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 Reserve Fund 6,000,000 00
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 Cor. Yonge and Queen Sts.
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Head Office, Ottawa.

Capital paid up	\$1,500,000.
Rest	\$1,065,000
Capital authorized	\$1,500,000.
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This Bank offers to clients every facility which their Balance, Business and responsibility warrant.

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CAPITAL, \$1,500,000.00.
 RESERVE FUND, \$850,000.00.
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 For further information write to the Manager of the Winnipeg Branch.

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BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—J. Matthieu & Fils.
NEW YORK—The Amer. Exchange Nat'l Bank of NY.
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CHICAGO—The Amer. Exchange Nat'l Bank of Chicago.
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This bank has the largest number of branches of any bank in Canada.

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Assorting orders by letter for fall and winter goods in our lines will receive prompt and careful attention.

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Horse and Cattle Food!

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MARTIN, BOLE AND WYNNE CO.,

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Publisher.

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

WINNIPEG, MARCH 22, 1897.

Manitoba.

N. Forsyth and H. B. Dangerfield have started business as carriage painters, etc., at Killarney.

The ninth annual report of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce exchange has been issued in pamphlet form.

The sum of \$5,000 will be granted by Winnipeg city council to the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association.

The city council of Brandon is petitioning the legislature for power to loan \$3,000 to the promoters of a felt factory who desire to establish the industry in that place.

Maw & Co., carriage dealers, Winnipeg, have let the contract for the erection of a three-storey warehouse on the site recently purchased by them on the Market square.

The annual report of the Winnipeg board of trade has been issued in pamphlet form. It is the most bulky report yet published by the board and gives all the reports presented at the recent annual meeting in full. Several pages of general statistics have been added this year, in addition to statistics given in previous reports.

W. M. Fisher, manager at Winnipeg of the Western Canada Loan and Savings company, returned home yesterday after attending the annual meeting of his company at Toronto. Mr. Fisher says that in eastern Canada the mining development of the west and the Crow's Nest Pass railway project engage a greater share of public attention than in the west, which is more directly interested.

A deputation from the Winnipeg board of trade had a conference with members of the government on Tuesday afternoon, when certain resolutions regarding the collection of debts, etc., passed at the recent business men's convention, were discussed, and the object of the desired change in the law explained. The ministers promised consideration.

A deputation of Brandon citizens arrived in Winnipeg last week for the purpose of stating the claims of the Western Agricultural and Arts association for assistance before the local government and C. P. R. officials. The delegation intends to ask the government for a grant such as is given the Winnipeg Industrial. It is also intended to wait on Mr. Kerr of the Canadian Pacific railway with regard to a reduced rate similar to that

accorded the Winnipeg Exhibition Association.

W. W. Stevenson, general merchant of Neepawa, burned out recently, proposes leasing new premises and will resume business.

The planing mill of Geo. Baker, at Dauphin, was burned recently.

Galloway Bros., of Gladstone, have begun improvements on their store. They are extending the length forty feet, and also building a warehouse 80 by 50 feet.

Considerable excitement was caused at Selkirk over some splendid samples of asbestos that were brought in from Lake Winnipeg by Gold prospectors. Experts pronounce the samples first class.

W. H. Lyon, of Salt Lake City, Utah, is dead. Mr. Lyon was one of the pioneers of Winnipeg. He established the grocery business here which later became the wholesale firm of Lyon, Mackenzie & Powis, and is now carried on by Kenneth Mackenzie & Co.

Tumoth & Co., general store, Belmont, have dissolved; Geo. Tumoth continues.

J. Broadley, lumber and hardware dealers, Ekhnorn, has assigned.

The stock of D. D. Stewart, dry goods, Morden, is advertised for sale by auction on March 11.

R. Oldson, general store, Selkirk, is out of business.

Wilcox & Ramsay, general store, Virdon, have dissolved.

Elizabeth Furner, millinery, Winnipeg, has closed her Selkirk branch store.

Wm. H. Hill, book store, Winnipeg, has assigned.

The stock of J. Lamonte, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale by auction on March 8.

The Riddell Manufacturing Co's. estate, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale by auction on March 10.

Watt & Aldritt, butchers, Winnipeg, have dissolved. J. M. Aldritt continues.

W. H. Gibbs has opened a drug store at Selkirk.

Alberta.

A. T. Moon, Elmcuteen, has assigned.

No. 1 shaft at the Lethbridge coal mines is to be closed down on the 5th inst., and as a result a large number of the miners are leaving for Kootenay and other points.

Saskatchewan.

A. O. Garnot, advocate, of Prince Albert, is dead.

Assiniboia.

The Medicine Hat district is to have another large ranch. Mr. Prince, manager of the Eau Claire Lumber company of Calgary, has taken up a location on the Red Deer river and will stock it this spring.

The Queen's hotel at Moosomin and contents were burned on Feb. 27. The building was owned by Mr. Wysman and cost \$9,000 and was insured for \$5,000 in the Norwich and Hartford company. The contents which were owned by Mr. Cleverly, who conducted the house, were worth \$3,000; insured for \$1,500 in the Guardian company. The fire started at the furnace.

The Regina board of trade at its annual meeting held recently admitted thirty-three new members.

J. C. McLachlin's building adjoining the Lansdown hotel at Regina, was burned on March 1. The building was occupied by George Kaba, boot and shoe maker, and Tom Wong, Chinese laundry. The building was insured.

Monthly Trade Returns.

Dominion Government Savings bank transactions at Winnipeg for the month ending 28th February, 1897. were: Deposits, \$15,589; withdrawals, \$18,519.13; deposits exceed withdrawals, \$2,039 87.

The following is the statement showing the value of goods exported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon at the port of Winnipeg during the month of February, 1897, as compared with the same month in 1896:

Description	Value 1897	Value 1896
Exported	\$ 71,917 00	\$103,519 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable	189 151 00	185,816 00
Entered for consumption, free	42,017 00	49,558 00
Total for consumption	181,498 00	234,914 00
Duty collected	\$15,503 58	\$36,106 99

In comparing the amounts it should be remembered that last year Calgary and Regina were out ports of Winnipeg and this year they are separate, which makes the increase all the greater.

The inland revenue collections in the Winnipeg district during the month of February were as follows:

Spirits	\$18,061 95
Malt	1,165 83
Tobacco	11,000 13
Cigars	792 60
Methylated spirit	89 87
Petroleum inspection fees	128 60
Other receipts	12 00
Total	\$23,253 93

Northwestern Ontario.

It is reported from Rat Portage that the Mosher mining location, in the Manitowish district, has been sold for for \$25,000.

D. L. Mather is the purchaser of the Dick & Banning water power at Keewatin, and not an Ottawa syndicate, as first reported. Birley Smith has secured an option on the old Ross, Hill and Brown power.

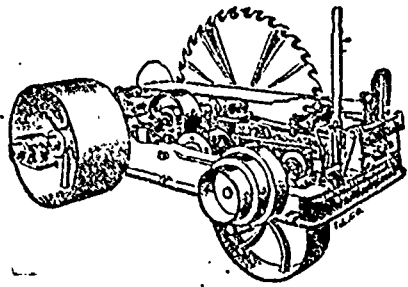
John King, general merchant, Port Arthur, has assigned. Liabilities, \$6,000; assets nominally the same.

It is said the Ontario government will grant further aid to the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western railway, with a view to extending the line to Fort Frances.

Fraudulent Assignment Case.

John S. Douglas, boot and shoe and fur dealer, of Winnipeg, who was convicted at the last assizes for making a fraudulent assignment to defraud his creditors, but who was not then given sentence in order to allow a reserved case to be argued before the full court, was finally dealt with on Wednesday last. His Lordship Judge Killam, sentenced Douglas to pay a fine of fifty dollars. In passing the sentence he observed that this was the first case in the court under the statute, and it might act as a warning to others; and it might also be taken into consideration that in the civil suit of Pillar vs. Bartraud, a consent verdict had been entered so that the creditors would get the benefit of the chattel mortgage being set aside.

The case should serve as a warning to those who contemplate fraudulent actions, as the costs and loss to Douglas in this matter will be very large.

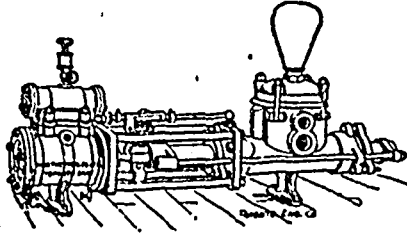


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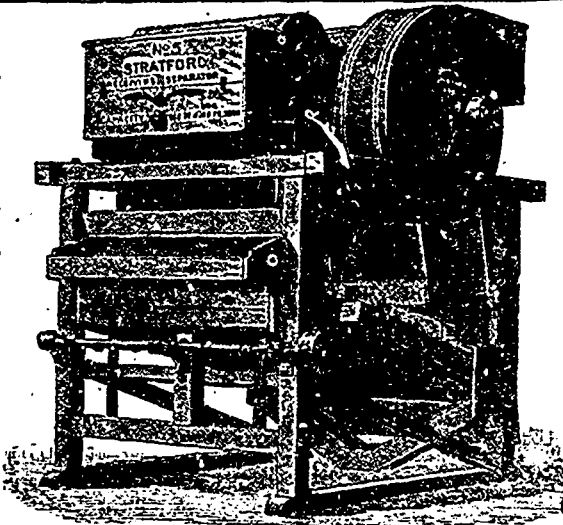
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MARCH 9, 1897.

RESOLUTIONS OF BUSINESS MEN'S CONVENTION.

Three resolutions were adopted at the Business Men's convention, held recently in Winnipeg, which deal with questions within the province of the provincial government. As the Manitoba legislature is now in session, it is an opportune time to refer to these resolutions. The first resolution requests the provincial government to make it compulsory upon municipalities to employ skilled auditors, who have received certificates for that purpose, to make the annual audits of the books of the municipalities. The necessity for some check of this nature upon the municipalities is very evident to those who have had any experience in municipal matters. In many of the rural municipalities, the books and affairs of the municipality are managed in a very loose fashion. This is an injury to the credit of the municipalities, and if it were known that a careful audit were made annually by competent persons, it would naturally improve the financial standing of the municipalities as a whole. A bill has recently been introduced in the Ontario legislature, which not only provides for the auditing of municipal and school board accounts and books, but also provides for the mode of keeping such books. This is in line with the principle endorsed by the resolution of the Business Men's convention, and should be a further inducement to the Manitoba Government to take action upon the resolution.

Another resolution passed by the convention, referred to the exemption laws in force in Manitoba and the Territories. That resolution reads as follows:

"Resolved, that any legislation, whether in the form of exemption laws or otherwise, which place the debtor possessed of means beyond the power of the creditor to collect just debts from him, is a deliberate abuse of the powers placed in the hands of legislators, and places a premium upon dishonesty. And furthermore, even the economic advantages alleged to be gained by exemption legislation cannot possibly be attained by any law or laws which enable a man to evade payment for the food, clothing and other necessary household supplies of his home. Therefore, this convention appeals to the legislature of Manitoba and the Territorial assembly to repeal the exemption provisions of such laws as to give powers of seizure within the limits now exempt to creditors who have supplied such household goods."

Few will dispute the enunciation of principle contained in the first paragraph of the resolution; but it is doubtful if, in the present temper of our legislators, we can hope for any modification of these laws.

The third and last resolution which is of special interest at present, in view of the assembling of the provincial legislature, referred to the collection of small debts. It is as follows:

"Resolved, First. That the existing law should be modified, so that the cost of collecting small debts be reduced.

Second. That the amount exempt from garnishee order should be reduced to \$10, and that the assignment of unearned salaries be made illegal.

Third. That so far as the collection of debts is concerned, government employees should be placed on the same footing as other citizens."

This is certainly a matter which should engage the attention of our legislators. The process of collecting small debts is altogether too expensive and tedious. On this account severe losses are entailed upon both debtors and creditors. In the second clause, referring to unearned salaries, it may be said that the assignment of such is frequently resorted to simply as a means of escaping the payment of just claims. Every one will recognize the justice of the third clause, that civil servants should not receive exemption from garnishee. This is a matter which should be brought before the Dominion as well as the provincial and territorial governments. The Manitoba legislature has already passed a law abolishing this exemption of its civil servants.

The Winnipeg Caterer's association has taken up this question of the collection of small debts, as will be seen by a report in another column of this issue of The Commercial.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE last two or three weeks has been extremely fruitful of destructive fires in country towns. Half a dozen or more towns in Manitoba and the Territories have suffered severely within this space of time, and in some cases the merchants were not properly protected by insurance. Those who are not carrying full insurance should lose no time in providing full protection.

