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**THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.**

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL, QUE.  
 Capital Paid Up - \$6,000,000.00  
 Res. - \$3,000,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS—Andrew Allan, Esq., (of H. & A. Allan) President, Robert Anderson, Esq., Vice-President; Hector Mackenzie, Esq. (of J. G. Mackenzie & Co.); Jonathan Hodgson, Esq. (of Hodgson, Sumner & Co.); H. Montague Allan, Esq. (of H. & A. Allan); John Cassile, Esq. (of Shaw Bros. & Cassile); J. P. Dawes, Esq. (of Dawes & Co., Lachine); T. H. Dunn, Esq., Quebec; Sir Joseph Hlokon.

Geo. Haour, Gen'l Mgr. JOHN GAULT, Asst. Gen'l Mgr  
 New York Agency—52 William St.

**WINNIPEG BRANCH.**  
 The Pioneer Bank of the Prairie Province.  
 Accounts of Merchants, Manufacturers, Corporations and Individuals received on favorable terms. Canadian and Foreign Exchange bought and sold. Interest allowed on deposits at the best rates. Particular attention given to Canadian and American collections. Ample facilities and low rates. Prompt returns made.  
 A general banking business transacted.  
 ARTHUR WICKSON, Manager.

**IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA**

Capital authorized..... 2,000,000.00  
 Capital Paid up..... 1,964,625.00  
 Reserve..... 1,162,252.00

DIRECTORS: T. R. Merritt Vice-Pres. William Ramsay, Robert Jaffray, Hugh Ryan, T. Sutherland Stayer, Hon. John Ferguson.  
 HEAD OFFICE, Wellington St., TORONTO.  
 D. B. Wilkie, Cashier, E. Hay, Inspector

BRANCHES IN ONTARIO.  
 Essex..... O. White, Manager  
 Fergus..... O. Forrest  
 Galt..... G. O. Easton  
 Ingersoll..... J. A. Richardson  
 Niagara Falls..... J. A. Langmuir  
 Port Colborne..... E. O. F. Wood  
 St. Catharines..... W. A. Weir  
 Sault Ste. Marie..... J. M. Wemyss  
 St. Catharines..... O. M. Arnold  
 St. Thomas..... M. A. Gilbert  
 TORONTO—  
 Yonge & Queen Sts..... O. F. Bice  
 Yonge & Bloor Sts..... O. H. S. Clarke  
 Welland..... S. D. Raymond  
 Woodstock..... S. B. Fuller

BRANCHES IN THE NORTHWEST.  
 Winnipeg, Man..... O. S. Hoare, Manager.  
 Brandon, Man..... A. Jukes  
 Calgary, Alta..... M. Merris  
 Portage la Prairie, Man..... N. G. Leslie  
 Prince Albert, Sask..... J. E. Young  
 Edmonton, Alta..... G. R. F. Kirkpatrick

Foreign Exchange bought and sold. Drafts issued payable at all points in the United States.  
 AGENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS.  
 CANADA—Bank of Montreal and Branches.  
 GREAT BRITAIN—Money may be deposited with Lloyd's Bank (Limited), 72 Lombard St., London, for transfer by letter or cable to any of the above branches.  
 UNITED STATES—New York, Bank of Montreal, Buffalo, Bank of Buffalo, Boston, National Bank of the Commonwealth; Chicago, First National Bank; Detroit, Detroit National Bank; Duluth, First National Bank; Philadelphia, Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank; St. Paul, Second National Bank.  
 Agents in Canada for the CHIEF BANK, (Limited.)  
 Cheques issued to tourists and others, available in any part of the world.

—T H R—  
**Western Loan and Trust Co., Ltd.**  
 Incorporated by special act of the Legislature.  
 Office: No. 18 St. Sacramento Street, Montreal, P.Q.  
 PRESIDENT.—HON. A. W. OGILVIE,  
 VICE-PRESIDENT.—J. S. BOUSQUET, Esq.,  
 (Manager la Banque du Peuple).  
 This Company acts as administrator, executor, trustee, receiver, committee of lunatic, guardian, liquidator, assignee, etc.; also as agent for the above offices.  
 All manner of trusts accepted; moneys invested, estates managed; rents, income, etc., collected; bonds, debentures, etc., issued and countersigned, highest class of securities for sale. Send for information to the Manager,  
 W. BARCLAY STEPHENS.

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 Be prepared for promotion in your employment or to enter business yourself by getting a sound business education at  
 Winnipeg Business College. Write for free circular.

**BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.**

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER!

Paid-up Capital.....£1,000,000 Stg.  
 Reserve Fund.....£275,000 "

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 H. Shikeman, General Manager.  
 E. Stanger, Inspector.

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 Brantford Kingston Paris Vancouver.  
 Fredericton London Quebec Victoria.  
 Halifax Montreal St. John.  
 Winnipeg, Main Street—D. Simpson Manager.

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 San Francisco, 124 Sanson St., H. M. L. McMichael, and J. C. Welsh.

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HEAD OFFICE, OTTAWA.  
 Capital Authorized & Subscribed \$1,500,000.00  
 Capital Paid up..... 1,500,000.00  
 RESERVE..... 925,000.00

DIRECTORS:  
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GEO. BURN, General Manager.  
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 Arnprior, Pembroke, Carleton Place,  
 Hawkesbury, Keewatin, Winnipeg.  
 Parry Sound, Rideau and Bank Sts., Ottawa.  
 Rat Portage, Kemptville.

AGENTS IN CANADA—Bank of Montreal and Bank of British North America.  
 " NEW YORK—Messrs. W. Watson and R. Hobden.  
 " CHICAGO—Bank of Montreal;  
 " ST. PAUL—Merchants National Bank;  
 " LONDON, Eng.—Alliance Bank.  
 " CHINA AND JAPAN—The Chartered Bank of India Australia and China.

**WINNIPEG BRANCH.**

ESTABLISHED 1852.  
 Accounts of Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, Corporations and Individuals received on favorable terms. Interest allowed on deposits.  
 Drafts issued on all the principal points in Canada, also on New York, Chicago and St. Paul and London, Eng. This Branch has special facilities for making Collections in Manitoba and North West Territories. Lowest rates are charged, and remittances promptly made.  
 J. B. MONK, Manager.

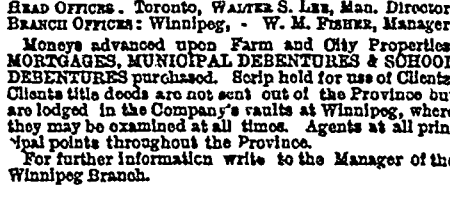
**The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co.**

CAPITAL, - \$1,500,000.00.  
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HEAD OFFICES - Toronto, WALTER S. LEE, Man. Director.  
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 Moneys advanced upon Farm and City Properties, MORTGAGES, MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES & SCHOOL DEBENTURES purchased. Scrip held for use of Clients. Clients title deeds are not sent out of the Province but are lodged in the Company's vaults at Winnipeg, where they may be examined at all times. Agents at all principal points throughout the Province.  
 For further information write to the Manager of the Winnipeg Branch.

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**STATIONERS,**  
 AND PAPER DEALERS  
 —HEADQUARTERS FOR—  
**Office, School & Society Stationery**  
**PRINTERS' STOCK**  
 Bookbinders' and Box Makers' Materials  
 Wrapping Paper, Paper Bags and Twines.  
 HAMILTON, ONTARIO.



**The Canadian Bank of Commerce.**

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 Paid-up Capital.....\$6,000,000  
 Res. .... 1,200,000

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A. H. Ireland, Inspector G. de C. O'Grady, Asst. Inspector  
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 Ayr, Jarvis, Peterboro, 712 Queen E  
 Barrie, London, St. Catharines, 450 Yonge St  
 Belleville, Montreal, Sarnia, 491 Yonge St  
 Berthelme, Sault Ste. 263 College  
 Blenheim, MAIN OFFICE, Marie, 546 Queen W  
 Brantford, 167 St. James, Seaforth, 416 Parli'm't  
 Cayuga, City B'chs, Simcoe, 128 King E  
 Chatham, 19 Chabville, Stratford, Toronto Jct.  
 Collingwood, Square, Strathroy, Walkerton  
 Dundas, 276 St. Thorold, Walkerville  
 Dunnville, Lawrenco, Toronto, Waterford  
 Galt, Orangeville, HEAD OFFICE, Waterloo  
 Goderich, Ottawa, 19-25 King W, Windsor  
 Guelph, Paris, 19-25 King W, Woodstock.

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 INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—The Char'd Bank of India, Agra  
 PARIS, FRANCE—Lazard, Freres & Co. (Paris & China  
 AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND—Union Bank of Australia.  
 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—J. Mathieu & Fils.  
 NEW YORK—The Amer Exchange Nat'l, Bank of NY.  
 SAN FRANCISCO—The Bank of British Columbia.  
 CHICAGO—The Amer Exchange Nat'l Bk. of Chicago.  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA—The Bank of British Columbia.  
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Commercial Credits issued for use in all parts of the world. Exceptional facilities for this class of business in Europe, the East and West Indies, China, Japan, South America, Australia and New Zealand.  
 Travellers circular Letters of Credit issued for use in all parts of the world.

