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M. Staunton & Co., Manufacturers Wall Papers, Toronto.

CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG.

## UNION BANK, OF CANADA.

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RESERVE FUND - - 225,000

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BOOT MANUFACTURERS. Sole, Harness and Upper Leathers. BOOTS, SHOES AND BOOT TOPS.

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Our MR. W. S. CRONE has left with a full range of Samples of FANCY GOODS, PRESENTATION GOODS, DOLLS, TOYS, GAMAS, FUSICAL GOUDS, TOBACCON IST GOODS, DRUGGIST SUNDRIES, &c., &c., and will call on the leading Trade in a few days.

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

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

#### WINNIPEG, AUGUST 24, 1891.

#### Manitoba.

Mr. E. M. Wiles, merchant tailor 'nas locat ed at Carman for business.

A large number of fine cattle were shipped from Gladstone last week by Mr. Ironside for the British market.

Henderson's Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory, 1891, has just been issued.

Gordon, of Pilot Mound, secured six car loads of cattle during his trip to the Moosomin district which he will export.

Neepawa Register: Indians brought is some \$86 worth of sensea root a few days ago. They got 19c per pound for it at the Neepawa drug store.

C. Christie, who recently moved to Wawanesa, from Shoal Lake, has leased his premises at the latter place to Dr. Lawson, for a drug store.

David Kilgour has taken Geo. H. Rodgers & Co.'s old stend at Morden and will open out about the 1st September with a general stock of merchandise.

Fire broke out in Alex. Speers' stable, Griswold, last Monday. The stable, and lean to, together with three horses were burned. Geo. Lindsay's stable on the adjoining lot was also burned. Loss about \$3,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Jas. Collins, says the Brandon Sun, leaves on August 14 for Bristol, England, with seven car loads of fat stock. Some of these cattle are a credit to Manitoba, as they are all in good con-

dition, one steer in particular, which weighed a trifle over 2,000 lbs.

A through C. P. R. tea train from Vancouver came to grief while passing through McGregor station, by striking a steer on the track. Fourteen cars were derailed and hadly smashed up. The tea, which was not badly broken, will be shipped on new cars.

The union pienic of Winnipeg glocers, butchers, etc., will take place on August 26, to Brandon. A big turnout is certain. Trains for the accommodation of the excursionists will be run over both the Canadian Pacific and Northern Pacific railways, so that the choice of two routes to the Wheat City is given.

T. Moss, a cheese manufacturer, of Highbride, Eng, was in Winnipeg last week. Mr-Moss came to this province with the intention of studying its suitability for the manufacture of cheese. If appearances suit him, as doubtless they will, he proposes to return to England and make arrangements to build several factories in the province.

The St. Malo creamery, near Joly, Man., was awarded a gold medal at the Jamaica exhibition for its butter. The proprietors, P. G. de La Borderie & Co., sent exhibits in tin boxes of one and two pounds. This process of putting up butter is after the Norman ly and Denmark system, which gives the produce the advantage of exportation in foreign countries. This creamery was established in 1889. Grant, Horne & Bucknal, of Winnipeg. have secured all this year's produce of this creamery,

The Morden Monitor of August 20 says:—Barley and oats have been falling before the binder in this district throughout the week, while many farmers who possess a piece more forward than others have cut much wheat. By Saturday, August 22, the harvest will have become general all over, and the following week will be a heavy one for work on every farm within ten miles of Morden. The crops are simply immense, so much so that the present binders are found to be almost incapable of turning out the huge sheaves.

A company has been formed to assume the business of the paper mill at Portage la Prairie, and incorporation has been applied for, for this purpose, by the following persons: Robert W. Paterson, of New York, merchant; John W. Paterson, of Montreal, merchant; James C. Patterson, of Portage la Prairie, manufacturer; John T. Wilson, of Montreal, merchant; Geo. A. Merrick, of Winnipeg, merchant, and Thomas A. Anderson, of Winnipeg, merchant. The name will be The Manitoba Paper Company. Capital stock \$70,000. The head office will be in Winnipeg.

#### British Columbia,

J Schmidt, clothier, Nanaimo, has sold out J. McGregor and Hobbs.

McEnnery & Billinghurst, liquors, etc., Victoria, have dissolved. Now styled McEnnery & Co.

J. A. Skinner & Co., of Hamilton, Ontario, have opened their proposed Vancouver branch. J. A. Buscombe is in charge locally.

L. Hobbs has bought out G. Stefen's interest in the Palace hotel, Nanaimo. The latter will in future run the Italian hotel in place of G. Dunbar. At the regular meeting of the council of the Nanaimo board of trade, it was decided to extend an invitation to Colonel Howard Vincent, delegate of the United Trade League of England, to visit Nanaimo, and deliver a lecture on the objects of the league.

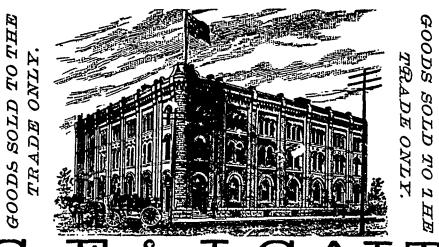
Major & Eldridge, wholesale produce, etc., Vancouver, are having a large cold storage apartment established in connection with their business. McMillan & Hamilton are also having a cold storage room put in their warehouse.

W. E. Norris has resigned his position of the staff of the Nanaimo Free Press, and has opened an office in the interests of the Union Brewing Company, Ltd. The Union Brewing Company, Limited, has been incorporated with a capital of \$50,000 of which sum a great portion has been taken up by the business men of Nanaimo. A fire building has been erected, and will soon be ready for operating.

B. T. Rogers, manager of the British Columbia sugar refinesy, has returned from Vancouver from a fortnight's business trip to San He has been successful in many Francisco. respects and as a result of arrangements made during his absence the refinery here will be modified so as to give it a capacity of about 150,000 pounds per day. Two new filters, additional pumps and return pipes will be put in and the capacity of the tanks increased so that the refinery will be able to turn out much more sugar than formerly. While in San Francisco Mr. Rogers purchased ex-warehouse \$1,200 tons raw sugar of a higher grade than any used heretofore.

Vancouver News: Yesterday Captain Webster, the manager of the Union Steamship Co., closed the negotiations for the lease of some land to be used as a shipbuilding yard in which to build the company's new steamers which are being brought out in the steamship Grandholm. He has selected some land on Joal Harbor on the east side of the floating dock. The land has about 300 feet of water frontage. A number of men are now employed clearing the land, and under the direction of H. Darling, the company's engineer, blocks will be put down on which to lay the keels of the vessels. A blacksmith's shop will be erected, and several other preparations made, so that everything will be in readiness when the Grandholm arrives.

Victoria Times. The secretary of the board of trade, Mr. Elworthy, has transmitted to the members the following suggestion for raising funds for the new building. The available funds of the board, including income for the current quarter, will amount to \$5,000, and it has been suggested that each of the members loan the institution \$50, or more, free of inter-\$50 dollars each would produce \$7,500, and after paying for the land, leave \$2,400 to wards a building fund. With such a small interest bearing debt on the premises, the revenue to be derived from reats of offices, etc., would admit of the repayment, at a comparatively early date, of the suggested loan, and also become a source of income to the board. It is therefore hoped that every member will aid the project in the manuer suggested, and thus enable the committee to lay before the general meeting the plans of a desirable building, together with their scheme for repaying the cost



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AND DRESSED FOULTRY.

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175 Main Street, Cauchon Block, Telephone 620.

## Winnipeg, Man.

REFERENCES: Imperial Bank of Canada, Winnipeg, Man. and Parkhill Banking Co., Parkhill, Ont.

#### Toronto Hardware Prices.

A very decided and general feeling of annoyance has been roused among the trade by a distinction which the customs authorities have drawn between tin plate and terne plate. Heretofore terne plate has come in free cf duty, classing as a species of tin plate. Now a rule has been set up which makes terne plate subject to a duty of 12½ per cent. The facts that the difference in the two classes of plates was never before made a basis for a difference of tariff classification here, and that they are admitted on the same terms in the United States dispose the trade to look upon the new ruling as unfair.

Antimony—Cookson's, per pound, 15 to 15½; other makes, 14 to 14½c.

Tin-Lamb and flag, 56 and 29-lb. ingots per pound, 23 to 24c; Straight's, 100-lb. ingots, 23 to 23½c; strip, 24½ to 25½c.

Copper-Ingot, 142 to 15c; sheet, 18 to 20c.

Lead—Bar, 43 to 5c; pig, 33 to 4c; sheet, per roll, \$4.75 to \$5.25; shot, Can. dis. 71 per cent.

Zinc—Sheet, 6½ to 6½c; zinc spelter, 5½c; domestic imported 6c; solder, hf and hf, 19½ to 21.

Brass-Sheet, 21 to 29c.

Iron—Bar, ordinary \$2.00; bar refined, \$2.50; Swedes, 1 in. or over, \$4.00 to 4.50; Lowmoor, 5½ to 6c; hoops, coopers', \$2.05 to

\$2.80; do, band, \$2.60 to \$2.75; tank plates, \$2 to \$2.25; boiler rivets, best, \$4.50 to \$5; sheet, 11 to 20 gauge, \$2.75 to \$3; 22 to 24 do, \$2.75 to \$3; 26 do, \$3 to \$3.25; 28 do, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Russia, sheet, per pound, 10 to 12c.

Galvanized iron-16 to 24 gauge, 5c to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 26 do, 5 to  $5\frac{7}{3}$ c; 28 do,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 6c.

Iron wire—Market bright and annealed Nos. 1 to 16, net list from stock; 12½ per cent. dscount from factory; market, tinned per pound, 4½c. to 8c.; galvenized fence, same discount as bright and annealed; barbed wire, 4½c to 5c; coil chain ½ in., 4½ to 4½c; 7-16 in., 5½ to 5½c; iron pipe, off list, 60 to 62½ p.c. discount; do, galv., off list, 33½c to 35 p. c.; boiler tubes 2 in., 12c; do, 3 in., 18½c.

Steel—Cast, 13 to 1 4c; boiler plate, 1 in. \$2.75; 5.26 do, \$2.60; \$ do, \$2.50; sleigh shoes, \$2 50 to \$2.75.

Nails—3 in. and upwards, \$2.20 net cash; brads, mouldings, wire, 70c and 5 p.c. to 70c and 10 p.c. dis.

Horse nails—Can. dis. 60 to 60 and 5 p.c. Horse shoes—Per keg. \$3.60.

Canada plates-Blain, \$3 20 to \$3.25.

Tin plates—1C coke, \$4.50 to \$475; IC charcoal, \$4.75 to \$5.00; IX charcoal, \$5.75 to \$6.00; IXX charcoal, \$6.75 \$7.00; DC charcoal, \$4.50.

Gunpowder-Can blasting, per keg, \$3 25 to

## C. H. Mahon & Co. BOOTS AND SHOES,

Mitts, Moccasins, Felts and Rubbers.

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# TENNIS AND LACROSSE SEIOES,

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R. A. NISSET

\$3.50; can sporting, FF, \$5; can sporting, FFF, \$5.25; can rifle, \$5.25.

Rope-Manilla, 12½ basis; risal, 9c basis. New Zealand, 8½c per lb.

Axes -- Per box, \$7 to \$12.

Twine—Binder, blue ribbon, 14c; red cap, 12c; crown, 11c; composite, 9c.

Glass—Fourth quality star, 1st break, \$1.40 to \$1.50; 2nd do, \$1.50 to \$1.60; 3rd do, \$3.40 to \$3.50; 4th do, \$3.70 to \$3.80; 5th do, \$4 to \$4.10.

