.

The Macleod Gazette complains that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has not been handling the cattle trade satisfactorily, considerable delays having been experienced in securing cars to ship cattle, after the cattle had been rounded up to ship. This causes loss to the ranchers, both in the condition of the cattle and the expense of holding them as range cattle lose in condition when closely herded.

British Columbia Business Review.

There were many changes in the wholesale markets last week. Business was reported good and collections fair. Great confidence in the future is inspired by the fact that many of the coast mines proper, comparatively speaking, close to Vancouver, are turning out well. The Channe Mining Company's claims at Philip's Arm are being effectually developed, this company has 18 claims in all, and a gang of men are engaged on the Ingersoll and Bobbie Burns groups which are the more fully developed of the claims. A recent shipment from the Bobbie Burns gave smelter returns of \$31.20 in gold to the ton. A new ledge 6 feet wide recently discovered on the Bobbie Burns and a splendid strike in the Ingersoll mine, advanced the stock from 10 cents, the market price two weeks, to 20 cents, at which price there is a good demand.

The property of the Philip's Arm Quartz Co. is also showing up remarkably well. In these claims the mass of ore is enormous, and the result of a number of shipments to the smelters indicate that the Company had a paying proposition from the start. In fact from all the sea board districts comes news of rich gold discoveries. Quartz of remarkable richness has been discovered on Taxada Island, 40 miles from Vancouver, running thousands of dollars to the ton. While from Pitt Lake, 14 miles distant, and Howe Sound, 5 miles distant, large bodies of splendid gold bearing ore have been found, while the Lillooet district, 200 or 300 miles from Vancouver, has produced in the Golden Cache group, Cayoose Creek, the richest free milling proposition on the American continent, according to many experts. A few months ago this stock was selling at 25 cents and is now held at \$1.25.

The wholesale market advanced considerably last week. American canned beef, pound cans, advanced to \$1.40. Butter and eggs are stronger, in fact the tendency seemed to be towards firmer prices all around.

A correspondent at Calgary says that several of the ranchmen shipped their season's wool clip east to agents to effect a sale. This plan is not satisfactory, however, and many have kept their wool intending to hold it over to next season.

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ANYBODY May do likewise.

EVERYBODY Cannot be convinced, but buyers who purchase goods on their merits write us before ordering elsewhere.

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Butter, Eggs, Cheese and Pork Products
FRESH EGGS WANTED.
Sole Agents for Vancouver, New Westminster and District for Litch Bros. Celebrated Oak Lake Manitoba Flour.

OSMUND SKRINE & CO.,

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DEALERS IN

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS,

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Our Specialty :

Consignments of Produce from Manitoba and Northwest Territories.

PROMPT RETURNS MADE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH. **TRY US**

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

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FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.

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

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P.O. BOX 836.

AGENTS Bridge St Works B.C. D Richards, Laundry Soaps Woodstock, Ontario; Telfer, Bothwell Co., Montreal, Parisian Washing Blue.
We have a large cool warehouse with good facilities for handling Butter and Produce in quantities.
Consignments Received in all Lines. Correspondence Solicited.

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A PERFECT SYSTEM OF

COLD STORAGE.

30 ABBOTT STREET, - VANCOUVER.
P.O. BOX NO. 286.

Quote prices on first quality cream butter or consign it to us and get top market prices.

SPRATT & MACAULAY,
Storage and Shipping Merchants,
General Commission Brokers,

Large warehouse on water front, advantageously situated for receiving and handling consignments.

