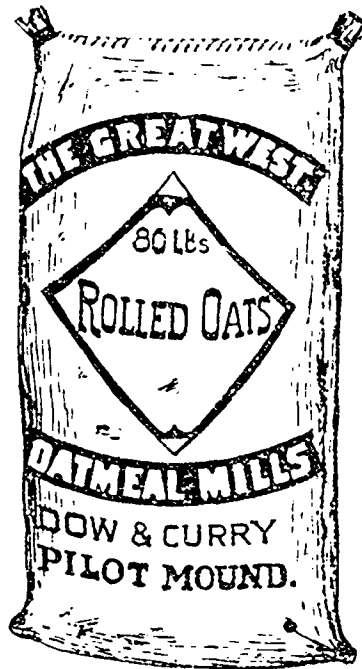
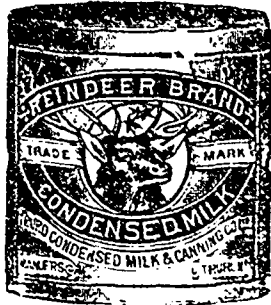


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The Commercial

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

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

WINNIPEG, MARCH 30, 1896.

Manitoba.

Birtle municipal council has passed a resolution to abolish statute labor.

Hart & Hindley, machinists, Glenboro, are adding general blacksmithing to their business.

Jas. Hopkins & Son, general merchants, Hartney, have sold out to H. C. Hamelin, late of Laurier.

Merrick, Anderson & Co. have been appointed agents for the Remington bicycle for Manitoba.

Montgomery's livery and feed stables, at Virden, were totally destroyed by fire on March 24. Evidently the fire was incendiary.

The Rat Portage Fish Company have purchased the Reid Fish company's plant and fishing rights in the Canadian portion of the Lake of the Woods.

The partnership existing between the firm of Ferras & Dargnault, general merchants, St. Felix, Man., has been dissolved. J. H. Dargnault will continue the business.

Two new steamboats are being built at Phillips' shipyard, Selkirk, says the Record, one for Messrs. Short, and the other for the Reed Fish Company.

The Riddell Manufacturing Co. have decided to add bread baking to their wholesale biscuit and confectionery business. They do not propose catering to the consumers in this department, but will sell wholesale only, the same as in their other branches, to grocers, bakers, or other dealers in this line.

Fire broke out at Souris, on March 22, and totally destroyed T. H. Patrick's building. In the building were the Plaindealer newspaper plant and office; Goshier & Co., private bankers, Patrick's office, hall and rooms. Patrick's loss is about \$3,000, insured in the Union for \$1,500, Dickey & Barclay's loss is about \$1,200, insurance \$600 in the Royal; Goshier & Co., office fittings, \$100, no insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Another new wholesale house will be opened in Winnipeg on April 1, by two gentlemen who have long been well known in business circles here. The line will be wholesale fruits and commission, and the firm will be composed of A. Bright and K. J. Johnson. Premises have been secured in the Henderson block, at No. 140 Princess street, which is a very central and desirable location for such a

business. Mr. Bright has been fourteen years in the retail grocery trade in Winnipeg and Mr. Johnston has for many years acted as city traveller for local wholesale houses, having been most recently connected with the firm of McKenzie, Powis & Co. The Commercial has no hesitation in recommending these gentlemen both to shippers and dealers, as men of integrity and business ability. The style of the firm will be Bright & Johnson.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

Grain.—The further enquiry reported for Manitoba wheat on Saturday resulted in some business on Monday, a sale of 10,000 bushels No. 1 hard being made at a price which is understood to be ½c under previous sale of 30,000 bushels made here on Saturday at 6½c above Fort William for May delivery. It was also reported that New York holders of Manitoba wheat bought for May, were selling and replacing the same grade in other markets at about 9c less money. There was no change in oats. The demand was limited and few sales were made. A car of No. 2 Manitoba oats sold Saturday at 29½c in store. Prices were: Peas, per 60 lb, 58 to 59c; No. 2 oats, per 31 lbs, 29c; corn, duty paid, 45 to 47c; barley, feed, 38 to 39c; barley, malting, 52 to 54c.

Flour.—The flour market was quiet and without any new feature of note. The demand was slow, and trade principally of a jobbing character. Winter wheat \$1 35 to \$1.40; spring wheat patents, \$1.25; straight roller, \$1 to \$1.10, straight roller, bags, \$1.95 to \$2, extra bags, \$1.75 to \$1.85; Manitoba strong bakers' \$1.

Oatmeal.—There was no improvement in the demand for oatmeal and the market continues to rule quiet and about steady. Standard, brs. \$3 to \$3.10; granulated, brs. \$3.10 to \$3.20; rolled oats, brs. \$2.90 to \$3; rolled wheat, per 100 lbs, \$2.40 to \$2.50.

Feed.—A fairly active trade was reported in feed, the demand being fair at quotations. Bran \$14 to \$15; shorts \$15 to \$16.

Hay.—Market dull at the decline. We quote at \$13, and No. 2 at \$12 in car lots on track. Late mail advices from New York say: The farmers of the country are appealing to Congress for an increased duty on hay. The reason of this is the enormous increase in the importations of hay, mostly from Canada.

Cured Meats.—Business quiet of a jobbing character, Canadian short cut, clear \$13.50 to \$14; Canadian short cut, mess, \$14 to \$14.50; hams, city cured, per lb 7½ to 9½c; lard, Canadian, in pails 8c, bacon, per lb 9 to 10c; lard, compound refined, per lb 6½c.

Cheese.—Cheese does not show any pronounced change, but holders refuse to let go finest at 2½c. In fact, it is not improbable that more has been made for finest fall makes, as a result of the enquiry noted towards the close of last week. 8½c represents holders' inside views. White goods are still at a premium over colored. The cheese cable came at 42s.

Butter.—The market is quiet and steady. Creamery meets a steady jobbing enquiry, sufficient to keep prices at the old range of 21 to 22c, while Townships dairy, when choice, easily finds buyers at 18 to 19c.

Eggs.—The receipts of fresh stock are liberal, but stocks are not accumulating owing to the fact that the market is almost bare of limed stock. We quote:—Fresh 11½c to 13½c; Montreal limed, 10c to 11c; Western limed, 9½c to 10c per dozen.

Hides.—The anticipated decline in hides did not take place. The receipts have been large, for which the demand is of a limited character, owing to the fact that tanners have ample supplies on hand for the

present.—We quote:—No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c, and No. 3, 4c. Lambskins 30 to 30c for choice large skins, general figure, 70c to 75c each, calfskins, No. 1, 7c and No. 2 at 5c.

Beans.—Car lots at \$1 to \$1.05, and small quantities, \$1.10 to \$1.20.

Potatoes.—Sales principally in small lots to fill actual wants. We quote:—Car lots, on track, 30c to 32c per bag, and in small quantities, 35 to 40c.—Gazette, March 25.

Lake Winnipeg Basin.

J. B. Tyrrell, of the Dominion geological department, who has been engaged in continuing the surveys on the east side of Lake Winnipeg from Dog Head to the Narrows, and into the adjoining portion of Keewatin, says that the indications of minerals met with were not very promising, but he came across extensive tracks of fertile land, the existence of which is known but to few people. "The region is not a wilderness as generally supposed," said Mr. Tyrrell. There are stretches of rich lands stretching back in some places, fully fully 100 miles from the lake. It is mixed bush and prairie land, and is equal in fertility to anything to be found between Winnipeg and Edmonton. Pea vines, grasses, etc., grow luxuriantly, and we saw no indications of frost until the middle of September. The top soil, a rich vegetable mould, is from two to three feet deep, on an underlying stratum of clay. The district is part of the bed of the ancient lake, which at one time covered Manitoba, and the earth deposits there are the same as elsewhere in the province. A great fire swept over the country seven or eight years ago, destroying extensive areas of valuable timber; now there are but a few comparatively small patches left."

Hides, Furs, Etc.

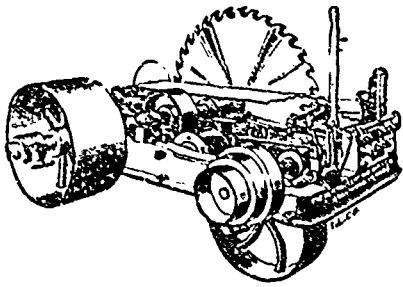
The Minneapolis Commercial Bulletin says: "Hides are weak, with a tendency downward. The hides now coming in are of a poorer quality than those of the earlier winter. This is due to natural causes, the hair: fur, or wool of the hide growing thicker and the skin growing thinner as the winter advances. Owing to the inflated prices of hides last season, there were twice as many men in the field buying hides and twice as many dealers in them as the market needed, so that it is now necessary that a good many go out of the business. Pelts and wool are very dull and prices can hardly be lower than they are now. Tallow is weak and the trade quiet. The American trade in furs has sunken to a very low ebb, the demand being very light. The furs used principally are of cheap dog and calf that are brought principally from Europe."

Our Annual.

The special number of The Commercial, issued in February of each year, is now ready for distribution. Every regular subscriber of The Commercial has been sent one free copy. Extra copies can be had for twenty-five cents each. New subscribers sending in their subscriptions now for one year in advance, will be given a free copy of the Annual. No better advertisement for this country could be procured to send to friends abroad than this special number of The Commercial. No similar publication ever issued here, we believe, contained such a fund of reliable information about this special number.

A census of Manitoba will be taken this year by the Dominion government.

T. J. McBride, late manager at Winnipeg for the Massey-Harris Company, has been appointed assistant general manager of the company's business, and is now located at the head office of the company in Toronto.

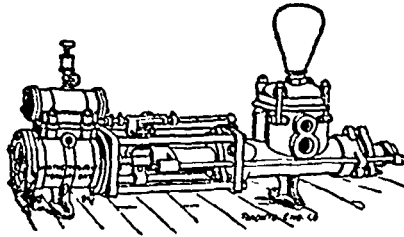


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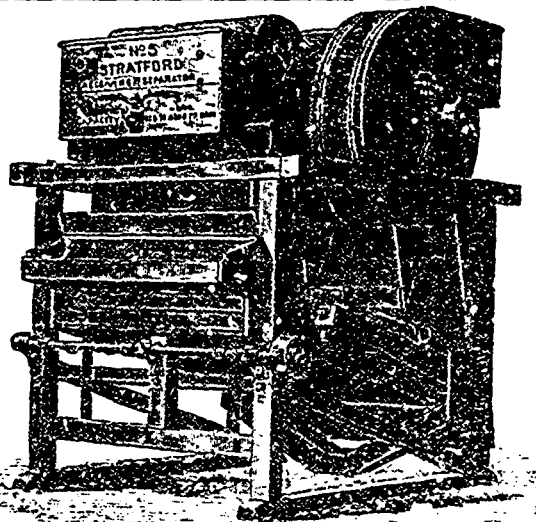
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MARCH 30, 1896.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRAIRIE FIRES

It will be remembered that last fall a great loss was occasioned throughout Manitoba by the destruction of property by prairie fires. A great many farmers lost portions of their grain and fodder crops, which were then standing in stacks all over the country. In some cases farmers lost their entire crops, and even buildings were destroyed in several instances. It was recognized at the time that many of these fires were caused by carelessness and neglect. Several of the most destructive fires were traced to the custom prevalent in Manitoba of burning the piles of straw after threshing.

While the law against starting fires is quite strong, there is often great difficulty in tracing up cases to their proper source. There has also been a disinclination in the past to take proceedings against parties supposed to have been responsible for the starting of prairie fires. The big crop of prairie fires last fall, however, has given rise to several interesting suits for damages, which should serve as a warning, in the future, for those who have been inclined to be careless about starting fires. It may be well to mention a few particulars concerning one or two of these law suits, with the object of showing the liability with which parties who start fires are involved.

In the case of McLean vs. Rickie, action was brought before Judge Locke, at Morden, Man., to recover damages for destruction of four stacks of wheat by fire, which, it was alleged, was started by defendant on his land, for the purpose of burning a pile of straw, which fire was carried thence to plaintiff's property. The defence was that the fire was the result of cinders left by threshers on the ground, and that if the fire was set by defendant there was no negligence either in the setting or in the keeping. The fire to burn the straw was set on Sept. 24 and it was raining at the time. He did not examine the fire afterwards, and a wind coming up the following day started a prairie fire from the smouldering pile. The county court judge in delivering judgment stated he had no doubt at all but that it was easily possible for defendant even after firing his straw, if taken in proper time, to have prevented its spreading. In this case a storm of wind arose on September 25, and the judge was of opinion that without wind the fire would not have spread on that date, but defendant should have provided for such a contingency. If negligence was an essential the peculiar circumstances of the case must be looked at, and the evidence in this case of the surroundings, the dryness of the season, that defendant was in a thick settlement, that there was an enormous number of grain stacks on the neighboring farms, that there was little fall ploughing, all tended to show that defendant was negligent in the conduct of the fire, inasmuch as he set out the fire without fireguards of any kind and did not attempt to guard it until it was too late. The county court judge

held that where a fire is set out for the purpose of burning refuse straw, that the party doing so assumes responsibility for all damage that results therefrom, and he assessed the loss at \$186.68.

From this decision the defendant appealed to a judge of the Queen's Bench and the case came up in Winnipeg, before chief justice Taylor. His Lordship dismissed the appeal with costs on the ground that defendant was guilty of negligence, holding that setting fire to such a quantity of straw as the produce of thirty acres would be, in a dry and windy season without ploughing any fire break, leaving no one to watch it, not going to examine the place next morning when the wind was rising, doing nothing until the fire broke away was such negligence as fully to justify the finding of the county court judge that the defendant was negligent in the setting out and keeping of the fire.

In another case, that of Booth vs. Moffat, a farmer started a fire to burn some grass, and after watching it a while, went away thinking it was out. A wind came up and carried the fire to plaintiff's farm, burning his house. This case came before Justice Bain at Winnipeg, on appeal from the county court of Carberry. The justice held that there was ample evidence of negligence to warrant a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. It might be that the fire was originally set out for the necessary purpose of husbandry, and that in setting it out as and when he did the defendant was not guilty of negligence, but in his subsequent conduct he was negligent. The defendant was guilty of negligence in going away and leaving the fire still smoking with fire smouldering in small parcels of manure, especially at a time when there was a fresh if not a high wind blowing, and when although the ground just at the fire may have been wet the surrounding country may have been dry, no rain having fallen for several weeks. There could be no doubt the second fire which caused the damage complained of, had its origin from the first one which defendant left smouldering in a negligent manner. A verdict was given for plaintiff for \$250 and costs.

These and other convictions obtained for fires started last fall, will have the effect of inducing more frequent prosecutions in the future, in case of the destruction of property from prairie fires. The result of these legal contests should be made known widely throughout the country, in order that it may have full effect, and be made known where it will do the most good.

THE GREAT WEST LIFE.

With pleasure The Commercial calls attention to the very full report of the Great West Life Assurance Company, which appears in this number. It is a matter of great satisfaction to all those who favored the establishment of a life company with headquarters in Winnipeg, that the Great West Life has already made such a splendid record. The company has been most successful from its very inception and is now we may say firmly established on a sure and sound basis. All this reflects credit upon the management, and shows that the affairs of the company have been conducted with energy and ability.

The report now presented covers the third full calendar year of the company, and shows that 1,195 applications for \$2,101,700 of insurance were received during the year. Insurance in force at the close of the year was \$5,071,150, a gain of \$892,100 over the previous year. The sum of \$22,769, was paid in death claims, and no claims were unsettled at the end of the year, which is a good evidence in itself of prompt payment of claims by this company. The funds of the company are all invested in the West, at an average rate of interest of 7.05 per cent., and the interest has been so well met that only about \$16 was unpaid at the end of the year. This shows how carefully the investments of the company have been made.

The company is now doing business all over Canada, and the position now attained by the Great West Life is fully equal to the position of other leading Canadian companies after ten or fifteen years' experience.

With improving business prospects throughout the West, it is quite certain that this home company will vastly increase its business and its resources during the current year. In fact, we are informed that the business of the company for the current year, to date, shows an increase of 48 per cent. over the like portion of last year. Of course, the higher rate of interest obtained here is a great advantage in favor of the home company, as all its interests are in the West. This gives the company a surplus of 3 per cent. as compared with a surplus of 1 per cent. received by Eastern companies. This will enable the Great West Life to pay larger profits to policy-holders, from surplus earnings. That great care has been exercised in selecting risks, thereby guaranteeing better profits to the policy-holders, is shown by the fact that only three deaths occurred last year. Mr. J. H. Brock, managing director of the company, and his assistants generally, are to be congratulated on the splendid showing they have made in gaining so soon such an enviable reputation for the Great West Life.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It might be interesting, in view of the reports about snow blockades in the East, to call attention to the fact that the railways in Western Canada have suffered no delays during the past winter from storms. There has not been even a trifling snow blockade in Manitoba during the winter. On the other hand, several bad blockades have occurred down East, the last one taking place as late in the season as March 20. This storm appears to have been a very severe one, and trains in some cases were blocked up for several days. Contrast this with Manitoba, which has not had a snow blockade worth mentioning for a number of years.