**Winnipeg Branch.**

A General Banking Business Transacted.  
 F. H. MATHEWSON, Manager.

**UNION BANK OF CANADA.**

HEAD OFFICE, - QUEBEC.  
 Capital Paid up - \$1,200,000  
 Reserve Fund - 250,000

DIRECTORS:  
 ANDREW THOMSON, President. Hon. R. J. PRICE, Vice-President.  
 John Breaker, D. C. Thomson, E. Giroux, K. J. Hale,  
 Jas. King, M.P.P.  
 J. E. WBBB, Gen Mgr J. G. BILLETT, Inspector

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 Chesterville, Ont. Neepawa, Man. Wlarton, Ont.  
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**Winnipeg Branch, Main Street,**  
 F. L. Patton, Manager.  
 Interest allowed at current rates in Savings Bank Department and on Special Deposits.

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**DRUGS AND MEDICINES**

Every requisite for the Drug Trade promptly supplied.  
**TORONTO, ONT.**

**Wm. Ferguson,**

—WHOLESALE—  
**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**

8th Street, Brandon.

**DURING**

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST,  
YOUR CUSTOMERS WILL WANT

FINEST QUALITY



FINEST QUALITY

**Condensed Coffee.**  
**Condensed Cocoa.**  
**Condensed Tea.**  
**Evaporated Cream.**

SEE THAT YOU HAVE  
**REINDEER BRAND** in Stock.  
Your Wholesale Grocer can supply you.

SOLD FROM WINNIPEG TO VANCOUVER.

**DOW & CURRY'S,**

Diamond Brand,

**Rolled Oats**

**Granulated Meal,**  
**Standard Meal,**

In 20, 40, 80 and 98 pound Sacks.

**Sweet and Clean.**

Order from your Wholesale Grocer.

INCREASE YOUR SALES OF

**STARCH!**

In the summer months by selling

**EDWARDSBURG BRANDS**

Silver Gloss. Canada Laundry.

Satin Gloss. No. 1 White.

Benson's Corn Starch.

Canada Corn Starch.

No trouble selling Edwardsburg Starch.

Sold by all Wholesale Grocers.

QUALITY and MERIT  
OF**SNOW DRIFT BRAND****BAKING POWDER**Make it stand above all  
others as a**PURE BAKING POWDER.**

Have your customers try and test it.

PACKED IN

**1/2, 1, 3 and 5 lb Tins.**

Order a sample case from your Wholesale Grocer.

**Canned Meats**

Are now in demand

For the Camp, Pic-nics and  
Excursions,**STOCK UP WITH REX BRAND,**

Patent Key Opening Cans.

**Corned Beef. Pigs Feet****Brawn. Lunch Tongue****Roast Beef. Ox Tongue.****Chipped Beef.**

Uniform in Quality.

Sold by all Wholesale Grocers.

**W. F. HENDERSON & CO., Winnipeg, Wholesale Agents.**

**E. F. HUTCHINGS'**

GREAT NORTHWEST

**Saddlery House**opposite the City Hall, Corner  
Main and Market Sts.,

519 Main St. &amp; 191 to 195 &amp; 126 Market St.

The Largest Stock and Best Equipped Establishment  
Canada. Lowest prices and Best Goods is our Motto.TRUNKS, VALISES, LEATHER AND SHOE FIND  
INGS, SADDLERY HARDWARE, WHIPS, &c.

Don't forget the new premises

**E. F. HUTCHINGS, Proprietor, WINNIPEG.**

Send for our new Illustrated Catalogue.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS.

JUST ARRIVED.

First direct shipment of New Season  
Prime Selected Valencia Raisins and  
Imperial Selected Layers from Denia.  
Also two cars choicest Evaporated  
Apricots, Peaches and Prunes.

Over 1,000 packages, New seasons  
First crop, Congous all  
Grades.

Jeg. McDermott &amp; Princess Sts., WINNIPEG.

**MACKENZIE & MILLS,**

— WHOLESALE —

**FANCY GROCERIES.**

Special attention given to

**Teas, Coffees, Dried Fruits,****Canned Goods, Butter, &c.****244 PRINCESS ST.,**

WINNIPEG, - MAN.

— FULL SUPPLY OF —

**Hemphrey's Homeopathic  
Specifics.**Complete Outfits or assortments supplied  
to the trade.

We also have in stock full Supply

**DENTAL GOODS,**Plain, Gum and Crown Teeth, Gold,  
Amalgam, etc., etc.**MARTIN, BOLE & WYNNE CO.**

WINNIPEG.

**ALABASTINE**Full assortment  
of Shades for  
Fall Trade**G. F. Stephens & Co.**

MARKET ST., WINNIPEG.

**J. W. PECK & CO.**

— MANUFACTURERS OF —

**CLOTHING,  
SHIRTS**

— AND —

**FUR GOODS**

And Wholesale Dealer in Men's Furnishings

WAREHOUSES.

WINNIPEG, Man. VANCOUVER, B.C.  
Factory—MONTREAL.

# The Commercial

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

THIRTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.  
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY.

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Fine Book and Job Printing Departments.  
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JAMES E. STEEN,  
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, SEPTEMBER 16, 1895.

## Manitoba.

F. D. Stewart, furniture, Carman, has sold out to the Elliott Furniture Co.

R. Kerr, of Lake Francis, is about to open a store at Lundyville.

Schultz & Hansen, general merchants, of Grotna and Morden, have closed out their Morden branch.

W. H. Sparling, of Portage la Prairie, contemplates entering into business with Mr. Boyd, hardware dealer of Minnedosa.

Kilgour, Rimer & Co., boots and shoes, Campbell Bros., hardware, and A. B. Christie, grocer, have moved into the new block on the corner of Main and James streets, Winnipeg, where they all have improved accommodations.

Mackay Bros, of Rat Portage, and J. Norris, of Winnipeg, have formed a partnership and purchased the dry goods stock and business of J. Armington & Co., Winnipeg.

## Alberta.

J. H. Cavanah, general merchant of Calgary and Medicine Hat, has assigned in trust to S. A. D. Bertrand, of Winnipeg.

An experimental irrigation farm is talked of for Alberta. While at Ottawa recently Mr. Orr, of Calgary, interviewed the government on the subject and Prof. Saunders was asked to make a special investigation and report on the advisability of establishing such a farm on the Sarcee Indian reserve, near Calgary. It is understood that Prof. Saunders will make a favorable report.

It is claimed that coal suitable for coking exists at Sheep Creek and also on the upper waters of the Red Deer river. It is proposed to send a car east to experiment with as to its adaptability for coking. It will be a great thing for Alberta if good coking coal can be found in paying quantities, as there is no coal suitable for that purpose anywhere in the west, and it will come in fine for the proposed British Columbia smelters. It is said that Montana smelters bring their coke all the way from Virginia.

E. Frank Mosely & Co., leather merchants and tanners, Montreal, and St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, one of the largest and oldest firms of the kind in Canada, is said to be in financial difficulties and a demand of assignment has been made. The liabilities are said to be in the vicinity of 400,000.

## Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Sept. 7, 1895, shows an increase of 1,816,000 bushels, against an increase of only 46,000 for the corresponding week last year and an increase of 1,191,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago.

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

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	83,581,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,376,000	79,883,000	81,393,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	75,569,000	79,089,000	41,558,000
April 1..	74,308,000	71,463,000	77,654,000	41,039,000
" 8 ..	72,705,000	70,762,000	77,294,000	41,177,000
" 15 ..	70,487,000	69,217,000	70,096,000	42,055,000
" 22 ..	68,626,000	63,425,000	74,869,000	39,149,000
" 29 ..	65,770,000	66,583,000	75,027,000	37,930,000
May, 6 ..	62,196,000	55,156,000	73,069,000	38,100,000
" 13 ..	59,625,000	63,510,000	72,082,000	35,100,000
" 20 ..	56,484,000	62,044,000	71,392,000	30,677,000
" 27 ..	54,244,000	61,329,000	70,159,000	29,622,000
June 3 ..	52,229,000	59,324,000	71,080,000	27,910,000
" 10 ..	49,739,000	58,211,000	63,662,000	26,950,000
" 17 ..	47,717,000	57,005,000	66,375,000	25,006,000
" 24 ..	46,225,000	55,832,000	63,091,000	24,501,000
July 1 ..	44,61,000	54,657,000	62,316,000	24,262,000
" 8 ..	43,350,000	51,114,000	61,819,000	23,130,000
" 15 ..	41,237,000	53,154,000	59,328,000	22,439,000
" 22 ..	40,487,000	53,771,000	58,901,000	23,088,000
" 29 ..	39,233,000	57,144,000	59,319,000	23,992,000
Aug. 3 ..	38,517,000	60,01,000	59,424,000	28,079,000
" 10 ..	37,839,000	63,321,000	58,869,000	28,253,000
" 17 ..	36,892,000	63,900,000	57,812,000	31,775,000
" 24 ..	35,088,000	61,771,000	57,240,000	31,050,000
" 31 ..	35,438,000	66,949,000	56,831,000	3,360,000
Sept. 7 ..	36,764,000	69,168,000	56,140,000	38,760,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on Sept. 2 is as follows:

	bushels.
Montreal.....	77,000
Toronto.....	4,000
Kingston.....	16,000
Winnipeg.....	170,000
Manitoba elevators.....	950,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keowatin.....	475,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on Sept 2, 1895:

	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	4,732,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,799,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	
East of the Mountains.....	9,826,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,532,000

## Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at \*Winnipeg for the weeks of 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.	Aug. 10	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Aug. 31	Sept. 7
Extra Manitoba					
hard.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	3	47	23	22	20
No. 2 hard.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 North'n.....	0	10	3	0	0
No. 2 North'n.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 white fyte	0	0	0	2	1
No. 2 white fyte	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Rejected.....	0	1	0	0	1
No. 2 Rejected.....	0	1	1	0	1
No Grade.....	0	0	0	0	1
Total.....	3	60	32	24	24
Same week last year.....	74	106	126	62	102

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

## BRITISH COLUMBIA BUSINESS REVIEW

Vancouver, Sept. 10, 1895.

There was largely increased activity in business circles last week, on the mainland particularly owing to the little army of fishermen laying in their winter supplies. Numerous handsome blocks are going up in Vancouver which proclaim louder than words the faith of Vancouver's citizens in the future of the city. Of late the population of Vancouver has been steadily increasing, but the increase is mainly at the expense of other sections of the province. Local fruit is short owing to shipments to the Territories but there is abundance of fruit coming in from California in excellent shape, thanks to the rigid restrictions placed upon United States shippers by British Columbia authorities. The price of fruit still keeps very low.

### British Columbia Business Notes

The members of the Victoria board of trade left on Saturday for the Kootenay country for the purpose of studying the business wants of the people in that district, and to attempt to procure as much of the trade as possible for Victoria. The same facilities were offered the Vancouver board of trade by the Canadian Pacific Ry. but as Victoria happened to be first offered this special inducement and first acted upon the suggestion, Vancouver thought an invitation should come from Victoria to accompany them. They waited in vain for an invitation and now they feel grieved that Victoria has the start of them.

The business of the firm of McFarlane and Mahon has been transferred to a joint stock company with a capital stock of \$100,000. They will deal in farms and real estate.

It is likely that a smelter will be erected in Vancouver at an early date. G. F. Monckton has offered to erect and operate one if the city will give him \$5 a ton bonus for the first 5,000 tons smelted. A mining school will be established in connection with the smelter.

The duty collected in August in Vancouver was \$2,000 more than in the corresponding month last year, and the inland revenue \$2,000 more.

J. A. Thompson, a prominent Sydney, Australia importer who is here, says that in Australia the Fraser River salmon are acknowledged to be the finest salmon in the world.

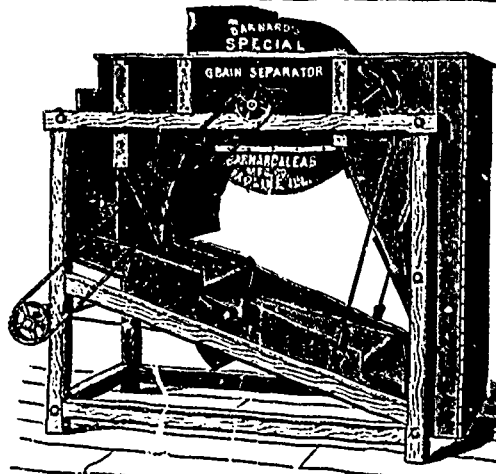
J. A. Ruddick who is in charge of the Dominion travelling dairy is holding very successful meetings throughout the province. The farmers are enthusiastic over Mr. Ruddick's simple and convincing style of teaching. At all the farming centers Mr. Ruddick is lecturing at public halls, besides giving his advertised lessons in actual butter making so that every moment of his time here is employed. It goes without saying that very great good will result to the province from the tour with the travelling dairy through British Columbia.

### Silver.

Nothing has occurred to change the character of the silver market. It continues to absorb the reduced supply, and changes in the quotations are only of a fractional character. Silver prices on Sept 6 were: London 30 9-16d; New York 67c.—Bradstreet's.

A Chicago grain man, writing to The Commercial says: "Not one car in ten of our winter wheat grades No. 2, and much of it not a good No. 3. Three-fourths of the spring wheat marketed here thus far has graded No. 3 or No. 4 on account of smut, of which latter commodity there is a bountiful crop."





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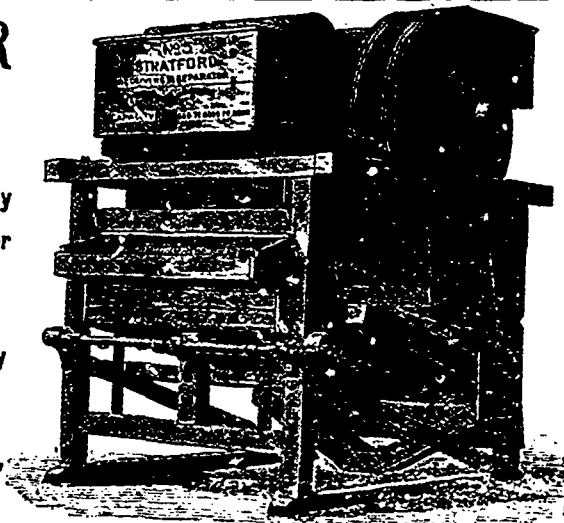
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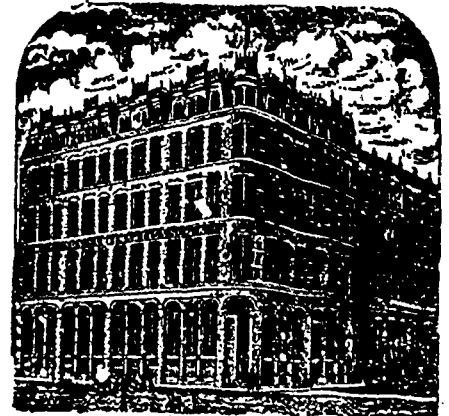
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Full stock of Priestley's Seres and Cravennettes just  
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Our travellers are now showing complete ranges of  
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Samples with C. J. REDMOND, Room 18,  
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 16, 1895.

## THE MENACE OF FIRE INSURANCE.

Most startling announcements have come from Montreal recently as to the wholesale arrests of business men for burning their promises to secure the insurance. The first report said that eight business men had been arrested on the charge of arson. A later report states that fifteen more arrests had been made in Montreal and vicinity, on the same charge. It is further asserted that the insurance companies have a very strong case against the accused men.

This bears out the remarks made by The Commercial on several occasions during the last few years, to the effect that the cause of a great many fires is the desire to secure the insurance upon the stock or promises. We have long been convinced that the number of fires which have been caused by a desire to "sell out" to the insurance companies, is vastly greater than any one can possibly surmise. In fact it has come to this pass, that fire insurance has got to be a great menace to business men. The very existence of the system of fire insurance as a protection against loss from fire, is one of the greatest causes of fires, and therefore the system is to this extent a menace to the possessors of property perishable from fire, in towns and cities.

This is a sad reflection upon the morality of the day. But what are we going to do about it, is the question. If fire insurance did not exist, there would be much less loss from fires for two reasons. Besides the willful destruction of property to secure the insurance, which would be stopped, there would be a general disposition to guard more against fires. At the same time no sane person would declare in favor of the abolition of the entire system of fire insurance. Greater restrictions, however, might be placed upon the companies, to prevent them from taking excessive risks. It should be made a grave offense for a company to commit an act of over-insurance. Undoubtedly a great deal of carelessness is shown by the companies in taking risks. The valuation of property as represented by the parties seeking insurance, is too freely accepted by the companies in many cases. In the case of stocks of goods, where the value of the stock fluctuates greatly, it is of course a comparatively easy matter for a merchant to secure in many cases an amount of insurance in excess of the low-water value of his stock. Then comes the temptation, not infrequently acted upon, to realize from the insurance companies upon the stock.

The Commercial has several times advocated that a systematic and thorough official investigation should be made into the case of every fire. While such an investigation would not perhaps be the means of eliciting much information in regard to most fires, it would

deter many nervous ones from attempting to sell out to the companies. The very knowledge that an official investigation would be made, would undoubtedly have some influence in this direction.

It is to be hoped the companies at Montreal will be enabled to secure conviction in every instance, provided of course that the men are guilty, as the effect of the convictions would have a salutary influence in the immediate future upon any persons who may have contemplated committing similar crimes.