It is reported that Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald will enter provincial politics, taking the leadership of the Opposition in the local house. If this proves true the province may be congratulated upon the move. A strong Opposition is as desirable as a sound and progressive government. Many friends of the present government will be pleased to learn of Mr. Macdonald's decision to enter local politics. Mr. Macdonald's presence will add greatly to the weight and ability not only of the Opposition, but also of the entire house.

FARMERS are advised to send samples of seed grain to the Dominion government experimental farm at Ottawa, for testing. Samples will be tested free, and will go free of postage. On account of the poor sample of oats produced last year, it is specially desirable that care should be taken, and any doubtful samples tested before sowing. Some rusty samples of Manitoba oats of last crop, already tested at Ottawa, have shown very fair germinating power, but some contained quite a percentage of weak plants. The germinating test is not alone sufficient to show the value of grain for seed. As some grains which may germinate, may produce very weak growth,

In a private letter to the editor Mr. Bedford, superintendent of the Government Experimental farm at Brandon, says: "Our meetings among the farmers have been very successful this winter. They all appear pleased to hear the results of our experiments; the interest in grasses, oats and forest trees is growing very rapidly this year." It is certainly good news to learn that the farmers are taking an active interest in the cultivation of grasses and trees. The Commercial is not an agricultural journal, but we believe that all our people, whether farmers or not, are deeply interested in the progress of agriculture in this country, as upon agriculture the country mainly depends. Regarding grasses, it has long been the opinion of the writer that this was one of the most valuable class of experiments undertaken at the experimental farm. Our farmers have depended mainly upon the wild prairie grasses in the past, but sooner or later they will have to begin cultivating grasses. In fact it would be cheaper in many cases to cultivate grasses than to depend upon the wild hay crop, besides the encouragement it would give to a better mode of farming. It is pleasing to know that experiments have shown that there are several varieties of grasses which can be grown here to excellent advantage. As regards trees, it is to be hoped that farmers will find time to give some attention to trees. What a wonderful improvement it would make in our prairie landscape if every farmer would give a little attention to the growing of trees? If this were done, we would hardly know the country in a few years.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has vetoed the immigration bill. This is the bill which was intended to restrict immigration into the United States and to which was added the Corliss amendment which would exclude Canadians from obtaining employment in the United States. The bill provided that immigrants who could not read and write in some language, should be refused admission. Mr. Cleveland says: "In my opinion it is infinitely more safe to admit a hundred thousand immigrants, who, though unable to read and write, seek among us only a home and opportunity to work, than to admit one of those unruly agitators and enemies of governmental control, who can not only read and write, but delights in arousing by inflammatory speeches, the illiterate and peacefully inclined to discontent and tumult. Violence and disorder do not originate with illiterate laborers." He denounces the Corliss amendment, which excludes Canadians from obtaining employment in the United States, as "liberal, narrow and un-American."

A COMMITTEE of the Manitoba legislature will look into the question of collecting taxes in rural municipalities. Investigation will be made under the following headings: (1) Allowing discounts and imposing penalties on payment of taxes respectively before and after certain dates in each year; (2) The collection of taxes without the appointment of collectors; (3) The effect upon the financial condition of municipalities, of allowing taxes on occupied lands to fall in arrears,

(4) The loss or otherwise to the taxpayer of allowing taxes to fall into arrears; (5) The effect upon the progress of the province of advertising and selling for taxes large amounts of land each year. The fifth clause regarding the sale of lands for taxes, is an especially important matter. The Commercial has frequently urged that tax sales of farm lands should be stopped. It will be very satisfactory if some arrangement can be made to prevent these sales. Possibly some measure could be devised whereby tax lands would be taken over by the province and held for settlement, so that all these lands could be administered under one system. At any rate, it is to be hoped some other means than that of tax sales will be devised for disposing of these lands.

Now that the provincial legislature is in session again, it is an appropriate time to call attention once more to the question of good roads, associated with which is the matter of statute labor. The Commercial has so frequently discussed these questions that it would perhaps be wearisome to our readers to repeat arguments which have been advanced regarding the need and value of good roads, or the advisability of abolishing the antiquated system of statute labor which prevails here. So long as this unprogressive system of statute labor continues, we cannot look for much progress in the matter of securing good roads. A great deal of the work done under the statute labor system is practically wasted. Much of it is more than wasted. At best it is a very poor way of securing road improvements. Half the amount which the statute labor represents, collected in cash could be used to far more advantage, if expended under skilled direction. In the East the most progressive municipalities are abolishing the system entirely. In Ontario the provincial government has taken hold of the question of roads and skilled men have been appointed as road inspectors, whose services are a great aid to the municipalities in the matter of road building.

THE bonus nuisance appears to be cropping up again to considerable extent. Some three years ago in Manitoba bonusing was the rule for everything, and many municipalities went into debt granting bonuses, for which frequently they received very little if any value in return. Then there came a revulsion of feeling in regard to bonuses and of late years we have not had many demands of that nature. Recently a number of bonuses have been talked of, including a bonus of \$25,000 in aid of a proposed flour mill at Fort William. This custom of giving bonuses is an evil which would almost warrant legislature action for its prohibition. At present bonusing is restricted by law in some of the provinces of Canada. The occasions are exceedingly rare in which really good reasons exist for the granting of bonuses to assist in the establishment of industries.

It is time some permanent arrangement were made for a provincial contribution to the Industrial Exhibition association. Up to the present time the province has not

borne a fair share of the cost of maintaining this provincial exhibition. The cash support of the exhibition has come principally from the city of Winnipeg, while the direct and indirect assistance received from the railway companies has been much greater than the annual contribution from the government. It is acknowledged on all sides that the exhibition has been of immense value to the farmers of Manitoba, particularly in encouraging high class stock raising. The Winnipeg Industrial is also the best all around immigration agency we have in the country.

WINNIPEG ALDERMEN seem to be getting farther away all the time from the central idea involved in the question of civic government reform. Several different schemes for civic government have been brought up, and after more or less discussion have been dropped. The latest thing, up to the last week or two was the proposal to have a board of control. This, however, has been suddenly dropped in favor of a new proposal, the chief merit (?) of which appears to be that it introduces the principle of paying the aldermen salaries. Otherwise, it is not at all clear that this latest scheme would bring about any actual improvement in the management of the affairs of the city. Unless the citizens take hold of this matter vigorously, it is evident that the council will go on for years, as it has in the past, playing with the question of civic government, and in the meantime the affairs of the city will be conducted in the old loose and unsatisfactory manner.

FRAUDULENT FAILURES.

The last act in the long drawn-out Douglas case was performed in the court house at Winnipeg on March 2, when Douglas appeared for sentence, and was given a fine of \$50, or in default of payment, one month's imprisonment.

Before commenting on this case, we will give a brief history of the matter.

In the autumn of 1895, one J. S. Douglas was carrying on business in Winnipeg under the style of J. S. Douglas & Co. He carried on a retail business in furs and hats and caps, etc., at No. 500 Main street, and also a retail boot and shoe business at No. 412 Main street. At this time he was largely indebted to wholesale houses here and in the East. He bought liberally about this time and earlier, obtaining credit on the assurance that he had a large stock, against which his liabilities were very small. He represented his stock at various amounts from \$12,000 to \$16,000. It appears that during the fall and early winter he made no payments, and naturally as time went on there was considerable pressure upon him for payment of over-due accounts. Early in November Green & Sons Co., of Montreal issued a writ against Douglas, which Douglas defended, in order, it would appear, merely to obtain time, consequently they did not get judgment until December 9. The application for judgment was returnable on December 6, and on the morning of that day Douglas influenced a man named Campbell, (a clerk in a city store and a man of no means) to give him a note for

\$5,100. No consideration was given for the note. Douglas then had this note endorsed by a man employed in his store, named A. D. Pillar, who was also without financial resources. Then, with the alleged object of securing Pillar, he gave the said Pillar a chattel mortgage on his entire estate, including the stock in the two stores. This transaction was completed on December 6, but the mortgage was not filed on that date, probably because the application for judgment had been adjourned until December 9, and nothing was then done in the case. On December 9 Green & Sons Co. got an order for judgment, but before it could be entered the mortgage was filed. The next day the sheriff took possession of the stocks under execution, and on the following day Douglas assigned to S. A. D. Bertrand, who later entered into possession of the estate. Douglas absconded after making the assignment and went to New York state, where later he was arrested and brought to Montreal, and thence to Winnipeg.

It may be stated here, that before Douglas absconded, he got hold of a laborer named Hicks, who was about to return east to Montreal, and induced the said Hicks to give him three notes, two for \$2,000 each, and one for \$1,100, making \$5,100 in all, an amount just equal to the note received from Campbell and endorsed by Pillar. In exchange for these three notes, Douglas gave Hicks the note from Campbell, endorsed by Pillar, but Hicks was afterwards induced to hand the note over to Pillar again.

Information was laid in Winnipeg against Douglas for fraudulent dealing and after his arrest and return to Winnipeg, he was committed and came up for trial at the assizes last fall, when he was convicted on the charge of making a fraudulent mortgage to defraud his creditors. A question of evidence, however, arose, and sentence was reserved to allow the point to be considered by the full court. This point was decided against Douglas, and the case was brought up for final disposition at the spring assizes, on Monday last, when Douglas was sentenced to pay a fine of \$50, as previously stated.

The penalty provided by the criminal code for giving a fraudulent mortgage or conveyance of goods is twelve months imprisonment, or fine of \$800. This is the maximum penalty, but we believe this maximum is altogether too light. Regarding the Douglas case, we can only say that the result is exceedingly disappointing. The act, under which prosecution was taken, was provided to protect creditors, but such a trivial punishment as this practically annuls the value of the act. The plea put in for Douglas was, that he had a wife and family depending upon him. It was also observed by his lordship that this was the first case under the statute, and this was advanced as a reason for leniency. The Commercial can add to this, that if this was the first case under the statute, it is by no means the first one which should have come up. These fraudulent failures have been altogether too common. Business men familiar with the situation here, could easily recall to memory quite a

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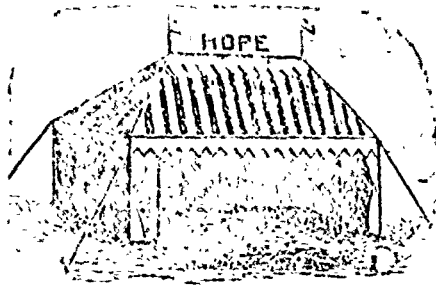
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number of fraudulent transactions, some of them right here in this city of Winnipeg. Heretofore the difficulty of securing a conviction has prevented prosecutions, and wholesalers have been obliged to put up with downright robberies because they know it would be almost useless to attempt to prove their case while the costs of a contest in the courts would be enormous.

Finally a case occurred which gave a fair chance of securing a conviction, and it was pushed, principally with the object of giving warning to others who might think of perpetrating similar rascality. After all the trouble and expense of securing the conviction, however, the culprit is let off with a paltry fine of a few dollars. Poor, ignorant men, who have stolen a garment to protect themselves from the cold, or who have taken a few dollars' worth of food, have often received sentences vastly more severe than this. In this case the most bare-faced robbery, misrepresentation and fraud was perpetrated, not for a few dollars, but for many thousands of dollars. In this case it cost about \$600 to convict this man Douglas, in the criminal case. In the civil suits brought about through his crooked acts, the costs to the creditors would be about \$1,000, and besides this the creditors had a considerable expenditure in connection with the criminal action, besides the \$600 cost to the public. For all this worry and expense we have a paltry fine of \$50. It is really too bad, and most discouraging to those who have so freely expended their means in the interest of commercial purity in this city and country. To say that it is a scandalous miscarriage of justice, will not express the situation fully. It really seems to The Commercial, that the judgment is more like a condonement of the heinous offence, than a punishment of it. It is sometimes said that law is a peculiar commodity, but if there is anything more incomprehensible than law, it is the punishment sometimes meted out to criminals, by the courts.

His Lordship spoke of the consent verdict in favor of the creditors in the Pillar case, as a mitigating feature, but it is difficult to see where the mitigating feature comes in. Douglas could have had no hope of carrying through these fraudulent transactions after the criminal case had been decided against him, and it was no thanks to him that the creditors were enabled to recover against the mortgage held by Pillar.

This whole business was a most villainous fair throughout. Instead of the stock amounting to as much as \$16,000, as represented Douglas when he was seeking credit, the agent's inventory showed only \$7,810, and realized only about \$4,200 while the liabilities, instead of being trifling, were over \$11,000. Then the barefaced attempt to steal the stock from the creditors, can only be compared with the act of the law or highway robber. Douglas had the best skilled counsel to defend him, but all his efforts were unavailing to save him from conviction. The final result is such as to make those who have worked for the vindication of the right, feel weary, weary.

