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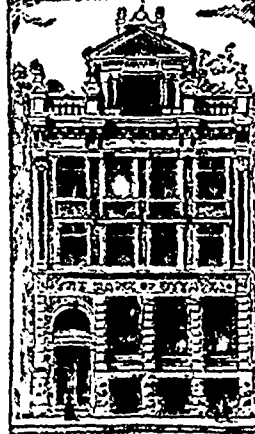
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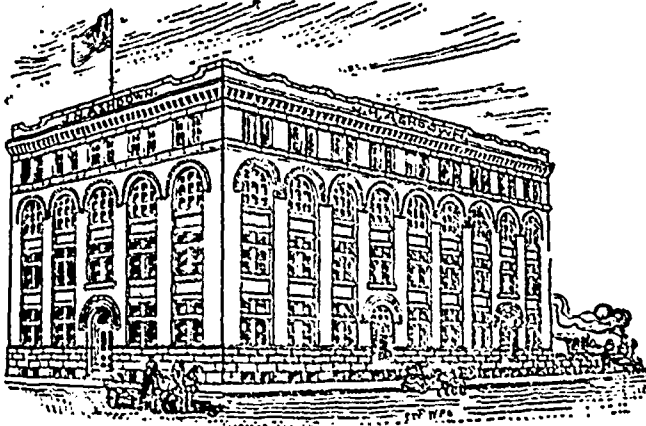
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WINNIPEG, APRIL 26, 1897.

Manitoba.

The Retail association met last night, and after a long discussion, a resolution was passed disapproving of the proposed extension of the gas franchise.

At a meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange the gas franchise proposal for the city of Winnipeg was discussed and a resolution was passed endorsing the action of the Board of Trade, which body favored the closing of a reasonable arrangement with the gas company. Messrs. Bawlf and Roblin were deputed to attend the meeting of the city council to-morrow afternoon and present the views of the Exchange.

Preparations are going on for the erection of the Canadian Pacific Railway cold storage warehouse in Winnipeg.

A proclamation has been issued by the lieutenant-governor of Manitoba calling for the proper observance of Friday, May 7th, as arbor day.

W. M. Lawrence, hardware merchant, Winnipeg, who has carried on business for some time at 293 Market street, is pulling up stakes here and moving to Revelstoke, B. C., where he will again open up in the hardware trade. Mr. Lawrence has disposed of some of his stock, and the balance he will take with him, along with a large stock of new goods. Mr. Lawrence is known here as a young man of excellent business habits, and thoroughly honorable and straightforward in all his dealings. The Commercial has therefore pleasure in introducing and recommending him to the business people of Revelstoke and district, as a trustworthy and capable person.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, April 20, 1897.

Trade has improved very much this week owing to the magnificent dry summer weather. There is at present a scarcity to the camps and wholesalers have about all they can do to supply the camp demands. The only change in the market is a decline of one cent in eggs and an advance of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to one cent in cured meats. The supply of hay is about exhausted particularly on the Sound where there is scarcely a ton not marketed. Oats are also very firm at present prices. While potatoes may be quoted at \$25 a ton flat, those offering now are the superior quality, ashcroft. Another carload of cattle will arrive this week from Manitoba, shipped by Mr. Howey. The British Columbia Fruit Exchange is reorganising for the summer and all members of the exchange including every fruit grower of consequence are practically pledged to ship through the exchange. The association has made arrangements with the C. P. R. to ship their fruit in suitable cars twice a week if not daily.

British Columbia Mining Notes.

The sensation of the week in the mining world is the rich strike on the Boundary Falls Mining Company's claim at Boundary Falls. The claim was staked three years ago and since then was barely kept alive by assessment work. It recently fell into good hands in Vancouver and was worked for what there was in it. It went \$33 on the surface but when 20 feet was reached the vein of solid ore had increased from 3 to 4 feet and the lowest assay that can be secured at that depth on any place on the tunnels face is \$113 in consecrating ore that crushes 90%. The claim is four miles from Greenwood City and can be reached by horse and buggy.

The foreman of the Alpha Bell mine has written a most satisfactory letter to the company. The snow is fast disappearing at Lillooet and another ledge has been located on the Alpha Bell claims 10 feet wide heavily mineralized. The surface rock is as good as any seen on the Golden Cache, while the decomposed rock underneath the ledge was crushed and panned and countless colors of gold obtained.

Close to the now famous Fire Mountain prospect in Harrison Lake country another claim has been opened up, the principal owner of which is Mr. Leekie, the Vancouver wholesaler. The assay from a large piece of rock runs \$300 in telluride of gold. The only other place in British Columbia that telluride of gold has been found is in Boundary Creek country.

At the annual meeting of the Gold Reefs Mining Co., owning several valuable properties near the Golden Cache it was decided that all shares outside the treasury stock be pooled for one year. As a result partially of this decision the stock is being disposed of very fast.

Sensational reports are coming from the Fairview camp the free milling properties there turning out immensely rich.

From a large chunk of rock sent to Toronto obtained in the Smuggler mine the assay in silver and gold went \$1,680, while the Tin-horn has become a proved mine of great value, shafts have been sunk at intervals up the mountain for 1,400 feet and each time the vein has been successfully tapped, the vein being still the same uniform width 8 feet and the assays being very high the total number over 100 averaging \$95 in free gold. Very active work is being done on the property.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

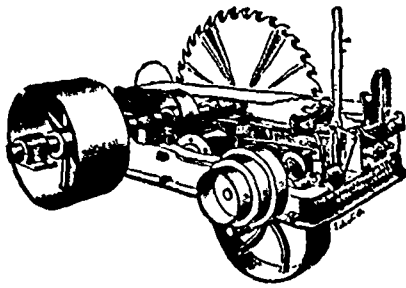
The Grand Trunk Railway, and Canadian Pacific Railway, have issued two new lake and rail tariffs which went into effect on April 15, and make reductions of 5c per 100 pounds on many specified commodities. The hardware trade will especially benefit by the reduction. It will be made on certain specified commodities which formerly were subject to a 72c rate to Winnipeg. The new rate will be 67 to Winnipeg, 79 to Portage and 86 to Brandon, and refers only to car load lots. The tariff applies to Winnipeg, Portage and Brandon. Reductions are also made on westbound freight to Kootenay and Pacific coast points.

At a council meeting of the town of Selkirk, Man., a deputation of the lumbermen waited upon the council and asked their co-operation in trying to get rates on lumber from Selkirk to Manitoba points reduced. It was claimed that the Canadian Pacific Railway discriminates against Selkirk as compared with Bat Portage, in lumber rates.

Following are the principal commodities which are included in the reduced lake and rail freight classification, from eastern points to Winnipeg, Portage and Brandon: Paint, glass, bags, binder twine, rope, cordage, rice, roofing paper, bolts, Canada plates, chain, galvanized iron, horse shoes, soda, shot, sulphur, iron and steel, iron pipe, lead, nails, oils (other than petroleum) in wood, tin, tin plates, turpentine in wood, white and red lead, wire, zinc. The reduction is 5 cents per 100 pounds from 72 to 67 cents, on straight car lots only, to Winnipeg. One cent will be added when the company does the cartage.

Sheep Supplies.

The big supply of sheep in the country that was so much talked of a few months ago must have diminished some, or else sheepmen, encouraged by the gradually increasing prices and the cheapness of feed, are holding back for better markets. No doubt the number was exaggerated, but there is not likely to be a shortage in sheep. Half the crop has been marketed from the feed lots of Nebraska, but by the time the other half gets in, range sheep will begin to come freely. Sheep feeders are showing a sensible discretion in regulating receipts so that values can show an even, steady advance. Confidence in the future is what is doing it. —Chicago Drovers' Journal,

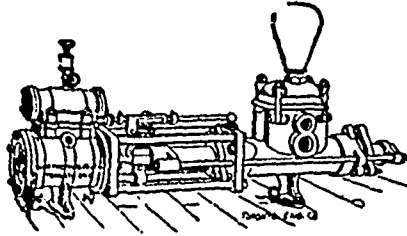


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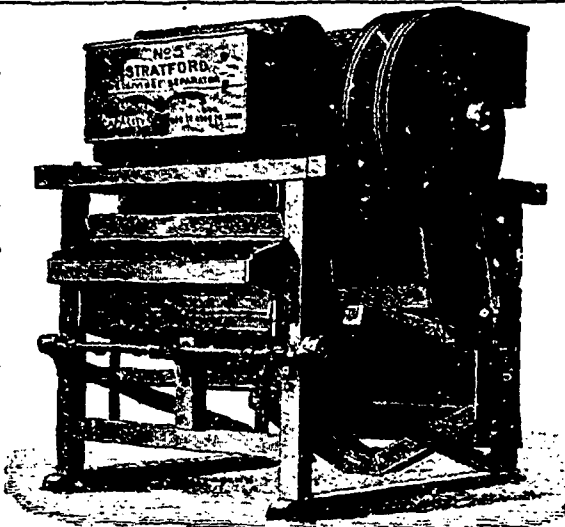
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, APRIL 26, 1897.

Sales of Dry Goods.

The auction sale in New York on Wednesday of 17,452 packages of cotton and fancy flannels, wide sheetings, 4 x 4 brown sheetings, bleached cottons, etc., valued at about \$1,500,000 represented rather the stores of the so-called dry goods trade than an evidence of its satisfactory condition, as explained by a number of those who have commented. As pointed out in Bradstreet's the condition of the cotton goods trade, including second hands, has not been favorable. While paralleled as to condition by the woolen goods industry for many months, the latter has recently been stimulated by a widespread demand in an effort to discount the proposed new tariff on wool and woolens, but cotton goods have had no such incentive to induce the public to buy. The Dry Goods Record well says that "of the large number of mills engaged in producing staple and semi-staple cotton fabrics, the burden of complaint for the past year or more was and still is that there is no money in manufacturing, and if the mills have to run it is because it entails less loss than to shut down and allow the machinery to become disabled." As many reports of the cotton goods auction have stated, prices of some of the products sold were "satisfactory," by which reference is evidently made to the manufacturer. Such being the case, even the layman may be able to draw his own conclusions with respect to the nature of the other sales—those which were not up to the grade of "fairly satisfactory." The fact is the sale was probably rather below than above a fair average in the matter of returns, and its most favorable feature lies in the fact that that proportion of stock over the market has been distributed.

The Railroad Problem Again.

The number of the North American Review just issued contains a lengthy and interesting article by Mr. Lloyd Bryce under the above head, which, while it cannot be said to adopt a particularly new way of looking at the matter, marshals the facts in a way calculated to attract attention. A leading point which Mr. Bryce makes is that the evils arising from unremunerative rates are not confined to the capitalist or the owners of railroad securities, but constitute a direct injury to the general prosperity of the country, and affect no class more unfavorably than workmen themselves. They injure, in fact, over one million railway employees or persons directly employed by our vast system of transportation, and affect the comfort and happiness of four million human beings, to say nothing of the hundreds of thousands who have invested in railroad securities and from whom, in many cases excessive reductions of rates take away the income on which they live. Furthermore, so many industries are co-related to

transportation that reduction of rates cannot be made without reduction of the wages of labor in many different directions.

When, as Mr Bryce points out, railways are prosperous and rates remunerative, millions of dollars are expended in new equipments, improvements of plant and betterments, so that whatever railroads penetrate all business is affected beneficially or injuriously, as they are prosperous or otherwise. According to the author, the view that the public interest always requires the lowest rates, or reductions in rates are even presumptively for the public welfare, is a superficial one. He claims that what the public really requires is the persistent maintenance of official, reasonable and safe transportation service, with rates properly adjusted as between competitive points of production and consumption, always free from individual discrimination and steadily permanent from year to year.

How to reach this ideal condition is the question which perplexes statesmen, economists and practical railroad men. The railroads, on their part, complain of unfair and excessive taxation, of a constant public demand for expensive improvements, which give little or no return on the capital invested, and of legal restrictions which, if lived up to by all, would mean ruin to many roads, besides which there is an oversupply of railroads entailing excessive competition. Mr. Bryce quotes Judge Reagan, on whose part in securing the enactment of the Interstate Commerce Law it is needless to dwell, in which he said that "further study has caused me to believe that the act may be amended so as to benefit both the railroads and the people by allowing the railroads to enter into traffic arrangements with each other," and, following this line of argument, a strong plea is made by the writer from whom this is quoted that the railroads should be given the necessary powers to enter into stable agreements for the purpose of regulating traffic and rates.

Emphasizing the evils of the present system, he concludes with the striking illustration that one mill, or one-tenth of one cent per ton per mile additional upon the tonnage of the railroads of the United States in 1895 would have yielded over \$80,000,000 additional revenue, this infinitesimal fraction of a dollar, the mill, being all that stands between the prosperity or insolvency of our railroad system.—Bradstreet's.

History of Matches.

A writer in the Boston Transcript says: "The first practical friction matches were made in 1817 by an English apothecary named Walker, who coated splints of cardboard with sulphur and tipped them with a mixture of sulphate of antimony, chlorate of potash and gum. A box of eighty-four matches sold for 1c., a piece of glass-paper being furnished it for obtaining ignition. In 1830 a London man named Jones devised a species of match which was a little roll of paper soaked in chlorate of potash and sugar, with a thin glass globe filled with sulphuric acid attached to one end. The globe being broken, the acid acted upon the potash and sugar, producing fire. Phosphorus matches were first introduced on a commercial scale in 1833, and after the improvements were rapid.

