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Reserve Fund - 6,000,000  
Undivided Profits - 888,910

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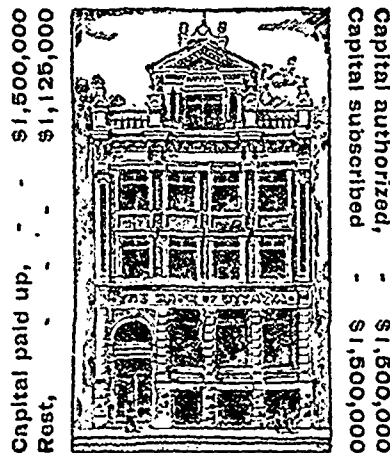
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This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

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

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INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER IN 1840

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RESERVE FUND - 1,500,000

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This Company acts as assignee, administrator, executors  
trustee, receiver, committee of lunatics, guardian liquidator, etc.,  
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Debentures issued for three or five years, both debentures  
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without charge.

For further particulars address the manager

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# THE COMMERCIAL

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

Sixteenth Year of Publication  
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

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Office: 131 McDermot Street.

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

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 27, 1897.

## COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

This number of The Commercial is issued one day earlier than usual, Saturday being a holiday, we have printed on Friday. All our readers we wish a merry Christmas.

This is the last number of The Commercial for 1897. The next number will be dated January 1, 1898, and thereafter The Commercial will be dated Saturday, instead of Monday. This change is made to make the date of the paper correspond with the date of the market reports. Our market reports are complete up to the close of the markets on Saturday of each week. As this is the last issue of this journal for 1897, we take the opportunity also of wishing our readers a Happy New Year.

## STEWED TEA.

Since package teas came into use a great deal has been written in the way of giving directions how to properly infuse teas. Package teas are now very largely used, and directions for infusing tea are usually printed on the packages. Vendors of package teas have also in other ways advertised and published instructions for making tea. Notwithstanding all that has been said and written, very few people observe the simplest rules in making tea. At a church social in

Winnipeg, it is said a large wash boiler was used in which to make the tea. This vessel was filled with water and a couple of pounds of tea were dumped into it and allowed to stew without any regard for time limit. More tea and water was added to keep up the supply as required. This would make a decoction almost fit to poison a pup, and utterly lacking in the fine flavor of a good cup of tea, no matter how choice the original quality of the tea used. It indicates, however, the general disregard for reasonable care in making tea. We will have to train up a new generation of women before this careless habit of stewing tea can be got rid of. In the meantime there will be much reason for the complaint that tea is a cause of dyspepsia and indigestion, for stewed tea is anything but a healthy beverage.

## TIN CAN SOCIAL.

One of the fads of the day is the tin can social. Each person attending is expected to take along a tin of canned goods for charitable purposes. If the price of the can of goods were given in cash, and the money invested in flour and beef, far better results would be obtained. While canned goods are wholesome and reasonable in price, they are rather too much of a luxury to be made a basis for charity-giving. The cost of the canned goods, turned into beef and flour, would give vastly better service to people in need of charity.

## OUR NATIONAL HIGHWAY

There have been a good many complaints in this country against the Canadian Pacific Railway company, and The Commercial has at times been obliged to condemn some of the rules of the company. At the same time we believe there are very few Canadians who will not rejoice to learn of the prosperity of our great national road. Particularly will this be true of Western Canadians. The prosperity of the Canadian Pacific railway means the prosperity of the country at large, and if there are any who cannot wish the company prosperity in a broad, generous way, they can do it from a selfish point of view, seeing that the company could hardly be prosperous unless the country also were prosperous.

Then we have the question of freight rates. A prosperous company would be more likely to reduce rates than if the balance were on the wrong side of the profit and loss account. Indeed, it is not improbable that the recent important reductions in freight rates has been brought about, to a considerable extent, by the prosperous season which President Sir William Van Horne recently referred to, in an interview at Montreal.

## PROSPEROUS FARMERS.

Large numbers of Manitoba farmers have been going East during the past few weeks, to spend the holiday season with old friends. A party who came in on one of the local branch line trains recently, said that there were seventy-five farmers on the train who were all on their way East. This is certainly an indication that the farmers of Manitoba are prosperous. If they were not so, they could not afford to make this long and expensive trip East, to spend the holiday season.

## A CARELESS CUSTOM.

The custom of sending sample packages of patent medicines around to private houses, should be condemned, if it is generally followed the way it is done in Winnipeg. These sample packages are often thrown into a doorway where they are left to be accidentally discovered, and if there are any small children about the house, they are likely to be the first ones to find the packages. Sometimes the samples are even handed to small children who may be playing about the yard. While many of these medicines may be harmless, some of them are certainly not so, and they should not be left where they are liable to be discovered and possibly swallowed by young children.

## AN HONEST MAN.

In these days of commercial looseness, the example set by Samuel L. Clemens, in paying off the creditors of a company in which he was a partner, is as a refreshing oasis in a vast desert. Mr. Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, was a member of the publishing house of Chas. L. Webster & Co. When this company failed Mr. Clemens handed over his private resources to the creditors, and as this was not sufficient to meet the liabilities in full, he started out on a lecturing tour of the world, though an old man, in order to earn sufficient to make up the deficiencies. He visited Australia, South Africa and Europe, and it is now announced that he has earned enough to pay off all claims in full. This last effort of the famous entertainer and writer should earn him greater renown than all the doings of his busy lifetime heretofore, great as his achievements have been. Few people would have the ability to earn money as Mark Twain has done, no matter how great their desire to do so. At the same time, assignments, compromises and clearances can never alter the moral responsibility to pay 100 cents on the dollar, provided those who have not done so are able to do it. The world will speak of Mark Twain as an honest man—The noblest work of God.

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENCY

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

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A COMFORTABLE HOME FOR YOUR FEET....

By Wearing  
KING'S SHOES  
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Something New, "Light" Flexible.

No Tacks. No Nails. Very Easy. No Squeak.

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Our Oysters are the choicest in the market, and are sold for  
 exactly what they are. We supply cheaper Oysters if  
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Everything in the Fish line in the market on hand. Haddies  
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Farmers and others having  
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 do well to send us samples.  
 We are prepared to pay  
 highest cash price for good  
 quality.

**EDWARD L. DREWRY**  
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**COALS FOR NEWCASTLE.**

It is said that a party of Englishmen who arrived in Winnipeg recently, en route to Yukon, via Edmonton, purchased their supplies in Montreal, including a quantity of baled hay. This is carrying coals to Newcastle with a vengeance. The price of hay in Winnipeg would not be more than fifty per cent. of the cost of the article at Montreal, to say nothing of the heavy freight charges, which would amount to more than the first cost on an article like hay. At Edmonton hay could probably be secured at about the same price as in Winnipeg, and thus the entire cost of freight as well as a considerable portion of the purchase price could have been saved by a little knowledge of the situation.

**A SCANDALOUS WASTE.**

The Winnipeg city council is not moving any too soon in the matter of providing a garbage crematory. An effort should be made to have the crematory ready for the spring clean-up. Probably the greatest waste of labor on an extensive scale, between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast, has been going on in Winnipeg for years in connection with the scavenging department. That something has not been done years ago to check this enormous waste of labor is anything but creditable to our civic government. The plan of hauling city garbage for miles, through mud to the hubs of the wagons, as carried on here for years, has been a cause of wonder to those who are familiar with the situation, though probably the great majority of citizens know very little about the actual facts. If it is decided to have a crematory, let us have it at once. If the old system is to be continued, a decent road to the garbage ground would prove a profitable investment in the saving of labor, compared with hauling loads through the mud.

**FEATHERED GAME.**

Our illustration this week is from a photo. taken of the residence of Edward Kerr, near Deloraine, Man. Mr. Kerr has evidently been devoting a little spare time to the gun, and the result of his work is shown in the photo. For feathered game it would be hard to beat Manitoba. In every part of the province there is good sport, in season, in hunting for feathered game. Ducks, of many varieties are abundant, and several varieties of wild geese may be seen in the market any time during the season for shooting these fine birds.

There are also several varieties of the grouse family, including that grand bird, the prairie chicken. The chicken is protected by provincial laws, so

that they are not likely to be wiped out as the settlement of the country increases. With reasonable care, these fine birds should remain with us permanently, and furnish sport for the hunter and an occasional pot-ple for the settler for all time.

There are other varieties of game birds, besides these enumerated here, including several species of plover and snipe, which afford good sport in season.

**ALONG THE MANITOBA SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY.**

Notes from a Rambling Correspondent.

**CARMAN.**

This town has a wide reputation as the centre of a splendid wheat area. This year it has been the centre of a very large, healthy and satisfactory cattle trade, a big business having

been, their former premises being occupied by Mr. J. M. Toombs, who removed from Stonewall. He has admitted Mr. Kirkpatrick, and the firm is known as Toombs & Kirkpatrick. Other firms in general business are the old timer, T. B. Meikle, E. L. B. McLeod and the A. Macdonald Co. Chas. Naylor has opened a fruit and confectionery store. The well-known hotel the Starkey house, is now under the capable management of Simpson & McKelvie. They have recently installed a plant for lighting the building with acetylene gas. Butchart & Summersall have one of the largest hardware stores in the country. There are three furniture stores, the oldest being that of Frank D. Stewart, an old-timer of the Carman district, and well-known through the province. Mr. Stewart was a pioneer and can relate his experiences when the nearest market was Winnipeg and all the produce



MANITOBA FEATHERED GAME

been done in shipping all classes of stock. D. Mills is the principal local buyer and shipper, having shipped over 50 cars this fall alone. The large areas of hay and grazing lands north and northeast of Carman, hitherto lying idle are rapidly being taken up and the cattle industry promises to be as important a factor in Carman's trade as the wheat has been in the past. In any case, this bright little town has a future and it has even now a trade that places it on at least even footing with the best provincial towns.

During the year a number of business changes have occurred in Carman. The firm of Hemenway & Lawson succeeds W. J. Hemenway, Staples and Carthow succeed R. H. Staples, while D. J. Graham, & Co., is the style of the firm formerly Anderson & Graham, Mr. Anderson having retired. Richardson & Loree are out of general bus-

ness had to be taken there to be sold. It is different now. Carman has five elevators and two mills. The old roller mill, owned by Mr. Glendenning is on the river, a mile from town, and has been running eighteen years, the new one was erected this year by Peters & Winkler. It has a capacity of 100 barrels, is heated by steam and is to be lighted by electricity. Carman usually markets from half to three-quarters of a million bushels of wheat in a season, and this year it is expected the amount will be a fair average.

**RATHVELL.**

This is the first station east of Treherne some nine miles, and marks the eastern limit of the wheat fields of Norfolk municipality. Further east the soil becomes light and sandy, and settlement for some distance is very scattered. Surrounding Rathwell is a very good farming country, and the

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Mills and Offices, Rat Portage, Ontario.

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# Ogilvie's Hungarian

CREAMY

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## FLOUR

HAS NO EQUAL

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

**"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."**

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

WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

IN HANDLING  
**OGILVIE'S FLOUR**

YOU HAVE

## THE BEST

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

**OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN**

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

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# JAS. McCREADY & CO.

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## Boot and Shoe Manufacturers

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Sample Room—Room M, McIntyre Block, Main, St. Winnipeg.

# W. R. JOHNSTON & CO.

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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

READY MADE

## CLOTHING

Corner Bay and Front Streets, Toronto

Samples at McIntyre Block, Winnipeg. Representatives. A. W. Lasher, W. W. J. Armstrong.

crop this year, though light, is on a fair average with the rest of the province. Some 125,000 bushels will represent the total wheat tributary this year, and most of it is marketed. There are two elevators, Kane's, which is 85,000 bushels capacity, and is operated by the owner, who buys on his own account; the other, 20,000 capacity, is owned by the Northern Elevator Co. There are two general stores, Forbes Bros. and E. Dagg & Co. The latter firm has built a roomy, two-story store, 24x40, this year. They have made somewhat of an experiment with concrete walls for the basement, which is the full size of the building. Stone is not an article of local production. The building is to be heated by a furnace. Forbes & Co. have a very large stock occupying a double store, either the hardware or dry goods department of which would be commodious premises for a stock smaller than theirs. John Wilson is the local lumber dealer, and he has built an office and residence this year. There is a very good hotel, a livery stable, blacksmith shop and other appurtenances of a town. In addition to grain, cattle are raised by most of the settlers, especially in the French settlement of the Tiger hills, which are here close to the railway on the south. Wood is also a general article of industrial production, being shipped west largely.

#### TREHERNE.

This town started some years ago, on the advent of the railway, has attained a very substantial degree of permanency. Most of the stores and business premises are good buildings; there is a large and convenient public school, presenting an attractive appearance, and the residents of the place have built and are continuing to build houses, indicating that taste and comfort are consulted. It is prettily situated, in rather a sheltered position, the surrounding country being slightly diversified by ravines and clumps of scrub and poplar. McLennan and Williams have a large general store, connected with which are dressmaking and millinery departments. At the other end of the town is the general store of the Norfolk Supply Co., who also handle furniture. Bain Engelven has a very good stock of general merchandise too, though he finds his premises getting cramped for his business. W. J. Scott carries a large stock of harness, etc., and employs an additional hand to keep up with orders for hand-made harness, which his customers prefer. Alexander & Co. have a private bank; Andrews & Pitblado a branch office under Mr. Reid; J. P. Straube has a complete hardware store; there are two hotels, both temperance houses; a good stationery and drug store. The local lumber dealer is Mr. J. K. Robson, well known in curling bonspiel circles. A. Ross & Son

are butchers and cattle dealers, the latter buying largely for Gordon & Ironsides. Mr. Ross, Sr., is also clerk of the local county court. Mr. James McAdam, secretary-treasurer of the municipality, is setting a very good standard, and incidentally, acting the part of benefactor to the town by erecting a substantial class of houses, either to rent or sell, as best suits the taste of the occupant. Several neat and cosy additions to the town are already due him, the local baseball twirlers mourn the degeneration of their old-time campus by his latest building. Treherne has two elevators and a very good mill, the latter managed by Mr. J. A. Cox. One elevator is of the Farmers' variety, and is an example of how such an institution can be made to pay under a careful directorate and management. The secretary of the company says this has paid well. Probably fifteen bushels per acre will represent the fair yield of wheat this year round Treherne, though instances of much better yield are known. Mr. A. J. Cotton, some three miles west of town having had some 20 bushels per acre on a large acreage, his total being over 10,000 bushels of wheat. Estimates of 175,000 to 225,000 bushels are given for the total wheat tributary to this point. As mentioned already, cattle are largely shipped from here, and wood is also a considerable item in the yearly export from this point.

#### HOLLAND.

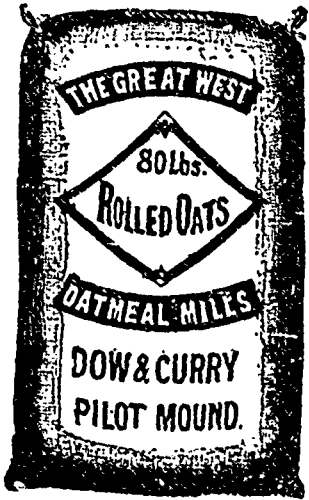
The town of Holland is the centre of splendid wheat growing plains, the property of prosperous farmers as one can see on each side of the railway and all the way from Treherne, the buildings alone being good guarantee of that. One can hardly fail to be struck also with the very large amount of plowed land ready for the spring sowing between Treherne and Holland, and all about the open country round the latter point. No doubt a very much increased acreage will be under wheat next year. Holland will this year be the receiving point of over 300,000 bushels of wheat, it is estimated, and not 25 per cent of that remains to be marketed. This is a larger total than 1896 owing to the bad hail storm that swept some of the best wheat areas of the district. The wheat marketed in 1895 was over half a million bushels. For the accommodation of the grain traffic there are four elevators and a good mill and some eight buyers thronged the local exchange this season. The mill which has recently changed hands, has the proud distinction of a World's fair medal for the excellence of its product. This was under the able and careful management of Mr. John Moir who has recently retired from the proprietorship, Mr. Hiebert, late of Altona, being

the new owner. He has just recently taken possession and has built himself a house close by. The mill which is 75 barrels capacity daily, is sure to continue its good record though all regret the retirement and possible removal of a sterling citizen as Mr. Moir has proven. Other changes in business are to be recorded for the past few months. The old time firm of T. H. Pentland & Co., has taken down the sign, the business having been purchased by Jno. Fumerton & son, the latter, a brother of Mr. J. F. Fumerton, of Glenboro. Mr. Pentland has turned his attention to life insurance, and is hustling that useful calling in the interests of the Manufacturers' Life, for whom he is now a special agent. E. Mawhinney has grown tired of the treadmill of retail trade and has sold out his hardware business to two steady, enterprising young men, Messrs. Downie & Collison. Mr. Mawhinney has not quite decided what to devote himself to in future. This fall he and Mr. Dagg, lumber merchant, have improved and fitted up a store which they jointly own. W. R. Ross has almost doubled the capacity and vastly improved the appearance of his store by a considerable extension, in solid stone, of which the original part is also built. It now makes a splendid block nearly one hundred feet deep. Dr. Morrison and Burridge have erected a comfortable and neat drug store, office and dwelling next the Montreal store, and have just entered into occupancy. The Montreal store under the management of Mr. Steinhoff, is the third general store in the town. Newby & Harrison have a large and well fitted hardware store in the west end of the town, and have a machine shop in connection. Jas. F. Holland, the pioneer of the town, which is his name-sake, has a large stock of furniture, stationery, etc. The hotel is still the popular stopping place for travelling men that Sinclair Bros. have always made it. A noticeable feature of the buildings in Holland is their size and substantial appearance, the stone, which is easily obtained in the vicinity, being largely used as a material. It would be unfair to the town to pass without reference to that local and semi-public institution, the local newspaper, the Holland server, a neat and newsy sheet edited by Mr. B. Woodhull, and got out in very workmanlike manner, as to type, make-up and press-work, points often sadly neglected by the local newspaper.