The Toronto Mill Stock and Metal Company quote dealers paying prices as follows: No. 1 heavy scrap, 65 to 67½c per 100 lbs.; stove cast scrap, 45 to 50c; No. 1 wrought iron scrap, 62½ to 70c; No. 2 including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 25c; new scrap copper, 9½c to 10c; heavy scrap copper, 10¾c; old copper bottoms, 8½c to 9c; light scrap brass, 5½c; heavy yellow scrap brass, 7½c; heavy red scrap brass, 8½ to 9c; scrap lead, 2½ to 2¾c; scrap zinc, 2½ to 3c; scrap rubber, 2½ to 2½c; country mixed rags, \$1 per 100 lbs.; clean dry bones, 60c per 100 lbs.— Empire, April 15.

A harvest excursion party from Ontario, arrived by the C. P. R at Winnipeg on Friday. There were about 250 persons in the party, principality farmers from the districts north and west of Toronto. They are ticketed to various points in this province and the territories.

A bulletin dealing with syrups, sugars and molasses has been issued by the Inland revenue department at Ottawa. It contains an analysis of 100 samples by Babington, assistant to the chief analyst. White granulated sugars were found to be practically pure, and yellow sugars were also found to be genuine. The only adulteration detected was in syrups, three of them being found to be mixed with starch and glucose.



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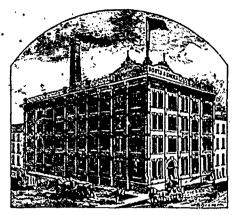
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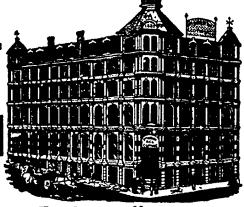
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## The Commercial

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 24, 1891.

#### RETAILERS' CONVENTION.

A few letters have been received favorable to the holding of a second retailers' convention in Winnipeg, during exhibition week. Doubtless many more would have been heard from, had the request for correspondence in this matter been made to our readers in a more direct manner. We would like to have the opinions of a very large number of merchants, as to the advisability of holding another convention. We still think, however, that the executive of the association would be perfectly justified in calling a convention without further delay. The date is so near at hand, that if anything is to be done, it should be done at once.

#### ROTTEN INDEED.

Rotten is a mild term to apply to the way business is done in many branches of trade in Canade. Wholesale trade in many branches is in a most unsatisfactory condition, owing to the ridiculous length to which credit business is carried. Indeed, the credit system prevailing in this country, is the bane of trade all the way through. It permeates almost every branch of business, from the banks down to the country retail trade, and in the latter it is carried to the greatest excess. Articles are frequently written denouncing the credit system provailing in the country retail trade, but reform to be thorough, should want at the top and work down through the dependent branches. The reform of the credit system should commence with the banks, and not with the country storekeeper in his dealings with the farmers. This is the only way in which a thorough reform can be hoped for. The banks have it in their power to reform our business system in many particulars, and if a movement of this nature were followed up by the manufacturing and wholesale institutions, the retail trade would be obliged to adopt a more businesslike system in the matter of credit.

We have stated that credit business is carried to the greatest excess in the country store trade. In some parts of Canada in the smaller towns, the country merchant is little better than a slave to his customers. He has been reduced, by an outrageous credit system, to a position of abject dependence apon the will of his farmer customers. In some of the rural districts of Ontario, business has been reduced to a most demoralized condition. real Trade Bulletin, in its last issue, repeats an assertion which has been made in THE COM-MERCIAL on a previous occasion. This is to the effect that many carmers have money in the banks on interest, or loaned out on various securities, while they allow their store bills to run from year to year. This from personal knowledge we can say is absolutely true. The merchant is afraid to press for a settlement, for fear he will lose a customer, and he former knowing this takes the opportunity of securing what is practically a forced loan without interest, from the humiliated merchant, while he de'iberately hires out the money at a good rate of interest. We have known accounts that have run on in this way for years, with a balance never less than a few hundred dollars against a farmer who could at the same time have given his check any day for several times the amount of the bill. The farmer would make a payment on account when it suited him to do so, but a large balance always remained against him, while the merchant for fear of losing a customer, would not insist upon a complete settlement.

This is the rotten system which is now gaining a foothold in Manitoba. We have not yet reached as bad a state as prevails in some parts of Ontario, but we have little to boast about over that province. We have known instances in Manitoba about as bad as some of these cases reported from Ontario. Farmers have been known to invest the proceeds from the sale of their crops, in a speculative way, such for instance as buying real estate, while standing off their store accounts for a year. The credit system of Ontario in its worst form is surely fastening itself upon the country retail trade of Manitoba, and it will take a mighty effort even now to shake it off. There is this to say as regards Manituba, that our settlers have not been able to pay their store bills as promptly as the Ontatio farmers could do, if they wished to. They have had to establish themselves in a new country, and most of them have arrived with limited means. In many instances credit has been absolutely necessary to enable our farmers to establish themselves in the country. Implements to cultivate the soil, had to be precured upon credit, or not at all, and likewise provisions to subsist upon until the first crop could be gathered. At the same time, this is not a legitimate excuse for the loose and indiscriminate manner in which credit is given here. At any rate, after the farmer is once established, he should not be continually behind in his store accounts. Everything the farmer has to sell, is disposed of for spot cash, or its equivalent. His crops, his stock, his butter, eggs, whatever he produces finds a ready market for spot cash. Fancy a farmer selling his wheat, or a bunch of cattle on a year's credit! Yet the latter is every whit as reasonable as the purchase of his groceries and dry goods on the same terms. As the furmer gets cash for everything he has to sell, he should be able to pay in the same way for his store purchases. Instead of being always six months to two years behind in his accounts, the proceeds of his crop should be on hand to pry his way for a year ahead as he goes along. Under the credit system prevailing, however, the idea is not apparent to him that he should pay his bills promptly, and if he has any spare cash, he feels quite at liberty to invest it, while trusting to the credit system to supply him with his requirements until he can harvest another crop. Then if his next crop does not turn out all right, he can simply tell his creditors that they must wait another year for their pay. This is not an overdrawn picture of the situation in Manitoba. The great need of a strong effort at reform is apparent. How are we to commence?

#### RAILWAY STEALS.

In speaking of the Quebec railway steal now convulsing eastern Canada, the Montreal Gazette says:—

"The Baie des Chaleurs is one of those roads, somewhat plentiful of late in Canada, on the construction of which the contractors do not catculate to spend any of their own money. Government and municipal grants and the issue of bonds are looked to to supply all the funds necessary, and perhaps leave something for the "boy", as Mr. Beaty facetiously called himself in one instance. The money voted by Parliament has been paid; the company comes to Parliament with a request that it he granted new powers; certain claimants against it allege that it has failed in its obligations and has not paid its just debte, and ask for legislation to compel it to meet its legal liabilities. The actions of members of the company itself bring its affairs before Parliament, they are accused there, and Parliament, which has paid half a million dollars for the line, has a right to find out why the work it has proviled the money for has not been accomplished."

The disgraceful revelations in connection with the Quebec road should lead to a careful consideration of the whole question of government aid to railways. It is not the first time that scandalous misappropriation of public money has occurred, in convection with railway schemes. Undoubtedly the country has received incalculable good from the government aid extended to certain railways, as in the case of the Canadian Pacific, but at the same time there has been a great deal of rottenness in connection with many of these government aided roads. In the first place, aid has often been secured through political influence, wire pulling and general crookedness, and not on account of the special claims of the road, or the integrity of the promoters. Secondly, aid once secured, as in the Quebec case now before the public, and also in the case of the Manitoba Central, referred to by the Gazette, has been misappropriated for personal gain, and not for the construction of the road. In fact the promoting of railways has in certain cases simply been taken advantage of as a means of stealing public property. The securing of a railway charter simply for the purpose of selling it, we claim is a misappropriation of public property. When a number of schemers get hold of a railway charter, and make it valuable by securing government aid for the proposed road, for the purpose of selling the franchise and pocketing the proceeds, we claim it is little better than a direct robbery of the treasury. Western Canada has been a rich field for the operations of these railway charter fiends. The shyster class of politicians who have been foremost in securing these railway charters, is alone an indication of rottenness somewhere, for where the vultures hover there is likely to be a carcass not far

The third charge we have to make against government aid to railways ic, that to a certain extent it was conceived in iniquity, and the natural fruit has been boodling and corruption. The bribing of public men, the people of districts or provinces, by grants of money, has been a prevalent iniquity in federal and provincial politics in Canada. It is only a coincident that this species of bribery has frequently taken the form of government grants to railways.

Our federal government, through no less a

personage than the premier, has declared that corruption in high places shall be exposed and punished. Let this system of indirect bribery of individuals and constituencies, through grants of public money, also cease. As for railways, it would be well to enquire if the time has not arrived when government aid should entirely cease. So far at least as eastorn Canada is concerned, it would seem that the time has arrived when railways should be promoted for their commercial value, constructed solely upon a commercial basis, and not from the public treasury. Even in the new West, the day of government aid for railways, except perhaps in a very few instances, may fairly be considered as closed, from a standpoint of actual necessity. The opening up of the great northern regions, which will be a matter for not distant future consideration, may require special consideration. However, government aid to railways in a general sense, should be carefully considered, and if granted at all, only in very exceptional instances, such as the opening up of large portions of new country. THE COM-MERCIAL has long opposed the granting public lands in aid of railways, and is still strongly opposed to this custom, from which the west has suffered considerably. Further grants to western roads, if given, should not be in the form of public lands, which should be held for free settlement. In granting charters for railways, care should be exercised. Charters should be given only to persons who are really carnest in their intention to carry out the proposed work, Railway charters should be rendered invaluable to scheming politicians or others who are simply desirous of acquiring a franchise to peddle for personal gain. This could be accomplished by requiring applicants for charters to deposit a round sum, under conditions which would guard against scheming of this nature. If the Abbott government will just take up this little matter, it will be a strong indication that they are in earnest in their declaration that corruption shall not go unpunished, and that they are desirous of presenting a clean record.

#### MANITOBA FISHERIES.

A letter has been sent out by the fishery department at Ottawa, signed by Charles H. Tupper, in reply to the complaints made by the press and people of Manitoba, against the new fishery regulations This letter, though published some time ago, escaped our notice until a copy was received through the kindness of Senator Roulton, who has interested himself in the matter. The first point in this departmental letter is, that the new regulations will not apply to winter fishing, but it is intimated that new regulations governing winter fishing may be forthcoming later. If the proposed regulation for winter fishing are to be in keep ing with the new order concerning summer fishing, it is earnestly to be hoped they will not be issued.

The next paragraph declares that the new regulations do not interfere with any privilege heretofore enjoyed by the settlers, as settlers were previously obliged to take out a license for 300 yards of gill nets, at the same fee. This is only partly true. Last year the one

license covered both winter and summer fishing. Secondly, there was not the same limitation as to quantity of net allowed. If there were it was not enforced. Under the \$2 license fee last year, small local fishermen operated with a quantity of nets in excess of 300 yards, the latteramount being too limited to be of any service for anything more than taking a few fish for domestic use. In the third place, we are informed that those who fished strictly for private use, did not take out licenses at all. There was no prohibition of the sale of fish caught under the \$2 license last year. Now there is. This makes a very decided difference.

The next point deals with the prohibition of fishing at the mouth of the Saskatchewan river, where the fish gather in the spawning season. We do not know that anybody here has opposed this provision, and therefore it is unnecessary to discuss it.

