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

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 31, 1895.

Manitoba.

J. J. Manley is opening a harness shop and boot and shoe store at Lake Dauphin.

A license has been refused the brewery at Neepawa, as a local option law is in force there.

MacKenzie Bros., farmers, Lake Dauphin district, are selling out their farming property and contemplate starting a general store.

J. B. Ferguson, manager of the late Ferguson Co, stationary, Winnipeg, has gone to British Columbia, and contemplates locating in the Kootenay country.

W. A. Myers, of the Gladstone Age, has disposed of his paper to J. K. Hall, a school teacher of Gladstone, who will take possession on September 1st. Mr. Myers intends going into the Dauphin country.

A meeting of the advisory board was held on Thursday, when a regulation was passed authorizing a commercial course for high schools, in compliance with the suggestion of the Winnipeg school board.

The Winnipeg board of trade has arranged for a trip to the far famed Kootenay country, and the party will start about September 15. The exact date has not yet been decided upon. A return trip at about single fare has been arranged for.

A telegram received from Ottawa says that the fishing licences for Lake Winnipeg have been extended until October 5th, instead of ending on the 1st September. This will be the means of providing labor for four hundred men that otherwise would have been discharged at the end of August.

There was a slight error in the reference to the sale of the stock of S. T. Hopper, of Rapid City. Corrected the item is as follows: S. T. Hopper, general storekeeper, of Newdale, has bought the general store stock of S. T. Hopper, of Rapid City, at a rate on the dollar, and will continue the business during the fall trade season, after which he will remove the balance of the stock to Newdale.

A new line of business which will serve a useful purpose, has been opened in Winnipeg by Wm. Guy Livingston & Co., who will act as brokers for general merchants or others who wish to dispose of their stocks or business. Parties wishing to sell out in any line of business, will be assisted to find a purchaser, and all correspondence will be carried on in a confidential manner. Mr. Livingston, who is at the head of the business, was manager here for the Provincial Provident

Insurance Co, until this company was recently amalgamated with the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Co.

Alberta.

The South Edmonton News will change hands on September 1st. R. P. Pettipiece has sold out to J. McDonald and A. R. McDonald.

I. Cowie, of Edmonton, will go the Kootenay country on a free ticket supplied by the Canadian Pacific Railway as a delegate of the Edmonton board of trade, to investigate the prospects of shipping produce from the Edmonton district to that region.

There is a serious famine in this district, says the Edmonton Bulletin. The farmers are most of them wanting to commence cutting their grain, but are unable to do so because there is no binder twine to be got.

Assiniboia.

Arrangements are in progress for the establishment of another newspaper in Moosomin, which will be conducted in the interests of the Liberal party by E. A. Burbank, formerly of the Carman Standard.

The Roche Percees Coal Company have a large staff of men at work getting in their railway track to their mines. The Roche Percees Company evidently mean business, as they are expending about \$6,000 on railway and buildings in addition to former expenditures. This company is building adequate offices, store, stable, boarding houses, in addition to putting in tipples and other plant to provide for an output of 200 tons per day.

Northwest Ontario.

Labby & Co., have opened a grocery and crockery store at Rat Portage.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company is arranging for an exhibit of Lake of the Woods ores at the Toronto exhibition, and the Ontario government will also make a similar exhibit.

The north shore of Lake Superior has been added to the gold producing districts of the world. The Empress mine, Jackfish bay, Lake Superior, has turned out the first gold brick from the new mill recently erected at the mine. The Empress was organized last December under the Ontario mining laws with \$100,000 capital. The owners of the mine took \$50,000 paid up stock for the property; \$10,000 of the remainder was issued at 50 cents, putting \$20,000 in cash in the treasury and before this amount is expended in mining buildings and mill the mine is producing more gold bullion than will pay working expenses of the mine and mill.

Grain and Milling.

R. P. Roblin is erecting a 80,000 bushel elevator at Austin, Man.

McKinnon & Kennedy, oatmeal mill, Portage la Prairie, Man., contemplate selling out.

The flour mill at Hartney, Man., has been offered for sale for \$3000. There is no doubt says the local paper, that if the water supply were all right, the mill at such a price would be quickly purchased and operated.

Deloraine, Man., is to have two new elevators this fall, says the Times. Mr. Mann, of Souris, has secured a site, and another site has been secured by the Lake of the Woods company. These two elevators, together with the mill, will about double the storage capacity for grain in Deloraine.

In the Commons last week Hon. J. F. Wood asked if it was the intention of the government to make any changes in the rules regulating the selection of grain stand-

ards for Manitoba and the Territories. Sir Henry Joly replied none that would require an amendment to the act, although some changes were being considered.

Mr. Hughes is building a flour mill at Deloraine, Man. The mill is to be completed early in November.

The first two cars of new wheat passed through Winnipeg on Thursday for the Lake of the Woods Milling Co. The wheat was grown on the farm of Dr. Klawson, of Grotna, graded No. 1 hard, and averaged 17 bushels to the acre.

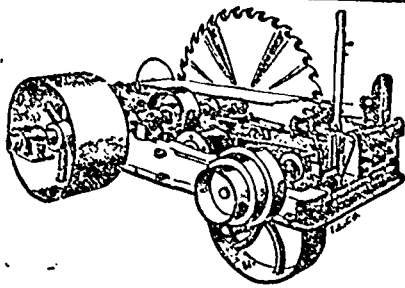
The Flannellette War

A Toronto despatch in yesterday's Sun told of the sharp cutting in prices of flannellettes between the Canadian cotton combine and Wm. Parks & Son, of St. John, N.B.

In conversation yesterday John H. Parks stated that the cutting was done by the combine. His company a short time ago brought out a line of flannellettes of designs and colors different from any other mills. They placed it on the market at the price of goods of similar weight turned out by the combine. A demand set in and the combine cut the price of that line of their goods which was nearest in weight and selling price to that made by the Parkes company. They did not cut the price of either their lower or higher priced grades—but just this one line. And that caused trouble among the dealers, for nobody would buy the cheaper makes—say a 4½c article—when a 6½c article was being offered at 5c. Mr. Parks says he had no intention of cutting prices, but marked his goods at what he considered equivalent to what the combine was charging for similar goods though different in design and colorings. The cut was therefore a great surprise to him. He had not the reduction, and that was all there was about it. The combine had cut the price of gray cotton when he was in that line, and he had gone out of it. They had also, lately, cut the price of cotton yarns, which he manufactures most extensively, although the cotton market has been steadily advancing of late.

Speaking of the cotton industry in general Mr. Parks referred to a proposition he had made to the late government, and which he purposed bringing to the new government's attention. There is only one print mill in Canada, that at Magog, and owned by the combine. One print mill can keep a number of other mills employed. Their products, in the form of print cloths, are taken to it to be finished. Now Canada in the last fiscal year, despite the ex tance of the Magog mill, imported over 30,000,000 yards of prints, an increase of 8,000,000 on the previous year. Mr. Parke's proposition to the government was that he be permitted to send print cloths either to the United States or to England to be finished, and on their re-entry he be required to pay duty on the improvement only. He had made arrangements with a mill near Boston to have the work done, and had arranged with the United States government to get a refund of the duty paid there, when the goods were brought away again, the treasury department agreeing with his proposition that print cloths were raw material for their print mills. Mr. Parks claims that if Canadian mills were allowed to do that they could do a much larger business in the manufacture of print cloths, in addition to their present line of cotton goods. The late government could not, at the last session of parliament, take action in the matter, but the new government may take it up.

With regard to flannellettes, Mr. Parks was in Lowell the other day and saw a mill working night and day on flannellettes, and even in the face of the present depression there, getting higher prices than he gets for the same class of goods.— St. John Sun,

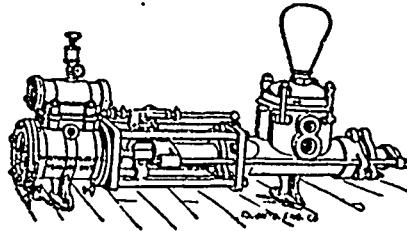


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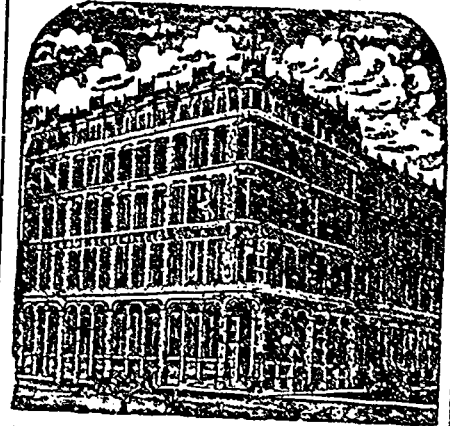
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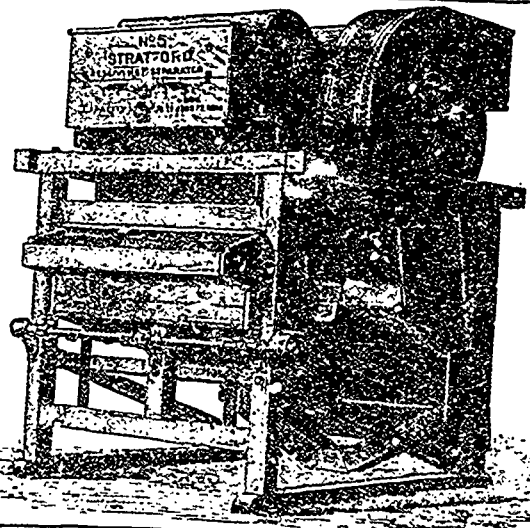
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 31, 1896.

WOOL PRICES.

The low price for wool is just now attracting attention. Wool is perhaps no lower, comparatively, than many other commodities, but it is considerably lower this year than last. The Commercial has from time to time this season reported information about wool from other markets, showing why prices were low here. A western paper, the Moosomin Spectator, intimates that there is a combine among the Canadian dealers to bear down prices, and gives this as the reason for the low prices. The Commercial does not believe that any such a combination can exist. If it does, it must of necessity include the United States as well as Canada, and it is extremely improbable that any such combination could exist and not be known.

Wool is low because there is an over-supply on hand and the demand is slow. In leading United States markets stocks are very large, and consumption has been very limited for some time back, as many of the factories are closed. Buyers have been very backward about taking hold of the new clip, on account of the large stocks of old wool, and besides this there is the silver question and the unsettled financial and political situation which all combine to depress prices. The Commercial has several times repeated these facts in connection with our wool reports. The price of wool in Canada is governed very largely by the situation in the United States, and prices in Canada are no worse than in the United States. In fact, United States markets are lower on several grades than prices here.

The Spectator further refers to the statement made in a Winnipeg paper that a Manitoba woolen mill concern had paid 14 to 15 cents per pound for its supply of wool, inferring therefrom, that if the mill could pay this price, the dealers were not paying enough. At the time this statement was published about a mill paying 14 to 15c for wool, The Commercial corrected the report by stating that the price represented the value on a basis of washed wool. The usual quotations here are for unwashed wool and the price reported to have been paid by the mill for washed wool would be about equal to the value of unwashed wool on a basis of Winnipeg quotations.

Local mills would not be obliged to pay 100 per cent. advance on the price offered by dealers, as the Spectator offers, to keep the wool from going out of their districts. About half a cent per pound, or less, over the price offered by shippers, would be sufficient to enable a mill to secure all the wool in the neighborhood. Besides, they could go to a dealer and buy all the wool they wanted in bulk at about one cent advance over the price paid by the dealer, and get a selected quality, more suitable to their wants than they could secure by buying in small lots from farmers. The story of a mill paying 100, or 50, or even 25 per cent. more for wool than the dealers were offering, is absurd.

HAIL INSURANCE.

The country press of Manitoba seems to be largely in favor of a government system of hail insurance, of a compulsory nature. Several of these papers have elaborated a system of insurance on this basis. The Commercial has in previous issues referred to the question of hail insurance, but not to the extent of elaborating any practical plan upon which a system could be carried into effect. The first thing to be decided upon is the advisability or otherwise of introducing a government system of hail insurance. If the question should be decided in the affirmative, it would be an easy matter to work out a system, and we leave that for the proper authorities to do. There is nothing impractical or indeed difficult in devising a government system of hail insurance which could be easily and inexpensively operated. The question is simply, is it expedient?