* * *

THE Bank of British Columbia has been passing through experiences which most banks are liable to meet with in a new country. The bank has had heavy losses during the past year or two, and has been obliged to write off a large sum for bad debts. The Winnipeg banks had the same experience after the "boom" period. It is well to note here that a large portion of the losses of the Bank of British Columbia were made

in the Pacific coast cities of the United States, where the bank had large investments. The Pacific coast on both sides of the boundary has suffered considerably from business depression during recent years, but matters are now on the mend. There is every reason to believe that business there is now on a more solid basis than formerly, and the prospects for the current year are much better than they have been for several past years.

WHEN the bill to aid a company to build a railway into the Lake Dauphin country was under consideration in the Manitoba Legislature, The Commercial commented mildly, but adversely to the bill, on one or two occasions. As the bill was passed, it is now within the power of the Manitoba government to grant the aid specified, to the proposed road. Besides the excessive amount of the aid proposed in the act, as objected to by The Commercial in a previous issue, there are some features in connection with this scheme which appear to be exceedingly objectionable. It is a matter which certainly should receive careful watching. The business community, we think, should look carefully into this Lake Dauphin railway scheme. There appear to be several features in connection with this matter upon which it would be well to turn on the light of the new Cathode Ray, if that were possible. The matter is of such importance, in view of the enormous aid which it is proposed to give the road, as to warrant a very full public inquiry into and discussion of the matter.

MR. JOHNSON, of Montreal, who is connected with the Dominion cold storage company, appeared before the agricultural committee at Ottawa last Wednesday with a scheme, whereby he wants the government to guarantee interest at 4 per cent on \$3,000,000 to enable this company to establish a system of cold storage throughout the Dominion. This question of cold storage is a most important one, particularly to Western Canada. Our ability to produce and export several lines of foodstuffs, particularly dairy goods and meats, can never be developed to the best advantage until we have a thorough system of cold storage, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The great hope for our future live stock industry is the establishing of an export trade in dead meats, which can be accomplished with the aid of a proper cold storage system.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market

Wheat—The offerings are small and most holders west are asking 75 to 78c for red and white, but buyers are quoting 75c as the most they are willing to pay. Manitoba wheat is easier. No. 1 hard sold grinding in transit on Monday at 82c. On 'change Monday 77c was asked for No. 1 hard Midland, with 73c bid; No. 1 northern was offered North Bay at 73c, with 71½c bid; No. 2 hard was offered at 72½c Midland, and 71½c was bid; No. 1 frosted was offered to arrive North Bay at 63c and it was offered grinding in transit at 66c.

Flour—There is practically nothing doing. Buyers and sellers are apart. Stocks in the east are very low and it is expected that there will be a good demand when navigation opens. Cars of straight roller are quoted at \$3.65 Toronto freights

Millfeed—Cars of shorts are quoted at \$11.50 to \$12.50 and bran at \$11 west.

Barley—No. 1 is nominal at 41 to 42c outside, fancy at 41c and No. 2 at 38c.

Oats—Easier. Cars of mixed are quoted at 21½ to 22c ordinary white at 22½ and heavy at 22c west. On 'change Monday oats were offered outside at 22c. Three cars of white sold outside at 22½. A car of mixed sold on the track here at 24c. Clipped were offered west at 28c. White oats were offered May at 24c outside; 22½ was bid for oats on the Midland, with sellers at 22½. White oats were offered North Bay at 28c, with 29c bid.

Oatmeal—Is dull and easier at \$2.90 for cars here and \$3 for broken lots.

Peas—Are dull and easy. Cars of No. 2 are quoted north and west at 49c.

Butter—Good stuff was scarce. There is a good demand for fresh dairy tubs. We quote: Choice dairy tubs, 15 to 17c, medium dairy tubs, 9 to 11c; low grade dairy tubs, 8 to 10c; choice large rolls, 16 to 17c; dairy pound prints, 16 to 18c; fresh made creamery tubs, 21 to 22c; creamery pound prints, 22 to 23c.

Eggs—Market hold firm, but not over 14c was charged for single cases.

Potatoes—We quote: Car lots, 16 to 18c; farmers' loads, 15 to 16c.

Poultry—Turkeys, 8 to 11c; geese, 6 to 8c; ducks, 60 to 80c; chickens, 80 to 60c.

Baled Hay—Stocks here are very large. For car lots on the track here we quote: No. 1, \$14 to \$14.50; No. 2, \$13 to \$13.50.

Dressed Hogs—Market easy and dull, as the packers hold large stocks of the cured product. Offers of car lots have increased. Cars of selected weights sell around \$1.65. Nothing above 150 pounds is taken. Mixed cars and lots of heavy weights are not taken.

Hides—Demand is slow owing to the dull state of the leather trade. Dealers here are paying 5c for green and quoting cured at 6½ to 6¾. Sheepskins—The best are quoted at 90c to \$1 and for extra fine lots \$1.05 would be paid. Country skins are quoted at 75c.

Calfskins—There is a fair demand and the market is steady at 6c for No. 1 and 4c for No. 2. Tallow—Dealers here are offering 4c and asking 4½ to 4¾.

Seeds—We quote: Alsike, \$3.50 to \$4.50; timothy, \$2 to \$2.25; red clover, \$1.50 to \$1.85.—Globe, March 25.

A Dissolution.

The announcement is made of the dissolution of the firm of Rublee, Riddell & Co., wholesale fruits, Winnipeg, Wm. P. Riddell retiring. The reason for this step is in order to enable Mr. Riddell to devote his entire attention to the management of the business of the Riddell Manufacturing Co. Mr. Riddell has made a great success of the biscuit and confectionery business carried on here by this company, under his management, and owing to the rapid growth of the business, he finds that it requires his close and entire attention. Mr. Rublee will continue the wholesale fruit business, and with the large and convenient premises which the firm moved into a short time ago, he will be better situated than ever before to cater to the requirements of this growing branch of trade. The style of the firm will hereafter be M. W. Rublee & Co.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Mar. 21, 1896, shows a decrease of 785,000 bushels, against a decrease of 1,100,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,186,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 812,000 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:

	1896.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	83,581,000	80,223,000	81,233,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,376,000	79,863,000	81,330,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	76,569,000	79,038,000	41,666,000
April 1...	74,809,000	71,463,000	77,664,000	41,036,000
May 6...	62,196,000	65,166,000	73,069,000	38,190,000
June 3...	52,229,000	69,894,000	71,030,000	27,910,000
July 1...	41,181,000	64,667,000	62,316,000	24,262,000
Aug. 3...	38,517,000	60,601,000	69,424,000	28,079,000
Sept. 7...	36,754,000	69,168,000	56,140,000	38,700,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,276,000	61,252,000
Nov. 4...	52,990,000	80,017,000	71,396,000	64,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,003,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,580,000

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

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,838,000	79,953,000	81,788,000
" 11...	68,945,000	88,615,000	80,433,000	80,030,000
" 18...	67,868,000	86,238,000	80,332,000	82,237,000
" 25...	67,622,000	84,685,000	80,234,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1...	66,731,000	83,876,000	79,833,000	81,590,000
" 8...	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,670,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,926,000	80,733,000	78,607,000	80,214,000
" 22...	63,011,000	79,476,000	77,267,000	79,433,000
March 1...	64,069,000	78,701,000	76,669,000	78,038,000
" 7...	62,698,000	77,717,000	74,697,000	79,103,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,875,000	73,349,000	79,000,000
" 21...	61,333,000	75,773,000	72,163,000	78,203,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on March 14 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	880,000
Toronto.....	82,000
Kingston.....	8,000
Winnipeg.....	865,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,970,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	4,320,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on March, 14 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	92,464,000
Pacific Coast.....	4,296,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	95,803,000
Pacific Coast.....	11,801,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended March 21, shows a decrease of 1,257,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 91,207,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks on March 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 151,032,000 bushels, which is about 16,500,000 bushels less than the corresponding total one year ago, more than 80,000,000 bushels less than were sold two years ago, about 24,000,000 bushels less than three years ago but about 8,500,000 bushels more than were sold on January 1, 1892, 54,500,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1891, and about 58,000,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1890.

A Magazine's Influence.

The enormous circulation of such a magazine as The Ladies' Home Journal can, in a sense, be understood when it is said that during the last six months of 1895, there were printed, sold and circulated over four million copies—in exact figures 4,052,891. Figures such as these give one some idea of the influence which may be exerted by even a single one of the modern magazines.—The Ladies' Home Journal, Philadelphia.

The feature of the hay market at Montreal on March 20, was the weak feeling that prevailed, and prices declined \$1 per ton, due to the weak advices from the country and the recent big break in New York of \$2 per ton.

To the TRADE!

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

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

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

James Hall & Co.

Ontario Glove Works.

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CLOTHING,

Hats, Caps and Straw Goods.

FOR SPRING 1896.

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

DONALD FRASER & CO.

JOHN LOVE.

J. E. McALLISTER.

J. RILEY.

Love, McAllister & Co.

WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

Be glad to thank their many friends for letters of enquiry and orders they have received, and to inform them that they are pushing on the work of opening out, and fixing their stock. They hope, however, to get through soon, and be in a position to receive and fill orders promptly. Their stock of Wall Papers all this season's goods—is opened out and ready for inspection. Also Children's Express Wagons - Wood and Iron Axles

Travellers will start out shortly, but meantime Mail Orders will have their best attention.

LOVE, McALLISTER & CO.,

MITCHELL BLOCK - MODERMOTT AVE WINNIPEG.

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DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

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Merrick, Anderson & Co. Agents,
Winnipeg.

WHEAT 2 Bushels	B A G S .	FLAX 2 and 4 Bushels
FLOUR—Jute 49, 98 & 140 lbs.	B A G S .	POTATO 90 lbs.
BRAN 80 and 100 lbs	B A G S .	COAL 100 lbs.
SHORTS 100 lbs.	B A G S .	FLOUR—Cottons 24, 49 and 98 lbs.
OAT 4 and 5 bushels	B A G S .	ALL KINDS

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

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

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

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

WINNIPEG, Oct. 5th, 1893.

Messrs. Ogilvie Milling Co.,

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

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OGILVIE'S FLOUR

YOU HAVE

THE BEST

Each bag guaranteed. Sewn with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,

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

**North of Scotland Canadian
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MONEY TO LEND at Lowest
Current Rates.

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WHOLESALE DOMESTIC AND
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DRY GOODS AND GENTS' FURNISHINGS,

Now is the time for action!
Goods are advancing

We have made ample preparations for this and can give our customers the benefit.

Our Spring Samples are now complete, and it will mean \$'s to you to see them before placing your orders. Our Mr F G Crawford will call on you shortly, when the favor of your orders will oblige G. H. R. & Co.

W. R. Fleming
W. R. FLEMING & CO., Winnipeg, Man.

Way to get a practical education is by attending Winnipeg Business College and Shorthand Institute for a term. Circulars free. Address C. A.

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ALSO OFFERS OF

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WHEAT of the Various Grades.
FEED BARLEY.

Wm. Ferguson,

—WHOLESALE—

Wines, Liquors and Cigars
8th Street, Brandon.

GREAT WEST LIFE.

Annual Meeting of Shareholders.—
Reports of Prosperity and Progress
From the Officers.EXTENSION OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS—
ADDRESSES FROM THE RESIDENT
AND DIRECTORS.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Great West Life Assurance Company was held at the head office of the company in this city on Thursday, 19th inst., and was largely attended, among those present being noticed the following gentlemen: Wm. Whyte, Hon. D. H. McMillan, T. B. Millar, Portage la Prairie; H. H. Chown, M. D., R. J. Blanchard, M. D., L. A. Hamilton, A. Wickson, J. A. Girvin, S. Nairn, A. M. Nanton, H. Meredith, Brandon; G. R. Crowe, N. Bawlf, H. Byrnes, J. A. M. Aikens, R. J. Campbell, W. A. McDonald, J. S. Aikins, T. Hurtle, P. C. McIntyre, M.P.P., A. Macdonald, R. T. Riley, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, A. Kolly, Brandon; Wm. Logan, Carberry.

The chair was taken by the president of the company, Mr. A. Macdonald, who called the meeting to order, and requested the secretary to read the notice of meeting.

After the minutes of the meeting of 21st of March, 1895, had been confirmed, and an amendment to the by-laws approved, the managing director was called upon to read the report of the board of directors for the year 1895, as follows:

Your directors have much pleasure in submitting herewith for your approval the report and statement of accounts for the year 1895, the third full calendar year of the company's operations.

During the year 1,195 applications for insurance amounting to \$2,101,700 were received; 1,119 policies were issued or revived for \$1,899,200; and 106 applications, for \$171,500 were declined; the balance being in course of completion or under consideration. The insurance in force on the 31st December was \$5,071,150—a gain for the year of \$832,100.

The total cash income for the year was \$133,467.95—an increase of \$15,043.58 over the previous year.

The amount paid for death claims was \$22,769. The fact that the Great West Life is the only Canadian company having no unsettled claims at the end of the year is the best evidence that can be adduced as to prompt payments.

All the funds of the company (outside of cash, and the debentures deposited with the Dominion government), are invested on the security of first mortgages, on improved rental-bearing properties in the west, and on the policies of the company. The average rate of interest on these investments in 1895 was 7.05 per cent. The satisfactory manner in which payments of instalments due have been met is apparent by the fact that only \$46.15 remained unpaid on our books at the close of the year.

The company is now doing business in every province of the Dominion, a branch office for Quebec having been opened in the city of Montreal on 1st January, with Mr. James Lyster as provincial manager. We were fortunate in securing as members of the Quebec provincial board the following well-known and influential gentlemen: S. O. Shorey, wholesale merchant, Montreal; J. O. Gravel, secretary-treasurer Canadian Rubber Company, Montreal; H. B. Ames, wholesale merchant, Montreal; A. A. Thihaudeau, wholesale merchant, Montreal; H. J. Mudge, insurance manager, Montreal; Capt. G. H. Mathews, financier, Montreal;

Victor Chateauvert, wholesale merchant, Quebec.

The company has made steady and most satisfactory progress during the past year, showing a large increase in business in force, premium income, and reserve fund for the protection of policy-holders. We still lead in the security given to policy-holders, as our reserve, being computed on the actuaries' or combined experience table, with 4 per cent. interest, calls for a larger reserve fund than is provided by any other Canadian company on the same amount of business.

As the company has in three years attained in volume of business and in financial standing a position that has taken our most successful Canadian companies from eight to fifteen years to reach, it now only remains to continue this most satisfactory rate of progress to place us in the position that every western man desires our home institution to occupy.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND
BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Cash income	\$133,476.95
Expenditure	93,737.81
Assets	210,905.40
Reserve fund and surplus for policy-holders	210,793.57

Winnipeg, Man.,
18th March, 1896.

To the President and Directors of the Great West Life Assurance Company Winnipeg, Man.

Gentlemen, We beg to report that we have made an audit of the Great West Life Assurance Company for the year ending 31st December, 1895, have examined the vouchers connected therewith, and certify that the foregoing financial statement presents a true abstract of the Company's books, and correctly represents its financial standing.

The securities embraced in the assets, with the exception of those lodged with the Dominion government, amounted to \$56,000, for which we found a sufficient receipt from the government, have been examined and correspond with the amounts in the Company's books.

Yours truly,
(Sgd.) C. S. HOARE,

ARTHUR WICKSON,
Auditors.

The president in moving the adoption of the report said:

"It is gratifying to be able to say that the Great West has, at the end of its third year, attained a position in amount of insurance in force and financial standing, that the most successful companies in existence were from eight to fifteen years in accomplishing

The revival in business we have been looking for in this western country for some years is already apparent—the magnificent yield of grain (61,500,000 bushels), and the large increase of live stock exports (over 80,000 head in 1895 from our own province and the territories to the west of us; the development of the wonderful resources of the mining regions of British Columbia and the Lake of the Woods district; have already commenced to have their natural effect, by increasing confidence in the future of our Great West, and inducing capitalists to invest their money in developing our immense resources.

The immediate effect of the improvement has been to increase the amount of applications from the first of January to date by just 43 per cent over the same period of last year.