———— FULL LINES OF ————

ENGLISH AND CUMBERLAND BLACKSMITH COALS.
GOVERNMENT STREET,
P O Box 803. **VICTORIA B.C**

Wm. Ferguson,
—WHOLESALE—
Wines, Liquors and Cigars
8th Street, Brandon,

The Confederation Life Association

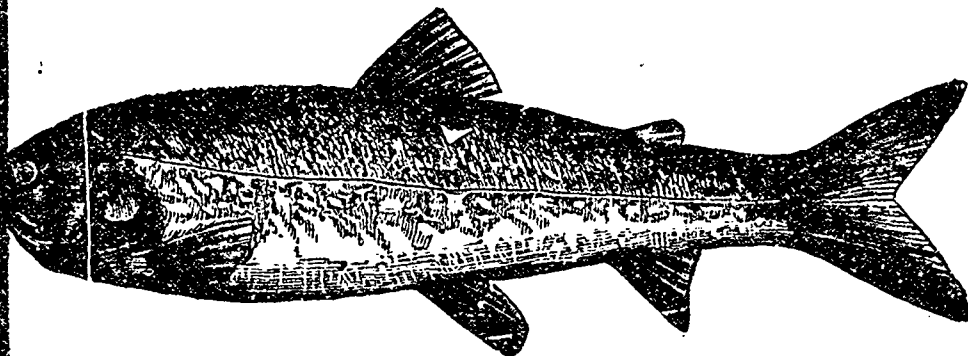


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Wholesale dealer in **FISH, GAME, POULTRY** etc.
We receive game for freezing on account of owner.



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No. 1 Hard Wheat,
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MANITOBA.

The National Matte Smelter.

A practical and simple method of matting sulphide ores, such as nickel, copper, gold and silver ores. In localities where lead ores and fuels are scarce and almost unattainable, our pyritic water jacketed matte smelter has been recognized with highly satisfactory results, and has been thoroughly tested on various pyritic, sulphide and arsenide ores in capacity of 2 to 80 tons per day. It is the most practical, cheapest and simplest method of gold and silver ore matting and concentrating that is known to-day.

It requires no extraordinary skill, no lead ores no fluxing material, and no fuel of any kind for the smelter after it is erected. The sulphur in the ore is its natural fuel only, and its cost has no comparison with any other process of concentrating.

We are prepared to furnish any size or capacity plant complete to substantial mining people, set it up and furnish our men to run it for them on easy payments. Prices and specifications furnished with references and testimonials on application.

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Manufacturers of Furnaces for
Nickel, Copper, Gold, Silver and Lead Ores

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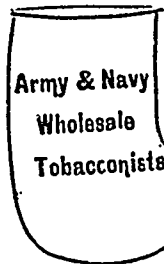
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Complete stock of Smokers' Sundries. **537 Main St., Winnipeg.**

**Bonds of Electric, Steam
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NOTE—Goods for full and Xmas trade now fully assorted. Send us your order or wait for traveler.

The Consolidated Stationery Co., Limited

41 PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Oct. 24, 1896, shows an increase of 2,477,000 bushels, against an increase of 4,287,000 for the corresponding week last year, an increase of 1,531,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and an increase of 2,349,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	85,581,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	46,907,000
Feb. 5...	85,376,000	79,863,000	81,333,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	76,669,000	79,038,000	41,656,000
April 1	74,803,000	71,469,000	77,354,000	41,036,000
May 6...	62,196,000	65,166,000	73,039,000	36,190,000
June 3...	52,229,000	59,394,000	71,030,000	27,910,000
July 1...	44,661,000	54,657,000	62,816,000	24,262,000
Aug 8...	38,617,000	60,001,000	59,424,000	26,079,000
Sept. 7	36,764,000	69,169,000	56,140,000	38,700,000
Oct. 7	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,276,000	61,256,000
Nov. 4...	52,990,000	80,047,000	71,396,000	61,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,903,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,630,000