Most of those who have proposed a provincial government system of hail insurance, take the ground that a fund should be raised by an assessment on all property of say about two mills on the dollar. A little consideration will show that any system on this basis would be altogether unreasonable. Hail insurance is a purely business matter. It is good business principle for all people to protect their property by insurance, whenever they can do so to reasonably good advantage. It would be good business principle for the farmers to protect themselves by hail insurance, if they could do so on a fairly reasonable basis, the same as it is for the merchant to cover his property with fire insurance policies. Hail insurance should not be thought of as a philanthropic matter, but purely as a business affair, for such it is. It is therefore plain that only those who receive the protection, should be made to pay for it. If it is agreed that hail insurance is to be a philanthropic affair, then of course it might be reasoned that it would be policy to tax everyone for the benefit of those who grow crops. Our sturdy and independent farmers, however, do not want charity. No reasonable person, we believe, will wish to consider the question as other than a purely business matter. No one has yet proposed a system of fire insurance, or life insurance on the basis of a general tax on all property. Such a proposition would be declared as absurd on all hands, but it is really no more absurd than it would be to apply the same principle to hail insurance. One is just as much a business matter as the other, and if a provincial, compulsory system of hail insurance is adopted, it should be only on the basis that those who are protected thereby should be taxed, and taxed also in proportion to the protection afforded. The only way to arrive at this, is to make the tax on the cultivated area. It would be unreasonable to tax a man who held a large property for stock-raising purposes, for the benefit of another who devoted his acres to the growing of wheat. If those who grow large areas of grain want protection against hail, on a provincial plan of insurance, they should have it on a purely business basis, the same as the stock-raiser has to secure insurance on his stock from lightning and fire, on a business basis.

If those who are agitating for a compulsory provincial government system of hail insurance will just reduce the matter to a business basis, it will simplify the situation very much, as regards either the advisability of adopting such a system or the mode of carrying it into effect. The only arbitrary feature of the case is the question of compelling many persons to unwillingly protect themselves against loss from hail. It would be somewhat arbitrary to compel each farmer to pay a tax on his cultivated area, as a protection against loss from hail, but it might be for the general public good. But when we propose to tax all property for the protection only of those who grow crops, then we propose something which is not only arbitrary, but absolutely unjust. It would be arbitrary but perhaps justifiable to force some to protect themselves; but it would be a scandal to force some to pay for the protection of others. The only reason to urge a government system of hail insurance is to reduce the cost of the insurance to the farmers. All notions of placing it on a philanthropic basis by taxing all to benefit some, should be abandoned at once.

The existing act of the provincial legislature, which provides for a plan of municipal hail insurance, is faulty in two respects. It first makes it a local system, by allowing any municipality to go into the hail insurance business. Hail storms are usually local, and to be of any value a system of hail insurance should be general. By distributing the tax over the cultivated area of the whole province, it would scarcely be felt in any ordinary year, while a single small municipality might suffer severely from hail for two or more years in succession. The existing act is faulty in another respect, because it allows municipalities to tax all land within their authority for the benefit solely of those who grow crops. It is therefore not on a business basis, and no good reason can be urged why those who grow grain should not pay for their own protection, the same as the stock-raiser, dairyman, or other owner who devoted his land to other purposes than growing grain. By assessing the cultivated area, each one would contribute, in approximate proportion at least, to the protection afforded in each individual case, and this is the only reasonable basis for hail or any other class of insurance.

CUTTING PRICES.

Cutting prices is one of the evils of business in almost every line of trade. The manufacturer, the jobber, and the retailer alike suffer from this unbusinesslike practice. Of course, there are times when it is necessary to cut prices on certain lines of goods in order to clean them out. This applies to perishable commodities, or to lines which are going out of season or out of style. Cutting to close out goods of this class is sometimes permissible. But when cutting prices is resorted to as a habit, to draw trade or harass a competitor, it is one of the most demoralizing features of trade. Many business men are ruined through this habit, and we have seen the entire trade of a town in a given branch of business, utterly demoralized for an entire season through a war of

cutting in prices. One man with a penchant for cutting prices will demoralize the trade of an entire community, and not only make business unprofitable for himself, but also destroy the prospects of every other person in the trade.

Cutting prices does not show good business ability, as a rule. It belongs to the cheap John style of doing business. The man who habitually resorts to cutting prices in order to draw trade, probably lacks the ability of working up business in a more legitimate fashion. At least, it indicates a lack of ability to draw trade by ordinary business methods. In a well ordered establishment habitual price-cutting is not one of the features of the place. It may draw a certain class of custom for a time, but it does not wear. A legitimate profit on business conducted in an honest and honorable way will count more in the long run.

Cutting prices very often does not indicate simply a desire to extend business. It is often resorted to out of jealousy of a competitor. Sometimes it is the result of a personal feeling against a competitor. To resort to price cutting for any such reason as this, is more unbusinesslike and more objectionable than to do it with the object solely of drawing trade. Cutting prices is at best a dog-in-the-manger policy, which says in effect that "if I cannot do a profitable business myself, I will see that no one else will do it."

Business men are often induced to cut prices by paying too much attention to gossip they hear from their customers. The Commercial has in view at the present time some instances where business men have been hindered from getting a reasonable margin of profit, through reports brought to them by customers. For instance, a customer in examining goods will declare that he can purchase exactly the same article at another store for a certain sum less than is asked by the salesman with whom he is dealing. The customer is always extremely positive that the article is exactly the same, but in nine cases out of ten, if a comparison were made, it would at once be found that the articles were quite different. Sometimes the dealer will accept a statement as true and make up his mind that the competitor is cutting prices, and he at once starts in to adopt the same unbusinesslike course. Sometimes the customers who says he can get an article cheaper at another store, is telling a straight untruth, and does so for the purpose of securing the goods at a lower price. The Commercial has another case in view where cutting was started in a stable line of goods through a lie of this nature. The dealer believed the statement and cut the price of the goods, entailing considerable loss on himself and others in the same line. After the season's trade in this line of goods was over it was discovered that the statement that another dealer was selling at a lower price, was a straight untruth, made with the object of securing the goods at a cut rate.

Sometimes it is a customer who has goods to sell who makes false statements of this nature. Parties who have butter, eggs, hides, wool, or other commodities to dispose of, will often make the rounds of all the dealers, intimating to each one that they can get a

better price from another dealer. A suspicion is thus aroused that another dealer is paying more than the market price, and an unsatisfactory condition is often the result, through paying more for the goods than the market will stand.

There is often altogether too much jealousy and mistrust of each other among business men in the same branches of trade, and when credence is placed in every statement made by customers that they can buy an article cheaper or sell at a better price to a competitor, there will always be danger of making business unprofitable by cutting prices, or if in a purchasing business, of paying more than the goods are worth.

Business men will be wise to pay very little attention, as a rule, to statements of this nature made to them by customers. It is all the same whether the customer is buying from them or selling to them. In the great majority of instances statements of this nature are either based on a misconception or they are absolutely false. At any rate, they seldom form any reasonable excuse for resorting to a war of cutting prices.

MINING SPECULATION.

A wave of mining speculations seems to be developing both east and west of us at present. Our advices from British Columbia intimate that some questionable mining enterprises have or are being floated there. During a time of mining activity there will always be some such enterprises floated, and it is not always easy to distinguish between sound and unsound concerns. This has created a mistrust for mining investments which has greatly injured and retarded many legitimate mining enterprises.

Mr. Kingsmill, president of the Ontario Mining Institute, in a letter to the president of the Toronto board of trade, recently enumerated several important points on which investors should satisfy themselves before parting with their money. These he states as follows:

- (1) Whether the company has been incorporated, and where?
- (2) Whether the stock is paid up and unassessable; if not, what is the extent of the liability of the holders of it? (This depends on the legislation of the place of incorporation.)
- (3) Whether the company has procured a crown grant for the mining locations.
- (4) Whether any development work has been done; and if so, whether it is established that the location justifies further expenditure.
- (5) Whether the incorporators are men worthy of the trust reposed in them, and such men as the investors would trust with the management of their affairs and the investment of their money.
- (6) Whether money raised on the first sale of stock is to be devoted to development purposes or not; if not, a good reason for declining to accept shares would be afforded thereby.

Mr. Kingsmill comments further as follows:

"In my opinion no portion of promoters' stock should be placed upon the market until sufficient treasury stock has been disposed of and expended to demonstrate the value of the property.

"Of these points perhaps none is more important than the fifth. Trustworthiness is

perhaps an indispensable qualification, but a mining manager must be equipped with more than honesty. No higher recommendation could be given a mine than the fact of its being in the hands of men of experience, and whose experience has been crowned with success. The investor will have a very convincing guarantee of a mine's merit, if he knows the promoters have given evidence of their faith by making large investments themselves. The warning regarding assessable and unassessable stock does not necessarily condemn the former, if the investor feels assured he is prepared for assessments and can await profits as slow to come as they may be enormous when they do come."

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The statement of Mr. Laurier made in a letter to a Chicago paper, regarding our relationship with the United States, is receiving considerable attention throughout the country. Very few people in Canada will take any exception to the remarks of the first minister, in expressing his desire for friendly relationship with the United States. "Providence has placed us in the position of neighbors," says Mr. Laurier, "and we should strive to live side by side on terms of mutual friendship and respect." This is what every one in each country should be prepared to acquiesce in. Politicians in both countries sometimes talk in a strain calculated to stir up international animosities, to further political ends, but it is encouraging to believe that the trend of events is in the direction of closer relationship and greater friendship between the two countries. Anything Mr. Laurier can do to render intercourse between the two countries more friendly, will be welcomed by the people of Canada, so long as it is not done at any sacrifice of our national interests.

After expressions of friendship for the United States, Mr. Laurier proceeds to discuss several questions which have formed subjects of negotiation with the Republic in the past. Regarding the Atlantic fishery dispute he says:

"I do not see now why an arrangement should not be made resembling that effected under the treaty of Washington in 1871 and the treaty of 1851, whereby not only the ports but the inshore waters of both countries were thrown open to the fishermen of both on equal terms, and the markets for the fish of the two countries made equally free."

We in the West are not directly interested in the fishery question. No doubt Mr. Laurier's proposal would be acceptable to our Atlantic fishery interests, but it is hardly likely to prove acceptable to the United States, under a high tariff administration at least. Under such an arrangement the United States would have the advantage in respect to the value of the fisheries, as our fisheries are immensely more valuable than those of the Republic. In throwing open the inshore fisheries of both countries it would therefore be Canada which would be making the sacrifice. On the other hand, Canada would be the gainer by free trade in fish between the two countries.

Regarding the trade situation Mr. Laurier's remarks do not convey any new proposition. He says:

To the Trade

We have about 5,000 pair of Odd Samples and lines of *Gloves, Mitts and Mocassins* in 1 1/2, 1/2 and fractions of dozens. These lines not being in regular stock, same will be sold less than cost to make room for our fall consignments coming forward.

JAMES' HALL & CO.,

Ontario Glove Works,

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THE BEST SOAP and the BEST SELLING SOAP IN CANADA.

THE ROYAL CROWN SOAP CO.,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

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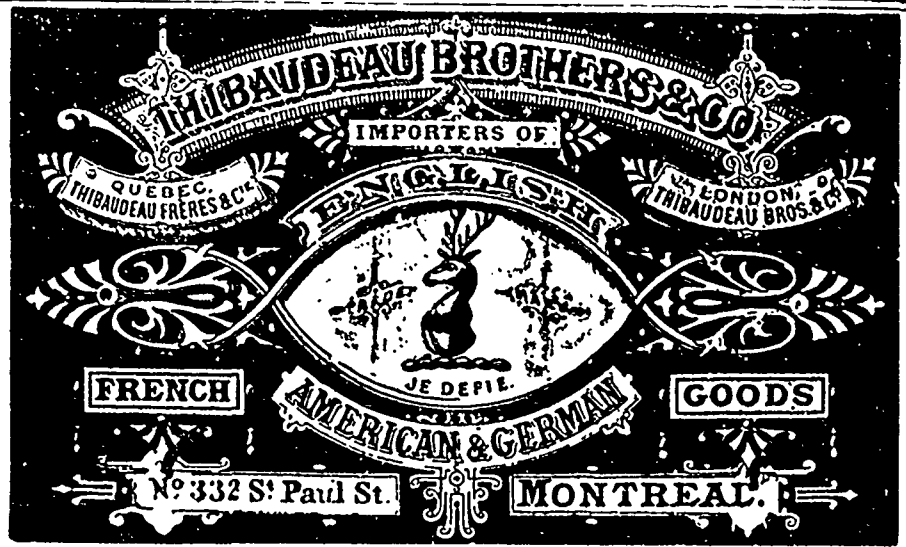
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Tinware of every Description
Manufactured by

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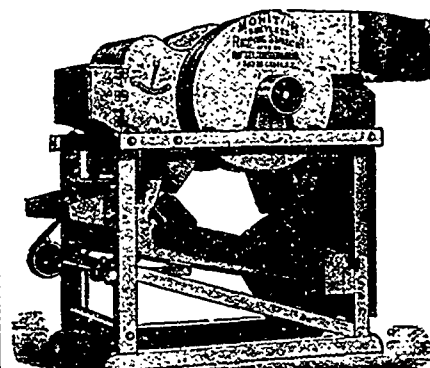
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GENERAL AGENT for Manitoba and Northwest Territories

JOHN McKECHNIE,

Send for Catalogue and Prices

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FOR WHEAT
FLOUR
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SHORTS
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FOR FLAX
POTATOES
COAL
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Also SEWING TWINES, JUTE,
COTTON and FLAX

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BRANDING INKS
3-GALLON KEGS
BLUE AND RED

For EVERY PURPOSE

Large and Complete Stock Carried in Winnipeg. Write us for Samples and Prices.