Here was a case which was as bad as could be imagined. The fraud was deliberate and shamefully bare-faced. Bogus notes were secured and a bogus mortgage given, with the object of stealing the stock from the creditors. And after an enormous private and public expenditure to bring this man to justice, it ends with a fine of \$50! How disgusting this must be to those who spent their money in the interest of commercial morality.

Extenuating circumstances for sooth! What about Douglas' past record in connection with certain shady transactions as an extenuating circumstance? Wife and children to support! What about the large amount of property said to be held in his wife's name? The following article from The Commercial of July 16, 1891, will show that this is not the first time that this man has figured in connection with a disreputable transaction:

THE ANNOYANCES OF BUSINESS.

"It is aggravating to observe a party deliberately selling off your goods, when you know you will never get a cent for them," remarked a wholesale merchant the other day, as he spoke of the sale of goods at a retail store in Winnipeg. The merchant then went on and reported the story of the deal to The Commercial as follows: Douglas & Co. was the name of a business concern carrying on trade in boots and shoes, etc., at the town of Portage la Prairie, in this province. Mrs. Douglas was nominally the sole partner, though her husband, Hamilton Douglas was the manager and apparently the head and front of the business. During last fall Douglas & Co. bought freely from Winnipeg and eastern houses. Later on a claim owing to a Winnipeg house fell due and was not met. A writ was issued covering the amount; namely, \$300. Before service of the writ, however, J. S. Douglas, of Winnipeg, a brother, stepped in with a snap judgment to the amount of about \$1,500. Mrs. Douglas could not be found, and though the remaining creditors issued writs, they could not get service of them. Douglas, it is said, professed complete ignorance of the whereabouts of his wife. The stock was sold under the execution in favor of the Winnipeg brother, for 41 cents on the dollar, and was nominally purchased by one Macdonald, but it remained in the hands of Douglas. The lawyers who were acting for Douglas, and who were owners of the building occupied by Douglas & Co., came in with a claim of \$200 for one year's rent, taking goods out of the store to satisfy the claim. This claim for rent, together with the judgment of the brother, consumed the entire stock, and left the other creditors without a cent. The stock was advertised for sale at slaughter prices, with H. Douglas in charge, and later it was moved to Winnipeg, where the business is being carried on. One creditor tried to issue a writ of attachment to stop the sale of the stock, and offered to give bonds to the amount of \$1,000, but the sheriff at Portage for some reason could not be induced to allow the writ to issue. Later, after the stock was all cleared out, he offered to issue the writ. The whole affair seems a scandalous transaction. Douglas is said to have done a good cash trade during the fall and winter. He bought goods to the amount of about \$5,000, upon which practically nothing was paid, and as claimed, not even the rent of the store for a full year had been paid, which latter liability seems rather peculiar. The question with the creditors is, where the money went to, seeing that it did not go to lessen the liabilities, and the stock was so reduced as not to satisfy the brother's judgment.

There are several features about the affair which cannot be regarded with satisfaction. The failure to reduce liabilities, the disappearance of Mrs. Douglas to avoid service and the rent transaction, etc., all point to the urgent need of some change in the law to prevent such disgraceful occurrences.

The Live Stock Trade.

At London on March 1 owing to short supplies of cattle the market was stronger and prices advanced ½c to 1c. Best United States' cattle sold at 11½c and Argentine at 11c. Sheep were firm at 12c to 13c.

A private cable received from Liverpool quoted choice Canadian cattle unchanged at 11c.

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on March 1, there was an advance of ½c to ¾c per lb for good to choice cattle, but common and inferior were slow. Choice steers and heifers sold at 3½c to 3¾c; good at 3¼c to 3½c; fair at 2¾c to 3c, and the lower grades all the way from 1½c to 2½c per lb. live weight. The supply of sheep and lambs was small. Sheep sold at 3c to 3½c, lambs at 4½c to 1½c, and mixed lots at 1½c per lb live weight.

At the Point St. Charles cattle market, Montreal on March 1, the supply of hogs was fair, and the demand good. Prices were firm at \$1.50 per 100 lbs f.o.d., and at \$1.75 off cars.

At Chicago on March 5, hogs ranged from \$3.10 to \$3.55, according to quality.

At the semi-weekly market at Toronto on March 2, hogs were firmer. Brying stocker cattle for Buffalo was active. There was a good demand for export cattle. Prices ruled from 3½c to 1½c per lb. latter for extra choice. For butchers' cattle the ruling prices were from 2½c to 3c per lb., 3½c being paid for a few picked cattles. Good stockers sold from 2½ to 3c per lb for shipment to Buffalo, where the market is off from 10 to 20c per cwt. Prices paid here were below those of last Friday. Feeders from 3¼ to 3½c. Stock bulls 2½ to 3c per lb. The trade in sheep was dull, the ruling figures being from 2¾ to 3c per lb; lambs, firm, good ones sold for 5c. In spite of the heavy offerings of hogs all sold early and the choice selections advanced to 5c per lb. off the cars. Thick fat and light hogs ruled from 1c to 1½c per lb. All sorts are wanted except store.

A new thing in carriage wheels is on view at the warehouse of A. C. McRae, carriage dealer, Winnipeg. This is the ball-bearing rubber-tyre wheel. This wheel may be used for any class of light rigs, and is very highly spoken of. It is simply an adaptation of the bicycle idea to carriages and similar rigs. It makes a great saving of labor for the horse, as well as easy riding for the occupants of the rig.

The Vidette newspaper, one of the oldest papers in Assiniboia territory, has been moved from Fort Qu'Appelle to Indian Head. "The Fort" was at one time probably the most important point in what is now the territory of Assiniboia, but the lack of railway facilities has kept it back. It is a beautiful location for a town and some day will no doubt secure communication with the outside world.

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THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, March 6.

Changeable weather, with a cold snap, has continued the wintry aspect in business matters. A feature of this winter's trade has been the light receipts of grain and other lines of country produce. This is to some extent due probably to the bad roads this winter, on account of the unusual depth of snow and frequency of storms. Country roads have been very bad this winter. The decline in prices for wheat, after the sharp advance last fall, also induced farmers to hold their grain. These light sales by farmers is no doubt the cause of the closer financial situation of late. In the early part of the winter payments were better than in immediate previous years in many cases, but for the first two months of the new year, payments and collections have not been as good as for the corresponding period of last year, in several lines of trade. Thus while the early part of the season was better than usual, the latter part has hardly been up to the average in collections and payments. Jobbers are now busy shipping out spring goods, in textile lines, boots and shoes, etc. Last month's custom's and trade returns show up larger than for February, 1896, but bank clearings at Winnipeg for February this year were 25 per cent under the like month last year, though much larger than for February, 1895. A feature of the week is the commencement of the spring immigration movement, a large number of settlers from the eastern provinces having arrived this week. Railway traffic was somewhat deranged by Friday's storm. There were 51 business failures in Canada this week, against 50 last week, 66 in the week a year ago, and 53 two years ago.

In the United States the prospect of an extra session of congress and the early adoption of a stringent protective measure, is stimulating business, as manufacturers and others are buying to anticipate expected advances when the new tariff comes into effect. Corn, pork, lard, turpentine and steel billets are higher. Sugar, oats and cotton were higher or lower. The stock market has been affected some by the European situation. At New York yesterday call money was quoted at 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 per cent, prime mercantile paper, 3 to 4 per cent., bar silver, was lower than a week ago at 61c, Mexican at 50 1/2c.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, March 6.

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 orders and to cash discounts.

WOOD—Prices have not undergone any general change. The demand has been weak. There was only one tender put in for 100 cords of spruce recently asked for by the city council, to be delivered at the city wharf. This was Hargrave's tender at \$1.60 per cord, which was accepted. Pine is held about \$3.50 for on track here; tamarac, \$1.25 per on track, and poplar at \$2.50 to 5. Prices delivered to consumers about 10 per cent above these quotations.

COAL—The recent cold weather has been favorable to the trade. At the western mines production is slackening up, the working force having been reduced at some of the mines. At the Lethbridge colliery one shaft has been closed this week, in consequence of which a number of men have been let off. Prices are the same. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton; Lethbridge \$6.50. These prices are delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal are held at \$3.85 to 3.90 per ton here, or \$1.50 per ton on cars at the mines.

DRUGS—The principal feature is the continued upward tendency in bluestone, and prices are now comparatively high. Barrels are selling here at 4 1/2c and smaller quantities at 5 to 6c. The usual large spring movement of this article is taking place. Strychnine is higher. Prices here for parcel are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2c; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, barrel lots 4 1/2c, less than barrels, 5 to 6c; borax 11 to 18 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 80 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; citric acid, 55 to 65c. coppers 3 1/2 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$1.00 to \$5.50; cream tartar, per pound, 30 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 1/2 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 1 1/2 to 18c; do., boxes, 15 to 20c; German quinine, 35 to 40c; glycerine, per pound, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c, do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodoine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00, oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$1 per gallon as to brand; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c; potassium iodide, \$1.25 to 1.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rochelle 30 to 35c; shalac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 1/2 to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 1/2 to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$1.00 to \$1.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals \$1 to \$1.25 per oz.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$1.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 1, 1 lb., \$12.88; No. 5, 2 lb., \$21.30. stiminal—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do., 4oz, \$5.10.

FISH—The shipping trade has picked up quite a bit, in consequence of cold weather east and south, and large shipments of Manitoba fish have lately been made. At one time it looked as though a large quantity of fish held in refrigerators here would have to be carried over, but it is said that in consequence of the present activity, stocks will be likely cleaned out. The winter catch of fish at the Manitoba lakes, has been greatly curtailed, in consequence of the low prices and limited demand this season. Jobbing prices are as follows:—Finnish haddies, 7c per lb; whitefish, 4 to 5c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 3 to 4c; salmon, 12c halibut, 12c; cod, 8c; haddock, 8c per lb; smelts, 4c; herrings, 25c per dozen; oysters, \$1.10 per gallon for standards, \$1.80 for select, and \$2 to \$2.25 for extra selects and counts; shell oysters, \$8 per barrel; smoked salmon, 15c lb.; bladders, \$1.25 to \$1.40 b x; red herrings, 20c box; pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lbs; pickled whitefish, \$9 per barrel; salt herrings \$3.50 per half barrel; boneless fish, 5c lb.

GREEN FRUITS.—The firm feeling in apples is the principal feature. Stocks have been well reduced. One firm had in a couple of cars of new eastern stock this week. Prices are higher all around for apples, choice spies being held as high as \$3.75 to \$1 per barrel. Oranges are firmer. A few bananas are coming in, but the weather has been too cold and changeable to admit of handling them to any advantage. Prices are as follows: Apples, spies, \$3.75 to \$1, other stock, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per barrel as to quality. California navel, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per box; California seedling oranges \$3.75 to \$1.00 per box; Mission lemons, \$1.50 per box; California lemons, \$1.50 box; Cape Cod cranberries, frozen \$5 to \$5.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$9.90 per keg; bananas, \$2.75 to \$3.50 per bunch; sweet potatoes, \$1.50 to \$3 per barrel; dates, 6 1/2 to 7c lb.; figs, 13 to 15c lb. or layers.

NUTS—Tarragona almonds, 16c; Sicily filberts, large, 15c, filberts ordinary, 12c, peanuts, roasted, 12c; peanuts, green, 9c. Ontario butternuts 9c; Ontario Walnuts, 6c; hickory nuts, 10; Grenoble walnuts, 15c; French walnuts, 12 1/2c lb.

HARDWARE—Prices here are:

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

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

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

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

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25, 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.15

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

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

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2c.

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

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

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, not list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 1/2c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twist and wire and staples, \$1.10 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7 1/2 to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9 1/2 to 10 1/2c base, cotton, 3 to 4 1/2 inch at larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.00 to 9.00.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$2.63 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 3 to 6 inch, \$3.20 per keg, 2 1/2 inch, \$3.33, with usual extras for smaller sizes.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$4.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Prices are as follows:

WHITE LEAD—Pure, \$5.75 per 100 lbs.

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

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

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$1.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$1.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. 90c per bale putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2½c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2½c.