#### CYPRESS RIVER.

For fourteen or fifteen miles west of Holland, one drives for the most part, past continuous wheat and grain fields, with the thickly-set yellow stubble and frequent straw pile mute evidence, but eloquent of the





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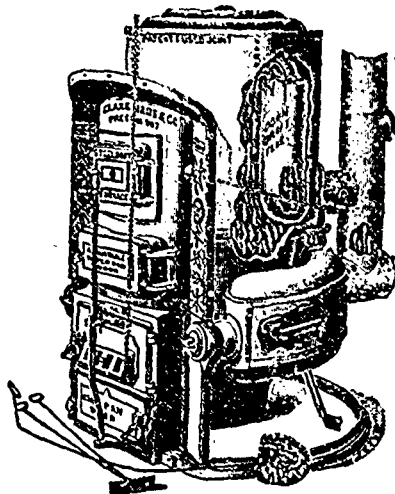


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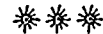


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### Grain Merchants

ROOM 17, GRAIN EXCHANGE, WINNIPEG

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

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED

## Duncan G. McBean & Co

BROKERAGE

—AND—

COMMISSION DEALERS

ROOM 5, GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Grain and all kinds of country produce handled

## Frank Lightcap

DEALER IN.....

- HIDES, SHEEP PELTS
- WOOL, TALLOW
- FURS and
- SENECA ROOT

234 King St., Winnipeg

Highest prices paid. Parties consigning to me will be liberally dealt with and returns will be made promptly.

**Printers  
Litho  
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Co.**

286  
Portage  
Ave.,  
Winnipeg,  
Man.

bountiful golden harvest shortly garnered by the busy settlers. The ride is varied by enough eventful descents down ravines whose sides are precipitous enough to remove the element of monotony from the trip.

This town like the last is marked by the solid character of its brick and stone blocks and several handsome residences standing in their own grounds. The business buildings, while conforming to the usual outside of a street common to prairie railway towns, have attained to a degree of uniformity in standard of appearance not usual in places of its size. The store of Postmaster Creighton, a solid stone two-story block, has this year been doubled in size, the corner part of the addition being fitted up in view of making a modern bank premises. On the other side is the Clarendon hotel, also stone, two and a half storey, built on comfortable and roomy lines. Next again is the large general store of S. F. Pearce. Further east are the drug store of Dr. Wilgan, the general store of H. Hilton & Co., the old hardware premises and lumber yard of Young & Co., and the new frame printing office of the Western Prairie, published by W. Murdoch. The well-known culture and taste of Mr. Murdoch, Sr., as a naturalist and a keen observer of western prairie life, well fit the name to the neat little paper published by the son. Not a few times have the writings of this worthy old journalist been distinct additions to our literature and well worth distinct collection and preservation, as well from their poetic feeling as for their practical value in noting the life of the prairie in all forms as it is and as it was.

Young & Co., hardware, and Dr. McQueen have each this year built neat and comfortable brick stores, to the west of the town. Here are also J. Young's general store, G. Houston, hardware, and A. Stevens' lumber yard. As an instance of material progress may be mentioned that the farmers have this year bought a much greater quantity of lumber than in past years.

Cypress has three elevators, Ogilvie's, the Farmers and the C. N. W. Elevator Co., Ltd., the first and last of 30,000 bushels capacity and the Farmers' 35,000 capacity. Over 175,000 bushels of wheat have been marketed this season and the total expected is put at 225,000 to 250,000. The average crop per acre is reckoned at 12 or 13 bushels, being lighter than 1896 considerably. Cypress River has a pork packing house owned by Mr. J. H. Herron, who operates it every season. He has a very ingenious cold storage chamber regulated after the most successful models and his smoke house is also both large and convenient, the basement of the

main building furnishes sufficient storage. The upper story is at present used as a public hall. Mr. Herron has been uniformly successful in turning out a good article whether in hams, breakfast bacon, spiced roll or "long clear." Each year he is increasing his output so that as a consequence farmers can be assured of a home market for their hogs.

### The Klondyke Trade.

The opening up of the great north country will prove of great advantage to Canada from a commercial point of view. One of the results of the Klondyke discoveries will be to hasten the development of the great north, and thus the value of the country will be the more quickly realized. Preparations are being made in various quarters to take advantage of the new trade which will come as a result of the movement of population into the north country. Several new inventions have already been reported, designed particularly for this trade. Mr. Driscoll, manager of the Winnipeg business of the McClary Manufacturing company, has received several new lines from the factory of the company, which are being made especially for the Yukon trade. The most unique of these inventions is a folding cook stove, which has been named the Teslin Cook. This stove is made of sheet steel, and is so constructed that it can be folded up into a very small package. While it is light it is also strong. It is a four hole cook stove, with good fire oven and everything complete, and on a sufficiently large scale to do a single for a considerable company. The pipe for this stove is made on the telescope principle, so that one length goes inside of the other, also making a very small package. Two sizes of folding camp stoves, without oven, are also shown, and another stove, called the Klondyke is made with oven, but not to fold.

Besides these stoves, a folding reflecting oven, for baking before an open fire, is another line received by Mr. Driscoll. These ovens have proved very useful for camp purposes. Still another line is a nest of camp kettles, varying in size from one to twenty quarts, in tinware. These kettles fit one inside the other and make a small package. The camp kettles are also made in enameled ware. The well known Dutch oven, which has done such good service in the past for camp purposes, is also among the lines shown by Mr. Driscoll for the northern trade. These articles and inventions show that the McClary Manufacturing company proposes having a good share of the Klondyke trade for goods in their line, and it is through efforts of this nature that the trade of the great north country will be held for Canada, instead of going to foreign countries.

The Dominion postmaster general has decided to adopt the system of issuing postal notes which has been in existence in Great Britain for some years. It will go into effect on the first of July next. Paper notes will be printed of denominations from twenty cents up to five dollars. The postal notes will replace the post office money orders for the transmission of small sums through the post.

### Dairy Trade Items.

Professor Roberton furnishes the following results of the operation of the government creameries in the Territories for the past season: Moose Jaw creamery, 55 patrons, 35,273 lbs. cream, 49,205 pounds of butter, 191,127 pounds milk, no return. Regina creamery, 74 patrons, 31,864 lbs. cream, 30,502 lbs. butter, \$2,877 advanced to patrons. Qu'Appelle creamery, 97 patrons, 27,020 lbs. cream, 25,900 lbs. butter, \$2,366 advanced to patrons. Indian Head creamery, 61 patrons, 20,302 lbs. cream, 22,715 lb. butter, no return. Yorkton creamery, 112 patrons, 34,480 lbs. cream, 49,352 lbs. butter, \$4,663 advanced to patrons. Wolseley creamery, 47 patrons, 5,889 lbs. cream, 19,974 lb. butter, 339,330 lbs. milk, \$1,807 advanced to patrons. Grenfell creamery, 80 patrons, 35,319 lbs. cream, 39,706 lb. butter, \$3,579 advanced to patrons. White-wood creamery, 130 patrons, 48,908 lbs. cream 46,871 lb. butter, \$4,312. Mooseomin creamery, 113 patrons, 35,331 lbs. cream, 31,583 lbs. butter, \$2,889 advanced to patrons. Totals—patrons 760, lbs. cream 274,554, lbs. butter 314,928, lb. milk 520,457, advanced to patrons \$22,498.

### Grocery Trade Notes.

There has been quite a jump in cranberries this week, says the Northern Trade Bulletin prices advancing fully \$1.50 to \$2 per barrel, in sympathy with the recent advance in United States markets. Stocks of Cape Cod and Nova Scotia berries have been light. The demand for Cape Cod berries is very good at \$9 to \$10 per barrel, while Nova Scotia berries are selling well at \$8 to \$9 per barrel.

The Trade Bulletin says of canned goods: There has been considerable activity in canned goods recently, and owing to the marked shrinkage in supplies, prices have appreciated, and are likely to go higher. A car load of canned tomatoes of the Aymer Packing Co.'s brand was sold at 96c laid down here, less 1 per cent. Corn has advanced from 60c to 70c and 75c, sales of round lots having been made at 70c. Large shipments have been made from this city and Toronto to San Francisco, Buffalo and British Columbia, and more are enquired for.

A company has been formed at Owen Sound, Ontario, to establish a beet sugar factory. During the past season experiments were made in growing beets, which proved very successful.

Advices received report an advance of 1s in the price of currants in Greece.

Rio coffees have advanced 5-8c at New York from the low point and are firm.

The leading makers of condensed milk have announced that they have advanced prices on the lower grades of condensed milk 10c to 25c per case of four dozen cans. The higher grades remain, as a rule, at the old prices. The advance in the lower grades is attributed to the increased demand due to keen competition, with a cutting of prices which carried the prices down to a point where the makers could not get profits out of their sales, and the leading factories are behind in their deliveries owing to the recent rush of business.

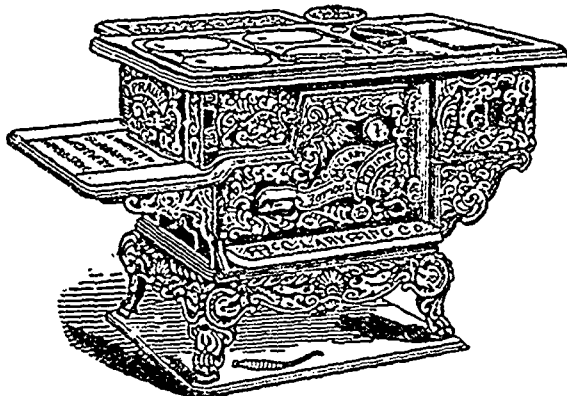
# G. F. & J. GALT

**Wholesale Grocers**

PACKERS OF

"BLUE RIBBON" and "UNION JACK" Packet Teas.

## THE FAMOUS PRAIRIE



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

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

The Newest and  
Best Working  
Stove in Canada

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

Heats, Cooks and Bakes  
Perfectly

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

**The Reasons Why**

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

Made by **THE McCLARY MANUFACTURING CO.** London, Toronto, Montreal  
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CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED

**HIDES WOOL**

**NORTHWEST  
HIDE CO.**

HERMAN TELKE,  
*Manager*

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**FUR TALLOW**

HONEST WEIGHT GUARANTEED

**METCALFE & SON**

Millers of the finest quality of

Rolled, Standard and Granulated **Oatmeal**

Also Roll Wheat, Chop or Ground Feed, etc  
Prices quoted on application

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MANITOBA

Established 1860

Incorporated 1895

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OUR BRANDS :

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Plain, Pressed, Japanned & Lithographed Tinware  
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Importers of **China, Glass and  
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All communications addressed to him there will be promptly attended to.

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**ASSURANCE CO.**

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THOS. GILROY, Mgr. Man. and N.W.T.  
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LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE 38,196,890 02

A STRONG AND PROFITABLE HOME COMPANY

Offices: Over  
Wofson's Bank **WINNIPEG, MAN.**

## W. H. MALKIN & CO.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Dealers in

**BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS**

Choice California and Local Fruits

OUR SPECIALTY—Consignments of pro-  
duce from Manitoba and Northwest Territories.  
Prompt returns made on the 15th of each month

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## J. & A. Clearihue

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

DEALERS IN

Fruits and all kinds of Produce

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

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

P. O. BOX 538.

Agents D. Richards, Laundry Soaps, Woodstock,  
Ont., Teller, Rathwell Co., Montreal, Parisian  
Washing Blue. We have a large cool warehouse  
with good facilities for handling butter and pro-  
duce in quantities. Consignments received in all  
lines. Correspondence solicited.

## MACKENZIE & MILLS

Importers of and Wholesale  
Dealers in

Teas, Roasted and Ground Coffees  
Jams, Etc.

Packers of Britania, Beaver and Buffalo Blend  
"Packet Teas" and Sole Agents for Thos. J.  
Lipton's Package Teas for Manitoba, N. W.  
Territories and British Columbia.

244 Princess St., Winnipeg.

**WM. FERGUSON**

WHOLESALE

**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**

5th ST., BRANDON

**Grain and Milling News.**

The Montreal Gazette reports a decline of 5c to 10c in oatmeal in that market.

After having been closed for a year the flour mill at Hartney, Man., is in operation again. Scarcity of water was the trouble. This has been overcome by running a pipe line to the Souris river, one half mile distant. The water is pumped by a wind-mill.

F. E. Greenwood, general merchant, of Douglas, Man., has handled 94,000 bushels of wheat this season, 8,000 of which he produced on his own farm.

The grain receipts at Buffalo for the year will reach the enormous total of nearly 200,000,000 bushels as against 154,000,000 bushels in 1896 and 105,500,000 bushels in 1895, making Buffalo one of the largest grain handling points in the world.

W. W. Ogilvie never comes west without leaving something substantial as a remembrance of his visit. This time it is \$1,000 to the Winnipeg general hospital.

**Leather, Hides, Wool, etc.**

United States buyers are still taking Canadian hides the sale of a car being reported at Ottawa recently at 9c f.o.b. there for the purpose of tanning in the United States for shipment to Great Britain, while there is a duty on hides going into the United States, a rebate is allowed on all leather exported, made from imported hides, equal to the amount of the duty, so that United States tanners can practically import hides for making leather for export.

At Toronto 9c was quoted for green hides and 9 1/2c for cured. Country sheepskins 60 to 70c; fresh city skins \$1 to 1.05.

The Northwest Hide Co., Winnipeg, has issued an extensive price list, giving quotations on furs, hides, etc.

**Canadian Wheat in Liverpool.**

The Liverpool Corn Trade News of December 10 says. Adverting to the paragraph in yesterday's issue, we examined the samples which were today exhibited on the Liverpool Exchange, and beg to report as follows: Taking the sample as a whole, the spring varieties may be described as of excellent quality, indicating that harvesting was effected under favorable conditions, there being no sign of damage either from frost or wet weather. The higher grades show a very well fed grain. The winter wheats contain a fair percentage of weathered grain, but on the whole the various standards show a very satisfactory quality. The sample of extra Hard Manitoba is a beautifully bright and clear one, well harvested, and bears no sign of damage by frost; it is also entirely clear from foreign mixtures.

**Freight Rates.**

R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd., of Victoria, B. C., in their last monthly report, say: Firmness has been the most prominent characteristic of the freight market throughout the month and although grain vessels came in freely during the latter part, quotations were not much affected. Lumber freights have advanced in sympathy, and there being an unusual scarcity of vessels, there is little room for higher freights, and transportations have consequently been on a limited scale. It is long since owners have been in so favorable a position, and they are naturally making the most of it.

**British Columbia Business Review.**

Vancouver, Dec. 20.

Again a decided improvement is noticed in all business lines and money is reported more plentiful. The Commercial correspondent has visited every wholesaler and prominent business man in Vancouver with a view of getting an impression of opinion as to the progress of British Columbia and Vancouver in particular. The same course was adopted in New Westminster with the result that without a single exception the business for the year was reported better than last year and less paper floated while bills were more promptly met. All wholesalers and managers of different industries reported that their business had increased from 15 to 100 per cent. and the most conservative men estimated that generally speaking the business of the province had increased in the last 12 months by 25 per cent over last year. Mr. Jukes, of the Imperial bank, Mr. Murray of the Bank of B. C., Mr. Godfrey, president of the Board of Trade, and manager of the Bank of B. N. A., and Mr. Sweeney, manager of the Bank of Montreal, Vancouver, and Mr. Bremner, manager of the Bank of Montreal, New Westminster, stated that for the past year general and banking business had much improved, or words to that effect some being more emphatic and liberal in their opinions than others, but all conveying the same meaning that British Columbia had had a prosperous year. Among the wholesalers it was ascertained that collectors during 1897 were unnecessary so well were bills met and all stated that trade was on a sounder and better basis in Vancouver than it had been for the past five years.