"The modern lucifer match combines in one instrument arrangements for creating a spark, catching it on tinder, and starting a

flame—steps requiring separate operations in primitive contrivances. It was in 1836 that the first United States patent for friction matches was issued. Splints for them were made by sawing or splitting blocks of wood into slivers slightly attached at the base. These were known as 'slab' or 'black' matches, and they are in use in parts of this country to-day. The latest important invention in matches secures the separation of the chemicals, which in combination are almost more or less dangerous. Thus is obtained the 'safety' match, which was invented by a Sweden named Lundstrom in 1855. The head of the safety match contains chlorate of potash and sulphur, while the friction paper on the box is spread with a paste of amorphous phosphorus and antimony.

"Among the odd varieties of matches now in vogue are the 'vestas,' of which the split is a waxed cord; 'fuses' for lighting in a wind, with a short thick stick tipped with a large mass of chlorate of potash composition, and 'natural gas' matches, with a very long splint for lighting natural gas fires. In former days the manufacture of phosphorus matches was attended with great danger to the workman from the fumes, which caused a decay of the bones of the jaw. Many persons were poisoned from carelessness in handling them, and numerous conflagrations occurred on account of the ease with which they were ignited. The 'parlor match' had its origin with the manufacture, in 1318, of Schrotter's amorphous phosphorus. This product has neither odor nor taste, is not poisonous, and does not take fire at ordinary temperatures. Mr. Walter Hough of the National Museum, of whom the writer is indebted for a good deal of his information, says that before long electricity will greatly reduce the consumption of matches. The electric match will represent the final culmination of the evolution of fire-making apparatus."

Uses of Hot Water.

The Phrenological Journal gives the following useful hints on the applications of water in severe attacks of illness. The adult members of a family should keep them in mind for an emergency.

A strip of flannel or a soft napkin, folded lengthwise and dipped in hot water and wrung out, and then applied around the neck of a child that has the croup, will usually bring relief in a few minutes.

A proper towel folded several times and dipped in hot water, quickly wrung and applied over the site of toothache or neuralgia, will generally afford prompt relief.

This treatment for colic has been found to work like magic.

Nothing so promptly cuts short a congestion of the lungs, sore throat, or rheumatism as hot water, when applied early in the case and thoroughly.

Hot water taken freely half an hour before bed-time is an excellent cathartic in the case of constipation, while it has a soothing effect upon the stomach and bowels.

This treatment, continued a few months, with the addition of a cup of hot water slowly sipped half an hour before each meal, with proper attention to diet, will cure most cases of dyspepsia.

Ordinary headaches almost always yield to the simultaneous application of hot water to the feet and back of the neck.

A couple of cars of hogs were shipped to Winnipeg this week, says the Souris Plaindealer newspaper, by our local dealers. Owing to the bad roads considerable trouble was experienced in bringing the hogs to town, and the shipment was limited in consequence. Good young hogs weighing from 125 to 280 pounds, bring four cents per lb.

Cheap Life Insurance.

Perhaps there is no other question that has attracted so much attention, or been so much discussed by all sorts and conditions of men during the past fifteen years, as the means by which cheap life insurance could best be secured for the protection of their families.

The most absurd schemes have been offered, and men have rushed into them because they were said to furnish cheap insurance just as people rush to the bargain counters to find later that they paid dearly for what they got or otherwise what they did not want.

It is too often the case that people thinking they are getting an article cheap, will purchase what they know is not what they want, but which they hope will serve their purpose. In this they are liable to be, in fact are almost certain to be, disappointed, as they are almost sure to find that the article they thought cheap was not in reality worth more than its cost, and that it did not in any way meet their expectations.

Men by the hundreds of thousands have bought what they thought to be cheap life insurance from societies and companies professing to do business on the natural premium plan, because they were able to start at a low price per thousand, or a low price for an amount not to exceed a thousand. There has been no guarantee or evidence of future cost beyond the statement that new members would come in so fast that mortality would be kept down, and the cost would not increase. They have had their cheap temporary insurances, but how many of them have come to realize that in spite of theories and new blood, the cheapness was but temporary. They have sacrificed opportunity that was far more valuable than the small temporary savings from assessment being less than the level premiums charged by the regular companies.

Everybody knows that as men grow older they are nearing the grave and consequently their chances of dying in any year are greater than they were the previous year. That is a fact beyond question, when the proposition is made as a general statement. If, then, the risk of death increases with increasing age, to be a permanency, any institution must make provision for this increasing risk, by either charging those who insure with it an advancing premium to cover advancing cost, or a level premium which is sufficient from the outset to provide for this inevitable advance in cost.

As to the cheapness of the insurance afforded on these plans no one will dispute the fact, that for a brief period insurance may be carried on the plans which provide only for present insurance for a less cost than it can be carried on plans that provide for future insurance, and at the same time protect the insured from having to bear an intolerable burden of cost in old age.

If all men who insure on the so-called cheap plans were taught to understand that the time must come when they must either pay large premiums or cease their insurance, there would be fewer people living in a fool's paradise, and fewer who would take the

chances for the sake of present cheapness of leaving their families entirely without protection a few years hence, on account of the dearness of protection in old age.—Money and Risks.

Raw Furs

Jas. McMillan & Co. have the following to say about furs in their last circular:

Receipts are large, although since the middle of January until recently snow interfered with trapping in most sections. The London March sales declined heavily from March, 1896, and the latter showed heavy declines from March, 1895, so the present sale did badly for most articles. March is always better than the June and October sales, so the prospect for the coming summer and fall sales is for very low prices. Bear did the worst and only low prices for this article can be expected. Fisher, marten, mink and racoon did the best, holding their prices better than other kinds. Those which sold lowest were bear, badger, beaver, wild cat, lynx, otter, skunk and wolf. Until times are good in America and we consume a good portion of our native furs and buy freely abroad, no good sales may be looked for in Europe. American fur manufacturers have done little business the last four years, and some have met with reverses, but they will share the benefit of good times. Spring-caught furs are shedding, rubbed or faded, and grow poorer as the season advances. They grade No. 2 and 3. and where bad No. 4. Shedding furs can be detected by looking through them toward the light. Spring-caught mink are virtually all pale or red. Only a small per cent of marten ever run dark; the balance are brown or pale, principally pale. Skunk shed earlier than anything else. The water animals, viz., beaver, otter and muskrat are better in the spring while the water is cold than any other time. Bear are good later in the spring than other land animals. The fine northern winter-caught collections come in as late as July.

Grain and Milling.

The Northwest Elevator company, limited, was registered at Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 29th of March, with a capital of £20,000 in £1 shares, to carry on in Canada, Scotland, and elsewhere, the business of grain warehousemen and merchants.

Manitoba flour is in favor in Australia. The Sydney Telegraph, in a late issue contains the following paragraph: "The quality and strength of Manitoba flour has gained such a favorable reputation in this market, that already several unscrupulous traders have attempted to supply consumers with an article called 'Manitoba flour,' containing about 35 per cent. of flour made from soft wheat."

The San Francisco Commercial News, in speaking of the wheat farmers of California, says: "Many a farmer in the great San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys are homeless, many more struggling under a load of debt, the Grangers' Bank, established to help this class, is in liquidation."

The North Dakota Milling Company of Grand Forks, has assigned. The company owns several mills and elevators in Dakota.

Economic Tendencies.

A man of philosophic habit of mind who has had half a century's experience in business, said this week that the one great obstacle to a rapid and satisfactory revival of trade is the large number of contracts outstanding which are based on a condition of affairs that has been rendered obsolete through the progress of civilization. This is one way of setting forth a highly important factor in commerce to which attention has been called frequently, that is, the facilitation of business, the improvement of life conditions and the destruction of capital, by invention. But his way of putting the matter brings it home to every man who has a ground lease running nearly a century and based on a value of 5 or 6 per cent for money, to a railroad company which is paying 6 to 7 per cent on its bonds, or to a man whose business is predicated on values, methods or market conditions of the past. The process of adjusting this state of affairs to present conditions is a painful one, and in some cases involves the parties interested in bankruptcy.

The same man declares that in a few years an interest rate of 1 or 2 per cent will be considered burdensome. That appears to be stating the case too strongly, and yet men who have not reached a great age can remember when money in Chicago new worth 4 or 5 per cent was quoted at 10, and the spectacle is now held up to the country of a refunding of 7 per cent bonds of the Lake Shore road at 3½ per cent. Conditions here are closely approximating those of the older countries, and no one can tell how low the rates on capital may go in the United States.

And again let it be noted that, merchandise and money having declined so much, labor must go down too. It is natural to assume that the decline will lead to strikes, and perhaps worse; with all the confidence we are justified in having as to the future of business, we must not lose sight of the probable effects of a shrinkage in the prices of labor—Chicago Economist.

Hides, Wool, Etc.

The Montreal market for green hides remains steady at 9c for No. 1, 8c for No. 2, and 7c for No. 3; No. 1, heavy steers, 8c to 9½c; calf skins, 9c for No. 1, and 7c for No. 2; lambskins, 90c each.

The Chicago market is quoted by Hide and Leather as follows: "No. 1 bufs, free of biands and grubs, 40 to 60 lbs., are readily obtainable at 8½ and 7½c. About 5,000 hides were sold at these prices, and more to be had. Dealers trying to contract ahead at present quotations find it difficult. A small car all No. 1's containing some fall hides were sold at 8½c."

The Toronto market was weaker on hides, according to a recent report, in sympathy with the weakness in the United States, at 7½c for green and 8c to 8½c for cured hides.

Jas. McMillan & Co., of Minneapolis, say in their last circular: "The market is active for all grades of sheep pelts. Receipts of hides are not heavy, but large receipts are not expected because hides have been scarce for a long time, which accounts for the high prices hides have ruled at compared with other kinds of merchandise. All classes of hides are quiet, and green salted calf have already declined somewhat. It is now too late to ship hides green without salting. Have help be careful and not cut or scum hides in skinning."

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MANUFACTURERS OF

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Lath, Shingles.

Boxes and Packing Cases

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

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FULL LINES OF

CLOVERS, RED, ALSIKE
LUCERNE, ETC.

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AND GENERAL GRASSES

FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS, &c.

Write or wire for samples and quotations.
Prompt attention to all enquiries.

THE STEELE BRIGGS SEED CO.

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TORONTO, ONT.

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DRUGS AND MEDICINES

Every requisite for the Drug Trade
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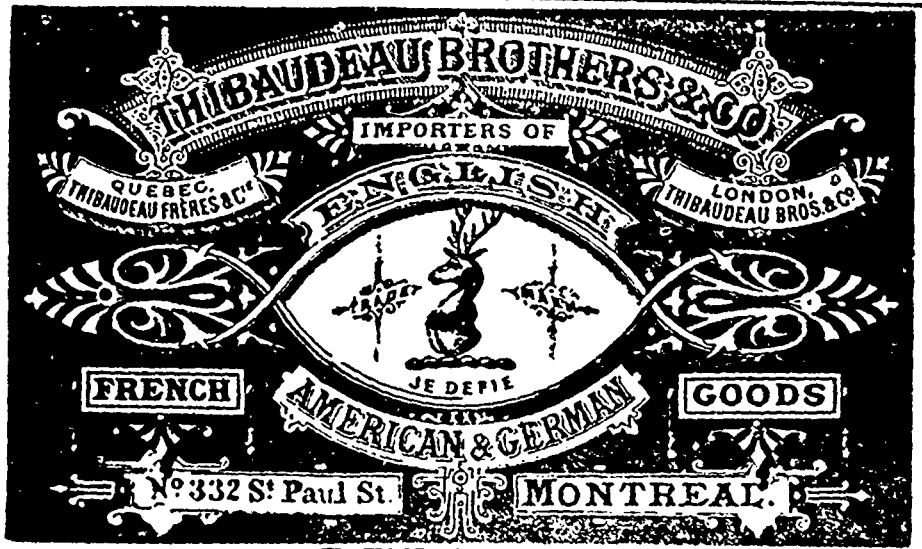
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both Manitoba, the Territories and B. C. He is now
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All communications addressed to him there, will be
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in the Dominion.

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PURE VINEGARS.

Manufactured solely under the supervision
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Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies

AND PRESERVES,

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20 Prizes.

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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."

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

—IN HANDLING—
OGILVIE'S FLOUR
YOU HAVE
THE BEST
Each bag guaranteed. Bawn without Special Twine, Red White and Blue.
OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,
Unequaled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands outvalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

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OUR BRANDS STAND THE TEST.
Others Come and Go Again.

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The Lagavulin Whisky is famous for its fine quality, being made from pure SCOTCH MALT ONLY, and has long been the favorite beverage for Sportsmen. It contains no grain spirit, or other Whiskies one knows nothing of, and the eminent Physicians of the day prescribe it where a stimulant is required.

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Mackie's Rare Old Highland 10 YEARS OLD
Gold Label, as patronized by Royalty and the Leading Physicians.

Sold only in the Northwest by:
G. Velle. Strang & Co. G. F. & J. Galt. J. M. Gray
Hudson Bay Company. Richard & Co.
W. Ferguson, Brandon.

British Columbia Markets.

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

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, April 21, 1897.

The principal change in the market this week is the decline in butter of 1 to 3c per lb., as to grade. Flour is up 10c per barrel.

Butter.—California dairy, 19c; Local creamery, 21c; Manitoba dairy, 18c; Manitoba cheese, 11c; California cheese, 12½c.

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

Game.—Mallards, 35c; widgeon, 25c; teal, 2½; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; snipe, 35c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; spring salmon 8c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon, 10c; fannan haddie, 10c; kippered herring, 12c; Columbia river oolochans, 7c.