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan 4	69,842,000	87,836,000	79,953,000	81,786,000
" 11	68,946,000	86,615,000	80,433,000	82,080,000
" 18	67,983,000	85,238,000	80,332,000	82,227,000
" 25	67,623,000	84,665,000	80,231,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1...	66,784,000	83,376,000	79,833,000	81,390,000
" 8	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,600,000	80,973,000
" 15	65,926,000	80,733,000	79,667,000	80,214,000
" 22	65,011,000	79,477,000	79,267,000	79,443,000
March 1	64,089,000	78,761,000	78,589,000	79,083,000
" 7	62,696,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	79,108,000
" 14	62,123,000	76,873,000	73,859,000	79,030,000
" 21	61,848,000	75,773,000	72,163,000	78,203,000
" 28	61,684,000	74,808,000	71,458,000	77,654,000
April 4...	60,422,000	72,708,000	70,762,000	77,293,000
" 11	59,330,000	70,457,000	69,217,000	76,096,000
" 18	58,483,000	68,626,000	68,425,000	74,869,000
" 25	57,916,000	66,776,000	66,633,000	73,627,000
May 2...	56,519,000	62,160,000	65,160,000	73,069,000
" 9	54,000,000	59,023,000	63,510,000	72,032,000
" 16	51,146,000	56,461,000	62,094,000	71,629,000
" 23	51,295,000	54,244,000	61,829,000	70,139,000
" 30	50,340,000	52,243,000	60,393,000	70,307,000
June 6...	50,147,000	49,739,000	59,211,000	69,802,000
" 13	49,456,000	47,717,000	57,105,000	69,375,000
" 20	48,910,000	46,225,000	55,824,000	68,091,000
" 27	47,860,000	44,561,000	54,057,000	67,310,000
July 4...	47,199,000	43,359,000	54,114,000	61,919,000
" 11	47,220,000	41,137,000	53,154,000	59,328,000
" 18	46,743,000	40,428,000	53,771,000	58,903,000
" 25	47,142,000	39,229,000	52,144,000	59,319,000
Aug. 1...	46,734,000	38,517,000	50,001,000	59,421,000
" 8	46,429,000	37,839,000	52,321,000	58,869,000
" 15	45,606,000	36,892,000	53,001,000	57,812,000
" 22	45,169,000	35,083,000	54,771,000	57,240,000
" 29	45,574,000	34,433,000	56,949,000	56,631,000
Sept. 5...	46,495,000	33,755,000	59,139,000	56,140,000
" 12	47,002,000	33,002,000	59,214,000	57,331,000
" 19	49,655,000	33,333,000	70,759,000	58,693,000
" 26	48,716,000	40,768,000	71,415,000	60,628,000
Oct. 3...	50,116,000	41,832,000	73,040,000	63,275,000
" 10	54,434,000	44,431,000	75,74,000	65,239,000
" 17	54,808,000	46,189,000	70,059,000	60,978,000
" 24	57,586,000	60,486,000	78,100,000	69,327,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on October 17 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal	567,000
Toronto	237,000
Kingston	40,000
Winnipeg	235,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,875,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	1,702,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on October 17, 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	71,826,000
Pacific Coast.....	5,451,000
Total stocks a year ago were	bushels
East of the Mountains.....	66,665,000
Pacific Coast.....	9,760,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Oct. 21, shows an increase of 4,011,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 75,337,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks of breadstuffs on Oct. 1, 1896. (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 151,272,000 bushels, as compared with 176,637,000 bushels on Oct. 1, 1895.

Reports About Dried Fruits.

Advices with regard to dried fruit continue strong, and in support of higher values. Mail advices from California on raisins state that while about half of the crop was in, and that while in some districts the output is about 75 per cent, of that of last year, in others it does not exceed 50 per cent. A fair average throughout would be about 60 per cent. of last season.

Other advices from San Francisco confirm previous reports of the scarcity of 30s and 40s prunes, the latter, it is stated, commanding a premium of a half to three-quarters of a cent. The great bulk of the crop for the Santa Clara Valley, the writer says, will average 50s. There is a scarcity of 80-90s there. In the San Joaquin Valley the crop will average about 4 sizes, with very few 50s and no 40s.

The advices from Smyrna point to a very small crop of figs according to a circular issued by the Huls Bros. Company, and latest estimates vary from 20,000 to 22,500 tons, against 33,000 tons in 1895. The market in Smyrna is higher, caused by an unusually large demand from the Continent, influenced in part by the failure of the crop of Elemen. England is very bare of goods, the stock in that market on the first of October being only some 1,100 tons, against 2,800 tons for the same period of 1895.