Reference is made in the directors' report to the interest earnings—the importance of this question in the life insurance business can hardly be over-rated—and the fact that the principal companies in Eastern Canada have raised their rates of premium on account

of the reduced interest earnings brings it home directly to insurers.

Our present investments on security of first mortgages and our policies return us 7.05 per cent interest, and as this gives us more than 3 per cent over the rate assumed in fixing our premiums and reserve, while the average rate earned by all the other companies doing business in Canada only shows a surplus of 1 per cent over their assumed rate, we can, therefore give our policy-holders from surplus interest earnings three times the profits averaged by the other companies from this source. Against this it is argued by some that our rate of interest is coming down. This is true (and we are pleased that it is, for the fact proves that the confidence we have in the country is not misplaced), but the rate here is still 2 per cent to 3 per cent higher than at the home of any other Life Insurance company, and the experience of centuries has proved that the rate of interest in countries using borrowed capital largely, for developing their resources, always maintains about the same relative advance above the rate of the home of the large capitalists and investors.

It is again argued that other Life companies may come here to invest their funds. This also is true, but experience has shown that the want of knowledge of values has prevented other Life companies from investing enough of their funds here to appreciably affect their average interest rate. They all naturally prefer to invest their funds nearer home.

If we dwell somewhat upon this question it is because it is a matter of such importance to all policy-holders, as will more readily be seen from the following comparisons:

At 4 per cent interest, compounded, \$18 per annum amounts to \$1,000 in 30 years.

At 6 per cent interest, compounded, \$12.50 per annum amounts to \$1,000 in 30 years.

At 7 per cent interest, compounded, \$18 per annum amounts to \$1,422 in 30 years.

In other words, a payment of \$12.50 per annum for the average life of a man of 36 years of age, invested at 6 per cent interest, compounded, will give the same return that a payment of \$18 per annum will at 4 per cent, or an investment of \$18 per annum for 30 years at 6 per cent will amount to \$122 more than the same sum invested at 4 per cent.

While we refer confidently to the advantages we offer to insurers from our interest-earning powers, we have only to call attention to the fact that the reinsured business of the Dominion Safety Fund Life association again shows a satisfactory surplus, and fully justifies the expert opinion of our actuary, Mr. W. T. Standen; and that with over \$1,000,000 at risk in our direct business, we had only death losses of \$3,000, to show that a satisfactory saving is also being made for surplus from this source. This very satisfactory result is largely due to the care, good judgement, and skill of our examiners and medical board, who deserve our congratulations.

The other source of surplus comes from saving in expense, and while the great competition in life insurance necessitates a larger expense than ought to be required, it is gratifying to find that a careful examination of the statements of all companies doing business in Canada shows that the cost to us is less than in the case of any other company.

To our managing director, Mr. J. H. Brock, and the efficient staff, is largely due the credit for this satisfactory result, and with a continuance of good care and judgment in the management of the different departments we can confidently predict a brilliant future for the "Great West Life."

Mr. R. T. Riley, chairman of the finance committee, in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report expressed his pleasure in doing so. Continuing, he said, "You

have had laid before you a detailed statement of the accounts of the company as certified by the auditors, and have also had read to you the report of the directors dealing with some of the important details of the past year's business, and our president has supplemented these by his own remarks, going into the matter very fully. I would therefore only make a remark or two in regard to some features of the company's work that have come under my personal notice during the past year. My duties during the twelve months past have necessitated a considerable amount of travelling throughout the Dominion, presenting opportunities of meeting a great many of the agents of this company, especially in eastern Canada, and I was much surprised at the very superior class of men we have representing us. I think this is largely accounted for by the fact that the local boards of directors we have been so fortunate to secure have been taking a great deal of interest in the affairs of the company. It frequently happens that the gentlemen selected to act upon local boards of directors look upon the appointment as simply a compliment, to them, and take only a casual interest in the affairs of the company. But during the past year I happened to be in Toronto on three separate occasions when our Ontario board held its monthly meeting. Mr. J. H. Mason, the chairman of the board, was promptly on time, and there was only one member of the board absent during the three meetings. At these meetings every application for an agency in any portion of the province was carefully considered, and in every instance the fullest information obtainable was submitted, either the applicant or at least one of his referees being personally known to some of the members. After the applications for agencies had been disposed of, the board then passed upon the applications for life insurance, each application being taken up and given careful consideration. When this was completed a general discussion of the affairs of the company ensued, and I was asked a great many questions in regard to the progress of our business. I need hardly say that I came away from each of these meetings very much impressed with the manner in which these gentlemen looked after the interests of the company in their province; and I think to the fact that we have such good working boards and agents we can ascribe the results attained outside of the western country. In establishing our business in eastern Canada we have met keen competition—some of it fair, some of it unfair—the life insurance companies of the eastern provinces looking upon that portion of the country as their preserve that ought to be especially kept for them, and they strongly resent any effort to divide business to the west.

A question frequently brought up is in regard to our investments and as to loaning money in the west. All I can say as to this is that in our balance sheet we have \$78,599, loans on real estate, and on the whole of \$78,599 there was only some \$16.00 of interest that was overdue. You will notice also that we have on our balance sheet a very large amount of cash lying in banks here. That is due to the fact that the board here has exercised very great care indeed in loaning out money. About the easiest thing I know of is to make bad loans. We have received a great many applications for loans and in every case the security offered has been carefully scrutinized, and only such as are undoubtedly good have been accepted, the board considering it wiser to have a large sum of money drawing a low rate of interest in the banks than to put any loans on our books that they have the slightest hesitation in passing as first class. In regard to the loaning of money it has been observed that of late this business has been undergoing a great

change in the east, the smaller loans being taken care of by building societies on the monthly instalment plan, and the loan companies state that the life insurance companies are taking nearly all the big loans at a rate of interest that they find it difficult to compete with. Believing that the smaller loans will in the future be made here in the same manner as in the east, we have deemed it advisable to adopt a system on the monthly instalment plan, the basis adopted being such as to net our company 8 per cent per annum.

The accounts of the company are in good shape, and I would draw your attention to the fact that while the life assurance accounts are very complicated, the accounts and records of our company are kept in a most satisfactory manner. Our balance sheet has been approved by your auditors, and every item of expenditure is passed upon by the finance committee of the board of directors.

Before closing I would like to draw your attention to the fact that we are losing the services of some of our directors, who do not present themselves for re-election, viz., Mr. W. B. Scarth has left the city, now residing in Ottawa; Mr. T. J. McBride who has recently left the city to reside in Toronto; Mr. Jas. McLennan who is also now residing in Toronto, and is assisting the company in its business in the province of Ontario; and Hon. Forbes George Vernon, who is now living in Europe, and has signified his desire to retire from the board owing to absence from the country.

I am sure we will regret losing the service of these gentlemen on our board.

I am glad to be able to congratulate the company on the improved condition of our balance sheet. Many of us have said all along that the company would require something like five years to get on a good paying basis. The greater portion of that period has now elapsed, we have now turned the corner, and there is every probability of soon seeing the company firmly established on a good dividend paying basis. I have great pleasure in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report.

J. H. Brock, managing director of the company said: "I suppose it will be expected I should have something to say in connection with the report, the adoption of which has just been moved and seconded. Before making any remarks, I would like to read a letter received from Mr. W. T. Standen, of New York, consulting actuary of the company, to whom was submitted a full statement of the company's accounts:

To the President and Directors of the Great West Life Assurance Co., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Gentlemen.—I think, from a close examination of your December 31st, 1895, statement, that the progress of the company is satisfactory; and while upon the rigid standard of a 4 per cent valuation of your policy liabilities, a trifling impairment still remains to be wiped out, it must not be forgotten that no other Canadian Life Company adopts so severe a standard, and that upon the ordinary basis upon which policy reserves are computed, a fair working surplus would stand to your credit. To have avoided a small temporary impairment under the present existing conditions of competition, and high cost of obtaining good business, would have been impossible, and I feel that you are to be congratulated on the prospect of being able to wipe out the small impairment now existing, during the current year.

Your very small death loss in 1895 conclusively proves how careful your risks are selected, and reflects great credit upon your medical directors, and shows that they must have been guided by very conservative rules.

The amount of new business written is as large as you can afford to write, and is quite sufficient to give you all the benefits expected from a fair general average of risks. An ex-

amination of the policies shows them to run generally upon those plans which will tend to give the greatest strength to a young company, and I strongly recommend the continued encouragement of the 20 Payment Life plan, upon which such a large proportion of your policies are written.

As you have only been doing business a little over three years, I regard your progress thus far as affording many grounds of congratulation, and I believe that an honorable and useful future lies before your company. I confidently expect that the next year and a half will place to your surplus account a very acceptable dividend to be distributed among the ordinary participating policies, the dividends on which will then begin to accrue. Respectfully submitted,

WM. T. STANDEN.

Consulting Actuary.

New York, March 14, 1896.

Mr. Standen, in addition to the 4 per cent valuation, has also sent us the valuation on a 4½ per cent basis, which is \$22,495 less than the 4 per cent reserve. As we have decided to provide reserve on a 4 per cent valuation—having done so on the recommendation of our actuary, believing it will ultimately be necessary—the results given in our statement are based upon this higher standard of valuation.

Reference has been made by Mr. Riley to the question of competition. In life insurance as in every other business, there is in these days great rivalry, and in starting we expected to meet with keen competition, and we have not been disappointed in this, but we have been most fairly treated by the companies generally.

We have had from Mr. Riley a statement as to the assistance given by our provincial boards throughout Canada that I am pleased to endorse. I would like to say a word about the work of the board of directors. As heretofore, the directors have positively refused to vote themselves any pecuniary consideration for the time they have given to the company's service, although they are entitled to do so, and I can only say that during the past year the amount of time and trouble given to the company's business has been quite up to that given when the company started. They have not abated their interest in the company's success, and continue to manifest the same determination to make the Great West Life such a success that we shall be proud of it as a western company.

Mr. S. A. D. Bertrand, in supporting the motion, said: "Reference has been made to the directors' report to the opening of our branch office under Mr. Jas Lyster, as manager for the province of Quebec. As I was asked to visit my native province with the managing director in connection with the necessary arrangements I am pleased to be able to inform the shareholders that we are fortunate in having a gentleman with Mr. James Lyster's experience and ability, in charge of the company's business in such an important field.

In selecting a provincial board of directors it was important that confidence should be inspired, and to do this we decided that we must have the very strongest names in the province, and were fortunate in being able to get the gentlemen selected to act. They are all so well known throughout Canada that it is only necessary to refer their names as given in the directors' report to convince you that better could not have been done.

There is no doubt the prospects of the company for a satisfactory business throughout the province of Quebec are good, and we have already received an amount of business for there sufficient to justify a favorable estimate.

There is one matter which comes to my attention as a member of the application

committee of the board of directors, to which I desire to refer, and that is the extreme caution observed in dealing with applicants for insurance. Mr. Bertrand then proceeded to explain the methods of the company in connection with this important part of the work, showing that while every safeguard was thrown around the company, there was also an earnest effort to give to applicants every possible consideration. He referred to the fact that in the regular business of the company there had been only three deaths as an evidence of the great care exercised in this department.

The motion for the adoption of the report being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Upon motion of Mr. A. M. Manton, seconded by Mr. L. A. Hamilton, the meeting proceeded to elect a new board of directors, Messrs. R. J. Campbell and J. A. M. Aikins, Q. C., being appointed scrutineers.

Mr. G. R. Crowe in nominating Mr. D. B. Hanna as auditor for the present year, spoke in commendation of the work done in this department by Messrs. Wickson and Hoare, and their assistants during the past year. Mr. A. Wickson seconded the nomination of Mr. Hanna, and his appointment was confirmed by the meeting.

Mr. William Whyte, general superintendent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in moving a vote of thanks to the president and directors, expressed his great satisfaction with the very excellent report presented by the directors, considering it gratifying evidence of the faithful work performed by them during the year. The motion, seconded by Mr. N. Bawlf was passed amid hearty applause.

Mr. Hugh J. Macdonald, Q. C. in acknowledging the vote, expressed his great pleasure at the hearty manner in which the motion had been received. He spoke of the amount of time given by the directors to the interests of the company, they being pretty much at the beck and call of the managing director, who did not hesitate to call on them for their time and attention whenever the interests of the company required it. While it was gratifying to the board to learn that their efforts were appreciated, it was only proper to state that the greater part of the work had fallen upon the managing director and the results reported to-day speak well for the energy he has shown, as well as his ability; not only in looking after the interests of the company, but the board of directors as well, in seeing that they "toed the mark," and that very sharply too.

Hon. D. H. McMillan, provincial treasurer, and Mr. William Logan, of Carberry, also responded on behalf of the directors.

Votes of thanks were also tendered to the provincial boards for their very efficient services; to the consulting actuary, Mr. W. T. Standan, of New York; and to the medical board, agents, officers and staff of the company.

On behalf of the medical board, Dr. R. J. Blanchard expressed his acknowledgements and said: "Mr. President.—There is very little noteworthy within the province of the medical department upon which we can offer a formal report. The only remarkable thing about the mortality for the year is its exceeding smallness.

We have had three deaths, one from typhoid fever, and two from consumption; roughly speaking, about one and a half deaths per thousand of those insured. In regard to the death from phthisis, in reviewing the facts before us at the time of acceptance of the risk and the information since acquired in connection with the proof of death, we find nothing which demonstrated the possibility of our having anticipated death from that cause in either case. The small death rate is no doubt partly due to the careful selection of risks, and in this regard it may happen

that undue credit will be given by some to the medical department."

The selection of a risk begins usually with the soliciting agent who has important opportunities, if he is honorable and wide awake, of protecting the company from undesirable applicants. Then follows the examining physician, who in small places particularly, has, apart from what he learns from the medical examination of applicants, a very valuable knowledge of the general character of those about him. From him the application comes to headquarters, and is here scrutinized from various points of view, so that those belonging to the medical department only bear a share of the responsibility and are only entitled to a share of the credit for the ultimate results. As compared with the experience of other companies during a correspondingly early period of their existence, the Great West Life has been fortunate. The only three Canadian companies whose official statements are available, show the following results for their early years:

Up to date of first statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed 9.16, up to date of second statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 4.08; up to date of third statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 9.45; up to date of fourth statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 6.10.

The experience of the Great West Life covering the same periods has been:

Up to date of first statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 0; up to date of second statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 1.09; up to date of third statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 2.95; up to date of fourth statement, average mortality per 1,000 lives exposed, 1.54; so that in every year the mortality in the Great West Life has been very much lower, and taking the average of the whole four years the mortality in these companies for 1,000 lives exposed was 5.45, while in the Great West Life it was only 1.39.

The scrutineers reported the following gentlemen elected to serve on the board of directors for 1896: J. H. Ashdown, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, E. Crow Baker, Victoria, B. C.; G. R. Crow, G. F. Galt, A. Kelly, Brandon; Wm. Logan, Carberry; A. Macdonald, H. J. Macdonald, Q. C., and J. Herbert Mason, Toronto; T. B. Miller, Portage la Prairie; Hon. D. H. McMillan, James Redmond, R. T. Riley.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a meeting of the new board of directors held subsequently the following officers were elected: President, Alexander Macdonald, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, J. Herbert Mason, Esq., Hugh John Macdonald, Esq., Geo. F. Galt, Esq.

Live Stock Markets

At Liverpool on March 23, trade continued very bad, and with supplies being in excess of the demand, a weaker feeling prevailed. Prices declined 3c per lb on cattle, and 1c per lb. on sheep, both at Liverpool and London. Best States cattle, 10c; Argentines, 9c; sheep, 12c. At London, best States cattle, 10c; Argentines, 8c, and sheep, 9 1/2c. A private cable received from Liverpool, quoted the range of the market for best States cattle at 9 1/2 to 10c.

At the east end Abattoir market at Montreal on March 23, owing to the heavy snow storm, last Thursday and Friday, railway traffic has been interrupted considerably, some cattle purchased for this market had not arrived. This caused a scarcity of stock and dealers who were fortunate enough to have some stock on hand took advantage, and advanced prices 1/2 to 3/4c per lb. The class of cattle generally on the market was of good quality, in some cases as high as 5c per lb was asked for really choice fat cattle, but sales of good

to choice were made at 4 to 4 1/2c, and fair at 3 to 3 1/2c per lb, live weight. A few good bulls, weighing from 1,500 to 1,800 lbs each, sold at 8c to 8 1/2c per lb. Stall fed cows brought from \$15 to \$20 each. Spring lambs were more plentiful and prices were \$1 to \$2 each lower, at \$2 to \$5 as to size.