E. NICHOLSON, Successor to W. F. Henderson & Co. 124 Princess St., Winnipeg, Agents.

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

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

Messrs THE OGILVIE MILLING CO., WINNIPEG, MAN.

Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mills, of which we have imported considerable on this crop has given the highest satisfaction to ever 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-ture, and we can invariably command a higher price. We are, yours respectfully, WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

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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.

THE RIDDELL MANUFACTURING CO.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

HIGH CLASS BISCUITS AND CONFECTIONERY

When you are stocking up in Confectionery, TRY OUR VELVETS

We warrant them equal, if not superior to the best made on this continent.

FACTORY AND OFFICES: CORNER OF HIGGINS AND ARGYLE STREETS,
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

"As to closer trade relations, the Liberals have always been in favor of free trade with the United States, and I am prepared to make an arrangement with your country for the free exchange of such natural products and such manufactured articles as may be mutually agreed upon. This question, together with those of deep waterways and fisheries and the coasting trade of the lakes, should, it appears to me, be all taken up together and dealt with in a broad, serious and comprehensive spirit, on one anvil. I observe that the bonding privilege has recently been discussed in the United States Congress. Let that question be taken up along with the rest. The alien labor law of the United States, which has created a good deal of unpleasantness, should be included. In short let us have a thorough understanding and better relations all round.

There is nothing new in this statement regarding trade relations. It simply affirms the willingness of the administration to enter into a reciprocal treaty with the United States on certain specified articles. Every administration which has existed in Canada since confederation, has been willing to do the same thing, and several unsuccessful attempts have been made to secure a reciprocity treaty with the United States. The opposition has always come from the other side, and unless the situation in the United States has changed considerably, Mr. Laurier is no more likely to succeed than has been the case with past efforts in this direction.

The most important part of Mr. Laurier's remarks refer to the canal question, at least so far as central western Canada is concerned. In this connection Mr. Laurier expressed himself as hopeful that a feasible scheme would be found, which would enable the two countries to unite to open a deep water-way from the head of the lakes through to tide water. His exact words were as follows:

Commissioners have been appointed by the Governments of the two countries to consider the question of a deep water-way system, and I am in hopes that a perfectly feasible scheme will shortly be reported—a scheme that will enable the United States to participate in the work and exercise a joint control without in any way compromising the sovereignty of Canada over its own territory. It should be a purely business arrangement, with nothing political about it.

While Mr. Laurier hopes that a scheme may be evolved upon which the two countries can unite, it is really very doubtful if the canals will ever be dealt with in this way. The most feasible route for a deep water-way is through Canadian territory, and there would appear to be little reason to believe that the United States would bear any share of the cost of opening a deep water system through foreign territory.

As to the immense advantage which the proposed deep water-way would be to the people of both countries, there is no reason for doubt. It would certainly be the greatest thing which could be accomplished in the interest of the western farmers on both sides of the boundary. It would give them less freight rates both outward and inward, and remove the disadvantage under which the western farmers now labor, through being situated so far in the interior of the continent. It is greatly to be desired that this great water-way should be opened out,

but Canada could hardly be expected to carry out the work and throw it open to the United States on the same terms as to citizens of our own country. At the same time it seems questionable if the United States will enter into a plan for the construction of the deep water-way jointly by the two countries.

THE MANITOBA CROP.

The August crop bulletin of the Manitoba department of agriculture has been issued and will be found on another page of this issue. It bears out what has already been reported regarding wheat sown on stubble land without plowing, namely, that it is a failure in most cases. After throwing out 50 per cent. of the area sown on stubble as worthless, the average yield of wheat for the province is placed at 18.57 bushels per acre, making a total of 18,565,198 bushels. The August estimate last year was 25.5 bushels per acre, and a total of 29,139,815 bushels.

The deduction of 50 per cent. of the wheat sown on stubble from the total area, makes the wheat area for 1896 less than in any of the three previous years, but greater than in 1892. The wheat area in 1892 was in round figures 876,000 acres, 1,000,000 acres in 1893 and 1891, and 1,140,276 in 1895. The area for 1896, after the deduction noted, is 999,598. The total aggregate yield of wheat is greater than in any previous year except two, these being 1891 and 1895, when the final estimate was 23,191,000 bushels and 31,775,000 bushels respectively. Considering the reduced area on account of the late spring, and the unusual loss of hail storms this year, the returns are by no means unsatisfactory.

The total yield of oats, placed at 16,633,000 bushels, is greater than in any previous year, except 1895, when it was 22,555,000 bushels. In 1891, the next heaviest year, it was 14,762,000.

The total crop of barley, estimated at 3,696,460 bushels, is greater than in any previous year, except 1895, when it was 5,645,000 bushels. In 1891, the next heaviest year, it was 3,200,000 bushels.

Flax shows the greatest falling off, owing to the reduced area. The yield is placed at 11.2 bushels per acre, making a total of 288,615 bushels, as compared with about 1,250,000 bushels last year.

One of the most gratifying features of the report is the large area of land prepared for wheat next year. New breaking and summer fallow total up 111,320 acres, compared with 307,025 acres last year. This area of 441,320 represents land already prepared for wheat next spring, indicating that the crop area next year will be the largest in the history of Manitoba.

The damage done by hail is shown in the low average yield of crops in the south central district, where most of the hail damage was done.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We hope our friend of the Winnipeg Free Press will not consider The Commercial guilty of plagiarism, owing to the similarity of views presented in an article in this issue of The Commercial, to an article which appeared in the Free Press a few days ago. We refer to the article

dealing with Mr. Laurier's remarks to a Chicago newspaper man. The Commercial article was in type before the Free Press article was published. It is simply a case of two gigantic intellects, etc.

THE financial statement of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association is very gratifying. The statement shows receipts of about \$23,000 and disbursements of about \$21,000. The association will have a nice little balance to the good, after allowing for its liabilities to mature during the balance of the year, and providing for sinking fund and interest on the \$30,000 loan received from the city.

MR. NOSSEZ, Japanese consul at Vancouver, contemplated arranging a plan to send a number of Japanese farm laborers to Manitoba, to work in the harvest, but he abandoned the idea owing to the agitation in British Columbia against the admission of Chinese and Japanese immigrants. The consul says there are about 1,000 Japanese in British Columbia. In Japan laborers are content with 25 cents a day.

It is reported in an Ottawa telegram that the government will place a sum in the estimates to cover the outstanding liabilities of the exhibition held at Regina over a year ago. It is to be hoped that this report is true, and that these liabilities will be speedily liquidated. The Regina exhibition was to all intents and purposes a government affair, and the government is morally, if not legally bound to pay the legitimate claims against the exhibition management.

THE new minister of marine and fisheries—Hon. L. H. Davies—is already in trouble with the British Columbia salmon canners. Owing to the late date at which the salmon run started this year, the minister extended the season for taking salmon five days. The run of salmon was very large and the canners put up a large pack notwithstanding the lateness of the run. They did not want the season extended, as they feared it would have the effect of depreciating prices, in view of the heavy pack made. The minister, no doubt thought he was giving the packers a benefit in putting off the close season for five days. This shows the great care with which matters concerning trade have to be handled. Undoubtedly in this case the minister has done an injury rather than a good turn to the interest he no doubt desired to serve. In matters affecting business interests, it would often be better to consult with those most directly interested before making a change.

The September number of The Delineator is the handsomest and most striking issue of that publication yet issued, containing nine beautifully colored plates, illustrating dress modes and millinery. Of value to young ladies having vocal aspirations is Clementine de Vere Sapio's article on Singing as a Profession. Mrs. Maty Cadwalader-Jones puts much sprightly good sense into a discussion of the Abuse of Reading. A short story by Clinton Ross, called "The Lady of the Portrait" has a clever finale. A paper on Interior Decoration by France Leeds, etc. The Delineator Publishing Co., Toronto, Ont.

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ALSO OFFERS OF

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WHEAT of the Various Grades
FEED BARLEY.

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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

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Samples at McIntyre } REPRESENTATIVES.
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HIGHEST MARKET VALUE.

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Rolled Oats, Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley,
Rolled Wheat, Breakfast Cereals.
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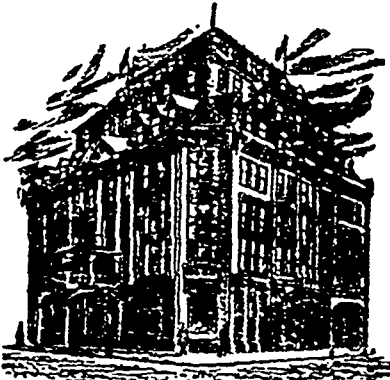
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Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness
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Special attention to Confidential Business Enquiries.
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Dealers in all Classes of

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Linens, Ledger and Bond Papers.

Quotations and Samples on Application.

Butter Wanted.

I will pay the highest market price, cash
on delivery, for any quantity first-class dairy
and creamery BUTTER. Holders will do
well to write all particulars.

COLD STORAGE - The rooms are in
perfect order. Will store 1,000 pounds or
over at 15c. per 100 pounds per month.

Eggs Wanted Also.

Address:

J. J. PHILP,

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**Carriage
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Our stock of Gears, Wheels,
Shafts, Spokes, Tops, Trim-
mings, etc., is now complete.
Write us for prices.

R. Cochrane & Co.,

WINNIPEG.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, August 29, 1896.

Business in both wholesale and retail trade is quiet, which is the usual condition at this season of the year. Harvesting has progressed rapidly this week, and a large portion of the crop is now in stock. There appears to be a sufficient supply of farm labor in the country, but more men have been brought in to work on the Dauphin railway. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show an increase of 41 per cent as compared with the corresponding week last year.

In the United States a tightening in financial circles is reported this week. Money on call at New York yesterday was firm at 6 to 8 per cent, and prime mercantile paper at 7 to 9 per cent. Bar silver was quoted at 66½¢ yesterday.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Aug. 29.

[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.]

COAL.—The advance of 25c per ton on freight rates from Pennsylvania goes into effect September 1, but so far it has not affected the price of coal here. Quotations delivered to consumers here are: Pennsylvania anthracite, \$10 per ton; Western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton; Souris lignite, \$1.50 per ton.

DRY GOODS.—Business is quiet at present, trade in summer goods being about over, and orders are well in for fall and winter stocks. Retail trade is also very quiet. Retailers are now receiving and opening winter lines.

FISH.—The close season for Lake Winnipeg whitefish, which begins on Sept. 1, has been extended to October 5. This will keep the fisheries on the lake busy for a month longer, adding considerable to the distribution of cash, as about 400 men are employed in the fisheries. Cured fish are low in stock here, but new supplies will soon be on the way to this market. The oyster season is already opening and supplies of fresh oysters are now on their way to this market. Prices are: Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickarel, 4c; sturgeon, 8c; salmon, 14c; halibut 12½c; smoked goldeyes, 30c doz, smoked salmon, 15c lb.

DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.—Grenoble Walnuts, 14c; Tarragona almonds, 15c, princess paper shell almonds, 20c; Sicily filberts, large, 12c; Brazil nuts, 14c; peanuts, roasted, 13c, peanuts greens, 11c; Ontario black walnuts, 8c, butternuts, 9c; hickory nuts, 10c per pound; cocoanuts, \$1.00 per dozen; figs, new, 9 lb. boxes, 14c; figs, superior, 85 lb. boxes, 19c; figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb; dates, new, 6 and 7c per lb., apricots, 13½ to 14c; dried apples, 5½ to 6c; evaporated apples 6 to 7c per lb.

GREEN FRUITS.—Lemons still sell at comparatively lower prices here than in markets east and south. Arrivals of Ontario apples have not been of very good quality so far and have been mostly of the Duchess variety. They have sold from \$2 to \$3 per barrel, owing to poor quality. Arrivals next week are expected to be of better quality. Ontario basket fruits, in pears, plums, crabs, tomatoes, grapes, etc., are arriving, and are of the usual irregular quality. The grapes have been poor. Washington State peaches and plums of good quality have been coming in freely, and have had a good sale. Watermelons are lower. Crabs in barrels will be here next week. Prices are: California \$5.50 to \$6.00 per box, to quality; bananas, \$1.50 to \$3.00 per bunch as to size and quality; good shipping stock,

\$2.00 to \$3.00 per bunch; Washington peaches, \$1.25 to \$1.50 box, Washington plums \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box as to quality and variety; Oregon pears 2.00 to \$2.50 per box; Ontario apples \$3.00 to \$3.25 barrel for choice stock; watermelons, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per dozen; nutmeg melons, \$1.50 per crate of one doz; tomatoes, 75 to 85c per basket of 20 lbs; crabs, 65c per basket of 20 lbs; pears, 80 to 85c per basket; blueberries, 4 to 5c per lb; southern concord grapes, 25 to 50c per basket of 10 lbs; California grapes \$2.50 to \$3 per crate; apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 30 gallon barrel; maple sugar 12½ per lb; maple syrup, 10 per wine gallon, in gallon tins; new southern onions, \$3 per 100 lbs. cucumbers, 35c per dozen; celery, 40c per dozen bunches; cabbage, 40c per dozen. Cauliflower 75c per dozen.