Vegetables.—Local potatoes, \$23.00 to \$25.00 per ton; onions 9c; cabbage, 1½c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Oregon eggs, 17c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 300 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 navel oranges. California lemons, \$2.50; California oranges, seedling, \$1.55 to \$2.00; navel oranges, \$3.50 to 4.75; Eastern apples \$5.50 barrel, Australian apples, \$2.50; bananas, \$3.50 per bunch.

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

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 18c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 40 lbs, \$2.70.

Flour.—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.50; strong bakers, \$5.20; Oregon, \$5.80.

Grain.—Local wheat, \$30 to \$35. Oats, 25 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$23 to \$24 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$21.00 ton; bran \$14.00; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty on import stuff.

Hay.—\$17.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 8½ to 9c; mutton, 10 to 11c; Australian frozen mutton 10c; San Francisco mutton, 8½c; pork, 6½ to 7½c; veal, 8 to 9c lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$1.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs.; sheep, \$1.50 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50 to \$5.75 per 100 lbs.

Poultry.—Chickens, 10c lb., turkeys, 12c b., ducks, 12c lb. geese, 11c lb.

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

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

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choi 3 85c per lb.

British Columbia Business Notes.

C. Haddock & Co., furniture, Ashcroft, have dissolved, and are succeeded by Glen-cross & Henderson.

J. K. Campbell, tailor, Chilliwack, has moved to Vancouver.

M. McArdle, grocer, Comox, is out of business.

Wm. Gordon, boots and shoes, Grand Forks, is giving up business.

J. H. Smith, hotel, Grand Forks, is succeeded by Davidson & Co.

F. J. Wood, soda water manufacturer, Greenwood City, is out of business.

Lavery & Rheault, hotel, Kamloops, have dissolved, J. H. Lavery continues.

J. J. Forin, hotel, Kaslo, has sold out to Peterson & Loffstal.

W. A. Alexander, hotel, Kaslo is succeeded by T. Donovan.

Sinclair & Co., boots & shoes, New Westminster, are opening a branch at Trail.

Wm. Williscroft, saw mill, Port Simpson, has sold out.

A. O. Grant, hotel, Rossland, is burnt out, loss, \$5,000.

O'Connell & Farrel, hotel, Rossland, have dissolved, H. S. O'Connell, continues.

W. G. Norton, general store, Salmo, has admitted one Brown, style now, Brown & Norton.

Hunter & McKinnon, general store, Silverton & Three Forks, have dissolved, Wm. Hunter & Co., continue.

Costello & McMorrin, salmon canners, Steveston, have sold out.

J. Lukov, clothing, Trail, contemplates opening branch at Sandon.

Laura A. Rickotts, tobaccos, Vancouver, is succeeded by Morrison.

Hastie & Bannerman, feed, Victoria, have sold out to John Wilson & Co.

Mrs. Simpson, hotel, Victoria, is succeeded by A. Cameron.

C. D. Anderson, Winnipeg, grocer, has assigned.



The Tariff.

The New Tariff will be given in full in a later number of The Commercial, as soon as the official report comes to hand.



A COMFORTABLE HOME FOR YOUR FEET

*By wearing KING'S SHOES made with
—PATENT—*

Sleeper Canvas Insoles.

SOMETHING NEW, "LIGHT" FLEXIBLE
NO TACKS, NO NAILS, VERY EASY, NO SQUEAK.

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ENGINE AND BOILER WORKS,
GENERAL BLACKSMITHING.
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FOUNT DOUGLAS AVE., WINNIPEG

Cigars

Made in your own Country.

HISPANIA, RED CROSS, KHEDIVE
Try these Brands. They are Un surpassed.
BRYAN & LEE, Winnipeg.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS,
PACKERS OF
"BLUE RIBBON" and "UNION JACK" Packet Teas

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Rolled Oats, Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley,
Rolled Wheat, Breakfast Cereals.
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...DIRECT FROM MILLS...

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, April 24.

The great event this week has been the announcement of the new tariff, which was made public yesterday. It is of course too soon to have any very clear idea as to what the effect of the changes will be, and no doubt some mistakes have been made in the condensed telegraphic report received. Until the full text of the new tariff has been obtained, it would be premature to decide what the new tariff will do. So far as can be judged from the information at hand, the new tariff will be received with favor in the West, particularly the clause providing for a special reduction of one-quarter of the duty on imports from the United Kingdom. This is really the most important feature of the measure. The only point which would appear to be adverse to western interests, is the reduction in the duty on wheat and flour. This will make it more difficult for Manitoba millers to compete with cheap Oregon flour in British Columbia markets, and it will also necessitate Manitoba wheat buyers keeping closer to the price of wheat south of the boundary. It seems somewhat strange that the duty on wheat and flour should be cut, when other agricultural products were left untouched. In the absence of any arrangement with the United States, it would perhaps have been better to have left the wheat and flour duties alone. Of local importance is the opening of navigation at Lake Superior ports. A telegram from Fort William yesterday said steamers would begin loading grain there to-day, and the ice was running out of the river freely. Navigation was reported open at Port Arthur on April 20.

Failures for the week have been 218 in the United States against 238 last year, and 21 in Canada against 44 last year.

At New York yesterday call money was quoted $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., prime mercantile paper $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent., bar silver was $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. lower than a week ago at 61 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, Mexican dollars, 45 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, April 24

[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.]

CORDWOOD—Prices are very firm, the tendency having been toward higher prices lately. Very little wood fuel of any kind is clearing. The poplar obtainable is mostly green wood, of last winters cut. The quantity of wood taken out of the woods last winter, for summer shipment to this market is said to have been very light. Prices are as follows: Tamarac, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per cord; pine, \$1 to \$1.25; poplar, green cut, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per cord. These prices are for car lots on track here.

COAL—The coal season is now over, so far as active business is concerned. Prices here are the same, as follows:

Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton; Lethbridge \$6.50. These are prices delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal are held at \$3.85 to 3.90 per ton here, or \$1.50 per ton on cars at the mines.

DRUGS—Two or three articles in drugs come under the new reduced tariff in car lots, but the reduction will not materially affect prices, as it is too small to be felt. Cream of tartar has again advanced abroad as much as 1c per 100 lbs. Bluestone is in good demand and prices are firm. Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, barrel lots 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than barrels, 5 to 6c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 80 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; citric acid, 55 to 65c. coppers 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$5.00 to \$5.50; cream tartar, per pound, 30 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 35 to 40c; 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., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$4.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon as to brand; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c; potass iodide, \$1.25 to 1.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c; shollac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$1.00 to \$1.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals \$1 to \$1.25 per oz.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.88; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.80. Staminol—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz. \$5.10.

FISH—Haddies are now out of the market, the season for these being over. Fresh spring salmon are now coming from the coast. Other lines are the same. Jobbing prices here are quoted as follows:—Whitefish, 4 to 5c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 3 to 4c; salmon, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ halibut, 12c; cod, 8c; haddock, 8c per lb; smelts, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Lake Superior herrings, 20c per dozen; oysters, \$1.80 per gallon for standards, \$2.00 for selects, and \$2.25 for extra selects and counts; bloaters, \$1.00 to \$1.25 box; red herrings, 20c box; pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lbs; pickled whitefish, \$6 per barrel; salt herrings \$4.50 per half barrel; boneless fish, 5c lb.

NUTS—Tarragona almonds, 10c; Sicily filberts, large, 15c, filberts ordinary, 12c. peanuts, roasted, 12c; peanuts, green, 9c.

Ontario butternuts 9c; Ontario Walnuts 6c; hickory nuts, 10; Grenoble walnuts, 15c; French walnuts, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ lb.

GREEN FRUITS—Recent arrivals of Ontario apples have been very unsatisfactory as to keeping quality, and it is not likely many more, if any, will be brought in. Some are coming from the States, of better keeping quality. The variety of fruit in the market is limited. Navel oranges are scarce. Prices are as follows: Apples, choice, \$1.00 to \$1.25. Damaged stock can be had at almost any price. California oranges, navels, \$1 to \$1.75 per box; California seedling oranges, \$3.50 to \$1.00 per box; Messina lemons, \$1.50 per box; California lemons, \$1.50 to \$5 box; bananas, \$2.50 to \$3.25 per bunch; pineapples \$1 per dozen; sweet potatoes, \$1 to \$1.50 per barrel; pie plant, \$1.50 to \$2.00 per box; dates, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7c lb.; figs, 13 to 15c lb. for layers.

HARDWARE—The new price on cut nails has now been established. The base price on sizes 20 to 60d is \$2.76 per keg, and to this price add reduced list of extras, for smaller sizes. This is an advance of 15c on the base price, but the extras are reduced very materially, making a lower average price. The new classification of extras was given in The Commercial last week. In another column, under the head of freight rates, will be found enumerated the various commodities which come under the reduced lake and rail freight rates from the East. It is too early to say much about the new customs tariff, which was only made known here yesterday, and then only by condensed telegraphic reports from Ottawa. The reduced duty on barb wire is equal to 25c per 100 pounds, on the basis of present prices in the United States, but the bulk of shipments for the season's trade have been made, so that it cannot effect the trade here much this season. Besides this, the competition between local manufacturers has been so keen that even with this reduction in the tariff, wire could hardly be brought in from the States. Very low prices have been accepted on barb wire here, sales at as low as \$2.65 having been reported. Prices are:

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

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$9.00 to 9.25; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$11.00 to 11.20.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$9.00 to 9.25.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.55 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs.; \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 9 to 11c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 21 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.15

GALVANIZED IRON.—American, 20 gauge, \$1.00; 22 and 24 gauge, \$1.25; 26 gauge \$1.50; 28 gauge, \$1.75 per 100 lbs.

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

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4½c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.00.

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

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 10 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5½c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lbs. These prices are being shaded for car lots.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7½ to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9½ to 10½c base; cotton, ¼ to ½ inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$5.00 to 9.00.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$2.75 for 20 to 60 d. with new classification of extras; common steel wire nails, 3 to 6 inch, \$4.10 per keg, 2½ inch, \$3.25, with usual extras for smaller sizes.

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

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Business is reported good in this branch. Stocks are low, and dealers are waiting for shipments via the lake and rail route, to secure the lower water rates. Paints, glass, bluestone, leads, etc., come under the new reduced freight classification. Prices are as follows:

WHITE LEAD.—Pure, \$5.75 per 100 lbs.

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

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

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.50; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 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; Portland cement, per barrel, \$1.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. 90c per bale putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2½c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2½c.

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

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

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

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

REFINED PETROLEUM.—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 19½c; crescent, 22½c; oleophene, 4½c in barrels. Car lots 1c per gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 28c for cocco and 25c for sunlight.

RAW FURS.—Fur animals are beginning to shed, some spring lots of furs in showing shedding. Skunk are about the worst. Land animals begin to shed first. The pelts of water animals, such as rats, otter, etc., are good yet. Following gives the range as to size and quality of prices paid here for skins:

Badger	\$ 65 to \$ 60
Bear, black or brown	5 00 to 20 00
Bear, yearlings	2 00 to 7 00
Bear, grizzly	5 00 to 15 00
Beaver, large	5 00 to 6 50
" medium	3 00 to 4 00
" small	50 to 2 00
" cubs	25 to 50
" castors, per lb	2 50 to 5 50
Fisher	3 00 to 8 00
Fox, cross	50 to 10 00
" kitt	10 to 40
" red	25 to 1 50
" silver	20 00 to 75 00
Lynx, large	1 00 to 2 00
" medium	75 to 1 50
" small	50 to 75
Marten, dark	1 00 to 4 50
" pale or brown	1 00 to 3 25
" light pale	75 to 1 75
Mink	50 to 1 50
Musquash, winter	63 to 10
" spring	65 to 15
Otter	2 00 to 9 00
Skunk	25 to 50
Wolf, timber	1 00 to 1 50
" prairie	25 to 60
" bush or large prairie	75
Wolverine	1 00 to 4 00

WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION.—Wheat markets have been very excited this week. Prices have fluctuated rapidly and at times wildly, and the market has been of a very uncertain nature. The European war and crop reports have been the leading features. Crop reports from the winter wheat states have been less favorable this week. A strong bear element has been noticeable in the

speculative market. Exports of wheat, flour included from both coasts of the United States and from St. John, N. B., this week amount to 1,651,008 bushels, against 1,311,000 bushels last week, 1,286,000 bushels in the third week of April, 1895; 2,431,000 bushels in the like week of 1895; 2,727,000 bushels in 1894, and as compared with 2,507,000 bushels in the corresponding period in 1893.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION.—Receipts of wheat at Fort William last week aggregated 143,028 bushels, and the shipments were 27,000 bushels, leaving in store on Saturday last, 3,681,593 bushels. For the corresponding week last year, receipts at Fort William were 41,693 bushels, and shipments were 13,533 bushels. Stocks at Fort William a year ago were 3,921,000 bushels, compared with 930,000 bushels two years ago and 2,338,000 three years ago. Stocks of Manitoba wheat at lake and interior points a year ago were estimated at about 8,000,000 bushels, compared with 3,000,000 two years ago. At present, stocks of Manitoba wheat at lake ports and interior points are estimated at about 6,250,000 bushels. Farmers deliveries at Manitoba country points have been practically nil, and there will be little or nothing doing until after seeding. Prices to farmers at Manitoba country points are nominal. There has been a sharp advance in the Winnipeg market, in sympathy with the advance at leading centres. Earlier in the week sales were made at about 74c, but the sharp advance of yesterday and today has put prices up rapidly, and today the quotation is 78c for May wheat.