The mayor of New Westminster state, that the farmers, the backbone of the Royal City, were prosperous this year, that they were getting better prices and many of them who had been put "in the hole" by low prices and floods, were now paying their debts and getting on their feet, while the lumber industry had increased during the year 25 per cent. It was also pointed out that the biggest year on record for the salmon industry was not a good year for the fishermen, as the salmon ran erratically, but this unfortunate circumstance was in a measure made up by the profitable sturgeon fishing that had followed the salmon run. In Victoria the same air of prosperity is noticeable and the strong point as far as the "City by the Sea" is concerned is the fact that they are prepared to enter for the Klondike trade and have been doing so much of it of late that it has stimulated the business community to greater activity and business enterprise. Victoria is the moneyed city of the Canadian Pacific province and the credit

system never reached such a state as was noticeable on the mainland, so to say that paper is not fully as well now as last year, means with Victoria that business is still on a sound basis there as it has been since confederation.

A great many strangers are constantly arriving on the coast, and spending money freely. In most cases the accommodation of the hotels have had to be increased thus early in the rush. The merchants have all ordered very large stocks, so that disaster would follow if the rush did not materialise, but that a boom time is at hand for British Columbia goes without saying, as advanced bookings alone indicate that the merchants will be able to get rid of their present big stock before replenishing, as of course it will be impossible to carry enough stock in the city at one time to accommodate all comers.

Business enterprise, coupled with business shrewdness, was never more needed than at present by the merchants of Vancouver. The outside wholesale houses have thus far shown faith, by giving almost unlimited credit, where it was required. This has been ascertained from reliable sources, but they have in all instances carefully studied the requirements of the trade, and only advanced large lines of goods that would be readily salable in the rush.

The customs have increased on the mainland some \$60,000, and the exports for New Westminster, the port at which most of the exporting has been done have been increased \$100,000.

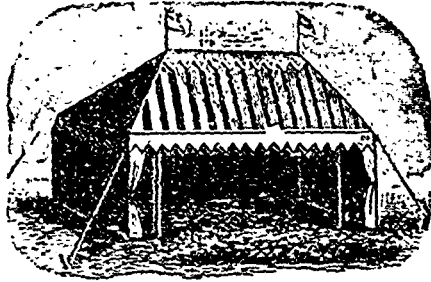
The inland revenue returns for the mainland have increased every month for the past year over the corresponding month for 1896. The total increase has been so large as to cause comment from Ottawa. In the face of all these facts, British Columbia has reason to be proud of her business record for 1897, and have cause to congratulate herself that the predictions of those who claimed that the mine wild-cattling of British Columbia and the investments of her merchants in unprofitable shares, would end in collapse, have proved themselves false prophets. The legend on the civic crest of the city of Vancouver, "By air, sea and land we prosper," is true of all the province.

**The Lumber Trade.**

By a vote of the Ontario legislature it was decided to make no change in the form of the timber limit licenses held by U. S. lumbermen, to prevent the export of logs to the United States. The vote was in the ratio of two to one. The leader of the government held that such a course would be unfair to those who had bought the timber limits in good faith and had spent large sums to cut the logs for shipment out of the country. The present timber licenses all expire at the end of April, and the government has announced that at the present session of the legislature a bill will be brought in to determine what action shall be taken with regard to next year's licenses.

# HOPE & CO.

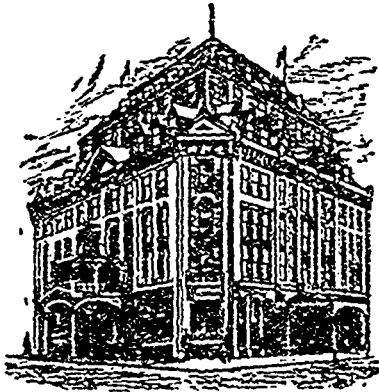
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Tents, Awnings,  
Pavilions,  
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a Specialty  
Prices Right  
Standard Goods  
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Promptly Attended  
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THE PALACE FAMILY AND  
COMMERCIAL HOTEL

Rates, \$2.00 to \$4.00 a Day

Second to nothing in Canada.

W. D. DOUGLAS, Manager.

City Hall Square, Winnipeg.

## E. A. SMALL & CO.

MONTREAL

### Manufacturers of CLOTHING

WHOLESALE

SPRING TRADE, 1898

MANITOBA'S NEW INDUSTRY

## ED. GUILBAULT

Tin Box Manufacturer

I manufacture, stamp and lithograph all descriptions of Tin Boxes, Butter Cans, Lard Pails, Baking Powder, Tea, Coffee and Spice Cans, etc. Special quotations to large Fish Canneries, Tea Packers, etc.

WRITE OR CALL FOR QUOTATIONS TO

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## Sadler & Haworth

Formerly Robin, Sadler & Haworth

MANUFACTURERS OF

### LEATHER BELTING

MONTREAL AND TORONTO

## The Klondyke

### SLEEPING BAGS

ARCTIC Caps  
and Hoods

Also a Splendid  
Range of Mackinaw Goods

Our Sleeping Bags are the Warmest  
and best made

Waterproof and Frost Preventing.

W. E. SANFORD MFG. CO., Limited  
WINNIPEG MAN. HAMILTON ONT.

## LEITCH BROS.

### Oak Lake

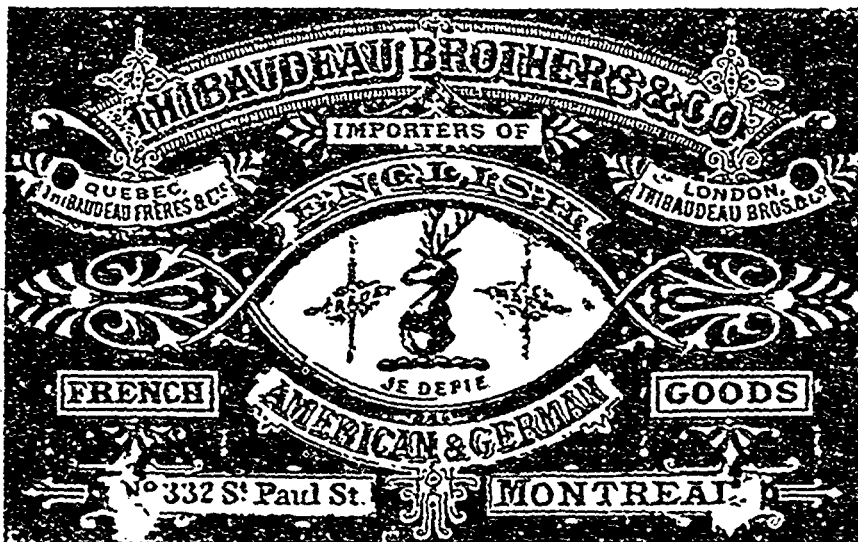
## "Anchor Brand" Flours

FROM NO. 1 HARD WHEAT.

Bran, Shorts and all kinds of  
Chopped Feed and Grain.

ADDRESS

LOAK LAKE, MANITOB.



## THE TRAVELLERS.

The annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' association was held Saturday evening in the Board of Trade room, Grain Exchange. President A. L. Johnston occupying the chair. There were also present: Treasurer L. C. McIntyre Secretary J. M. O'Loughlin, Directors F. W. Drewry, W. Hargreaves and a number of active travellers. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The notice of motion of J. B. Perse to change the by-laws and do away with the meeting in July, was defeated, as, after consideration by the members, it was thought best to leave the by-laws as they read at present.

The following report from the officers and directors was then read, and after considerable discussion and explanations by the president and the treasurer was adopted:

Dear Sirs,—It is with much pleasure your Board of Directors present to you the fifteenth annual report of the association. The progress that has been made during the year, ending November 30th, 1897, has marked it as one of the best years in the history of the association. Our membership is the highest that we have yet attained, having now a membership of 432, being a gain over last year of 63. The amount of Mortuary Benefit Insurance carried by the association is \$62,703.66, and we are pleased to state that there have been no calls on the fund during the year 1897. Regarding our Mortuary Benefit fund, as some of our members have now nearly reached the maximum amount of insurance, we would recommend that the board of directors for 1898 take the necessary steps towards determining the financial position of the association with regard to our insurance liability. In order that we may find out how soon we can increase the amount of mortuary benefit to each member. We have to record with regret the death, which occurred during the year, of the late Mr. Jos. Mulholland, who was the first president of this association. Also the death of Mr. Wm. Garton, of Vancouver, who was a member of this association and lost his life through accident while bathing in the Harrison Hot Springs last July. The Manufacturers' Accident Insurance Co. only received the claim papers a short time ago, and are now dealing with same. We have also to report that we have renewed our contract with the Manufacturers' Accident Insurance Co. for the year 1898, containing the same advantages as held last year. The by-laws, as amended, have been printed and distributed to the members during the year. Your directors have urged, with good results, the better equipment of writing rooms for commercial travellers in the various hotels throughout the country, and have also directed our efforts towards bettering the sanitary conditions of hotels, through the medium of the hotel license departments. During the year 1897, reduced passenger rates have been granted us on the railway lines in the Kootenay district in British Columbia, also the privilege of riding on freight trains on the Pacific division of the C. P. R., and excess baggage certificates have been made good for sixty days, instead of thirty days.

An important conference of the various commercial travellers associations in Canada, with the railway passenger agents at which we were represented, took place in Montreal

on September 28th. At this meeting it was strongly urged on the railway companies to grant a reduction in their scale of charges on excess baggage; the tariff on excess baggage was claimed by your representatives to be unreasonably high, and too great a tax on our commercial interests. Representatives from Toronto, Montreal and London associations also presented a strong case, to show that our claims on this point should be recognized. No answer has yet been given by the railway authorities—a reply is promised as soon as the passenger association hold their meeting. It is hoped they will meet us by reducing their excess baggage charges, which we are entitled to, in consideration of the amount of traveling that has now to be done to get business all over Canada, and also in consideration of the large amount of freight carried by the railways, through the direct sales of commercial travellers. It was also requested that excess baggage certificates be placed on sale at all stations. A full report of the conference is in the hands of the secretary, which will be read at this meeting.

Your retiring officers and directors desire to congratulate the association on the successful year just terminated and trust you will have continued prosperity. We cannot close our report without referring to the splendid progress our association has made in its British Columbia membership, through the good work of our secretary and local directors in that province.

## THE FINANCES.

The treasurer's report was then read and the members were very much pleased to learn that the financial standing of the association was so satisfactory and after a full discussion the report was adopted as read.

Gentlemen,—It is with considerable pleasure that I have to announce the success of our association during the past year, and to report the increase of membership, which is as follows. Active, 407; honorary with mortuary benefits, 10; honorary, 13; and honorary life, 2; making a total in all of 432 members. There have been no claims upon the mortuary benefit reserve fund this year. The interest collected during the past year amounted to \$752.38. During the year our association received another dividend from the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, \$45.28, which pays the part of interest on the original claim. There is a possibility of receiving another payment on this account of interest. The balance of the funds is on deposit in the Molson's Bank, and that portion of the funds on deposit receipt drawing interest at the rate of 3 per cent. It is very gratifying to note the continued steady increase in our funds. The balance at the end of this year amounted to \$18,921.34 in assets, showing an increase over the balance of last year of \$2,481. There are no unpaid accounts. The books and vouchers have been duly audited, and the auditors' report is submitted with statement. I have to thank you, gentlemen, very sincerely for the honor conferred upon me by re-election for the coming year, and I trust that at the end of the year 1898, we shall be able to report as favorably of the success of the association as at the present time.

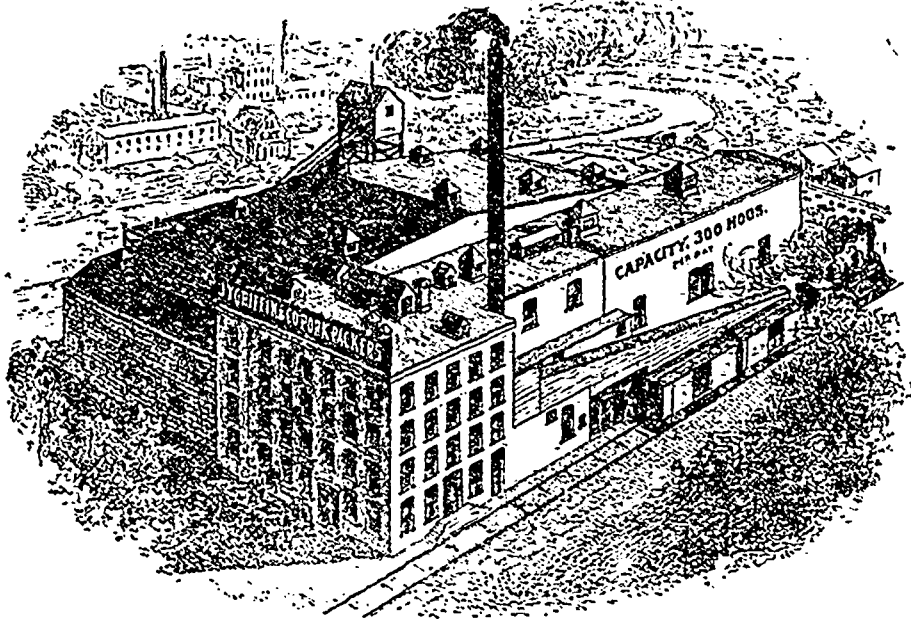
## RELIEF FOR YUKON.

Washington, Dec. 19.—During the executive session of the senate yesterday the conference report upon the bill providing relief for the Klondike miners was received and adopted. The bill appropriating \$200,000 to be expended under the direction of the secretary of war in the purchase of supplies for the relief of the people in the Yukon river country or other mining regions of Alaska and for the transportation and distribution of such supplies, provides that if the consent of the Canadian government be obtained the secretary of war may send relief into Canadian territory. The resolution further provides that the supplies may be sold in that region at such prices as may be fixed by the secretary of war or donated to those unable to pay for them. The secretary of war is authorized to use the United States army in carrying into effect the provisions of the act; to import reindeer and reindeer drivers for the transportation of supplies, and to adopt such other provisions as are practicable.

The question of the advisability of closing the sub-customs port at Dyea, Alaska, is now before the treasury department. To-day Secretary Gage received the following telegram from Tacoma, Wash., signed "Tacoma Citizens Committee": "On behalf of tens of thousands of people in the United States and the continent who have already signified their intention of going to Alaska and Klondike we beg to suggest that for the present no action be taken toward withdrawing customs sub-ports in Alaska and that efforts be centered upon inducing our government and that of Canada to remove all duties on miners' ordinary outfits, consisting of only miners' supplies and weighing one ton or less." Secretary Alger is giving much study to the best means of getting in supplies to the miners in the Yukon country and has decided to ask bids for the delivery of stores directly at Dyea, Skaguay or Chilkat. Secretary Alger's estimate now is that no less than 3,000,000 pounds of food stores will be required for the expedition; it is estimated that a reindeer team cannot be guided safely with more than 300 pounds, so that no less than 1,000 of these animals would be required as a pack train if they were the sole reliance. It will be necessary to obtain a permit from the Canadian government for a military expedition to pass and also to secure a remission of duties on the supplies that are to be carried in, and Gen. Alger may go to Ottawa to secure it. It is probable that Capt. David Brainard, of the subsistence department of the army, will be placed in charge of the relief party that Secretary Alger will send to the Klondike country with provisions. Capt. Brainard accompanied Gen. Greeley on his Arctic explorations and it was largely owing to his heroism that the small remnant of the party was enabled to prolong life until succor arrived. Brainard also held the honor un'ill Nansen's feat of having made the point farthest north ever reached.

That magnificent publication, the Ladies Home Journal, of Philadelphia, has issued a prospectus for 1898 which states that the programme for the new year will excel all previous years. We could hardly believe this possible, were it not that this journal keeps all its promises.

# XMAS STUFF



Consumers everywhere are asking for Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Chickens, Dressed Beef, Dressed Hogs, Butter and Eggs. Rush them along and get TOP PRICES. We are making money for others. We can do it for you.

## LIVE HOGS

We are now running full time and open to buy all Live Hogs that are offered.