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

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

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

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

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

RAW FURS.—There is more doing, and some good sized lots have come in lately. There is good competition, as usual, for offerings. Following gives the range of prices paid here for skins:

Badger	\$ 05 to \$ 60
Bear, black or brown.....	5 00 to 24 00
Bear, yearlings.....	2 00 to 8 00
Bear, grizzly.....	5 00 to 22 00
Beaver, large.....	5 50 to 7 50
" medium.....	3 00 to 4 50
" small.....	50 to 2 50
" cubs.....	25 to 60
" castors, per lb.....	2 50 to 5 50
Fisher.....	3 00 to 8 00
Fox, cross.....	50 to 10 00
" kitt.....	10 to 40
" red.....	25 to 1 50
" silver.....	20 00 to 75 00
Lynx, large.....	1 00 to 2 25
" medium.....	1 00 to 2 00
" small.....	75 to 1 25
Marten, dark.....	1 00 to 4 50
" pale or brown.....	1 00 to 3 50
" light pale.....	75 to 1 75
Mink.....	50 to 1 50

Musquash, winter	08 to 10
" spring.....	05 to 15
Otter	2 00 to 9 00
Skunk.....	25 to 7 00
Wolf, timber.....	1 00 to 1 50
" prairie.....	25 to 65
" bush or large prairie.....	75
Wolverine.....	1 00 to 4 00

WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION.—The general tone of the leading wheat markets has been rather firmer this week and prices have tended upward on most days. The strained situation in Europe over the Crotan affair was one of the features in the situation, assisted by liberal decreases in stocks and a few crop damage reports, from the south-west winter wheat region. The Chicago visible supply statement on Monday showed a decrease of 1,418,000 bushels, making the total on that date 43,798,000 bushels, compared with 61,089,000 bushels a year ago, 78,761,000 bushels two years ago and 75,589,000 bushels three years ago. This includes stocks at principal points in the United States and Canada, east of the Mountains.

Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States this week amounted to 2,075,435 bushels, compared with 1,972,000 bushels in the week two years ago, 2,851,000 bushels three years ago, and as compared with 2,801,000 bushels in the like week of 1893.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION.—There has been no improvement so far as the movement is concerned and scarcely anything has been coming in at country markets. In fact at many points the elevators are still closed, as they would be kept open at a heavy loss with so little business doing. Country roads are in very bad shape and they have been getting worse rather than better, as the snow continues to pile up with every storm. Last week the wheat receipts at Fort William were 37,189 bushels, and shipments 7,007 bushels. The quantity in store on Saturday last was 2,838,497 bushels. A year ago stocks were 3,831,610 bushels, two years ago 892,400 bushels and three years ago 2,071,000 bushels. Receipts at Fort William for the corresponding week last year were 186,554 bushels and shipments 105,222 bushels. In Manitoba country markets prices are steady at about 57 to 58c per bushel at 18 cent freight rate points, though 59 to 60c has been paid in some cases. In the Winnipeg market we quote No. 1 hard about 74 to 75c at Fort William. Some sales of No. 2 hard have been made at 71½c at Fort William.

WHEAT—Winnipeg Street Prices.—The millers were paying about 60c to farmers for choice samples of hard wheat, per bushel of 60 lbs; feed wheat brings 45 to 50c.

FLOUR.—There was a further decline of 10c in flour this week. We quote \$2.05 to \$2.10 for patents, \$1.85 to \$1.90 for bakers, \$1.45 to \$1.50 for second bakers and \$1.00 to \$1.05 for XXXX, per sack of 98 lbs.

MILLSTUFFS.—Bran is rather firmer. Better prices are now being obtained in eastern markets for Manitoba bran, though prices east appear to be irregular. We quote here \$6 for bran and \$8 for shorts, per ton, delivered to the local trade, in a jobbing way.

BARLEY.—Car lots of feed barley have sold here this week at a wide range. In one case 21s was paid per bushel of 48 lbs, but another car, just as good, sold later at 21c per bushel. City brewers are paying 23c to 25c for malting samples to farmers here, and 27 to 28c on track here for car lots.

OATS.—From 15 to 20c per bushel of 31 pounds is paid to farmers in this market as to quality, per bushel of 31 lbs., for loads. Car lots range from 18c for light up to 22c for No. 2 and for white fancy as high as 24 to 25c has been quoted for local consumption but here are hardly any sales beyond 22c.

OATMEAL.—Two sharp declines are reported in oatmeal from the east this week of 2½ and 10c, and at the comparatively high prices for oats here, we may expect to see more eastern meal coming in here if the situation is not changed. Prices are easy. Following are prices here in large lots with small lots to retail dealers held about 15c more. Rolled oatmeal in 80 lb sacks \$1.60 per sack; standard, \$1.85 to \$1.90 and granulated \$1.85 to \$1.90 in 98 lb sacks. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.60 in round lots. Pat barley, \$1.70 in round lots.

GROUND FEED.—Prices are steady. Prices range from \$13 to \$17 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed. Ordinary mixed mill feed is held at \$13 per ton.

FLAX SEED.—The prices paid to farmers at Manitoba points is still 45 to 50c per bushel for good milling seed.

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

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

BUTTER.—Choice butter is steady and the market is fairly firm. There has been very little offering, and stocks have been gradually working down, but not very fast, an account of the light demand. Prices are about the same. Good to fair dairy lots range from 13 to 16c in a jobbing way, the top price only for selected packages. Good sized lots bring about 14c. Medium quality, 10c to 12c. Culls 5c to 8c. Good rolls are quoted at 12 to 14c in a jobbing way, but are exceedingly dull.

CHEESE.—The local jobbing price is about 9½ to 10c in small lots.

EGGS.—Very few cases are coming in from the country, and held stocks have been about cleaned up. There are practically no supplies of Manitoba eggs in the market, and fresh stock has been coming in from the States. Good, fresh imported eggs have been selling here at 22c, which is the outside base stock would bring.

POULTRY.—Very little poultry is coming in. Dealers will pay the following prices for receipts: Chickens, 6 to 7c; ducks, 8 to 9c; geese, 9 to 14c; turkeys, 9 to 10c.

LARD.—Prices are: Pure \$1.50 for 20 lb pails, and \$3.50 for 50 lb. pails; pure lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 6½ to 7.

CURED MEATS.—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 10 to 14c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 10 to 14c; 4c, back 9 to 9½c; short spiced rolls, 7 to 7½c; short dera, 6 to 6½c smoked long clear, 7 to 7½c; Fancy clear, 7½ to 8c; Dry salt meat is quoted; Long clear bacon, 6 to 6½c; lb; shoulders, 5½c; backs, 7 to 7½c; barrel pork, clear meat, \$12.00; salt out, \$15.00; rolled shoulders, \$12.50; per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sundries.



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to: bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 8c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 25 to 30c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—Dressed hogs are firm. A few cars have been shipped east, but it is supposed the trade is now pretty well over for this season, and offerings are not large. Manitoba hogs have brought good prices east, touching 57 to 6c at Montreal. Prices here are quoted at from 4c for rough heavy up to 44c for choice Country frozen beef is quoted at 3 to 4c as to quality, and fresh city dressed unfrozen beef at 5 to 6c. Stocks of frozen beef have been pretty well cleaned up, and there is very little offering. Mutton is quoted at about 5 to 6c as to quality, and rough stuff, of which there is considerable, as low as 4c.

HIDES.—Prices are about the same. From 6 to 64c has been paid for frozen hides, 5 lbs. tare, flat rate, and possibly 64c in a few cases, though this is beyond the actual value. We quote 6 to 64c for frozen hides, calf, 8 to 15c lb., skins, 4 to 6c per lb.; dekins 10 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheepskins range from 40 to 60c, according to quality. Horsehides, 75c to \$1.25.

WOOL.—Nothing doing here and prices nominal at 7 to 94c.

TALLOW.—Dealers are paying 4c for No 1 extra and 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

SENEGA ROOT.—We quote 19 to 20c per lb. for dry root.

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

VEGETABLES.—Prices are: Potatoes, 30c Onions, 1 1/2 to 2c lb.; carrots, 30c bushel; beets, 30c bushel; turnips, 20c; parsnips; 60 to 75c bushel; celery, 25 to 30c dozen; cabbage, 30 to 40c dozen. These are prices dealers buy at from market gardeners.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE.—There is very little doing in cattle yet. No further shipping demand reported. We quote good butchers' cows at 2 1/2c and steers and heifers at 3 to 3 1/2c. Export cattle nominal at 3 1/2c.

SHEEP.—No sheep have been handled here. The price is therefore nominal at 3 1/2 to 4c.

HOGS.—Prices here are a little better this week, 3 1/2c having been reached, and the market is firm at these prices now. Quite a number have been bought lately for early delivery, and present deliveries are reported to be averaging good quality. We quote: Good bacon stock, weighing 150 to 300 pounds, 3 1/2c. So's and heavy hogs 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c, according to quality. Stags 1 1/2 to 2 1/2c, off cars here.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, March 2.

Business generally seems to be somewhat improving though still very quiet; flour and feed stuffs are firm with a tendency to advance. The price of eastern apples is stiffening. The mining boom still continues and the warning of The Commercial which appeared in a recent number was timely, as a very large proportion of the available money in the community is going into the purchase of mining stocks or prospects. This prejudices ordinary business to some considerable extent and also makes collections slow. More particularly is this the case in the collection of taxes in the rural municipalities where—"That which is Caesar's is not rendered unto Caesar" owing to every available dol-

lar being appropriated for mining ventures. The engineering trade is considerably impeded just now owing to a strike at the British Columbia Iron Works at Vancouver. Somewhat severe criticism of the mine promoting methods of the province and disparagement of the Fairview and Rossland districts at the hands of the Canadian Mining Review of Montreal, has attracted some attention here and considerable indignation is expressed. Reports from London, England, state that the overcapitalisation of British Columbia mine ventures is prejudicing British investment in British Columbia properties. A letter from a prominent London, England, mining man states that Londoners are looking with more favor on Lake of the Woods properties, which are better managed and put on the English market in better shape than the British Columbia mines. Meanwhile the rush to register new mining companies with big nominal capital before the new mining law takes effect, continues unabated. Stocks are not moving. Occasionally a big block is sold in the east but in the local market every \$100 that can be squeezed out, of its legitimate channel in trade, is buying its possessor into some syndicate where the chances of making 1,000 per cent. on the money invested are certainly surer than in the purchase of stock. So few of the stocks here promise a dividend in the immediate future, and consequently the holders are forced to file their scrip away and wait for better times. In the meantime good news comes from mines promoted here which promise to pay dividends. The Lillooet Gold Reefs Co., of Vancouver is operating in Lillooet near the Golden Cache mines. They have several promising claims.

The Orphan Boy in North Kootenay has now a tunnel in 125 feet and another 67 feet. A large amount of ore has been taken out from the first tunnel but the ledge has not been struck in the second tunnel. The Athabaska has struck a second strip of ore at almost right angles to the main tunnel on their Nelson property. The vein was struck at 155 feet, and the quartz looks as rich as in the main tunnel. The main tunnel is now in 175 feet and a second tunnel is to be started at once. The Fairview camp from indications is to become one of the most promising camps in the province. The Davidson Bros., of Victoria and Vancouver, have organized several companies of late and purchased many excellent properties; amongst the most promising is the Tinhora. A hundred foot tunnel has been driven along the side of the vein. A twenty foot stamp mill is to be erected. The ore which is free milling, averages \$21 to the ton.

Silver.

The silver market continues dull and firm. There is nothing tangible in sight to explain this apart from the condition of India exchange in London, which is substantially unchanged from the position of a fortnight ago. At the end of the present week the markets were a trifle stronger. Silver prices on Feb. 26 were: London, 29 11-10d., New York 64 1/2c.

Toronto Grain and Produce Trade.

Wheat.—One lot of 8,000 bushels red wheat was taken for export to-day at 75c west. White wheat, west, is reported at 75c.

Flour.—Tone rather better. Car lots of straight roller, middle freights, are quoted at \$3.75.

Millfeed.—Bran is scarce and firm. Single tons at western mills sell at \$9 to \$9.50. Shorts sell at \$9 to \$10.

Oatmeal.—Car lots of rolled oats, in bags, on track here, are quoted at \$2.80 and small lots at \$2.90 to \$2.95.

Oats.—White oats, high freights west, are quoted at 17c; and 1 1/2c freight to the seaboard, at 18 to 18 1/2c.

Barley.—Fancy samples, 35 to 36c, No. 1 at 32 to 38c; No. 2 at 28 to 29c; and feed from 20 to 21c; No. 3 extra is quoted at 23 to 24c.

Eggs.—Supplies are large. Now laid, 14c; held fresh, 5 to 6c; lamed, 3 to 10c.

Apples.—Dealers quote small lots of dried here at 2 to 2 1/2c, and evaporated at 3 to 3 1/2c.

Dressed Hogs.—Light lean hogs are quoted at \$5.75, in car lots, on track here; light fats at \$5.25, and heavy fats at \$1.60.—Mail, March 3.

Minneapolis Markets

Flour.—The Market Record of March 3 reports the market firm and buying becoming more active. Prices are as follows, in bbls. f. o. b.: First patents, \$3.90 to \$4.10; second patents, \$3.70 to \$3.90; first clears, \$3.30 to \$3.50; second clear, 2.20 to \$2.40; Red Dog, per ton, 110 to 115 bushels, \$9.00. These prices are the same as a week ago.