It is reported that the crop of Malaga raisins is somewhat larger than was anticipated in view of earlier reports. In fact, it is

said to be the best harvested for a number of years past, and there seems to be no expectation that prices will go above present quotations for some time to come. The quality and condition is said to be fine.

California Dried Fruit.

According to the New York Commercial Bulletin in California raising the feeling among holders on the coast is very strong, and prices have shown a steady advance for some time past. To-day 4 1/2c, f.o.b. California for three-crowns, is an inside quotation, some holders declining to entertain bids of less than 4 1/2c. Two crowns, which are relatively in good supply, have heretofore attracted little attention, and the prices named are somewhat nominal. The supply of four crowns is said to be unusually light this year, and bids of 5c, f.o.b. California shipping ports, have been turned down. One of the features of the raisin market is the increased demand from Germany. According to telegraphic advices from the coast a considerable quantity has been sold for shipment to that country within the past few days. Germany has heretofore preferred Valencia raisins, though buying some California fruit, but the reported short crop of the Valencias, coupled with the high rate of duty exacted by the German government has, it is said, induced buyers to turn their attention to other sources of supply, the most available and satisfactory being California. It is not known how much has been sold for German account, but rumors are current that during the past week large quantities have been purchased for shipment to Germany. The crop of California raisins is said to be one of the shortest that has been harvested since the product of the Pacific coast vines first became a factor in the market. This year's output it is understood will not exceed 60 per cent. of the crop of 1895, which was not a large one.

A San Francisco letter, dated October 12, says of apricots: "We think a conservative estimate of the stock to-day in the state is about 75 cars, principally in second hands, the vast bulk of the goods having passed out of the control of the growers. With this very light stock we have no doubt that values will be sustained if not further advanced." Concerning peaches the same writer says: "About 60 per cent. of the crop has been moved. There are something like 200 cars left. Strictly choice to fancy are very scarce and difficult to obtain at any price."

There was a stronger feeling in the egg market for new laid stock at Montreal, on October 23, and prices advanced 1c to 2c per dozen, with sales at 18 to 20c per dozen. Choice candled were firmly held at 18 1/2 to 19c.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

The most important change was a drop of 10 on hides, wheat was a little lower.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—About 41c to 48c for No. 1 hard, country points, to farmers, and 58 to 59c afloat Fort William.

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

Bran.—Per ton, \$10.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$12.

Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, new, local freights paid, 16 to 18c.

Barley—A few loads sold at 20c to 22c.

Flax Seed.—95 to 70c to farmers at country points.

Butter.—Dairy round lots 10c to 15c Creamery, 17 to 18c.

Cheese.—6 to 7½c.

Eggs.—Fresh, 17 to 18c.

Beef.—City dressed, 4 to 4½c.

Mutton.—Fresh, 5½ to 6½c; lamb, 5½ to 7c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 6c.

Cattle.—Butchers' 2 to 2½c. Export 2½ to 3c.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4½c.

Sheep.—Sheep and lambs 2½ to 3c off cars.

Sonoca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.

Poultry—Chickens, 7 to 9c lb; turkeys, 10 to 12c, ducks and geese, 10c.

Hides.—No. 1 cows, green salted weak at 5c.

Wool.—Unwashed fleeces, 10 to 12c.

Potatoes.—15c per bushel.

Hay.—\$5.50 to \$3 per ton, car lots.

Dairy Trade Notes

The Montreal Gazette of October 21 says: "Cheese continues quiet and in the main unchanged, but circumstances were not wanting to-day, indicating less buoyancy. It will be noted, that at Peterboro for instance, 6,000 boxes of fall cheese were closed out at 10 8/10c. This is a decline of 3 1/2c per pound from what factorymen realized a fortnight ago, at the same market, and then they were reluctant sellers at 10 3/4c. West of Toronto also it is reported that half the make has been closed out lately by factorymen at 10c to 10 1/2c, who a fortnight ago were holding for 10 3/4c to 10 5/8c. These circumstances, however, are healthful on the whole, and as they materially reduce the quantity in first hands, in a sense strengthen the position. In addition to these transfers of stock from factorymen's hands, the Allan Grove combination which comprises 15,000 boxes of cheese from the extreme Eastern Ontario districts, and the border counties in Quebec, south of the river, have sold, it is said, on the basis of 10 1/2c Montreal.