## DRESSED HOGS

Send along all the Dressed Hogs you can get. We charge no commission on Dressed Hogs if shipped direct to us, and you can rely on getting full value.

**J. Y. GRIFFIN & Co., WINNIPEG.**  
PORK PACKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

**We're Getting Ready** —

The demand for **Alfred Dolge's Felt Shoes** for next year will be enormous. We're getting ready for it. We are also preparing a little surprise party in Moccasins and Arctic Sox. Just wait for us.



**ARTHUR CONGDON**

WINNIPEG, MAN.

Sole Agent in Canada for  
Alfred Dolge's Felt Shoes.

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758, 760, 762 Main Street, Winnipeg

**Dealers in Machinery and Supplies**

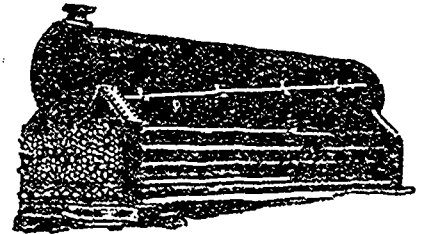
Boilers, Engines and Steam Pumps, Hoisting Engines and Centrifugal Pumps. Agents for Monarch Economic Boilers. Latest improved Flour Mill Machinery, Woodworking Machinery and Saw Mills, Iron Working Machinery and Tools, Dodge Wood Split Pulleys and Friction Clutches, Dodge system of Manilla Rope Drives, Electric Dynamos and Motors, Electrical Supplies and Incandescent Lamps, Electrical Repairs.

Large Stock of Second-hand Machinery on Hand

Call and see us or write for prices on any Machinery you are in need of.

**THE EAGLE FOUNDRY**

No. 34 KING ST., MONTREAL



**GEORGE BRUSH**

Manufacturer of

**STEAM ENGINES, BOILERS,**

Elevators, Shingle Mills, Etc.

AND

Blake's Challenge Stone Breaker, Heine Safety Steam Boilers.

**Advertise**

BUSINESS FOR SALE

PARTNERS WANTED, ETC.

IN \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COMMERCIAL**

It Reaches the Trade



DIVIDENDS.

The Standard bank has declared a dividend of 4 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December next.

The Traders bank has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Ontario bank has declared a dividend of 2 1-2 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Imperial Bank of Canada has declared a dividend of 4 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce has declared a dividend of 3 1-2 per cent. for the current half-year payable 1st December, next.

The Quebec bank has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

Banque D'Inde c'agri has declared a dividend of 3 1-2 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Union Bank of Canada has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Merchants Bank of Canada has declared a dividend of 4 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Bank of Montreal has declared a dividend of 5 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

La Banque Ville Marie has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December, next.

The Freehold Loan and Savings company has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the current half year, payable 1st December, next.

The directors of the Manchester Fire Assurance Company have declared an interim dividend of 2s. per share, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax.

The Ocean Accident has declared a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 30th June.

The Atlas Assurance Company has declared an interim dividend of 5s. per share, free of income tax.

The bank of Toronto has declared a dividend of five per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December next.

The Bank of Hamilton has declared a dividend of four per cent. for the current half-year, payable 1st December.

The Bank of Ottawa has declared a dividend of four per cent for the current half-year, payable 1st December.

Banque Jacques Cartier has declared a dividend of two and one half per cent for the current half year, payable 1st December.

The directors of the Dominion Cotton Company have declared a dividend of one and one-half per cent. for the current quarter.

The directors of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance company have declared an interim dividend of 4s per share (against 3s. per share last year.)

The directors of the Lancashire Insurance company have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ended June 30, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free from income tax, payable on November 16.

Fur Trade Notes.

Western Prairie, the sprightly newspaper published at Cypress River, Man., suggests that an effort should be made to raise some animal or animals which would provide skins suitable for clothing. The Commercial has suggested something similar to this in times past. Since the disappearance of the buffalo, we have no native fur suitable for staple fur coats and rugs. Our furs are all too costly for common wear. Furs are largely used in this country, and we are obliged to import furs for the commoner class of clothing. Some of the imported skins are of domestic animals, which could no doubt be raised in Manitoba just as well as in the countries whence they are brought. A very serviceable coat for common wear, which has a large sale in this country, is made from the Russian calf. Why not raise these at home? Sheepskins of a particular variety are also largely used for coats and jackets. We could no doubt raise these sheep to good advantage here.

Dealers in furs will require to exercise great care in shipping their collections to distant parties who send out circulars quoting high prices, or advertise for consignments. Always make sure that you are shipping to reliable houses. There are a good many sharks in the fur trade. High prices are quoted sometimes simply to induce unsuspecting parties to send on their consignments, and as they cannot follow up their shipments, they will be forced to take whatever the receiver may decide to pay.

Several western papers have contained advertisements for the Providence Fur Co., Providence, R. I., soliciting consignments of furs. This advertisement was sent to The Commercial, but when we wrote for cash in advance, no reply came to hand. From what we can learn, it seems doubtful if this so-called company is in existence now, though it is reported that the projector of the company is starting up under another name at a new point.

The following table shows the quantities of furs which will be offered at the Hudson's Bay Co.'s January sales in London, compared with the quantities offered in the two previous years:

	Total 1897.	Total 1896.	Total 1895.
Badger .. .. .	1,238	1,954	2,680
Bear .. .. .	9,827	10,672	10,360
Beaver .. .. .	42,492	51,089	51,028
Fisher .. .. .	5,092	4,787	4,158
Fox, silver .. ..	1,310	1,378	976
Fox, cross .. ..	5,838	6,931	5,001
Fox, red .. .. .	25,628	24,552	20,183
Fox, white .. ..	3,210	3,483	6,630
Fox, kitt .. .. .	59	184	96
Lynx .. .. .	41,060	50,035	36,715
Marten .. .. .	82,897	95,200	102,403
Mink .. .. .	68,476	76,148	69,935
Musquash .. .. .	565,204	651,713	813,159
Otter .. .. .	9,868	9,731	8,662
Skunk .. .. .	10,426	18,778	13,627
Wolf .. .. .	7,274	3,861	2,587
Wolverine .. ..	918	820	578

Also the following: Rabbit skins, 98,530; raccoon, 5,951; musk ox, 315; dry hair seals, 2,623; salted hair seals, 128. The Hudson's Bay company will also offer about 15,000 salted Northwest coast fur sealskins and 2,500 dressed Northwest coast fur sealskins on Jan. 17, 1898.

Advertising Vancouver.

Mr. W. W. McCreaney, of Vancouver, is registered at the Queen's, and accorded an interview to a Free Press reporter Monday. He said: "I am on my way to Toronto, Montreal, and the principal cities as far as Halifax, having been delegated by the corporation and board of trade of Vancouver to put forward the claims of our city as the best outfitting point for all parties who intend going to the Klondike gold region. We have had printed 50,000 illustrated pamphlets, which show why Vancouver is the best point of departure for the Yukon, and the various routes which may be travelled. The one which we most strongly recommend is the all-Canadian route which the C P R has established via the Stikine river. The source from which the pamphlet is issued is a guarantee that all the information is perfectly reliable.

"I intend remaining in the city for a few days for the purpose of distributing 1,000 of these booklets, and will make my headquarters at the C P R waiting rooms, where they can be had free of charge. One of the interesting features of the pamphlet is the extensive report of Mr. Wm. Ogilvie, the Dominion agent, who began ten years ago to explore the great northern region, and with this report is a colored map which shows the several routes, with Vancouver as the base of supplies. Of course my efforts will be mostly exerted in the east, where the American roads come into actual competition with the C. P. R., and where they make claims that such points as Seattle are advantageous for shipping from. Our pamphlet contains a comparative table of the cost of a complete outfit of clothing and groceries at Vancouver and Seattle, and which show an actual saving of from ten to fifteen per cent., irrespective of the thirty per cent. duty which will be imposed on incoming goods."

Prohibiting the Export of Saw Logs.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Undoubtedly the leading event of to-day in eastern Canada is the announcement made this afternoon in the Ontario legislature by the commissioner of crown lands, Hon. G. M. Gibson, of the new policy of the provincial government with reference to timber limits. The government has yielded to the pressure of a large majority of lumbermen, and of overwhelming public opinion, and decided to put what will be termed a manufacturing clause in the timber regulations, the effect of which will be to compel the sawing within the province of all logs taken from crown timber lands.

Mr. Gibson showed that the export of logs had grown from 72,000 feet in 1850 to 277,837,000 feet in 1895, the value of the latter being \$2,359,278. Mr. Gibson justified the course by reason of the fact that the increasing export and consequent removal of the sawing industry was brought about by artificial and unnatural legislation on the part of the United States, which had assumed to legislate for Canada as well as themselves, and such legislation could be adopted in no other way than in the manner the government had, after much deliberation, determined on. This legislation will certainly cause considerable comment in the United States, and possibly some excitement.





### INSURANCE IN WINNIPEG.

A Winnipeg correspondent writes the Economist as follows:

Winnipeg at the present time is well furnished with insurance facilities. No one need be uninsured for want of means to that end. If those having something to insure are not fully protected it is their own fault. There are plenty of good companies and agents to do the work. A short synopsis is here given which may surprise readers in the magnitude of the figures. They are rather striking. In the field of fire insurance there are 33 offices actively represented, comprising nearly all of those licensed by the Government of Canada, and the cream of the Fire Insurance Corporations of the world.

Of these, 20 are British, 7 American and 6 Canadian. The total assets for the protection of insurers are as under:

British.....	\$380,948,912
American.....	48,349,549
Canadian.....	4,287,427

\$433,585,888

For a city of 40,000 it must be admitted there is ample chance to guard against loss by fire. While at this point, it may be said that a by-law for \$700,000 has just been approved by the citizens, to enable the council to go on and provide for an adequate system of Water Works, to come into operation at the end of the present exclusive term of the Winnipeg Water Works Co. in three years. There was a very decisive vote and every one is well pleased except the proprietors of the Company.

The fire companies may anticipate better service, and the citizens will justly expect lower premium rates. Both the Fire Underwriters and our citizens may, I think, mutually congratulate themselves upon the improved prospect. Once the people are again freed it will, no doubt, be a very long time before they will shackles themselves by granting exclusive privileges in municipal charters of any kind.

They have had as salutary a lesson as any "burnt child that dreads the fire." No paternal advice will be needed in the way of "Don't do it again."

In life insurance the figures are still larger than the above fire statistics. Also, it should be said, for convenience the life funds of the English Companies having both branches have been included in the first statement.

There are about 19 companies licensed by the Manitoba Government, 9 Canadian, 6 American and 3 British, the united assets of these institutions total up the enormous sum of over \$700,000,000. The man who wishes to shield his home or other interest in this way can make it tolerably certain that his insurance will be paid when claimed.

The bulk of the business is done by the Canadian offices. The people of the west are believers in life insurance, and there are large amounts in force. The successful life agent anywhere must be a man of energy. Fortunately that desirable quality is fairly abundant west of our great lakes. In a future letter, with your permission, perhaps I may tell you

something of the men who are the representatives in Winnipeg of this vast aggregate of capital in life and fire insurance.

### YUKON BOUND VIA EDMONTON.

A letter has been received from A. E. Leo, of the Stephen party of Yukon prospectors, dated from Fort Simpson, Mackenzie River, on Sept. 18th. The party had changed their intentions as to going by way of Peel River and were to start up the Laird that evening on the way to Pelly River. They expected to winter somewhere on the Laird. Geo. Purches had left the party and joined a miner named Geo. Fallardeau, who had come down the Laird. At one time the whole party intended to try to reach the headwaters of the Macmillan branch of the Pelly by going up the Nelam, but changed their minds on full inquiry, as the practicability was too doubtful. The Jenner party had joined the Stephens party, putting all their supplies into one boat for the purpose of joining forces to track up the Laird. The Segers party was to start from Fort Simpson down the Mackenzie for Peel River on the afternoon of the 18th. It was thought scarcely likely that they would reach there before being frozen in. The Stephen party reached Chipewyan on Saturday, August 28th, after a hard row across Lake Athabasca against a head wind. On Sunday they started for Rocky River, the outlet of Lake Athabasca. There were seven boats together and they had a guide. The wind was high and they were driven into shallow water and before they knew it were aground. They had to get out in the water to push the boat off. They were stuck for three hours. W. J. Graham's was the only boat which got through safely. W. Connors was with the party here. They reached Smith Landing on Aug. 31st, having had a fair wind from Chipewyan, and were four days in getting boats and cargoes over three portages between Smith Landing and Fort Smith. It was very hard work, as both boats and loads had to be portaged three times. At the Mountain portage block and tackle had to be used to get the boat over. Graham and Jenner had their boats injured while running the last rapid, but got them repaired all right. Capt. Segers had traded off his two boats at Chipewyan for one large boat, in which his whole party of eleven men were. At Smith they arranged with the Wrigley to tow them from Resolution to Providence across Great Slave Lake. They left Smith on Sept. 5th and the Wrigley caught up to them and took them in tow while still in Great Slave River about 80 miles from Resolution. The parties getting advantage of tow were Stephen, Segers, Jenner, Graham and Brabant. The latter comprised A. C. Brabant, formerly of Bass & Brabant, Edmonton, a man named Callett and another. These parties had been working for the H. B. Co. at Fort Smith and started for the Yukon from there. When the steamer reached the mouth of Great Slave River the lake was so rough for the flat boats so they were left there while the steamer went to Resolution. When the weather calmed the boats rowed to Resolution. There the Wrigley took them in tow and they reached Burnt Island on Sept. 11th. There they were compelled to lie up on account of wind. From Burnt Island they called at the

mouth of Hay River where there is a Church of England mission, and took Bishop Reeves on board. The Wrigley got aground in heavy weather after leaving Hay River and there was some delay, during which some of the men picked several puns of black currants. At noon on Wednesday, Sept. 15th, they reached Fort Providence. There they purchased a sack of excellent potatoes. The H. B. Co. and Roman Catholic mission have farms and gardens at Providence where they grow grain and vegetables, even citrons, cucumbers and tomatoes doing well. They reached Fort Simpson at the mouth of the Laird River the same night. Wright and Pelly, from Vernon, B. C., were passengers on the Wrigley to Fort Simpson. There they met a miner who had just come down the Laird who nearly induced them to try to reach the head of the Macmillan by going up the Nelam. But on further inquiry they gave it up. The Stephens party, the Jenner party, the Brabant party and Wright and Pelly finally decided to ascend the Laird River; indeed this was Wright and Pelly's first intention, while Segers continued on down the Mackenzie to the Peel.—Edmonton Bulletin.

### Boots and Shoes.

Manufacturers continue very busy cutting up for their spring orders, which are coming in very satisfactorily, the principal of a large concern here stating that his spring orders so far are fully 25 per cent. more than at this time last year. Some are so busy on their spring orders that they do not care for the sorting business. Remittances are exceptionally good, and the outlook for the spring trade was never brighter. Prices are firm on all lines, in fact they could not be otherwise, with hides keeping firm and high and leather tending upwards. It is reported that orders for the Klondike have been received amounting to \$35,000.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

### Chicago Wheat Deal.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—The Post prints the following concerning the present situation of the December wheat deal: December 31, "settling day," on the board of trade, will witness the culmination of the gigantic Leiter-Armour dead-lock. The trade will not be surprised then to learn that Armour will lose a clear \$1,000,000 on the December deal. True, he has performed the marvellous feat of bringing six million bushels of high grade cash wheat to this city in defiance of all settled rules of commerce, but that act may result in nothing more substantial than glory. It is a growing belief on 'Change that Mr. Armour had to pay dearly for bringing the big volume of wheat to this city, and that his short selling will cost him about 18 or 20 cents a bushel. By settlement day the deal will have been fought to a finish, and only the formalities will remain to be observed. The present status of the case is about as follows: In July the Leiter clique began its operations in a formidable manner by gobbling up July wheat at 63. The amount in its possession was variously estimated at from five to ten million. No matter what the actual amount of its holdings, it was large enough to boost the price and emphasize the growing foreign demand.

The price of July wheat rose to 73 and between 70 and 73 cents the Leiter clique sold out its stock of July and transferred a portion of it to September, pocketing by the transaction the premium which each time existed between June and Sept. wheat. When September came around the clique repeated its bullish tactics and accumulated at 67 cents a vast amount of September wheat, estimated as high as 11,000,000 bushels.

It was during this month that the foreign situation was brought out more boldly. September sky-rocketed in a short time up to ninety cents. A large portion of the holding was transferred to December with a handsome premium to put away and a considerable bulk was sold outright for a big profit. The present line of six millions of December wheat, which the Leiter clique is caring for, was bought from the elevator people at from eighty-seven to eighty-nine cents a bushel.