## VALUE OF PRAIRIE HAY

Eastern people who are used to feeding timothy or clover hay entirely, do not at first think much of our western prairie hay. We frequently hear adverse opinions expressed by new comers, as to the quality of our prairie hay. There was some talk at one time this year of shipping Manitoba prairie hay to Ontario, on account of the drouth in the early part of the season in that province. Prices, however, did not advance sufficiently in the east to make it possible to ship Manitoba hay to Ontario points. If any of our hay had been shipped east, however, as The Commercial pointed out at the time, shippers would have to count on its selling at \$1 to \$2 per ton under even the second grade of timothy hay, on account of the supposed superior quality of the cultivated variety.

In view of this prejudice against prairie hay, if prejudice it be, it is pleasing to read something in favor of the natural product of the boundless prairies. A recent issue of the Haymaker, a journal published at Kansas City, contains an article which sets forth the virtues of prairie hay, as compared with timothy. The writer declares that prairie hay is a specific for heaves in horses. He says that the freedom from heaves so conspicuous among western horses, is due to the prairie hay. The article refers to a person who moved from the eastern states a number of years ago and located in Wisconsin. He brought an outfit of horses with him, with which he started a livery stable in Wisconsin. At that time cultivated grasses were practically unknown in Wisconsin. The result was that the horses were soon cured of any tendency to heaves, owing to the change in the hay. Since then things have changed in Wisconsin. The prairie hay has disappeared from use and the prairies have been plowed and seeded to timothy, with the result that the horses there are now as badly affected with heaves as they are in the east. In the southwestern states where prairie hay is still the staple commodity, heaves, it is claimed, are unknown among the horses. In Kansas, it is claimed that the prairie hay is not being supplanted by the cultivated article, and the Haymaker is authority for the statement that there are 4,857,720 acres of prairie under fence for hay.

It is refreshing to The Commercial to observe this defence of our native prairie hay. There seems to be reason for the claim that the prairie article is beneficial to horses

affected with heaves. Its freedom from the dust which is so bad in timothy hay should certainly be beneficial for heavy horses. At the same time we think it is desirable that Manitoba farmers should devote more or less attention to the cultivation of hay crops, if for no other object than the great assistance of grass crops in keeping down weeds.

## IMPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The Winnipeg Tribune has been looking into the question of the sale of imported agricultural implements in Manitoba. It finds that goods of this class to the value of \$279,938 have been imported at Winnipeg alone for the first eight months of the present year, upon which about \$50,000 duty has been collected. The list includes binder twine. The most important item is binders, which amount in value to \$103,148, in all 979 binders having been brought in up to the end of August this year, and this practically ends the season's trade, the duty on the same amounting to over \$20,000. Of binder twine the returns show that 2,109,590 pounds were imported at Winnipeg, of a value of \$105,487, the duty amounting to about \$12,200. Of mowers, 744 were brought in, valued at \$25,619, and the duty collected was \$4,122. Seed drills and plows also show up to quite an amount, imports of drills amounting in value to over \$10,000, and plows to about \$19,000. Not many threshers were brought in, but the season had only started for this class of machines at the time the report was closed. The figures are certainly very much larger than we had supposed them to be, especially when we consider that they do not include all the imported implements brought into Manitoba, as they only cover goods entered at Winnipeg, though the great bulk of such imports are no doubt entered here. It is therefore evident that the farmers of Manitoba are annually paying out a large sum in duty upon implements brought from the United States. That they (the farmers) pay the duty is quite evident to anyone who will take the trouble to look into the matter of prices, for they will soon learn that the amount of the duty, or at least a large portion of it is added to the selling price of the goods here. The imports of binders and mowers is certainly larger than we had expected, though it has been reported from time to time that the sale of these imported machines was quite large this year. These machines cost considerably higher than the home-made machines, the imported binders costing as much as \$18 or \$20 more than the Canadian machines, on account of the duty, though we have known of instances where standard binders have sold at only about \$10 over similar home machines. Still the farmers, for some reason or other, appear in many cases to be willing to pay this increased cost to get a machine made in the United States. Why is this the case is an interesting question? The home manu-

facturers claim that their machines are fully equal to the imported article, and yet the customs returns show that nearly 1000 binders have been entered at the port of Winnipeg alone this season, and this means that they are now in the hands of Manitoba farmers. It cannot be decided that this preference for an imported machine at an increased cost of \$20 each, is entirely owing to the perversity of human nature, though farmers possess their full share of this commodity. There must be other reason for it, which would be worth while looking into, and we would like to hear more on the subject.

From an analysis of the figures given above, it appears that the binders are valued at about \$105 each for customs purposes. The duty on binders is 20 per cent, which would make the average cost of the duty to be \$21 for each binder imported.

### △ THE WHEAT QUESTION.

The recent collapse in the wheat markets of the world is certainly greatly to be regretted. A little earlier in the season there was great hopes that prices would rule higher this year. The leading markets of the world advanced sharply and it was hoped the higher prices would be maintained until the new Manitoba crop could be marketed. The "boom" unfortunately did not last long. Prices soon began to decline, and now just as the new Manitoba crop is ready for market, we find that prices are back again to about the low values of a year ago.

The idea became so firmly established in Manitoba that prices would be higher this season, largely through the influence of newspaper writers who understand very little about market conditions, that the people do not seem yet to realize that prices have declined throughout the world. Instead of looking at the general situation, many seem to think that some local cause may be found for the present low prices, consequently the local grain trade has fallen in for pretty rough handling of late from persons who seem to think that the local men are accountable for the low prices.

It will therefore be interesting to look at prices in other markets, which are entirely outside the influence of the local trade. At the outset we will make the statement, no doubt surprising to many here, that some of the important markets of the world are quite as low as they were a year ago. We do not require to go any further than Duluth to discover this. Duluth is one of the principal wheat markets of the world, and it is moreover the market which more closely represents values in Manitoba than any other outside market, owing to the fact that Duluth wheat comes nearer the Manitoba standard than any other. Now what do we find at Duluth? The quotations in The Commercial last week showed that wheat at Duluth for current month delivery, closed at Duluth on Saturday at 55½ cents per bushel, as compared with 56½ cents a year ago. Here is less than one cent difference in the

price now and a year ago. Some other important markets will show much the same result by a comparison of prices now and a year ago. British markets are much the same as a year ago.

It is therefore evident that so far as the world's markets are concerned, we cannot expect Manitoba grain men to pay higher prices than they did a year ago, as there have been no changes in freight rates to enable them to pay higher prices here, in comparison with values in import markets.

The recent "boom" in wheat was at its height early in June, and altogether it was a short-lived affair. It was clearly traceable to a sudden arousing of the speculative spirit to a remarkable extent, and collapse came about as suddenly as the advance. Early in June wheat touched about 82 cents for current month delivery, at Duluth, showing a decline as compared with sales this week of almost 30 cents per bushel. Other markets will show much the same result. We simply take the Duluth market as a reference to show what has occurred outside of Manitoba in the great markets of the world generally.

It will be seen from these figures that the decline has not been materially greater in Manitoba than elsewhere, so far as compared with legitimate sales here were concerned. We are aware that there was some manipulation in Manitoba markets last winter, and that for a time prices were paid far in advance of legitimate values. The Commercial never defended this manipulation, but we will say here that the farmers benefited by this manipulation quite as much as the general grain trade. The farmers and the grain men were very much in the same boat at that time. Most of the farmers had sold all their wheat, but there was nevertheless quite a little wheat held by farmers, who received a big advance for it as a result of the manipulation. In the same way the grain shippers were also practically sold out of wheat. It is well known that the grain exporters did not carry over any wheat worth speaking of last year. They sold ahead right up to the close of navigation, and when the sudden advance was worked, just at the close of navigation last fall, the grain exporters were practically bare of wheat. Some held a little and they made a profit on it, just as a few farmers held a little wheat upon which they realized a big advance.

As a matter of fact there was a great deal more wheat bought from farmers at the advance than many suppose, and altogether we believe that the farmers (that is, those of them who held wheat) made quite as much proportionately out of the manipulation as the grain and milling trade did. The talk about vast fortunes having been made out of the deal is all nonsense. The fortunes were made in the minds of the people, and they existed much after the style of some of the fortunes made during old land "boom" days. In those days a man bought a property for say \$50,000, paying say \$5,000 cash. A few days afterwards he would value the property at \$100,000 and figure that he had made

\$45,000 by the transaction. Then the "boom" collapsed and the only thing that remained was the mortgage on the property. The existence to-day in the country of a million or more bushels of old Manitoba wheat, which was bought by the holders at prices far above its present value, testifies to the absurdity of these reports of fabulous sums having been made out of the "boom" in wheat here last winter. When we stop to consider that this wheat was purchased from farmers at fictitious values, we can decide who got the best of the bargain in the transaction.