WHEAT—Winnipeg Street Price.—The millers were paying about 60c to farmers for choice samples of hard wheat, per bushel of 60 lbs; feed wheat brings 15 to 5c.

FLOUR.—5c higher, at \$2.05 for patent, \$1.85 for bakers, \$1.45 to \$1.50 for second bakers and \$1.00 to \$1.05 for XXXX, per sack of 95 lbs.

MILLSTUFFS.—Bran is firm, and the demand is good. We quote \$3 for bran and \$5 for shorts, per ton, and in a small way \$1 per ton more is asked.

BARLEY.—City brewers are paying 23 to 25c for malting samples to farmers here, and 27 to 29c on track here for car lots. Feed barley 20 to 23c here.

OATS.—From 15 to 20c per bushel of 54 pounds is paid to farmers in this market as to quality, per bushel of 31 lbs, in loads. Car lots range from 18c for light to 20c for choice feed oats and for fancy or milling oats as high as 23 to 24c has been quoted for car lots on track here. Last sales of feed oats are about 18 to 19c, and 23 to 23c for fancy lots.

OATMEAL.—The market is easy. Following are prices here in large lots, with small lots to retail dealers held about 15 more. Rolled oatmeal in 50 lbs sacks \$1.85 per sack; standard, \$1.85 and granulated \$1.90 in 95 lbs sacks. Rolled wheat, 50 lb, \$1.90 in round lots. Pat barley, \$1.50; pearl barley, \$2.50 to \$2.75 in round lots.

GROUND FEED.—Prices are steady. Prices range from \$18 to \$17 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed. Ordinary mixed mill feed is held at \$18 per ton.

FLAX SEED.—Nominal at about 50c per bushel.

OIL CAKE.—Oil cake is still quoted at \$16 to \$17 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

BEANS.—Round lots to jobbers held at about \$1.10 per bushel.

BUTTER.—Receipts of new rolls have increased somewhat, but so far there has been no accumulation and everything has been taken as fast as it arrives. Good prices have so far been secured, but any considerable increase in receipts would result in lower prices. Country dealers should ship promptly and secure present prices as long as they hold, as a liberal increase in receipts is liable to occur soon. Now rolls have been jobbing here at 15 to 18c as to quality, for good to choice, and medium quality at about 11 to 14c.

CHEESE.—The market is quite bare of stock. A lot of old cheese recently received from the country, sold off rapidly in small lots at 11c.

EGGS.—There were large receipts previous to Easter, and a lot were carried over to this week. It is said about 500 cases were carried over Easter. This week receipts have not been as large, but still they have been coming forward quite freely. Prices declined further this week 2 to 2½ cents, to 10c, and some sales were made at 9c. One cause of the weak market is the large number of persons and firms to whom shipments are made. If shipments were confined to the regular commission houses, the market would be steadier. But when shipments are made freely to both wholesale and retail grocers and others, it simply cuts the market all to pieces, as the number of persons who are eggs to sell is greatly increased and in the competition which ensues there is sure to be vigorous cutting of prices to make sales. Country merchants should not pay more than 7c, as the jobbing price will likely be at 9c here next week, or 8c net to shipper. The same remarks in regard to buying in the country, apply to butter. Country dealers should ship promptly, both butter and eggs, and watch the market closely to avoid loss, as prices are on the down grade. While in the case of butter good prices are secured, it is not safe to count on these for any length of time ahead. Butter would probably be safer to pack in tubs from the State, than to ship rolls.

FOWLRY.—Prices are firm, as receipts are light. No ducks or geese offering. Following are prices: Chicken, 10c, turkey, 12c, geese, 10c, ducks, 10c.

GAME.—Wild geese are coming in and selling at 50 to 65c each. Waxies, 30 to 40c; ducks, mallards, 30 to 35c per pair. Other kinds, 20 to 25c per pair.

MEAT.—Prices are: Pure \$1.70 for 20 lb., pails, and 1.50 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf

lard in 8, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.00 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8 to 8½c.

CURED MEATS.—Prices are firm at the recent advance. Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 10½ to 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 10½ to 11c; do., backs, 9½ to 10c; short spiced rolls, 7½ to 8c; shoulders, 6½ to 7c smoked long clear, 8½ to 9c; Fancy clear, 8 to 8½c; Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½ to 8c per lb; shoulders, 5½c; boneless shoulders, 6½ to 7 cents; backs, 7½ to 8½ cents; barrel pork, clear mess, \$13.00 to \$13.50; short cut, \$15.50 to \$16; rolled shoulders, \$13 to 13.50; per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7½c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 3c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 25 to 30c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—Prices are firm all around and ruling at comparatively high figures. Even at present prices there is no money in beef for wholesale butchers, when the price of cattle is figured on. Beef is selling at 6 to 6½c, and 7c has been paid for a little fancy stuff, but 7½c is about the top. Matton is held at 10c for fresh and 8c for cold storage stock. Dressed hogs are higher, ranging from 5 to 6c, but the demand at these prices is only from butchers, receipts being limited. Veal 6 to 7c.

HIDES.—There is no change in hides; 7c is offered for No. 1 green city hides and 6c for No. 2 on inspection; calf, 8 to 15c lb., skins, 7 to 9c per lb.; dokins 10 to 20c each; kips, 6 to 7c; sheepskins range from 60c, to 75c according to quality. Horsehides, 75c to \$1.25.

WOOL.—The prospects are for low prices this season, it is said, owing to the tariff changes here and in the United States. Present outlook is about 6 to 8½c for unwashed fleece.

TALLOW.—Dealers are paying 3½c for No 1 extra and 2½ to 3c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

SENEGA ROOT.—A lot was bought recently by tender at 18½c. We quote 16 to 18c.

HAY.—The market is practically swamped with excessive offerings, both for loose and baled hay, and buyers can have it at their own prices. One shipper had in a few cars of baled hay which he could not sell at any price. Loads of loose hay have sold as low as \$1 per load.

VEGETABLES.—Prices are: Potatoes, 30 to 35c; Onions, 3c to 5c lb; carrots, 40c bushel; beets, 30c bushel; turnips, 20c; parsnips; 60 to 75c bushel; colery, 50c dozen; cabbage, 50 to 75c dozen. These are prices dealers buy at from market gardeners.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE.—Prices are steady, ranging from 3 to 4c for cattle off cars here, as to quality. For choico animals a fraction more has been paid, and 3½c has been paid for very ordinary butchers' stock.

SHEEP.—Prices are firm. For the local trade, they bring 4½ to 4¾c off cars here. No shipping doing in sheep.

HOGS.—Prices are steady, at prices quoted last week. We quote: Good bacon stock, weighing 150 to 300 pounds, 4½ to 4¾c. Sows and heavy hogs 2½ to 3¾c, according to quality. Stags 1½ to 2½c, off cars here.

HORSES.—Quite a number of eastern horses have been disposed of here recently, and there is a fair demand. Prices range from \$150 to \$200 per team, for general purpose horses, up to moderately heavy farm teams.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

GRAIN.—There was some little excitement in the local grain market to-day and a decided strong feeling prevailed. There was a good enquiry for all kinds of grain, but the offerings were light, and the volume of business, in consequence, was not large. Oats advanced ½ to 1c per bushel, with sales in store at 21½c to 25c, and afloat May at 26. Peas sold 1 to 2c per bushel higher at 49 to 50c in store. Rye was also 1c higher at 40 to 41c.

FLOUR.—The cutting in prices already referred to continues, especially in Manitoba grades, and it is reported that sales of choico brands of strong bakers were made at \$1.10. Millers, however, to-day stated that there was a decided improvement in the local demand, and an active business was done. We quote:— Winter wheat patents at \$1.25 to \$1.40; straight rollers at \$3.85 to \$1.00, and in bags, at \$1.85 to \$1.90 Manitoba strong bakers' choico, \$1.25 to \$1.40; outside brands, \$1 to \$1.10, and spring wheat patents at \$1.60 to \$1.70.

FEED.—Manitoba bran is quoted at \$12, and shorts at \$13 per ton, including bags. Ontario bran is held at \$12 and shorts at \$13 per ton in bulk.

OATMEAL.—Prices are about steady at \$2.70 to \$2.80 per barrel, and at \$1.35 to \$1.40 per bag for rolled oats.

HAY.—There was a firmer feeling in the hay market for No. 1, and prices show an advance of 50c per ton, with sales of car lots at \$10 to \$10.50, while No. 2 is unchanged at \$8 to \$8.50 per ton, on track.

CHEESE.—There were 300 boxes of fodder cheese offered to-day which met with ready buyers at 10½ to 10¾c.

BUTTER.—The receipts of fresh made creamery are steadily increasing and the market is easier, round lots to-day being offered freely at 18½c. The demand in a jobbing way was fair and prices ranged at 18½ to 19c. New dairy butter is selling at 16 to 16½c, and old creamery at 12 to 13c.

EGGS.—The market was weaker and prices declined ¾c per dozen, to 9 to 9½c.

MAPLE SUGAR.—The demand for maple product continues fair and prices rule about steady. Syrup sold at 50c per small tin, 55 to 60c per large tin, and at 4½ to 4¾c per lb. in wood. Sugar brought 6½ to 7c per lb.

BEANS.—The market is dull at 55 to 60c in car lots, and at 65 to 70c in a jobbing way.

The Live Stock Trade.

At London on April 19 there was a limited demand and a decidedly weak feeling prevailed. Prices for cattle declined $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1c per lb. Best United States sold at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, and Argentines at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Prices for sheep declined $\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb., choice selling at 12c.

Another cable from London quoted choice States cattle at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

A cable from Liverpool quoted refrigerated beef, hinds at 12c; sides at 10c, and fores at 8c.

Montreal Gazette says:—In regard to ocean freights, the demand continues good and further engagements have been made to Liverpool at 40s, 42s 6d and 45s; to London at 40s and 42 6d, and all the Glasgow space has been engaged for May and June at 45s.

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on April 19, the supply was exceedingly small, and likewise the demand. Sales of heifers and steers for export were made at 4 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, but 5c would be paid for really choice stock. Choice cows sold at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, and bulls at 3 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. A few good butchers' cattle were disposed of at 4 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, and lower grades at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb., live weight. Spring lambs sold at \$2 to \$5 each.

At the Point St. Charles stock yards, Montreal, on April 19, trade in cattle was at a standstill and the offerings were extremely light. A few small lots of hogs were on the market, which met with a demand at prices ranging from 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ c per lb., live weight.

At the same weekly market at Toronto on April 20, the demand for export cattle was slow, at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4c, and a few extra choice at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Butchers' cattle sold well at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c as to quality, with 4c paid for a few fancy. Stockers, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3c for Buffalo. Sheep 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c, with good demand, yearlings 5 to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, lambs \$2.50 to \$1.00 per head. Hogs were steady. Choice selections of bacon hogs were soon disposed of at 5c per lb., off cars. Thick fat hogs were slightly firmer at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c, per lb. Sows bring 3 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb; stags, 2c. All kinds except stores are wanted.

Comparative Wheat Supply.

Stocks of wheat in the northwest are steadily working down to a position that justifies the conclusion that the supply to be carried forward to the new crop will be no more than will be needed by the mills to use until the crop of 1897 may be used with safety. Minneapolis has in store to-day a little above 14,000,000 bushels of wheat in public and private storage, against a little more than 20,000,000 bushels in the same storage a year ago, or 5,000,000 bushels less now than at the same time last year. There are about 9,000,000 bushels in the country elevators including independent houses, against 16,000,000 bushels a year ago. There are about 8,000,000 bushels estimated in farmers bands, against some 15,000,000 bushels estimated one year ago. If it is allowed that about the same proportion of the country wheat will come here as during same period from now to Aug. 1 last year, Minneapolis should show a supply of some

12,500,000 bu less to carry over, than a year ago, or say 3,000,000 bu against 14,500,000 in 1896. That will be little enough and would naturally put a good premium upon it, especially if the new crop is not a very early one.

There is said to be 500,000 bushels of wheat now in Minneapolis sold to go out to mills east of here, and country mills to the west of Minneapolis are buying more or less of stored wheat to be taken out of interior elevators for current use of their mills. How much such uses may reduce the Minneapolis supply can be conjectured only, but, that some Minneapolis mills may have to close for lack of supply is quite probable. July price is now under the price of May, while July is the month when the pinch will come and ought to be at a premium, equal to about the carrying charge.—Minneapolis Market Record.

Minnesota Crop Bulletin.

The Minnesota weekly crop report says: "A general snow storm on the 12th delayed work, but drying weather since then has dried out the soil rapidly, except near water courses. The flood of the Red river is receding rapidly, in its upper half and increasing towards its mouth. In the northern section some wheat has been sown in most favorable places and some is sprouted. Rye is looking well. In other sections the progress of seeding has varied according to the quality of the soil. In the counties with light soil drying has been more rapid, and in those wheat seeding is well advanced. In the regions of heavier soil the seeding has been delayed by wet soil, so that little or none has been put in. The fact that the season is probably ten days later than usual has tempted many farmers to sow their seed in land too wet. It was expected that wheat seeding would become general on the 19th, but it is possible that Sunday's sudden cold snap may cause a further, though slight, delay. A little barley and some oats have been sown in southern counties. In sections of the southeast winter grains have not wintered well. Warm, drying weather, to put the soil in good condition and start the pastures and hay, is much needed."

Seeding in North Dakota.