Millstuffs.—Bran in bulk, \$6.25 to \$6.75, bran in sacks, 200 lbs. \$7.25 to \$7.75; bran in sacks, 100 lbs. \$7.75 to \$8.25; shorts in bulk, 6.25 to \$6.60; shorts in sacks, 100 lbs. 7.75 to \$8.00 middlings, fine, \$7 to \$7.25. These prices are the same as a week ago.

Oats.—Range mostly at 14 to 16c for No. 3.

Barley.—Quoted at 18 to 23c per bushel as to quality.

Flax.—Quoted at 75 1/2c per bushel, an advance of 1 1/2c on the week.

Hay.—Prairie, \$3.00 to \$7.00 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, March 3.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Feb. 26, 1897.	Feb. 23, 1896
Flour, straight spring.	\$4.00 to \$4.20	\$3.10 to \$3.20
Flour, straight winter.	\$4.25 to \$4.35	\$3.50 to \$3.75
Wheat, No. 2 red.	95 7-8	\$1.35 to \$1.45
Corn, No. 2 mixed.	55 5-8	53 1/2
Oats, No. 2.	21 1-2	20 1/2
Rye, No. 2, Western.	15	
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	43c	45c
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 5-16c	7 1/2c
Print cloths, 64x68.	2 5-8	2 1/2c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X.	15c	15
Wool, No. 1 comb.	21 to 22c	22 to 23c
Pork, mess new.	\$5.50 to \$5.75	\$10.25 to \$10.50
Lard, western, cont'd.	\$1.25	\$1.15c
Butter, ex. creamery	17c	22c
Cheese, ch. east 5lb.	12	10 1/2c
Sugar, centrif., 90°	31-1c	41-5c
Sugar, granulated.	13-8c	5c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.	10 1-8	13c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.	91c	\$1.35c
Petroleum, rid. gal.	\$4.30	67-10
*Iron, Bessemer.	\$ 0.75	\$12.50
*Steel billets, ton.	\$15.75	\$17.00
*Steel rails.	\$2 00	\$2.00
Ocean Steam Freights—		
Grain, Liverpool.	2 1/2	15-18
Cotton.	11-18d	5-24

* Pittsburgh.

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 lbs per 100 pounds.

On Monday wheat was firmer, influenced by improved cables, and liberal decreases in visible stocks. Closing prices were 1/2 to 3/8 higher than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat.....	74 1/2	75 1/2	72 3/4	71
Corn.....	23	24 1/2	—	—
Oats.....	15 1/2	17 1/2	—	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 12 1/2	8 25	—
Lard.....	—	4 12 1/2	4 22 1/2	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 22 1/2	4 32 1/2	—

On Tuesday there was an early advance, on unfavorable crop reports, and firmer cables, but the full advance was not held. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat.....	74 1/2	75 1/2	72 3/4	71 1/2
Corn.....	23	24 1/2	—	—
Oats.....	15 3/4	17 1/2	—	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 05	8 17 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	4 05	4 15	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 17 1/2	4 27 1/2	—

On Wednesday there was some advance on war rumors, but it did not hold, and liquidating sales forced prices down. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat....	74	74 3/4-75	72 1/2	70 1/2
Corn.....	23	24	—	—
Oats.....	15 3/4	17	—	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 15	8 27 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	4 12 1/2	4 22 1/2	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 25	4 35	—

On Thursday wheat was firm most of the day, influenced by the threatening situation in Europe, buying by shorts, and firm cables. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat....	74 1/2	75 1/2-3/4	72 3/4-3/8	71
Corn.....	23	24 1/2	—	—
Oats.....	15 3/4	17 1/2	—	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 22 1/2	8 32 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	4 15	4 25	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 30	4 40	—

On Friday wheat was strong, influenced mainly by the increasing tension of the Cretan question. Prices advanced sharply. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat....	75 3/8	76 3/8	73 1/2	72
Corn.....	23 1/2	—	25 1/2	27 1/2
Oats.....	16	17 1/2	18 1/2	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 35	8 45	—
Lard.....	—	4 20	—	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 37 1/2	—	—

May wheat opened at 76 1/2 to 76 3/8 on Saturday, and held fairly steady, touching 76 3/8. Closing prices were:

	March.	May	July	Sept.
Wheat....	75	76 1/2	73 1/2	71 1/2
Corn.....	23 1/2	24 1/2	25 1/2	27
Oats.....	16	17 1/2	18 1/2	—
Meas Pork..	—	8 35	8 47 1/2	—
Lard.....	—	4 20	—	—
Short Ribs.	—	4 40	—	—
Flax Seed..	79	78 1/2	—	81 1/2

A week ago May wheat closed at 74 1/2. A year ago May wheat closed at 65 1/2 and two years ago at 55c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, March 6, May option closed at 82 1/2c and July at 81 1/2c. A week ago May option closed at 79 3/4 and two weeks ago at 82 1/2c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

On Saturday, March 6, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 73 3/4 for May option, 71 1/2 for July, and 69 1/2 for September. A week ago May wheat closed at 72 1/2c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—May, 75 1/2
Tuesday—May 76 1/2c.
Wednesday—May, 76 1/2.
Thursday—May 75 1/2c.
Friday—May, 7 1/2
Saturday—70 1/2

On Saturday, March 6, cash No. 1 hard closed at 77 1/2, and cash No. 1 Northern at 75 1/2.

Last week May delivery closed at 74 3/4-3/8. A year ago May closed at 63c. Two years ago at 60 1/2c, and three years ago at 61 1/2c.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

Grain—Oats are steady at 22 1/2c.

Flour—The feature of the flour market was a reduction in the price of Ontario grades of flour of 5 to 10c per barrel. Manitoba strong bakers' are being cut 10c per barrel, with sales at \$1.65. We quote: Winter wheat patents at \$1.40 to \$1.65; straight rollers at \$1.00 to \$1.20, and in bags, at \$1.95 to \$2.00. Manitoba spring wheat patents at \$1.70 to \$5.05; and strong bakers' at \$1.25 to \$1.65.

Bran—Manitoba bran, \$12 and \$13 for shorts, including bags. Ontario white wheat bran is quoted at \$10 to \$10.50 in bulk.

Oatmeal—Prices have scored another decline of 10c per barrel, rolled oats now being quoted at \$2.80 to \$2.90 per barrel, and at \$1.40 to \$1.45 per bag.

Butter—The market quiet at 18 to 19c for creamery and at 11 to 13c for roll dairy.

Eggs—New laid, 15 to 16c; Montreal limed, 10 1/2 to 11c; Western Limed and held fresh at 8 to 10c per dozen.

Dressed Hogs—The demand for light weight hogs is good and sales have been made as high as \$7 for really choice in small lots, but the general run are from \$6.50 to \$6.75 per 100 lbs. Several car lots of Manitoba hogs are on the way, and some sales have been made to arrive at \$5.75 to \$6 per \$100 lbs in car lots—Gazette, March 3.

A Montreal report dated Wednesday last says the feature in fresh fish has been the continued weak feeling in Manitoba white and trout, and prices show a further decline of 1/2c per lb., while pike are somewhat firmer. Prices given are: Manitoba pike, 30 to 3 1/2c; dorso, 4c to 4 1/2c; white fish and trout, 4c to 4 1/2c.

Insurance and Financial Notes.

The Winnipeg city finance committee recently asked tenders for local improvement debentures to the amount of \$140,225, divided into three amounts, payable at 7, 10 and 35 years. A number of tenders were received and the majority were above par. Those accepted were Oler, Hammond & Nanton's and E. T. Bartlett's, of Montreal. The former bid 100.65 on \$121,622 at seven years, amounting to \$122,883.21; 102.83 for \$10,000 at 35 years, amounting to \$10,233. The latter offered \$8,721.30 for \$8,603 at 10 years. The total amount offered for the \$140,225 was \$141,315.51. These offers are very gratifying in view of the recent reduction in the rate of interest to 4 per cent.

Grain and Milling.

At Montreal on Feb. 25 there were several changes in prices. Straight roller flour declined 10 to 15c per bag. Some dealers were holding bran 50c to \$1 per ton higher. Oatmeal declined 20c per barrel.

The Great Northern railway proposes to construct at Buffalo a grain elevator of 2,500,000 bushels capacity, all of steel.

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British Columbia Markets.

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

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, March 6, 1897.

Potatoes are higher. Eggs have declined 2c. Fresh meats are advancing.

Butter.—Manitoba Dairy butter, 18c; Manitoba creamery, 22c; small tubs, 23c; eastern creamery, 22c; local creamery, 28c; California butter, 23c; Manitoba cheese, 10c to 11c; local cheese, 11c lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12½ cents; breakfast bacon 12½; backs 9c; long, clear, 7½ to 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures. Tins 9½c per pound; in pails and tubs 8½c lb.

Game.—Mallard, 25c. wildgeon, 25c; teal, 20c; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand snipe, 85c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 3c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c. Black cod 5c, rock cod 4c, red cod 4c; tany cod 5c; herring 4c;

spring salmon 8c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon, 10c; finnan haddie, 10c; kippered herring 12c; Columbia river oolochans, 7c.

Vegetables.—Local potatoes, \$18.00 to \$20.00 per ton; onions 3½c; cabbage, 2c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

Eggs.—Eggs, 16c doz.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 360 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 navel oranges. California lemons, \$8.00; California oranges, seedling, \$2.00 to \$2.25; navel oranges \$3.00 to \$3.25; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$1.25 barrel.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 5c to 7c; loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 8c lb.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12c; walnuts, 12c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.20; 10 7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70.

Flour.—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.60, strong bakers, \$5.30; Oregon, \$5.80.

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

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$23 to \$24 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$20.00 ton; bran \$18.00; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—\$15.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 7½ to 8c; mutton, 10c; pork, 6c; veal, 7 to 9c lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$4.00 per 100 lbs.; sheep, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per 100 lbs; hogs \$5.50 per 100 lbs.

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

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

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 17c per pound, 10 gallon kegs, 22c; 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, 11c; good, 18c. choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

British Columbia Business Notes

Eagleson & Henry, hotel, Clinton, have dissolved. M. R. Eagleson continues alone.

McMartin & Currie, saw mill, Cody, have dissolved partnership and are succeeded by McMartin & Terrill.

R. G. McPherson, drugs, Kamloops, has amalgamated with the McDowell, Atkins, Watson Co.

The stock of Wm. Worden, grocer, Nanaimo, is in the hands of the mortgagee.

Orr & Rendell, boots and shoes, Nanaimo, are opening a branch at Rossland.

Marks & Van Ness, hotel, Nelson, are succeeded by S. White.

McQueen & Squires, grocers, Rossland, are out of business.

Forlong & Sexsmith, general store, Steveston, have dissolved. Forlong continues.

John Bray & Co., drugs, Trail, have sold out to McLean & Morrow.

Mason & Co., jewellers, Vancouver, are selling out.

R. Robertson, man's furnishings, Vancouver, has moved to Kootenay.

Reid & Burton, hotel, Vancouver, have dissolved. G. P. Reid continues.

A. V. Bossi, grocer, Victoria, is giving up business.

Challoner, Mitchell & Co., jewellers, Victoria, have suffered a loss by burglary of \$5,000.

A. Churton, furs, etc., Victoria, is dead.

Joseph Gosnell, butcher, Victoria, is out of business.

Cecil A. Shewman, hotel, Victoria, is advertising to sell out.

Thorpe & Co., soda water manufacturers, Victoria and Vancouver, have opened a branch at Rossland.

Bain & McKay, dry goods, Wellington, have dissolved. J. L. McKay continues.

Winnipeg Clearing House

Clearings for the week ending March 4 were 911,596; balances, 214,278. For the previous week clearings were 1,050,271. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 1,601,155 and for the week two years ago were 659,396. Clearings for the month of Feb. were \$3,851,018, compared with \$1,052,591 for Feb. 1896, and \$2,721,028 for Feb. 1895.