J. Bousfield, who operates two creameries in Manitoba, at Hamiota and Norfolk, will make the experiment of trying winter dairying, providing he can secure sufficient material to work with.

At Montreal on October 20, Quebec cheese sold 3/4 to 1/2c lower, at 9 3/4 to 9 7/8c. Butter was held at 20c for finest creamery, with 19 1/2c bid.

Hides, Wool, Etc.

The Montreal Gazette of October 23 says: "The advance in prices noted a week ago has been maintained, and it is stated that the opposition buying on account of tanners still continues. The receipts are liberal, for which dealers are buying 7c for No. 1, 6c for No. 2 and 5c for No. 3."

The Toronto Globe of October 23 says: "There is a good demand for hides for home use and also for export to the United States. A number of hides have been shipped across the line, and it has had the effect of pretty well cleaning up the market here. Green are quoted at 6 1/2c and cars of cured at 7, and 7 1/2c.

Sheepskins are quoted at 60c and country skins at 45c. There have been some shipments of tallow to the United States and that has improved the market and prices are higher. Dealers are paying 8 1/2c."

Bradstreet's says of the United States wool markets: "The market shows increased strength and a fair amount is being taken, while if holders would make slight concessions from full rates the business done would be largely increased. The scoured basis of fine and fine medium territory wools is now quoted at 80c, while choice staple lots would command 82c. Many holders will not sell at these prices. Fleeces are quiet, but choice washed combings are held to higher.

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Montreal manufacturers of wool and clothing have agreed to shorten credits one month on sales for spring and fall delivery, 1897.

J. D. Ivey & Co., wholesale millinery, Toronto, have arranged a settlement in London, England, with their creditors at 8 shillings on the pound.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "One grand feature of the present time is the absence of large lots of goods, which were formerly thrown upon the market at this season of the year at ruinous prices, is now a thing of the past."

A Montreal report says: "The rumored advance in prices of cotton goods is not without foundation, and an advance price list on lines of grey cotton may be looked for in the near future. Prices of a year ago compared with those of the present time on all classes of United States goods show a considerable advance, and commission merchants and mill representatives state positively that higher prices will be the order of the day."

Financial and Insurance Notes.

J. Simon, acting manager of the Tacoma branch of the Bank of British Columbia, has received cable instructions from London to withdraw branches of the bank in that city and Seattle and immediately wind up business on Puget Sound.

The Hardware and Paint Trade.

The serious reports of drought in India have added increasing firmness to the linseed oil market, and the feeling is decidedly in favor of higher prices. India is a considerable exporter of flax seed.

Turpentine still maintains its firm tone, and was quoted 1c higher at Montreal on October 23.

Lead products generally are higher in England.

Under the influence of bull speculations in the iron market at Glasgow on October 23, Scotch iron went up to 18s 3/4d cash, Cleveland to 40s, and Hematite to 49s 4/4d.

British Columbia Items

Five more canneries are being built in the city limits of New Westminster, and as many more will be in operation throughout the province next season, making a possible total of 45 canneries.

As a result of the extreme anti-Chinese feeling it is said that probably Vancouver has lost the establishment in that city of the Automatic Can Company. The company is a wealthy one and had practically decided to locate at Vancouver when the finance committee of the city council notified them that they must not employ Chinese should their request for ten years tax exemption be granted. The company refused to be restricted and may go to Westminster.

H. Shorey & Co.

WHOLESALE CLOTHERS,

MONTREAL.

All the material used in the manufacture of our clothing has been thoroughly sponged and shrunk

Our workmanship is fully guaranteed, and a printed guarantee given with each garment.

Our goods are known to your customers and will be asked for.