Bismarck, N. D. April 20.—The first regular crop bulletin, issued to-day says: "With this number the crop bulletin for North Dakota for the season of 1897 begins, and under more favorable circumstances than was anticipated the first of the present month. At that time the ground was entirely covered with snow in all parts of the state and prospects of farm work being done early was very poor. The weather however, changed about the first week and the snow melted very rapidly, and as the ground was not frozen to any extent, the most of the water was absorbed. In the western part of the state, as well as in the central portion, the surface of the ground soon dried so that considerable work and some seeding has been done,

but in the eastern portion where the land is generally low, but little has been done. With a continuance of the present weather a great deal of work will be done the present week."

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	April 15, 1897.	April 17, 1896.
Flour, straight spring..	\$3.85 to \$4.00	\$3.10 to \$3.20
Flour, straight winter..	\$1.00 to \$1.10.	\$3.25 to \$3.35
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	20 1-2	20
Oats, No. 2.....	22	23 3/4
Rye, No. 2, Western.....	42	47
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	41 1/2	47
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 7-16	7 1-16
Print cloths, 64x64.....	2 0-16	2 1-16
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X....	19c to 20	17 1/2 to 18 1/2
Wool, No. 1 comb.....	23 to 24c	21 1/2 to 22 1/2
Pork, mess new.....	8.75 to 9.25	\$9.75 to \$10.25
Lard, prime, con't'd.....	\$4.49 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$5.25 to \$5.75
Butter, ex. creamery ..	15 1/2	16
Cheese, ch. east fr.....	12	10 1/2 to 11 1/2
Sugar, centrif., 90°.....	3 0-32c	4 1/2 to 5
Sugar, granulated.....	1 1-2c	1 1/2 to 1 3/4
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	8c	11c
Petroleum, N. T. Co....	\$8 1-2	\$1 50
Petroleum, rid. gal., ..	6 05	\$0.90
*Iron, Bes. pg.....	\$9.75	\$13.25
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$14.75	\$20.25
*Steel Rails.....	\$20.00	\$25.00
Ocean Steam Freights—		
Grain, Liverpool.....	2 1/2	1 1/2
Cotton.....	18c	15c

* Pittsburgh.

The New Tariff.

The new duty on wheat is 12 and not 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, as stated on another page. Following is a corrected report of the liquor duties: Spirituous or alcoholic liquors, spirit wine, etc., formerly \$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per gallon to be \$2.40 per gallon. Alcoholic perfume bay rum, cologne, etc., in bottles of more than 4 oz. each, formerly \$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per gallon and 40 per cent. ad valorem, to be \$2.40 per gallon and 50 per cent. Nitrous gas ammonia, etc., formerly \$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per gallon and 30 per cent. to be \$2.40 per gallon and 50 per cent. Vermouth, ginger wine, etc., under 26 per cent. proof, formerly 30 cents per gallon to be 35 cents per gallon and more than 26 per cent. proof, formerly \$2.25 per gallon, to be \$2.40 per gallon. Medicinal or medicated wines containing not more than 40 per cent. proof to be \$1.50 per gallon.

Faines & Co., Brandon, Man., hotel, offering their business for sale.

Anderson & Graham, Carman, Kn general store, are succeeded by Grant & Fumerton.

W. Pitcher, Dauphin, Man., baker, sold out to John Bryce.

E. Smith, McGregor, Man., harness, sold out to one Scott.

G. Stewart, Methven, Man., general store, has sold out to E. Rogers.

FOR SALE

General Stock and good Business in a locality in Manitoba. A splendid chance for a young man wanting to start. Reasonable selling, health failing. Apply to Mackenzie P. O. Box 264, Winnipeg.

Minneapolis Markets.

Flour—The Market Record of April 22 reports the market very quiet, and no export trade doing. Prices as follows, in bbls. f.o.b.: First patents, \$1.15 to \$1.35; second patents, \$1.00 to \$1.20; first clears, \$1.15 to \$1.35; second clear, \$1.20 to \$1.40, Head Dog, per cwt. 110 to 120 lbs. fine, \$8.50 to \$9.75. These prices are 15 to 35c higher than a week ago.

Mill-stuffs Bran in bulk, \$3.75 to \$3.00; in sacks, 200 lbs. \$9.75 to \$7.00; bran in bulk, 100 lbs. \$7.25 to \$7.50; shorts in bulk, \$5.50, shorts in sacks, 100 lbs. 6.75 to \$7.50, fine, \$7.25 to \$7.50. These prices are 25c lower on bran and shorts.

Oats—Range in stly at 17 to 19c for No. 3, Barley—1/2c higher. Quoted at 23 1/2c per bushel for feed grade.

Flax—Quoted at 74 1/2c per bushel, an advance 1/2c on the week.

Hay—Prairie, \$1.00 to \$3.50 per ton, as quality.—Market Record, April 22.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

The prices below are board of trade quotations for Chicago No. 2 wheat, No. 3 oats and No. 2 corn, per bushel. Pork is quoted per barrel and lard and short in cents per pound.

Wheat prices were excited and irregular Monday, influenced by the outbreak of war between Greece and Turkey. Prices ran a wide range and the early advance was led off by favorable crop reports, and a report demand etc. Closing prices were:

	Apr	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	71	75	7 3/4-75	72 1/2
Corn	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	27 1/2
Oats	17 1/2	17 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2
Pork	8 17 1/2	8 60		
Lard	1 50	1 50	4 10	
Short Ribs	1 77 1/2	1 77 1/2	4 85	

On Tuesday there were very heavy offerings of wheat at the opening, prices declined under the influence of a selling wave, sympathy with New York, where there was also heavy selling. Closing prices were:

	Apr.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	71 1/2
Corn	21 1/2	21 1/2	26	27 1/2
Oats	16 1/2	17 1/2	18 1/2-3	19 1/2
Pork	8 47 1/2	8 60		
Lard	4 20	4 30	4 37 1/2	
Short Ribs	1 72 1/2	4 75	4 80	

That was higher at the opening on Wednesday, influenced by higher cables and some favorable crop reports, and export sales at New York. Then there was a tumble in prices when an attempt was made to realize some large leads being offered. Closing prices were:

	Apr.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	70 1/2
Corn	21 1/2	21 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2
Oats	17 1/2-1	18 1/2-1	19	
Pork	8 45	8 57 1/2		
Lard	1 15	4 25	4 30	
Short Ribs	1 70	4 75	4 82 1/2	

Thursday wheat opened strong, on cables export sales and unfavorable news, but broke again under liberal offerings. Closing prices were:

	April	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	73 1/2	73 1/2	72 1/2	69 1/2
Corn	21 1/2	21 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2
Oats	17 1/2-1	18 1/2	19 1/2	
Mess Pork	8 47 1/2	8 57 1/2		
Lard	4 12 1/2	4 22 1/2	4 33 1/2	
Short Ribs	4 70	4 75	4 80	

On Friday there were some bad crop reports at the opening, but prices declined after a temporary advance, on realizing sales, but advanced again on further bad crop reports from Kansas. Closing prices were:

	April	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	71 1/2-75	74 1/2-75	71 1/2	71
Corn	21 1/2	21 1/2	25 1/2-26	27 1/2
Oats	17 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2	
Mess Pork	8 52 1/2	8 62 1/2		
Lard	4 15	4 25	4 35	
Short Ribs	4 72 1/2	4 77 1/2	4 82 1/2	

On Saturday May wheat opened at 75 1/2c and ranged upward, touching 77 1/2c. Closing prices were:

	April	May	July	Sept.
Wheat	77	76 1/2		
Corn				
Oats				
Mess Pork				
Lard				
Short Ribs				

Last week May delivery closed at 78 1/2c. A year ago May wheat closed at 68 1/2c. Two years ago at 68c, and three years ago at 58 1/2c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday	May, 78 1/2c	July, 76 1/2c	Sept, 71 1/2c
Tuesday	May, 76 1/2c	July, 75 1/2c	Sept, —
Wednesday	May, 74 1/2c	July, 73 1/2c	Sept, —
Thursday	May, 74 1/2c	July, 74 1/2c	Sept, 69 1/2c
Friday	May, 76 1/2c	July, 76 1/2c	Sept, —
Saturday	May, 78 1/2c	July, 78 1/2c	Sept, 72 1/2c

On Saturday, April 21 cash No. 1 hard closed at 79 1/2c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 79 1/2c.

Last week May deliveries closed at 74 1/2c. A year ago May closed at 63 1/2c. Two years ago at 67 1/2c, and three years ago at 60 1/2c, and four years ago at 65 1/2c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, April 21, May option closed at 83 1/2c and July at 82c. A week ago May option closed at 77 1/2c and two weeks ago at 72 1/2c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, April 21, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 76 1/2c for May option, 76 1/2c for July, and 70 1/2c for September. A week ago May wheat closed at 78 1/2c.

Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending April 22, were \$12,051; balances, 126,602. For the previous week clearings were 954,497. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 957,108 and for the week two years ago, were 631,065.

Grocery Trade Notes.

It is reported that several large jobbers have had firm offers of Columbia river salmon in tall cans made to them at \$1 spot, but that they have declined to buy—New York Commercial Bulletin.

The California Grocer, April 9th, says: "Currants have again advanced owing to the shortness of stocks in first hands, and to the prospect of a diminished yield, which is due as much or more to the discouragement caused to the growers by unremunerative prices, as to the present warlike excitement in Greece. Since our last issue there has been some wholesale business here. In California products there has been a little movement, chiefly in the low grades of peaches, which are now closely cleaned up; the remainder of this fruit in first hands in now very small and consists chiefly of the better qualities. Stocks of apricots are now also only nominal. Prunes are very dull, and the business passing is still in the outside growths at low prices. The quotations on Santa Clara 40-50 is reduced 1/2 cent. Raisins are slow, and the prices of 3 and 4 crown loose muscels are clipped. All the talk about damage to the growing crops is, so far, downright nonsense.

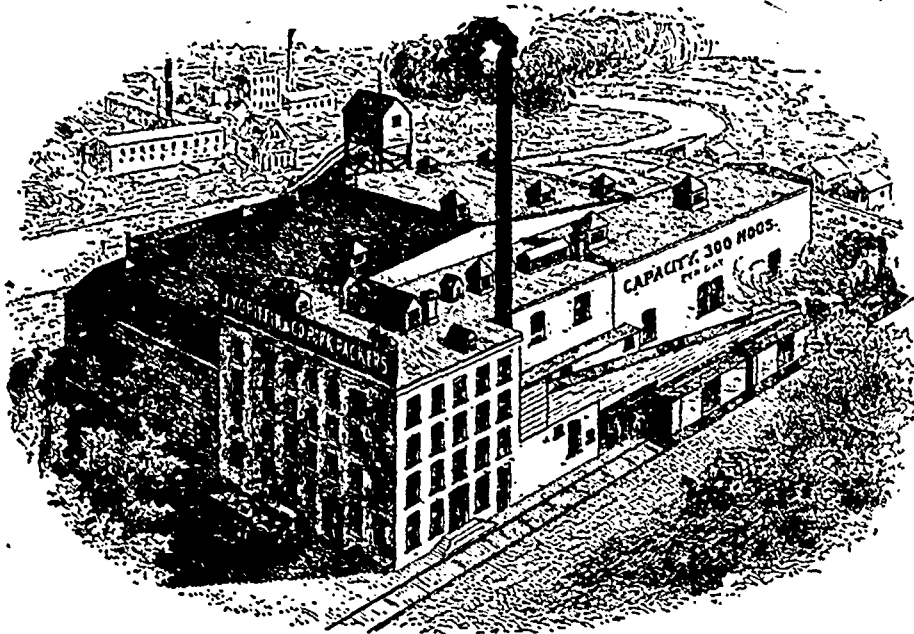
The steamer Fremont will be the first fruit vessel to arrive at Montreal this season. She is expected about April 20th. Her cargo consists of 40,000 boxes Messina lemons, 6,200 boxes Messina oranges and 8,000 boxes of Sorrento. She will be followed by the Sir Walter Raleigh, with 30,000 boxes of oranges and lemons. The steamship Victoria has been chartered by the Thomson Line, and she will have a cargo of 35,000 boxes of oranges and lemons. The Escalona will be the fourth to arrive, with 25,000 boxes of fruit, and she will call at Valencia for case oranges. There is also another outside steamer chartered to come here with a full cargo of fruit.—Gazette.

South Dakota Seeding.

Sioux Falls, S. D., April 20—A Trip through the state shows that farmers are busily engaged at plowing and seeding. There is every prospect of a good crop. In years past small grain has been sown as late as May 1. Contrary to first expectations, and largely owing to the prospect of high prices, the acreage of wheat is being increased, while the corn acreage will be decreased. Rye and barley stand two inches high. In Turner and Lincoln counties, during the past week, threshing has been in progress on a hundred farms. Grain that has been stacked all winter, exposed to the weather, shows a loss of from 25 to 50 per cent. and an investigation shows that very little small grain was lost by the overflow of the creeks and rivers. Farmers are predicting a very great hay crop.

R. E. Gallagher, representing S. Green-shields, Son & Co. dry goods, Montreal, returned to Winnipeg last week, and will start soon on one of his regular western trips.

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Get your Butter and Eggs into the market at once. We are pushing this trade for all we are worth. We know where and how to dispose of your shipments quickly and satisfactorily. Good Butter is high just now, but it will soon be lower. To obtain good results, consign your shipments to the reliable, pushing and experienced firm of

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Protest Against Departmental Stores.