The next point in the letter is to the effect that these large fishing companies operating on Lake Winnipeg, have not fished in the southern portion of the lake for some years, because this portion has been "almost completely fished out." This we state emphatically, on the very best authority, is not the case. The large companies never fished at any time in the southern portion of the lake, for the reason that whitefish were never abundant in this part. The whitefish, we are reliably informed, were caught last winter in greater numbers than usual in the south end, but they never were so abundant here as to make it an object for the large exporting companies to fish in this portion. The whitefish are supposed to avoid the south end, on account of the water being dark or muddy from the inflow of the Red river. Further north, where they gather in vast numbers, the water is clear. Whitefish are just as plentiful as they ever were in the southern portion, but even if the opposite were the case, it would not prove that this end of the lake had been fished out. It is well known that the fish migrate from one part to another, and a scarcity where they had once been plentiful, might simply mean that they had moved to new feeding ground. In the southern portion of the lake, other species of fish are more abundant, such as pickerel, jackfish (pike), gold-eyes, mullet, tullibes, sturgeon, etc. It was this class of fish which were largely taken in the southern end of the lake, but which under the new regulations cannot be caught at all for sale. Even the "domestic" license allowed for fishing in the south end, calls for a five inch mesh, which is too large for most of the fish just named. As for the jackfish, they may readily be termed the shark of Lake Winnipeg. They are a poor fish at best, and destroy large numbers of the more valuable whitefish. It would be better if they were exterminated. Large numbers of these have been caught in the southern pertion of the lake, both in the fall and winter, and sold for export to the States. If there is to be no fishing for sale in the southern end, these voracious fish will be allowed to increase, to the detriment of the whitefish. The sturgeon also, about which there has been talk of greater protection, are believed to feed upon whitefish eggs, and are thus very destructive. If this is the case, as is generally believed, it would be better if these fish were also exterminated.

The next paragraph in the departmental letter is the most ridiculous one of all. It shows an uttar ignorance of the conditions prevailing regarding Lake Winnipeg fisheries, and is calculated to provoke a smile from those posted n the premises. This paragraph reads:—

"I fail to see how the changes are decidedly against the settler, when according to the regulations, the latter may fish in any portion of the lake (except the mouths of rivers)—not only in that part where the larger trader experates, but also in those portions from which they (the traders) are excluded. Should the settler desire to extend his operations, he is perfectly at liberty to do so by taking out a "commercial" license, the fee for which is \$10, and which gives him the privilege of using up to 5,000 yards of gill-net, but of course if he does this, he can no longer enjoy the benefit of the settlers' waters—the restricted portions then become applicable to him, and he is looked upon by the department and treated as a trader or "commercial" fisher, as opposed to his old-standing as a 'settler.'"

It reads very nice, that the settler may become a commercial fisherman by paying \$8 extra. But what are the facts? He would require to have a capital of \$20,000 and upwards to become a commercial fisherman, under these new regulations. He would require first to. own steamboats, also ice houses at convenient points on the north end of the lake, and freezers for storing his fish. The department is evidently ignorant, amongst other things, of the geography of the lake. The portion of the lake where commercial fishing is allowed, is so. distant from market, that even to fish on a. small scale for local purposes, a valuable plant would be required for storing the fish, and steamers would be necessary to bring them to market. The three companies now operating, have a very valuable plant, considerably in excess of the amount just named. They fish entirely for export, as the local trade is so small they do not care to bother with it. The con-. dition therefore is, that while large quantities of fish are being caught every day, and stored in freezers for shipment to the States, the local market is frequently without fresh fish, and when they are to be had, the distance they have. to be brought, reduces their quality in warm weather and increases their cost.

The closing paragraph of the letter intimates that the restrictions have been imposed in accordance with the "concensus of opinion." While there is no doubt a desire for proper protection of our Manitoba whitefish, we respectfully submit that the concensus of opinion here is altogether and entirely opposed to these new regulations. If the Ottawa department does not think so, let the opinion of the Winnipeg board of trade, or any other intelligent body here, be asked upon the question. We further submit, that Mr Wilmot, who was sent to report upon our fisheries, showed the most complete contempt for the opinions of everybody here, outside of a few government officials.

The fact of the matter is, these regulations defeat the very object for which it is supposed they were prepared. The intention is supposed to be, to preserve the fisheries in the interest of the people of Manitoba. The actual effect of the regulations is to prohibit fishing on a small scale for local purposes, while the big companies which are fishing for export, are catching more fish this season than ever before. These

large exporting companies probably catch more fish in a single day, than were caught by all the small local fishermon combined in an entire season. This will show how absurd are these new regulations. If there is danger of depleting the Manitoba lakes, let the fishery experts decide what quantity of fish may be caught each season in the different lakes, without endangering the supply, and then limit the export in proportion. If found necessary for the protection of the fish, the limitation of export would settle the whole matter, without interfering in any way with the local fishermen. Whitefish could be protected in this way, while no limitation need be placed upon jackfish, etc. If it is undesirable to limit the exports by direct enactment, the operations of the exporting companies could be limited if it is really found necessary to protect the fish.

In regard to the smaller varieties of fish, seine nets of a smaller mesh than the gill nets are allowed, but it is not found practical to use the seine nets to advantage in the lake It is true that fishing in the southern end of the lake, where other varieties than whitefish are principally caught, has been carried on mostly in the winter, but considerable fishing has also been done in the summer and fall, which is now prohibited.

There are 3,000 Icelanders settled at the southwestern extremity of Lake Winnipeg. These people were induced to go there through the representation of government agents concerning the great wealth of the lake fisheries, which they would be able to engage in for domestic and commercial purposes. They accordingly settled along the lake, though they could have easily secured much more desirable locations for akticultural purposes elsewhere. Now they are prohibited from fishing for sale, as none of them-liave the capital to fish under the new regulations. There is no objection to reas mable protection of the fisheries, but there is serious objection to these regulations, which interfere with the small local fishermen. There is no need to prohibit fishing in any part of Lake Winnipeg, or in any other of the Manitoba Lakes, for local commercial purposes. All the fish caught for local commercial purposes is but a drop in the bucket. If it is necessary to further restrict fishing, we say again, let the restriction be placed entirely upon fishing for export. The fact, however, that fish are apparently more plentiful than ever this year in Lake Winnipeg, would seem to indicate that the alleg. ed depletion of the lake is a trumped up affair.

In conclusion we would say, as in a former article, that Mr. Wilmot utterly failed to grasp the situation concerning the Manitoba fisheries, as is evidenced by his recommendations. He may be posted in fish culture, but he is either grossly incompetent as an inspector, or he all wed himself to be influenced for some other reason, to report as he did. THE COMMERCIAL. its residers well-know; has no spolitical motive to serve in again taking up this question, Neither is it influenced by personal animosity against-Mr. Wilmotworthe local officials who planned his report for him. It is simply the desire of this journal to see justice and reason prevail in this fishery question.

#### THE BOOM IN WHEAT.

In an article in THE COMMERCIAL of July 27. it was pointed out, in reply to some of the "boom" stories in circulation about wheat prices, that wheat for September delivery in Manitoba, was then worth about 70 cents per bushel for No. 1 hard. Forthwith an exchange stated to the effect that the Winnipeg grain men had "fixed" the price of wheat for this season at 70 conts. This "fixing" the price of wheat, frequently referred to by Maritoba papers, is something calculated to make a grain man smile, seeing that the value of wheat varies from day to day, in keeping with fluctuations in outside markets. The statement when the article referred to was written, that wheat was worth 70 cents, September delivery, in Manitoba, was based on the export value of wheat. Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth and other great wheat markets usually vary but a trifle in their relative quotations of wheat, though occasion ally local speculative influences may cause very temporarily an abnormal condition of quotations at one point. Taking the value of wheat at these leading markets, as a basis of export values, and it is an easy matter to calculate to a fraction what wheat is worth relatively in Manitoba. Occasionally prices have ruled in Manitoba higher than export values, and then in a sense the local grain men may be said to have "fixed" prices, as local causes have operated to increase prices beyond export values.

Since the article appearing in our July issue was written, wheat has taken a big advance. September delivery at Duluth was at that time quoted at 85 to 86c per bushel for No. 1 northern. On Saturday, Aug. 15, at the same market, September wheat was quoted at \$1.02 for No. 1 northern, and \$1.05 for No. 1 hard. Here was a clear gain of 16 to 17 cents per bushel in three weeks. Prices are lower this week at the time of writing, but our market reports will show any changes to the end of the week. The greatest excitement was on Satur day, August 15, when Duluth advanced over 6 cents on this day alone, while the same day Chicago was about 71c higher at the close for September option. It has been a long time since so much excitement has centered about wheat in the large United States markets. Friday, Aug. 14, was a wild day in wheat at Chicago. What started the excitement, it is just difficult to explain. Speculators seemed to get suddenly alarmed all at once, and those who were "short" were frantic to cover. This speculative craze was increased by strong cables from abroad. Wheat advanced 4 cents at Chicago on August 14. The excitement was continued on Saturday, Aug. 15 at Chicago, at fever heat. What may be noted about this wheat "boom" is, that there was no particular cause for it, as on each of these days of the great excitement, there was nothing startling in the way of news, to change the situation. It appears to have been a "short" scare, with no doubt considerable manipulation of the markets by speculative influences not readily discernible.

#### Editorial Notes.

THE irrepressible A. W. Ross has been

conservative estimate of Manitoba's wheat crop is 30,000,000 bushels, in consequence of which, of course he predicts a real estate boom. This is about as near the truth as A. W. can come. It is such blatherskite statements as this, from irresponsible characters of the A. W. Ross stripe, which disgust sensible people with Manitoba, and cause so many persons in the east and the United States to sneer when this province is mentioned.

OUR new Premier, Hon. Senator Abbott, has so far created a very favorable impression with the people generally. His call to form a government was looked upon at the outset as merely a makeshift, and it was generally believed that his government would be but a temporary one to tide over the crisis in our public affairs. Mr. Abbott, though standing high in the estimation of those intimately acquainted with him, was unknown to the people of Canada in a wide or general sense, up to the time he undertook to form a government. His task as successor to Sir John was a most difficult one. It was looked upon as an experiment the success of which was very problematical. Though the present administration is still considered but a temporary one, it is safe to say that Mr. Abbott as a leader, stands in a differont position in the public estimation to what he did on first assuming the responsibility of office. His manner of dealing with the departmental scandals at Ottawa, and his apparent earnestness to have a thorough investigation of the charges, indicate that he has grasped th reins of government with surprising vigor and firmness. Other features indicate that his administration is not to be a week and incipid one. Mr. Abbott's speech upon the Hudson Bay railway will be particularly well received in the west.

As NOTED in the report of the Winnipeg board of trade meeting published lest week, it will be seen that the board has undertaken to impress upon the proper authorities the necessity of more stringent measures against the spread of noxious weeds. This action has not been taken any too soon. There has been shocking neglect in this matter, and it is little to the credit of the government authorities that the board has been obliged to urge this question The Winnipeg district upon their attention. has suffered the worst from the spreading of weeds, and a short drive anywhere in the country surrounding the city, will be ample to surprise those who are not aware of the actual state of affairs. Farr. after farm is a mass of weeds. Those who try to keep down the weeds, are disheartened from the crops of thistles, mustard, etc., which are allowed to go to seed near them, and which renders their offorts futile to keep their own land clean. The pathmaster system is of no use, as local mea will not enforce the law. We are aware of instances where pathmasters have absolutely refused to interfere to compel parties to cut weeds, saying they were not going to quarrel with their neighbors. The most stringent act is necessary, and competent officials should be appointed as inspectors, who would be directly responsible for the enforcement of the law, if the country, and Winnipeg district in particular is to be saved. It is said that patches of weeds are flourishing on the road allowances and on vacant lands, about the outskirts of the city, while the river banks are producing crops of weeds year after year, from which the seed telling a Minneapolis reporter that the most is scattered over the adjoining country.

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Ever, pound guaranteed.

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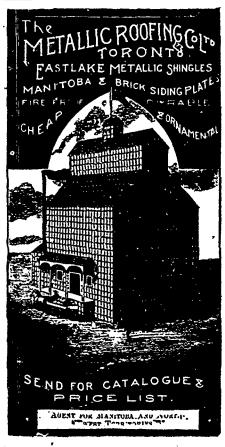
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Our travellers visit Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia twice a year.



## ASHDOWN.

WINNIPEG.