The Echo of Wolsley, Ass., says: "Mr. Gordon, brother of Mr. Gordon, of Gordon & Ironside, was in the district on the 18th. He visited a number of farmers who were feeding cattle, and in most cases advised feeding for at least three weeks longer. He is offering 8c per lb. for animals that will weigh over 1,200 pounds off cars at Winnipeg, and 3 1/2c for extra choice cattle weighing over 1,300 pounds.

Mullins & Wilson, of Toronto, cattle buyers, arrived in Winnipeg last week. They intend to purchase here this season.

Mr. Almack, of Binscarth, was in Winnipeg last week with a load of cattle, which he sold to Gordon & Ironside.

At Chicago on March 26, common to prime heavy and medium weight hogs sold at \$9.65 to \$9.90, chiefly at \$3.80 for good packing droves and fancy assorted light sold at \$1 to \$4.10.

At Toronto on Tuesday (the semi-weekly market day, cattle sold a little better, for Easter market. The top for a fancy was 3 1/2c, but the general range was from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 as to quality. Lamb; 4 to 4 1/2c per lb., and sheep sold at 3 to 3 1/2, but there was an extra demand for the latter, to fill space. Hogs weak and lower at 3 1/2c off cars for best bacon; heavy fat, 3 1/2c; sows, 3c; stags, 2 to 2 1/2c.

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.	Feb. 22	Feb. 29	Mar. 7	Mar. 14	Mar. 21
Extra Manitoba hard.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	139	132	119	143	133
No. 2 hard.....	33	50	40	35	36
No. 3 hard.....	45	37	31	39	42
No. 1 North'n.....	13	12	10	26	27
No. 2 North'n.....	3	2	1	2	5
No. 3 North'n.....	3	0	1	0	2
No. 1 white fyte.....	6	2	2	2	3
No. 2 white fyte.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring.....	1	2	14	5	3
No. 2 Spring.....	1	0	1	0	2
No. 1 frosted.....	25	22	32	24	31
No. 2 frosted.....	21	12	14	15	13
No. 3 Frosted.....	11	3	4	1	8
No. 1 Rejected.....	20	31	17	16	23
No. 2 Rejected.....	45	44	54	35	46
No Grade.....	3	2	4	1	9
Feed.....	10	0	4	1	5
Total.....	332	363	350	354	408
Same week last year.....	54	52	61	53	100

Oats—For week ended Mar. 21—No. 1 white, 9; No. 2 white, 18; No. 3 white, 0; No. 2 black, 0; No. 2 mixed 17; feed, 12; rejected, 2; total, 58.

Barley—For week ended Mar. 21—No. 2, 0; No. 3, 2; feed, 2; total, 4.

*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.

Another Hudson Bay Road.

A bill to incorporate the Manitoba and Nelson Valley Railway was reported at Ottawa on Friday. The proposed railway will run from Portage la Prairie through the Dauphin district, across the Saskatchewan river and down the Nelson valley to a point on Nelson river, near its entrance into Hudson Bay. The road is being projected by British people, it is said.

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THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, March 28, 1896.

Business in general wholesale branches appears to be steadily improving and reports from all lines are very satisfactory, the volume of business being in excess of recent years in most branches of trade. The weather has been mild and springlike most of the week, ending up with rain last night and today. The grain trade has now flattened out, so far as deliveries by farmers are concerned, and there will be nothing doing in the country until after seeding, while exporting will not go on to any extent until navigation opens. There are now about 8,000,000 bushels of Manitoba wheat in store in the west awaiting the opening of navigation, while considerable more is held at Montreal and other eastern points. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show the large gain of 50 per cent. over the corresponding week of last year, while the increase over the corresponding week two years ago is nearly the same, being about 59 per cent.

There is nothing important in the foreign commercial situation this week, but there were disturbing features in the stock market. The outbreak of native tribes in South Africa caused depression in "Kaffir" stocks. At New York yesterday money on call was at 3 to 3½ per cent., best commercial paper 5 to 6 per cent. Sterling exchange strong with actual business in bankers' bills at \$1 85½ to ½ for demand, and \$1 8½ to ¾; bar silver 68.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Mar. 28.

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.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS—Business in this branch is ahead of the past few years in volume. In fact dealers are having a much larger spring trade than for some years. The principal feature of the spring trade this year is the heavy demand for shoe drills. The demand for this implement has been so large, that stocks have been exhausted with some dealers. The Massey-Harris people say they will not be able to fill all their orders, by possibly a few hundred, though they are securing all available stock from the east.

COAL—Prices are unchanged. Winnipeg prices are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite, \$8.50 per ton delivered to consumers; Souris lignite, \$1 25 per ton, delivered to consumers, and \$3.85 at the yard here; Lethbridge bituminous \$5 50 to consumers; western anthracite, \$8.50 per ton to consumers.

DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS—Grenoble Walnuts, 16c; Tarragona almonds, 16c; princess paper shell almonds, 22c; Sicily Aliberts, large, 12c; Brazil nuts, 15c; peanuts, roasted, 15c; peanuts greens, 13c; Ontario black walnuts, 8c; butternuts, 9c; hickory nuts, 10c per pound; figs, now, 9 lb. boxes, 11c, figs, superior, 35 lb. boxes, 19c, figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb.; dates, now, 6 and 7c per lb., apricots, 13½ to 11c; dried apples 6c; evaporated apples 8c per lb.

DRUGS—There are no changes to report in the local trade. Outside advices are very strong on bluestone, which could not be laid down here at prices current in this market, owing to a sharp advance in England. Norwegian cod liver oil is also strong and continues to advance abroad, while cream of tartar is lower. Following prices are for small parcels, and will be shaded considerably for

full package orders Alum per pound, 3½ to 4½c; alcohol, \$5.25 gal, bleaching powder, per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 1½ to 5c; blue vitriol, 5 to 8c; borax 11 to 13c, bromide potash, 65 to 57c, camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 10 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chloride potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 55c, coppers 3½ to 1c; cocaine, per oz., \$6 50 to \$7.00; cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c, cloves, 20 to 25c, epsom salts, 3½ to 1c, extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 10 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., \$1.00 to \$2.25, Opium, \$1 50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.10; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.10, oil, lemon, super \$2 25 to 2.75; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.25 to 3.25 per gallon; oxalico acid, 13 to 16 potash iodide, \$1.25 to 1.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetro, 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3½ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3½ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

DRY GOODS—Travellers who have been out on their first sorting trips, are sending in some very good orders, and altogether the amount of business doing is ahead of recent years. In the clothing line, travellers are now working on fall orders.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples hold firm and top prices are obtained for choice fruit. There is nothing new in the variety in the market. Prices are: Lemons, New Messinas \$5.00 to \$5.50 per box; California navel oranges, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box; California seedlings, \$3.25 to \$3 50; Bananas, \$2.75 to \$3 50 per bunch as to size, a few very small bunches sell as low as \$2.50; Apples, eastern Canada choice spies, \$5; other red varieties, \$5 50, russets, \$5.00 per barrel; Malaga grapes \$9 per keg for large sizes; pineapples, \$3.50 to \$5 per dozen; Apple cider, 35c per barrel gallon, in 30 gallon barrels; comb honey \$5.25 per case of 24 sections.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC—There are no changes in the local market. Cement is reported higher abroad. Leads, as previously noted, are very firm. Red leads were reported from the east as being ¼ to ½c higher per lb.

Prices are as follows.

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

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

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

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

SUNDRIES—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 17 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$4.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; 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; Port-

land cement, per barrel, \$1.00, plaster, per barrel, \$3.00; plasterer's hair, 90c, per bale, putty, per lb., 2½c. for less than barrels; barrels, per lb., 2½c.

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

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

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

OILS—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 30c per gallon; clear machine oils, 33 to 40c, cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb., lard oil, 70c per gal., tanner's or harness oil, 6c, neat-foot oil, \$1.00; steam refined seal oil, 85c, pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 per gallon.

REFINED PETROLEUM—There is no change in burning oils. Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 2½c; crescent, 27c; oleophene, 29c in barrels. In car lots 2c per gallon discount is allowed off prices in barrels. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 3½c for coceno and 30c for sunlight.

LUMBER—Business with the city trade has been very good so far this season, and the Lake of the Woods mills also report good sales. Agents of British Columbia mills have also done considerable business this spring, as some dealers bought freely in anticipation of a sharp advance in British Columbia lumber. The British Columbia association, the pine association, and the city dealer's association have now all got their new lists out. The Lake of the Woods or pine lumber list does not show much change from the old list. There is an advance of 50 cents on dimension and a few other slight changes, some being more in the nature of changes in classification than changes in prices and there are no marked changes from the old list. The new list of the British Columbia association shows an advance of \$2 on cedar siding and fir flooring in delivered prices here. These are about the only important changes in the British Columbia lumber list. The price on cedar shingles is left open. In the Winnipeg dealers' list there are quite a number of changes, which will be observed by a comparison of the old and new list. It is understood that dealers at some points who were outside of the Western Retail association last year, have been satisfactorily arranged with to cease cutting values and keep the uniform prices. At Brandon the dealers were at war all last season, but prospects are favorable that it will not be continued this year. Following is the price list of the Winnipeg dealers, at yards or delivered in the city, prices being net.

Dimension and Timber—No. 1.

Size	12ft.	14ft.	16ft.	18ft.	20ft.	22ft.	24ft.
2x4 to 2x12	18.50	18.50	18.50	19.50	20.50	21.50	22.50
3x6 to 3x12							
4x4 to 4x12	20	20	20	21	22	23	24
6x6 to 6x12							
and cas							
8x10 to 12x12	22	22	22	23	24	25	26
2x4 - 10 at \$27.50							
2x6 to 2x12 - 10 at \$18							

No. 2 dimension \$2 less than No. 1.

Dimension, 26ft., 28ft., 30ft., \$26, Timber, 26ft., 28ft., 30ft., \$28, \$1 per M. advance on each inch over 12 in depth and width. Tamarac dimension same price as pine. Spruce dimension at \$2 per M. less than pine. Cull Plank, all widths at \$12 per M. B. C. Fir dimension up to 32 feet at \$30 per M. 32 to 40 ft., \$33; 40 to 60ft., \$36, \$1 per M. extra for each 2 in. over 12 in. in width or depth.

Boards—1st. common boards, red pine \$25; 2nd. common boards, \$18; 3rd. common boards, \$16; No. 1 cull boards, \$12; No. 2 cull boards, \$8; Spruce boards, \$16, \$1 per M. extra for stock boards. \$2 per M. less for 10 ft. and under. No. 1 box boards, 14 in. and up, \$30; No. 2, box boards, 14 in. and up, \$26. Extra dressing per M. \$1.50.

Siding, Flooring and Ceiling.—2nd 4, 5 and 6 inch, white pine \$38.00, 3rd 4, 5 and 6 inch white pine \$28.50, 1st 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine \$32.00, 2nd 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine \$32.00, 3rd 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine \$26.00; 4th 5 and 6 inch red and white \$20.00; B. C. No. 1 fir \$36.00; B. C. No. 2 fir \$32.00, B. C. No. 3 fir \$28.00, B. C. spruce \$35.00. 4, 5 and 6 inch spruce native \$20.00, 8 and 10 inch pine \$25.00, No. 1 cedar siding and ceiling \$30.00, No. 2 cedar siding and ceiling \$33.00, 1/2 inch cedar siding and ceiling \$28.00, \$1.00 per M. advance for dressed both sides.

B. wil Siding.—No. 1 white pine \$26.00, No. 2 red and white \$23.00.

Shiplap.—6 inch 18.00, 8 and 10 inch \$20.00, Spruce, 8 and 10 inch 19.00, Spruce, 6 inch \$18.00.

Shingles.—B. C. cedar per M. No. 1 \$3.00; B. C. cedar per M. No. 2 \$2.50; B. C. cedar dimension shingles \$4.00, B. C. cedar shingles band sawed \$5.00, No. 1 pine, per M. \$2.75; No. 2 pine per M. \$2.25, No. 3 pine per M. \$2.00.

Lath.—Pine lath, per M \$3.00.

Finishing—1 1/2 inch, 1 1/4 inch and 2 inch. White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$65.00; white pine, 3rd clear, \$55; white pine, selects, \$45; white pine, shops, \$36.00, red pine, clear, \$10.00, red pine, selects, \$32.00, B. C. cedar clears, \$55.00; B. C. fir clears and stopping, \$15.00. \$5.00 per M. advance on 2 1/2 inch and thicker.

One inch. White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$30.00; white pine, 3rd clear, \$18.00; white pine, selects, No. 1, \$38; white pine, selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com.) \$30, red pine, clear, \$10; red pine, selects, \$30; B. C. cedar, clear, \$55.00.

Oak, red and white—1st and 2nd, \$55 to \$65. Common, \$40.

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, per 100 feet lineal, 60c. lattice, 3/4 x 1 1/2 per 100 feet lineal, 75c; lattice, 1/2 x 1 1/2 per 100 ft. lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1 1/2 inch lineal, \$1.25; window and door stop, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; 1/2 round and 3/4 cov. 75c, 1 1/2 round mould, \$1.33; 2 round mould, \$1.75; 2 1/2 round mould, \$2.00, 3 round mould, \$2.25; 3 1/2 round mould, \$2.50, 4 round mould, \$2.75; 4 1/2 round mould, \$3.00; 5 round mould, \$3.25, 6 round mould, \$4.00, 5 round window stool, 1 1/2, \$1.50; 6 round window stool, 1 1/2, \$5.25; 4 round casing, \$2.50; 5 round casing, \$2.75, 6 round casing, \$3.25; 8 round base, \$1.50, 10 round base, \$5.50, 12 round base, \$7.00, hand rail, 2x1, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2 1/2 inch, \$2.35; wainscot cap, 2 inch, \$2.75, paper mould, 75c.

Moulding made from 1 1/2 stock add 25 per cent; 1 1/2 add 50 per cent.

Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices.

All shop work at special net prices.

Raw FURS—Last week we gave a report of the results of the Hudson's Bay Co's London fur sales, which showed very unsatisfactory prices realized. Following is the cable report of C. M. Lamson & Co's London fur sales, which closed yesterday.

Fox, silver,	30	lower	than March, 1895.
Fox, blue,	20	higher	" " " "
F. x. cross,	30	lower	" " " "
Fox, red,	17	"	" " " "
Fisher,		same as	" " " "
Lynx,	30	lower	" " " "
Wolverine,		same as	" " " "
Squirrel,		same as	January, 1896.
Musk ox,		"	March, 1895.
Fur, seal, dry		"	" " " "
Sea otter		"	" " " "
Otter,	100	higher	than " " " "
Beaver,		same as	January 1896.
Muskrat,	100	lower	than " " " "

Mink,	10	higher	than March 1895.
Skunk,	30	lower	" " " "
Martin,	15	higher	" " " "
Bear, black,	35	lower	" " " "
Bear, brown,	15	"	" " " "
Bear, grizzly	55	"	" " " "

The above report shows that the sales have turned out unsatisfactory and the result will no doubt exercise a weakening tendency on prices here. The following quotations give the range of prices here. The prices cover the range from small to large skins, size, color and condition being considered though skins are sometimes offered which are not worth the minimum quotations, on account of being killed out of season.

Badger	\$0.05 to \$0.60
Bear, black or brown	5.00 to 26.00
Bear, yearlings	2.00 to 8.00
Bear, grizzly	5.00 to 25.00
Beaver, large	5.50 to 7.50
" medium	3.00 to 4.50
" small	5.00 to 2.50
" cubs	25 to 70
" castors, per lb	2.50 to 5.50
Fisher	3.00 to 8.00
Fox, cross	2.00 to 15.00
" kitt	10 to 40
" red	25 to 1.50
" silver	20.00 to 75.00
Lynx, large	1.50 to 2.50
" medium	1.00 to 2.00
" small	75 to 1.25
Marten dark	1.00 to 4.50
" Pale or Brown	1.00 to 3.50
" Light pale,	75 to 1.75
Mink	50 to 1.50
Musquash, winter	03 to 07
Otter	2.00 to 9.00
Skunk	25 to 80
Wolf, timber	1.00 to 2.75
" prairie	25 to 75
Wolverine	1.00 to 4.00

WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION—There has not been very much change in wheat this week, though prices were a little better on some days. Large receipts at United States spring wheat points and favorable crop weather depressed prices. Cables were irregular. United States exports are light. Kansas crop reports were very favorable. Shipments last week from all exporting countries were estimated at 5,000,000 bushels. United States exports this week were 1,750,000 bushels.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION—The spring break-up of the roads came this week in good shape, and wheat deliveries in Manitoba will be practically nil until after seeding. This is what grain men were anxious for, as storage was full at many points, and it is too late in the season to ship all rail. Dealers will not want to see farmers resume deliveries until after navigation has opened and there has been an opportunity to relieve the congested storage some. Receipts at Fort William for the week ended March 21 were 91,000 bushels, shipments 25,000 bushels; in store 3,872,000 bushels. Stocks in store a year ago were 911,000 and two years ago 2,235,500 bushels. Stocks of Manitoba wheat at lake ports, milling and interior points here aggregate 8,000,000 as compared with about 3,250,000 bushels a year ago. Receipts at Fort William for the corresponding week last year were 2,117 bushels and shipments were 3,312 bushels. Prices in Manitoba country markets have continued irregular, ranging about 50c per bushel for best samples of hard wheat, at some points. We quote No. 1 hard, Fort William, cash delivery, at about 61c. May is held at about 65c.