At one time the clique had an opportunity to sell this immense holding at a profit of nearly twenty cents a bushel. Armour, Seaverns, Peavy and the Central Elevator company were the people who sold wheat to the Leiter clique. Armour's shortage was only guessed at until the great shipments of wheat from Duluth by vessel and rail, showed in the sensationally large increase of the contract stocks in store. The amount said to have been brought here is nearly six million bushels, and that is regarded as the amount of Armour's shortage. The other shorts did the same thing that Mr. Armour has accomplished, although not upon so large a scale.

Before Armour sent his people to bring in wheat sufficient to satisfy his contracts for delivery, he was face to face with a tough problem. Had he not secured the wheat which is now credited with having brought here, he would have been compelled to pay to Leiter the difference between the price at which he sold the wheat to Leiter and the market price on the day of delivery. Inasmuch as Mr. French, of the Leiter crowd, insists that the December wheat in the cliques hands did not cost on an average more than ninety cents a bushel, and assuming the market price would be one dollar a bushel on the final day of the month when it is necessary for Armour to deliver wheat he sold to Leiter, he would have been compelled to pay the latter ten cents on every bushel he could not actually deliver. The rules of the board are iron-clad on this subject, and there is no recourse. Now that Armour has secured fully as much cash wheat as he sold for delivery this month, there will be no such contingency to face.

It was in bringing the wheat to this city when it was scarce, when hardly any was to be had, that the test of strength came. That rubicon has been safely crossed by Armour. At what sacrifice he saved his business honor is known only to himself. The costs are most represented in freight charges, private settlements for cargoes already chartered for other ports, and the displacements of great bulks of wheat which were not designed for shipment to this city.

The remainder of shorts who sold to French are generally regarded as safely within cover. It is confidently predicted that the clique will get all the wheat which they bought. If Armour has been buying for other houses which played the bear side of the market, it is not known to the outside trade and the general belief is that Armour bought cash wheat for Armour & Co. first and last.

IT REACHES THE TRADE



Advertise Businesses for Sale; Stocks of Goods for Sale, Situations Vacant or Wanted in Business Establishment, etc., in

THE COMMERCIAL



The only Journal that reaches the trade of Western Canada from Lake Superior to the Pacific.....

Special Low Rates for Situations Wanted or Vacant

ROLLER MILL

FOR SALE OR RENT in South-western Manitoba. In good wheat section. Wood can be bought at mill. For terms

apply to J. D.,

Care Commercial, Winnipeg.

WANTED

**AGENTS:** In every district on the continent to take orders for high-grade Canadian-grown Nursery Stock and Seeds. Largest and most complete assortment in the trade. Fast selling Specialties. Superb samples furnished free, correspondence in any language. These positions are money makers and territory should be secured at once for the season by all hustlers looking for a good thing. Our salary or commission offers will interest anyone not earning \$1000.00 per year. Get in communication with our nearest office.

An opportunity to represent a well-established house. Ability more important than experience.

**LUKE BROTHERS COMPANY,**

International Nurseries,

Chicago, Ill. Montreal, Que. Rochester, N.Y.

PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given that all persons who take out ordinary participating Policies in the

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

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

Three Years' Profits

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

A. G. RAMSAY President W. T. RAMSAY Superintendent

R. HILLS, Secretary

A. McT. CAMPBELL, Manager, Manitoba and N.W.T. Branch, Winnipeg.

The W. J. Boyd Candy Company

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

Pure High-Class CONFECTIONERY

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

FACTORY AND OFFICE

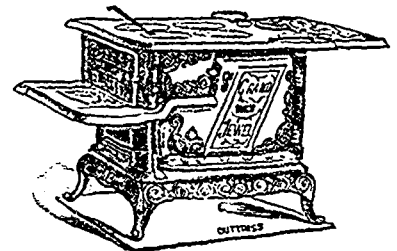
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GENERAL STORE BUSINESS

Stock of General Merchandise for sale. Store and fixtures to rent. For particulars apply to

M. H. RITCHIE, Poplar Point, Man.

A Merry Xmas



We take pleasure in extending Christmas Greetings to our numerous customers and friends, and know that all those who have their turkey cooked in the oven of a Grand Jewel Cook Stove will enjoy it.

MERRICK, ANDERSON & CO.

WHOLESALE AGENTS WINNIPEG

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

MAKE YOUR OWN GAS

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

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

## Statistical Wheat Reports.

## WHEAT IN CANADA

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

Montreal . . . . .	97,000
Toronto . . . . .	40,000
Kingston . . . . .	Elevator burned
Winnipeg . . . . .	393,000
Manitoba elevators . . . . .	2,845,000
Fort William, Port Arthur and Keewatin . . . . .	940,000

Total December 11 . . . . . 4,305,000

## BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains as reported by Bradstreet's on Dec. 11, were 50,395,000 bushels.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 72,242,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

Pacific coast wheat stocks on December 1 were 6,944,000 bushels, compared with 6,548,000 bushels a year ago.

## THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains for the week ended Dec. 18, was 35,565,000 bushels, being an increase of 821,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 55,163,000 bushels, two years ago 69,393,000 bushels, three years ago 89,071,000 bushels, four years ago 89,024,000 bushels.

## WHEAT STOCKS AT U.S. POINTS.

Chicago . . . . .	6,338,000 bushels
Duluth . . . . .	1,242,000 "
Minneapolis . . . . .	11,352,000 "
New York . . . . .	4,394,000 "
Buffalo . . . . .	2,512,000 "

## STOCK OF OATS AND CORN.

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 14,349,000 bushels, compared with 11,359,000 bushels a year ago. The visible supply of corn is 40,680,000 bushels, compared with 17,460,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

## WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS.

Stocks of wheat in the United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe, on December 1, for a series of years, were as follows, Bradstreet's report: December 1, 1897, 129,603,000; December 1, 1896, 148,485,000; December 1, 1895, 164,348,000; December 1, 1894, 184,810,000; December 1, 1893, 190,386,000; December 1, 1892, 175,814,258; December 1, 1891, 157,748,775; December 1, 1890, 107,669,274; December 1, 1889, 117,255,000.

## CROP MOVEMENT.

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States spring wheat markets from the beginning of the crop year, August 1, 1897, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

	This Crop	Last Crop
Minneapolis . . . . .	41,436,020	36,195,590
Milwaukee . . . . .	5,025,105	4,987,510
Duluth . . . . .	30,248,882	30,064,658
Chicago . . . . .	20,812,247	12,658,826

Total . . . . . 97,522,254 83,906,015

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United

States winter wheat markets from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1897, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

	This Crop	Last Crop
Toledo . . . . .	8,500,842	5,881,070
St. Louis . . . . .	8,001,619	9,212,215
Detroit . . . . .	8,580,440	2,014,107
Kansas City . . . . .	21,580,350	5,089,200
Total . . . . .	42,563,251	22,706,592

## Winnipeg Raw Fur Prices.

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

Badger . . . . .	\$ .05 @	\$ .50
Bear, black . . . . .	5.00 @	25.00
Bear, brown . . . . .	4.00 @	20.00
Bear, yearlings . . . . .	2.00 @	8.00
Bear, grizzly . . . . .	5.00 @	10.00
Beaver, large . . . . .	5.00 @	0.50
" medium . . . . .	3.00 @	4.00
" small . . . . .	1.50 @	2.25
" cubs . . . . .	.50 @	1.00
" castors, per lb . . . . .	2.50 @	5.50
Fisher, dark . . . . .	6.00 @	9.00
Fisher, pale . . . . .	3.00 @	5.00
Fox, cross dark, large . . . . .	5.00 @	15.00
" cross pale . . . . .	2.50 @	5.00
" kitt . . . . .	.10 @	.50
" red . . . . .	1.00 @	1.60
" silver dark . . . . .	40.00 @	75.00
" peale . . . . .	25.00 @	60.00
Lynx, large . . . . .	1.50 @	2.00
" medium . . . . .	1.00 @	1.25
" small . . . . .	.50 @	.75
Marten, dark . . . . .	2.50 @	5.00
" pale or brown . . . . .	1.50 @	4.00
" light pale . . . . .	1.00 @	2.25
Mink, dark . . . . .	1.00 @	1.50
Mink, pale . . . . .	.75 @	1.25
Musquash, winter . . . . .	.04 @	.10
" fall . . . . .	.04 @	.07
Otter, dark . . . . .	6.00 @	10.00
Otter, pale . . . . .	5.00 @	8.00
Skunk . . . . .	.25 @	.50
Wolf, timber . . . . .	1.00 @	1.50
" prairie . . . . .	.40 @	.75
Wolverine . . . . .	1.00 @	3.50

## Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William, 78c@78½; No. 2 hard, 2½c under No. 1.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, \$2 30@2.45, Bakers, \$2.10@2.25.

Bran—Per ton, \$6.

Shorts—Per ton, \$8.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 22@25c.

Barley—Feed, 20 @ 24c. Malting, 25@28c per bushel.

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

Butter—Dairy, round lots, 14c; creamery jobbing, 22@23c.

Cheese—Dealers selling at 8½@9½c.

Eggs—Dealers were paying 20c net for fresh, and selling lined at 17c.

Beef—City dressed, 4 @ 6c; country beef, 3@4c.

Mutton—5@6c; lamb, 5½@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 4 @ 4½c.

Cattle—Ordinary butchers, 2@3c.

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

Sheep—2½@3c off cars. Lambs, 3c.

Hides—Green frozen, 4½c.

Seneca Root—Dry, 20c.

Poultry—Chickens, 5½@6c per pound;

turkeys, 9@10c per lb.

Potatoes—25c per bushel.

Hay—\$5.00 for baled on track.

## British Columbia Markets.

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

BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.

Vancouver, December 24, 1897.

Cured Meats have declined ¼@½c. Oats and Hay are very firm and higher prices for these goods are expected soon.

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

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

Cheese—Manitoba 11½@12½c. per lb.

Cured Meats—Hams 12½c; breakfast bacon 13½c; backs 12c; long clear 9½c; short rolls 10c; smoked sides 11c; Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per lb, in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Fish—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; frozen salmon 6c lb; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon 10c; Annan haddie 15c; kippered herring 9c; Columbia river oolochaus 7c lb.; fresh halibut, 6c.

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

Green Fruits—California lemons \$4.60; apples, 75c@1.25; bananas, 1.75@\$2.00; Japan oranges, 40@50c.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 30 lb sacks, \$2.75; 245 pound sacks \$2.80; 4 22½ pound sacks \$2.90; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00 Oatmeal 10 10's, \$3.25; 2 50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.50 per sack.

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

Grain—Oats, \$18@20 per ton; wheat, \$25@26 per ton; barley, \$26 per ton.

Ground Feed—National mills chop, \$23.00@24.00 per ton; ground barley, \$24 @ 26 ton; shorts \$23 ton; bran \$20; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

Hay—\$14.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats—Beef \$5.75 @ \$6.25; mutton 7½@8c; Australian mutton, 7c; pork 6@7½c; veal 6@8c lb.

Live Stock—Steers, grass feed \$3.25 @ \$3.50 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$3.75 @ \$4.00 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.00@5.25 per 100 lbs; cows \$2.75@3.00 per 100 lbs live weight.

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

Game—Venison, 4c lb; grouse, 60c brace; mallard, 30c brace.

Evaporated Fruits—Apricots, 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums, 9@10c; prunes, French 5@7½c; loose muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.00 box; Italian prunes, 6@8½c lb.

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

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

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

Teas—Congo. Fair, 11½c; good 18c; choice 29c. Ceylon: Fair, 25c; good 30c; choice, 35c lb.