Clearances for all Canadian cities for the week ended March 4 were as follows:

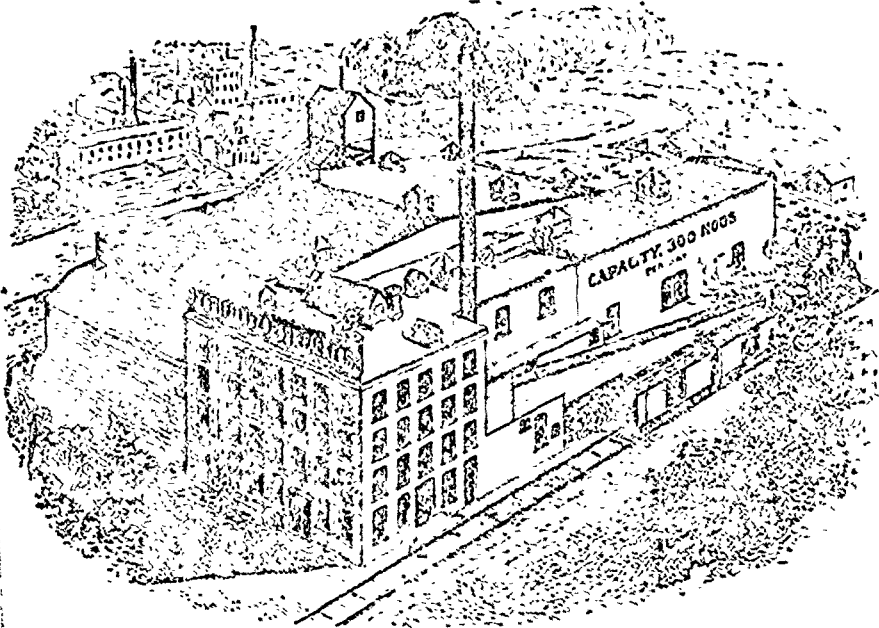
Montreal	\$8,157,201
Toronto	5,839,595
Halifax	1,261,590
Winnipeg	914,596
Hamilton	611,501
St. John	423,214

Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Halifax aggregated \$16,814,000 this week, compared with \$17,299,000 last week and \$17,621,000 in the week one year ago.

The Fur Trade.

The Leipzig (Germany) correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review, writing on February 10 says: Persian lamb continues to be a good selling article, and we have to figure at about 10 per cent higher prices than last year; France, Germany and the United States have been for some time past buying quite freely; the article is also in considerable favor in Russia, where large quantities have been worked up, and where even curled skins are wanted and high prices have been paid. Broadtails and moire Astrakhan are in favor for France, but rough curled Astrakhan has been neglected. Good curly Astrakhan, kopke, has been well sold for Canada at about 25 per cent lower prices than last year; Gray kimmer has sold for Canada and the United States and the indications are that the European trade will also accept small round curled skins of which several parcels have been purchased by Leipzig dealers for dyeing. White hare skins are used in large quantities for Germany, France, and especially for England for back chinchilla and brown dyeing. England has taken very large lots for chinchilla and sable imitation. A few weeks ago a Parisian buyer was here and bought up for speculation about 200,000 skins, and a rash followed, within about two weeks nearly 60,000 Russian white hares were sold here, the prices advancing from day to day, and they are now 25 per cent higher than in the beginning of November. Ermine is in favor and prices are unchanged. German white conics, shagred, are quite largely used by Berlin and Vienna cloak manufacturers as an imitation of ermine. Sastiki linings, black dyed, have been adopted by the cloak trade and are largely used for capes. The finest grade of Siberian kolinski skins are selling quite freely for England, and dyed in sable imitation are used for capes. These are not in as great favor as last year. Russia being the only liberal buyer for black dyed skins. Russian sable is good; medium and high grades are wanted in Russia and Paris and are very dear, but light and reddish skins are neglected. Good grades of white moufflon are sold for London and Paris, to be dyed in chinchilla imitation, and blue natural skins are used by the Berlin cloak trade, but we do not think the article will be in much demand this season. England purchases very large quantities of sable dyed single and double squirrel tails to be used as trimmings on capes, and the good Siberian tails will be in favor again on account of the low prices. Natural squirrel wanted, but is very high in price in comparison to small beaver; it is in demand, however, by Berlin and Vienna cloak makers. In German furs, foxes are selling slowly. Even in small and medium sizes meet with a quiet sale for Russia, and selected large skins are expected to be in fair demand for the United States. Otter will be cheap, as the article is not required by Russia for plucking. Bad marten will be lower in price than last year. A good demand is expected for stone marten for the United States. In American fur skunk, on account of the very low price seems to be again coming into favor for Paris and England, and several large parcels were sold early in the year. Musquash linings have been selling very well all over Europe and consequently cheap grades of musquash skins, such as fall and winter, have been purchased by lining manufacturers, but spring rats are not selling so well. Especially low grades for linings, has sold well. Raccoon is taken for Russia, and we expect firmer prices. Foxes have been neglected, even at the present low values.

COMMON HORSE SENSE

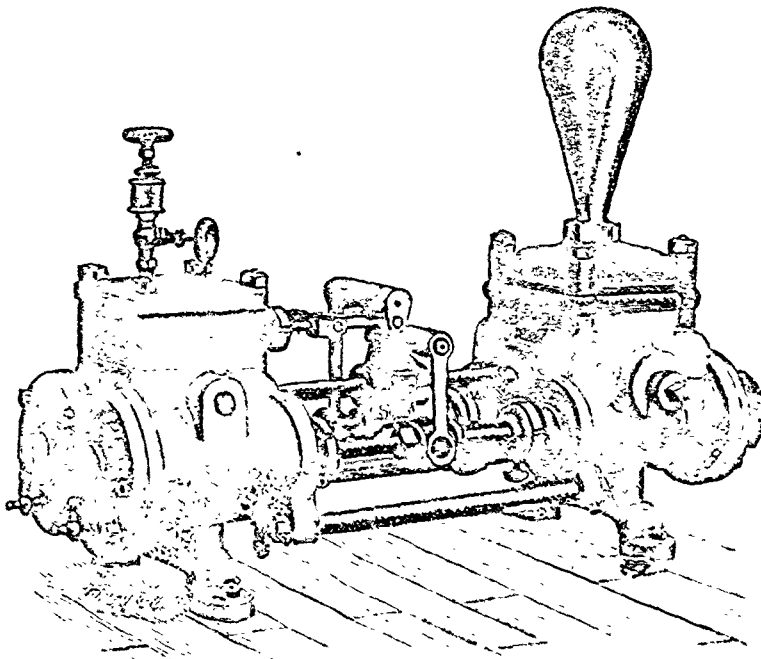


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MONTREAL.

Wheat Stocks

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Feb. 27, 1897, shows a decrease of 1,418,000 bushels, against a decrease of 922,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 715,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,383,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years; the second table shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year, compared with the three previous years:

Table with 4 columns: Year (1896, 1895, 1894, 1893) and rows for weeks from Jan 4 to Feb 27.

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on Feb. 20, is as follows:

Table of wheat stocks in Canada by city: Montreal (450,000), Toronto (218,000), Kingston (17,000), Winnipeg (287,000), and interior elevators (2,440,000).

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on February 20, 1897:

Table of total wheat stocks: East of the Mountains (3,473,000), Pacific Coast (3,005,000), Total stocks a year ago (95,884,000), Pacific Coast (5,889,000).

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Feb. 27, shows a decrease of 1,809,000 bushels in

stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 61,634,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on February 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 128,629,000 bushels, as compared with 160,425,000 bushels on Feb. 1, 1896; 181,419,000 on February 1, 1895; 188,927,000 on February 1, 1894; 178,088,000 on February 1, 1893; 155,808,000 on Feb. 1, 1892; 105,087,000 on February 1, 1891, 105,538,000 on February 1, 1890, and 119,459,000 on February 1, 1889.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Concerning the current market the Hill Bros., Co. of New York say: "We are in receipt of higher cables in this article, making laid-down cost of the goods for import fully 3c per pound above the present market."

The tendency of prices for new Barbados molasses continues downward. Cables received from the Islands note a further decline in the first cost of 1c per gallon, the price now being 9c, which figure is about as low as it has ever been, but importers saw that they would not be surprised to see it sell even lower this season, as supplies of last season's crop on hand are larger at present than the trade anticipated.

A cable from Batavia says, according to the latest advices the next Padang coffee sale will take place March 31, and comprise about 8,000 piculs.

Gow, Wilson & Stanton, the tea statisticians, put the output of Indian tea for 1897 at 16,000,000 pounds, against 136,000,000 pounds last season, and that from Ceylon 105,000,000 pounds, against 980,000,000 pounds last year; in other words, an increase of about 18,000,000 pounds during 1893 over 1895. This, however, says The Spice Mill, should not cause much of a "bearish" feeling, in view of the decreased stocks at tea centres.—New York Commercial Bulletin.

Willet & Gray's New York Weekly Statistical Sugar Trade Journal says:—"The large business in raw sugars, referred to last week, just at the close, included about 25,000 bags centrifugals for Canadian refiners, who find this market just now the most available, for supplies of cane sugar. Our refiners have continued to purchase freely all through the week at the current quotations of 8 3/4c for 95 degree test."

Dairy Trade Notes.

The directors of the Regina Creamery company have arranged with Prof. Robertson for the operation under the government plan of the Regina creamery, if the requisite guarantee of four hundred cows can be procured. A milk gathering station will be established at Craven, some twenty miles north of Regina, where milk will be taken upon the same terms as at the creamery at Regina.

The students of Manitoba Dairy school have organized the "Manitoba Butter and Cheesemakers Association," the membership of which will be restricted to men having operated a factory successfully not less than one year, and holding a diploma from the provincial or other recognized institutions. Fred Sutley, of 378 Ross street, Winnipeg, is the secretary-treasurer.

The cheese cable declined another sixpence to 58s, on Feb. 21.

Liverpool cheese cable declined on Feb. 27 to 57s 6d.

The Dairy association of the Territories met at Regina on Feb. 25, being the third annual convention of the association. Prof.

Robertson was present and delivered an address. He strongly advised farmers in this country to devote more attention to dairying. The conditions in the Territories were particularly favorable for stock raising, while grain growing had not proved so universally successful. He pointed out that it was only the citizen who could create wealth; the government could not do it. The government might assist the citizen in retaining more or less of the wealth which he had created, but could not increase it. He then showed that the price of products was regulated by the demands of the British market, and it was that market which should be cultivated for the better price we obtained for our surplus product, the better price we would get for the portion consumed in this country. The evening session was addressed by Angus McKay, of the Indian Head Experimental farm, who spoke on practical methods of farming. The following are the officers elected for the current year: President, E. U. Hopkins, Moose Jaw; 1st vice-president, W. Dickson, Indian Head; 2nd vice-president, Wm. Watson, Moose Jaw; sec-treasurer, J. V. Jowett, Regina; auditor, G. W. Brown, Regina; Directors, John Bell, Qu'Appelle, for Eastern Assiniboia; D. Mowat, Regina, for Western Assiniboia; J. Leslie, Saskatoon, for Saskatchewan; Mr. James, of Calgary, for Alberta.

Hides, Wool, Etc.

There was an advance of 3c per lb at Toronto recently on hides, where dealers are paying 7c for green. Sheepskins were ten cents higher, best skins being quoted at \$1.10, and country skins at 50 to 75c.

A corner in wool is reported as being formed at Boston, in expectation of a duty on wool. A syndicate has been formed, it is said, to buy up all the wool available.

At Boston general wool prices are not materially different, and are based entirely on the cost to import. Quarter and three-eighth blood unwashed fleeces are about 3c higher, however, the range being from 17c down as to quality.

The next London auction sale of wool will commence March 9.

Insurance and Financial Notes.

The Winnipeg city finance committee recently asked tenders for local improvement debentures to the amount of \$140,225, divided into three accounts, payable at 7, 10 and 35 years. A number of tenders were received and the majority were above par. Those accepted were Osler, Hammond & Nanton's and E. T. Bartlett's, of Montreal. The former bid 100.63 on \$121,022 at seven years, amounting to \$122,383.21; 102.33 for \$10,000 at 85 years, amounting to \$10,233. The latter offered \$8,724.30 for \$8,603 at 10 years. The total amount offered for the \$140,225 was \$141,845.51. These offers are very gratifying, in view of the recent reduction in the rate of interest to 4 per cent.

Grain and Milling.

At Mov' on Feb. 26 there were several changes in price. Straight roller flour declined 10 to 11c. Some dealers were holding bran 50c to \$1 per ton higher. Oatmeal declined 20c per barrel.

The Great Northern railway proposes to construct at Buffalo a grain elevator of 2,500,000 bushels capacity, all of steel.

FLOUR!