A meeting of the Montreal Retail Grocer's Association was held to protest against the monopolizing and illegitimate methods of Departmental Stores, and was largely attended, and among the complaints brought against these revolutionary institutions was that of cutting prices. For instance, it was said that sugar had been sold at 8c per lb. which cost the grocers 4½c per lb. Cross & Blackwell's pickles, bought by the grocers at \$3 25 a dozen, were being sold by the stores at 19c a bottle, and jam put up by the same firm, which cost \$2 40 a dozen was offered by them at 14 cents per bottle, etc. This fully confirms the charges of cutting brought by the Trade Bulletin in its issue of Dec. 25 last as follows:—

Not only do these stores trespass upon the business of special lines, but by selling a cheap class of goods they work further injury by affecting the prices of merchandise of a better quality. For instance, a few days ago a regular customer of a retail grocer of this city asked the latter the price of some canned goods, and when the regular figure was given the customer remarked:—"Oh! I can get them for 2c per tin less at the department store, and I shall also fill the rest of my requirements at the same place if you cannot give me the canned goods at what I can buy them for elsewhere." Rather than lose his customer, the grocer gave him a better brand of canned goods than the departmental store was offering. We mention this actual occurrence to demonstrate in how many ways the departmental stores are adversely affecting the retail grocers in the city; but this is only one of the many retail trade departments which suffer from the departmental system. We repeat that this innovation in the retail trade is manifestly unfair."

Several of the speakers suggested legislative aid with a view of imposing a tax on each additional department of the departmental stores. The following document has been signed by all the wholesale grocery establishments of the city with the exception of three:—

"We, the undersigned wholesale grocers' manufacturers and provision dealers and members of the Dominion of Canada, and agents representing foreign houses exporting their goods, wares, etc., to Canada, do hereby pledge ourselves not to sell directly or indirectly to departmental stores in Montreal, and that we will protect to the fullest extent in our power the legitimate retail grocery trade:—

The principal object of Tuesday night's meeting was to submit this agreement to the whole trade and get the sanction of the society thereto. The speeches of the different members of the Association showed that they were in earnest in their protest against the illegitimate methods of cutting and monopolizing as practiced by the Departmentals. Customers of the letter overlook the fact that these "cuts" on certain "drawing" goods are offset by the profits obtained on other kinds of goods. The retail grocers therefore have special reasons for complaint against the injury inflicted upon their trade, through the unfair and illegitimate methods of the departmentals.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

Explaining the Wheat Depression.

The Liverpool Corn Trade News in reviewing the breadstuffs market says: The number of live cattle and sheep existing in the United Kingdom and imported from abroad does not increase as rapidly as the human population, whereas in the matter of dead meat the increased importation, when reckoned per head of the population, is so very small that it can have hardly any appreciable effect on the consumption of breadstuffs. Neither can it be said that potatoes are this year supplanting bread to an unusual extent, for the crop this season is admittedly less abundant than has been the case in any recent year, excepting 1894. Probably the true explanation of the depression is the simplest, viz, that during the 34 weeks of the season which have already elapsed, there have been marketed by British farmers or foreign shippers a few hundred thousand quarters more breadstuffs than was needed. According to our usual way of reckoning the excess of imports over consumption since August 1st amounts to 553,000 quarters, whereas the port stocks show an increase of only 140,000 quarters since that date, the inference being that millers are cumbered with the difference of 420,000 quarters. A year ago the case was very different, for in the first 31 weeks of 1895-96 the imports and farmers' deliveries fell 800,000 quarters below the ordinary requirements. It is true that in the near future the difference is likely to be redressed, for the arrivals of the next five weeks will almost certainly fall short of requirements probably to the extent of 100,000 quarters per week, but the trade as a whole are incredulous on this point, and the few who believe it are indifferent as to any effect the light arrivals may have in the fine warm days of spring, when our own farmers will be free sellers of the balance of the old crop.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the board of trade was held on Tuesday afternoon.

A deputation from the Retailers' association, composed of Messrs. Daegan, Fowler and Grundy, made a request that the board of trade should endorse the petition they are presenting to the Dominion Government to provide by legislation that members of the civil service be not exempted from the operation of the garnishee law as to salaries, but that they be placed in the same position as other citizens are in this respect. The council unanimously resolved to accede to the request of the Retailers' association.

A letter from General Manager Stout, of the Dominion Express company, in relation to express charges on the western division of the C. P. R., which business men claim are excessive, was laid over for further consideration until the next meeting, when some further information will be secured.

Matters relating to the legal rate of interest were referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Mathewson, Bole, Russell, Ashdown and Drowry, a bill has been introduced at Ottawa to fix the legal rate of interest at six per cent., providing that no matter what special contracts are entered into for a higher rate, no higher than six need be paid at maturity.

The matter of the inspection of gas and electric light meters was discussed and action deferred until the next meeting.

The matter of the McKenzie gas proposition to the city council was discussed at some length by the members of the council present, and as a result the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this council it would not be in the interest of the city of Winnipeg to incur the debt necessary to establish and maintain a rival system of gasworks in this city, and it would be advisable that the city should enter into some reasonable arrangement with the gas company to secure a reduction in the price of gas with such provisos as will secure further reductions from time to time."

Montreal Grocery Market.

Since our last report of the sugar market, advices from primary points have been weaker for both the raw and the refined article. A cable from London to-day quoted beet at 8s 9d for April and May, which shows a decline of 1½d since this day week. In New York granulated has also declined to \$1.25 per 100 lbs. net. On spot the market has been very quiet, and, notwithstanding the above week news, values are about steady at 4½ to 4¾ for granulated, and at 3½ to 3¾ for yellows, as to quality, at the factory.

There has been considerable business done in new molasses on local account during the past week. Sales of three cargoes of Barbadoes aggregating about 2,100 puncheons have been made at 8c, first cost at the Island for future delivery. Two cargoes of Antigua molasses amounting to 1,200 puncheons have also been placed at about 21 to 22c here. These two latter cargoes were sold on guarantee of sample and gauge.

A feature of the tea market this week has been the fact that some large buyers who bought on speculation of a duty being placed on this article are already offering their stock on the market. The demand between houses has been fair, and several lines of Japans of 100 packages each have changed hands at prices ranging from 13½ to 21½ per lb. as to quality. There is a good enquiry for Japans at 18 to 19c, but grades of this class are very scarce. Stocks of all lines are light and the tone of the market on the whole is very firm, and in some cases holders are asking an advance of ½ per lb. over the figure that they would have accepted last week.—Gazette, April 16.

Oats at Montreal.

Considerable attention has recently been drawn to the large stock of oats in store here, amounting to 336,823 bushels; but they appear to overlook the fact that the great bulk of these oats are for export at open water, and will not be offered on this market, ocean space having already been engaged for them for May—June shipment. But the above is not an exceptionally large quantity to be held here at this season of the year, as a broker on change stated that some years ago over a million bushels were in store here, at this time, and they were mostly all shipped out by the first steamers. That year, however, it is said that prices advanced 8c to 10c per bushel, and sold up to 40c and 42c per bushel; they are only 23½ to 24c now; and it is expected that fully two million bushels will be shipped out of this port in May. We shall have to get considerable more oats, therefore, by the opening of navigation. May oats afloat are quoted at 25½c.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

Work on the new C.P.R. hotel at Revelstoke, British Columbia, has started. The hotel is to cost \$23,000.

Wheat Stocks

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended April 17, 1897, shows a decrease of 727,000 bushels, against a decrease of 817,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,861,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 792,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years; the second table shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year, compared with the three previous years. This visible supply includes stocks of wheat in store at most important points, east of the Rocky mountains:

Table with columns for years (1896, 1895, 1894, 1893) and rows for weeks from Jan 4 to Dec 20, showing wheat stock values.

Table with columns for years (1897, 1896, 1895, 1894) and rows for weeks from Jan 2 to Dec 20, showing wheat stock values.

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on April 3, is as follows:

Table showing wheat stocks in Bushels for Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Winnipeg, Manitoba interior elevators, Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on April 10, 1897:

Table showing wheat stocks in Bushels for East of the Mountains, Pacific Coast, and Total stocks a year ago.

Bradstreet's report for the week ended April 17, shows a decrease of 748,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 53,969,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on April 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 121,676,000 bushels, as compared with 144,875,000 bushels on April 1, 1895; 162,504,000 on April 1, 1893; 175,956,000 on April 1, 1891; 178,233,000 on April 1, 1893; 148,593,000 on April 1, 1892; 99,893,000 on April 1, 1891; and 90,851,000 on April 1, 1890.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the week-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:

Table showing wheat inspection statistics by grade (Extra Man. H'd, No. 1 hard, etc.) for weeks from Mar 20 to Apr 17, 1897, compared with the same week last year.

*Wheat inspection 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.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat was 2c lower. Butter was 1 to 2c lower. Eggs, 1c lower. Beef was easier. Hides, 1/2c lower.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, in store at Fort William, 65 to 66c for May delivered. Flour.—Local price, per sack. Patents. \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.70. Bran.—Per ton, \$8. Shorts.—Per ton, \$10.

Oats.—Per bushel, Winnipeg street price, 16 to 18c. Car lots at country points, 10 to 18c. Barley —Selling at 17 to 18c for feed here. Car lots at country points worth 18c to 15c.

Butter.—Dairy, good to choice, jobbing at 11c to 16c as to quality and quantity. Cheese.—Jobbing price 9 1/2 to 10c. Eggs.—Fresh, jobbing at 10c, or 9c net.

Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 5 1/2c. Mutton.—Mutton, held stock, 7c to 8c, fresh, 9c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 4 1/2 to 5c. Cattle.—Nominal at 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for butchers stock.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 8 1/2c. Sheep.—Sheep nominal at 4 to 4 1/2c off cars. Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.

Poultry.—Chickens, 12c lb; turkeys, 14c; ducks, 10c, geese, 12c.

Hides.—Green country hides, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4c; No. 1 4c on inspection.

Potatoes—12 to 15c per bushel. Hay—\$5 to \$5.50 for baled on track.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat—Since the advance on Saturday, prices are about 2c higher for Ontario grade at 77c for red and 78c for white north and west. Manitoba wheat 1 to 2c higher, with sales of No. 1 hard Midland today at 85c and No. 2 hard at 85c.

Flour—is in demand and firmer at \$3 1/2 to \$3 7/8 for straight roller west.

Millfeed—There is a fair demand and the market is firm at \$10 for shorts west and \$9 for bran.

Barley—Is dull and nominal at 3 1/2 to 3 3/4 for No. 1, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4 for No. 1 extra, 2 1/2 for No. 2, 2 1/2 for No. 3 extra and 2 1/2 for feed outside.

Oats—Are firmer to-day; mixed red north and west at 19 1/2 and white at 20c midlle freights.

Cured Meats—The market is very firm for all lines of hog products, heavy mess, \$12 1/2 to \$12.50; short cut, \$13 to \$13.50; clear shoulder mess, \$10.50 to \$11; long clear bacon, 10c lots, 7c; ion lots, 7 1/2c; c/o lots, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4c; backs, 8c; shoulders, 6c. Smoked Meats—Hams, heavy, 10c; medium, 11c; light, 12c; breakfast bacon, 11c; backs, 11 1/2c, picnic hams, 7 1/2c; rolls, 7 1/2 to 8c; green hamlets of pickle are quoted 1c less than cured. Lard—Tierces, 7c; tubs, 7 1/2c; rails, 7c compound, 6c.

Dressed Hogs—Choice light, \$12.25; heavy are quoted at \$5.75, being scarcer.

Butter—Large dairy rolls, 13 1/2 to 14c; dairy pounds, 11 to 15c; tubs, 6 to 12c; creamery rolls, 2 1/2 to 2 1/2c; creamery tubs to 19c.

Eggs—Prices steady at 9 1/2c for new laid.

Poultry—Chickens, 10 to 10c; ducks, to 80c; geese, 8 to 9c; turkeys, 10 to 11c.

Potatoes—Market dull; prices easy; lots, 18 to 20c; cut of store, 25 to 28c. Globe, April 21.

Silver.

The silver markets continued dull and with no change worthy of note. Little silver was apparently paid in London at the appointment of a bimetallic commission on our government. Variations in silver prices this week were of the fractional entirely. Silver prices on April 16 New York, 62c.