Of course, those farmers who had no wheat to sell when the "boom" came, felt disappointed, and they are still more disappointed now that they have another crop of wheat on hand, to learn that prices are away down as low as ever. Still there is no help for it, and it is useless to unjustly blame the Manitoba grain trade for the present condition of the markets. If Manitoba shippers pay a fair price in proportion to values in import markets, it is all they can do, and it is a very easy matter to determine whether or not they are paying full export values.

There has been considerable talk about a combine, monopoly, etc., existing in the Winnipeg grain trade. Practical results, however, are more to be relied upon than the violent articles of newspapers who are opposed on general principles to the grain trade. Now what are the facts? Since this iniquitous grain syndicate was formed in Winnipeg to defraud the farmers of Manitoba, the farmers have actually been getting higher prices for their grain, in proportion to its actual export value, than they ever did before. Time was when grain shippers in Manitoba calculated to buy wheat from farmers on a ten cent margin. Gradually the business worked down to a five cent margin, and now, since this villainous compact has been formed between a few Winnipeg exporters, the shippers are content to buy wheat on a paltry margin of ½ to 1 cent per bushel. At this rate, if another syndicate could be formed to take in the balance of the trade, we might find the exporters reducing their margin to ¼ or ⅓ cent per bushel.

So much for the iniquitous syndicate, which by reducing expenses, water freight rates, etc., is enabled to pay the farmer a higher price for his wheat than the shippers could pay under the old arrangements. Aside from this, it is a well known fact that men who do a straight export grain business, as distinguished from a speculative grain business, prefer to see comparatively high prices. The grain exporters of Manitoba would rather pay 65 cents per bushel for wheat than 40 cents, if export markets would admit of it. When prices are comparatively high, it is always easier to do business. When prices are low there is no snap to the market. Fault is found with the quality of shipments and any little defect is taken advantage of to reject shipments. On the contrary when prices are at a fair figure and the markets are working freely, there is not half the trouble

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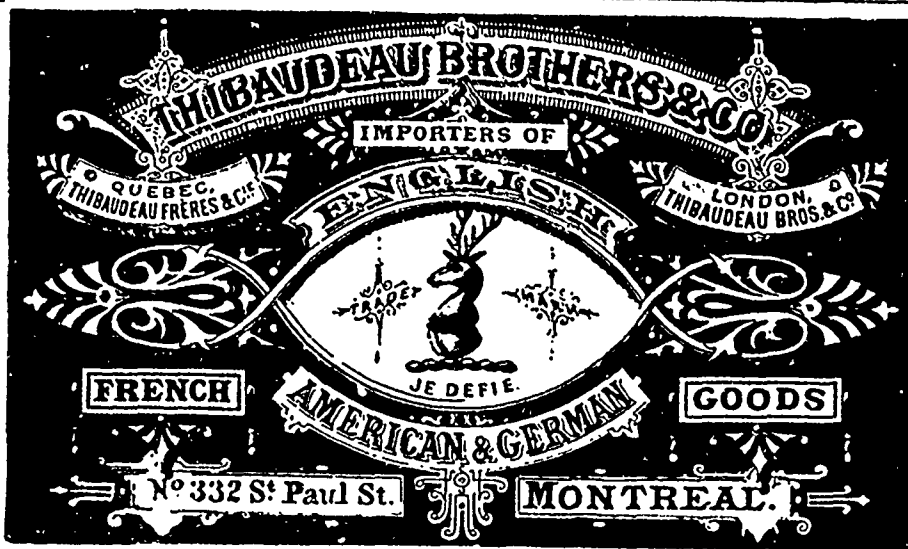
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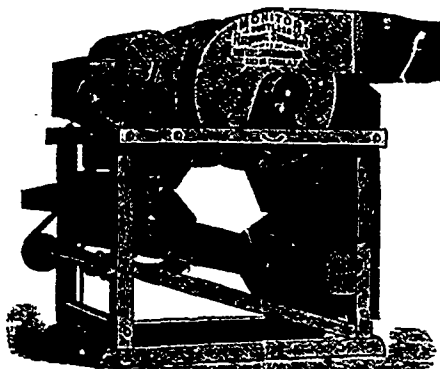
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OAK TANNED "EXTRA" BRAND

## BELTING

MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

THE J. C. McLAREN BELTING COMPANY.

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Sept. 14.

Unfavorable weather has retarded the progress of the harvest considerably in some districts, consequently the grain movement is not as large as it would have been. Most of the milling and shipping firms now have their buyers on the country markets, and at some points wheat was beginning to come in in large quantities. A spell of clear weather would soon bring on a crush of grain, though there seems to be a strong belief that prices will advance later on, and many farmers who can afford to do so will hold. General business is fairly satisfactory, and sales for the fall trade season have been quite large in clothing, boots and shoes, dry goods, etc. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show an increase of 26 per cent over the corresponding week last year.

There were reported to have been 22 business failures in Canada this week, against 83 last week and 88 in the corresponding week a year ago.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Sept. 14.

[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.]

**AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.**—A good many separators are being sold, but the trade so far does not appear to be as large as the heavy crop would warrant. Still some of the Canadian manufacturers are clean sold out, and quite a number of imported separators are coming in. Not many complete rigs are wanted, separators alone being usually taken. No imported engines are selling, the Canadian makers appearing to have the field alone in engines, but not in separators, notwithstanding the heavy duty. The season for binder twine is now over, and the supply has been abundant, though at a few country points there was some delay caused by twine running short. The wholesale trade, however, was able to fill all orders promptly during the season.

**COAL.**—The season has hardly opened yet and only a trifling business is doing. Dealers are a little uncertain as to how prices will go, but it is expected Pennsylvania coal will open at \$8.50 per ton, delivered to consumers in the city. At this price it can be sold at a small profit, or at about the same profit as was obtained from selling at \$9 per ton last season, though last winter a great deal of coal was sold at about \$8.50 per ton. There is some talk of opening the market at \$8, but at this price dealers say they would have no margin of profit, notwithstanding the low prices which have ruled for coal at the mines this year. Souris coal will sell at the same price as last winter, namely, \$1.25 per ton delivered to consumers, and \$3.85 at the yard here. Lethbridge coal has been fixed at \$5.50 per ton to consumers, delivered, which is a drop of \$1 per ton from last winter's prices.

**CORDWOOD.**—We quote the following prices for car lots on track here: Tamarac, \$3.75 to \$4 per cord; pine \$3.50 per cord; spruce \$3, and poplar \$2.25 to \$2.50 per cord.

**DRY GOODS.**—No further changes are reported in prices and values are firm. The recent fall millinery openings in the east is a feature of the trade.

**GREEN FRUITS.**—Lemons, as noted recently, are very firm, and they are held at top prices. Stocks of Messinas are well re-

duced. Some of the large eastern markets have run very low in stocks of lemons and cannot obtain supplies of new, as it is between seasons. At Montreal prices advanced \$1 to \$3 per box, choicest being held as high as \$7.50 per box. At New York prices are also very high. There is a good supply of Oregon and California peaches, pears and plums, at about the same prices. Oranges are practically out of the market. The first car of Ontario soft fruits arrived this week, consisting of pears, plums, tomatoes, crabs, grapes, etc. The fruit arrived in better condition than most Ontario shipments in previous years, showing greater care in handling, but the manner of packing, in baskets, is the same. Still there is lots of room for improvement. Some of the grapes were overripe and were dropping off the stems, and consequently had to be sold at a low price. Some of the tomatoes were getting soft and leaking from the baskets, and some of the pears particularly were poor variety, being small and scabby, though firm enough. The fruit, however, sold off quickly. Further cars will be coming in next week. Prices are: Messina lemons \$7 per box; bananas, \$2.25 to \$3 per bunch as to size; California peaches \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box; California and Oregon plums \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box; California and Oregon pears, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per box; apples, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per barrel; southern concord grapes, 50 to 55c per basket of 8 lbs; California grapes, tokays \$3.00 to \$3.25 per crate; tomatoes, 90c to \$1.10 per basket. Layer figs, 10 lb boxes, 15c per pound. do., 14 ounce boxes, \$1.50 per dozen. Dates, 7 to 7½c a lb.

**GROCERIES.**—Sugars are steady. Eastern refiners quote 4c for granulated and 3 to 3½c for yellows, as to grade. Refined advanced a point or two at New York recently. Advices from London speak of remarkably low prices for Indian teas of the lower grades particularly, this being due to some extent to the poorer quality of new teas. A few new Valencia raisins have been imported in eastern markets, but there has been no general supply yet. New California raisins may be in soon.

**PAINTS, OILS, ETC.**—Canadian refined petroleum has declined ½c in the east. Turpentine is also ½c lower east. Linseed oil is easy. White leads are quite firm. Glass is very firm as late importations are costing much higher.

**RAW FURS.**—The fur season has not opened yet, though a few skunk have already been offered. Of course, they are not prime. It will be some little time yet before primeskins of any class can be offered, but lots of the usual poor class of early skins will soon be offering.

## GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

**Wheat.**—Wheat touched a lower point than ever this week, prices at Duluth for instance sinking to a lower price than the very low prices of the corresponding week a year ago. The lowest closing price for September wheat at Duluth this week last year was 55½c as compared with 51½c on Wednesday last. Weak European markets and increasing supplies were the depressing features, though it is not unusual to look for large receipts and increasing supplies at this season of the year.

In Manitoba the movement of new wheat has been delayed by wet weather. About half the wheat moving forward from country elevators was old wheat. Buyers are now mostly located at country points, and a few bright days would bring in lots of wheat. The sample, so far as can be judged from limited receipts, is quite mixed, and the crop will certainly be an uneven one. A good deal of wheat mixed with green berries, showing un-oven ripening, has been seen. The recent rains will be bad for wheat having smut, as it will have a tendency to break the balls and

tag the wheat. Prices paid to farmers in Manitoba country markets this week are high in comparison with values at lake ports. Up to 45c was paid for No. 1 hard at quite a number of country points, which is proportionately above values at Duluth. Later the tone of the market was easier and the top price was dropped to 44c for No. 1 hard in country markets. The value of No. 1 hard afloat at Fort William during the week ranged from about 55½ to 58c, according to fluctuations in United States markets. Receipts for the week ended Sept 7, at Fort William were 51,641 bushels and shipments 93,420 bushels, leaving in store 81,950 bushels. A year ago at Fort William receipts were 121,000 bushels, shipments 227,000 bushels, and stocks, 721,000 bushels. Two years ago stocks were 868,000 bushels. Lake freights, Duluth to Buffalo this week were reported at 8½c per bushel and 5½c to Kingston, with prospect of an early advance.

**FLOUR.**—The market remains naturally weak, but there has been no further change here, though lower prices have been looked for. Of course, the flour offering is from old wheat, which cost higher than present prices. Sales by millers here are made at \$1.95 for patents and \$1.75 for strong bakers per sack of 98 lbs. delivered to city retail dealers. Second bakers \$1.55 to \$1.65, XXXX about \$1.25 to \$1.30 per sack according to brand. These are net cash prices the nominal quotation being 5c higher.

**MILSTUFFS.**—Millstuffs are becoming more plentiful. The quotation for the local trade is \$11 for bran and \$13 for shorts per ton, with small quantities held at \$1 per ton more. Prices have again declined 50c in eastern markets making \$1 in two weeks.

**OATS.**—The market is tending downward. There is not much business doing, and about only enough coming in to supply the city trade. No eastern shipments. Prices are lower and we quote car lots on track here at 20 to 21c per bushel of 84 pound, feed grade. Farmers' loads have sold mostly at 21 to 23c per bushel, and not many coming yet. There should be enough oats marketed by farmers this year to supply the local market, and thus avoid the necessity of bringing in car lots from country points. If farmers around the city hold for higher prices, however, car lots will be brought in to supply the city trade. There has been an idea abroad here that owing to the drouth in Ontario there would be an unusual demand in the east for Manitoba oats this year. The last Ontario crop bulletin, however, estimates the Ontario oat crop at 5,000,000 greater than last year, which would indicate that the crop there is not so bad after all, and we cannot therefore look for such a big demand for Manitoba oats in the East as was expected a short time ago. In Manitoba country markets prices are declining, the price being down to 12½c per bushel to farmers at Brandon. In Ontario country markets, 20 to 23c is paid to farmers.

**BARLEY.**—A few farmers' loads selling here at 25 to 30c per bushel, for feed. Very little wanted, as no shipping business is doing. At Ontario country points barley is bringing 30 to 38c per bushel of 48 pounds, feed grade.

**GROUND FEED.**—Prices are about \$1 per ton lower, the best rolled feed being quoted at \$19 per ton and chop feed at \$18, oats and barley.

**OATMEAL.**—Prices are 15c lower. We quote rolled oats at \$1.75 per sack of 80 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers. Standard and granulated oatmeal \$2 per sack of 93 lbs. Rolled wheat, \$1.90 per 80 pound sack; pot barley \$2, and pearl barley \$1 per 93 pound sack.

**OIL CAKE.**—This commodity is low

Ground oil cake meal is quoted at \$20 per ton in sacks.

**FLAX SEED.**—No new seed offering. On Friday at Chicago flax seed sold at 90½ to 92½¢ per bushel. There prices are much lower than a year ago, when flax sold at \$1.45 to \$1.50 at Chicago. A week ago the price was at 93 to 99½¢ for September delivery.

**BUTTER.**—The situation is rather easier, export markets being dull and draggy, but there is no material change in prices. Dealers are paying 8c to 8½¢ for fair to good round lots of dairy, and a choice round lot would, perhaps, bring 9c per lb. Small or single tub lots are selling at 10c to 12c for good to choice selections. Creamery is about the same, and we quote 1½c to 15½¢ as to quality.

**CHEESE.**—Cheese is easier here, in consequence of the generally dull week feeling in the east. One wire from Montreal said that 7c was the top there for best Manitoba cheese, and 17c to 17½¢ for finest Manitoba creamery butter. Here 6c per lb. is now about the outside in cheese, and dealers are trying to buy a shade, under 6c, though a fine lot would bring the top. Already we hear of one or two Manitoba factories closing down. In Ontario prices have been easier, some country markets this week being ½¢ to ¾¢ lower again. At Belleville on Tuesday bids were 7½¢ to 7¾¢, and 7½¢ was the highest offered at some market. Quebec cheese at Montreal sold at 7c to 7½¢.

**EGGS.**—Buyers are paying 11c, and selling candled stock at 12c to 13c. Receipts were fairly large. We heard of one round lot selling at 10c and another at 10½¢.

**LARD.**—Prices are the same. We quote Pure, \$1.8) for 20 pound pails, and \$1.59 for 5) lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 19 pound tins, quoted at 87 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 9c pound.

**CURED MEATS.**—Hams have been advanced ½¢, but other lines are about the same, except back bacon, which is lower. Smoked Meats are quoted. Hams, assorted sizes, 12½¢. Breakfast bacon, bellies, 12½¢. do backs. 10½¢; picnic hams, 9½¢, short spiced rolls, 7½¢. long rolls, 7½¢, shoulders, 8c; smoked long clear, 10c. smoked jowls, 5½¢. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 9c per lb: should'rs, 7c, backs, 9½¢; canvassed meats, or put up in parchment paper, ¾¢ per lb. extra; barrel pork, heavy mess \$15.00 clear mess \$16.00; short cut, \$18.00; rolled shoulders, \$15 per barrel, pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; German sausage, 7c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

**VEGETABLES.**—Prices are: Potatoes, slow sale at 20 per bushel. A few have sold as low as 15c per bushel. Green stuff, including all roots, onions, etc. per doz. bunches is quoted at 5 to 8c all around; cabbage 15 to 25c per dozen; cucumbers 7 to 15c per dozen; cauliflower 30 to 5½¢ per dozen, as to size; green peas, in pod, 30c per bushel; celery 20 to 25c per dozen bunches; green beans 1 to 1½¢ per lb.; rhubarb 10 to 12½¢ per dozen bunches; onions, 75c per bushel, or 1½¢ per lb.; turnips 20c per bushel; corn, 7 to 8c per dozen ears. Native tomatoes 4c per lb. and eastern tomatoes 9c to \$1.10 per basket.

**POULTRY.**—No change in prices. Chickens 40 to 45c per pair; spring chickens, 35 to 40c per pair; turkeys 8 to 9c per lb. live weight. Ducks 10c dressed. Wild ducks 20 to 30c per pair.

**DRESSED MEATS.**—Prices are unchanged for beef. We quote beef at 4 to 5c, as to quality. Good beef is selling at 5c, mutton easier at 6 to 6½¢, mostly going at 6½; lamb, 6½ to 7c; pork 5½ to 6c, veal, 5 to 5½¢.

**HIDES.**—There is considerable talk of an easier feeling in hides. Prices have been

shaded in some markets, both in Canada and the United States and there appears to be a feeling that the "boom" which has held out so long in hides is going to subside. We quote: Hides. Winnipeg inspection green, 7½¢ for No. 1 cows, 6½¢ for No. 2, and 5½¢ for No. 3. No. 1 heavy steers, 7½¢, No. 2 Steers, 6½¢; branded hides grade No. 2, when not otherwise damaged to reduce them to No. 3. We quote: Calf, 8 to 15 lb skins, 6 to 8c per lb. Deacons, 25 to 40c each. Kips 5 to 6c. Sheepskins, recent kill, 30 to 35c. Lambskins, 30 to 35c each. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough. is slow sale, and the general feeling is easier.

**WOOL.**—We quote 10 to 11½¢ as to quality for unwashed Manitoba fleece. Markets abroad are quiet but firm. The advance in London since the close of the last sale has been about 5 per cent on merinos and 10 per cent on crossbred, and holders in the United States are not generally disposed to sell below this advance.

**SENEGA ROOT.**—Root is dull and very slow sale in central markets. About 18c is the usual price for small lots of dry root, and up to 19c for choice, fine bright root.