For the coming season all of our Bicycle Suits & Spring Overcoats will be Rigby-Proofed, and no extra charge made for same

Notice to Loan Companies

Take notice that Rhineland Municipality will arrange a tax sale for next December, if arrears are not paid until first November. Save costs.

WM. REMPEL, Clerk

Gretna, October 7th, 1896

S. A. D. BERTRAND,

OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE

For the province of Manitoba, under the recommendation of the Board of Trade of the city of Winnipeg. Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.

Special attention to Confidential Business Enquiries.

Corner 2nd Avenue and 2nd St. North,

WINNIPEG MAN.



DO YOU HANDLE

OYSTERS

I am receiving, now regularly OYSTERS, HADDIES AND BLOATERS

APPLES—A car composed largely of SNOW APPLES to arrive this week.

PRICES RIGHT ON ALL LINES.

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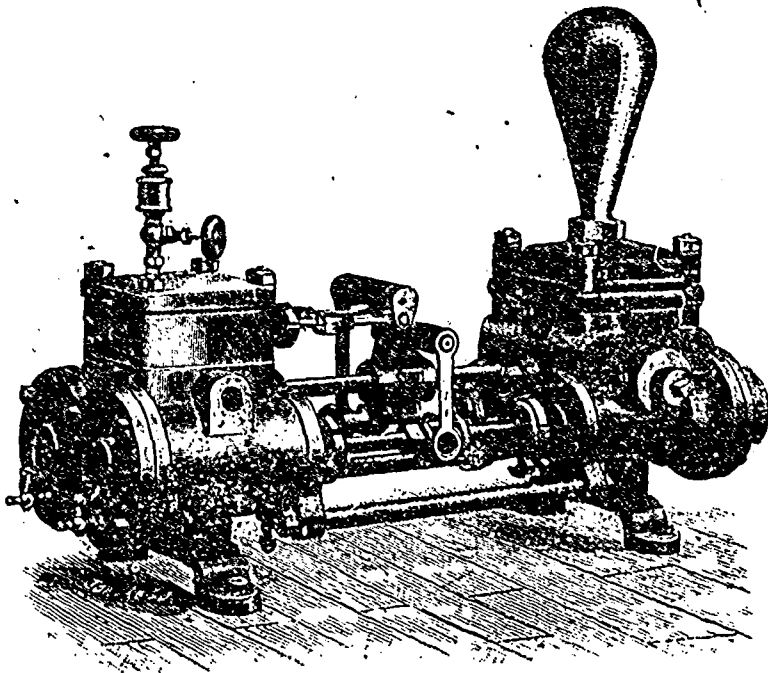
J. J. PHILP,

P.O. Box 588.

WINNIPEG

DUPLEX STEAM PUMP

All sizes at very lowest prices. Every pump guaranteed. Ask for circular and prices. State services required.



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Branches, MONTREAL, BRANTFORD and LONDON.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN ENGINES AND BOILERS, Iron and Woodworking machinery, Saw Mill machinery, Shingle Mills, Electric Dynamos and Motors, Contractors machinery, Mining Machinery and Mill Supplies etc.

Special Canadian agents for Sturtevant's Dry Kilns and Blowers. Barnes foot and hand power machinery

Representative for Manitoba and N. W. Territories. **ROBERT DOUGLAS,** 95 ALEXANDER AVE. WINNIPEG.

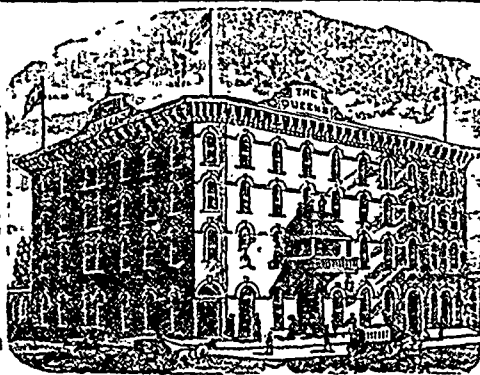
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THE OLD RELIABLE HOTEL OF MANITOBA
FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT
MOST CENTRAL LOCATION IN WINNIPEG

RATES: \$1.00 A DAY and UPWARDS

JAS D NAISMITH, Proprietor.
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Cor of Portage Avenue and Main Street, WINNIPEG



The Largest Factory of its kind
in the Dominion.