SOMEBODY Claims to make the best.
ANYBODY May do likewise.
EVERYBODY Cannot be convinced,
 but buyers who purchase goods on their merits write
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The Western Milling Company, Limited, Regina

The Confederation

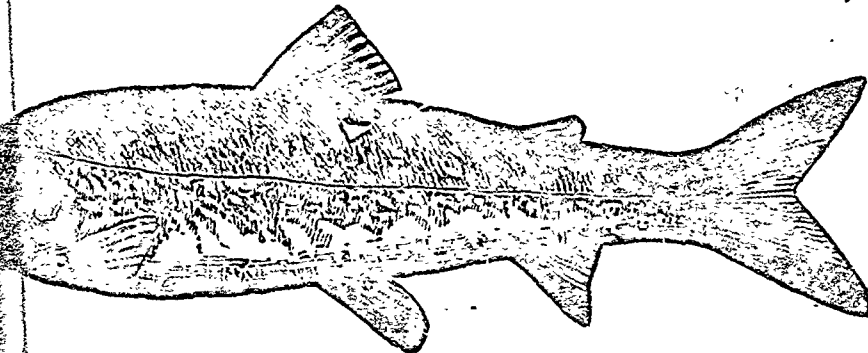
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 Oysters in shell and bulk a specialty. Try our brands, the best in the market.
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Consignments of Produce from Manitoba and
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FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.
 Special attention to consignments of Furs and
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 P.O. BOX 536.

AGENTS D. Richards, Laundry Supr., Woodstock, Ontario
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 Consignments Received in all Lines. Correspondence
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BRAN, SHORTS

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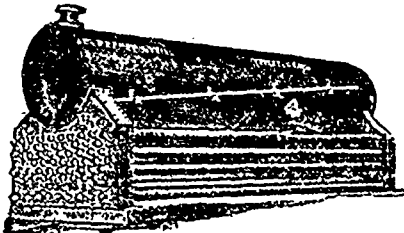
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Our Special Brands of Cigars for 1893: Army and Navy Specials, Pride of Winnipeg Pharaoh, Great West, Blue Jackets, Bird, Ellen Terry, Climax.

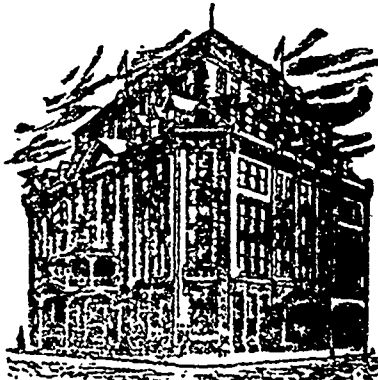
Also full Stock of English, American, Turkish and Canadian Tobaccos and Cigarettes.

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Complete stock of Smokers Sundries.

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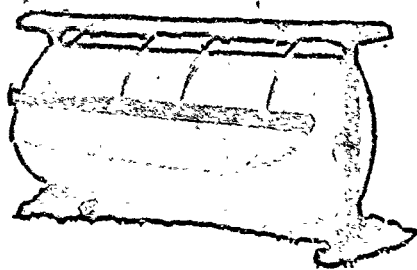
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The Consolidated Stationery Co., Ltd.

41 PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN

The Quarantine Regulations.

The agreement between the United States secretary of agriculture and the Canadian minister of agriculture relating to the quarantine of animals between the United States and Canada provides as follows:

1. Each country shall adopt the veterinary certificates of the other.

2. That the chief of the bureau of animal industry and the chief inspector of stock for Canada will mutually inform one another of contagious animal diseases in either country, or of disease in animals imported from either country.

3. A 90 day quarantine shall be enforced by both countries upon all cattle imported from Europe or from any country in which contagious pleuro-pneumonia is known to exist; a fifteen day quarantine shall be enforced upon all ruminants and swine imported from countries in which foot and mouth disease exists within six months, and upon all swine imported from other countries.

Breeding cattle admitted into this country must be accompanied by a certificate that they have been subjected to the tuberculosis; otherwise they shall be detained in quarantine one week and subjected to the tuberculous test. All cattle found affected with tuberculosis must be returned to the country whence shipped or slaughtered without compensation. Cattle for feeding or for stocking ranches must be accompanied by a certificate stating that they are free from any contagious disease, and that excepting tuberculosis no such disease exists in the district whence they came.

Cattle in transit will be admitted at any port of the United States and Canada in bond, or in bond for exportation by sea from any Canadian port, or from Portland, Boston and New York in the United States.

No animal covered by this memorandum shall be placed on board cars till the litter of previous loads has been removed and the car thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Disinfectants may cause such work to be done at the expense of the railway company, or the use of the cars until it is done.

Sheep may be admitted subject to inspection at port of entry, and accompanied by a certificate that sheep scab has not existed in the district where they have been fed within six months. If the disease exists in the district they may be returned or slaughtered. Sheep may be admitted for transit in bond from one port to another in either

country, and if for slaughter they may be admitted without inspection. Subject to inspection at the shipping port they may be admitted into either country for transit to any shipping port in Canada for export by sea, or to the United States for export from Portland, Boston and New York.

Swine may be admitted without inspection for slaughter in bonded cars to bonded slaughter houses, or when forming part of settlers' effects and accompanied by a certificate that swine plague of hog cholera has not existed within six months in the district whence they came. Lacking such certificate they must be inspected at the port of entry, and if diseased will be slaughtered without compensation.

Horses may be admitted in bond from one port to another in either countries without inspection at the shipping port. Horses may be admitted for racing, show or breeding purposes on inspection at port of entry. Horses may be admitted for temporary stay, teaming or pleasure, driving at points along the frontier for a period not exceeding one week, at any port of entry, upon permit of the customs officer. Should be observed any evidence of disease he will detain the animals and report to the district inspector, who will decide whether the animals may be admitted; and horses used for driving or riding to or from points in Manitoba, the Northwest Territories or British Columbia, on business connected with stock raising or mining, and horses belonging to the Indian tribes may be admitted without inspection, but must report to custom officers both going and coming. Under all other circumstances horses must be inspected at the port of entry.

Montreal Grocery Market.

The feature of the sugar market has been the unexpected weakness in the London market for the raw article, and prices show a decline there of 2½d to 3d since this day week, which is no doubt in sympathy with the general depression abroad owing to the Cretan troubles. A private cable received this morning reported the market for cane dull, and that for beet weak and depressed. On the other hand, private advices from New York were firm for raws, the very inside price for crystals being 8½c, while the market for refined was quiet, and all low grade sorts a trifle easier. Notwithstanding the above news the general feeling here continues firm, and the advance in prices, noted last week, is fully maintained. The demand, however, has fallen off considerably for the present, but refiners state that they are quite satisfied that it will come later on, as stocks through the country are very light; consequently at present they show no disposition

whatever to force sales. We quote granulated at 4 to 4½c, and yellows at 3½ to 3¾c, as to quality, at the factory at Montreal.

There was no change in syrups, sales being still slow and the market featureless and steady at 1½ to 1¾c per lb. as to quality, at the factory.

Business in rice continues quiet, and the market on the whole is dull with no change in values to note. We quote: Crystal Japan, \$5 00 to \$5 25, standard B, \$3.50; Patna, \$1 50 to \$5.25; Carolina, \$3 75 to \$7 75; choice Bermuda, \$4, and Java kinds, \$1.25.

The demand for coffee shows no improvement, and the market is quiet with only a small jobbing trade doing. We quote: Maracaibo, 17½ to 18c; Santos, 14½ to 16c; Rio, 15 to 16c; and Mocha, 2½ to 26c.

Outside of the decline of .2c per gallon in the first cost of Barbadoes molasses at the islands, the market is without any new feature. The demand on spot continues slow, and the feeling if anything is easier, in sympathy with the above, but in the absence of any large transactions quotations are somewhat irregular. Some large holders of Barbadoes are offering round lots at 27c, and would even accept less than this for 500 puncheons.

The market for spices of late has been decidedly strong, and prices for some lines, especially pepper have advanced fully 50 to 50 per cent. which is due chiefly to the strong and steady advance in values at primary points. We quote: Black pepper, 8 to 10c; white, 11 to 14c, Jamaica, ginger, 20 to 25c; cloves, 7½ to 10c, and nutmegs, 60 to 90c.

The tea market has been somewhat quiet during the past week and the volume of business small as compared with the previous week, but the tone is firm, and values are fully maintained. A few small lots of Japans, aggregating in all about 300 packages, have been sold at prices ranging from 14 to 17c.—Gazette, Feb 26.

Bluestone Continues to Advance.

A Montreal report says: In bluestone the feeling continues strong and prices have scored a further advance, holders now being firm at 4½ to 5c for round lots, and even at these figures they are offering sparingly, while last week they were selling small quantities at the above prices.

The work of equipping the stock cars of the Canadian Pacific Railway with air brake and automatic couplers is progressing rapidly and this season all the cars will have undergone the change. This will greatly facilitate the shipping of stock from Western Canada.

PROSPECTUS OF

THE LAKESIDE

Gold Mining Co.,

OF RAT PORTAGE, LTD.
NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

CAPITAL, \$750,000.

In 750,000 Shares of One Dollar each.

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VICE-PRESIDENT—R. H. AGUR, Manager of Massey-Harris Co., Winnipeg.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. BECK, Insurance Manager, Winnipeg
F. W. DREWRY, Brewer, Winnipeg.
JOHN PLANTON, Plumber, Winnipeg
H. G. WILSON, Solicitor, Winnipeg.

Sec. Treas.—H. S. CROTTY, Real Estate Agt., Winnipeg

Solicitors—EWART, FISHER and WILSON

Bankers—IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

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

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

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

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

OBJECTS—

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

PROPERTIES—

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

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

Both fine tunnel propositions.

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

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

ADVANTAGES—

The investor in shares of this company is confined to dividends obtained from one mine only, but from a large number, which are developed and sold by the company, which gives him 100 chances to one over the investor in stocks of ordinary companies.

100,000 shares of stock are now offered for \$1.00 cents per share, par value one dollar. No liability beyond the amount actually paid upon stock in the company attaches to the subscribers thereto or to holders thereof.

Practical operations of the company are carried on under the supervision of mining engineering skill that can be relied upon so that the stockholders will have the best guarantee for the practical as well as the financial management of the company's affairs.

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

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

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

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

NOTICE.

Tenders received to March 1st, for General Stock of Goods, about four thousand Dollars. Cash or half two, four, six months. Store to rent, excellent stand.

Address Box 99,
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WHOLESALE

Boots, Shoes

Overshoes, Rubbers, Mitts & Moccasins

Our travellers are now out for spring. Can't be every place at once. Wait and see our snaps. We are agents for the Harvey, Van Norman Co., Toronto.

KILGOUR, RIMER & CO.,
James Street, WINNIPEG.

Farm for Rent.

Farm in the Winnipeg district to rent, with possession of buildings at once.

Address:

D. W. Buchanan, Commercial Office,
Winnipeg.

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ALWAYS RELIABLE

WOODENWARE—Lard Pails and Covers
7lb Jam Pails and Covers, Globe Wash Boards in stock.

Chas. Boeckh and Sons,

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One Block from Union Railway Depot
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WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

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Dealers in all Classes of

Writings and Printings,

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Quotations and Samples on Application.

Partner Wanted.

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

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

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—WHOLESALE—

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

8th Street, Brandon

Robin, Sadler & Haworth

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BELTING

MONTREAL and TORONTO.

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LATEST TIME CARD.

Daily Through Trains.

12.45 pm	6.25 pm Lv. Minneapolis Ar. 8.40 am	4.20 pm
1.25 pm	7.15 pm Lv. St. Paul Ar. 8.00 am	3.40 pm
	4.05 pm Lv. Duluth Ar. 11.30 am	
	7.15 pm Lv. Ashland Ar. 8.15 am	
7.15 am	4.05 am Ar. Chicago Lv. 5.0 pm	10.40 pm

Tickets sold and baggage checked through to points in the United States and Canada.

Close connection made in Chicago with all trains going East and South.

For full information apply to your nearest ticket agent or

JAS. C. POND,
Gen. Pass. Agt., Milwaukee

Freight Rates.

Two resolutions have been introduced in the Manitoba legislature regarding freight rates. One, by Mr. Siratt affirms that if the Canadian Pacific Railway company is granted the franchise of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, "it should be made only upon condition that the present freight rates chartered by the company, especially those affecting this province and the West, be materially reduced, and that the control of such rates for the future be ceded to the government of the Dominion, or to a permanent expert commission to be appointed by that government."

The other resolution by Mr. Young reads: "That in the opinion of this house, in order to advance the best interests of the province and induce settlement, in the event of any agreement being entered into between the Dominion government and the Canadian Pacific Railway company for further railway construction, any such agreement should include as one of its conditions a material reduction of the freight rates now prevailing on all lines owned or controlled by the said company in its western division."

Both resolutions are preceded by preambles giving reasons for lower rates etc. One of these resolutions was withdrawn and the other adopted, with some amendment.