FLOUR—There has been no change in prices. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.85 to \$1.90 for patents and \$1.65 to \$1.70 for strong bakers per sack of 98

pounds, delivered to city retail dealers, second bakers \$1.55 to \$1.45; XXXX \$1.20 to \$1.25 delivered. Brands of country mills are offered at 5 to 10c under these quotations.

MILLSUFFS.—Prices have declined 81 per ton this week. City mills are now selling at \$8 per ton for bran and \$10 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots.

OATS—Oats have been very dull and they are now very slow sale. We quote car lots on track, country points at 11 to 13c. In the Winnipeg market, for local consumption, 16 to 17c per bushel of 34 pounds is paid to farmers and up to 18c has been paid for a few loads of choice milling.

BARLEY.—There is scarcely any moving. We quote car lots nominal at 13 to 15c, in the country for No. 3 and under. For the local trade 17 to 18c has been paid, per bushel of 48 pounds, for a few loads, to farmers.

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

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

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is selling at about \$1.25 per sack of 80 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers.

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

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

BUTTER.—Prices are about the same. Receipts are moderate, and there is a demand in a small way, sufficient to absorb present offerings. We quote fair to choice dairy tubs at 12 to 15c per lb. and lower grades at 8 to 10c. Ordinary rolls 9 to 11c, fancy, fresh made rolls or bricks, nicely handled, 12 to 15. Small lots 1c more. It is getting late in the season for rolls, and tubs are now preferred. The supply is expected to increase very soon, and easier prices are looked for, though at the moment values are fairly firm.

CHEESE.—Cheese is jobbing here in small lots at 8 1/2 to 10c for large and 10 1/2 to 11c for small sizes.

EGGS—Prices started at 11c this week, at which price commission houses were selling. On Tuesday and Wednesday some were selling at 10c, but on Thursday the general price advanced to 10c again, and they are expected to hold firm until after Easter, though this will depend on supplies arriving.

LARD.—Prices are. Pure \$1.80 for 20 lb. pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8 1/2c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins, \$3.60.

CURED MEATS.—Hog products are firm. Smoked meats are quoted Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11 1/2; do. backs, 10 1/2c; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7 1/2c long rolls, 7 1/2c; shoulders, 7c smoked long clear, 8 1/2 to 9c; smoked jowls, 5 1/2c. Dry salt meats are quote 1: Long clear bacon, 7 1/2c per lb; shoulders, 6c; backs, 8c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$15.00; clear mess \$18.00, short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel. Pork sundries: fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 6 1/2c; German sausage, 6 1/2c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2 1/2c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

POULTRY.—Turkeys 13c; ducks 12c; geese 12c; chickens 12c. Really fine native poultry would bring these prices, less commission.

DRESSED MEATS.—Mutton is firm, the supply in the city being very light. Hogs are steady at about 5 to 5 1/2c per pound. The top would only be paid by butchers for a few fancy hogs. City dressed beef 5 to 6c, as to

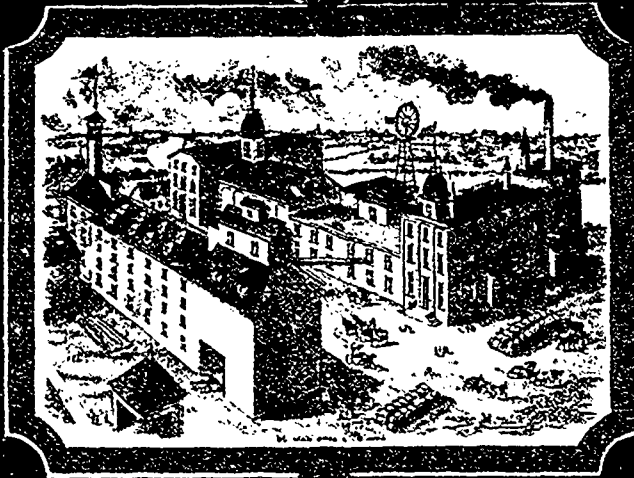
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LITHOGRAPHING

IT is with great pleasure the announcement can be made to all readers of THE COMMERCIAL of the important fact that in the City of Winnipeg we have now one of the best equipped plants in Canada, and our patrons can rest assured of all work being handled only by men specially adept in each and every branch, and it will be of interest to all who at any time have had to send East for Lithographic work to know that it is being done by us as cheaply and better than by any other concern in Canada.

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LETTER HEADS.—Everyone knows, and all appreciate the importance of presentable letter paper. It is one of the things that business men admit always gives them more or less an idea of the general character of their unseen correspondents. The address below is of a firm who can supply you with the very best in this line.

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LABELS.—This most important thing about any package or bottle—and some even think of more importance than the contents—and it is admitted by all men of experience that a mean, weak, poor label ruins the sale of the most perfect product. It is with great pride we offer you the assistance of a staff of men of large experience in supplying the wants of Brewers, Aerated Water, Drug and Soap Manufacturers, Confectioners, and all the infinite variety of users of labels, and point with pleasure to Cigar Labels—which are works of art—and little cheap labels. We are able to supply you from the top to the bottom with every class of label, done exactly correct. Look for the imprint: **BULMAN BROS. & CO., Winnipeg.**

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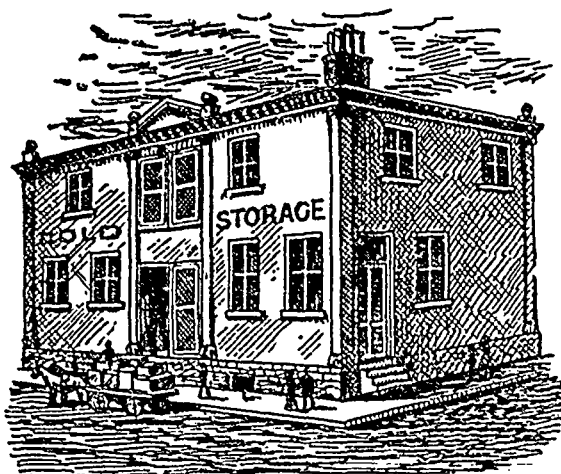
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STORED AND HANDLED.

PRICES LOW.

Capacity—Cellar, - 6 carloads
—Refrigerators, 4 carloads
—Ordinary - 5 carloads

RATES: Eggs, 15c per case per month or part thereof. Butter according to quantity. Commission for selling Eggs, 1c per dozen. Other produce, \$100.00 or less, 10 per cent; over \$100 or under \$250, 7½ per cent; over \$250, 5 per cent, if in one complete sale.

YOU CAN EITHER SELL OR HOLD, ACCORDING AS MARKET SUITS.

Highest Market Price for Produce. I sold Butter last week at 18 cents.

ADDRESS **J. J. PHILP,**

Warehouse: 330 Elgin Ave, P.O. Box 586, WINNIPEG.

When sending EGGS, state lowest price you wish them sold for and if stored, they will have to be transferred to take out cracked and bad ones. 10 cents extra for caudling.

JOHN SMITH, ESQ., General Store,
ANY TOWN, MANITOBA.

DEAR SIR,—I have your letter of yesterday's date in which you say you have been losing 8 cents per dozen on eggs shipped to this city during the past week, also asking me what reason there is for the market going down so, and how low I think eggs will go. Replying to the first, I can only say that I think it serves you right, to the second there is no reason at all why eggs should have dropped to the extent they have, and as to how low they will go, I suppose that they will go as low as those who pickle eggs want them to, at least that has always been the case heretofore.

It appears to me that if I were a store-keeper in the country I would not like to send in my produce to the city to have it manipulated in this fashion. Let me give you some figures. As near as I can find out there has not been over 500 cases of eggs come into the city in the last 10 days; this would be 15,000 doz., 180,000 eggs or a little over 4 eggs apiece for the population of the city to say nothing about outside markets. What I claim is that there was no necessity for such a sudden drop and if you and others wish to avoid being caught in the same fashion again I would suggest that you send the eggs to Cold Storage when you would have an opportunity to control the market by storing them. Eggs can be kept from now until Aug. 1st for 2 cts per doz., or in the meantime if the market requires them at a price that shows you any profit, you could easily let them go. I do not believe however, that eggs will be high and think that about 8 to 10 cts, according to the distance and the cost of sending them in would be as much as you can afford to pay for them. At these prices they should be safe if handled in the way I indicated above.

In reference to butter I might say that the market is doing better now and will probably continue firm for some time.

I shall be pleased to hear from you at any time.

Yours most respectfully,
J. J. PHILP.

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embodying an absolutely new and unique method of compensation by which men of integrity, ability and energy, with or without experience, can now make Life Insurance their business, and secure a Definite Income continuous throughout life.

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Every requisite for the Drug Trade promptly supplied.

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PARKER'S STEAM DYE WORKS

The first and only dye works in Manitoba and Northwest Territories. Head Office: 285 Portage Ave., Winnipeg.

C. Graham, general merchant. Glenora, Man., is opening a branch at Baldur. Sterling & McCaul, general dealers, Emerson, Man., have assigned.

DON'T BE A PUD'N HEAD!

And allow another APRIL FOOL DAY
to catch you without

THE DAYTON COMPUTING SCALE SYSTEM.

THIS SYSTEM INSURES YOUR STOCK against shrinkage and loss from mistakes and over-weights; saves your time, worry and mental calculation; and gives you more assurance in your business.

OVER 21,000 Merchants Use It!

AND SAVE MONEY.

ITS TIME YOU WERE ORDERING.

THE COMPUTING SCALE CO., DAYTON OHIO,
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MILLS & HASTINGS General Agents, 700 and 701 Garden City Block, CHICAGO, ILL.

W. G. EVANS, Agent for Man., N.W.T. and B.C., P. O. Box 926, WINNIPEG.

quality. Mutton, city dressed, 8 to 9c. Veal 6 to 6½c.

VEGETABLES.—Following are prices on the street market. Potatoes, 10 to 15c per bushel, cabbage 40 to 75c per dozen, as to size; celery 25 to 40c per dozen bunches; onions 40 to 60c per bushel; turnips 10 to 15c per bushel; parsnips, 40 to 50c bushel; carrots 30 to 40c; beets 25c bushel.

HIDES.—The tendency is to reduce values all around. Some buyers were not offering over 4c for green country hides. We quote prices here as follows: Green country hides 4 to 4½c, 4 to 8 lbs. tare off. Green city hides, No. 1 5c; No. 2 4c. Calf, 8 to 15 lb skins, 5 to 6c per lb; deacons, 15 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheep and lambskins recent kill, 50 to 65c. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

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

WOOL.—No prices established yet.

SENECA ROOT.—A few little lots of old root have been picked up at 17c per lb, and the same price has been offered for several lots which are held by country dealers, but it has not been accepted. Several country dealers are known to be holding lots since last summer, as they would not sell at the prices then offered, but it seems doubtful if prices will improve for the coming crop, as large stocks of old root are held at New York and elsewhere.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE.—The first export shipment of cattle this season left the yards here on Thursday, consisting of 170 head of Manitoba cattle, received from various sections of the country. The price of cattle is low, owing to unsatisfactory markets in Great Britain. The range for cattle here, off cars, is 2½ to 3½c.

SHEEP.—Nothing doing in sheep. There would be sale for a few lots, if offered now; nominal about 4c.

HOGS.—Steady and offerings moderate. Average lots of bacon hogs bring 3½c off cars here.

HORSES.—One of the peculiarities of trade was the shipment from here this week, for export, of two cars of horses, attached to a cattle train, by Gordon & Ironside. At the same time, quite a number of car loads of horses are being brought to Manitoba this spring, from Eastern Canada. There is a good demand for farm horses, at prices ranging from \$150 to \$250 for a team. It is hard to get a team suitable for farm work as low as \$150.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, March 24, 1896.

In almost all lines business has shown better results each succeeding week since the first of the year. Collections are fair. There is still great activity in the lumber business. All the saw mills are very busy, and numerous new logging camps are starting up.

British Columbia Business Notes

The Yellow Cypres recently purchased by an English syndicate will be logged this summer and a mill erected on the spot, which is some 200 miles from Vancouver on the northern coast.

Local potatoes may be somewhat scarcer it is said, owing to the fact that large quantities stored in the warehouses at Langley were ruined by frost.

During the short season when ice was in the Fraser, farmers could not get to market which was a serious loss to them.

A market day is to be established in Vancouver at an early date, which will be a great convenience to local farmers.

The dairying and apicultural reports to hand are interesting.

Salaries of provincial employees are to be very materially cut. The revenue for 1896 has been estimated at \$1,935,959 and the expenditure \$1,915,837.

Mr. Fraser, from Portage la Prairie, Man., where he was connected with Jos. Taylor's drug store, will open a drug store at Rossland.

W. A. Nevard, butcher, Chilliwack, has sold out to Lovering & Cruikshanks.

C. Ordana and A. Frumonto, general store, Cowichan, have assigned to P. Wollaston.

Imperial Brewing Co., Kamloops, have dissolved; B. Wehrfritz continues.

G. A. Bigelow & Co., liquors, Nelson and Rossland, have dissolved; Oliver Steen continues.

Stubbs, Bannerman & Co., clothing, etc., Sandon, succeeded by Stubbs, Bennett & Co.

Norris & Jackson, hotel, Sidney, have dissolved; F. G. Norris continues.

The British Columbia Supply Co., Vancouver, has been incorporated.

F. J. Painton & Co., musical instruments, Vancouver, have assigned.

J. S. Donaldson drugs, Vernon, sheriff in possession.

The stock of Perry & Turner, stores, etc., Victoria, has been sold to J. L. Beckwith & Co.

Samuel Whittaker, hotel, Slocan City, has sold out to Clothing & Henderson.

The boards of trade of the province are petitioning the Dominion government to build more hatcheries as in their opinion last year's big run was due to the one single hatchery on the mainland.

The Great Li Roi mine is to pay another dividend on the 7th of April.

The dairymen of British Columbia met at Chilliwack and Langley this week. There were many valuable papers read, but the discussion was chiefly about creameries and co-operation. Valuable information was imparted and great good will be obtained from the exchange of ideas. There is little doubt that cooperative creameries will be established shortly in in Langley and Chilliwack.

Dyking operations are in full swing on the Fraser. Large gangs of men are employed and dredges of special capacity are at work. Hundreds of acres of Delta ground, have already been rendered secure from floods.

There is great activity among the mines in the interior, and Canada is indirectly benefited perhaps at present more than the province itself. Collector Johnson at Nelson estimates the exports through his office alone for the year at \$5,000,000. During the month of February the value of ore passing through Revelstoke and via Nelson was \$150,000. The receipts of the three customs houses in the Trail Creek district in February were \$ 0,402 47.

The Trail tram will be finished in a month.

Another rich strike has been made on the O K, the vein has increased to 10 feet. The Canadian Pacific Railway are surveying a townsite on Smelter Hill, at that end of Trail townsite. The Canadian Pacific Railway will build to Trail this year and make this their terminus.

Kaslo.—Since January 1st 6,691,117 pounds of ore have been shipped to the States, valued at \$840,366. The following silver mines are shipping ore: Slocan Star, Goodenough, Washington, Roco, Last Chance, Wellington, Ruth, Deadman, Payne Group, Noble Four Group, and Whitewater.

Revelstoke.—Large quantities of ore are moving in this vicinity, chiefly from the Silver Cup mine. The Arrowhead will ship shortly. The Great Northern has a lot of good ore on the dump. The True Fisher on

Trout Lake is now owned by an American and as soon as the lake opens ore will be shipped. The Revelstoke Smelting Co. have decided to again use their smelter, long in disuse.