**HAY.**—Loose hay on the street market is selling at \$3 to \$4 per ton. We quote new baled prairie at \$5 on track here.

#### LIVE STOCK.

**CATTLE.**—A fairly large export business has been done this week. The first train to go east this week was from Yorkton, on the Manitoba Northwestern, and it was rated one of the finest lots of domestic cattle handled here this season. There were 318 head and Gordon & Ironsides were the shippers. That firm also shipped the following lots this week besides the one just mentioned: On Monday 250 head of Manitoba cattle, gathered up from various sections; on Tuesday two trains of 718 head, 350 of these coming from Battleford district, via the Prince Albert branch, and the rest mostly from the Canadian Pacific Railway main line from Moosomin and points westward to Whitewood and Qu'Appelle; on Wednesday 1 train of 361, 110 of these being butchers' cattle; on Thursday 189 head, 33 of which were butchers, making 1875 head in all. They have further shipments for to-day. John Wake shipped a lot of about 275 head off the Manitoba Northwestern, and from the same line Almack & Lees had another train of about 300 head. Price and Skelton sent forward a lot from Battleford, and Mr. Kybold shipped a few cars off Maple Creek range cattle, making shipments aggregating about 2750 for the week. Prices are about steady. About 2½¢ is the top price that would be paid for loads of butchers' cattle here, and we quote 2¼ to 2½¢. A few picked might bring 2½. Export cattle 3 to 3½¢.

**HOGS.**—Very slow. None offering. One car shipped east by John Wake. Nominal at 4 to 4½¢ off cars here.

**SHEEP.**—Gordon & Ironsides shipped two lots for export, one of 1,037 head and one of 1,340 head, all C. A. C. Co's range sheep, except 160 from Prince Albert branch, 160 from Virden, Man. We quote sheep easy at 3c off cars here, with a tendency to buy under this price.

At Toronto, September 10, export cattle were easier at 3 to 3½¢ for medium and bulls and 4 to 4½¢ for choice. One load touched \$1.10. Butchers cattle were easy at 2 to 3c for common to good, and from 3c upward to 3½¢ for good extra picked cattle. Sheep and lambs were weak, lambs selling at 3 to 3½¢ per lb., or \$2 to \$2.25 per head. Export sheep 3½ to 3¾¢ per lb., bucks 3c. Hogs weak and lower, best touched \$1.80 to \$1.40, off cars; stores \$1; heavy fat \$1.10 to \$1.15.

At Chicago, on Sept. 13, bulls sold at 1½¢

to 2½¢ per lb; cows, 1½¢ to 8c; choice cattle, 4½¢ to 5½¢. Sheep were 25c higher per head; western range stock selling at \$2.50 to \$3.50; lambs, \$3 to \$3.80. Hogs were 5c to 10c per 100 lbs. higher, mixed lots selling at \$1 to \$1.50 per 100 lbs; packers sold at \$3.85 to \$4.10, and shipping hogs at \$4.20 to \$4.50.

#### Mixing Wheat

The agitation which was so sharp last season regarding mixing scoured wheat at Fort William with the regular grades seems to be working up to fever heat again. The Toronto board of trade, according to telegraphic report, has passed a resolution demanding the immediate prohibition of mixing. The Ontario millers' association has also passed a very strong resolution denouncing mixing. This association, it will be remembered, was the first to make a formal demand for the stoppage of mixing. Really as regards this matter, a great big hub-bub is being raised about a comparatively trifling matter, and opposition papers are making a political question of it, as the matter is one which rests with the Dominion government. The action of the Winnipeg grain trade is one of indifference. If mixing is stopped they will simply buy smutty wheat at a lower price, while the result will never be felt so far as it will affect the higher grades. The people to suffer will be the farmers who grow smutty wheat and those who grow choice grain will not gain or lose anything, all this agitation to the contrary notwithstanding.

#### Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending September 12, were \$955,519 balances, \$187,491. For the previous week clearings were \$793,483. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$741,297. For the month of August clearings were \$3,937,730, as compared with \$3,695,874 for August last year.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Aug. 29.	Sept. 5.
Montreal...	\$ 9,819,427	\$9,017,662
Toronto...	4,678,179	5,028,092
Halifax...	1,027,354	910,194
Winnipeg...	893,622	773,483
Hamilton...	498,600	512,974
Total	\$16,907,182	\$16,936,805

#### The Live Stock Trade.

A carload of horses has arrived from Ontario for the Lake of the Woods Milling company to be used in running their elevators.

At Liverpool on September 9, a weaker feeling prevailed and prices declined ½ to ¾¢ per lb. as compared with last Monday. London was in about the same condition, choice Canadian steers were quoted at 11c at both markets. Sheep were very weak and values dropped 1c to 1½¢ per lb., best being quoted at both markets at 12c.

At the Point St Charles market at Montreal on Sept 9 the market was easier with little demand and large supply. Two loads of butchers' cattle were sold at prices ranging from 2c to 3c per lb. live weight, and the balance were forwarded to the East End market. The receipts of sheep were large on export account, and some lots were purchased at 3½¢ to 3¾¢ per lb. live weight. Lambs sold at 3½¢ per lb. live weight. The offerings of live hogs were small, only 140 on the market, but the feeling was weaker and values were 25c per 100 lbs. lower, at \$1.75 to \$5.

**Dairy Trade News.**

The cheese factory at Floming, Assa., has now on hand about \$1,700 or \$2,000 worth of cheese, which they are holding for better prices.

The report from England that Canadian cheese received there is made from part skim milk, though marked full cream, is not credited. The report is to the effect that the fatty matter is supplied by oleomargarine. The report has no doubt been got up to damage the reputation of our cheese in England. The substitution of any other fatty matter for the natural butter fat is prohibited by law in Canada.

Two bulletins have recently been issued by the Manitoba department of agriculture. One is entitled "Hints to Patrons of Creameries," giving various directions for setting and creaming milk. It should be secured by all farmers who keep cows for dairy purposes. The other pamphlet is a report of the visit of the provincial dairy instructor to British Columbia to look into the requirements of that market.

The last Manitoba official crop bulletin contained a list of creameries and cheese factories in Manitoba, together with the estimated daily output of each factory. Exception has been taken to this report, on the ground that the estimated output is too great. The department is now getting returns from the different factories as to their actual output for July, and it is found that these returns, so far as received, bear out the estimated production as reported in the crop bulletin. In some cases the estimated output was much too large, but in other instances it was far too small, these differences about balancing each other. As the pastures kept up well during August it is not expected that the production of butter and cheese would fall off materially last month, and indeed some reported an increasing output. To balance any possible over-estimate, as made in the crop bulletin, it has since been discovered that half-a-dozen or more factories were inadvertently omitted from the list, so that altogether it seems probable that the estimated production of butter and cheese in Manitoba, as per the last crop bulletin, is not so far astray. Of course, it would be difficult to estimate the total production for the season, even from an actual knowledge of the daily output during July, as many of the factories are new ones, started this year, and they did not operate early in the year. Others will likely close down early. We do not fear however, that any harm will come to the dairy trade, even allowing that the estimate of production is excessive. Our butter and cheese is now being exported, and the quantity is too limited at the largest estimates to materially effect the markets. On the other hand, a large estimate of production should have the effect of turning the attention of eastern buyers to Manitoba, and to this extent it would do good. Heretofore we have not produced a sufficient quantity of butter and cheese to make it worth while for large export dealers to send their buyers here. We heard a gentleman who is probably the largest exporter of dairy products in Canada remark, a couple of years ago, that the Manitoba trade was not large enough to be worth while bothering with, but that just as it assumed sufficient proportion he would be ready to take a hand in it. The effect of the report in the last crop bulletin would be to show that the trade is now assuming such proportions that it will pay eastern export firms to send buyers this way. The fear expressed that it would have a boarish effect upon prices is not, we think, well founded.

Manitou Mercury: "Another shipment of butter from the Manitou Creamery was made on Wednesday last to the Parsons Produce Co., Winnipeg. The consignment

consisted of 7,854 lbs., and realized 14c per lb. We believe this is the highest price yet received."

Prof. Robertson, Dominion dairy commissioner, is coming west. He will go right through to Moose Jaw and inspect the Dominion dairy station there. Thence he will go to Victoria, B. C., to take in the exhibition on Sept. 20, and will afterwards make a tour through the Pacific province, in company with Mr. Ruddick, who is now in British Columbia with a travelling dairy. On his return he will visit Winnipeg.