PAINTS, OILS ETC.—There is not much change this week. The only feature to note is the firmness in glass. Some dealers have advanced quotations to \$1.80 per box for first break and \$2.00 for second break.

WOOD FUEL.—There is very little wood offering, and dry wood is particularly scarce. No poplar is offering. Car lots of tamarac on track here are quoted at \$1.25 to \$1.50 as to quality. Pine, \$3.50 to \$3.75 as to quality. Good dry wood readily commands the outside price.

WHEAT.—GENERAL SITUATION.—The bulge in wheat last Saturday was not held, and prices gradually declined the first four days of the week at Chicago, but yesterday there was quite an upward move again in prices in United States markets. To-day markets are generally lower again. Cables have been generally firm, and there has been good foreign buying, but United States markets were influenced by the close monetary situation, and unsettled outlook. Crop news has been generally favorable to higher prices. Total exports of wheat, flour included, from both coasts of the United States and from Montreal this week, amounted to 3,281,854 bushels, against 2,991,000 bushels last week; 1,887,000 bushels in the week a year ago. 3,420,000 bushels two years ago.

WHEAT.—LOCAL SITUATION.—The market is about the same as last week. There is some demand for No. 1 hard, principally from millers, and prices for this grade have been well maintained, at about 4c above export value. Other grades are very slow, the demand being nearly all for No. 1 hard, though No. 1 northern will sell fairly well, but the supply of this grade is limited. There is a wide range between No. 1 and No. 2 hard, widening out in some cases to nearly 4c. This is claimed to be due to some extent to the mixing of scoured wheat in this grade. Scoured wheat cannot be mixed in No. 1 hard or No. 1 northern, according to the inspection regulations, consequently it goes into No. 2 hard. On the other hand it is claimed the wider range between the two grades is due to an undue appreciation of No. 1, rather than on account of the mixing of scoured wheat in No. 2. Rejected wheats are dull, as there is no export movement and also on account of the comparatively lower price of No. 2 hard. We quote prices to day as follows. No. 1 hard 6½c, No. 2 hard 3½c under No. 1, No. 3 hard 5½c, No. 1 Northern 60c, No. 1 rejected 53c, No. 2 rejected 50c. All quotations delivered afloat Fort William. Receipts of wheat at Fort William last week were 123,293 bushels, shipments 145,872 bushels, in store 2,750,632 bushels.

FLOUR.—Manitoba flours are held comparatively firm here and in eastern markets, but there is no change here. Jobbing prices are \$1.75 to \$1.90 for patents and \$1.55 to \$1.60 for strong bakers per sack of 48 pounds, delivered to city retail dealers; second bakers \$1.30 to \$1.35; XXXX \$1.05 to \$1.10, delivered. Brands of country mills

usually sell at 5 to 10c under these quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—City mills are still selling at \$8 per ton for bran and \$10 for shorts, delivered in the city, in broken lots. These prices do not include sacks.

OATS.—Prices have averaged lower in United States markets this week, prices at Chicago going under 16c for cash oats this week. Oats are considered a good purchase at present prices, as the crop is considered to be light in the United States, but a large crop of cheap corn will depreciate the value of oats. Here the market is dull and prices easy. We quote ½c lower for car lots at Manitoba country points at 10 to 11c, as to quality, on average freights. In the Winnipeg market cars have been offered, local freights paid, at about 18 to 18½c. The street price to farmers in Winnipeg is 16 to 18c, per bushel of 84 pounds.

BARLEY.—We hear of no business. The quotation of 11 to 12c in the country for car lots is nominal.

GROUND FEED. Prices range from \$9 to \$12 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

OATMEAL.—The following are the jobbing prices here for oatmeal: Rolled oats, 80 lb sacks, \$1.35; 40 lb sacks, 70c, 20 lb sacks 36½c; Granulated and standard meal, 98 pound sacks \$1.55, 49 lb sacks, 80c; rolled wheat, 80 lb sacks \$1.70.

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

BUTTER.—The strong tendency noted for creamery butter the past two weeks has flattened out considerably. Latest advices from the east show that the edge is off the market. Buyers are less anxious for goods, even at a fractional decline in prices. At Montreal yesterday creamery was quoted slow sale and easier at \$18 to 18½c per lb, these prices showing a decline of ¼ to ½c, as compared with a week ago. Here prices were maintained, and we quote 15 to 15½c paid to factories for fresh goods. Dairy is unchanged, and the demand is still limited. Good to choice fresh lots will bring 9 to 9½c, as to quality, and undergrades 7 to 8c.

CHEESE.—The feeling in cheese, like butter, has also been easier, and the recent boom in eastern cheese markets is off, for the present. Prices are lower. At Montreal yesterday finest Ontario was quoted at 8½ to 8¾c, and Quebec goods at 8 to 8½c, these prices showing a decline of about ½c since a week ago. At the last Ingersoll, Ontario, market, sales were at 7½ to 8½c, and at Belleville there were sales at 8½c. Here we quote 6½ to 6¾c to factories.

EGGS.—Dealers are paying 10c net for receipts, but some are jobbing at about the same price, though others hold at 11 to 11½c.

LARD.—Prices are: Pure \$1.60 for 20 lb. pails, and \$1.00 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins. \$3.25.

CURED MEATS.—For canvassed meats, add ½c per pound to prices below. Smoked meats are quoted. Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c, short spiced rolls, 7½c shoulders, 7½c smoked long clear, 8½ cents; Fancy clear, 8½ cents; Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7c per lb. shoulders, 6½c; backs, 5c; barrel pork, clear mess \$13.50; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel. Pork sundries, fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 3c; pickled tongues, 6c; sausage casings, 80c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—No change this week. We quote city dressed beef at 5 to 5½c, mut-

ton, 7c; dressed lambs, 8c. City dressed hogs, 5½c; country dressed 5c; Veal, at 5½c to 6½c.

POULTRY.—Chickens hold at 40 to 45 cents per pair as to quality. Spring chickens 80 to 40c per pair. Turkeys bring 9 to 10c per lb. live weight. Ducks, 10c dressed weight. Wild ducks will be in the market next week, as the close season ends on Aug. 31.

HIDES.—There is no further change in hides, and prices hold at the recent decline. Some dealers say that the market is still too high for green hides, as they will not pay for the cost of carrying, on a basis of Chicago prices. We quote: Hides, green cured, No. 1, 3½c; No. 2, 2½c; No. 3, 2c; calf, 8 to 15 lb. skins, 4 to 5c per lb.; dokins 10 to 20c each; kips 2½ to 3½c; sheepskins 10 to 15c lambskins, 10 to 25c; Horse-hides, 75c to \$1.25.

WOOL.—The market is very dull and there is very little offering. Considerable wool is held yet by producers, particularly the range wool. About 7c is usually the top offered here for unwashed fleeces, but for good lots ½ to ¾ more could be obtained.

TALLOW.—We quote No. 1 rendered, 3c per lb., and undergrades 2 to 2½c.

SENECA ROOT.—About 15c per lb is the usual price for fine, well dried and clean root, and bulby and dirty 12 to 18c. Offerings light.

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

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE.—There was considerable business doing in export cattle, Gordon & Ironsides being the principal shippers. They sent forward three train loads eastward. This firm has so far shipped 7,000 head this season, which represents the bulk of the cattle forwarded. This is a considerable falling off from last year, due to the fact that cattle have been very slow in fattening this season. This is attributed to the wet season, which kept the grass too soft to fatten well, while flies have also been unusually bad this season. Cattle are now doing well, but a great many require considerable time to feed up yet. Prices here are rather easier. We quote butcher's cattle at 2 to 2½c, and good export at about 3c, though choice animals would touch 3½c.

SHEEP.—There were no export sheep in this week, but we understand a train load from the C. A. C. range will be shipped soon. Two or three cars of local stuff were in, costing buyers here about 3c for sheep and 8½c for lambs, off cars.

HOGS.—Prices are the same as last week. Good bacon stock weighing 150 to 200 pounds 3½c. Sows and heavy hogs 2½ to 3c, according to quality. Stags 1½ to 2½c, off cars here.

The Live Stock Trade.

At Liverpool on August 24 there was a weaker feeling in the cattle market, and prices declined ½c, due to heavier supplies and a slower trade. Choice United States sold at 11½c and Canadian at 10½c. Sheep were weak and values are quoted 1c lower at 10 to 11c.

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on Aug. 24, there were heavier receipts of cattle, but the market was firmer, and higher prices in some cases were realized, but no general advance took place. There was considerable improvement in the quality of the stock offered. In the export line only a few small lots were picked up at 3½c, but for really prime heaves 4c would be paid. In a local way as high as 3½c was paid for a few choice steers, but the bulk of the sales of good catt'e were made at 3½c to 3½c, while fair sold at 2½c to 3c, and common to inferior at 1½ to 2½ per lb. live weight. The demand was good for export account for sheep, and they were picked up at 3c to 3½c per lb, while butchers

paid from \$2.25 to \$3 each. There was also a good demand for lambs, and good to choice sold at \$3 to \$1 each, and common to inferior at \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. Heavy hogs sold at \$3.50 to \$3.60 per 100 lbs., live weight.

Christie & Fares had in seven cars of cattle this week in the Winnipeg yards, three of which went to Northwestern Ontario points and Gordon & Ironsides got the rest.

At Toronto, on August 25, the feeling for butchers' cattle was weaker, hogs were steady; export cattle were a little lower. The best export sold for \$1 per cwt, but quite a few sold at \$3.60. Butchers' cattle were lower. The general run of the best sold at 2½ to 3c per lb; less desirable lots sold at 2¼ to 2½c per lb. Three cars of the best on the market sold for St. John, N.B., at 3 to 3½c per lb. Bulls were a little firmer at 2½c per lb. Good lambs sold at \$2.50 to \$3.25 each, or 2½ to 2¾c per lb. Export sheep sold at 2½ to 3c per lb. There was no demand for butchers' sheep. Milch cows and springers were in good demand and firm at \$20 to \$35 each. Hogs were steady at 4½ to 4¾c per lb. for best bacon hogs. Quotations for others were: Stores, \$3.40 to \$3.60; Thick fat, \$3.20 to \$3.25; Light fat, \$1 to \$1.15 per cwt.

Arch. McLean will have a train load of range cattle in about Sept. 10, from Lethbridge, which will be shipped through the Winnipeg exchange.

At Chicago, on August 22, sales were made of hogs at \$2.55 to \$3.25; medium weights at \$2.90 to \$3.50; and light weights at \$3.20 to \$3.55, heavy sold largely at \$2.80 to \$2.90 and medium at \$3.05 to \$3.20; native sheep sold at \$2 to \$3.60, and western at \$2.25 to \$3.50, sales being mostly above \$3. Lamb sold chiefly at \$1.50 to \$3.25.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

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

Grade.	July 25	Aug. 1	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22
Extra Manitoba hard.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	93	93	15	33	102
No. 2 hard.....	30	13	13	11	13
No. 3 hard.....	10	4	9	5	13
No. 1 North'n.....	25	21	33	12	17
No. 2 North'n.....	0	1	2	1	0
No. 3 North'n.....	0	0	1	2	0
No. 1 white fyte.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 2 white fyte.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring.....	2	2	3	0	0
No. 2 Spring.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 frosted.....	7	6	3	0	2
No. 2 frosted.....	1	3	0	2	0
No. 3 frosted.....	0	0	1	0	0
No. 1 Rejected.....	2	4	4	4	2
No. 2 Rejected.....	1	3	5	4	4
No Grade.....	2	6	3	6	1
Feed.....	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	178	169	133	85	151
Same week last year.....	12	2	3	59	32

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

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Aug. 22, 1893, shows a decrease of 1,081,000 for the corresponding week last year, an increase of 870,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 572,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade

and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	83,681,000	80,223,000	81,238,000	46,907,000
Feb. 6...	83,376,000	79,883,000	81,321,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,705,000	75,569,000	79,038,000	41,556,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,453,000	77,654,000	41,036,000
May, 6...	62,190,000	65,166,000	73,039,000	36,190,000
June 3...	52,229,000	59,694,000	71,050,000	27,910,000
July 1...	41,661,000	54,667,000	62,316,000	24,262,000
Aug. 3...	38,517,000	60,001,000	59,424,000	26,079,000
Sept. 7...	36,784,000	63,163,000	56,140,000	28,769,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,275,000	31,256,000
Nov. 4...	53,930,000	80,017,000	71,396,000	41,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,093,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,890,000