The first test of the much talked of Trail smelter was made last week, and proved satisfactory in every respect. The Flossie L. mine has been sold to Americans. The whole face of the Crescent tunnel in the Ontario is good ore. For several months the Le Roi has averaged over 100 tons a day. The Josie is putting in machinery. The Lily May has been sold to Americans for \$10,000. The Lily May shows an 18 inch vein running 75 ounces in silver and \$20 in gold on shafts 1 and 2. No. 3 shaft is richer still. The Nickle Plate is shipping ore running \$200. The vein in the famous War Eagle has increased from 2 to 12, and now runs \$150 in gold. Twelve thousand tons have been shipped from shaft No. 1, running \$12 50 in gold. The compression plant of the War Eagle has proved a complete success. The Nest Egg mine is worked night and day. Two shafts have been started, one 4 feet and the other 2½ feet. The Zetor, Orongo, and East St. Louis mines are being worked with bright prospects.

The B.C. Colliery returns are in for 1895 and are of universal interest to western Canadians. The output of the Nanaimo colliery was 338,198 tons, unsold 6,334 tons; Wellington colliery 336,906, unsold 13,833 tons; Union colliery 261,550, unsold 13,336. So that the three Nanaimo coal mines turned out 939,654 tons of coal in 1895, and of this amount 33,553 tons were not sold. The Nanaimo colliery has 942 whites and 142 Chinese employed; the Wellington colliery 927 whites and 97 Chinese and the Union 473 whites, 50 Japs and 29 Chinese, a total in all of 2312 whites, 532 Chinese and 50 Japs making a grand total of 2,924 employees. The whites in the Nanaimo colliery get \$2.37 to \$3.50 per day, and the Chinese \$1 to \$1.25. In the Wellington the whites get \$2.25 to \$3.50 and the Chinese \$1 to \$1.50 and in the Union the whites get \$2.50 to \$3.00 and the Chinese \$1 to \$1.50 so some idea can be got of the immense daily wage list. In fact few Canadians realize the importance of the coal industry of Vancouver Island until they scan these figures. Of the coal mined 756,333 tons were exported, the rest being for home consumption. In the Nanaimo mine there is 11 1-2 miles of railway 5 locomotives and 239 cars, numerous electric and other stationary engines. In the Wellington mine, there are 5 miles of railway 6 locomotives 250 cars and 18 stationary engines, and in the Union Colliery there are 12 miles of railway 8 engines, and 150 coal cars. Numerous other statistics of a like surprising nature to those not already informed are contained in the report.

Grain and Milling Notes.

A meeting of farmers was held at Ninga, Man., recently, to consider the advisability of building a farmers' elevator. They propose building an elevator of 30,000 bushel capacity, shares to be \$25 apiece, to be paid in cash by June 10th, 1897. One thousand was subscribed at once, and a committee appointed to canvass and report at a meeting to be held here on March 27th.

Manitoba flour is now going to Australia. The Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, made a sale this week of their patent flour for Sydney.

D. Cavanagh, hotel, Eikhorn, Man., is advertising his business for sale.

The Manitoba and Northwest Millers Association has been incorporated.

John Goldie, of the well known firm of Goldie & McCullough, Galt, Ont., died on March 26, from blood poisoning. He was aged 75 years.

THE PAINT COMPANY OF CANADA - CAPACITY NEARLY EQUAL TO ALL THE OTHER PAINT HOUSES COMBINED.

THE CANADA PAINT CO., LTD.

Proprietors of the Leading Brands of Vermillions, Window Blind Greens, Oil Wood Stains, Mixed Colors and Paints, White Leads

Manufacturers of Canadian Magnetic Iron Oxides, Indian and Venetian Reds, all shades Diamond Graphite Paints and Specialties

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The only First Hands in Canada for LEVIGATED MINERAL COLORS.

Manufacturers of Decorators' and Painters Materials, Paper Stainers' Colors, Wall Paper Colors, Lithographers' Colors and Varnishes, Artists' Tube Colors, Carriage Builders' Primers, Fillers, Fine Colors, Varnishes, Painters' Triple Strength Tinting Colors.

Owners of Quebec Paint Lands and Graphite Mines.

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BRANCHES AT MONTREAL, TORONTO AND VICTORIA, B. C.

'RIGBY' POROUS WATERPROOF CLOTHING AND CLOTH.

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

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

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

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MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE OF

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18 Front Street East.  18 Front Street East.

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McINTYRE SON & CO.,

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Importers and Direct Agents for the BEST MANUFACTURERS in the following

SPECIALTIES :

FANCY & STAPLE DRESS GOODS

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

FANCY COLORED WOOL DRESS GOODS in Tweeds. Cover Coatings, Drap de Dames, Drap Almas, Shepherd Checks, Rago Sablo, Granite, Cotele Croquella, Cotele Cheval.

BLACK AND COLORED DRESS GOODS in Bengalines, DeLaines, Diagonals, Armuirs, Figuras, Poplins, Sicilians, Mohairs, Cashmeres, Serges.

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

Linens, Laces Velvets, Linings Kid Gloves, Smallwares, etc.

Manitoba, N.W.T. and British Columbia Agent

J. W. MACDONALD, McIntyre Block.



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.

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

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 was lower on Monday, closing 3c under Saturday, influenced by large receipts of spring wheat and unfavorable crop news. Closing prices were:

	March.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	60 1/2	62	62 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Mess Pork..	8 90	9 02 1/2	—
Lard.....	5 12 1/2	5 25	—
Short Ribs..	4 70	4 82 1/2	—

Wheat was weak at the start on Tuesday, but recovered and advanced a little, under the influence of buying by shorts, and some unfavorable crop reports. Closing prices were:

	March	May.	July.
Wheat....	60 1/2	62 1/2	63 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Mess Pork..	8 70	8 85	—
Lard.....	5 07 1/2	5 17 1/2	—
Short Ribs..	4 60	4 75	—

On Wednesday wheat was irregular, declining under the influence of dull cables and large spring wheat receipts, but advanced on reports of a cold wave coming and drought at the Pacific coast, in California. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.	July
Wheat.....	61 1/2	63	63 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Mess Pork..	—	8 82 1/2	9 02 1/2
Lard.....	—	—	—
Short Ribs..	—	—	—

On Thursday wheat was weak at the opening, but advanced on large local speculative buying. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.	July.
Wheat....	62	63 1/2	63 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	19 1/2	20 1/2
Pork.....	8 70	8 82 1/2	9 00
Lard.....	5 07 1/2	5 15	5 30
Short Ribs..	4 67 1/2	4 75	4 85

On Friday firm cables and smaller spring wheat receipts advanced prices, but later there was a decline on reported favorable crop weather southwest. Closing prices were:

	March.	May.	July.
Wheat....	61 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2
Mess Pork..	8 80	8 90	9 07 1/2
Lard.....	5 12 1/2	5 20	5 35
Short Ribs..	4 75	4 80	4 92 1/2

On Saturday, March 28, prices closed as follows:

	Mar.	May.	July.
Wheat....	62 1/2	64	64 1/2
Corn.....	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Oats.....	18 1/2	20 1/2	19 1/2
Mess Pork..	—	8 85	9 05
Lard.....	—	5 20	5 35
Short Ribs..	—	4 80	4 90

A week ago Saturday, May wheat closed at 62 1/2c and a year ago at 55 1/2c and two years ago at 60c.

Minneapolis Flour Market.

The Market Record of March 26 reports flour steady and fairly firm with prices as follows in barrels, f.o.b.: First patents, \$3.15 to \$3.50, Second patents, \$3.00 to \$3.05, First clears, \$2.45 to \$2.50; second clear, \$2; Export baker's, \$2.45, second export baker's \$2 to \$2.10; Red Dog, per ton 140 lbs. jute, \$10.25. These prices are the same as a week ago.

Milstuffs—Bran in bulk \$1.75 to \$7. Bran in sacks, 20 lbs, \$8. Bran in sacks, 100 lbs, \$4.50; Shorts \$1.50 to \$1.75, Millings, fine \$9 to \$9.25.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—May, 61c, July, 61c
Tuesday—May, 61c, July, 61c
Wednesday—May, 61c, July, 61c
Thursday—May, 61c, July, 61c
Friday—May, 61c, July, 61c
Saturday—May, 62c, July, 61c

A week ago Saturday price closed at 60 1/2c for May. A year ago May delivery closed at 6 1/2c. Two years ago May closed at 6 1/2c, and three years ago at 6 1/2c. No. 1 hard was quoted at about 1 1/2c over No. 1 northern, No. 2 northern, 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, March 28, May delivery closed at 70 1/2 and July delivery at 69 1/2. A week ago May closed at 69 1/2c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday as follows: May delivery at 59 1/2, and 60 1/2c for July.

British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, March 28, 1896.

The principal feature this week is a sharp decline in creamery butter to 21c. Cheese has advanced 1 to 1 1/2c per lb. Fresh meats are firm. There has been a decline in some brands of flour.

Butter.—Dairy butter, 18 to 20c; creamery 24c; Government creamery, 27c; Manitoba cheese 12c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12c; breakfast bacon 12c; backs 1 1/2c; long, clear 8 1/2c; short rolls 9 1/2c, smoked sides 10 1/2c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9c per pound; in rails and tubs 9 1/2c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$15.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 12c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel heads, 8c; finnan haddies, 9c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 8c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes new, \$8 to \$10 per ton; onions silver skins, 1 1/2c; cabbage, 1 1/2c; Ashcroft potatoes, 75 to 76c; carrots, turkeys and beets, 1/2 to 1c a lb.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 18 to 19c. Washington eggs, 17c.

Fruits.—California seedling oranges \$1.60 to \$2.00, navels, \$3.00; native apples \$1.25; California lemons, \$3.50; Oregon apples, \$1.75.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7 1/2c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12 1/2c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12 1/2c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$1.70; strong bakers, \$1.10; Oregon, \$1.25; Oak Lake patent \$1.00, do strong bakers \$1.30.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22 1/2 pound sacks, \$3.30; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.00, 2-50's, \$2.75. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 15's \$2.35.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$30.00 per ton f.o.b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

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

Hay.—Nominal at \$8 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 7 1/2c; mutton, 7c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 10c per lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, 3 1/2 to 4c lb; sheep, \$1.00 to \$1.40; hogs, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$6 per dozen, scarce.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6 1/2c; Paris lump, 6 1/2c; granulated, 5 1/2c; extra C, 5 1/2c, fancy yellows 4 1/2c; yellow 4 1/2c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1 1/2c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2 1/2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each. 1 gallon tins, \$1 per can of 10; 1/2 gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11 1/2c; good, 18c; choice, 26c. Ceylons: Fair, 25c; good, 30c; choice, 35c per lb.

Manitoba & Northwestern Railway Extension.

The Messrs. Allan of Montreal, Senator Drummond, Mr. MacDowell, M.P. for Saskatchewan, and Mr. Wm. McDonald, M.P. for Eastern Assiniboia, had an interview with Sir Charles Tupper, and Hon. Mr. Haggart at Ottawa regarding government assistance towards an extension of the Manitoba and Northwestern railway to Prince Albert. The members of the deputation are well pleased with the result and it is understood they made a favorable impression on the ministers.

Quick Time.

G. F. & J. Galt, wholesale grocers, Winnipeg, on Saturday last received via the Canadian Pacific Railway a large consignment of tea from India and Ceylon. This tea was handed to the Canadian Pacific Railway agents at Colombo, Ceylon, on February 12th and was consigned via Hong Kong and Vancouver for Winnipeg, arriving at its destination in thirty-seven days. This is considered quick time for a trip half way around the world.

R. Luxton, tobacconist, Grenfell, Man., is succeeded by J. J. Dale.

A. E. Hainsworth, general merchant, Marquette, Man., is succeeded by McPherson & Co.

Love & Raymond, hotel, Q'Appelle, Assn., are advertising their business for sale.

The Montreal Fur & Millinery Co., Winnipeg, Man., has been incorporated.

Coltart & Hendry, Grocers, Winnipeg, Man., are dissolving partnership.

R. A. Rogers has resumed work on his new cold storage warehouse, located on the transfer railway track, Lombard street, Winnipeg. The foundation was built last year, and the building will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible, so as to be available this season for the butter and cheese trade, etc. The building will cost about \$25,000 and will be first-class in every respect. It will be carried on as a public cold storage warehouse, under the name of the Winnipeg Cold Storage and Refrigerating Co.

Walter S. Crone, the old-time representative of H. A. Nelson & Sons, of Toronto and Montreal, wholesale dealers in fancy goods, tobacconists' supplies, etc., arrived in the city last week from the west. Mr. Crone has been representing his firm for the past three months in the territory between Winnipeg and Victoria, B. C., and after a stay of ten days in the city, will return east. His reports business improving on the coast and had a good trip. Mr. Crone will be up again in July, during exhibition week, with holiday trade samples.

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



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

**NINGPORI
BALIKANDA
COOLIPUR**

How different the results in the use of our

PURE BLENDED TEAS.

WE HAVE IN STORE a carload of these SUPERB TEAS direct from the plantation. The high standard quality is more than sustained, they are without doubt the choicest values ever shown on this market. We shall be pleased to show you samples, they are to be had on the asking.

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

SOLE WHOLESALE SELLING AGENTS:

Turner, Mackeand & Co., Wholesale Grocers, Winnipeg.

J. H. McCallum & Co.,
Commission Merchants
and Forwarders.
Consignments received in all lines. Liberal Advances Made.
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED
Josephine Street, NELSON, B.C.
THE KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

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,
Box 803. VICTORIA, B.C.

GEO. M. HAYWARD,
ACCOUNTANT,
Book-keeper, Auditor
and Collector.
EXPERT WORK GUARANTEED AND PROMPTLY DONE.
Alexander Avenue, - WINNIPEG, MAN.

J. & A. Clearihue,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
-DEALERS IN-
FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.
Special attention to consignments of Furs and Skins, Butter and Eggs.
Yates Street, VICTORIA, B.C.
P.O. BOX 336.
AGENTS Skidegate Oil Works, B.C.; D. Richards, Laundry Soaps Woodstock, Ontario; Teller, Rothwell Co., Montreal, Parisian Washing Blue.
We have a large cool warehouse with good facilities for handling Butter and Produce in quantities.
Consignments Received in all Lines. Correspondence Solicited.

McMILLAN & HAMILTON,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
-WHOLESALE DEALERS IN-
BUTTER, EGGS, FRUITS AND PRODUCE
A PERFECT SYSTEM OF
COLD STORAGE.
230 ABBOTT STREET, - VANCOUVER.
P.O. BOX NO. 298.
Quote prices on first quality Dairy Butter or consign it to us and get top market prices.

DICK, BANNING & CO
MANUFACTURERS OF
Lumber, Shingles and Lath,
DOORS AND SASH.
MILLS AT KENWATIN. OFFICE: OPPOSITE C.P.R. PASSENGER DEPOT, WINNIPEG

OSMUND SKRINE & CO.,
Produce and Commission Merchants.
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, FLOUR
AND FEED.
CALIFORNIA FRUITS,
Sole Agents for British Columbia for Alexander, Kelly & Co's Celebrated Rolled Oats and Flour.
Special Attention given to consignments of Flour from Manitoba and N.W.T.
121 TO 123 WATER STREET,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

MAJOR & ELDRIDGE,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
Vancouver, - B.C.
Butter, Eggs, Cheese and Pork Products
FRESH EGGS WANTED.
Sole Agents for Vancouver, New Westminster and District for Letch Bros. Celebrated Oak Lake Manitoba Flour.

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

Winnipeg Fire Statistics.

From a report of the Winnipeg fire department for the past year we take the following statistics:

VALUE, INSURANCE AND LOSS.			
Month	Fires	Value of Consumed	Insurance Total loss
January	10	\$117,050	\$129,125 \$15,983 10
February	6	107,800	82,200 2,104 00
March	7	102,050	68,650 8,608 00
April	9	373,800	112,500 26,080 00
May	8	5,075	1,550 575 00
June	5	10,925	25,500 1,917 00
July	8	65,700	38,394 6,738 04
August	7	8,910	1,100 1,242 00
September	4	3,740	2,000 1,019 00
October	8	105,000	63,800 10,102 86
November	6	88,300	76,300 2,495 75
December	6	163,100	63,375 80,217 60

Totals. 81 \$1,206,450 \$670,891 \$102,101 94

In addition to the number of actual fires, there were a large number of "alarms," when little or no damage was done. The following shows the cause of the various alarms:

Burning chimneys	49
Burning rubbish	5
Bonfires	1
Children playing with matches	9
Coal oil stove or heater	2
Carelessness with lights	3
Defective heating apparatus	8
Defective chimneys	8
Careless smokers	7
Electric motors	1
False alarm	18
Fire Crackers	2
Goods too near stovepipes	1
Hot ashes	2
Heated pipes too near woodwork	1
Incendiary	5
Lighting fire with coal oil	2
Lime slacking	1
Lamp explosion	6
Overheated stovepipes	13
Range on floor	1
Sparks	8
Stove too near wood	2
Spontaneous combustion	4
Same fire	3
Special duty	2
Smoke stack	1
Smoke house	1
Tar pot	1
Test drills and escort	69
Unknown	6

Total..... 232

The following gives statistics for previous years:

1890—Number of fires, 79; value of buildings and contents, \$1,022,225.27; insurance, \$512,381; loss, \$37,208.95.