#### WINNIPRO WHOLESALE TRADE.

Harvest time conditions have ruled in the city's trade, most noticeable in light receipts of country produce, as farmers are now too busy to market commodities. The implement trade is winding up its rush. Binders were going out fast, and binder twine was in big demand. There will be a heavy call for twine for the next week or two. In the clothing trade the houses were busy sending out fall stocks. A good many retailers have made their first orders light, not wishing to dip in too heavy until crops were assured, while others were still holding back orders. A very few days will now tell the tale as to the result of harvest, as by the time this issue is in circulation, harvest, will be pretty general, and if it comes through all right, a very busy season will be before the country. Collections are very slow, and will be so until grain moves.

#### GROCKRIKS.

The demand for sugars east continues mostly for white. Yellows were jobbing in the east as low as 3 to per pound. A good deal of the trade in low grades has been done in raw augars. lowest grades being obtainable at \$3.60, eastern jobbing price. The cutting in prices by refiners in the United States has apparently come to an end, and refiners have probably come to an understanding, prices having been advanced 1 to 3-16c. Eastern canneries are reported to be offerering strawberries, raspberries, plums, pears, etc., some for future delivery, at 5 to 10c under a year ago.

#### GREEN FRUITS.

Oranges are about out of the markets. ples are in large supply and lower in price. Quality only fair. Ontario pears and plums have commenced to arrive, and in about a week will be offering freely, as the crop is reported plentiful. California grapes are commencing to come in. Blueberries hold about the same. Lemons are very firm, and reported \$1 higher east. Expected to advance here if weather Minnesota tomatoes, in bushel keens warm. baskets are now offering. Melons are selling freely. A few musk melons have been offered, but not in any quantity. California peaches, plums and pears are selling freely, at low prices in quantities, quotations below being for smaller lots. Prices are as follows: Oranges, when obtainable, \$5 to \$6 per box; Messina lemons, \$6. to \$6.50. Bananas are quoted at \$3 to \$3.50 per bunch. California soft fruits in 20 lb. boxes; peaches, \$1.75 per box; plums, \$1.75; pears, 40 lb. boxes, \$2.75 to \$3; Ontario pears, \$1.50 basket; black grapes, 8 lb. baskets, 75c to \$1.00; California grapes, \$3.50 to \$4 per 20 lb box; Southern apples, \$4.00 to \$4.50 per barrel; watermelons, \$4.00 to \$4.50 per dozen. Tomatoes, \$5 75 to \$3 per bushel basket. Blueberries, 6c. to 7c. per pound.

#### LIQUORS.

Further customs changes have been announced on beer, ale and porter imported, and also in the excise entry upon beer made from other materials than malt, such as sugar, rice or corn. It has been thought wise to raise the excise duty upon this kind of poor beer from four to ten cents, the object being to prevent the manufacture of that kind of beer, it being of very poor quality, and to preserve the manufacture of beer from malt. That having been resolved upon, it became necessary to place a corresponding duty upon the imported article.

Therefore it was decided to make six cents instead of three cents upon imported ales, porter This makes the duty on the British article, when in bottles, about 38 per cent., and from the States about 40 per cent.

#### WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKETS.

#### WINNIPEG.

Wheat cooled down somewhat this week, from the furious excitement of the last two days of the previous week. Though there were some sharp declines in prices on some days, yet it is evident that the recent boom in wheat, has left prices on a higher basis than they were pravious to the advance. Some decline was to be expected from the top, but this has probably now been fully discounted. Chicago closed on Friday 5 to 64c higher than a week ago, and Duluth was about 6e higher on the same day, than a week ago. Monday was a day of great excitement. At Chicago prices fluctuated wildly, having a range of 11c for the day, and closing 44c lower than Saturday's close. Cables were higher on Monday, Liverpool quoting 2d to 4d higher, and London ls 6d higher for cargoes. Export clearlarge aggregating 645,000 were bushels, including flour, from the United States. The clearances of wheat and flour the past week for the United Kingdom and continent were reported to be \$50,000 bushels in excess of estimated requirements. The visible supply increased 1,301,000 bushels, and is now reported at 19,255,000 bushels, against 18,453,000 a year ago. Though other cables were strong, Berlin was quoted 11 to 12c per bushel lower. Tuesday the markets had cooled down some, though prices closed lower at Duluth and Chi-Export clearances on this day aggregated 663,000 bushels. Liverpool cabled 2 to 21d lower, London 6d lower, Berlin 11 to 23c lower, Paris 18 to 38c lower. Wheat and flour on ocean passage decreased 889,000 bushels. Wednesday United States markets took a turn up again, Daluth making a slight gain, and a s about 11c gain. First cables were lower, but later cables were irregular and some Export clearances were reported at higher. 935,000 bushels (including flour)this large movement being the main support of the market. On Thursday wheat was higher, on stronger cables and unfavorable harvest weather in Eu-Liverpool quoted 1d higher. Duluth gained about 3c. On Friday a long and cotinuous rain was reported throughout Creat Britain, which eas regarded as very damaging to the harvest then in full progress in England. Serious damage to the English potato crop, from blight was also reported, which would have a strengthening influence upon wheat. prices, however, were irregular, though early in the day Liverpool cabled 3d higher. Later private cables came in week. Bradstreet's reported on Friday . "The export of wheat from United States this week aggregate over 5,700,. 000 bushels, against 5,147,000 bushels last week and 4,030,000 the week before. United States ports and Montreal in the same week a year ago only exported 3,489,000 bushels of wheat (and flour as wheat) and (exclusive of Montreal) only 2,750,000 bushels in the same week of 1889 and 2,336,000 bushels in the same week of 1888. Montreal and United States ports this

week exported nearly six millions bushels as against 3,489,000 bushels in the like week a year

#### FLOUR.

The advance in low grade flours on Saturday was followed by a like advance on Monday last in high grades. This makes local jobbing quoin high grades. This makes local jobbing quotations in small lots as follows, per 100 pounds: Patents, \$2.70; strong bakers', \$2.50; Second bakers, \$2 00 to \$2.20; XXXX, \$1.60; superline \$1.30.

#### MILLSTUFFS.

Bran and shorts are quoted each \$1 per ton higher. Shorts, particlarly, is scarce, and bringing high prices still east. Quoted bran \$13, shorts \$15 per ton.

#### MEALS, OIL CAKE, ETC.

Unchanged. Quotations are as follows: Oil cake, in bags \$21.00 a ton; oil cake meal in ton lots, sacked, \$26, in bulk \$25; Oa meal, standard \$2 85; granulated, \$2.95 per 100 pounds; rolled oats, \$2.95 per sack of 80 pounds; cornmeal is held at \$2 to 100 lbs. Pot barley, \$3.00 per 100 pounds. Pearl barley, \$3.25; fine, do., in 50 pounds sacks, \$3 per sack.

#### FERD.

Good feed quoted at \$22 per ton.

#### OATS.

There is little to note in the local situation, and prices appear likely to hold until new are ready for market. Dealers still hold small jobbing lots, selling from store, at about 40c per bushel. Cars on track here for local use are nominal at 35 to 37c per bushel, but there will be little or nothing done for the balance of the season in car lots. Prices have had a lower tendency east, where there is a large crop of new oats. Sales of Manitoba oats, held in store east, are reported at about 37 to 38c. It is expected there may be a good export market for oats this year, for British and European markets, on account of light grain crops across the Atlantic. For eastern shipment oats at Manitoba points are worth in the neighborhood of 25 to 26c per bushel, but are nominal.

Nothing further new to note in butter, and quotable at 10 to 14c, dealers' settling price, in small lots. Good dairy, 12 to 13c in large lots.

Jobbing at 91 to 10c.

#### EGGS.

Unchanged at 15c., dealers' selling price. W001.

Unwashed fleece quoted at 104 to 114c the tter being an outside figure. Fine wools 114 latter being an outside figure. to 13c. This means pure down or good Merino crosses, and not Leister or Cots, with a streak of down. The first quotations given will cover the latter class.

#### HIDES.

No. 1 cows 4½c, No. 2, 3½c, No. 3, 2½c. No. 1 heavy steers, 60 pounds up, 5½c, No. 2, 60 pounds and up, 4½c, calf, No. 1, 5c, No. 2, 4c, sheepskins, 25 to 30c. Lambskins, 30 to 35c each. Tallow, 41 to 5c for rendered.

#### CURED MEATS.

Prices are all very strong, Prices are:— Dry salt long clear bacon, 9 to 10c; smoked long clear, 10t to 10c; spiced rolls, 11t to 11tc; breakfast bacon, 121 to 13c; smoked hams, 131c to 14; mess pork, \$17 to \$18 per barrel. Sausage are quoted: Fresh pork sausage, 10c per lb.; Bologna, do., 8c per pound, German, do., 9c per pound. Ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per 11b package.

#### LARD.

Pure lard is held at firm prices. We quote: \$2.40 per 20 pound pail, for pure. Compound held at \$1.90 to \$2.00 per pail.

Spring chickens are offering, and bring about 35c per pair for nice chickens. About 60c per pair is the average price for old chickens. Turkeys slow at 10 to 12c live weight.

#### DRESSED MEATS.

Mutton and lamb are lower. A bunch of sheep from Ontario were offered in this market, but they were held at about \$10 per head, which was above buyers' views as the latter are figuring good sheep to be worth between five and six cents live weight. Dressed hogs are firm, as farmers are not offering any at present. Beefiaunchanged, at 5 to 5½c, and choice up to 6c. City dressed mutton is held at 11c, lamb, 12c; veal, 7 to 8c, and pork at 7½ to 8c.

#### VEGETABLES.

Prices still tend lower. Potatoes sold as low as 25c per bushel for loads on the market, but mostly at 30c. Cucumbers are scarce. Cauliflower are not as plentiful this year as usual, and not nearly as fine quality as last year. Roots, except potatoes, are small and backward for the season. Minnesota tomatoes are now arriving in larger sized packages than previous sorts. The following prices are for job lots bought from growers on the market, except tomatoes. Dealers' prices for shipping would be higher: Potatoes, 25 to 30c per bushel for loads on the market. Cabbage, 30c to 60c per doz., tomatoes, \$2.25 per crate of 50 pounds, do., in bushel baskets, \$2.75 to \$3.00. Green stuff in bunches is plentiful, at 20 per dozen bunches for onions, 10c to 15c for radishes, 10c for lettuce, 20 to 25c for rhubarb or pie plant. Carrots and beets, 20c per dozen. Cauliflower 25 to 50c, as to quality, per dozen. Cauliflower 25 to 50c, as to quality, per dozen. Peas, in pod, 50 to 75c per bushel. Vegetable marrow, \$1 to \$1.25 per dozen. Corn, 20c per dozen. Will be lower. Horseradish is in demand at 8c per pound for good clean root.

#### HAY

Pressed hay on track quiet, little business being door yet. Quoted \$3 to \$9 per ton.

#### Montreal Markets.

Flour—The excitement in wheat has had the effect of checking the cut rates on flour. Several sales of city strong bakers were made to bakers in this city a few days ago at \$5, although today \$5.25 is said to be the ruling figure. There has been a sharp advance in the price of St. Louis straight rollers, the price being now \$4.60 in bond here, although a few days ago they were bought at equal to \$4.25 in bond here.

Oatmeal, etc.—Prices are easier and lower in sympathy with the decline in oats, sales of jobbing lots having been made as follows: Granulated and folled oats, \$5.55 per barrel, and \$2.70 per bag; standard and fine oatmeal, \$5.40 to 5.45 per barrel, and \$2.65 per bag.

Feed—The market is quiet and steady, sales of car lots of Manitoba bran in bags being quoted at \$16, but city bran has been sold at \$15 to 15.50 on track. Shorts are quoted at \$19 to \$20, and middlings at \$22.

Wheat-No. 2 hard, \$1.05 to 1.06.

Oats—New crop is being brought in by farmers and sold at 80c per bag of 80 pounds. A lot of severl cars of old Quebec oats was offered at 35c per 34 pounds, but met with no purchasers. No. 2 Ontario are quoted at 40 to 41c.