LION "L" BRAND

PURE VINEGARS.

Manufactured solely under the supervision
of the Inland Revenue Department.

Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies

AND PRESERVES,

Prepared by

MICHEL LEFEBVRE & Co.,
MONTREAL.

Established 1849. Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals.
20 1st Prizes.



LYMAN BROS. & CO.

WHOLESALE

DRUGS AND MEDICINES

Every requisite for the Drug Trade
promptly supplied.

TORONTO, ONT.

JOHN L. CASSIDY & COMPANY,

—IMPORTERS OF—

China, Crockery and Glassware,

Offices and Sample Rooms:

339 and 341 St. Paul Street, MONTREAL

Branches { 62 Princess St., Winnipeg, Man
Government St., Victoria, B.

For Sale and Rent

A couple of unimproved farms in the Winnipeg district for sale. Might arrange to take suitable live stock in exchange or part payment. Also Farm to rent, with possession of buildings at once. Address:

D. W. Buchanan Commercial Office,
Winnipeg.

W. R. Johnston & Co.

(Late Livingston, Johnston & Co.)

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

OF READY MADE

CLOTHING.

Cor. BAY & FRONT STS, TORONTO.

Samples at McIntyre } REPRESENTATIVES.
Block, Winnipeg } A. W. Lasher W. W. Armstrong.

McIntyre Son & Co

MONTREAL,

Importers and Manufacturers Agents.

Specialties

- * DRESS GOODS
- * LINEN
- * LACES
- * VELVETS
- * KID GLOVES
- * SMALLWARES

Etc. Etc.

Fall Samples now Complete. Hold Orders.

J. M. Macdonald, Agent for Manitoba,
N.W.T. and British Columbia.

McINTYRE BLOCK, WINNIPEG.

Dried Fruits.

As a rule importers of dried fruit have been rather indifferent to the firm news from all primary markets on staple lines, such as Valencia and California raisins, French, Austrian and California prunes and currants. From time to time since the season opened increasing strength was reported, and buyers as persistently ignored it. The rise has become so pronounced, especially within the past week or so, that they had a violent awakening. Valencia raisins are a notable example. It is estimated that their aggregate appreciation since the opening is fully 40 per cent. As a result demand from importers here for them was so strong this week that though the Avlona landed 41,000 boxes, there is hardly any stock left in first hands. Admission men state that they never remember such a quick turn-over. Since they cut also they have cabled large offers but received no replies yet. At this writing the market is very firm in Dania. Cables were submitted to-day offering 14s, 16s, 19s, and 21s for the four different grades, but agents fully expect to have these offers refused. On the basis of latest offers good off-stalk could not be had under 4½c. fine 4½c, and layers 6c, but as already stated it is likely that to repeat orders importers will have to pay an advance on these prices.

California raisins are anything stronger than Valencias. Buyers were not urgent in regard to these either, opinions being conflicting in regard to the volume of the output. Within the past few days advices came to hand stating that it would be 1,500 car loads short of what of last year. When this news was followed by a sharp advance of fully 2c at New York and Chicago, our own market had to follow suit and values were marked up all round.

The initial influence in causing the advance was the sudden demand for fruit originated from buyers at St. Louis and Chicago, who had held off all along. When they commenced they went at it with a rush, and prices on the coast promptly went up, until now they stand fully 2c per pound above the opening figure of the season. On the basis of recent offers, it would cost laid down here 5½c to 6s for 2-crown, 6½ to 7c for 3-crown, and 7½ to 8c for 4-crown. Whether they will go higher is uncertain. It will be remarked that 3-crown now costs more than Valencia layers, and this fact, unless the latter also advanced, is apt to swing the demand to the Spanish stock. The first shipments of new 2 and 3 crown California were distributed among jobbers here this week. They are of the G. & S. brand, and show first-class quality.