1891—Number of fires, 73; value of buildings and contents, \$936,410.33; insurance, \$555,478.33; loss, \$17,414.82.

1892—Number of fires, 89; value of buildings and contents, \$1,701,025.10; insurance, \$1,062,550; loss, \$174,830.51.

1893—Number of fires, 109; value of buildings and contents, \$1,767,707; insurance, \$1,119,690; loss, \$159,921.60.

1894—Number of fires, 111; value of buildings and contents, \$1,104,652; insurance, \$741,085; loss, \$187,055.

1895—Number of fires, 81; value of buildings and contents, \$1,226,450; insurance, \$670,894; loss, \$102,101.94.

Western Coal Fields.

The coal fields of Manitoba and of the northwest territories are thus described by Dr. G. M. Dawson, director of the Geological Survey of Canada: "The known area of true and lignite coals of the best quality extends along the base of the Rocky Mountains from the 49th parallel to the vicinity of

Peace River, a distance of 500 miles, with an average width of, say 100 miles, giving a total area of 50,000 square miles. It is not intended to affirm that the whole of this area is continuously underlain by coal, but outcrops of coal are so general throughout it, that, taken in connection with the character and the regulation of the strata, it may safely be stated that it is throughout a coal field. An additional area, stretching eastward as far as the Souris River and Turtle Mountains, yielding lignites only, but these often of very good quality and well fitted for local uses, may be roughly estimated at 15,000 square miles." These fields, owing to the limited demand for their produce, have hardly been touched as yet; but when the scarcity of timber over a great part of the area in question is considered, it is evident that there exists one of the greatest moments in relation to the future settlement of the northwest.

The areas within the Rocky Mountains, though small as measured by miles, contain much coal of the best quality. One of these areas, on the Bow and Cascade Rivers, has been found to hold several good seams of anthracite of good quality. The principal of these are at Marsh Mine, near the south end of the field, 1 1/2 miles from the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and 550 feet above its level. Two thick seams of coal are found, one 17 feet (with 15 1/2 feet coal), and the other 9 1/2 feet (with 8 1/2 feet coal) in thickness. About three miles to the northwest of Marsh Mine and about a mile from the railway there are eight openings into outcrops of workable seams. Six of these are apparently one above the other, containing 30 feet coal. At Canmore about a mile from the railway station, and about 100 feet above it, here are three seams—one four feet, another 12 1/2 feet, and the third 18 feet in thickness. At Anthracite, close to the railway, these seams are being worked respectively, six feet (1 1/2 feet coal), 3 1/2 feet (three feet coal), and 5 1/2 feet (4 feet coal), in thickness; at Moberly, which is near the northwest end of the field, there is a seam of coal 4 1/2 feet thick (three feet eight inches coal). Two of these seams near Canmore are vertical, apparently from some disturbance; but with these exceptions they all dip to the southwest at angles ranging from 12 to 60 degrees. The relation of the various outcrops to Canmore mines can be ascertained by drifting.

These mines were opened first by the Canadian Anthracite Coal Company, limited, which leased them in 1891 to H. W. McNeil Company, limited, the present operator, the coal finding a ready market as far east as Winnipeg. The true anthracite character of the coal is shown by its yielding, or analysis, 87 per cent. of fixed carbon, by its burning with a clear, smokeless, almost flameless glow, and by its ash being white and non-ferruginous.

Ralph Moore, M. E., of Glasgow, late Her Majesty's inspector of coal mines for Scotland, says in his report of these mines, which he visited in 1889, that there is coal sufficient for an output of 2,000 tons a day for over 100 years. John R. Hoffman and R. C. Luther, of Pottsville, Pa., mining engineers of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal Company, have both minutely examined the property and estimate the contents of coal at 150,000,000 of tons minimum.

In 1891 the output was about 65,000 tons, the coal retailing in Winnipeg, 917 miles east of the mines, for \$9 per ton for standard sizes and 675 for nuts. The rate of the freights over the Canadian Pacific Railway is \$5 per ton with a substantial rebate, while the rebate from Fort William for American coal is \$3 net for 423 miles. The Alberta Railway and Coal Company, operating at Lethbridge, raised in 1891 120,000 tons, of which it is estimated about 85,000 tons were exported across the line to Montana. A

large portion of the output from this colliery is sold to the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Dominion Coal, Coko & Transportation Co., at Estevan, in Manitoba, raised, in 1891 about 10,000 tons for local consumption.

The following figures give the output of coal in the northwest during the last several years:

1887	71,171
1888	115,113
1889	97,841
1890	128,656
1891	165,068
1892	131,000
1893	213,000
Total	624,850

The Hide Situation.

The packers are feeling rather strong in view of the small supplies of cattle available. There are no large supplies of hides anywhere. Undoubtedly the "bear" factors in the case are also pronounced. The leather trade is not as active as it should be, and it is difficult for many tanners to secure loans except at exorbitant rates. This is also the time of year when a great many tanners never buy hides at any price. March hides are the worst of the year, and the early and more desirable hides are closely sold up. The condition is, therefore, a waiting one. On the one hand there is very little desire to buy, and on the other packers are in a better statistical position than they ever were before at this time of year. Winter hides usually drag and the packers enter the short-haired season with their cellars full of unsaleable stock. Under such conditions there is great difficulty in securing higher prices for May and June hides. This year history will not repeat itself, and that is why some tanners are holding leather firmly. To induce present sales by making concessions indicates either an imperative demand for ready money or a lack of knowledge of the actual condition of the trade.

The country hide market is being rapidly forced down. At the present time neither the city dealers nor the tanners have any interest in bolstering up the quotations. The leather trade responds slowly if at all to the improved condition of the shoe trade. Tanners are bidding 6c, and at that price would, it is thought, take from 5,000 to 10,000. The dealers refused to sell at the even figure for several days, but yesterday (Friday) all the talk of the street was to the effect that a few cars were let go at 6c for No. 1 and 5 1/2c for No. 2. At this writing it is thought only a few hides will be sold at the even figure, and the dealers have no desire to get caught "short."—Chicago Hide and Leather Review.

Silver.

Mr. Balfour's recent speech in parliament indicates that while England would entertain a new international conference, bimetallicism could have no place in its own monetary system, has put a damper on speculation in silver and silver securities at London. The decline in the quotations for bars shown below was due to this, and is the more striking in view of the fact that the Indian budget is very satisfactory, showing a larger surplus than had been expected. Silver prices on March 20 were: London 31 1/4d; New York 68 1/2c.

In the United States court at Detroit, Mich. the Hon. Judge Swan handed down a decree on March 9th holding valid the patents of The Computing Scale Co., of Dayton, O., for the infringement of which they brought suit against the Stimpson Computing Scale Co. This decision proves that imitators have no standing before the public as well as the courts.

BICYCLES!

"THE LINDSAY"

- 1896 -

HIGH-CLASS THROUGHOUT, and FULLY GUARANTEED

THE TRADE ONLY SUPPLIED. PRICES RIGHT.

W. G. McMAHON, 246 McDermott St., WINNIPEG.

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.

Strychnine!

SULPHATE and ALKALOID

WRITE FOR PRICES TO

McGLASHAN and HARRISON,
WINNIPEG

REPRESENTING

LYMAN, KNOX & CO.,
MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

Farms for Rent & Sale.

A couple of unimproved farms in the Winnipeg district for sale. Might arrange to take suitable live stock in exchange or part payment. Also an improved farm near Winnipeg to rent. Address:

D. W. B., Commercial Office.

READ THIS.

FOR SALE!

ON VERY REASONABLE TERMS, A

Magnificent Farm

Of rich black soil, situated on Luu Island, North Arm Fraser River, B. C. being composed of west halves of lots 12 and 13 and part of 1, Block 4 North, Range 7 West, 250 acres more or less; over two-thirds under good cultivation, mostly in meadow, the balance having been plowed once or twice and yielding abundance of grass for stock; has a very large barn, house and orchard of good bearing trees, all well fenced with stakes and boards; all well dyked and ditched, and about 3-4ths well underdrained; it is six or seven miles from the city of Vancouver; good roads, with stages to and from Vancouver daily; the river at the door teems with salmon, and has excellent shooting for ducks, geese and snipe; also pheasants in the near future; good school and churches near by; also lovely and scenery simply charming.

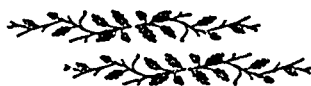
For further particulars apply to J. H. TODD & SON, Agents, Victoria, B. C. or to Messrs. Rand Bros., Vancouver.

C. ALFRED CHOUILLOU,

GENERAL FRENCH AGENCY,

IMPORTATION
COMMISSION
EXPORTATION

Importer of 



EUROPEAN WINES,
DRIED FRUITS, Etc.

487 SAINT PAUL STREET, MONTREAL.



W. BROWN & CO.

Wholesale Dealers and Importers of

Pipes, Cigars, Tobaccos

Our Special Brands of Cigars for 1896: Army and Navy Specials, Pride of Winnipeg, Pharaoh, Great West, Blue Jackets, Bird, Ellen Terry, Clixax.

Also full Stock of English, American, Turkish and Canadian Tobaccos and Cigarettes.

A full Line of English, French, German and Turkish Pipes

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

THE MACPHERSON FRUIT CO., LTD.

491 and 493 Main St., Winnipeg, Man.

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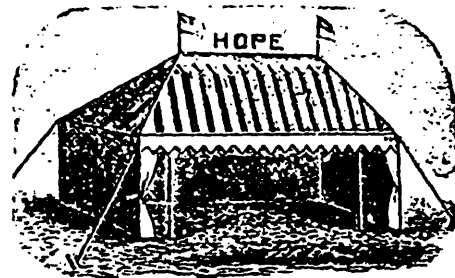
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WINNIPEG, MAN.

Manitoba Climate.

Dr. Patterson presented the following paper on the climate of Manitoba at the recent immigration convention :

In carrying on your work of turning the stream of immigration to this country, a most important point will be to correct the erroneous impression which to a certain extent prevails abroad, that our climate is one of unusual and almost unbearable severity. Those who hold this impression are loth to part with it, because they have received it from friends, residents here, and the public press.

In the past when writing to friends we rather taken a pride in quoting extraordinary low readings of the thermometer, at the same time asserting that we did not feel the cold. We have been fond of sending home winter views of various kinds, with ourselves in the foreground wrapped to the eyes in fur. Again, correspondents often send to foreign newspapers statements not warranted by the facts, making their articles attractive by exaggeration, and as much sensationalism as can well be thrown into them. Is it to be wondered at, that, in warmer climates, people have the same ideas of our winter, and our modes of living, that we have about the Arctic region, obtained from pictures of ice dwellings, fur clothing, and reading of seal oil and blubber for food.

We must correct our own habits in these particulars. The information we give should be the truth, and nothing but the truth. Our climate is not an Arctic one; it is not a tropical one; our summers are warm, but not too hot; our spring and fall months can scarcely be equalled in any part of the world; and we have about two months, viz., from the 20th of December to the end of February of quite cold weather, during which the thermometer does occasionally drop into the forties. It should be clearly explained that when these low readings do occur, the atmosphere is calm, and what we call dry, and that this is the reason why to a great degree below zero is not more unpleasant (if as much so) than fifteen degrees below, with the wind so common in the east. That at 40 below, with slight common sense precautions as to clothing, with the dry calm atmosphere, and the dry crisp snow, the ordinary occupations of every day rural life can be followed with as much comfort as in many sections of the east and south, enjoying much higher temperatures.

Another unjust effect our correspondence and sensational press items have had, is that every storm that passes over the eastern states and provinces, and they have quite a few of these, is there determined by the term. "A Northwest cyclone," or "A Manitoba blizzard." It is a well established fact that owing to our lower elevation above the sea level than the regions to the east, the west

and the south of us, we enjoy almost total immunity from blizzards and cyclones. We are very little more in the storm belt than we are in the orange belt.

Our climate is at all times a reasonable one. Our summers are warm enough and moist enough to secure most rapid and prolific vegetation. The days are long bright and warm, the nights cool and refreshing. In my statistics of temperature I do not take this season or last as especially favorable, but I quote the first my eye reached upon opening the record. In the year 1890, as recorded at St. John's College, Winnipeg, the mean temperature for the whole five months, May, June, July, August and September was 59.47.

Our spring months are delightful—the rays of the sun, from an unclouded sky, cause the snow to gradually melt and moisten the soil. Farming operations begin early in April. The mean temperature for two months of March and April 1880 was 19.77.

Our fall months are of a similar character, specially favorable for the agricultural occupations of harvesting, threshing and ploughing. The mean temperature for October and November, 1881, was 25.86.

Our winter months, though cold are not so severe as to materially interfere with outdoor rural occupations. The mean temperature for December, January and February, 1880, was 0.12. The mean temperature for the whole year 81-82, warmest day in the year, 90.3; coldest day, -41.4.

It may be asserted with every confidence that for ten months out of the year our climate is surpassed by few. It is also absolutely safe to say that there is less suffering with cold in Manitoba during an ordinary winter, than in any of the provinces and states nearer to the Atlantic coast. It is not simply cold weather that is unbearable, it is cold and damp weather that brings extreme suffering. Our dry, cold weather is tonic and bracing in its effects, not physically exhausting as the milder, damp and stormy winters of the east.

J. J. Hill, Esq., president of the Great Northern railway, says: "It is a well established fact that the further north either vegetable or animal life is developed, the better is that development—a better quality of grain is raised at the most northern limit at which it can be raised, than at any point farther south."

Archibald Ireland says: "A climate which is cold in winter is the kind in which animal and vegetable life is best developed. You cannot raise the best men or best wheat in a warm climate."

Visitors to Manitoba from the balmy south are at once struck by the ruddy complexions, the healthy appearance, the firm muscle, and the mental sturdiness and solidity of our people. Whilst we are equally struck by the

spare, swarthy, irritable, or sallow, languid lymphatic appearance of the inhabitants of warm climates.

What better proof of the salubrity of our climate can you find than the business ability, the fine physiques, and the excellent health enjoyed by those officials of the Hudson Bay company, who have spent the most of their lives in the Northwest, travelling constantly from post to post during the winter months without any shelter at night.

That the climate is a good one for the development of man is shown by the fact, that those who have come here during the last twenty years have not deteriorated, but stand to-day the equal of any other people in mental and physical vigor, independent thought and action.

That the climate is a good one for the propagation of our race is shown by our school population, which is larger in proportion to our whole population than most others.

That our climate is not the severe one that it is believed by many to be, is shown by the average attendance at school of all children of school age, being about equal in winter and summer except in sparsely settled rural districts. Yet our climate is not an Italian one, and we do not wish to so represent it, or have it.

What are the essentials of a good climate? 1st Purity of air—No purer air circulates on God's earth than our prairie breezes. 2nd. Freedom from storms of wind, rain, and dust. As I said before we enjoy special immunity from cyclones and blizzards, and whoever saw a dust or sand storm in Manitoba. 3rd. Abundant sunshine. The number of absolutely clear, sunshiny days in this country is not exceeded in any other good agricultural country habitable by white men. We have an average of two hundred clear days, out of the three hundred and sixty-five. In Great Britain on an average 6-10 of the sky is obscured by clouds every day of the year. 4th. Proper elevation above sea level. Too low is apt to be too damp. Too high is apt to be dry with excessive rarity of atmosphere. Statistics show that from 700 to 2,000 feet above sea level is the most favorable—exactly what we have in Manitoba. 5th. Dryness as opposed to moisture. That is, better a little too dry than a little too wet; exactly what we have. 6th. Coolness or cold as against warmth or heat. Better a little too cold than a little too hot. We have this coolness, yet it is the strongest objection raised against our climate by those who are ignorant upon the subject. 7th. Variability of temperature as opposed to equibality. Variability, not only as to seasons, but also as to day and night. No matter how warm our day may be in summer, we can depend upon the night being cool. This is an important factor, as it ensures a sound night's sleep, which is essential

Continued on page 648

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William May. 66 to 67. To farmers Manitoba points 50 to 55c.
 Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.85; Bakers, \$1.65.
 Bran.—Per con, \$12.
 Shorts.—Per ton, \$18.
 Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, local freights, 29 to 30c.
 Barley.—Per bushel, 35 to 40c, local freights.
 Flax Seed.—
 Butter.—Country lairy 8 to 14c in a small way.
 Cheese.—Small lots 10c.
 Eggs.—Fresh, 9 to 10c in small lots.
 Beef.—City dressed, 5½c.
 Mutton.—Fresh, and lamb, 6 to 7c.
 Hogs.—Dressed, 4½c.
 Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 3½c.
 Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4c.
 Sheep.—4c.
 Seneca Root.—
 Poultry.—Chickens, 8c, turkeys, 10c, geese, 10c, ducks 8c.
 Hides.—No. 1 cows, 4½c.
 Potatoes.—35c per bushel.
 Hay.—\$1.00 per ton, car lots, country freights.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending March 26 were \$983,169; balances, \$170,565. For the previous week clearings were \$926,547. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$601,910, and for the week two years ago, \$607,555. For the month of February clearings were \$4,052,581 as compared with \$2,721,028 for February, 1895, and \$3,132,537 for February, 1894.