WINNIPEG PRICES CURRENT

GROCERIES		Dried Fruits		Tobacco		DRUGS	
Prices to retail dealers for ordinary lots, with usual discounts for cash or large lots.		Raisins, Val., box of 25 lbs. 1 70	Per pound 1 50	T. & B., 35, 35, and 95 Cuds 00 76	Per pound 00 76	Following are prices for parcel lots with usual reductions for broken packages.	
<b>Canned Goods</b>		Raisins, Val. Layers, per box 25 2 99	00 76	Lily, 85, cuds. 00 60	00 60	Alum, lb. 3 3/4	4 1/2
Apples, 35, 2 doz. 2 25	2 50	Loose Muscatels, 3 crown 00 76	00 76	Crescent, 85, cuds. 00 60	00 60	Alcohol, gal. 5 50	5 75
Apples, preserved, 35, 2 doz. 3 25	3 50	Loose Muscatels, 2 crown 00 76	00 76	T. & B. Black Chewing, 85 or 105 00 64	00 64	Bleaching Powder, lb. 06 08	06 08
Apples, gallons (per doz.) 3 00	3 25	Loose Muscatels, 4 crown 00 76	00 76	T. & B. Mahogany Chewing, 85 or 105 00 64	00 64	Bluestone, lb. 06 07	06 07
Blackberries, 25, 2 doz. 3 25	3 50	London Layer, 20 lb Boxes 1 99	2 00	T. & B. in 1-2 pkg, cut 00 91	00 91	Borax 11 13	11 13
Blueberries, 25, 2 doz. 3 25	3 50	Apples, Dried 05 07	07 11	T. & B. in 1-5 tins 00 99	00 99	Bromide Potash 65 75	65 75
Beans, 25, 2 doz. 1 80	2 00	Evap. Apples, finest quality 11 11	12 17	T. & B. in 1/2 tins 00 99	00 99	Camphor 80 90	80 90
Corn, 25, 2 doz. 1 60	1 75	<b>California Evaporated Fruits</b>		T. & B. in 1/4 tins 00 87	00 87	Carbolic Acid 40 65	40 65
Cherries, red, pitted 25, 2 doz. 4 75	5 00	Peaches, peeled 18 20	13 20	Orinoco, 1-12 pkg 00 85	00 85	Castor Oil 15 17	15 17
Peas, Marrowfat, 25, 2 doz. 1 90	2 00	Peaches, unpeeled 11 13	12 17	Orinoco, 1-5 tins 00 91	00 91	Chlorate Potash 25 30	25 30
Peas, sifted, 25, 2 doz. 2 00	2 25	Pears 10 11	11 12	Orinoco, 1/2 tins 00 86	00 86	Citric Acid 55 65	55 65
Pears, Bartlett, 25, 2 doz. 3 50	3 75	Pitted Plums 11 12	11 12	Tuckett's Cherub Cigarette 1-12 00 87	00 87	Copperas 03 1/2	04 04
Pears, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz. 4 75	5 00	Prunes, 100 to 120 2 1/2	2 6 1/2	Brier, 75, cuds 00 85	00 85	Cocaine, oz. 4 50	5 00
Pears, Bartlett, 25, 2 doz. 5 50	6 00	Prunes, 50 to 100 6 1/2	6 6 1/2	Derby, 35, cuds 00 68	00 68	Cream Tartar, lb 30 35	30 35
Pineapple, 25, 2 doz. 4 50	5 00	Prunes, 20 to 50 7 1/2	7 8 1/2	Derby 75, cuds 00 68	00 68	Cloves 20 25	20 25
Pineapple, imported, 25, 2 doz. 5 50	6 00	Prunes, 40 to 70 8 1/2	8 11 1/2	P. & W. Chewing, Cuds. 00 68	00 68	Epsom Salts 03 1/2	04 04
Peaches, 25, 2 doz. 3 50	4 00	Prunes, 50 to 70 10 11	11 11	P. & W. Chewing, Butts. 00 68	00 68	Extract Logwood, bulk 14 15	14 15
Peaches, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz. 4 75	5 00	<b>Mintoles</b>	Per case	<b>Wooden Ware</b>	Per doz.	Extract Logwood, boxes 18 20	18 20
Peaches, Canadian, 35, 2 doz. 5 50	6 00	Telegraph 5 60	5 60	Pails, a hoop clear 1 50	1 60	German Quinine 35 4 1/2	35 4 1/2
Plums, 25, 2 doz. 3 50	4 00	Telephone 3 40	3 40	Pails, wire hoop 2 25	2 40	Glycerine, lb. 30 35	30 35
Plums, California, 2 1/2, 2 doz. 4 50	5 00	Tiger 3 25	3 25	Pails, Star fibre 4 00	4 00	Ginger, Jamaica 30 35	30 35
Pumpkins, 35, 2 doz. 2 25	2 50	<b>Nuts</b>	Per pound	Tubs, No. 0 common 9 50	10 50	Ginger, African 20 25	20 25
Raspberries, 25, 2 doz. 3 00	3 25	Brazils 12 1/2	15 15	Tubs, No. 1 common 8 50	9 00	Howard's Quinine, oz. 45 55	45 55
Strawberries, 25, 2 doz. 3 50	3 75	Taragon Almonds 13 15	15 15	Tubs, No. 2 common 6 50	7 00	Iodine 5 00	5 50
Tomatoes, 35, 2 doz. 2 35	2 45	Peanuts, roasted 10 12	12 12	Tubs, No. 3 common 5 50	6 00	Insect Powder 35 40	35 40
Salmon, tails, 1/4, 4 doz. 4 50	5 00	Peanuts, green 10 12	12 12	Tubs, nests (3) 1 65	1 75	Morphia, sul. 2 10	2 25
Salmon, Cohoes tails, 1/4, 4 doz. 4 50	5 00	Grenoble Walnuts 15 18	18 18	Tubs, wire hoop (3) 2 25	2 40	Opium 4 50	5 00
<b>Sardines, domestic 1/4s 06 08</b>	06 08	French Walnuts 13 15	15 15	<b>Per nest.</b>		Oil, olive 1 25	1 40
Sardines, imported, 1/4s 09 15	09 15	Sicily Filberts 11 15	15 15	Oil, U.S. Salad 1 25	1 40	Oil, lemon, super 2 75	3 25
Sardines, imp. 1/4s, boneless 20 35	20 35	Shelled Almonds 25 30	30 30	Oil, peppermint 4 00	4 50	Oil, cod liver, gal. 1 50	2 00
Sardines, Dom mustard 1/4s 10 12	10 12	<b>Syrup</b>		Oxalic Acid 14 16	16 16	Potass Iodide 3 75	4 00
Imported Fresh Herring, 15 1 50	1 75	Extra Bright, per lb. 3 1/2c	4c	Potass Green, lb. 18 20	20 20	Saltpetre 10 12	10 12
Imp. Kipperd Herrings, 15 1 90	2 00	Medium, per lb. 3c	3 1/2c	Sal Rochelle 30 35	30 35	Shallac 30 35	30 35
Imp. Herrings, Tom. Sauce 15 1 90	2 00	Maple, case 1 doz. 1/4 gal. tins 87 00	87 00	Sulphur Flowers 3 1/2	4 05	Sulphur Flowers 3 1/2	4 05
Imp. " Anch Sauce 15 1 90	2 00	Molasses, per gal. 35c	45c	Sulphur Roll, keg 3 1/2	3 75	Soda Bicarb, keg of 112 lbs 3 75	4 25
Imp. " Shrimp Sauce 15 1 90	2 00	<b>Sugar</b>		Salt Soda 3 00	3 00	Tartaric Acid, lb. 45 55	45 55
<b>Canned Meats</b>	Per case.	Extra Standard Granulated 4 1/2c	4 1/2c	Strychnine, pure crystals, oz. 85 1 00	85 1 00		
Corn Beef, 15, 2 doz. 3 00	3 25	German Granulated 4 1/2c	4 1/2c	<b>LEATHER</b>	Per pound	Harness, oak 28	30
Corn Beef, 25, 1 doz. 1 75	2 00	Extra Ground 6 c	6 1/2c	Lard, pure, 20 lb pails \$1 60		Harness, union oak No. 1 29	29
Lunch Tongue, 15, 2 doz. 6 50	7 00	Powdered 6 c	6 1/2c	Lard, pure, 50 lb pails 4 00		Harness, union oak No. 1 R. 28	28
Lunch Tongue, 25, 1 doz. 6 25	6 50	Bright Yellow Sugar 4 1/2c	4 1/2c	Lard, pure, in 3, 5 and 10 lb. tins, per case of 60 lbs 5 50	7 1/2	Harness, hemlock No. 1 28	28
Bravon, 25, 1 doz. 2 50	2 75	Maple Sugar 12 1/2c	15c	Lard, Tierces, per lb 7 1/2	7 1/2	Harness, hemlock No. 1 R. 27	27
Pigs Feet, 15, 2 doz. 6 00	6 50	<b>Salt</b>	Per pound	Hams 11 1/2	12 12	Sole, union oak 32	32
Roast Beef, 25, 1 doz. 7 75	8 00	Rock Salt 1 1/2c	1 1/2c	Breakfast bacon, bellies 11 1/2	12 12	Listowell, sole 26	30
Chicken, Duck or Turkey, 15 2 doz. 50 5 00	5 00	<b>Per barrel</b>		Breakfast bacon, backs 10 10 1/2	10 10 1/2	Penetang, sole 26	28
<b>Potted Ham, 1/4s 75</b>	75	Common, fine 1 90	2 00	Spiced rolls 5 8 1/2	8 1/2	B. F. French calf 25	1 30
Duvelled Ham, 1/4s 75	75	Common, coarse 1 90	2 00	Shoulders 8 8 1/2	8 1/2	B. F. French lip 95	1 15
Potted Tongue, 1/4s 75	75	Dairy, 100-3 3 25	3 30	Long Clear 8 1/2	9 9	Canada calf 65	80
Potted Ham, 1/4s 1 50	1 50	Dairy, 60-5 3 15	3 30	<b>Dry Salt Meats</b>		Canada Calf, Horseshoe 90	90
Devilled Ham, 1/4s 1 50	1 50	Dairy, white duck sack 00 50	00 50	Long clear Bacon 7 1/2	8 8	Horseshoe Brand Kip 30	30
Potted Tongue, 1/4s 1 50	1 50	Common, fine jute sack 00 45	00 45	Boneless Shoulders 7 1/2	8 8	Karn Kip 80	85
<b>Coffee</b>	Per pound.	<b>Spices</b>	Per doz.	Backs 8 1/2	9 9	Wax upper 32	45
Green Rio 12 15	15	Assorted Herbs, 1/4 lb tins 75 90	90	Imported Short Clear 7 1/2	7 1/2	Kangaroo, per foot 25	50
<b>Cereals</b>	Per sack	<b>Per pound</b>		<b>Barrel Pork</b>	Per barrel	Dolgonia, per foot 25	40
Split Peas, sack 95 2 25	2 50	Allspice, whole 15 20	20 20	Heavy; mess 14 50	15 00		
Pot Barley, sack 95 2 25	2 50	Allspice, pure ground 18 20	20 20	Short cut 16 00	16 50	<b>FUEL</b>	
Pearl Barley, sack 95 4 00	4 50	Allspice, compound 15 20	20 20	<b>Coal</b>		These are retail prices, delivered to consumers in the city, or 50c per ton less at the yards, except western anthracite nut size, which is 40c less at the yards.	
Roller Oats, sack 80 1 80	2 00	Cassia, whole 18 20	20 20	Fresh pork sausage, lb 8	8	Pennsylvania anthracite—	
Standard Oatmeal, sack 95 2 10	2 20	Cassia, pure ground 20 25	25 25	Bologna sausage, lb 07	07	Stove, nut or lump 10 00	10 00
Granulated Oatmeal, sack 95 2 10	2 20	Cassia, compound 13 18	18 18	Ham, chicken and tongue, doz \$1 20	20	Pea size 7 50	7 50
Beans (per bushel) 1 25	1 30	Cloves, whole 18 20	20 20	Pickled hocks, per lb 03	03	Western anthracite, stove 9 50	9 50
Corrmeal, sack 95 1 45	1 55	Cloves, pure ground 25 30	30 30	Pickled tongue 05	05	Western anthracite, nut 7 50	7 50
Cornmeal, 1/4 sac 40 (per 1/2 sac) 75 0 50	0 50	Cloves, compound 18 20	20 20	Pickled pigs feet, pair 1 40	1 40	Lethbridge bituminous 7 25	7 25
<b>Rice, B. 4 1/2c</b>	4 1/2c	Pepper, black, whole 10 15	15 15	Sausage casings, lb 20 25	25	Hocking 7 50	7 50
Rice, Japan 5 c	5 c	Pepper, black, pure ground 13 15	15 15	<b>FRESH FISH,</b>		Souris Lignite 4 50	4 50
Sago 4 c	4 c	Pepper, black, compound 10 13	13 13	<b>OYSTERS</b>		Souris, car lots F.O.B. mines 1 50	1 50
Tapoca 4 c	4 c	Pepper, white, whole 20 25	25 25	Whitefish, lb 5 1/2	5 1/2	Blossburg smithing 9 50	9 50
<b>Cigarettes</b>	Per M	Pepper, white, pure ground 25 35	35 35	Pickrel, lb 04	04	<b>Cordwood</b>	
Old Judge 8 90	8 90	Pepper, white, compound 18 20	20 20	Trout, lb 09	09	These are prices for car lots, on track	
Athlete 3 90	3 90	Pepper, Cayenne 30 35	35 35	Salmon, lb 12	12	Winnipeg 1 50	1 50
Sweet Caporal 3 90	3 90	Ginger, whole, Jamaica 25 30	30 30	B.C. halibut, lb 10	10	Tamarac, good dry 4 50	4 50
Sweet Sixteen 5 70	5 70	Ginger, whole, Cochin 20 25	25 25	Smelts, lb 10	10	Tamarac, partly dry, last winter's cut 4 25	4 25
Derby 6 60	6 60	Ginger, pure ground 25 30	30 30	Findon haddock, lb 7 1/2	7 1/2	Pine, green cut, dry 4 00	4 00
<b>Cured Fish</b>		Nutmegs, (per pound) 66 1 00	1 00	Smoked goldeyes, doz 30	30	Pine, dead cut 3 50	3 75
Codfish, whole cases, 100 lbs. 6 00	6 00	Mace (per pound) 1 00 1 25	1 25	Oysters, standards, gal 1 80	2 00	Spruce 2 75	3 00
Codfish, boneless per lb 04 06	04 06	<b>Teas</b>	Per pound	Oysters, select, gal 2 00	2 20	Poplar, green cut dry 2 75	3 00
Codfish, Pure per lb 07 08	07 08	China Blacks—		Oysters, extra selects 2 20	2 40	Poplar, dead cut 2 25	2 50
Herrings, in kegs 3 50	3 75	Choice 35 40	40 40	Oysters, shell, barrels 7 50	7 75	Oak, green cut, dry body 4 50	4 75
<b>Dried Fruits.</b>		Common 13 20	20 20	Salt Whitefish, per 1/2 bbl 6 50	6 50	Oak dead cut 4 00	4 00
Currants, Prov'l Barrels 06 6 1/2	6 1/2	Indian and Ceylon—		Salt Trout, per 1/2 bbl 7 50	7 50		
Currants, Prov'l 1/2 Barrels 06 1/2 6 1/2	6 1/2	Choice 32 40	40 40				
Currants, Prov'l Cases 07 7 1/2	7 1/2	Medium 25 32	32 32				
Currants, Vostizza Cases 07 1/2 8	8	Common 22 28	28 28				
Currants, Filiutria, bbls 06 1/2 7	7	<b>Young Hysons—</b>					
Currants, Filiutria, cases 07 7 1/2	7 1/2	Choice 35 45	45 45				
Dates, Cases 06 07	07	Medium 28 35	35 35				
Figs, Blème, about 10 lb box 12 1/2 15	15	Common 22 30	30 30				
Figs, Cooking, Six 05 1/2 06	06	<b>Japan—</b>					
Prunes, Bosnia, Cases 08 09	09	Finest May Picking 35 40	40 40				
Prunes, French, Cases 06 07	07	Choice 30 35	35 35				
Sultana Raisins 10 12	12	Fine 25 30	30 30				
		Good Medium 20 25	25 25				
		Common 15 20	20 20				

**KLONDYKE** Description of Land and Water Routes to Yukon via Edmonton, with maps, illustrations, and complete information as to necessary supplies, etc. One copy, 15c, 2 for 25 cents. As valuable as some publications sold at \$1.00. Address, The Commercial, Winnipeg, Canada.

### Winnipeg Hardware and Metal Prices.

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

Tin Plates—Charcoal plates, I C, 10 x 14, 12 x 12 and 14 x 20, \$4.50@4.75; I X, same size box, \$5.75@6; I C, charcoal, 20 x 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50@9; I X, box, 20 x 28, 112 sheets, \$10.50@11.

Terne Plates—I C, 20 x 28, \$8.50 @ 9.

Iron and Steel—Bar iron, 100 lbs., base price, \$2.10 band iron, 100 lbs., \$2.05@2.75; Swedish iron, 100 lbs, \$5.25 @6; sleigh shoe steel, 2.75@3; best cast tool steel, lb., 9@11c; imitation Russian sheet, 7@8c; genuine Russian sheet, lb., 12@13c.

Sheet Iron—10 to 20 gauge, \$3; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge \$3.50

Canada Plates—Garth and Blainia, 3.00 @3.15.

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

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

Lead—Pig, per lb., 4½ to 5c.

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

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

Ammunition—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American discount 40 per cent; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, vet list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent, shot shells, 12 gauge, \$8 @ 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 6c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c. Robin Hood powder, 17 lb kegs, \$10; ¼ kegs, 4½ lbs, \$3; Canister, 9 oz., 60c. Loaded shells, 12 gauge, soft shot, \$18 per 1,000. No. 10 gauge, \$20.70 per 1,000.

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

Wire—Galvanized barb wire, \$2.70@2.75 100 lbs.; Plain wire and staples, \$2.85@2.90.

Rope—Sisal, lb., 7c base, manilla, lb., 8½c base; cotton, ¼ to ½ inch and larger, 16c lb.

Axes—Per box, \$6@9.

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

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

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

### Winnipeg Prices of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc.

Following are close jobbing prices, as to quantity:

White Lead—Pure, \$6.25 100 lbs.

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

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

Varnishes—No. 1 furniture, per gallon, \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50@1.75; hard oil finish, \$1.50@2; brown Japan, \$1; house painters' gold-size Japan, \$1.50; coach painters' do., \$2 @2.25; No. 1 orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Winnipeg Lumber Prices.

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

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

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

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

Siding, Flooring and Ceiling—2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch, white pine, \$36.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch white pine, \$28.00; 1st and 2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$30.00; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, \$25.00; 4th, 4, 5 and 6 inch, red and white, \$20.00; B. C. No. 1 fir, \$32.00; B. C. No. 2 fir, \$29.00; B. C. No. 3 fir, \$26.00; B. C. spruce, \$32.00; 4, 5 and 6 inch spruce, native, \$20.00; 8 and 10 inch pine, \$23.00; No. 1 cedar siding and ceiling, \$30.00; No. 2 cedar siding and ceiling, \$30.00; ½ inch cedar or fir siding and ceiling, \$26.00. \$1.00 per M advance for dressing both sides.

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

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

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

Lath—Pine lath, per M, \$3.00.

Finishings—1½, 1½ and 2 inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$65.00, 3rd clear, \$55.00, selects, \$45.00, shops, \$36.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$32.00; B. C. cedar clears, \$35.00; B. C. fir clears and stepping, \$45.00; \$5.00 per M advance on 2½ inch and thicker. One inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$60.00, 3rd clear, \$48.00, selects, No. 1, \$38.00, selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com) \$30.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$30.00; B. C. cedar, clear, \$55.00.

Oak—Red and White—½ sawed, \$85.00; 1st and 2nd, 55.00 to \$65.00; common, \$40.00.

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c, lattice, ½x1½, 100 feet lineal, 75c, ½x1½, 100 feet lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1½ inch lineal, \$1.25, ditto, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; ¼ round and ½ cove, 75c; 1½ round mould, \$1.50; 2 round mould, \$1.75; 2½ round mould, \$2.00; 3 round mould, \$2.25; 3½ round mould, \$2.50; 4 round mould, \$2.75; 4½ round mould, \$3.00; 5 round mould, \$3.25; 6 round mould, \$4.00; 6 round window stool, 1½, \$4.50; 6 round window stool, 1½, \$5.25; 4 round casings, \$2.50; 5 round casings, \$2.75; 6 round casings, \$3.25; 8 round base, \$4.50; 10 round base, \$5.50; 12 round base, \$7.00; hand rail, 2x4, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2½ inch, \$2.35, 3 inch, \$2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1½ stock add 25 per cent; 1½ add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

## THE TARIFF

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## THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

Winnipeg, Friday Afternoon, Dec. 24.

Business with the wholesale houses has been very slow in about every branch with the possible exception of fruits, the holiday trade having been supplied previous to this week. The late sorting trade has not been up to expectations, and the last month or six weeks have shown a limited trade in general lines. Retailers bought freely early in the season, and their purchases then appear to have fully met the consuming requirements of the country. Winnipeg houses have prepared for the spring trade on a larger scale than for years, importations being unusually heavy. The recent failure of a local jobbing firm does not appear to have led to any serious disturbances in the trade, and apparently the customers of the house have been able to arrange their affairs and open new accounts, though of course it will be some little time before the full effect of the failure on the retail trade will be known.