Barley-Quiet and nominal at 45 to 50c for feed, and 55 to 56c for malting.

Cured meats—Canada short cut mess pork, per barrel, \$17 to 17.50; Chicago clear mess per barrel, \$17 to 17.50; extra mess beef, per barrel, \$14.50 to 15; hams, city cured, per lb., 11 to 11½c; lard, western, pails, per pound. \$½ to 9c; lard, Canadian, pails, per pound, 7½ to 8z; bacon, per pound, 10 to 11c; shoulders, do, 9 to 10c.

Butter-Holders of creamery are not meeting

any encouragement from buyers at the enhanced prices they are asking, namely, 20c at the factory in some instances. Sales, however have been made for export at 10½0 for August make, which is said to be the highest that can be paid for export for finest late made goods. A round lot of Eastern Townships was sold at 16½0 for English account, and we quote 16 to 17c. Several lots of Western have changed hands at 14½c. We quote 13 to 15c.

Cheese -The market closes brisk and firmer, holders asking 9c for finest western white, and 9½c for finest western colored, although business has been done in finest Townships at less money. There has been an active enquiry for underpriced goods, the market being bare of such grades, all offerings having been picked up quickly at 8½ to 8¾c. The Liverpool cable has advanced 6d, to 44s 6d.

Eggs.—The market shows signs of improvement. Sales were made to-day of straight lots at 12½c, and candled stock at 13 to 13½c.

Hides—No. 1, 5½, No. 2, 4½0; No. 3, 3½0; tanners pay le more; lambskins, 50 to 60c; calfskins, 7c.

Wool-Greasy Cape, 14½ to 16½c; Territory wool, 15 to 17c.

Leather—Manufacturers sole, No. 1, 17 to 19c; No. 2, 15 to 16c; waxed upper, 22 to 27c; splits, Quebec, 11 to 13c; splits, western, 15 to 19c.

Apples—Consignments have been arriving freely during the week. We quote, \$1.75 to \$3.50 per barrel, as to quality. Evaporated apples quiet at 12 to 14c per pound; dried apples unchanged at 7 to 8½ per pound, as to quality.—Trade Bulletin, Aug. 14th.

#### Montreal Grocery Trade.

Sugar, Syrup and Molasses-The demand for sugar continues unabated, with no indications of any falling off in business for some time to come. Wholesale houses have still great difficulty in filling country orders, eapocially for granulated, not being able to get the stock themselves. The refineries are quoting granulated at 48 to 42c, and yellows at 37 to 48c. There are no raws here to speak of, but the feeling on them is decidedly firm. The offerings for syrup are very light, but ample for the present requirements, 210 to 31c being still the range. There is a fair jobbing trade doing in molasses, the recent competition among sellers inducing trade. Barbadoes is selling in 25 and 50 barrel lots at 37 to 37 c.

Teas—The tea market has been pretty well cleared of all stock worth from 17 to 20c, and a broker who cabled on an order for a good round quantity on the basis of 20c was answered that the order could not be filled.

Coffees and Spices—The coffee market is very firm under a good enquiry and light supplies. Very little Rio is to be had here, values ruling firm at 20½c, while Jamisca stock is practically exhausted. Cable advices point to continued high prices. A recent one from London to an importer here stated that Rios had advanced 6s and that the very inside figure was SSs for 100 bag lots. Spices continue dull, with nothing particular to say. Some jobbing sales of pepper have occurred on the basis of 8½ to 10c.

Rice—There is a very good movement reported in rice, business being fully up to the average for this season of the year. Prices are unchanged as follows: Patna, \$4.50 to \$5; mously—I to the courailway to whatever.

choice, \$4.25.to \$4.50; standard, \$3.90, and offgrades, \$3.50 in car lots.

Dried Fruit—Business has continued quiet in dried fruit and as a result there are no changes to note. Supplies here in first hands are generally light, however, and the market has a firm tone, while the \_nditions point to a good business in the fall. Currants are, if anything, the scarcest article and stocks in first hands are light, while values are correspondingly firm. No prime stock could be moved under 6½ for jobbing lots and we quote 5½ to 6½c. Raisins rule the same at 4 to 4½c.—Gazette, Aug. 14th.

#### Grain and Milling.

Regina, Assa. territory, will exempt the proposed flour mill from taxation for ten years.

The scheme to erect a farmers' elevator at Morden, Man., says the Monitor, is an assured success. The number of shares required to make the \$3.000, have been nearly all taken.

The Treherne Farmers' Elevator and Milling Co. is applying for incorporation. Headquarters to be at Treherne, Man., where it is proposed to establish a mill or elevator, or both.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Company contemplate exerting an entirely new flour mill at Portage la Prairie, of about 600 barrels capacity. This is in addition to the purchase of the old Portage mill.

The Millers' Guild of Friedland, in East Prussia, has just celebrated the 450th nuniversary of its foundation. The guild received its charter of incorporation in 1441, the first grand master being Friedrich of Brandenburg. In those days the millers of this province were a very small body; the guild now counts 134 members.

The board of grain examiners of the Winnipeg board of trade met Wednesday and elected S. A. McGaw, of the Lake of the Woods Milling company, as chairman for the year. The board also elected Messrs. McGaw, S. Spink and Wm. Martin as delegates to the annual meeting of the grain examiners to fix standards for grain grown west of Lake Superior. The Winnipeg board, under the act, having the naming of the date at which the meeting for fixing standards shall be held. The question of the date was discussed, but laid over for consideration later ou, as it could not be decided until harvesting had so far advanced that complete samples from all parts of the province and territories could be procured fer the meeting.

#### Saskatchewan.

The Lorne agricultural society of Prince Albert district, has decided to devote all its energies towards making an exhibit at the Industrial exhibition to be held in Winnipeg in September. The society purposes doing away for this year with an annual full exhibit in Prince Albert.

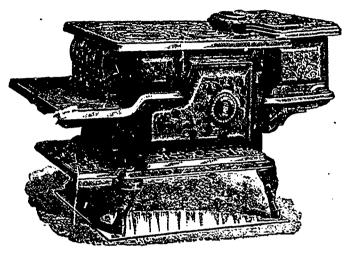
#### North West Ontario.

At the last meeting of the Fort William board of trade it was moved by A. McLaren, seconded by A. McDougall and carried unanimously—That the board objects most decidedly to the council allowing the Port Arthur electric railway to enter the municipality on any terms whatever.

# The E. & C. Gurney Co'y,

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MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF

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#### He wanted the Earth.

And what could he have done with it if he had got it? We cannot all be rich; we cannot all afford to smoke Tasse, Wood & Co.'s 'La Toscana" and "Rosebud" Cigars at 15c but most of us can manage the "Keliance" at 10c or three for a quarter Much better than any other make sold for fifteen cents.

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Smoked Meats, Butter and Egga. Try our Celebrated German Sausage and Ham, Chicken and Tongue. Write for circulars of our Patent Egg Preserving Fluid sold by the gallon. 100 per cent saved, by using it. We have kept Eggs fresh for over three years.

Cash paid for Horseradish root in any quantity. Ship it in, and get a good price for it. We are wanting it all the time. Sausage Casings for Sale.

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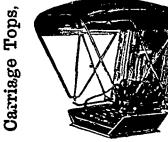
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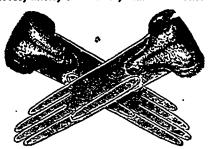
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#### Alberta.

High River Trading Co., general dealers, High River, has been incorporated.

W. C. Tims, brother of F. Fraser Tims, of Fort Saskatchewan, has opened a store on the south side of the river, at Edmonton.

At the cheese market at London, Ont., Aug ust 15, twenty-four factories offered 4,500 boxes and were cleared as follows .- 150 at 87c, 990 at 9c. 280 at 9 1-16c, 855 at 91c, 46 at 9 3-162, 180 at 91c, 540 at 93, 570 at 9 7-160, 485 at 91c. Market active.

#### Ohicago Board of Trade Prices.

The market continued very excited on Mouday, after the wild sceness of the two previous days. At the start trading was 2½ to 5½c higher than Saturday's close, the top figure being 6; over Saturday. Then followed a sharp decline of 11c, the final close being 4½c lower than Saturday, for Docember aption. Closing prices were:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	102-24	1003		1021
Corn	623	633	58}	
Oats	291	203		
Pork		9.95	10.10	
Lard		6.60	6.70	
Short Ribs		6 62}	0 73	

Wheat declined further on Tuesday, the close being ½ to 1½c lower than Monday's close. The excitement had cooled down some, but the market was still very nervous. Prices had a range of 2½c. Closing prices were:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	101	100]		1023
Corn	678	673	60)	
Oats	231	233	_ <u>-</u> _	
Pork		10.121	10.271	
Lard		6.60	6.70	
Short Ribs		6.65	6774	

The feeling was unsettled on Wednesday. Prices had a range of 2½c, at one time selling 1c under Tuesday's c'ose, and closing 1½c higher per bushel. Closing prices were:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Uct.	D&c.	
Wheat	103-3}	1021		104	
Corn	631	672	ülj		
Oats	281	233			
Pork		10 30	10.123		
Lard		6.65	6.75		
Short Ribs		6 65	6.671		

Wheat was strong on Thursday, closing 21 to 32 higher. Cables were strong an 1 experts large. Closing prices were:—

	Aug.	Sept	Oct. Der.
Wheat	1053	1043	1001
Corn	671	671	623
Oats	31	313	313
Pork		10 323	10.174
Lard		0.62}	6 72}
Short Ribs		6 623	6.75 ——

What openal strong on Friday, on higher cables, but declined sharply near the close, and closed life lower.

	Aug.	Sept	0ುಓ	Dec.
Wheat	1011	1031		1053
Cora	66}	65}	63	
Oats	311	315	32	
Pork		10,20	10.3.3	
Lard		6.573	6.674	
Short Ribs		6.574	6.70	

#### Minneapolis Market.

Following were closing wheat quotations on Thursday, August 20:-

	Aug.	Sept.	Dcc.	On track.
No. 1 hard				101-107
No 1 northern		83}	1013	99-104
No. 2 northern				9601

Flour—Quoted at \$5.05 to \$5.40 for first patents; \$1.90 to 5.15 for second patents; \$4.30 to 4.85 for fancy and export bakers; \$2.15 to 2.50 for low grades, in bags, including red dog. The flour markets are firm and recovering from the shock of rapid decline, noted a few days ago, in the wheat markets. One buyer from Amsterdam has taken about 100,000 sacks for export, and is looking about for opportunities to buy more on the most favorable terms he can got.

Bran and Short:—Quoted at \$10.23 to \$10.75

for bran, \$15.25 to \$15.75 for shorts and \$17.00 18.00 for middlings.

Oats—Quoted at 25½ to 29½c by sample. The demand is good for shipping, but values have been held by local consumption above shipping prices.—Market Record, Aug. 20.

#### Minneapolis Closing Price Wheat.

At Minneapolis, on Saturday, Aug. 22, wheat prices closed as follows, for No. 1 northern: September 931c October 97c. December option 993c. A week ago September closed at 983c, and December at \$1.013.

#### Duluth Wheat Market.

The inarket was very strong. No. 1 northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week for Sept. option: Monday at 99½c, Tuesday 97½c, Wednesday 93½c, Thursday \$1.01½; Friday \$1.01½; Saturday, \$1.01 per bushel. No. 1 hard closed ou Saturday, August 22, at \$1.03¾ seller, September delivery. A week ago September wheat closed at \$1.02 for No. 1 northern.