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

	March 19.
Montreal	\$8,905,379
Toronto	6,223,079
Halifax	973,254
Winnipeg	926,517
Hamilton	570,966

Total \$17,599,219

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

At a meeting of the council of the Board of Trade, held on Tuesday, it was decided to communicate with the department of public works re the promise of the late minister of public works to move the Winnipeg customs house to a place convenient to the centre of the city.

A committee was appointed to collect information regarding claims of the settlers in the Foxton district for the extension of the Stonewall or Selkirk branches of the Canadian Pacific Railway and if necessary to wait upon the local government and urge that they open communication with the Canadian Pacific Railway on the matter.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the board: T. A. Bell, W. Blackwood, H. Leadly, J. Patterson, A. E. Scott, F. W. Sprado, S. M. Barro, D. R. Dingwall and Ald. Bannerman.

A letter was read from the Japanese consul for Canada in which he informed the board that he would be in Winnipeg shortly, and would be glad to meet the members of the Board of Trade to discuss the matter of trade between Canada and Japan.

The resignation of T. Ryan as a member of the council was accepted.

It was decided to urge upon the Dominion minister of public works in view of his statement in the house a few days ago re the improvement of St. Andrew's rapids, the desirability of placing a sufficient sum in the

estimates to make a substantial beginning with the work this year.

A motion was also passed urging upon the department of interior that the quarantine of cattle belonging to settlers coming into Manitoba from the United States be abolished and some form of inspection by competent veterinary be substituted.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Mar. 20 1896.	Mar. 22, 1895.
Flour, straight spring	\$3.10 to \$3.60	\$2.75 to \$3.35
Flour, straight winter	\$3.30 to \$3.80	\$2.40 to \$2.90
Wheat, No. 2 red	77½c	59½c
Cor'n, No. 2 mixed	37c	60c
ats, No. 2	25c	3¼c
Rye, No. 2, Western	48 c
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	45c
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 5-16c	6 5-16c
Print cloths, 64x64	27-16
Wool Ohio & Pa., X	18c	15½ to 16c
Wool, No. 1 comb	22 to 23c	20 to 21½c
Pork, mess new	\$9.75 to \$10.25	\$13.00 to 13.50
Lard, westn. stim.	6.47½c	7.15c
Butter, creamery	22c	20c
Cheese, ch. east ft.	10½c	11½c
Sugar, centrif. 90°	43-10c	30c
Sugar, granulated	5½c	8 15-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7	14½c	17½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.	\$1.43	1.12½c
Petroleum, rid. gal.	7 5/8c	6 85
*Iron, Bes. pg.	\$12.25	\$10.15
*Steel bl ts, ton	\$17.00	\$14.80
Oats, steam freight	2d
Grain, Liverpool	1½d	7-8d
Cotton

* Pittsburgh.

M. Lefebvre & Co.

Regarding the reported assignment of M. Lefebvre, of Montreal, the Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "The People's Bank has made a demand of assignment upon the old and well known firm of Michel Lefebvre & Co., whose business proper is said to be in a good position, but the large amount of funds that is locked up in good real estate investments, and which cannot be realized on at a moment's notice, has taken the firm at a disadvantage. The firm, however, are stoutly contesting the demand, and M. Lefebvre persists in his intention not assign."

Dairy Trade News.

The Manitoba Dairy association has just issued the annual bulletin. It contains an illustration of a simple, cheap and very practical system of "cold storage" recommended by dairy superintendent Macdonald, for use in creameries and cheese factories. Free copies can be had on application to the department of agriculture, or the secretary, Miss E. Cora Hind, Winnipeg.

Mr. Macdonald, Manitoba dairy commissioner, says: "At Ninga, Man., the creamery has been in operation all winter and has given every satisfaction. This year all the old dairy factories in Manitoba, 52 in number, will be running and several new ones have been talked of in the districts hitherto without any. There were 19 creameries running in Manitoba last year and two new ones, at Carberry and Neepawa have this spring been organized." The output of butter and cheese will be much larger this year than ever before, as many of the new factories started last year, were not organized in time to do a full season's work. What is of more importance, the quality of the output will no doubt show a marked improvement this year, as many of the makers are taking a course this winter at the Manitoba dairy school.

The World's Wine Production.

The Moniteur Vinicole has recently published a statement showing the wine production of the various countries of the world. From this statement it appears the yield in France amounted in the years 1895 and 1894 to 537,127,000 gallons and 859,162,000 gallons

respectively; in Algeria to 83 519,000 gal and 80 121 000 gallons; Tunis 8,956,000 and 9 936,000; Italy 469 555,000 and 599,000,000; Spain 379,500,000 and 528,000,000; Portugal 48,890,000 and 33,000,000; Azores, Canaries and Madeira 4,620,000 and 2,640,000; Auara 66,000,000 and 88,000,000; Hungary 63 000,000 and 46,103,000, and Germany 80,190,000 and 110,000,000 gallons. In Turkey and Cyprus the production last year amounted to 52,800,000 gallons, and this compares with an average yield of 40,000,000 gallons. In Bulgaria the yield was 26,400,000 gallons; Servia 17,600,000; Greece 85,200,000; Romania 69,640,000; Switzerland 27,500,000; the United States 89,700,000; Mexico 1,800,000; Argentine Republic 29,700,000; Chile 33,000,000; Brazil 7,700,000; Cape of Good Hope 2,420,000; Persia 594,000, and Australia 3,300,000 gallons.

Meat from Argentina.

The official statistics from the Argentine are notoriously untrustworthy, but the following figures obtained from a private source may be accepted as correct. They represent the output of dead beef and mutton in 1895:

	Carcasses	Qrs of mutton
Sansinena Co.....	773,262	145
Las Palmas Produce Co. . .	627,953	45
River Plate Fresh Meat Co.	522,677

Total 1,922,892 1953
 London Times

Drummer Never Heard of Them.

Bishop Watterson is so well known in Louisville that the following anecdote, which evidences his keen sense of humor, will be read with pleasure:

Bishop Watterson is not only the crazy fisherman of all the clergy, but the best story teller. The bishop tells a story of how the drummer of the train mistook him (the bishop) for another commercial tourist, and asked him if he represented a big house.

"Biggest on earth," said the bishop.

"What's the name of the firm?" queried the drummer.

"Lord & Church," replied the imperturbable bishop.

"Hum!" "Lord & Church"? Never heard of it. Got branch houses anywhere?"

"Branch houses all over the world."

"That's queer. Never heard of 'em. Got it boots and shoes?"

"No."


"Hats and caps?"

"Not that either."

"Dry goods, I suppose?"

"Well," said the bishop, "some call it notions."—Louisville Times.

A. J. Sharp & Co., tailors, Vancouver have assigned.

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 PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST.
 Ready for use in any quantity. For making Soap Softening Water, Disinfecting, and a hundred other uses. A can equals 20 pounds Sal Soda.
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Boots, Shoes

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

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Stock up with —

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UNICORN MIXED PAINT.
UNICORN OIL STAINS.
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VARNISHES, Etc., Etc.

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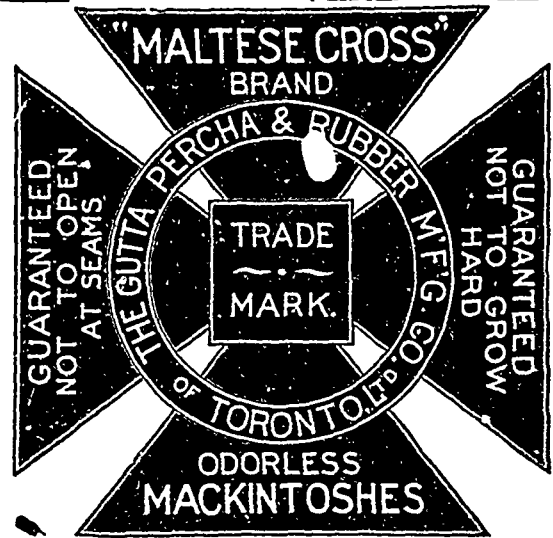
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These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are THOROUGHLY WATER PROOF and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

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Try them and you will Buy Again.



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Fine Boots and Shoes

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Representative for Manitoba, N. W. T. and British Columbia,
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BOECKH'S BRUSHES, full lines carried by the jobbing trade.

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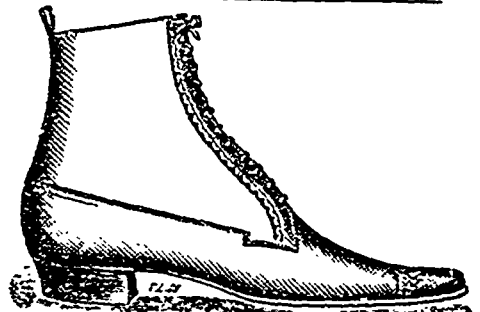
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Boeckh's Woodenware,

Chas. Boeckh & Sons.

Manufacturers, Toronto, Ont.

Jno. E Dingman, Agent, Winnipeg.



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The most scientific invention of the age. What is a Ventilated Boot? It is a boot so constructed that the action of walking produces such a suction that the fresh air gushes round the foot, keeping it cool and perfectly dry. Ask your shoe man for them.

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J. D. KING & Co., Ltd., TORONTO.

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—MANUFACTURES OF—

LEATHER BELTING

MONTREAL and TORONTO.

Partner Wanted.

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

Apply by letter addressed to
PARTNER P.P., Commercial Office, Winnipeg.

Manitoba Climate.

Continued from Page 645.

to good health. I do not desire, and I am sure you do not desire, to advertise our country as a health resort. We do not invite either the mental or physical invalid to come; but we desire to assure the vigorous and strong that in no other part of the world will they find climatic conditions more conducive to the continuation of that vigor and strength than in this Northwest.

Parkes who is an authority, says: "With regard to the effect upon the Anglo-Saxon and Celtic races going to live in a climate colder and with greater variations than their own, we have the experience of Northwestern Canada, where their health is not only sustained but improved, and their progeny is as vigorous, if not more so than the parent race."

With regard to disease, we have none peculiar to this country or climate. We are absolutely protected by our climatic conditions from several of the most dangerous and fatal, whilst several of those which are common to all people on the face of the earth, are comparatively rare, owing to our climate. For example, we have never had, and will never have, cholera, yellow fever, malaria, or dysentery, so common and so fatal to the inhabitants of warm climates.

Inflammatory rheumatism is extremely rare, as compared with its prevalence in cool, damp climates. Asthma rarely develops here, whilst many who suffer from it in the east are free from it in Manitoba. Consumption, which is the scourge of the British Islands and of the United States, is, as yet, comparatively rare with us. Our pure, dry air, our sunshiny days, and opportunities for out-door life are antagonistic to its existence. Fifty thousand people die annually of it in Great Britain, and 125,000 people die annually of it in the United States. In the comparatively mild but damp atmosphere of the six New England States, viz., Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, in 1892, 10,667 died of consumption, 10,337 died of pneumonia, 3,937 died of influenza, or 21½ out of every 10,000 people living died of consumption, the same number of pneumonia, and 0.3 died of influenza. Taking the population of Manitoba at 200,000 and calculating upon the same basis in 1892 we should have said: 430 of our people died of consumption; 430 of pneumonia, and 136 of influenza, a total of 996 from these three diseases. We had no such mortality. Our whole mortality from these diseases, together with all others of the respiratory organs, in 1894 was only 323. In Michigan in 1892, 2,496 died of consumption, 1,466 of pneumonia, 907 of influenza. These are states with damp but moderate climates as compared with ours. Take another one, California, which is looked upon as a paradise; with a population of 1,200,000 in 1892, 2,032 died of consumption, 1,619 of pneumonia; 223 of influenza. From amongst us on the same basis of population, 335 should have died of consumption, 270 of pneumonia, 32 of influenza. Let us again make another comparison. Take the province of Quebec where the climatic conditions are more nearly like our own, except that we have a dry cold atmosphere, whilst it has a climate not so cold but more moist. In 1891 in Quebec 2,457 died of consumption, 1,910 of pneumonia, 2,003 of bronchitis, pleurisy and influenza. Total deaths reported from these causes, 6,465. But as 109 townships either sent incomplete reports or did not report at all, we may easily add 600 to this number, making 7,000 in all from these five diseases.

Quebec has a population of 1,400,000, Manitoba has a population of 200,000. To be equal to Quebec, our population being one-seventh of Quebec's our deaths should also be one-seventh of its, or 1,000. What was it in the same year, 1891? Not only

from these five affections, but including all other affections of the respiratory organs, it was only 323 or about one-third as many as the corresponding number in Quebec. Our returns were complete, only three minor municipalities not reporting.

Again take the total death rate from all causes and at all ages, Quebec lost 32,250 or 20.28 in every 1,000 of population. In Manitoba 2,000 people died, or 10 in every 1,000 of population. Of course there are other factors which come in besides climate to aid in accounting for this wide divergence in mortality, but certainly we can justly claim a certain portion of the credit for our climate. Again, if our climate be such a severe one as reported, its baneful influence should be felt upon infantile life, and upon those of old age. I have not statistics to show its effects at old age but I have those upon early life. I find that in Quebec 32,250 persons died in 1891, and of these 15,276 died under five years of age. According to population we should have lost one-seventh of that number, or 2,181 under five, but only 1,039 died, or one-half the corresponding number. These statistics go to show the beneficial effects of the climate we enjoy, and that it is not productive of high mortality rates. Without a doubt we can emphatically assert that our climate is one in which individuals can and do enjoy the greatest measure of health and vigor, and which has in it all the climatic elements for the development and preservation of the finest specimens of the human race.

Montreal Grocery Market.

The feature of the sugar market has been the strong cable advices received on the raw article, and prices show an advance of 4½d to 6d since this day week, best now being quoted at 12s 6d March, 12s 7½d April. There has also been a stronger feeling in the New York market for the refined article, and prices have advanced ¼c per lb., granulated now being quoted at 4 15-16c. The situation of the market here is unchanged. The feeling is very firm, in sympathy with the above, and prices are fully maintained. A little more enquiry has been experienced by refiners, principally for yellows, and some fair sized sales have been made, but the market is far from being active yet. The prospects however, are encouraging, as stocks, both here and through the country are steadily being reduced. We quote:—Granulated at 4½c in 250 barrel lots and over, 1 11-16c in 100 barrel lots, and 4½c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3½c to 4½c, as to quality, at the factory.

The demand for syrups has continued slow, of which the offerings from first hands are small, and the market, in consequence, is quiet, but prices are firm at 1½c to 2½c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

Cable advices this week from the Island on molasses have been of an easier tone, but, at the same time, they do not quote any actual change in prices. The market on spot has ruled quiet, and no business of any importance is reported. In a jibbing way Barbadoes is selling at 36c to 37c, and Porto Rico at 34c to 35c.

The demand for rice has been of a limited character, and the market is quiet and firm. The following quotations are what millers sell at:—Japan standard, \$1.25 to \$1.40; crystal Japan, \$1.75 to \$5, standard B., \$1.45; E-gu-tu style, \$1.30; Patna, \$1.25 to \$5, and Carolina at \$1.50 to \$7.50.

A fair business for the season continues to be done in spices, and the tone of the market is steady, with no changes in prices to note. 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 shows no signs of improvement. The demand is, principally, for small lots, and prices rule about steady. We quote.—Maracaibo, 19c to 20c; Rio, 18c 18½c; Java, 2½c to 27c; Jamaica 17½c to 18½c, and Mocha, 27½c to 30c.—Gazette, March 21.

The manufacturers and wholesalers of Minneapolis have decided upon a sweeping reduction of this year's pine lumber cut. It has been decided to reduce the output 25 per cent. Last year's cut was 480,000,000 feet. A reduction of 25 per cent means that this year's cut will be 360,000,000 feet, which will be by far the lowest output since 1890, when the figures were 315,000,000.

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