Prunes continue firm, cables on both French and Austrian to-day being higher. The former have advanced fully 2s from the opening and the latter 9d to 1c. We quote French at 5c to 6c, and Austrian 6c to 6½c. No new California prunes have been offered yet.

Agents have been advised to demand advances on evaporated California apricots, which cannot now be laid down under 12½ to 15c as to grade. Evaporated peaches have gone up fully 2c on the opening, and would now cost 9c to import.

Currants are very firmly held also at 3½ to 3¾c in barrels' 4 to 4½c in half barrels, and 4½ to 4¾c in cases.—Montreal Gazette.

Montreal Grocery Market

The feature of the sugar market has been the weakness in the raw article, and prices broke early in the week 4½d to 5½d for October, which was due to the crop of best being estimated at 4,960,000 tons. These figures were considerably larger than was generally expected, and, in consequence, had depressing effect upon values at the time,

but since a firmer feeling has prevailed and prices have fully recovered, private cables to-day quoting best at 9s 1½ for October and November. The impression both here and in New York is that the best crop is largely over estimated. The local market for refined sugar is easier in tone, but refiners show no disposition to shade prices for round lots of granulated. The demand for the season is fair, which will likely continue until the close of navigation. Granulated in round lots has sold at 13 16c, and in small lots at 8½, which yellows have changed hands at 2½ to 3½c as to quality, at the factory.

There was no material change in the situation of the syrup market, business being quiet and prices unchanged at 1½ to 2½c per lb. as to quality, at the factory.

The demand for molasses has been of a limited character, and the market on the whole has ruled quiet with no new features to note. The feeling is about steady, and small lots of Barbadoes have sold at 27½, and Porto Rico at 28c.

There was no change in the rice market. The demand for the season is fair, and prices are maintained. We quote:—Crystal Japan, \$1 75 to \$ standard B. \$3.45; Patna, \$1 25 to \$5, Carolina, \$6 50 to \$7.50; choice Bermuda, \$3.75, and Java kinds, \$4.

The demand for spices is improving, and the market is more active, with a larger volume of business doing at steady prices. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only —Penang black pepper, 6c to 7½c white pepper 10c to 12½c; cloves, 7½c to 9c; cassia, 8½c to 9½c; nutmegs, 60c to 90c, and Jamaica ginger, 15½c to 18½c.

The coffee market continues to rule quiet, the demand being principally for small lots and prices show no important change. We quote:—Maracaibo at 16c to 17c; Rio, 15c to 16c; Java, 21c to 24c, and Mocha, 21c to 25c.

Since our last there has been considerable business done in teas and the market rules active and firm with an upward tendency. A lot of 100 packages of Japan was sold to day at an advance of 1c per lb. over what was offered for it last week, and another round lot of low grade Japan was placed for shipment at an advance of 1½c. The best offer that could be obtained for this lot last week was 10c per lb. Some large sales of Young Hyson have been made for English account at 9c. A sale of 500 packages of new crop Japan at 15c to 16c, and several hundred boxes of Pak-Lung at prices ranging from 10c to 16c.—Gazette, October, 23.

Oatmeal Higher.

The Montreal Gazette says; "There has been a decidedly strong feeling in the oatmeal market of late and a sharp advance in prices has taken place at the different points of shipment, that is to say, the millers are now asking equivalent to \$3.40 per barrel and \$1.65 per bag for rolled oats delivered here in car lots, but it is doubtful if any sales have transpired in this market at the above figures."

The Territorial Legislature is taking action to impress upon the Dominion government the importance of the early construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway.

Nearly the whole of the season's lumber out of the Ottawa mills amounting to 100,000,000 feet, has been bought by English dealers.

Canadian Pacific traffic accounts for the nine months ending September 30th, 1896, are as follows: Gross earnings \$14,669,892; work'g expenses \$9,253,031; net profits \$5,386,861. For the nine months ending September 30th, 1895, there was a net profit of \$4,448,773. The gain in net profits over the same period last year is therefore for September, \$18,783, and from January 1 to September 30, \$892,597.

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