It is reported that some new wholesale houses will be established in Winnipeg. A general survey of the situation would indicate that in nearly every branch, the field is already fully occupied, if not over-supplied, and competition is keen in most lines. The country, of course, is developing, and population increasing, but at the same time, it must be borne in mind that the entire population of the region tributary to Winnipeg is only about 300,000. For this limited population the number of houses now in the field in most lines would appear to be all that the trade will support. In groceries there are five large jobbing houses, besides produce and provision dealers, jobbers handling special lines, such as teas and package goods, and brokers. In hardware and metals there are also five jobbing houses, not including several houses handling stoves, tinware, and other special lines. In dry goods, clothing and kindred lines there are eight or nine old established houses. Other branches are represented in about the same proportion, which would indicate that, on the basis of population, the field is well occupied. Besides the local houses, a large number of eastern houses have agencies here, or send their travellers through the country, making competition very keen in every branch.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Friday Afternoon, Dec. 24.

Saturday being a holiday this week our market reports close on Friday, and the paper is issued one day earlier than usual. The same plan will be followed next week, as New Year's holiday also falls on Saturday.

## RAW FURS.

A few small lots are coming in, but so far the quantity offering has been light though liberal collection of furs are looked for this season, the weather being favorable for trapping. On another page of this issue will be found a report of the quantity of furs to be offered at the Hudson's Bay Co.'s coming sales in London.

## GREEN FRUITS.

The country holiday trade was about supplied by the beginning of the week, but a good business was done up to the close of the week with the city trade. Dealers report that the season has been a good one and their sales show a considerable increase over last year. The lines in the market are much the same as last week and the same remarks made a week ago still applies to oranges. Later arrivals of California lemons are fine quality. Oranges have been easier, but a firmer market is now looked for on account of the frosts in California. Frost was reported three nights in succession, and if the frost has been at all severe it will mean an enormous loss, as it is estimated that five to six million dollars worth of oranges were on the trees. It does not take a very severe frost to utterly destroy oranges. The frost destroys the action of the oil of the rind in the fruit, and in a short time the juice of the orange dries out. Frost-d oranges are utterly worthless. If the frost is as severe as reported, higher prices may be looked for, for both oranges and lemons. New dates were reported in last week, but it is said the stock was not new, but well kept old stocks. Stocks of winter pears are nearly cleaned up. Prices are as follows: Mexican oranges, \$1.50 to \$5; navel oranges \$1.50 to \$5; bananas, per bunch, \$3 to \$3.50; California lemons, \$4.50 to \$5.00 a box; Washington and Oregon pears, \$2 to \$2.25 per box; apples, Ontario stock, \$4 to \$4.75 per barrel; southern apples, \$4 to \$4.25 per bbl.; Cape Cod cranberries \$7.50 to \$8 per barrel; sweet potatoes \$5.25 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$3 per keg for medium, and \$8.50 for heavy weights, Ontario black walnut, 80 lb; cocoanuts, \$1 per dozen; Sicily filberts, large 11c to 12c per lb; Grenoble walnuts, 13c; figs, fancy eleme, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 10 lb box, 30 lb boxes 16c; 50 lb. boxes, 17c per lb; dates 7 1-2c per pound; imported celery 50 to 60c per doz.

## DRY GOODS.

Travelers are now out with full lines of spring samples. Local houses have made preparations on a large scale for spring business, and the trade will find Winnipeg house, better prepared than ever before to supply their requirements, both as regards quantity and variety. In some lines such as mits, etc., a good trade has been done with Edmonton and also the Crow's Nest construction camps.

## FUEL.

Dealers still find it difficult to keep up with their orders for Souris coal, the demand being large, in addition to which some delays have been experienced at the mines as well as in shipping. There are no changes in coal or wood fuel, the tendency of cordwood being easy, if anything. The Winnipeg school board is calling for tenders for cordwood, tenders to be in by December 31.

## LUMBER.

Business for present wants is very slow. The feature of interest now is in regard to prices for the spring trade. In this respect the outlook is very strong, and there is almost a certainty that prices will be higher on a good many lines for the spring trade. In fact prices have already been advanced by the British Columbia manufacturers on several lines, including an advance of 25 cents on shingles. There is also talk of some advances on white pine lumber for the spring trade. Winnipeg quotations have not been advanced on any lines yet. There is scarcely anything doing now, and dealers are therefore not in a hurry to follow advances by manufacturers.

Regarding the British Columbia trade, it is well known that the lumber trade on the Pacific coast has been in a most unsatisfactory state for years. Cutting in prices has prevailed there to such an extent that a number of the mills were forced to close. The prices of logs were cut down, wages were cut down, in fact everything about the lumber trade was cut down to a starvation basis. Those remaining in the trade are no doubt beginning to see the folly of carrying on business in this way, and with the general revival in trade at the coast, there are fair prospects for getting the lumber business into better shape. Higher freight rates at the coast and scarcity of vessels has limited the export trade somewhat lately.

## GROCERIES.

The local market is quiet, the holiday trade being over. The Ontario packers of canned goods had a meeting at Toronto recently, and from their reports it seems that the situation regarding tomatoes is very firm. It was said that there are only a few packers holding tomatoes now, and they are very strong in their views. Some Toronto jobbers have advanced prices to 95c, and 90c to 95c is quoted at Toronto, while \$1 or more is being talked on tomatoes later on. Some packers reported good sales of goods for export, which is exerting a strong influence on the market. Sugars are firm at the recent advances. Molasses and syrups are firm.

## HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.

Dealers are stock-taking. Business is dull and prices nominal. No new features reported this week.

## GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—The great feature of interest in wheat is the big "deal" in December wheat in Chicago. This deal is on a gigantic scale and has brought about some very peculiar conditions, such as the carrying to Chicago of enormous quantities of wheat, by parties who were short, to fill contracts. Not only has wheat been taken from Duluth to Chicago, but it has actually been brought westward from eastern lake ports, in defiance of all laws of trade. Of course this has been done at a heavy expense to those who were short, but there was no course open for them but to pocket their losses. The concentration of many million bushels of wheat in the hands of a single interest, as a result of this deal, is a very strong feature in the situation, and one which no doubt advantage will be taken of to further manipulate the market in future options.

The local situation is quiet. There

is no disposition to speculate by buying wheat to hold. The fact that cash wheat is held above futures, makes the situation adverse to buying wheat to carry over. As storage and other charges would have to be added to the cost of wheat bought now to hold for spring shipment, and as May wheat is lower than cash stuff in leading American markets, it can be easily seen that to buy wheat to hold does not look safe on the present basis. The situation, however, is relieved by the fact that the millers are buying fairly freely, and they are taking most of the wheat that is moving these days. No. 1 hard has ranged about 89 to 90c afloat, Fort William, this week. 90c was said to have been made Monday, but 89c was the quotation yesterday, and for car lots at country points, and the 19c freight rate to Fort William, 78c was quoted yesterday. No. 2 hard 2 1-2c under No. 1. A feature of local interest is the speculation regarding the grain pool. It is alleged that the pool is likely to go to pieces, but on the other hand some regard these statements as having been purposely circulated to shut off any tendency to agitation in the country against the grain trade conditions.

**FLOUR**—No change has occurred in the flour market here. We quote patents \$2.55 per sack of 98 lbs.; Strong Bakers, \$2.35; second bakers, \$1.90, and XXXX \$1.45. Prices to local dealers here less 5c per sack for net cash.

**MILLFREED**—The demand is good and prices are firm. Ton lots are held at \$10 for bran and \$12 for shorts, and \$9 per ton less in argo lots, and the market is very firm.

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

**CEREALS**—The market is mainly supplied with meal imported from the south. We quote rolled oatmeal at \$1.80 per sack.

**OATS**.—Quotations hold at about 35c to 37c, as to quality. The street price to farmers here is 34 to 35c as to quality. In Manitoba country markets 28c to 30c per bushel has been paid to farmers. One car No. 2 mixed sold here yesterday at 35 1-2c, and a good No. 2 white would bring 36c. The feeling is easier if anything.

**CORN**—Corn continues to have a liberal sale here. It can be laid down here at 32c per bushel of 56 pounds in car lots on track as to grade. There is also quite a demand from country points for car lots.

**BARLEY**—There is so little doing that it is difficult to give close prices. Two city grain dealers were heard to remark yesterday that they had not handled a car of barley on this crop. This will indicate how scarce the article is. Very little is wanted, however, as the price is too high for feed and the main demand is from brewers who have paid as high as 42c for malting barley, and we quote 35c for feed and 38c to 42c for malting, per bushel of 48 pounds.

**FLAX SEED**—Nominal at 60c to farmers in country markets.

**BUTTER**—Creamery, quiet. We quote dealers' selling price at 21 to 23c as to quality and quantity.

**BUTTER**—Dairy — The market is quiet. Dealers quote 14 to 15 1-2c for round lots of country dairy. The out-

side quotation for late made dairy could only be realized for choice lots; and held goods are quoted at 13 to 14c, the latter being the very outside for well kept lots of held goods.

**CHEESE**—Dealers quote 11c.

**EGGS**—Dealer are paying 18c net for receipts of fresh and selling at 20c. Lined are offering at 16 to 17c.

**POULTRY**—Dressed chicken bring from 7 to 7 1-2c per lb., turkeys 9 to 10c, and geese and ducks 8 to 9 1-2c per lb. dressed. Eastern turkeys were selling this week in case lots to retail dealers at 11c, which is considered a low price. Some holders of eastern stock seem to have got alarmed and thought there was an over-supply, but so far stocks are not excessive.

**LARD AND CURED MEATS** — Lard and cured meats are lower all around this week, 1-4 to 1-2c. See quotations on another page.

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

**DRESSED MEATS**. — From 4c to 5c has been paid for country beef freely, and 5 1-2c for good city dressed meat. Fresh unfrozen beef is held at 6c. Choice hogs have been taken quite freely at 6c, and heavy weights and less desirable hogs at 5 1-4 to 5 3-4c, as to quality. Mutton is steady at 5c to 6c and lamb at 5 to 7c. The display of meat in the city market is very fine this year.

**HIDES**—Latest advices from the United States on hides note an easier market. Leather is still selling below a parity with hides, and as tanners seem unable to get up the price of leather to a fair profit, they are buying hides very slowly. As United States buyers have been operating in Canada, a decline in United States markets would affect the situation here. We quote. Butcher hides, 7 to 7 1-4c for good lots, or 7c for No. 1 and 6c for No. 2. Green frozen hides 6 1-2c; bulls, oxen, stags and brands, 4 1-2 to 5 1-2c, kip hides 6 to 7c; calf 8 to 9c; per lb.; horse hides, 75c to \$1.75 each; sheep pelts will average 40c to 60c each; colts, 25c each.

**WOOL**—We quote 8 to 10c here for unwashed fleece, nominal.

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

**SENECA ROOT**—Quoted at 18 to 20c.

**Vegetables**—Prices are: Potatoes, 85 to 40c per bushel, carrots 60 to 70c per bush., onions 2 to 3c per lb., celery 40c to 60c per dozen bunches, cabbage \$3 to \$4 per 100, beets 30c to 40c bushel, turnips 15 to 20c bushel, parsnips 1 1-2 to 2 per lb.

**HAY**—The market is firm and rather higher. Held at \$6.50 for cars on track here, of baled, or about \$5.50 to \$6.00 per ton at points of shipment.

#### LIVE STOCK.

There has been nothing doing in live stock this week. Stock for the Christmas market were in last week. There will be nothing doing in live stock for the next couple of months, as butchers are all heavily stocked up and they have enough meat on hand to last them over the greater part of the winter. Good butchers' cattle are nominal at 23-4 to 3c and sheep at 2 1-2 to 3c.

**HOGS**—We quote choice bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 lbs. at \$4.50 per 100 lbs.; 250 to 300 lbs., \$4.00; heavy hogs, over 300 lbs., \$3 to \$3.50, as to quality, live weight,

#### Northwest Ontario.

T. Thompson, Son & Co., grain dealers, long and well known in Manitoba, who moved to Fort William last summer, will return to Winnipeg and open an office. They find that the time is not yet ripe for doing business in grain with facility from Fort William.

The old Fort William foundry, near Graham, Horne & Co.'s sawmill was burned down on Sunday night, Dec. 19th; cause of fire unknown. Part of the building had been fitted up and was occupied by J. J. Walsh as a boarding house. Walsh lost everything and \$115 in money. He was partly insured in \$1,000. Graham, Horne & Co.'s mill had a narrow escape, part of the elevated tramway being burned.

#### Manitoba

W. J. Currie has opened a confectionery and fruit store at Brandon. The Mappherson Fruit Company, Winnipeg, are calling for tenders for the erection of a three story block.

The Commercial has received a handsome calendar for 1898 from R. E. Halpenny, fruit dealer, of Minnedosa.

C. Paulson is opening a butcher shop at Russell.

A by-law to raise \$30,000 by issue of debentures to build a new fire hall, has been carried in Winnipeg.

The Commercial has received a handsome holiday hanger from Bryan & Lee, Winnipeg.

The Manitoba government proposes to drain the big marsh east of Carman. It is also understood that the Macdonald marsh southwest of Winnipeg is also to be drained.

The Winnipeg Retail association decided to hold their annual banquet at the Leland on January 11. A committee has been appointed to carry out details.

#### Assiniboia.

W. S. Redpath, barrister, of Regina, has moved to Indian Head, where he will open a law office.

H. Wigginton, of Mathews & Wigginton, proprietors of the Windsor hotel, Regina, is dead.

A robbery of the safe of McNeice & Burrows, of Lumsden, was reported some time ago. Later the report was denied. The firm now write affirming that their store was entered and robbed of both money and goods.

Mr. Pellerin, of Tourigny & Pellerin, has sold his interest in the brick yard at Grenfell to Magee & Thompson, the new firm to be styled The Wolseley Brick Co., with O. Tourigny as manager.

A cheese and butter manufacturing company will be established at Churchbridge.

A board of trade is being organized at Grenfell with F. W. Chisholm as secretary.

The sudden death of Thos. McNeice, of McNeice & Burrows, general merchants, of Lumsden, from internal inflammation, is announced.

#### Alberta.

J. C. F. Bown and H. H. Robertson, of Edmonton, have formed a law partnership.

C. D. Macdonald, barrister, from Prince Edward Island, has opened a law office at Edmonton.

N. D. Mills has opened a restaurant, at South Edmonton.

**MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24th.  
 The grocery trade is quiet and steady this week, and without any changes in prices.  
 Quotations are: Granulated sugar, 4 1-4c in lots of over 250 barrels, and 4 3-8c for 100 bbl. lots, at the refineries; yellows, 3 1-4 to 3 7-8c. Molasses, 26 to 28c. Syrups, 1 3-4 to 2 1-2c as to quality. Valencia raisins from 4 3-4 to 5 1-2c. Valencia layers 6 1-2c. Currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c, as to brand. Coffee, Rio, 8 1-2 to 11c Mocha and Java 20 to 24c.  
 Canned Goods—Tomatoes, 85 to 90c; corn, 85 to 70c; peas, 80.

**MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24th.  
 No changes reported in prices this week of staple lines.  
 White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c; red lead in kegs, 4 3-4c; linseed oil, raw, 43c, hotted 46c; turpentine, 48 to 49c; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90; I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.00 to \$4; putty in bulk, \$1.50; in bladders, \$1.65c; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

**WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS.**

A sale of three carloads of Manitoba flour, for the South American trade, was reported from Montreal on Monday last.  
 Archie McCallum, associated with his son John, and Frederick McQueen, will open business in Kaslo, B. C., under the name of the Kaslo Produce & Provision Co.  
 Malcolm McLean has sold out his grocery business at Pipestone, Man., to McNicol & Pitt. He is moving to Pilot Mound.  
 Robt. Gray, Jr. is opening an implement agency at Pipestone, Man., for the Sylvester Co.  
 E. P. Gardner, lately of Wapella, has opened business as watchmaker and jeweler, at Indian Head, Assa.

**Movements of Business Men**

W. W. Ogilvie, of Montreal, arrived in the city early last week, accompanied by his son, A. E. Ogilvie, on his annual visit of inspection to his extensive interests here. Later in the week Mr. Ogilvie returned east.  
 Mr. G. V. Hastings has returned from a trip to Rainy River, where he visited the lumber camp of the Lake of the Woods Milling company. A number of men are employed there getting out timber for the company's barrel factory.  
 J. A. McKeown, representing Wm. Grey & Son, carriage makers, of Chatham, Ont., was in Winnipeg last week on his return from a western trip. A. C. McRae handles the goods manufactured by this firm, in Winnipeg.  
 R. A. Rogers, manager of the Parson's Printing company, Winnipeg left the end of the week to spend the holiday season in the east.