#### Weekly Crop and Weather Report.

The weather during the week was variable, with some splendid days and some unfavorable ones, but mostly favorable to filling out the grain well, and keeping it moving, though not rapidly maturing. There was considerable cloudy or hizy weather. There was no rain to speak of, only a few very light local showers being reported. On Friday the temperature dropped very low. The day was mostly cloudy and cold, with a cold northerly wind. Saturday morning cloudy and cool, northerly wind at Winnipeg. Between Friday night and Saturday morning the thermo neter readings were low. Telegrams were received Saturday morning from points all over the country, which indicated that at most points the lowest reported reading of the thermometer was safely above the frost mark. Two or three western Manitoba points, however, reported one to four degrees of frost. At the time of writing (Saturday), it is impossible to say what, damage has been done, but it is to be feared some harm has been done. though apparently within a very limited area. The lowest reading of the thermometer was reported from Virden, and happily in this district the crop is about the most advanced of any point in Manitoba, about 25 per cent. estimated being cut. The balance uncut would be so near maturity, that even if injured, it will still be marketable at a fair price.

Reports during the week indicated that harvesting was going on quite extensively in some of the earlier districts. In other parts wheat harvesting will not be general till the week commencing Monday, August 25, and in some sections it will be toward the end of the week before much can be done.

#### The Best in Fourteen Years.

H. S. Wesbrook, the well-known implement man, returned to Winnipez on Wednesday last. Mr. Wesbrook has been over a month travelling through the wheat belt, during which time he went along all the railways in Manitoba, and as far west as R gina in Assiniboia territory. This covers the wheat region very thoroughly. Mr. Wesbrook was right among the crops during his trip, and took every means

Know. to secure information as to prospects. ing from his opportunities of observation in past years, and the extent of his travels this year, his opinion would be a valuable one, Mr. Wesbrook was asked to give THE COMMERCIAL a statement regarding the crop. In reply he unhesitatingly declared that the crops are the best he has seen them in his fourteen years in Manitoba. The year 1887 produced a wonderful crop, and there were some surprisingly large yields, but this year surpasses 1887 in the uniformity of the crops. There were some poor spots in 1887, but this year it is the same all over. It is hard to find anything but the very finest crops. All over Manitoba and the districts visited in Assiniboia, the prospects are equally good, and the uniformity in the condition of the crops everywhere is surprising. To such an extent is this the case, that it would be impossible to class one district as better than another. Mr. Wesbrook considers the government estimate of 27:1 bushels per acre a very moderate one. The last district visited before his return to the city, was along the Manitoba Southwestern, at Glenboro, Holland, etc. Here the farmers were right into the harvest, and he believes 25 per cent. of the crop along this railway will be cut by Saturday night, August This, however, is one of the earliest districts. Some cutting was being done along the Manitoba Northwestern, though it was a week earlier when he was on this line.

#### Live Stock Markets.

A cable to the Montreal Gazette, dated Liverpool, August 17, says: "With a very weak demand and heavy receipts of Canadian and United States cattle the market took another drop, notwithstruding the fact that the general supply of cattle was only fair. Sheep also sold low owing to the heavy receipts. Quotatious were as follows:—Finest steers, 11½ to 12; good to choice, 11 to 11½; pour to medium, 10 to 10½; in-ferior and bulls, 7½ to 8½c.

The Montreal Gazette of Aug 17 says: While some of the private cables from Liverpool today noted a slight improvement others were decidedly worse, and shippers were unanimous in the opinion that the losses in both Liverpool and Loudon to.day were very large. If there was any hope held out shippers would not feel so disheartened; but when they are told that the chances for an improvement are very small they feel like retiring from the trade. We quote the following as being fair values for the week at the Montreal stock yard :- Cattle, export, 41 to 42c; butchers' good, 41 to 41c; butchers', medium, 37 to 42; butchers' culls, 31c; sheep, 31 to 31c, hog-, \$5.69 to \$5.75 per calves, \$2 to \$6.

#### Toronto Grain Market.

Car prices aro: Flour (Toronto freights)

- Manitoba patente, \$5 55 to \$5 65; Manitoba
strong baker's, \$5.25 to \$7.55; Ontario patents
\$4.75 to \$5.25; straight toller, \$4.40 to \$4.50;
extra, \$3.85 to \$3 90; low grades, \$2.00 to
\$3.75. Bran-\$12.50. Shorts-\$19 to \$20.
Wheat-No. 2 white, \$1.02 to \$1.03; No. 2,
spring, 97 to 99c; No. 2 red winter, \$1.02 to
\$1.03; No. 2 red winter, \$1.02 to \$1.03; No. 2
hard, \$1.08; No. 3 hard, 94 to 95c; No. 2
northern, \$1. Peas-No. 2, 70 to 75c. Barley
-Feeding 48 to 55c. Corn, 70c. Oats-37 to
40c,—Empire, August 18.

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## Eastern Business Changes.

Jas. Rosart, fruit, Hamilton has assigned.

A. M. Spafford, grocor, Trenton, has assigned.

W. Hoover, liquors, Forest, is out of business.

T. S. Petrie, drugs, Guelph, died the 4th inst.

E. S. Platt, merchant, Campbellford, has assigned.

Jas. Lomax, baker, North Bay, has assigned.

H. H. Hulse, dry goods, Sadbury, has assigned.

John Babington, shoes, Thedford, is out of business.

Richard Newlands, merchant, Kingston, has assigned.

Miss Minnie Wood, millinery, Forest, is out of business.

The W. H. Bell Manufacturing Co., Toronto, has sold out.

R. J. Thomas, grocers and shoes, Brantford, has assigned.

G. I. Lenentine, general store, Springfield, bas assigned.

David Roche, grocer, etc., Watford, is out of liquor business.

Millar & Bunting, baskets, St. Catherines, was burned out.

W. D. Taylor, general store, etc., Maple Valley, has assigned.

J. B. McCultoch, confectioner, &c., Woodstock, has assigned.

W. H. Thornton, London, grocer, has sold out to W. H. Weir.

A. K. Bishop & Co., hardware, &c., Owen Sound, have assigned.

J. R. Gusting, London, has sold grocery busi-

ness to G. W. Colcott.

Andrew McDonnell, grocer, etc., Thedford,

is out of liquor business.

George Honsberger, planing mill, Richards

Landing, was burned out.

J. F. Millar & Son, Manufacturers Agricul-

tural implements, Morrisburg have assigned.
Greenwood & McGuire, marble, Kingston,

have dissolved partnership—H. McGuire continues.

John Hunter & Son, grocers and liquors, Hamilton, have dissolved—business will be continued by W. Hunter.

#### QUEBEC.

J. B. Alarie, furniture, Montreal, has assigned.

N. G. Lemire, general store, Maskinonge, has assigned.

Robitaille & Poirer, coal and grain, Montreal have dissolved.

Leblanc & Paradis, tailors, Montreal, J. A. Paradis is dead.

Offere Leblanc, manufacturer artificial stone, St. Henri, has assigned.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

W. C. Dick, jr., gents' furnishings, Springhill, has assigned.

Milton Manufacturing Co., Ltd. planing mill, &c., Yarmouth-Winding up business in liquidation.

Muirhead & Co., steamfitters and plumbers, Halifax and Truro, have sold out their Truro business to W. H. Bell. C. Robin & Co., general store and fishing, Arichat—Re-organized and style changed to Chas. Robin. Collas & Co., Ltd.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

Geo. Lewis, jowelery and pictures, Bathurst, has assigned.

Burt & Wilkinson, carriages and blacksmith, Centreville, have assigned.

C. N. Clark, shoes, Frederickton is ffering a compromise of 25 per cent.

J. A. McQueen, general store, Point de Bute, is advertising closing business.

#### Toronto Grocery Market.

The big sugar trade which had been booked in past contracts is now over, and the cannod goods trade for future delivery is not arousing much interest yet. Every fresh arrival from the country has a little money and a very good report of crops.

Sugar, syrups and molasses-Current purchases of granulated are met by instant shipment. Yellow sugar is unchanged, brands quoting from 4c apwards. A small lot of N. B.'s was put on the market a few days ago and that brought prices lower, the light demand for yellows co-operating to bring about the same result. A very good demand for dark raws is kept up at 31 to 4c. Granulated 1 to 15 barrels, 54c; do, 15 barrels and over, 5c; grocers A, I to 15 barrels, 5c; do, 15 barrels and over 4ge; Paris lump, boxes, 54 to 52c: extra ground, barrels, 52c; do, boxes or less than barrels, 65c; powdered, barrels, 51c; do, less than barrels, 53 to 5gc; refined, dark to bright, 4 to 4Ac; Trinidad raw, 3.85 to 4: Demerara, 4g to 44c. Syrups-D., 2g to 24e; M., 24 to 24e; B 24 to 3e; V. B., 3 to 31c; E.V.B, 31 to 3c1 E.S.V.B., 31 to 38c; XX., 3g to 3le; XXX and special, 3l to 3gc.

Canned goods—The peas that are to comprise the pack of '91 are now all canned, and are being put on the market as fast as they can be got ready. In extent and quality the pack is probably about an average one. The tomato crop is now attracting attention. Go 'd, cool we ther favored the growth of the plant to strength and perfection, and a hot spell, just what is needed to ripan the fruit, has set in. A good corn crop is expected.

Fish—Salmon, 1's flat, \$1 60 to 1.70; salmon, 1's tall, \$135 to 1.55; lobste;, Clover Leaf, \$2.95; lobster, other, 1's, \$2 25 to 2.30: mackerel, \$1.20 to 1.40; sardines, French ‡'s, 9 to 11c; do, do, ½'s, 15 to 22c; sardines, American ‡'s, 6 to 8c; do, do, ½'s, 9c. Fruits and vegetables—Corn, 2's, \$1.10 to 1.25; do, cream, 3's, \$1.75 to 1.80; peas, 2'a, \$1.12½ to 1.20; beans, 90c; pumpkins, 75c; strawberries, 2's, \$2.25 to 2.40; tomatoes, 3's, \$1.60; apples, 3's, \$1.10 to 1 15; do, gallons, \$3 to 3.20, peaches, 2's, \$2.50 2.75; do, 3's, \$3.50 to 3.75; plums, 2's, 1.60, do, 3's, \$2.60; pears, 2's, \$2

Rice, Spices, etc.—Rice, bags, 3% to 44c; do, off grades, 3½ to 3gc; do, Patna. 6½ to 6½c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; Carolina, 8 to 8½c sago, 3% to 4½c; tapioca, 4% to 6c; pepper black, 12 to 18c; do, white, 18 to 25c; giuger, Jamiaca, 25 to 30c; cloves, 15 to 20c; allspice, 12 to 15c; nutmegs, 85c to \$1.10; cream tartar, 25 to 35c.

Dried Fruits—Private advices from Trieste report the new prune crop as likely to be larger than that of a year ago. Reports from Smyrna are to the effect that a full crop of fig and Sultana products is assured. Anincresse of 30 per cent. on last year's yield is expected in raisins.

Currants, barrols, new, 6½ to 6½c; half barrels, 6½ to 6½c; cases, 6½ to 8c; Voatizza, new, cases, 7½ to 9½c. Raisins, Valencies, 4 to 6c; do, selects, 7½ to 8c; do, layers, 8½ to 9c; Sultanas, 15 to 18c. London layers, \$2.50 to \$2.75. Prunes—Cases, 6½ to 7½c; hogaheads and bags, 6½ to 7c. Figs, natural bags, 4½ to 5c; Malaga mats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Elemes, 10 to 20 pounds, 8 to 10c. Dates, Hallowes, 5½ to 6c; old 4c. Nuts, almonds, Tarragona, 15½ to 17c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; filberts, Sicily, 10½ to 11c; wainuts, Grenobles, 16 to 17c; Marboto, 12 to 13c; Bordeaux, 12 to 12½c.

Teas and Coffees—Congous are coming on the market freely, as are Indian and Ceylon teas. The Indian teas are somewhat cheaper than they were a year age, while the drawing quality is as good. There has been this aummer a larger amount of direct business carried on between this market on the one hand and Japan and China on the other, than probably ever before. Coffee is unchanged, and goes out at a normal rate. Rice, 21 to 22c; Jamiaca, 22 to 23c; Java, 27 to 35c; Mocha, 29 to 35; Porto Rico, 25 to 23c.—Empire. Aug. 14.