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

	1890.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,838,000	79,953,000	81,789,000
" 11...	63,915,000	86,015,000	80,433,000	81,080,000
" 18...	67,983,000	85,236,000	81,332,000	82,237,000
" 25...	67,523,000	84,665,000	80,261,000	81,487,000
Feb. 1...	66,731,000	83,876,000	79,843,000	81,393,000
" 8...	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,660,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,924,000	81,733,000	78,687,000	81,214,000
" 22...	63,011,000	79,470,000	77,257,000	79,443,000
March 1...	64,089,000	78,701,000	75,569,000	79,034,000
" 7...	62,590,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	74,143,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,813,000	73,859,000	74,720,000
" 21...	61,318,000	75,773,000	72,763,000	73,204,000
" 28...	61,015,000	74,222,000	71,425,000	72,634,000
April 4...	60,322,000	73,703,000	70,762,000	71,293,000
" 11...	59,330,000	70,437,000	69,217,000	70,090,000
" 18...	58,483,000	68,026,000	68,425,000	70,889,000
" 25...	57,916,000	65,776,000	66,543,000	70,070,000
May 2...	55,619,000	62,196,000	65,156,000	70,063,000
" 9...	54,000,000	59,623,000	63,510,000	72,642,000
" 16...	54,116,000	56,181,000	62,014,000	71,531,000
" 23...	51,393,000	54,214,000	61,329,000	70,169,000
" 30...	50,340,000	52,231,000	59,291,000	70,387,000
June 6...	50,147,000	49,739,000	58,214,000	69,662,000
" 13...	49,456,000	47,717,000	57,105,000	66,375,000
" 20...	48,819,000	46,225,000	55,882,000	63,081,000
" 27...	47,660,000	44,561,000	54,657,000	62,316,000
July 4...	47,193,000	43,359,000	54,114,000	61,419,000
" 11...	47,220,000	41,237,000	53,154,000	59,328,000
" 18...	46,743,000	40,483,000	53,771,000	58,904,000
" 25...	47,142,000	39,229,000	57,144,000	59,319,000
Aug. 1...	46,734,000	38,517,000	60,001,000	59,421,000
" 8...	46,429,000	37,339,000	62,321,000	58,892,000
" 15...	45,876,000	36,832,000	63,901,000	57,612,000
" 22...	45,183,000	35,933,000	64,771,000	57,410,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on August 15 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	268,000
Toronto.....	128,000
Kingston.....	28,000
Winnipeg.....	238,000
Manitoba interior elevators.....	595,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keowatin.....	2,472,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on August 15 1893:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	57,912,000
Pacific Coast.....	1,917,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	44,837,000
Pacific Coast.....	4,762,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Aug. 22, shows an increase of 359,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 57,661,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks of wheat on August 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and Africa for Europe) were 97,131,000 bushels, as compared with 118,857,000 bushels on August 1, 1895, 142,351,000 bushels on August 1, 1894, 151,070,000 bushels on that date in 1893, and as contrasted with 93,528,000 bushels on August 1, 1892, and with smaller totals on July 1 in preceding years.

James Medill is opening in boots and shoes at Brandon.

The Hartford Fire Insurance Co. has given notice that hereafter Canadian claims against the company will be paid in the lawful money of Canada.

The stock and effects of C. D. Bell, Portage la Prairie, is offered for sale by tender, consisting of groceries, crockery, fixtures, book debts, etc., totalling \$2,622.

No Sentiment about it

It is just a case of who serves your interests best. The up-to-date merchant knows how to find these things out and he will do it in his own way. We would say to these merchants, however, that we have not built our new cold storage warehouse for fun. We built it for use and we propose always to merit and OBTAIN our full share of the produce commission business of this country.

Send your Butter and Egg to us

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The Colonist.

The August number of The Colonist is devoted to Brandon, nearly the entire paper being filled with information about the western Manitoba city and its surroundings. It is also mostly profusely illustrated with excellent engravings. The publishers claim that this number gives the best description of Brandon ever published, and a glance at the paper would seem to bear out this claim, for certainly it is a fine number, while the large number of illustrations given is a matter of surprise. The engravings will convey to those who are not acquainted with the place some idea of the progress which has been made in building up a city on the banks of the Assiniboine in western Manitoba. The number begins with a description of the country surrounding Brandon, followed by a general description of the city itself, and then come a series of articles dealing with special interests, etc. Altogether the circulation of this number will result in drawing increased attention to this enterprising western city.

A Look Back.

Among the visitors to Winnipeg during the past week was W. D. Boyce, at one time associated with the present publisher of The Commercial in the old firm of Steen & Boyce. Mr. Boyce was accompanied by Mrs. Boyce and their children, all having returned from a week of camping and fishing on the Nopigon. Although it is nearly thirteen years since Mr. Boyce left this city, he had a warm welcome from many old friends, and he was not a little surprised and pleased at the progress and improvements in the city. His stay unfortunately was a short one, to the regret of those same old friends.

Mr. Boyce has not only made progress in wealth of late years, but has made a wide fame as a journalistic publisher, with his three big weeklies, The Blade, The Ledger and The World, with their aggregate circulation of over half a million. In politics he has made quite a position, and is one of the leading Republican organizers for the State of Illinois. Of course the writer tried to draw out a few opinions from him on United States politics, and was not a little surprised at the information received from such a reliable source. Mr. Boyce, although a Republican, and a gold man to the core, does not foreshadow any sweeping victory for McKinley. On the contrary, he thinks the present contest a very doubtful one, and such States as Illinois and Michigan, which we up here have been placing as solid for gold, he considers very doubtful. He does not fear the vote of the city laboring classes, but he looks for a pretty solid support for Bryan from the agricultural classes of the middle and western states. If he is right, and he

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has good opportunities to judge, the Presidential contest is certainly a doubtful one, and the fight will be bitter.

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Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

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

Wheat was irregular on Monday, advancing sharply on export buying and higher cables, but declined under speculative selling and closed 3/4 lower than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	57 1/4	57 1/4	—	61 1/2
Corn.....	22 1/4	22 1/4	—	—
Oats.....	—	16 1/2	—	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 85	5 90	—
Lard.....	—	3 37 1/2	3 45	—
Short Ribs.	—	3 32 1/2	3 30	—

Prices were stronger on Tuesday, influenced by firmer cables and unfavorable Russian crop reports, then declined in sympathy with the break in corn and speculative selling. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	56 1/4	56 1/4	—	60 1/2
Corn.....	21 1/4	21 1/4	—	—
Oats.....	15 1/4	16	—	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 57 1/2	—	—
Lard.....	—	—	—	—
Short Ribs.	—	—	—	—

On Wednesday prices were weak most of the day, though export buying stimulated prices for a time. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	55 3/4	56 1/4	—	59 3/4
Corn.....	21 1/4	21 1/4	—	—
Oats.....	—	16	—	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 42 1/2	5 52 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	3 32 1/2	3 40	—
Short Ribs.	—	3 15	3 22 1/2	—

On Thursday lower cables, foreign selling and smaller exports caused a weak market. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	55 3/4	55 3/4	—	59 1/2
Corn.....	20 3/4	20 3/4	—	—
Oats.....	—	15 1/2	—	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 50	5 57 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	3 30	3 37 1/2	—
Short Ribs..	—	3 20	3 27 1/2	—

Wheat was much stronger on Friday on firmer cables, improved export demand at New York, and an unfavorable crop report from the Hungarian minister of agriculture closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	57	57 1/4	—	60 3/4
Corn.....	21	21	—	—
Oats.....	—	16 1/2	—	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 62 1/2	5 72 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	3 35	3 42 1/2	—
Short Ribs.	—	3 25	3 32 1/2	—

On Saturday, Aug. 29, September wheat opened at 59 3/4c and ranged between 57 1/4 and 56 1/2c dropping near the close to the inside price. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.	Dec.
Wheat.....	56 1/4	56 1/4	60 1/4
Corn.....	20 3/4	20 3/4	22 3/4
Oats.....	16	16 1/2	—
Mess Pork..	—	5 62 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	3 35	—
Short Ribs..	—	3 20	—
Flax.....	—	64 1/2	68 1/2

A week ago Sept. wheat closed at 57 1/4c and a year ago at 60 3/4c and two years ago at 59 3/4c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Sept. 59 3/4c, Dec. 60 1/2c.
Tuesday—Sept. 57 1/2c, Dec. 59 3/4c.
Wednesday—Sept. 57 1/2c, Dec. 59 1/2c.
Thursday—Sept. 56 1/2c, Dec. 58 3/4c.
Friday—Sept. 58 1/2c, Dec. 60c.
Saturday—Sept. 57 1/2c, Dec. 59 3/4c.

A week ago September delivery closed at 58 3/4c. A year ago September delivery closed at 59 3/4c. Two years ago Sept. closed at 57 1/2c and three years ago at 60 1/2c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, August 29, No. 1 Northern wheat closed as follows: Sept. delivery at 59 3/4c, December at 56 1/2c. A week ago September wheat closed at 57 1/2c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, Aug. 29, Sept. delivery closed at 64 3/4c and December delivery at 67c. A week ago September option closed also at 61 3/4c.

Minneapolis Flour Market.

The Market Record of August 27, reports business slow and prices easy. Prices are as follows, in barrels, f. o. b.: First patents, \$3.20 to \$3.40; Second patents, \$3.05 to \$3.10; First clears, \$2.60 to \$2.65; second clear, \$1.75; Export bakers', \$2.40 to \$2.45; second export bakers' \$1.90 to \$2.10; Red Dog, \$9.75 per ton 140 for lbs. jute, \$9.75. These prices are 10c lower first patent but 10c higher for second patent than a week ago. First clears 15c higher, second clear 2 1/2c lower, and export bakers 5c lower on the inside price.

Millstuffs.—Bran in bulk \$1.00; bran in sacks, 200 lbs, \$5.00; bran in sacks, 100 lbs, \$5.50; shorts, \$1.00; middlings, fine, \$6.50.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending August 27 were \$1,219,149; balances, \$216,771. For the previous week clearings were \$968,511. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$833,622 and for the week two years ago, \$314,670. Clearances for all Canadian cities this week were as follows:

Montreal....	\$ 9,501,609	decrease	3.0
Toronto.....	5,802,589	increase	23.8
Halifax....	1,355,901	increase	31.9
Winnipeg....	1,219,149	increase	41.0
Hamilton...	491,188	decrease	1.4

Total.....\$18,403,487 increase 8.9

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

- Wheat—No sales, nominal at about 50c for No. 1 hard, new, country point.
- Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.95; Bakers, \$1.75.
- Bran.—Per ton, \$11.
- Shorts.—Per ton, \$18.
- Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, new local freights paid, 22 to 25c.
- Barley—A few cars of new sold at 30c, f.o.b., Winnipeg.
- Flax Seed.—Small sales retail at \$1.50 per bushel.
- Butter.—Dairy round lots 8c to 8 1/2c Creamery, 14 to 15 1/2c.
- Cheese.—6 to 6 1/2c.
- Eggs.—Fresh, 11c net, jobbing at 12 to 12 1/2c.
- Beef.—City dressed, 4 to 5c.
- Mutton.—Fresh, 6 to 6 1/2c; lamb, 6 1/2 to 7c.
- Hogs.—Dressed, 5 1/2c to 6c.
- Cattle.—Butchers' 2 to 2 1/2c. Export 3 to 3 1/2c.
- Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4 to 4 1/2c.
- Sheep.—3 off cars; lambs, \$2 to \$2.25 each.
- Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 19c lb.
- Poultry.—Chickens, 35 to 40c per pair, turkeys, 3 to 9c lb., live weight.
- Hides.—No. 1 cows, green salted 7 1/2c.
- Wool.—Unwashed fleece, 10 to 11 1/2c.
- Potatoes.—20c per bushel.
- Hay.—\$5.00 per ton, car lots.

The Crop Report.

Satisfactory progress has been made with the harvest this week in Manitoba and the Territories, and by the end of this week the wheat is nearly all in stook in some of the early sections. In other districts there is considerable late wheat which has not been cut yet. Over half the crop, however, is now in stook. The weather was very changeable, varying from very warm to decidedly cool, and there was some fear of frost on some nights. Light local frosts were reported from a few points, but there were no general frosts, and it is not believed that any damage was done. Regarding the first frost mentioned last week, it is thought there will be some damage in spots, in a limited area in the west, but if so, it will only be in a small territory. Two or three cars of new wheat have been moved. The new crop is believed to be particularly free from smut. It is said that oats are not at all well filled out, owing to damage from rust, and the yield will not be nearly as large as the standing grain would indicate. This is also true of wheat in some cases, the heads not being filled out, but the deficiency is more marked in the case of oats.

The Dry Goods Trade.

Regarding the situation in the United States, Bradstreet's says: "Business is slow. Cotton fabrics are slow of sale and prices low, notwithstanding the higher cost of raw cotton. During the past few months the cost of production has cut a small figure in the selling price, as manufacturers have been anxious to find an outlet for the goods. Printed fabrics for fall are going slowly into use, while trade in ginghams has ruled slow. Dress woollens are dull, as agents are doing little new business, and machinery is very moderately employed. Jobbers are meeting with a very slow business. In mens'-wear woollens trade is very disappointing. The spring sale of light weights has been backward, and orders are not enough to start machinery in the case of many mills. The outlook is poor."

Late Business Items.