Canadian Pacific Railway

The annual Canadian Pacific Railway report for the year ending December 31st, 1895, shows gross earnings of \$20,631,596; working expenses, \$12,571,015; net earnings, \$8,107,581. Total surplus, \$1,706,772. For the half year ending April 1st, a dividend of 2.6 cents will be paid on preferred stock and 1.6 cents on ordinary stock. The directors ask the approval of the expenditure of \$230,000 for the entire property of the Columbia and Kootenay Navigation company.

Concerning direct railway communication with the mining districts the report says: Your directors feel that they cannot too strongly urge the immediate construction of a line from Lethbridge to connect with the Columbia and Kootenay railway at Nelson, a distance of 225 miles, and anticipating your approval, have already taken steps for the commencement of the work on the opening of spring.

The report deals with the uncertainty in the United States which has caused stagnation there and reduced international traffic, causing the Minneapolis and St. Paul, Sault Ste. Marie, Duluth and South Shore and Atlantic to suffer shortage. The chief cause of loss in Canada was the short wheat crop in the west, furnishing 10,000,000 bushels less for carriage than in 1895.

Land sales showed an increase of \$109,618. During the year \$2,609,000, Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie mortgage bonds, guaranteed by the company under the contract of 1893, were acquired by an issue of 4 per cent consolidated debenture stock. While the rate of interest on the bonds acquired is the same as on the debenture stock issued, the transaction enabled the M., St. P. & S.S.M. Co. to take up outstanding Minnea-

polis and Pacific 5 per cent bonds, thereby effecting a saving of \$25,000 per annum. Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic consolidated bonds amounting to \$53,360 were acquired in like manner, and for a like purpose, and \$31,000 of South Shore railway 5 per cent bonds were also acquired by the issue of 4 per cent debenture stock.

Regina Board of Trade.

The annual meeting of the Regina board of trade was held on March 2. Mayor Eldy, president in the chair. Thirty-three new members were balloted for and elected. Mr. Wm. Trant, the secretary, read the annual report which among many other matters, pointed out that the board had had an influence in arranging for fire insurance more in the interest of the insurers than heretofore; and also had shown its interest in the dairy productions of the district by purchasing twenty paid-up shares in the Regina creamery. The report was accepted unanimously.

Mayor Eldy was re-elected president. G. Michaelis was unanimously elected vice-president, and Wm. Trant was re-elected secretary. The following were elected as the council: R. H. Williams, G. T. Marsh, D. Peterson, R. T. Ferguson, C. H. Black, J. K. McInnis, R. Sweet, High Armour, John Dawson.

It was decided that the council meet once a week and that the board meet once a month for the discussion of the various questions that are already over-crowding the order paper.

Hardware Trade Notes.

A Toronto report says: The metal trade has shown a slight improvement. Cut nails have again been reduced 15c per keg terms of delivery remaining as before. Import orders for galvanized iron, tin plate and glasses are being freely booked.

Early Closing of Stores.

At the meeting held in Winnipeg recently in the interest of the earlier closing of stores on Saturday evenings, it was resolved to interview the provincial attorney general to try and secure an extension of the principle of legal enactment, in enforcing the early closing of retail stores. Winnipeg retailers complain of the competition of auction rooms, which keep open after the stores are closed, and they want compulsory closing applied to auction rooms, the law not being clear on this point, as is shown by the decisions of the court in this respect. It is also thought that the law should be amended so that one by-law only would be necessary to apply to all lines of trade, with the exception of some special lines such as drugs, instead of having a separate operation to go through for each branch of trade, as at present.

Some of the speakers at the meeting advocated a compulsory provincial law, instead of the present local option law. At the meeting there were representatives of the Ministerial association, the Retailers' association and the labor organizations of the city. The

representatives of the labor associations repudiated the idea that it was necessary to keep open late in order to accommodate the working men.

A committee was appointed representing all three organizations, to act as a delegation to wait upon the law amendments committee of the provincial legislature, to impress upon the legislators the necessity of extending the scope of the early closing law. This delegation waited upon the law amendments committee on Thursday last. In introducing the delegation to the legislative committee, D. W. Buchanan read the resolution passed at the recent Business Men's convention, held in Winnipeg, in favor of early closing, with the object of showing the sentiment throughout the province was favorable to the principle of early closing. Mr. Culver presented the legal aspect of the matter very forcibly to the committee. Rev. Messrs. Podley, Hogg, Grant, Mr. Small, Mr. Fowler and others also pressed the matter upon the committee, after which the delegation withdrew.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

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

Grade.	Jan. 30, Feb. 6	Feb. 13, Feb. 20	Feb. 27, Feb. 28
Extra Man. H'd	0	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	07	54	74
No. 2 hard.....	12	6	22
No. 3 hard.....	11	4	11
No. 1 North'n..	1	0	0
No. 2 Nor h'n..	0	0	0
No. 3 North'n..	1	0	0
No. 1 white fyle	0	0	0
No. 2 white fyle	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring...	0	0	0
No. 2 Spring...	0	0	0
No. 1 frosted..	1	0	1
No. 2 frosted..	5	7	2
No. 3 Frosted..	0	1	0
No. 1 Rejected..	2	0	10
No. 2 Rejected..	1	0	2
No Grade.....	0	0	0
Feed.....	0	0	0
Total for week	101	78	122
Same week last year.....	219	305	227

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

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UNICORN MIXED PAINT
UNICORN OIL STAINS
COLORS IN OIL
VARNISHES, Etc. Etc**

W. G. McMAHON, Winnipeg.

Representative for

A. RAMSAY & SON
MONTREAL

Law Respecting Small Debts.

A deputation from the Cartographers' association of Winnipeg, seventy five in number, waited on the Law Amendments committee of the local legislature on Monday last. The following resolutions presented by the deputation embody their views:

1. That some simpler and less expensive mode of obtaining judgment in the county courts be adopted.

2. That the words "may, if he think fit," in the ninth line of sub-section five of section 295 of the County Courts act be struck out, and the word "shall" be substituted.

3. That a subsection be added to said section 295 of the County Courts act, providing that when on examination of a judgment debtor under a judgment summons, it appears to the judge that such judgment debtor is in receipt of any income whatsoever, either from his earnings or otherwise, the judge shall issue an order directed to such debtor or debtors' employer for the payment into court of an amount not less than 10 per cent. of such income, such order to supersede any assignment of such income made by the debtor; and that the penalties provided for by sub-section 5 of said section 295 of the County Courts act be enforced upon refusal or neglect to comply with such order.

4. That a creditor be allowed to sue a husband and wife jointly for a debt contracted by either one or both of them for necessities.

5. That the amount exempt from garnishment under section 79, cap. 61 R.S.M. as amended by sec. 1, cap. 14 of 56 Vic., be reduced.

Several members of the deputation spoke, bringing out these points: That some cheaper method of collecting small debts be provided; that the judge be given a minimum to go by in ordering a man to pay a certain amount of his income into court, they suggest 10 per cent; that a creditor be allowed to collect from husband and wife jointly, where the debt is for necessities; and that the amount of salary exempt from garnishment be reduced from the present \$10 per month to say \$20 or \$25.

It was pointed out that dealers in furniture, carpets, hardware, etc., take a lien on the article sold and if not paid for could get it back, but those supplying provisions could not, and they therefore asked the law to be amended. The committee heard the delegates, received their resolutions and promised earnest consideration. It is likely that some of the amendments asked for will be granted.

Abattoir for Winnipeg.

At the last meeting of the Winnipeg city council, the following communication was received from Gordon & Ironside, cattle exporters: We have decided to erect an abattoir and cold storage buildings for the handling of the surplus cattle of Manitoba and the Territories. We ask that the city council grant us the following concessions:

1. We want the deed for that portion of land, bounded on the north side by the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway and Phillips street on the west, and on the south by Henry street and the Canadian Pacific yards on the east. 2. We want the sewerage extended parallel through the property from the east to the west limit of the same. 3. We want the property exempt from taxation for

the period of thirty years. Provided the above is granted to us we agree to expend \$25,000 in suitable buildings for an abattoir and cold storage. We also agree to keep a sufficient number of hands employed to keep the plant in operation, provided sufficient stock comes forward to enable us to do so. We will agree to slaughter cattle for any outsider as cheap as done by any public or private abattoir of equal capacity and accommodation. We agree to do our utmost to force the business forward, and have no doubt that we can increase the same to enormous proportions in the near future and lay the foundations of Winnipeg's future as a second Chicago, in the line of packing and exporting meats.

After considerable discussion had taken place, Mr. Gordon being given a hearing on the question, it was resolved, on motion of Aldermen H. Wilson and Andrews, that the legislative committee be instructed to procure such legislation as will permit the city to purchase property, and to give it for abattoir purposes, and to exempt same from taxation; and to provide by debentures of the city for the cost of said lands, and of a sewer to and through the property occupied by such abattoir, without submitting a by-law to the electors, the council to have the right to make regulations as to the operation of such abattoir.

The Commercial Annual.

The Annual number of The Commercial, recently issued, contains the most complete report published of the recent annual meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade. Also the most complete report published of the business men's convention, recently held in Winnipeg. Every resolution passed at the convention is given in full. Several pages are devoted to mining in northwestern Ontario. There are historical articles on Western Canada and Winnipeg, a review of the trade of the city, articles on the Winnipeg clearing house, Red river valley lands, Winnipeg as a farmers' market, progress of agriculture in Manitoba, crop statistics for each year since 1873, review of the live stock trade, an interesting article on western waterways and the possibilities of making them great highways of commerce, the towns of Western Ontario, railway building in 1897, description of the great Keewatin water-power, reviews of the dairy industry, the cereal milling industry, and the grain trade, with statistics for a series of years. Articles on mining, fishing and lumbering in British Columbia, and shorter articles on crop yield in Manitoba, paying for farmers from one crop, the Winnipeg grain exchange etc. There are twenty-four pages of new engravings in the number, relating to scenes and objects of interest in Western Canada. Extra copies of this number can be had, while they last, for 25 cents each. Now subscribers sending \$2 for one year's subscription to the regular weekly issue of The Commercial, will receive a free copy of the annual.

Literary Notes.

The most interesting people of the world just at this moment are the millions of famished and plague stricken India. But little is known of this region by the people of the United States. Such reports as come to us are the things seen through British gasses. What has been the effect of British rule in India? Why these terrible famines? Why plagues? Julian Hawthorne has been

sent by the Cosmopolitan Magazine to obtain answers to these questions at hand and depict the situation as it is to an American. The March Cosmopolitan contains the first of what is probably the most important series of articles ever sent in this magazine. Nothing has been published which gives an adequate idea of the larger operations of business—at nothing by the class of men fitted for work by thorough familiarity with the facts of which they write. The article in the March Cosmopolitan on "The Method of Banking," by the President of one of the largest banks of New York—a man of business experience—former Postmaster General James—his own which every person however humble in clerkship or high place in the financial world, will find interesting and instructive. This series constitute a very complete course of business training, and every young man just entering business life and every old man will find it of immense value.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat prices were irregular in the country. Eggs were weak. Live hogs were 4c for following were Winnipeg prices this last year:

Wheat—About 45c to 50c for No. 1 country points, to farmers; 67½c May, afloat Fort William.
Flour.—Local price, per sack, Pa. \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers' \$1.65 to \$1.70.
Bran.—Per ton, \$9.
Shorts.—Per ton, \$11.
Oats.—Per bushel, Winnipeg street 10 to 17c. Car lots at country points 12 to 14c.
Barley.—Selling at 17c for feed here. Car lots at country points worth 15c.
Flax Seed.—50 to farmers at country points.
Butter.—Dairy, choice, 12c to 14c.
Cheese.—Jobbing price 9½ to 11c.
Eggs.—Fresh, 18c net price, weak.
Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 6c, unfr. country frozen, 3½ to 4½c.
Mutton.—6½ to 7c, country do, 6c.
Hogs.—Dressed, 5 to 5½c.
Cattle.—Nominal at 2½ to 3½c for butch stock.
Hogs.—Live, off cars, 37c.
Sheep.—Sheep nominal at 3½c off cars.
Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.
Poultry.—Chickens, 8 to 11c lb; turkeys 10 to 12c, ducks, 10c, geese, 10c.
Hides.—Green frozen, 1½ to 5c.

Beans were weaker at Montreal and prices declined 5 to 10c, with cash offering at 50 to 65c, and small lots selling 70 to 80c.

A West Superior despatch says: purchase of 65,000 tons of steel rails Carnegie company by the Canadian Pacific railroad, for which \$1,000,000 is said to have been paid, gives rise to the belief that Duluth & Winnipeg railroad will be extended westward into the wheat country its present terminus at Deer river.

The first special colonist train for Eastern Canada this season to Manitoba the West left Union station, Toronto March 2 consisting of two sections averaging between 200 and 300 passengers, of them bound for the good fields. Trains of settlers' effects also went there points in Manitoba and the Territories.