**WINNIPEG CLEARING HOUSE.**

Week ending Dec. 23rd., clearings, \$2,141,510; balances, \$100,366. Corresponding week 1896, clearings, \$1,602,124; balances, \$245,670. Corresponding week, 1895, clearings, \$1,194,060; balances, 215,003.

**MINNEAPOLIS MARKETS.**

Flour is quoted 10 to 15c higher. Corn 1-2 to 3-4c higher; oats 1-4c higher; max seed 1 to 2c higher; butter 1 to 2c lower; poultry higher for turkeys and geese.  
 Flour—Prices in barrels First patents, \$5.10 to \$5.25, second patents, \$5 to \$5.10.  
 Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$7.75 to \$8; bran in bulk, \$7.50 to \$7.75; corn feed, \$17.00 to \$11.00 per ton.  
 Corn—Quoted at 2 1-2 to 2 3-4c for No. 4, 2 3-4 to 2 5c for No. 3, and 2 1-4 for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.  
 Oats—Held at 22 1-4c for No. 3 white and 22c for No. 3 per bushel of 32 pounds.  
 Barley—Feed quoted at 23 to 23 1-2c.  
 Flax seed—\$1.16 to \$1.18 per bushel.  
 Eggs—10 to 17c for strictly fresh, the latter including cases; cold storage 10 to 14c.  
 Cheese—Choice to fancy, 9 to 10c; fair to good, 7 1-2 to 8c.  
 Butter—Creamery 19 to 20 1-2, seconds, 16 to 17c; dairy, 12 to 18c.  
 Dressed meats—Mutton, 4 to 6 1-2c; lambs, 5 to 8c; hogs, 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c for heavy and 4c for medium and light.  
 Potatoes—Car lots, mixed, 38 to 40c; choice, named varieties, 43 to 50c.  
 Poultry—Chickens, 6 to 7c, old fowl, 4 to 5c, turkeys, 9 to 11 1-2c; ducks, 7 to 8c, geese, 6 1-2 to 7 1-2c.

**MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24.  
 Bran and shorts are nominal in the absence of business in Manitoba millfeed, as millers find a good market in the west. Hides are higher, owing to local competition. Butter is about 1-2c higher. Dressed hogs in good demand at firm prices.  
 Oats—No. 2 white in car lots on local account 27c.  
 Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Manitoba patents, \$5.40.  
 Millfeed—Manitoba bran, including sacks, \$11.50 per ton. Shorts, \$12.50.  
 Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.  
 Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.  
 Eggs—Candled, 16 to 18c.; new laid, 21 to 22c.  
 Butter—Dairy, 15 to 16c.  
 Butter—Creamery, 18 1-2 to 19 1-2c.  
 Cheese—8 1-4 to 8 3-4c.  
 Dressed hogs—\$5.75 to \$6 per 100 pounds.  
 Dressed beef—Front quarters, 3 to 4c; hinds, 5 1-2 to 7c.  
 Dressed mutton—Lamb, 6 1-2 to 7c, mutton, 5 to 6c.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.**

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:  
 Monday—Dec. 96c, May 92 3-4c.  
 Tuesday—Dec. 94 1-2c, May 91 1-4c.  
 Wednesday—Dec. 93 1-2c, May 91 1-8c.  
 Thursday—Dec. 93 1-2c, May 91 7-8c.  
 Friday—Dec. 94c, May 92 1-2c.  
 Saturday—Holiday.  
 Cash No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at 93 1-2c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 93 1-2c.  
 Last week December option closed at 93c.  
 A year ago May option closed at 81 1-2c, and two years ago at 56 3-4c, three years ago May option closed at 62c, and four years ago at 63 7-8c.

**MONTREAL STOCKS.**

Montreal, Dec. 23.—C. P. R. London, 83 7-8; Commercial Cable, 17.

**MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24.  
 The only change in live stock is a further advance on hogs, choice averaging touched 5c this week. The offerings of choice cattle for the Christmas market were fairly liberal.  
 Cattle—Choice 4 1-2 to 4 3-4c, fair to good 3 to 4c.  
 Sheep—3 to 3 3-4c per lb.  
 Hogs—4 1-2 to 5c.

**LIVE STOCK MARKETS.**

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on December 20, the supply of cattle was ample and the quality generally good. A few sales of really prime stall fed heaves were made at 5c to 5 1-4c; extra choice, 4 1-2c to 4 3-4c; choice, 4c to 4 1-4c; good, 3 1-2 to 3 3-4c; fair, 3c to 3 1-4c, and common, 2 1-2c to 2 3-4c per lb. The supply of sheep and lambs was small and the prices were firm. Lambs sold at 4c to 4 8-4c, and sheep at 3c to 3 3-4c per lb.  
 Cables from Glasgow on Dec. 16 say there was a strong feeling in the market for cattle and private cables received report an advance of fully 21 per head, which was due to smaller supplies and an improved demand. Prices for Canadian stock showed a fair profit.

Toronto dealers in live hogs complain that too many light hogs are coming forward. The farmers are not feeding them enough. This was the only class of hogs that showed a downward tendency.

London, Dec. 20.—Notwithstanding the fact that this is Christmas week trade in cattle was very bad and supplies were in excess of requirements, although no Canadian stock was on the market. The feeling was weak and prices declined 1-4c to 1-2c, choice States selling at 11 1-2c, and Argentine at 10c. Canadian sheep sold 1-2c lower at 10 1-2c and Argentine were steady at 10 1-2c.

**TORONTO MARKETS.**

Wheat—Sales of red winter at 83 and 83 1-2c; Manitoba hard quoted at \$1.04 Sarnia and Midland.  
 Flour—Steady at \$3.90 to \$4 for straight roller west.  
 Millfeed—Shorts, \$10 to \$11; bran, \$7.50 to \$8 west.  
 Barley—Nominal at 25 to 26c for feed.  
 Oats—Sales of white at 23 1-2 and 24c.  
 Butter—Good demand for large roll butter at 15c. Choice dairy tubs scarce and select lots would probably bring 16 to 17c. Medium butter, 12 1-2 to 14c.  
 Eggs—Market firm at 16 to 17c. Held fresh, 14c, hined, 13c.  
 Poultry—Prices are higher at 9 to 9 1-2c for turkeys, 6 to 6 1-2c for geese 40 to 75c for ducks and 35c to 50c per pair for chickens.

**NEW YORK MONEY.**

New York, Dec. 23.—3 p.m. Money on call firm at 3 to 4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3 1-2 to 4 per cent, sterling exchange weak with actual business in bankers' bills at \$4.84 1-4 to 3-8 for demand, and at \$4.81 3-8 to 1-2 for sixty days. Posted rates \$4.82 1-2 to \$4.83 and \$4.85 1-2 to \$4.86. Commercial bills at \$4.80 1-2 to \$4.81. Bar silver 57 3-8, Mexican dollars 45 5-8. Government bonds weak. Stocks closed strong at the best.



## New York Wheat.

New York, Dec. 20.—Statement of visible supply on store and afloat Saturday, December 16, as compiled by New York Produce Exchange is as follows: Wheat 35,565,000, increase 821,000.

New York, Dec. 20.—Wheat — Receipts 151,700 bushels, exports 331,775 bushels, sales 2,375,000 bushels futures 40,000 bushels, spot. Spot strong, No. 2 red \$1.00 7-8 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 northern Duluth \$1.01 3-8, No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.01 5-8, No. 1 Northern New York \$1.02 7-8. Options opened firm on strength in Chicago and advanced with few interruptions all day on bullish American and English visible supply future, better late cables, heavy clearances and generally better demand closing 2 1-2; up on December and 1-2c to 1 5-8c net higher on other months; No. 2 red Jan. 98 1-8c to 99 1-2c, closed 99 1 2; May 94c to 95 3-8, closed 95 3-8; July 88c to 89 7-8c, closed 88 7-8c; Dec. 99 3-4c to \$1.01 3-8, closed \$1.01 3-8.

New York, Dec. 21.—Wheat — Receipts 100,225 bushels, exports 196,111 bushels, sales 4,365,000 bushels, futures: 96,000 bushels, spot. Spot weak; No. 2 red 99 1-2 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.01 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.03 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern New York \$1.01 3-4. Options opened easy under disappointing cables, rallied very sharply on small Northwest receipts and renewed bullish feeling, but finally collapsed under heavy unloading, and closed 7-8c lower, No. 2 red Jan. opened 98 3-8 to 99 7-8, closed 98 3-8; May opened 93 7-8 to 95 11-16, closed 91; Dec. opened \$1.00 1-2 to \$1.02, closed \$1.00 1-2.

New York, Dec. 22.—Wheat — Receipts 110,075 bushels, exports 63,985 bushels, sales 2,060,000 bushels, futures 48,000 bushels, spot. Spot weak, No. 2 red \$1.00 5-8 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.02 7-8 f.o.b. afloat, No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.02 5-8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern New York \$1.01 5-8 f.o.b. afloat. Options opened steady on unexpectedly favorable cables and later showed some firmness on light offerings and fair bull support, but finally broke sharply under liquidation in December which closed 3-4 cent off against 1-8c to 1-4c net loss in other months; No. 2 red Jan. 98 1-8c to 98 3-4c closed 98 1-8c; May 93 9-10c to 94 7-16 closed 93 1-8; July 87 5-8 to 88c, closed 87 5-8c; Dec. 99 5-8 to \$1.01 3-16, closed 99 5-8.

New York, Dec. 23.—Wheat — receipts 72,150 bushels; exports 154,604 bushels; sales 2,145,000 bushels; futures: 160,000 spot. Spot firm; No. 2 red \$1.01 3-4 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba, \$1.04 do.; No. 1 northern, New York, \$1.02 3-4. Options opened firm on unexpectedly better cables and was advanced later on war talk from Europe and a good demand from all local sources, closing strong at 1 1-8 to 5-8 net advance. No. 2 red January '98 7-8 to 99, closed 95 1-2; July 88 1-8 to 89 1-16, closed 88 1-2; December, \$1.01 to 1.01 5-8 closed \$1.01 1-8.

On Friday, December 24 wheat closed at \$1.01 3-4 for December, and 95 3-8c for May option. A week ago May wheat closed at 93 3-4c.

## MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Friday, Dec. 24, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 93c for December, and 91c for May option. A week ago May wheat closed at 90 1-8c.

## Chicago Board of Trade Prices

Prices are quoted per bushel of 60 pounds for wheat, bushel of 56 pounds of corn, bushel of 32 pounds of oats, per barrel for mess pork, and per 100 pounds for lard and short rib bacon; flax seed per bushel of 56 pounds.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Interest in the big December wheat deal was greatly increased to-day by the arrival from Washington of L. Z. Leiter, the millionaire ex-merchant of Chicago, and the substantial admission by him that his millions were at his son's command in his struggle with other interests. "My son has plenty of money to pay for the wheat he has purchased," said Mr. Leiter. "The quality of the wheat which he has purchased is of the highest, and I am sure will be in demand at a higher price than he paid for it, I am well pleased with the situation."

Geo. B. French, one of the Leiter clique, stated to-day that the bull combination will have about 6,000,000 bushels of wheat to take care of. The tactics of Armour in rushing millions of bushels to the Chicago market, he said, have caused the Leiter following to change some of their plans very materially. There was another big increase in the amount of contract wheat in store here to-day, over 500,000 bushels being added to the stocks. At least 3,000,000 bushels more are expected to arrive, and in the liquidation of this is expected to come the final test of strength for Leiter. The 500,000 bushels delivered to-day had not the slightest weakening effect on December. On the contrary it sold as high as \$1.02 shortly after the opening. It subsequently reacted to 99 1-2, which was 1-2c above where it closed Saturday.

The leading futures closed as follows: Wheat—Dec. \$1.00, Jan. 95 1-2c, May 91 1-4c.

Corn—Dec. 26 3-4c, Jan. 27c, May 29 7-8c.

Oats—Dec. 21 7-8c, May 22 3-4c, to 22 7-8c.

Mess pork—Dec. \$7.72 1-2, Jan. \$8.77 1-2, May \$9.05.

Lard—Dec. \$4.50, Jan. \$4.65, May \$4.82 1-2.

Short ribs—Dec. \$4.47 1-2, Jan. \$4.50, May \$4.67 1-2.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Dec. \$1; Jan. 94; May 93 1-4.

Corn—Dec. 26 3-8, Jan. 26 3-4; May 29 3-8 to 1-2.

Oats—Dec. 21 3-4; May 22 5-8.

Mess pork — Dec. \$7.60; Jan. \$8.62 1-2; May \$8.77 1-2.

Lard—Dec. \$4.40; Jan. \$4.52 1-2; May \$4.72 1-2.

Short ribs—Dec. and Jan. \$4.40; May \$4.45.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Dec. 98 3-4c, Jan. 93 1-2c, May 92 7-8c to 93c.

Corn—Dec. 26 1-4 to 3-8c, Jan. 26 1-2c, May 29 3-8 to 1-2c, July 30 12c.

Oats—Dec. 21 7-8c to 22c, May 22 5-8c.

Pork—Dec. \$7.65, Jan. \$8.70, May \$8.92 1-2.

Lard—Dec. \$4.45, Jan. \$4.57 1-2, May \$4.72 1-2.

Short ribs—Dec. \$4.42 1-2, Jan. \$4.42 1-2, May \$4.52 1-2.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The possibility that Leiter and Armour will pool their interests to corner May wheat is stirring traders on change. The Post says: "George French operating for the Leiter crowd, has piled up a line of at least four mil-

lion bushels of May wheat, according to reports from the floor. Armour's radical change of front in buying May wheat is common knowledge. It is equally well known that Armour has a pyramid of May wheat bought, which is supposed to come close to the Leiter holding. As if to emphasize the bull talk both Armour's and Leiter's men bought wheat to-day. Armour's movements are closely veiled, but Leiter's engineers make no secret of their dealings in May wheat. Already that option is regarded as being as very dangerous for the public to handle."

The leading futures closed as follows.

Wheat—Dec., 99 1-2; Jan., 94 3-4; May, 93 3-8.

Corn — Dec., 26 1-2; Jan., 26 3-4; May, 29 1-2; July, 30 1-2.

Oats—Dec., 22 1-2; May, 23.

Mess pork—Dec., \$7.70; Jan., \$8.72 1-2; May, \$8.87 1-2.

Lard—Dec., \$4.45; Jan., \$4.57 1-2; May, \$4.72 1-2.

Ribs—Dec., \$4.40; Jan., \$4.42 1-2; May, \$4.57 1-2.

On Friday, Dec. 24, May wheat opened at 94 1-8 and ranged between the opening price and 94 7-8c. Closing prices were:

Wheat—Dec. 99c, May 94 1-4c, July \$4 1-2.

Corn—Dec. 26 5-8c, May 29 5-8c.

Oats—Dec. 22 5-8c, May 23 1-2c.

Pork—Dec. \$7.70, Jan. \$8.75.

Lard—Jan \$4.55.

Ribs—Jan \$4.42 1-2c.

Flax seed—Cash \$1.19 1-2.

A week ago May wheat closed at 92 1-2. A year ago May wheat closed at \$1 7-8c, two years ago at 58 5-8c, and three years ago at 57 5-8c.

## LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, Dec. 23.—Closing—Corn — Futures steady; Dec. 3s 1-2d; Jan. 3s 2d; Feb. 3s 17-8d.

## BRITISH STOCKS.

London, Dec. 23.—4 p.m. closing—Consols for money 112 5-16; consols for the account 112 7-16. Canadian Pacific 83 7-8.

## BUSINESS AT TORONTO.

Shorter credits for knitted goods. Yarns lower. Tomatoes reach \$1.00.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Dec. 24.

This was the first week of sleighing throughout Ontario. Business very active. Grain deliveries increasing. Best holiday demand in the retail trade for five years. Holiday goods absorbing attention. The Canadian Knitting Mills association has decided to shorten credit to four months, March and September 1st, with uniform cash discount Canadian white yarns and wrapped are slightly reduced. There are inquiries from Winnipeg for Ontario cats, with offers from here at 40 cents delivered in Winnipeg, and 37 bid. Sugars are firm, cane in Europe one penny dearer. Canned salmon is stronger. Tomatoes are dearer, and \$1 is now asked. Currants firmer, and stocks almost exhausted. Ontario and Manitoba wheat 1-2c lower.

## TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Fourteen loads into to-day, including about eight hundred hogs. Scarcely any market. Butchers' cattle, 23-4c to 31-2c; shippers, 31-2 to 41-4c; bulls, 3 to 31-2; stockers, 23-4 to 31-4c; feeders, 3 to 31-2c; stock bulls, 2 to 21-4c. Hogs, best bacon, \$4.75 thick fat and light \$4.25 off cars.