- Mrs. Chas. Eyre, has opened in groceries and glassware at Yorkton.
- H. McDouall, has opened a hardware store at Yorkton, Assa.
- Five hundred bushels of new wheat were marketed at Stockton, Man., Wednesday, 26th, the first of the season.
- The firm of Murphy & Armstrong have bought a half interest in the hardware business of H. W. Brown, of Carberry, Man.
- Fred. W. Wright has purchased the jewelry stock of R. B. Way, of Prince Albert, Sask., and will continue the business.
- Parrish & Lindsay, of Brandon, have been negotiating for the purchase of the farmers' elevator at Regina.
- McDonald & Co. have opened a drug store at Virden. The leading member of the firm is Chas. McDonald, late of Souris, Man.
- S. Whyte, of Virden, has about completed arrangements for the purchase of the Grand View Hotel, Brandon., Man.
- The machinery for the new mill, at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, has arrived. The building is three stories high, with an eight foot stone basement and is all encased with metal.
- There is to be competition this season in the cattle buying business, says the Calgary Herald. Messrs. Prince, of Battleford, and Sinclair, of Saskatoon, have arrived for the purpose of buying and shipping all the fat cattle they can get.

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McINTYRE BLDG, WINNIPEG.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Aug. 25, 1896.

The failure of the prominent firm of pork packers and commission merchants, Major & Eldridge, Vancouver, in no way affects other houses here and is not an indication in the slightest degree that other failures will follow. In a few words, the cause of Major & Eldridge's failure was their inability to compete with United States packers in the home market. The wholesale and jobbing business here and in Victoria is being extended in a legitimate, cautious and satisfactory manner. Jobbers claim there is an ample crop of oats and hay. New oats, hay and wheat are coming in. Hay is selling at \$7 on the track. Butter shows a rising tendency. Cured meats are somewhat firmer. Lemons, oranges and all kinds of fruit are in demand.

TRADE NOTES.

D. Duff, blacksmith and carriage maker, Midway, has sold his carriage department to M. C. Bourne.

The Ferguson & Orr Co., general merchants, Trail, have been incorporated.

Buxton & Rodney, tobaccos, Vancouver, have dissolved, and are succeeded by Sich & Rodney.

Fader & Davidson, butchers, &c., Vancouver, have dissolved; E. Fader continues.

The stock of J. D. Hoey, grocer, Vancouver, has been sold to McMillan & Hamilton.

Hartman & Co., produce, &c., Victoria, have dissolved; S. M. Hartman continues.

Jones, Walter & Co., general store, Wellington, have dissolved, W. Jones retiring; style now Sutherland & Co.

The farmers of the Fraser Valley united and lead by Judge Bole of the supreme court, A. St. G. Hammersley, Vancouver's solicitor, and others are sending a very strong delegation to Ottawa and Victoria to request the federal and provincial governments to deepen and dyke the Fraser river. At the largemass meeting which occurred this week to consider the matter, the opinion was freely expressed that unless the government caused permanent improvements to be made all the low-lying ranches along the Fraser would be abandoned. This action on the part of the ranchers would amount to a public calamity, for, as is well known, spring wheat grown on the Delta took a bronze medal in competition with the world for choice sample of wheat. These delta lands are so rich that two crops a year can be quite easily grown upon them, but the frequent floods spoil all.

Many tons of British Columbia fruit are going forward to Manitoba by train this season from the British Columbia Fruit Exchange. The Fruit Exchange is also busy preparing a magnificent exhibit of fruit for the Spokane Fruit Exhibition.

The lumber trade is very brisk at present. Immense cargoes are going out by ship, and 11 carloads were shipped to Manitoba and Eastern America via Canadian Pacific Railway last week. One steamer alone from the Hastings Mill, Vancouver, carried away \$80,000 worth of lumber. Most of the lumber by train went from Brunette Mills, Westminster.

The ground is being purchased for a linseed mill in Westminster. For some time to come Mr. Verbrist, the proprietor will obtain his raw material from Manitoba.

The salmon season is over. The run has stopped. The Fraser river pack will be in excess of 800,000 cases. The fishermen are leaving the canneries and spending their quickly and easily earned money in winter supplies at Westminster, and having a general good time in the market. To secure some of their surplus cash and give them a good time in the bargain Vancouver and Westminster are having fishermen's sailing

and rowing races and sports of all kinds. Beyond laying in their supplies for the winter, the fishermen spend their million dollars or so with lavish hand, and live like princes during the short summer season before they retire into their shacks to commence the long monotonous wait for the next salmon season.

There were some wonderful catches this season. One Jap. netted 100 salmon in 15 minutes, and in the next fifteen minutes pocketed \$20 for his arduous task. The largest catch for the season was 900 fish for which the two partners in the lucky boat got \$800. The lucky catch was made in three weeks. There were 2,700 fishermen netting, and the catches for the season were all the way from 100 to 900 per boat. During the big run those who had not contracted to buy salmon at 25 cents for the season were buying them at 5 cents each. Besides a fleet of 1,800 sail boats engaged in fishing this season, there were 40 steamers in service.

There cannot be anything too good said of the Dominion hatchery this season, for it, and it alone is responsible for the big run on this an off year.

Two new canneries are going up, one a mile from Westminster and one on the site of the one destroyed near the Brunette Lumber Mills, Westminster. The co-operative and Chinese canneries both had big packs, and the Chinese cannery will be much enlarged.

A good deal of amusement and annoyance has been occasioned among the canners owing to a telegram being received from Ottawa to the effect that the Sockeye season had been extended five days to Sept. 1st. As the extension was not asked for, and the run is over and the canneries are closing down before the legitimate conclusion of the season, the canners were naturally much surprised and annoyed. At a largely attended meeting of canners indignation was expressed at the action of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and a protest unavailing was sent the Ottawa government. It transpires that a raw new young member of parliament, wishing to show his zeal and his party's parental solicitude asked to have the season extended without being appealed to by the canners, merely because it was a customary thing to do in former years, and by this ill-advised act he has got himself into a peck of trouble with the canners of all shades of politics.

British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, August 29, 1896.

[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.]

Butter.—Man. Dairy butter, 12 to 14c; Manitoba creamery, 13c; local creamery, 21c; Manitoba cheese, 8½ to 9c.

Cured Meats.—Hams 13 cents; breakfast bacon 12½c; backs 12 to 12½c; long, clear 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9c per pound; in pails and tubs 9½c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$16.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 7c; sockeyes, 6c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel head, 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; salt colachan, 25 and 50 lb. kits \$3.75 and \$3.50; smoked salmon 10c.

Vegetables.—New potatoes, \$18.00 per ton; onions silver skins; 1½c per pound; cabbage, 1c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Ranch 20c; Manitoba, 15c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes mea-

sure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 860 lemons, from 125 to 800 scudding oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. California lemons, \$1 to \$1.50; Australian oranges, \$3.25; Peaches, 20 lb boxes \$1.10; Plums 20 lb boxes \$1.15; Tomatoes, \$1.00; Pears, 40 lb. box, \$1.25; California apples, 50 lb. box, \$1.50; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, \$1.00; Australian bananas, per bunch, \$1.50; Melons, per dozen, \$2.60.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$2.60; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45s, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 45's \$2.35.

Flour.—Cost price. Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$4.30; strong bakers, \$3.80; Oregon, \$1.20; Oak Lake patent \$1.30; do. strong bakers \$3.85.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$25.00 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats \$18.50 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$21 to \$23 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$20.00 ton; bran \$18.00; oil cake meal, \$30 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—\$3.50 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 6 to 7½c; mutton, 6½ to 7½c; pork, 7 to 8c; veal, 7 to 8c.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$3.00 to \$3.50; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$3.10 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; hogs, \$5.50 to \$5.75 per 100 lbs.; lamb \$2.75 to \$3 per head.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$1.00; ducks, \$5 per dozen.

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

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

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

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

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

A committee was appointed to arrange for a trip of members of the board to the Kootenay district, British Columbia.

A committee was appointed to take preliminary steps in the direction of testing the feeling of the business men throughout the province and Territories, as to holding a convention in Winnipeg.

The council decided to press vigorously on the attention of the Dominion government several matters that they have had up with the late government. Among these subjects is a general two-cent letter postage rate for Canada. There are also the questions of the appointment of commercial agents in Northern Europe; the quarantine of settlers' cattle at the boundary line, and the improvement of the St. Andrew's rapids.

A request of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association that the board forward to them the names of two gentlemen competent to judge samples of meal, was referred to the board of flour and meal examiners for their action.

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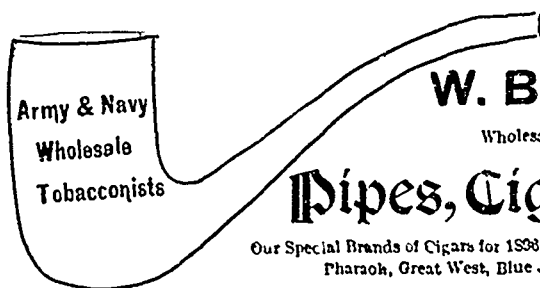
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Send for Price List.

A. C. MACPHERSON, Pres.

B. R. SCOTT, Sec. Treas.

Crop Items.

Bagot, August 25—Wheat cutting in the vicinity will be general by the middle of the week. The average yield is not expected to be more than fifteen bushels per acre. Neither frost nor hail have visited this part.

Gladstone, August 21—For a few nights last week the weather was very cool, but there was no frost as the most tender vines in the gardens are as green as ever. Grain cutting may now be said to be general. By the end of this week, if the weather keeps fine, the greater part of the wheat will be cut.

Deloraine, Aug. 25—The outlook is good. There was a slight frost in the northern part of the district on Aug. 16 which may have affected the low places, but generally no notice is taken of it. The harvest is now well advanced. Some fields are in every way the equal of last season, except that the sample is the best for years.

Much of the grain that was said to have been totally hailed out, says the Morden Monitor is turning out ten and twelve bushels to the acre.

The Souris Plaindealer says of the late frost: "Frost on August 16 formed ice in some localities. Cucumber, citron and tomato vines show slight touches of frost on uppermost leaves. Wheat is probably touched slightly in some localities, perhaps seriously in some."

A correspondent at Melgund says: "The frost on August 16 did considerable damage to the wheat, but to what extent cannot yet be ascertained."

Fleming, Assa., Aug. 21—Weather is all that can be desired for maturing the grain. The prospects for a good harvest are encouraging. While the yield will not be as good as last year, the quality will be much better, the sample large and plump, and heads well filled. It will nearly all be No. 1 hard. Some early sown wheat is already cut. Harvesting will be general next week.

Gretna, Aug. 22—The first load of new wheat was delivered at the Lake of the Woods Co's elevator yesterday, and graded No. 2 hard. The sample this year is not up to that of the past two years. The yield from this district will not go over twelve bushels to the acre, although from appearance before it was cut, it would be at least twenty bushels. Ninety per cent of the grain in this vicinity is now cut and several threshing machines will start up on Monday. Oats are badly injured by rust and the sample will be poor. Flax is a good crop.

Methven, Aug. 22—The harvest is now in full swing, and in a few days the wheat will be all cut. Several farmers have had to cease cutting on account of the grain not ripening up fast enough. There were traces of frost here last Monday morning, Aug. 17 but it did no damage to garden stuff, so it is presumed that the wheat is not damaged.

Deloraine, Aug. 21—All the farmers are now hard at work cutting wheat. Harvest is general in all directions and the grain is ripening fast. The weather is all that could be desired for harvest.

Cypress River, Aug. 22.—There is still a good crop of wheat in this locality which has escaped the hail storm of the 2nd, and is now being harvested.

Manitou, Aug. 22.—Wheat cutting is now in full blast. The farmers were supplied with all the help at the station yesterday from the excursion train.

Souris, Aug. 22—Harvesting is in full blast at present. A heavy rain fell last night, which will give the farmers a rest today.

A Regina report of August 25 says. "Harvesting is in full swing, with first-class weather. The sample and yield will be the

best ever had in Assiniboia, exceeding the famous yield of 1891.

Carman, Aug. 27—Harvesting is general in this district, a good acreage of wheat having already been cut, but there is an immense quantity that will not be matured for from two to three weeks yet. This first threshing of the season started this morning. Threshing is being done from the stook and is a good sample of hard wheat and a fair yield. We had a very light frost this morning, which did no damage whatever, not even to garden produce.

Cartwright, Aug. 26—The wheat crop is now all out and promises to be a very fine sample, although the yield will not be so large as last year.

Gloubois, Aug. 27—The harvest is far advanced here, and most of the crop will be cut this week.

Treesbank, Aug. 26—About two-thirds of the grain is now cut in this vicinity and considerable of it is in stack.

Grocery Trade Notes.

The New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says: "Late advices from California are to the effect that, while the crop of most descriptions is large, the quality is below the average, owing to the frost followed by extremely hot weather causing a deterioration of the fruit. For California peaches of good quality there is quite a brisk demand, but lemon cling, for which there is a preference, are in small supply and bring full prices."

The London Grocer's Gazette, under date of August 8th says of teas: "Auctions recommenced on Thursday, when some very fine teas were offered, in fact, quality all around was somewhat remarkable. There was quite an excited enquiry throughout, the tendency being to force up prices all round, but the teas now coming along are undoubtedly unusually good, and quite justify the prices paid for them. Still the outlet for tea costing over 1s per lb. must be limited, and if a lot of it is to come, it is difficult to see what is to be done with it. Common tea has also lately been on the upward move, the proportion so far being very light, and buyers all round must be very bare of tea "for price," judging by their anxiety to secure whatever has been available. Larger auctions are advertised for next week, an unusually big proportion being apparently fine and finest tea."