#### Leather Prices at Toronto.

Prices are: Sole slaughter, medium heavy, per lb, 24 to 26c; sole, Spanish, No. 1, per lb, 24 to 26c; sole, Spanish, No. 2, per lb, 22 to 24c; sole, Spanish, No. 3, per lb, 20 to 21c; calfekin, Canadian, light, 65 to 70c; calfskin, Canadian, medium, 70 to 753; calfskin, Canadian, heavy, 65 to 70s; calfskin, French, \$1 05 to \$1.30; upper, light, medium, 33 to 35c; splits, 20 to 27c; buff, 14 to 16c; pebble, 14 to 15c; harness leather, prime, 15 to 18 lbs, 25 to 27c; harness leather, light, 24 to 25c; oak harness, American, 45 to 50c; oak harness, English backs, 65 to 70c; oak bridle and skirting, English, 75 to 80c; Cordovan vamps, No. 1, \$5.50 to \$6; Cordovan vamps, No. 2, \$5 to \$5.50; Corovan goloshes, \$11 to \$12; Cordovan sides, No. 1, 16c: Cordovan sides, No. 2, 13c. Cordo. van sides, No. 3, 11 to 12c; bak cut soles, \$4 50 to \$3; hemlock taps, \$3 to \$3.75; cod oil per gal, 45 to 50c; Degras, per lb, 41 to 5c; japonios, per lb, 6 to 61c; oak extract, 4c; hemlock extract, 3c; lampblack, 20 to 30c; sumac, per ton, \$65 to \$70; roundings, white oak, 20 to 25c; roundings, black, 18 to 20c; roundings, hemlock, 15c.

In an interview with R. S. Jenkins, Superintendent of the western division of Canadian Pacific telegraphs, a Winnipeg Free Press representative learned that the company will construct over four hundred miles of new lines in this division during the present season. Wires will be strung along the line of the Calgary & Edmonton, north of the main line, for about two hundred miles, and along the Souris branch to the end of the extension beyond Melita. It is likely the line will be extended through to the Souris from the present terminus of the Glenboro branch of railway. Further facilities will be provided in Southern Manitoba in view of the enormous crop. Certain important improvements are being made on the main line of railway between Port Arthur and Donald. The extensive equipment at Port Arthur has been moved to splendid new quarters at Fort William. The latter point is now an important repeater station in the transcontinental system.

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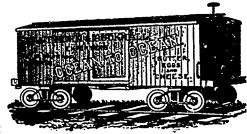
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#### Hudson's Bay Company.

The Canadian Gazette last to hand contains a full report of the Hudson's Bay Company's annual meeting in London, England, from which a few brief extracts are taken. Sir Donald A. Sn. th, chairman, said:

The profits for the year, you have no doubt observed, are £16, 196, and there is brought forward £39,864, making altogether £56,360, from which there is to be deducted £32,500, repres enting the dividend of 6s. 6d. per share, or 21 per cent., which we recom nend, leaving the sum of £23,860 to be carried forward. The bad results of the year's working are owing mainly to three causes-first, the poor out-turn of the trade, second the great sickness and mortality of the Indians; and third the small amount of land sold. Although the sales of last March were in some respects better than those of the former year, yet in one of the most important articles dealt with, namely Martens, there was a very unfortunate falling off in the price obtained. If we go back thirty years and look at the first fifteen years of that period the average price obtained for Martens was 23s. 6d.: while for the last fifteen years the price has been barely 10s. Similarly the price of minks has declined from 12s 6d to 4s 1d. It may be said that this being the case we ought to give less for our furs. Unhappily it is impossible to do so. Indeed, I may tell you that when you were getting as much as 23s, or even 30s for martens over here, you had not to pay so much for them in Canada as you do at the present day. This is due to the competition which we now have to contend against, and which has increased very greatly in recent years. In Winnipeg, in Victorio, and at all other points there are dealers ready to give the highest prices for furs, and we, of course, have to meet this by giving as high prices as may be warranted by the state of the market. We have sent inspectors into the country to report in what directions cconomies can be effected, and, further, we have asted on the principle of giving up every post or station where it seems certain that no profit can be made. It may be said that if the fur trade has been so unprofitable as a whole, it would be better to give it up altogether. I think, however, that if the proprietors who bold that view were acquainted with all the circumstances they would inclify that opinion very considerably. In fact I venture to say that were you to attempt to abandon abruptly the whole fur trade you would lose more than half the capital embarked in it. There are indications, for instance, that martens and minks are rising in price, a result which will proble be contributed to very materially by the diminution in the number of fur seals thrown on the market next year. In regard to the marine insurance account the company has lost nothing this year. Mention is also made of another insurance account, namely, the Fur Trade fire insurance account. In this connection I should explain that we have many posts in Canada upon which it would be impossible to effect insuran ces in the ordinary way, so that the company has been charging for the past twenty-one years the Fur Trade with £2,000 every year in order to build up an insurance fund Out of this fund there has been paid during this period £22,859 for losses, and there remains a balance to the credit of the account of £19,543.

With regard to the land sales, you observe

that the sales of farm lands amounted to 17,-142 acres for 100,677 dollars, and of 130 town lots for 103,620 dollars, yielding in all 205,297 dollars, as compared with 242,761 dollars for the year ending 31st March, 1890. The actual price obtained per acre, you will see, is somewhat better than that of the year before, namely, \$5.87 per acre as against \$5.75 in 1890.

Mr. McLean said; I thin'., sir, there is one point upon which we are all agreed-namely, that the report and accounts before us are thoroughly unsatisfactory. In this business of ours we have invested, in the trading branch, a capital of £900,000; we have a company which has been longer established than any other, which has enjoyed-and still enjoys to a large extent - almost a complete monopoly, and which has a prestige and reputation such as no other company can compare with, and yet the net result for the year is that we have not realized a single farthing of profit. The £16,000 so-called profit put down in the accounts comes from our land sales, and properly regarded is not profit at all. I find we have £14,000 of income in the year from interest on debentures, and dividends from investments, and that is all gone also, so the net result is we are many thousands to the bad in our trading, and all our exertions in the West for the twelve months under review have resulted in worse than nothing. For this two main reasons are assigned, namely, the failure in the crop for 1889, and the comparative famine among the Indians. I don't know whether it has been your experionce, but it has been mine, that the dispensations of Providence are always cited as the cause for the non-success of the incompetent and the extravagant. We have embarked a capital of £900,000 in the trade, and as far as I can gather from the accounts our turn over in the year has been £261,000. That leads me to conclude that we have far too much capital embarked in the business. If you will cast your eves over the trading account and look at the London expenses, I think you will realize that they are examples of extravagance. First comes the item "Governor and Committee, £2,400." I would suggest to the board whether they could not consent to take say £1,000 in the in the shape of fees and make up the rest by a fair percentage upon the profits divided each year. Again we have the sum £3,285 for the salaries of the secretary and other officers. I ask you to say what these sciaries are. Over £7,200 goes in warehouse expenses and rent and taxes in London. With regard to the other item "rent and taxes of offices in Leadenball Street, etc.," which comes to nearly £4,000, that is simply preposterous, and I trust if you are going to cut down expenses in Canada you will not omit to do the same at home. Then there are sums of £1104 for stationery and printing and £1,8\$8 for miscellaneous expenses, altogetner £3,000 for these items alone 1 ask you sir, to explain them. With regard to the bad harvest of 1889, it strikes me as strange that, while this should account for our non-success, the Canadian Pacific railway company has been going on steadily improving, increasing its traffic and profits, until now its shares stand at a higher figure than ever before. How is it that a railway company, in the very same region as that which we occupy, is ever increasing its carnings and doing a bigger business; while we, with all our capital and prestige, are going steadily from bad to worse? With reference to

the famine aroug the Red Indians, what I say is that it is no business of ours to play the part of a paternal government over these unfortunste men. There was a time, it is true, when this company actually was the government, and when it was really its duty to look after them in this way, but that state of things ceased the moment we handed over our territory to the Dominion of Canada. Now, sir, let me say a word in regard to the important question of the parchase of stock. Last year we purchased £200,000 worth. I would like to ask upon what principle these goods were purchased. Do we buy in the cheapest market and do we get tenders wherever it is possible to do so? We pay cash and buy large quantities, and therefore there is no company which ought to buy goods more cheaply than we do. There is another point in regard to our West trade. don't know at what expense it is carried on. The accounts don't show us, and it is impossible to find out particulars about it. Whether the Winnipeg store is making a profit or a loss no one knows. Whether the store at Vancouver is losing or earning money is not stated. and the same applies to all our ports and trad. ing stations throughout the country. The whole thing is lumped together in such a way that it is quite impossible to make head or tail of it.

J. Jacobs (Birmingham) said: It seems to me, sir, that you let the cat out of the bag when you said in your speech that you were going to close up those businesses in Canada which do not pay. You also seemed to me to make a most extraordinary admission when von confessed that since other traders have gone to Canada you can no longer make profits. As a business man, I should view the matter rather differently. If I had a business which once did pay, but which, in consequence of competition, ceased to pay, I should not suggest the winding up of the business: I should simply chang my manager. What we want is a sweeping change, both on the board in London and among the officials in Canada. It appears to me that we have a capitul of £1.300. 000, and with this make a profit of £16,000. which is absurd and ridiculous. My shares stood once at 38; to day they stand at lot. One year, we are told it is owing to a rainy season, next year it is put down to a dry season : one year furs are in f shion, next year they are out of fashion; and so it goes on from year to year.

Mr. Lomas thought the £23,000 carried forward, being money earned, ought to go into the pockets of the shareholders. As it was, if proprietors depended upon the dividends of the company for their support, their condition would soon be as bad as the Indians who had been referred to. The chairman, replying to the various questions said: As to the purchases made by the company, we endeavor to buy in the cheapest, as well as the best market, and wherever possible obtain tenders from different quarters, not only in this but also in Canada. The suggestion made that we should hold the furs over when we cannot get good prices has often been considered and pronounced impracticable.

The expenses of the land department are larger than we could wish, but they are steadily being reduced. Last year there was a reduction of £2,000 in this item, and this year a further decrease of £1,110. I have much hope that better times are in store for us, and

think that both from the lard and from the trading you may expect substantial returns. Especially as regards your lands, you have a great property, the value of which cannot help increasing year by year as time goes on; and even from the fur trade we can still hope to look for at least moderate dividends. I would state that the remuneration of our commissioned officers ranges from £200, which is the sum guaranteed to junior officers, up to £500, which the chief factors receive, and no one who knows the nature of the work performed by them will think this pay excessive. As to the salaries in London, the secretary receives £1,. 500, and the assistant-secretary £250. For the rest we have, as you know, a very extensive and complicated business to deal with, which naturally necessitates a large staff, but we are endeavoring to reduce the expenses to the utmost possible extent.

## British Columbia Trade Letter

VANCOUVEB, Aug. 17. - Reports from the Okanagan country are very encouraging. That section is attracting very considerable attention just now and unusual activity is the result. Crops are excellent, and especially wheat is fine. Fruits and other crops are abundant. The almond trees at Okanagan Mission are loaded down and one of the trees broke with the weightoffruit. The discovery of an extensi posit of bitumuous coal is reported, also deposits of yellow othre and oxide of iron, both certified by local paint dealers as being of excellent quality. At Kamloops, too, increased interest in the iron deposits there has been excited by the contract with the Tacoma Smelting Company to have iron ore supplied from there, which must tend to develop the mining industry as extensive deposits of iron ore exist in the vicinity of Kamloops. Nelson seems to go ahead and as better facilities have been obtained for shipping ore to the smelter, there is a prospect of greater activity than ever.