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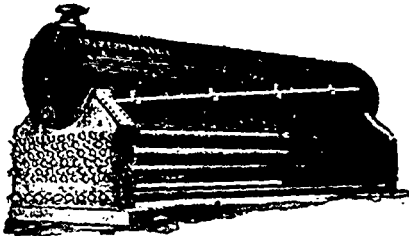
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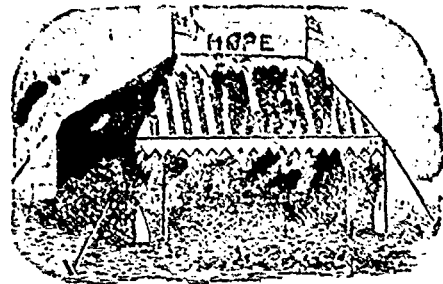
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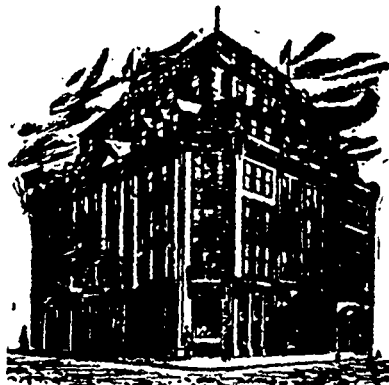
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The Erie Canal.

so much has lately been said about the Consolidated Lake & Canal Co., and about improvements going on in the Erie canal, that we herewith present to our readers a view of the waterway, which, as is well known, extends across the state of New York, from Buffalo to Albany, the canal being 252 miles long. At Buffalo it connects with Lake Erie; at Black Rock (near Albany) and at Tonawanda, with the Niagara river, and at West Troy and Albany with the Hudson. The governing size of the canal is the size of that portion between West Troy and Albany. This has a surface width of 70 feet, bottom width of 52½ feet, and depth of 7 feet. The total lockage between Buffalo and Buffalo is 635 feet, or about 81 feet more than the difference in the levels between Lake Erie and the Hudson at Albany. The total lockage being occasioned by the unevenness of the land, which did not admit of a descent from Buffalo to Albany, but necessitated some ascents on the way. There are, in all, 72 locks to be passed in going over the canal from Buffalo to Albany. As may be seen by our map, there are two lateral canals joining it, one is the Oswego canal starting from Buffalo (Ontario) at Oswego, and joining the Erie canal at Syracuse, and the Champlain canal, which starts from Whitehall, at the foot of Lake Champlain, 73 miles distant from Albany, and joins the Erie at West Troy near Albany. As to the present dimensions of the canal, the boats in use on it are regulated in length of 93 feet, and in draft of 17 feet 5 inches, and, when loaded to draft, carry about 240 tons. The boats are nearly all of wood. A number of iron boats have been built, and are used on the canal and traverse Lake Erie to Cleveland and Erie. They run in fleets of four or six steam-propelled boats pushing one another. A large proportion of the boats on the Erie canal are of the plain type, which are drawn by animals, but, however, many steamboats which push themselves and tow others of the plain type. These steamboats are of the same type, with an engine and propeller on the deck. There are on the canal about 100 iron boats and about 3,000 ordinary wooden boats.

In operation of the canal the practice is common, for economical reasons, of lashing two boats together, one immediately behind the other, so that both could be

handled by one steersman and drawn by three animals with one driver. This was the case, both with boats propelled by animal power and with those propelled by steam. There was great delay in locking such pairs of boats, because of the necessity of separating them, passing each one, separately, through each lock, and again fastening them together upon leaving the lock. To do away with this delay, to the greatest practicable extent, the experiment was made in 1885 of lengthening one lock, so that two boats could go through at one lockage. The work was so satisfactory, and the advantages so marked, that the work of lengthening one tier of the locks has progressed ever since, as fast as the necessary funds could be obtained from the state. At the present time, of the 72 locks in one tier of the main line, 40 have been lengthened, leaving 32 yet to be lengthened or otherwise treated. Two of these are under contract to be lengthened during the coming winter.

Very extensive improvements are, however, already in progress. There are being made by virtue of a sum of \$9,000,000, voted by the people of the state of New York at a general election, held in 1895, for improving and enlarging the capacity of the state canals. This work is now being pushed vigorously, and contracts for a large amount of work have already been let. The following is the engineers' report of the work to be accomplished on the canal under this scheme. At Cohoes, where there are 16 locks; at Little Falls, where there are 4 locks; at Newark, where there are 3 locks, and at Lockport, where there are 5 locks, the old locks are to be replaced with modern double-length steel lift locks. All the other unlengthened locks of the tier will be lengthened. At Cohoes, it is understood that the change will be made by using a portion of the Champlain canal, including two lift locks and one guard lock. These three locks will be lengthened. The total lift of the 16 locks at Cohoes is 163.8 feet. Of this, 23 feet is in the Champlain canal locks, leaving 140.8 feet to be overcome by the steel lift lock.

The locks which have already been lengthened, will be still further lengthened by substituting a tumble gate for the upper miter gates and placing it nearer to the end, so that their capacity will be sufficient for two boats 115 feet long or one boat 115 to 230 feet long. All the locks to be changed are to have this length. The governing width will still be that of the old locks, i. e. 18 feet.

The canal will be deepened throughout, in its prism and in all permanent structures, to nine feet, so that the boats can load to eight feet and still have one foot of water under their keels at all points.

The exact type of the steel lift locks to be adopted has not yet been determined. It is understood that the lift locks are to consist

of steel tanks, raised and lowered by hydraulic or mechanical power, the tanks to be 20 feet wide and 215 feet long, with nine feet or over depth of water. All permanent structures over the canal are to be arranged to give a clear height of at least 12 feet above the water surface.

The engineer talks as though it were the most every-day sort of task to construct works with enough power and extent to overcome a height of 115 feet with steel tanks 20 feet wide by 215 feet long; but a moment's reflection will show what a great undertaking this really is. Imagine the weight of a tank of this size filled with water, and then we can, perhaps, realize the power necessary to elevate this great mass.

When these improvements are completed, the Erie canal will permit the passage of boats 17½ feet beam, 8 feet draft, and 230 feet in length. But there is a possibility of the national governments co-operating to still further enlarge the canal, so as to permit the passage of the largest class of torpedo boats, and torpedo boat-destroyers, as well as of gunboats, for the protection of the lake cities. Two house bills, Nos. 7,775 and 8,074, to make appropriations for widening the locks in the Erie and Oswego canals, respectively, have been referred to the engineer department of the United States army, and have been favorably reported upon, so the matter has already made some headway. Estimates have been prepared by the department, showing the cost of enlarging the locks, so as to permit the passage of vessels of various draughts, and the engineer, in his report says, that it is perfectly practicable from an engineering standpoint, to widen the locks of the Erie canal in the manner indicated in the bill. The report of Major Symons, of the Corps of Engineers, on the commercial aspects of the case, is so pertinent and of such general commercial interest that we give it herewith. He says: It is impossible to overlook the fact that such an improvement in the Erie canal as that proposed would have a very important bearing upon its capacity and use for commercial purposes, and it seems proper to give some slight consideration to this aspect of the question in this report. It may be stated, broadly, that the function of the Erie canal is to furnish part of a free watery highway from the grain, ore, and lumber regions of the northwest to the great metropolis and seaport of the country, New York. While it is a fact that there is carried upon the canal but a small portion of the products of the northwest going to New York, yet by the cheap method of transportation which it furnishes, it has, undoubtedly, exercised a wide influence in keeping down freight rates on the railroads which carry the greater portion of the products, and has inspired

(Continued on Page 792.)

New Canadian Tariff.

Finance Minister Fielding made his budget speech at Ottawa on April 22nd, announcing the new tariff measure of the new Liberal government.

Turning to trade relations with the United States, he deplored the unfriendly indications from that country, but thought it was a mistake to imagine these precluded reciprocity negotiations. Many well-meaning Canadians press for retaliation. We submit that it is wiser to wait and see the result of the present uncertainty in the United States regarding the trade policy, and pending such it is prudent to not extend retaliation. Canadians wish to trade with all people who will deal with us. What is any nation but a combination of individuals. Let trade drift into natural channels. Canada has not the right to complain of the effect of the Dingley bill. Let us instead follow the United States' example in framing our tariff with an eye to our own interest. This leads to the conclusion that we must have one tariff for countries willing to trade with us and another schedule for all others.

We propose a general tariff, largely on the lines of the present, free from some of the enormities, injustices, specific duties and restrictions. Then again, there will be a special tariff for countries desirous of trading with us and this latter gives above all a preference to the products of Great Britain.

The duty on spirits is increased by 15 cents.

Corn placed on the free list, except when imported for distilling.

Flour reduced from 75 to 60 cents per barrel.

Wheat reduced from 15 to 10 cents per bushel.

Corn meal is reduced from 40 cents per one hundred pounds to 25c, and the right to import corn in bond to grinders abolished, as it has given rise to much complaint on the part of the trade.

Rice, at present charged 3-10 of a cent uncleaned, and 1-1 cent cleaned, was arranged that no charge is made on cleaned rice, but the raw material is charged from 3-10 to 3-4 cents. The price would not be increased to the consumer, but the manufacturer would have to pay a larger price for the raw material.

Coal oil is reduced one cent. Another change much desired by the trade is granted in the abolition of the restriction now existing on oil in tank vessels.

In case the United States tariff is retained at 75 cents on coal, the duty on bituminous coal will be raised to 75 cents, with a rate on anthracite as well.

The iron duties furnished the next topic of interest; the duty is reduced on pig, wrought and scrap iron, being the basis of so many important manufactures, from \$3 per ton to \$1.50 per ton.

Iron or steel ingots, blooms, and slabs, billets and puddled bars, from \$5 per ton to \$4.

Rolled iron or steel angles, channels and other sections weighing less than 35 pounds per yard, changed from 35 per cent to 15.

Skates, from 10 cents a pair and 30 per cent. ad valorem, to 35.

Axles of all kinds, scythes, rakes, hay knives and other agricultural tools and implements, shovels, stoves, from 35 per cent. ad valorem to 20 per cent. duty.

Mowing machines, self-binders, portable engines, ploughs, saw mills from 30 per cent. and 20 per cent. to 25 per cent.

Barbed wire fencing, 15 per cent. till January 1st, thereafter free.

Lumber, timber manufactured, from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent.

Glucose or grape sugar, glucose, syrup and corn syrup from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ per pound.

Collar of cotton, lined with celluloid, from 21c per dozen, and 26 per cent. to 35 per cent.

Cotton fabrics, printed, dyed and colored from 30 per cent. to 35 per cent.

Gray and bleached cottons from 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and 25 per cent. to 25 per cent.

Cuffs from 4 cents a pair and 25 per cent. to 35 per cent.

Shirts from 25 per cent. and \$1 per dozen to 35 per cent.

Velvets, velveteen and plush from 30 to 35 per cent.

Laces, braids, fringed, embroideries, handkerchiefs, table cloths from 30 per cent. to 35 per cent.

Cotton sewing thread and crochet cotton on spools, 25 per cent.

Cotton sewing thread and handkerchiefs, bleached or unbleached, from 12 to 15 per cent.

Manufacturers of hemp, flax and jute, from 20 to 25 per cent.

Shawls and travelling rugs, from 25 to 30 per cent.

Women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, alpacas, cashmeres, quilts, from 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 per cent.

Socks and stockings from 10c, per dozen pairs, and 35, to 35 per cent.

Cut tobacco from 45c per pound, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 50c and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Manufactured tobacco and snuffs from 35 cents per pound and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, to 45 cents and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Buttons from 4 cents per gross and 20 per cent, and 8 cents per gross and 20 per cent to 35 per cent.

Cloths for mackintoshes from 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 15 per cent.

The excise duty on spirits is increased from \$1.70 per proof gallon to \$1.90 per proof gallon.

The duty on cigarettes, which is now \$1.50 per 1,000 is increased to \$2.

On foreign raw leaf tobacco, unstemmed, there is a duty of 10 cents per pound, and stemmed 14 cents per pound. At present it is on the free list. On these three articles Mr. Fielding expects to increase the revenue so as to make up for the reduction on woolen goods and other articles.

Binder twine, from 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent. After July 4, 1893, this article will be placed on the free list.

Builders' hardware, upholsterers, harness makers' and saddlers, hardware, including carriage hardware, locks, hinges, saws, table cutlery, from 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent.

Tools of all descriptions, from 35 per cent to 30 per cent.

Files and rasps, from 35 to 30 per cent.

Firearms, from 20 to 30 per cent.

Gas, coal oil and electric fixtures, from 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent.

Buckthorn and strip fencing of iron or steel from $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per pound to 25 per cent.

Cast iron vossols, plates, irons, from 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 25 per cent.

Cast iron pipe, from \$10 to \$4

Boiler tubes, from 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent.

Screws, from variety of specific rates, to 30 per cent. ad valorem to 35 per cent.

Tacks from 1 cent per 1,000 and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per 1,000 to 30 per cent.

Wire nails from 1 cent per pound to 30 per cent.

Forgings of iron and steels from 35 per cent, to 30 per cent.

Iron and steel hoops, bar iron or steel from \$10 to \$7.

Iron in pigs, scrap iron from \$1 per ton to \$2.50.

Rubber belting from 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 per cent.

Patent and enamelled leather from 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 25 per cent.

Cement from 40 cents per barrel to 35 cents per 100 pounds.

Plate glass from various specific duties 40 per cent. ad valorem.

Silvered glass from 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent.

German looking glass, from 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 per cent.

Crude petroleum fuel and gas oils, other than naphtha, benzine and gasoline, for use for fuel or for manufacture of gas, from 25 cents per gallon to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

Paraffine wax from 2 cents per pound to 30 per cent.

Olive oil, prepared for salad purposes, from 30 to 20 per cent.

Sulphuric ether, from 5c per pound to 30 per cent.

Acid phosphate from 2 cents per pound to 25 per cent.

Compound preparations, from 50 per cent to 35 per cent.

Lubricating oils, from 6 cents per gallon to 5 cents per gallon.

Printed Music, from 10 cents per pound to 25 per cent.

Books, not being foreign reprints of copyrighted works nor Bibles, prayer books, psalm and hymn books or blank books, from 61b. cents to 20 per cent. ad valorem.

Advertising, pamphlets, show cards, illustrated price lists, fashion plates, chromo-works of art, other than those done by hand, from 6 cents per pound and 20 per cent to 30 per cent.

Newspaper supplements, from 25 per cent to 20 per cent.

Medicinal wine of more than 49 per cent alcohol \$1.50 per gallon. This is a new item.

Musical instruments, including organs and pianos, from 20 per cent and 35 per cent to 50 per cent.