There has been a further advance in hams at Toronto. Other classes of smoked meats are in active demand and are held firmer. Prices were Barrel Pork—Heavy mess, \$11.50 to \$12; short cut, \$12 to \$12.50; Clear shoulder mess, \$11. Dry Salted—Long clear bacon, case lots, 5 to 5½c. Smoked meats.—Hams, heavy, 9c; medium and light, 10½ to 11c; backs, 9c; rolls, 6½ to 6¾c; shoulder hams, 6½ to 7c. Lard.—Tierces, 6¾c, pails 6¾c, tubs 6¾c, compound, 5½ to 6c.

In New York, owing to the improved demand and moderate supplies in the hands of the refiners, prices for sugar may be advanced this week.

A New York report says: "New Valencia layer raisins are offered at the equivalent of 4½c delivered here for shipment, duty paid, but this price seems to be above buyer's views, and we hear of no business."

Low grade Japan teas to sell at 15c are expected here next month, says a Toronto report. There is now a good demand for medium grades at 18c. These teas are selling at very little more than was asked for them last season, although there has since been an advance in the cost of laying them down here of 15 per cent., owing to the dearer freight through the withdrawal of sailing vessels from the route to Japan and the higher pre-

vailing rates of exchange. A feature in the sales of new crop Japan teas here is the fact that more higher grade teas are selling than in former years.

Dairy Trade Notes.

At Peterboro, Ont., on August 19 at the cheese board 8,700 boxes were offered, all colored, and the first half August make. Sales were: 900 boxes at 8½c, 800 at 8 5-16c, 200 at 8½c, 50 at 8½c; 500 at 8½c, 200 boxes, part July at 8 5-16c.

At Woodstock, Ont., on August 19 there was a lively competition among the buyers for the few lots that were boarded, but the salesmen are holding for ¼ to ½c. One factory got 8½c, which was the only transaction recorded.

At Brantford, Ont., on August 21 at the cheese market fifteen factories offered 1,900 boxes first half August. Sales, 1,560 boxes at 8½c.

Manitoba Dairy Commissioner Macdonald says that the Indians near Elphinstone are now sending in their milk to the factories. The Indians seem to take better to stock raising and dairying than to any other employment, and the future for them is very encouraging in this line. Mr. Macdonald recently spent a week in the Monnonite reserve, where cheese making is now successfully carried on in every section, and a big improvement in the quality of the cheese turned out is apparent.

Orange crop of Mexico.

United States consul-general Thomas T. Crittenden writes to the state department as follows: "Owing to the injury to the orange trees in Florida from frost, the supply of oranges in the United States has been greatly diminished, causing the merchants to look to Mexico and elsewhere for the deficiency. About 400 carloads were shipped from Mexico to the United States last season. Since the injury to and destruction of the trees in Florida the growers in Mexico are paying greater attention to production. Old trees and old orchards have been pruned, cultivated and reclaimed, and new orchards planted with more care.

"Upon close investigation made by the agents of the various railway companies, the crop this season is estimated to be much larger than ever before. The railroads are gradually preparing for the shipment of at least 600 cars this season. It ordinarily takes eight or nine days, moderately fast freight to send cars or trains to Chicago, it has been done in six days. The slow freights (due in part to the small number of cars going at any one time), the lack of fruit or refrigerator cars, and the inexperience of the packers here for long distance shipments, are the great drawbacks.

"The orange season of Mexico is from the latter part of September to the 1st of December. This season fits in between Florida and California, thus making Mexico absolute in its season and with practically no competition in our markets. The question of getting orange boxes is also a serious one, as there are in reality no factories for making orange boxes in this country, and importation is almost universal."

The Northern Elevator Co. is erecting an elevator at Hamiota, Man.

A delegation from the Dominion Millers association had an interview with the Ottawa Government on Thursday and urged that as regards duties on wheat and flour there be no change. In the matter of mixing of grain they desired that mixed wheat should be elevated only at Fort William so as to give purchasers in Ontario a good average run.

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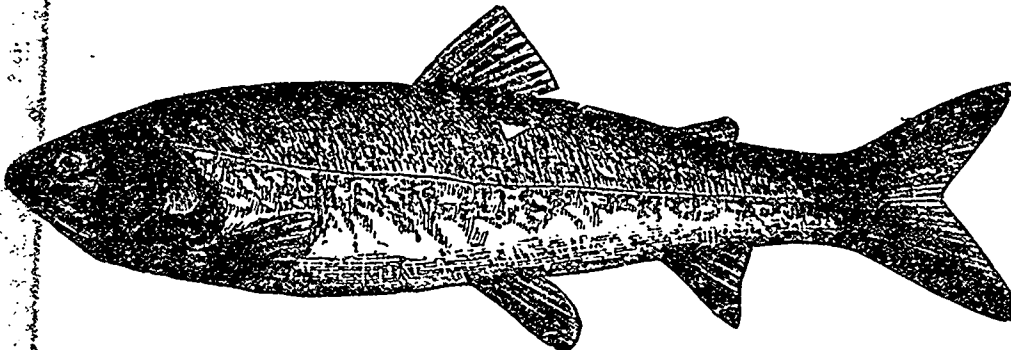
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British Columbia Mining News.

Precious metal is being found all over the province in unlikely places and the fact is daily almost hourly demonstrated that the province is fabulously rich in undeveloped mineral deposits, but the gold fever has developed some very bad symptoms. So dangerous are these symptoms considered by the Vancouver board of trade that that body has asked the local government to devise a means to prevent the floating of wild cat mining schemes. In a recent interview Mr. Bell-Ing, president of the board said that owing to the methods adopted by some mine fakirs the standing of British Columbia in the financial world had been somewhat impaired. His experience had been, he said, that the smaller the concern and the less the funds at stake, the bigger the capitalisation, and that these bubble blowers took two-thirds of say a million dollars worth of stock paid up to themselves and placed the rest in the treasury. He suggested that the government tax every company according to its nominal capitalization.

Gold has been discovered on Coal Hill, four miles from Kamloops. The rock in the vein assays \$40 and is rich in copper. The mineral exactly resembles the Rossland ore. The country rock being a green diorite.

The famous Slocan Star will divide another \$100,000 among its owners on the 1st of September. There is enough ore blocked out in this mine to keep their mill going for two years.

During the month of July 250 mining claims were registered in New Denver.

At Deer Lake the Wild Horse and Silver Tip are the most promising properties.

The Josie mine at Rossland is shipping ten tons a day, netting the owners \$20 a ton.

Seventy-eight claims on Cariboo Creek are alive.

C. W. Callahan, mining expert, and others are to buy the Galena group of mines at Slocan for \$65,000.

The Dominion government have for years been publishing reports on the topography and geological formations of sections of British Columbia. The labor has now been extended to Rossland district and Mr. J. W. McEvoy, B.A. will soon begin work from Columbia river westward on these lines.

An English syndicate, several of whose members own the Tram System of British Columbia, called the Lillooet and Fraser River and Cariboo Goldfields, Ltd., are starting a townsite on the Illecillewaet.

The C. P. R. are collecting samples of ore from all the different mining sections in British Columbia.

The Cascade Island and Albion mines are being put on a paying basis.

The Tacoma Smelting Co., handling British Columbia ore, turned out in July bullion valued at \$83,012.45.

The Phillip's Arm mines, near Vancouver, are shipping ore weekly to American smelters with good results.

Nine hundred miners went into the Yukon this year and one hundred came out. One of them, a Swiss named Muller, had with him \$50,000 in gold dust, accumulated in two years lonely rocking.

The richness of the fabulously rich mines in Lillooet have not been overestimated, but in most cases owners are inclined to sell rather than develop.

F. G. Jordan, has lately been operating in Spokane a small plant for the treatment of ores. It is stated that he claims that with the proper plant, i.e., one large enough to work economically, the cost of treatment will not exceed \$2 per ton. It is a dry reduction process. The ore is pulverized and fed into a roasting furnace through an inclined spiral rabbler, which stirs the ore. In its descent it meets a current of air which thoroughly desulphurises and oxidises it. The furnace is at the lower end of the incline chute or roaster. From the lower end of the chute, which is necessarily the hottest, the ore is discharged in an incandescent state into a bath of cold water. From there it travels into a machine dresser, which is supplied with hot and cold water and a chemical solution. It then passes into an amalgamator, wherein is placed a number of amalgamating plates, arranged as the leaves of a partially opened book. Mr. Jordan and his associates have for the past two months been making practical tests on Trail Creek ores. He says he obtains values of 99 per cent., and in some cases as high as 91 per cent. If it be practical to treat ores in bulk with anything like such results, it will make it possible to work at a profit, many miles having only low grade ores.

Montreal Grocery Market

The raw sugar market seems to be unsettled just now, prices having declined during the past week to 9s 6d for August and September, but to-day private cables were firmer quoting best at 9s 7d for August and September, which figure 1½d lower than this day week. In New York the market has also been weaker for refined and prices are ½c lower at 4 9-16c for granulated, while raw crystals have ruled steady at 3½c. In this market there has been no important change, notwithstanding the above discouraging news, prices having been fairly well sustained, and refiners state that it is to be hoped the bottom has been touched and that the next move will be an advance instead of a decline. The demand from local and western buyers has been slow and business is very quiet for the season of the year.

We quote: Granulated at 4½c in 250-barrel lots and over; 4½c in 100-barrel lots, and 4½c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3½c to 3¾c, as to quality, at the factory.

Business in syrups continues very quiet also, and the market is without any new feature to note. Stocks in refiners' hands are fair, but prices rule steady at 1½c to 2½c per lb., as to quality at the factory.

The market for molasses has been dull, owing to the slow demand, and in consequence the feeling is easier, and holders would likely shade present prices in order to place a round lot. We quote: Barbadoes at 27½c to 28c, and in a jobbing way at 30c to 31c.

The rice market is fairly active and show no change. We quote: Crystal Japan, \$1.75 to \$5.00; standard B., \$3.45; Patna \$1.25 to \$5, Carolina \$4.50 to \$7.50, choice Bermuda \$3.75, and Java kinds \$1.

The demand for spices is as slow as ever and the market is quiet with no change in prices. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only: Penang black pepper 6 to 7½c; white pepper 10 to 12½c; cloves 7½ to 9c; cassia 8½ to 9½c; nutmegs 60 to 90c; and Jamaica ginger 15½ to 18½c.

The coffee market continues dull and featureless. The demand is exceedingly slow, and no improvement is anticipated until the turn of the month. We quote: Maracaibo at 17½ to 18½c; Rio 16 to 17½c; Java 22 to 25c; and Mocha 22 to 25c.

This has been another very quiet week in the tea trade, in fact, brokers state they never seen sales so slow at this season of the year before. The tone of the market, however, is steady, and as stocks in second hands are not large the prospects for business next month are somewhat encouraging. A few small sales of new crop Japans are reported at 15 to 17c.

The demand for canned goods does not improve any, and the market is dull and uninteresting. Lobsters are scarce and very firm, while salmon is offering freely, but agents find it just as difficult as ever to make sales. Ordinary brands, f.o.b. coast, are \$1.50, and selected quality, fancy label, Clover Leaf, at \$5.50 for flats, and talls at \$3.00 delivered here. We quote: Lobsters \$8.25 to \$9 per case; Fouch sardines, extra brands, \$9.50 to \$10.50; ordinary brands \$8 to \$9; Canadian brands \$1 to \$1.25; salmon \$1.30 to \$1.50 per dozen; mackerel \$1.25; tomatoes 75 to 80c; corn 80 to 90c; marrow-fat peas 90c to \$1.00; baked beans, 3 lbs., \$1.25 to \$1.30; peaches \$1.90 to \$2; strawberries \$2 to \$2.25; raspberries \$1.75 to \$2; pineapples \$1.75 to \$2, and 3 lb. apples 85 to 90c.—Gazette, August, 24.

At Brockville, Ont., on August 2) the cheese boarded were 350 white and 824 colored. There were no sales.

Official Manitoba Crop Report.

A bulletin has been issued by the Manitoba department of agriculture, compiled from returns made to the department under date of August 15. The last bulletin showed that 164,725 acres of wheat were sown on stubble, without plowing. The August bulletin says of this:

"The reports of correspondents just received, indicate that at least 50% of this acreage sown on stubble is a wasted effort, poor crop, very weedy, in most cases plowed down as summer fallow. In order therefore to obtain a basis for calculating the estimated yield of wheat for the Province, 50% of this area, sown on stubble, is deducted from the total acreage under wheat as given in the June bulletin. This leaves the area under wheat, by districts as follows:

North West District....	70,295 acres
South West "	157,665 "
North Central "	190,638 "
South Central "	227,400 "
Eastern "	53,600 "

Total in Province... 999,598 acres

The following tables give the estimated yields of the various kinds of grain for the present season:

WHEAT.