It may not be generall known British Columbia is preparing to ship fruit to the English market for which a contract is open for thousands of dollars worth if it can be supplied. Mr. O'Kell is the gentleman who has the enterprise in hand and has alre, dy secured all the fruit he can lay his hands on. The fruit of course will not be shipped in its green state but will be preserved entire in glass bottles, the preserving being a patent process whereby the fruit is cooked and syruped without altering its appearance and sealed air tight. A similar process has been introduced into salmon canning with some success and when a more perfect glass bottle is secured is likely to obtain a high place in the English market for select table use. Mr. O'Kell contends, as has been frequently emphasized in these columns, that greater attention must be paid to fruit in this Province and a greater area brought under cultivation before the trade can be made profitable. It is only when there is a surp'us of fruit that it can be made to pay.

Business generally is good, though afficted by the causes referred to in a former letter. Shipping is active. There are now several ships loading lumber in Burrard Inlet. The s.s. Parthia has arrived with a heavy cargo and is now loading cotton for her return voyage. The ship Nerayshire from Liverpool is in port with a large cargo of general merchandise; the s.s.

Grandholm, from England, general merchandise and three iron steamers for the U.S.S.Co.; and the Taichon from Fortland. Several of the leading retail merchants of this city are launching out into the wholesale business, which is rapidly developing. Notwithstanding the depression in the lumber trade nearly all the mills in the province not engaged in the export business are doing a good trade, many of them overcrowded. This is due of course to the general activity in the building trade. There are no special features in the real estate business. An agreement has been reached between the West minster Tramway Co. and the city of Vancouver and the line will be opened in the course of two or three weeks. Prof. Robertson awakened a great deal of interest while here in agricultural matters and his visit will undoubtedly do much good. The Sugar Refinery is extending its trade all the time and is talking of increasing its capacity. The following are the prices current, it being understood that they represent the selling wholesale prices here in small lots, and not the prices at which goods are purchased by wholesale dealers, the lattler being necessarily lower :

Flour and Grain—Manitoba patents \$6.30; Manitoba bakers, \$5.90; Euderby XX, \$5.35; Oregon flour, \$6.03. Eastern cornmeal and oatmeal, \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; ditto, Californian. \$4.00. Eastern rolled oats, \$3.75 per sack; ditto, San Francisco, \$5.25; shorts, \$26; bran, \$24; wheat, \$35 to \$40; hay, \$15 to \$16; phopped feed, \$35 to \$40; oats, \$40 to \$43 per ton. Japanese rice 42c per pound.

Sugar—B.C. refined granulated, 64c per 15; yellow, 58c: subo, 68c; syrap, 54c.

Cured Meats—Dry salt, 11½c per pound; roll bacon, 13c; breakinst bacon, 14½c; hams, 15c. Lard is held at the following prices: In tubs, 12c; in pails, 12½c; in tins, 13c; lard compound, 12c.

Butter-Creamery 241 to 25c for choice; dairy, 16 to 20c.

Eggs-Per dozen, 18 to 19c.

Cheese is held at 121c;

Vegetables—Potatoes, \$12 'o \$18 per ton; onions, \$1.75 to \$1.85 per 100 pounds; carrots, \$1.50.

Fruit—Peaches, \$1.35 per box, and plums, \$1; Tomatoes, \$1 to \$1.25; Black grapes, \$1.75 per box; white grapes, \$2; apples, \$1.50; pears, \$1.75 to \$2. Oranges \$4. Sicilian lemons \$3. California lemons \$6 50. Pineapples, \$4. per dozen.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT MANUFACTURERS
VS. THE PARMERS AND
MERCHANTS.

To the Editor of the Commercial.

Sir.—As "Manitoba Marchant" is not satisfied with my last letter in which I say "Mani"toba Merchant's" last letter in your issue
"August 3rd contains nothing new except that
"he refers me to the eye-vitness as to the
"truth of the statement re Mr. Sauderson's al"leged purchase and return of Canadian bind"ers, since last writing I have seen Mr. Saud"erson himself and he positively denies the
"truth of the assertion as made by "Manitobs,
"Merchant."

"Manitoba Merchant" seems still to think that Mr. Sanderson did purchase Canadian binders last year and return them and that I unfairly suppressed something in the above which would indicate it. Allow me to state that I simply asked Mr. Sanderson the straight question, viz; Did you buy ten (or any number) of Canadian binders last season, and after testing them return them and take out McCormick binders in their stead? and he answered as straightforwardly as possible that he had not even purchased Canadian binders, much less tested them, but had ordered Deering American binders which he preferred but owing to their not being able to deliver on time as 1 understood him, he cancelled this order and took ten McCormick.

But "Manitoba Merchant" seems to think that I am trying to suppress something which Mr. Sanderson has said bearing upon this point and reiterates the statement as follows: "My informant, whose name Mr. Van Allen "knows and to whom he can easily refer again "assures me of the correctness of his state-"ment. The order was not "cancelled." The "goods were delivered and my authority saw "them "with his own eyes" as he puts it being brought back from the field where they had been tried."

Mow my answer to this is, that I this day saw the eye-witness referred to, and he admitted to me that he did not see ten or any number of Canadian binders being brought back from Mr. Sanderson's farm after having been tried there. I now again ask "Manitoba Merchant" to substantiate the statement originally made. I am willing he should do so by either having the "eye-witness" whom I know well, come with himself or alone to me and tell me that the statement as attributed to him by "Manitoba Merchant" is true, or by a satisfactory declaration, or letter to that effect, giving the name of the firm from whom Canadian binders were purchased, and I wiil undertake to disprove or admit the same.

In conclusion as "Manitoba Merchant" seems to fear that Eli Perkins is my "literary idol," as he puts it I would simply say that I have read scarcely any of hie writings, but the expression "It is better not to know so much "than to know so many things which are not "so" seemed so apt when applied to "Monitoba Merchant" especially when he neeks to deal with questions which he has not fully studied, as is the case in the present controversy, that I trust I may be pardoned for makit even if Mr. Perkin's general literary style does not suit "Manitoba Merchant's" critical taste.

"Manitoba Merchant" advises me as follows: to "direct his study in the art of stringing "words together in such a way that the string "cannot be subsequently used by his enemies "to hang him." In reply I would say that the result of my observation on the subject is that so long as a writer adheres strictly to the truth and also is sure of the truth of hear-say evidence before relying on it, there is little liability, even though he be somewhat unskilful, of his being entangled even by so shrewed a person as "Manitoba Merchant," whereas on the other hand if the facts are against him, no amount of "study" is likely to avoid such entanglement. In conclusion having accidentally discovered his identity, I am free to admit that "Manitoba Merchant" is also an "estimable young man" and in a new country like this I do not know that his youth should count against him.

Yours truly, B. W. H. VAN ALLEN.

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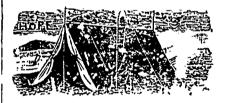
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The New Mocha and Java Blend of French Cream Coffee. In one and two pound Cans.

Todhunter, Mitchell & Co.

SOLE IMPORTERS, TORONTO, CANADA.

#### Dominion Millers.

At the recent annual meeting of the Domin ion Millers' Association at Toronto, Secretary David Plewes offered his report, in which he said that since last September they had obtain ed grinding in transit privilges on Manitoba wheat coming via the Northern Pacific and Grand Trunk railways But, as mentioned at the special session held on Jan. 13 last-for reasons then given- the Canadian Pacific rail road has not granted this privilege west of Peterboro. Many millers had improved the privileges obtained on the Grand Trunk railway, and, should the anticipation of a large crop in Manitoba this year be realized, the privileges would be a great benefit during the coming season. No arrangement has yet been made in regard to the transit in bond of Mani toba wheat over the Michigan Central railway. The resolution passed at the la t meeting to make 98 lbs universally a bag of flour, the same as in Toronto and Montreal, had fallen through because universal action was found unobtain able. In view of the large wheat crop in the Dominion this year, it would be a wise policy if some united action could be adopted so that the export flour trade could be done at the least possible cost. It was the opinion of the secre tary that if the security of exported freight was entrusted to some central committee, often a reduction could be made on 10,000-sack contracts, when no reduction can be obtained on small lots. The success of the home trade this year would largely depend on the amount of flour exported out of the Dominion It would also tend to make the export trade more remunerative if meetings of unllers were held from time to time for consultation on export trade and other matters, giving their experience on the most suitable grades of flour to be sent to the different markets in Europe. It would also be well for inland millers to bear in mind that during the months of open navigation to the seaboard such places as Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Detroit, Port Arthur, Hamilton, Toronto and Welland, having water communication, can lay their export flour at seaboard at 3 to 6c less freight per 100 lbs than from inland railway stations. Hence, to successfully compete with those points in Europe, the wheat must be bought for equivalent ly less money

For officers the coming year, the following were chosen, all by acclamation :- Thomas Goldie, Guelph, president; Mr. Peplow, Peter boro, vice president : D. Plewes, Brantford, secretary, and Mr. Thos. Galbraith, Toronto, tieasurer.

This. Goldie, Gaelph, spok on the subject of selling flour on time and giving up bills of lading without payment of drafts, advising that the milling business should be done on a eash basis and that bills of lading and drafts should go together in all cases. Messrs. Meld rum, Peplow and Goldie were then appointed to report on the question of selling flour on eredit.

On motion, the bill of lading question was placed in charge of a committee consisting of Messrs. Goldie, Peplow, Hodd, McLaaghlin and Hamilton, these gentlemen having very ably handled the matter of grinding in tran-

C. B. Watts presented the report of the cen tral wheat buyer. The office was opened !

March 1, 1891. Since then 333 cars Ontario and 185 chre Manitoba wheat were sold to 92 different millers, who had used the office. During the last five months he had sent out over 30 special advices as to the value of wheat in Canadian and foreign markets. During the excitement in Chicago in April advices were sent out every night. The office had also assisted in buying wheat on several occasions for which it has received neither pay nor credit. J. L. Spink, M. M. Laughlin and Wm. Galbraith were appointed arbitrators to settle all disputes between the central buyer and the seller, also all differences regarding commissions.

The committee on seed wheat was requested to continue its labors during the ensuing year and also to investigate the subject of spring seed wheat.

Mr Meidrum, Peterboro, complained of short weight car wheat from the elevators, especially in the case of Manitoba wheat, and that concerted action should be taken to stop the shortage. A resolution was adopted to the effect that where shippers habit, ally shipped short weight exceeding one bushel per car, the central buyer should be instructed to cease dealing with them.

David Plewes-addressed the meeting on the subject of suitable packages and suitable markets for the different grades of export flour He said that by using jute bags, flour car be shipped 6c per barrel cheaper than with cotton bags. Flour shipped to Antwerp should always be done-up on a standard of 220 pounds. Otherwise the bags are broken open to make up that standard, and if part of a bag hanpens to be left over, it is practically a dead loss. The London market, he said, is the best for coarse grades of flour; for Glasgow a finer grade is needed; Liverpool will take all grades, and Antwerp is good for low grades. The Antwerp market is much the best for flour made from frozen or damaged wheat.

A warm discussion arose over the inspection of Manitoba wheat, Chas. B. Watts, the central grain buyer, alleging that there is no uniformity in the inspection and that inferior grades are often palmed off for higher, owing to lack of proper system. Several members spoke of the matter in very indignant terms, and the executive committee was finally instructed to bring the subject to the attention of the Dominion government, and to sharply prosecute the first case brought to its notice in which the wheat is not of the grade reported in the certificate. On motion the secretary was instructed to try and arrange to have a representative of the as ociation appointed on the board which chooses the standards of wheat and

The association decided to continue buying car wheat by the tester on the standard basis, paying as heretofore lesper Ib extra-for wheat testing over the standard, but not recognizing tractions of a pound,

In an interview Sir Henry Tyler is reported to have said that without doubt the Grand Trunk would construct a second tunnel under the St. Clair river, and that the work on it would commence as soon as the present one at Sarnia, which opens on Sept. 19th, is in full operation. Of the prospects of traffic this fall he speaks highly. He expects a large increase in both the freight and passenger traffic.



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