Mr. Fielding's explanation concerning preferential treatment to certain countries willing to trade with Canada will be that from now till January, 1893, there will be a reduction of 1-1 on all goods from Great Britain, after that date the reduction on British goods will be still more. A question arose as to the favored nation clauses in the various commercial treaties. Belgian and German treaties especially stand in the way and Sir Charles took the position that the Canadian government would be obliged to extend the same privilege to these countries as to Great Britain. The finance minister explained that such was not the intention. Great Britain's participation in the preference is not made through any special provision, therefore, it cannot be claimed for Germany, Belgium and other countries under these treaties unless they comply with the special conditions which the Canadian government demands. Even if Canada is compelled to accord these countries favored treatment the effect will draw attention to the undoubted right of Canada to personal responsibility which she at present does not enjoy. Numerous requests have been presented to the government favoring an export duty on Canadian goods outside that on pulp wood, but the government do not at the present time think it prudent to take this step. But the matter will come up later in the present session, when it may be dealt with more fully.

Sale of Horses

Dr Hinman held a sale of standard bred horses at Winnipeg on April 21st. The sale was largely attended and very successful. The horses sold, the purchasers, and the prices obtained were as follows: Stallion "Anchor", to Joseph Mathewson, Grand Forks, \$245; mare "Grey Bird" to F. A. Fairbank, city, \$300; mare, "Zion Maid," to W. H. Hannington, \$170; "Sagmont," W. H. Esby, \$240; the team, "Daniel" and "Esby," W. Walker, Carberry, \$15; "Esper," H.P. Robinson, \$89; "Sharpe" to Mathewson, \$119; "Kate Whiting," McCormac, city, \$132; "No No," and colt, W.H. Esby, city, \$205; "Grassmere Maid," W. H. Esby, city, \$108; "Grace Sharper," Mr. Esby, \$185; the McKeeown mare, Mr. Gauvreau, St. Boniface, \$10; pair ponies, R. Ross, Grand Forks, \$120.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has decided to build in the Hochelaga shops, Montreal, two heavy consolidated locomotives for the mountain sections, three consolidated freight locomotives for the Pacific coast, six ten-wheel passenger locomotives for the western division, six of the same for the eastern division and four standard locomotives for use wherever required. The company will also build 100 generator cars, sixty dump cars and ten ore cars. They have built five first class coaches and are building seven baggage coaches and smoking cars for the Toronto, Montreal and Buffalo service.

PROSPECTUS OF

THE LAKESIDE Gold Mining Co.,

OF RAT PORTAGE, LTD. NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

CAPITAL, \$750,000.

In 750,000 Shares of One Dollar each.

Head Office, RAT PORTAGE, ONT.

PRESIDENT—R. W. JAMESON, ESQ., Mayor of the City of Winnipeg.
VICE-PRESIDENT—R. H. AGUR, Manager of Massey-Harris Co., Winnipeg.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. BECK, Insurance Manager, Winnipeg
F. W. DREWRY, Brewer, Winnipeg.
JOHN PLAXTON, Plumber, Winnipeg
H. G. WILSON, Solicitor, Winnipeg.
Sec.-Treas.—H. S. CROTTY, Real Estate Agt., Winnipeg
Solicitors—EWART, FISHER and WILSON
Bankers—IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

The above gentlemen have agreed to act as a directorate and the following are identified as promoters of the Company:—

R. W. JAMESON.	F. W. DREWRY.	H. G. WILSON.
R. H. AGUR.	G. H. CAMPBELL.	H. H. BECK.
J. PLAXTON.	E. R. WHITEHEAD.	H. S. CROTTY.
	D. WILSON.	

CONSULTING ENGINEER for British Columbia—Jno. J. Moynahan, of Moynahan and Campbell, Rossland.
CONSULTING ENGINEER for Rat Portage—J. R. Deacon, C. E. and M. E.

(Incorporated under the Ontario Joint Stock Company and Mining Acts.)

OBJECTS—

To acquire properties either by purchase or working interest, from prospectors unable to properly develop their claims, develop the same to a stage when they can be placed upon the market as paying mines.

PROPERTIES—

SNOWBIRD (gold), situated half way between Rossland and Trail, on surveyed line of C. P. R.

QUEEN BEE (gold), situated four miles from Harrison Lake Sanitarium.

Both fine tunnel propositions.

Eighty acres on steamboat channel, 25 miles from Rat Portage.

Ten options at Rat Portage and Seine River districts for working interest.

ADVANTAGES—

The investor in shares of this company is not confined to dividends obtained from one claim only, but from a large number, which will be developed and sold by the company, which gives him 100 chances to one over the investor in stocks of ordinary companies toed.

200,000 shares of stock are now offered for sale at 10 cents per share, par value one dollar. No liability beyond the amount actually paid upon stock in the company attaches to the subscribers thereto or to holders thereof.

The practical operations of the company will be carried on under the supervision of the best mining engineering skill that can be procured, so that the stockholders will have the fullest guarantee for the practical as well as the financial management of the company's affairs.

Applications for allotment of shares should be made to the secretary of the company, H. S. Crotty, Main street, Winnipeg, when further information can be had.

The company is now securing powers to operate in the Province of British Columbia.

The company has made financial connections in the East and in Great Britain, and its directorate are in a position to float legitimate mining schemes of any magnitude in the financial centres of the world.

Payments on stock can be made to H. S. Crotty, sec.-treas., or to credit of trustees at any branch of Imperial Bank of Canada.

AUSTIN & ROBERTSON,

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TORONTO

Jno. E. Bingman, Agent, Winnipeg.

The Erie Canal.

(Continued from Page 789.)

these railroads in their efforts to reduce the cost of transportation.

The railroads have been constantly bettering their transportation facilities by improvements in their roadbeds, in the size, capacity and economy of their locomotives and cars, in their terminal facilities, and in the greater perfection of their organization for securing and doing business. The Erie canal has not kept pace with the march of improvement, and it may be asserted that conditions have been reversed and, whereas in former years the Erie canal forced down rail freight rates, that of late the railroads have forced the canal rates down to such an extent that under existing conditions of the canal there is little profit to boatmen, and the amounts carried are very limited. The canal to fulfil its highest functions, must continuously be improved, to keep pace with the railroad improvements, and these canal improvements should not drag along after the rail improvements but should precede them, or, at least be coincident with them.

The state of New York has appreciated this in providing for the improvements which are under way, with the \$9,000,000 appropriation, but, when these are accomplished, the demand will be for still more and greater improvements. When the current improvements are completed, it is fair to estimate that, with boats 115 feet long and drawing safely eight feet of water, in connection with the time which will be saved in lockage, the capacity of the canal will be increased fully 75 per cent; that is, a single boat of the large size can, in a single season transport 75 per cent more than one of the present type of boats can under existing conditions. The added expense for this additional amount transported will not exceed 25 per cent of the cost of transporting the smaller amount under the present conditions. This would reduce the net first cost of transporting a bushel of wheat from Buffalo to New York to about 71 per cent of the present cost, and if this present first cost is assured at 24c, during 1895 the average canal freight charge from Buffalo to New York was 22c per bushel varying from 3c to 19c, these being the lowest rates ever known, will, under the new conditions, with boats 115 feet long and drawing eight feet of water, be reduced to 17c.

If the capacity of the canal were still further increased, so that boats 24 feet wide could be used without any increase in draft beyond eight feet, the capacity of each boat for doing business would be increased to about 2.43 times the capacity of the single boat under the present conditions. Assuming that the increased cost of operating a 17½ foot boat for an equal number of trips, this would reduce the net cost of transporting a bushel of grain from Buffalo to New York to about 69 per cent of the present cost, or 1½c per bushel.

If the capacity of the canal were increased so that boats could be used without any increase in draft beyond eight feet, the capacity of each boat for doing business would be 3.02 times that of a boat under present conditions. Making proper allowances for increased cost of doing greater business, this would reduce the net cost of transporting a bushel of wheat from Buffalo to New York to about 59 per cent of the present cost, or 1½c per bushel. If the capacity of the canal were increased as above to provide for boats of 36 feet width its capacity would be increased 3.51 times and the cost of transporting a bushel of wheat reduced to 44 per cent of the present cost, or 1.11c per bushel.

It is believed that this could be still further reduced by deepening the canal and widening it where necessary; by bettering the terminal facilities; by a perfected organization which will labor to secure business and do away with delays at terminal points, and keep boats going continuously during the period of navigation and secure return freight to greatest possible extent, and by the total elimination of the mule as a motive power and the complete substitution thereof of steam and, possibly, of electricity. It is believed that the goal, the aim of all interested in the Erie canal, may well be to put the canal into such condition that it will be possible to transport wheat from Buffalo to New York at a cost of 1c per bushel and other articles in proportion. Such a cost I believe to be reasonably capable of attainment, and the enlargement of the locks, as estimated for herein would be a great and decided step thereunto.—Northwestern Miller

The Markets for Linseed and its Products.

The recent drop in domestic flaxseed, amounting to about 8 cents per bushel within a fortnight came rather unexpectedly, and is having a somewhat demoralizing effect upon the products. Extreme dullness in oil is a notable feature of the European markets, as well as our own, while the position of cake here is always a reflection of the conditions prevailing abroad. The Continental markets, according to latest reports, were in rather good shape, but those of Great Britain, to which American markets are most closely related, are in unsatisfactory condition, the tendency of prices in oil being steadily downward, while cake is unfavorably affected by the cheapness of grain feed stuffs.

The price of seed at London, as shown by latest reported sales, has declined to about the equivalent of \$1 per bushel for Calcutta and 89 cents for La Plata, the former afloat and the latter ex ship London. This, in the face of conditions which a few weeks ago were thought to point to a possible serious deficiency in the supply, is a depressing state of affairs. It is true that Argentine shipments have increased sufficiently to indicate less of a shortage there than was feared, but the Indian supply is very short, the shipments to United Kingdom and Continent since Jan. 1 being but 56,000 quarters, against 257,000 quarters for the same time last year. Meantime the Argentine shipments have been 630,000 quarters against 562,000 quarters last year, and the Russian shipments 375,000 quarters, as compared with 362,000; while North America, which is credited with no shipments during the early months of the year, contributed 33,000 quarters in the first eleven weeks of 1897. The shipments from all sources to Great Britain and the Continent to March 20 this year amounted to 1,095,000 quarters, against 1,191,000 quarters in 1896 and in the prevailing dullness it is evident that this deficiency of less than 8 per cent, is too small to produce the conditions that had been feared early in the year.

It will be seen from these figures that the probability of North American seed being wanted to any great extent during the present crop year is not at all encouraging. The late decline here would represent a cost on board at New York above the export line, and it is questionable whether any prices now in sight would be low enough, even with easy lake and canal rates, to meet the present basis abroad. American seed is offered at about 97 cents, ex-store London, but it is not saleable on that basis, and would have to be

laid down there to sell at about 90 cents ex-ship, to find a market. This would mean below 80 cents f. o. b. New York. —New York Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter.

Too Much Early Buying.

Every dry goods merchant writes a dry goods retailer to the *Economist*, "has no doubt noticed that the custom of early buying is increasing every year. Travelling salesmen start out to get orders from the retailer for goods at from four to six months before there is any demand for them by the consumer. The usual plea of the salesman is that if we do not place our orders at the time we shall not be able to get the goods when we need them. This may be true in case of jobbers and a few large retailers, but our experience has been that we could get all the goods we needed in almost any regular line of dry goods in ten to twenty days before the retail season opens for them. We know that we buy much more intelligently in regard to quantity, style and price in ten or fifteen days before we need the goods than we can six months before the season opens. The jobber of the manufacturer gives us long dating, which we appreciate very much, but is it not a fact that the early buying and long dating cause many of us to order ourselves, as the buying time and the selling time are so far apart? Most dry goods merchants are optimists, and always looking for a big trade in the future and anticipating greater things in the way of business than come to pass. We believe that if the buying time the selling time, and the paying time all came close together, it would make us more careful about quantity at least, and we would buy more in touch with the season and also with the wants of our customers. We believe it to be a fact that the great majority of dry goods merchants who have good credit or cash to buy with are overstocked all the year through."

Breadstuffs in Sight.

The aggregate supplies of breadstuffs in the United States and Canada on April 1, 1897, as reported to the *Daily Trade Bulletin* and the *Minneapolis Market Record*, exhibited a decrease during March of 10,994,000 bushels compared with a decrease of 14,692,800 bushels during February, and a decrease of 6,757,300 bushels during March 1896. There was a general shrinkage in supplies, especially at the Atlantic seaboard and in the Northwest. Where an increase has taken place it was due to the removal of round lots from the larger distributing points in the interior. The decrease in stocks of flour was marked—189,700 barrels—against an increase of 101,100 barrels during February, and a reduction of 23,000 barrels during March 1896. Supplies in New York, in the Northwest on the Pacific Coast and in Canada were slightly enlarged, while in all other sections, there was quite a marked decrease. In the South, stocks were materially reduced to some extent to large shipments to Newport News.

The aggregate supplies of breadstuffs in Europe and afloat therefor and in the United States and Canada on April 1, 1897, were equal 199,010,000 bushels, against 155,501,900 bushels on March 1, and 170,000 bushels on April 1, 1896. The decrease in the aggregate was equal 16,491,000 bushels, against a decrease of 17,992,800 during February, and 11,257,300 during March, 1896. The aggregate supplies are 41,618,800 bushels less than reported a year ago.—Chicago Trade Bulletin.