District.	Area under crop, acres.	Yield per acre, bu.	Total yield, bu.
N. Western	70,295	20.77	1,460,571
S. Western	457,665	19.82	9,072,180
N. Central	190,638	18.	3,431,481
S. Central	227,400	16.	3,638,400
Eastern...	53,600	18.	962,560
Province..	999,598	18.57	18,565,198

OATS.

District.	Area under crop, acres.	Yield per acre, bu.	Total yield, bu.
N. Western	65,705	40.	2,628,200
S. Western	159,120	37.5	5,937,000
N. Central	76,100	40.3	3,066,830
S. Central	87,520	31.6	3,027,192
Eastern	54,000	36.	1,941,000
Province..	412,445	37.5	6,633,222

HARLEY.

District.	Area under crop, acres.	Yield per acre, bu.	Total yield, bu.
N. Western	14,790	30	543,700
S. Western	31,200	29.4	917,680
N. Central	27,175	30.4	826,120
S. Central	34,400	25.6	880,640
Eastern ...	20,320	26.	528,320
Province..	127,885	28.9	3,696,460

FLAX, RYE AND PEAS.

	Area under crop, acres.	Yield per acre, bu.	Total yield, bu.
Flax.....	20,235	14.2	288,615
Rye.....	3,130	20.4	63,852
Peas.....	1,103	20.5	22,611

NEW BREAKING AND FALLOWING.

	New breaking; acres.	Fallowing; acres.
North Western ..	9,435	29,750
South Western ..	31,460	195,260
North Central ...	13,575	60,600
South Central ...	20,640	56,320
Eastern	8,000	19,680
Totals....	82,710	361,610

HARVEST HANDS WANTED.

The answers sent in by correspondents on post cards, some three weeks ago, advising the department of the number of extra hands wanted to take off the harvest, indicated that over 2,700 men would be required. Hailstorms afterwards destroyed crops in certain districts. By deducting the demand in these districts, and allowing for men in said

districts who would seek employment outside the same, the demand was placed at 2,000. The harvest hands' excursion from Ontario, reaching Winnipeg on the 20th inst. brought the requisite number to supply the demand.

GRAIN CROPS.

To question 14: "State briefly condition and prospects of grain crops."

The best crops, in all parts of the province reported as those growing on summer fallow or new breaking. Crops on fall plowing and spring plowing are only medium. A number of correspondents comparing crop with that of last year, report them light, and short in straw, while the majority of correspondents report crops a fair average. Late crops are rusted on leaves and some on straw. The damage done by rust is not estimated. Where rust is reported answers indicate that there is not much damage done, for in most cases a fine sample of No. 1 hard wheat is expected. Reference to smut is in a few cases and that confined to oats. Special note will be made regarding smut and the preventatives used, in the December bulletin.

HAY.

Approximate yield per acre.

District.	Prairie hay.	Cultivated grasses.
North Western.....	2.2 tons	1.8 tons
South Western.....	1.8 "	1.8 "
North Central.....	2.1 "	1.5 "
South Central.....	1.8 "	1.6 "
Eastern.....	1.9 "	1.9 "

Province..... 1.9 tons 1.7 tons

This has been a season specially favorable for pasture and hay. Farmers have secured more hay of excellent quality in sloughs and hay meadows, near home, than for many years past. Some sloughs are reported too wet to cut, but the margins of these are extra good. If time will permit, an additional supply of hay will be scoured after the harvest rush is over. The prairie hay as shown by the table above, is a better yield than the cultivated grasses. Farmers throughout the province are, however, providing a supply of timothy and brome grass, which experience teaches, can be profitably cultivated in all parts of the province.

CONDITION OF LIVE STOCK.

Reports from all parts of the province are in a similar strain. With plenty of feed and coarse grains last year, stock has done exceedingly well.

NOXIOUS WEEDS.

It is pleasing to note by reports that farmers in all parts of the province are making an aggressive and successful warfare upon weeds.

Municipal councils with but few exceptions have determined to keep weeds in check and are wisely advising pathmasters and noxious weed inspectors to do their duty in this matter. The result is that the majority of correspondents report that weeds are being cut and burned; or weedy land summer fallowed, and in many instances weeds are being pulled by hand. Sowing wheat on stubble has shown farmers that weeds are likely to take possession of their lands unless properly cultivated. Self-interest has thoroughly aroused farmers, to systematically fight against the encroachment of weeds, as reported by so many correspondents. The best "Noxious W Act" is public opinion, and when every municipality in the province, as well as every farmer in the province, takes an interest in suppressing weeds, not only will their spreading cease, but complete eradication may be expected.

To question 17: "Report on wheat crop on stubble."

Answers indicate that the conditions necessary for a profitable crop by such cultivation are: Land in good order, free from weeds

and a clean burn off of all stubble. As these conditions did not all exist this season, crop sown on stubble land without plowing has been a failure, from at least 50% of which no returns will be obtained. The brief reports given by correspondents are to the point, and convey lessons that will not soon be forgotten. Such as: No good; Light and full of weeds; All plowed down as summer fallow; half wheat, half oats; Cut as green feed; A dear way of gaining experience; 40 bushels to the acre, 5 of wheat, 85 of weed seeds. A few report favorably, where a clean burn of stubble was obtained and the land in good order.

Gambling in Wheat.

Mr. Pillman, of London, who is the foremost English opponent of future trading in wheat, recently appeared before the convention of the National Association of British and Irish Millers and delivered an address on option trading, in the course of which he said: "Your judgment and experience is a distinct disadvantage, for you can not recognize in the daily fluctuations the laws of supply and demand, but surely you see in them the effect of unbounded speculation, made possible by this artificial system, which is not necessary for the distribution of produce, but which affords to the promoters of these markets, and to the thousands of brokers belonging to these exchanges, great wealth, in striking contrast to the poverty of the producer. The farmer should have the same protection as the banker. Fictitious trading should not be permitted in wheat, and then speculation would be confined to dealing in the actual article, as it was twenty years ago. I am glad to state that the German government has passed the bill which comes into operation on January 1st, 1897, prohibiting fictitious trading in wheat and millers' produce. This measure was passed by the reichstag by a vote of two hundred to thirty-nine, but on Monday last is passed its third reading, and was formally adopted by the imperial diet. The Berlin term market is the original system, from which the term market of Chicago, New York and Liverpool are simply adaptations. The Germans, having had the longest experience, are the first to suppress them, and their government has decided to go a step further and open negotiations with all governments of countries in which option trading exists, for international abolition of the artificial and pernicious system.

"Now, gentlemen, what should your attitude as manufacturers be at this important juncture? Is it to be that your association favors the continuance of these artificial markets, created for the fostering of gambling and many evils that follow in their trail, or will you send a resolution to our government, in the interest of milling, just as the central associated chambers of agriculture have done in the interest of farmers? Before the general adoption of these artificial systems of fifteen years ago, you were enabled to conduct your business with profit and a degree of comfort and confidence, based upon your experience and judgment. My object in coming here is to help you to try and restore these natural conditions, and whereas, a year ago, I spoke my honest convictions, based upon close observations, for twenty-three years of the trade, both before and after the introduction of options in America and England, and I see these systems working ruin to merchants, bankers and millers, both directly and indirectly."

After Mr. Pillman had concluded, the following resolution was put: "That, in the opinion of this association, the effects of the gambling markets for wheat (i. e., options or futures) are prejudicial to the interests of agriculture, as well as injurious to the industry of milling."

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PROOF and will absolutely with-
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Representative for Manitoba.

A. RAMSAY & SON,
MONTREAL.

The "World Prosperous Except the United States"

In his weekly letter, under date of July 8, the English correspondent of the American Manufacturer, speaking of the export trade of Great Britain in iron and steel for the first half of 1896, gives the following facts. It should be remembered that a large part of Great Britain's production of iron and steel is exported, and that an increase in the exports of these articles means that the world, which deals with Great Britain, is prospering and increasing in purchases. The correspondent says:

The exports of all forms of iron and steel to all countries from Great Britain for the six months were 1,672,220 tons, compared with 1,286,581 tons last year, an increase of 29 per cent., and the value was £11,586,951, compared with £8,991,821 or an improvement of 28 per cent. In the various departments there is a pretty general rise in June values compared with a year ago, both for the month and for the six months, pig and puddled iron having improved 5 per cent., and 23 per cent. for these periods respectively; bars and angles, 33 per cent.; railroad, 16. and 108 per cent.; wire, 14 per cent. and 22 per cent.; cast and wrought, 65 and 82 per cent.; hoop and sheet, 42 and 78; old iron, 80 and 89; unwrought steel, 21 and 45, and galvanized sheets, 65 and 50. Telegraphic wire has increased 81 per cent. on the month, but has improved 51 per cent. on the six months. Tin plates have improved in value fractionally on the month, but on the six months they have decreased 26 per cent. The quantity sent to the United States for June was 11,753 tons, against 13,760 tons for June, 1895, and 17,217 tons for June, 1891. The value of the hardware and cutlery exports sent to the United States in June this year was £13,421, against £14,503 last year and £3,917 in 1891. The June value of machinery and mill work sent to the United States was £17,622, compared with £14,488 a year ago. The value of the pig iron shipments to the States for June was £3,203 compared with £2,174 a year ago. In ordinary years our exports of all kinds to the United States may be estimated at about 80,000,000 sterling, and though this total is small relatively to the trade we were accustomed to do with the States before the McKinley tariff, it is still in excess of our exports to any other foreign country. It will be easily understood that while our greatest foreign market continues depressed, British trade, however healthy or active, cannot possibly attain its full development. The quietude on your side is, indeed, reflected unmistakably in both our metallurgical and textile exports during this half year. Our Australasian colonies, apparently, are recovering their buying power, as shown more particularly in their augmented imports of hardware, machinery, galvanized sheets and other iron, and recent events in South Africa do not appear to have had any deleterious effects upon our valuable trade with that part of the world. Our exports of galvanized sheets show an increase of over 37,000 tons, and about 500,000 sterling for the first half of the year. The increase in our shipments of unwrought steel, about 10,000 tons, or £378,000, is not less noteworthy, the most conspicuous advances being with Russia, Germany and India.

The American Manufacturer adds: "The letter is written by one of the most careful, intelligent and accurate of English journalists, who has been connected with English trade journalism for more than twenty years. The facts he names are worthy of the most careful study. English export trade in iron and steel, he tells us, has increased in the first six months of 1896 as compared with the first six months of 1895 29 per cent. in amount and 28 per cent. in value. But the increase

in values in the several items included in iron and steel is still more remarkable; bars 33 per cent., wire 22 per cent., railroad iron and steel 108 per cent., hoops and sheets 78 per cent.

"In the midst of this increase in quantities and values the trade with the United States is stationary, or even less. There are conditions under which this fact would be a source of congratulation; for example, in good times it would indicate that we were supplying our own markets, but the above figures indicate that while all the world is increasing its purchases, depression rules in the United States. That while Australia, Russia, Germany and even India are buying more freely, we cannot buy.

"What is the cause of this reduced purchasing power of this country which these figures indicate? It is one fact, and only one fact, a question as to the future growing out of the free silver agitation. Men will not buy, will not invest in new enterprises, with this feeling of insincerity: with the avowed belief on the part of many of the intelligent, honest free silver men that the first effect of a free silver victory will be a panic, with idle money in immense quantities anxious for safe investment, with bountiful crops to move, with important developments to be made, with all of the usual conditions of prosperity we are passing through a period of unusual depression, simply because there is this free silver agitation, because one great party has approved of repudiation and attacked the United States Supreme Court, which is our last resort against dishonest and ample legislation. With a triumph of sound money this fall there will be an instant revival; with the triumph of free silver such a period of suffering and depression as this country has never dreamed of. We have confidence that the good sense and honesty of the country will assert itself and sound money will triumph."

Dehorning Cattle in America.

The practice of dehorning cattle as practised in the western states of America is defended by the British Vice-Consul at Kansas in the course of a very elaborate report on the trade and industries of that state. He says that the practice is becoming popular in the western states and that it has many advantages which can only be appreciated by persons in the trade. It is unwise to dehorn old cattle for it takes them sometime to regain their strength. The proper time for dehorning is when the calf is a few weeks old, and then the budding horn is nipped with an instrument made for the purpose. The operation is not very painful, the wound heals in a few days, and the work is then over, for the horns never grow. As a result of the process it is said that the animals are more contented, gentle and docile. If pens containing horned and dehorned cattle separately are visited and compared the difference is seen at once and the advantages of dehorning are made apparent. The dehorned cattle stand perfectly still and contented, while those with horns are restless and prodding each other with their horns. It costs a little less to fatten dehorned cattle, and two more can be put into each cattle truck, thus saving carriage, for cattle pay by the truck load and not by weight. Dehorned cattle fetch more than horned when sold, for the weight of the horns has not to be deducted, and when killed the hides are not scorched and cut by the cattle fighting with each other. The Vice-Consul considers it a humane act to dehorn; it is, he says, surprising to see the number of cattle unloaded with broken horns and other injury caused by the horns. In transition in crowded trucks, if a horned animal falls it is almost impossible to get it up again, while a dehorned one is easily assisted to its feet.

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