Prof. Robertson, Dominion dairy commissioner, recently inspected a couple of car loads of Manitoba butter at Montreal, where it had been shipped by the Parsons Produce Co. of Winnipeg. Mr. Robertson made the inspection for his own information, being anxious to examine the class of goods made in Manitoba. The lot was made up from five or six different creameries; so that it would afford some variety. Mr. Robertson kindly furnished a written report as to the result of his inspection, and he speaks very favorably of some of the butter. Of one lot he says: "Appearance good. Flavor good. Body and texture extra fine. Color good." In nearly every case he speaks of the body and texture being either good or extra fine, and the color is generally about right. There are a number of points where improvement could be made. Some were not packed neatly. This referred to butter in boxes. Of the butter in tubs he several times speaks of some being off flavor, and the cream having been over ripe. This appears to be a frequent fault. Some tubs had a slightly bitter flavor. The tops of some tubs were covered with salt, which Mr. Robertson says is a defect, as they should be covered with parchment paper, with only a little salt sprinkled over the top. The tubs he says should also be lined with parchment paper in every case. Some tubs were not packed properly around the sides, and others were colored a little too high for the British market. Another feature which he says is a serious defect was, that some of the tubs were not full. Altogether the principal causes of complaint were: Cream too ripe and neglect of using parchment paper for lining tubs and covering top of butter. This is an important matter which the trade now seems to demand in creamery butter.

**British Grain Trade.**

The Mark Lane Express in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: "English wheats, old crop, have fallen 6d. Foreign is down 1s. California sold at 25s, Manitoba at 21s 6d, and Duluth at 21s 9d. Wickets and flour closed 6d worse on Sept. 9.

**Leading Grain Firm Winds Up.**

The Winnipeg grain firm of A. Atkinson & Co. has been dissolved. Mr. Atkinson will not engage in the grain trade this season. Mr. Cummings will continue in the grain trade in his own name, but independent of the business of the late firm.

**The Labor Market.**

There is still a large demand for farm labor, orders coming in for men from quite a number of points, as many as 15 to 25 men being wanted at some points. From \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day is offered for threshing hands, and \$25 to \$30 per month for good men for farm hands, including board. Very few men can be secured. A large number of men are wanted for railway work, but it is almost impossible to secure men for this kind of work, the wages offered being low.

A big exhibition will be held in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on Sept. 17 and 18.

**Northwest Ontario.**

Thomas Ball, trader, Fort Francis, has assigned.

Mackay Bros., dry goods, Rat Portage, are giving up business there and moving to Winnipeg.

R. H. Gilchrist, Keewatin, has purchased W. D. Coato's drug store and stock of that place, and will carry on the business.

**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

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

Wheat was weak on Monday and declined, influenced by heavy receipts northwest and weak cables, increased visible supply, etc., but recovered later and closed a shade under Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat.....	57½	—	59½	63½
Corn.....	32½	31½	28½	29½
Oats.....	19½	18½	—	21½
Pork.....	—	8 30	—	—
Lard.....	—	5 85	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	5 37½	—	—

On Tuesday continual heavy receipts at Duluth and Minneapolis depressed the market and prices declined. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat.....	59½	—	58½	62½
Corn.....	32½	31½	28½	29½
Oats.....	19½	18½	—	20½
Mess Pork..	—	8 25	—	—
Lard.....	—	5 77½	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	5 72½	—	—

On Wednesday prices were very weak and declined heavily. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat....	55½	—	57½-3	61½-1
Corn.....	30½	30½	27½	29
Oats.....	19	18½	18½	20½
Mess Pork..	—	—	—	—
Lard.....	—	—	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	—	—	—

Wheat was weak at the opening, but moved up later and closed at a moderate advance. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat....	55½	—	58	61½-62
Corn.....	30	30½	27½	29½
Oats.....	19½	18½	—	20½
Pork.....	—	8 25	—	—
Lard.....	—	5 85	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	5 32½	—	—

Wheat opened weak, but some alarm starting among shorts, caused a spurt in prices. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat.....	57½	—	59½	63½
Corn.....	32	31-	28½	29½
Oats.....	19½	18½	—	20½
Mess Pork..	—	8 30	—	—
Lard.....	—	5 87½	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	5 40	—	—

On Saturday wheat opened lower at 59½ for December option. The tendency was downward, closing at a loss of nearly 1½c. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	May.
Wheat.....	56½	—	57½	61½
Corn.....	31½	—	27½	29
Oats.....	19½	—	—	20½
Mess Pork..	8 07½	—	—	—
Lard.....	—	—	—	—
Short Ribs.....	—	—	—	—
Flax.....	95	—	95½	1 00

A week ago Sept. wheat closed at 58c. A year ago Sept. wheat closed at 58½c.

The stock of W. R. Tafbot, wall paper, etc., Winnipeg, was sold at 60 cents on the dollar to Henry Bell.

# WILLIAM L. KEENE & CO

(Successors to Chipman, Morgan & Co.)

## SHIPBROKERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS

632 Cordova St., Vancouver, B.C.

Importers of Rice, Sacks, Japan, Indian and China Teas, Steel, Iron, Rope, Cement, Oils, Fruit, Canned Goods, Etc., Etc.

### British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, September 14, 1895.

Butter.—Manitoba dairy butter, old 3 to 8c, new 10 to 12c; Manitoba creamery, 17 to 18c; do. off grade 6 to 12c per lb.; Manitoba cheese 8 to 10c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 14c; breakfast bacon, 13½c; backs, 12½c; long clear, 10c; short rolls, 10c; smoked sides, 11½c. Lard is held at the following figures: tins 10½c per pound; in pails and tubs, 10c; mess pork, \$17; short cut, \$18.00.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders, 3c; smelt, 5c; sea bass, 4; black cod, 6c; rock cod, 4c; red cod, 4c; tommy cod, 4c; herring, 4c; halibut, 7c; whiting, 6c; soles, 6c; crabs, 60c doz.; smoked salmon, 12½c; salmon 3c; smoked halibut, 10c, bloaters, 10c; kippered cod, 9c; sturgeon, 6c; trout 10c per lb.; salt salmon, \$9 per barrel.

Vegetables.—Potatoes new, \$8 to \$10 per ton; onions, silver skins, 1½c; cabbage, 1½c; carrots, turnips and beets, ¾ to 1c a lb.; sweet potatoes, \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 25c; Eastern 16c per dozen.

Fruits.—Australian lemons, half boxes, \$2.50; Australian oranges, half boxes, \$2.50; B. C. plums, 30 to 60c; peaches, \$1.10 per box; oranges, Mediterranean sweets, \$2.75; St. Michael's \$3.00 per box; apples 75c to \$1.35 per box; tomatoes \$1.50; California pears \$2.00 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 15c; filberts, 14c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 15c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Flour.—Manitoba Patent, per bbl., \$4.70; strong bakers, \$1.50; Oregon, \$3.80.

Meal.—National mills, 45 pound sacks, \$3.35; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.45; 10.7 sacks, \$2.65. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.21; 2-50's, \$3.00; 10-10 gunnies, \$2.75. Rolled oats, 90-lb sacks, \$3.25.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$25 per ton f.o.b. Vancouver, duty paid. Local oats, \$20 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$20 to \$22 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ten; shorts, \$19.00 ton; bran \$17.00 ton; oil cake meal, \$39 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver, including duty paid on imported stuff.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 6½ to 7c; mutton, 7½c to 8c; pork, 8 to 9c; veal, 6 to 8c per lb.

Hay.—Nominal at \$8 per ton.

Live Stock.—Calves, 4 to 6c; steers, 3 to 3½c lb, cows 2½ to 3c; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50; hogs, 5½ to 6c; lamb, per head, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

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

Syrups.—50 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.25 each; 1 gallon tins, \$3.75 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.50 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 15c; choice, 25c. Ceylons: Fair, 25c; good, 30c; choice, 35c per lb.

### British Columbia Business Notes.

Chase Haddock, produce, etc., Ashcroft, is succeeded by Collins & Haddock.

Thomas L. Davis, clothing etc., Nanaimo, has moved to Union.

D. B. Bogle, publisher, Rossland, has sold out.

Edgton & Munson, grocers, Rossland, advertise to sell out.

The stock of R. Shortreed, general store, Shortreed, is advertised for sale by tender.

The stock of John Whitmore, grocer, Vancouver, is sold to Z. Frunks.

Hinton & Penny, machinists, etc., Victoria, have sold out to E. Baines & Co.

Arthur Smith, locksmith, Victoria, is out of business.

Mrs. Fred. Vater, millinery, Wellington, has moved to Union.

The stock of W. W. Ferris, general store, Westholm, is advertising for sale by auction.

### Duluth Wheat Market.

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week: Monday—Sept. 55½c, Dec. 57c, May, 61½c. Tuesday—Sept. 55½c, Dec. 57c, May 61c. Wednesday—Sept. 54½c, Dec. 55½c, May 60½c. Thursday—Sept. 54½c, Dec. 56c, May 60c. Friday—Sept. 55½c, Dec. 57½c, May 61c. Saturday—Sept. 54½c, Dec. 56½c, May, 60c.

A week ago to-day, (Saturday) prices closed at 55½c for September, and 57½c for December. A year ago September wheat closed at 55½c, and two years ago at 67½c. No. 1 hard is quoted at about 7c over No. 1 northern, No. 2 northern 3c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

### New York Wheat.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, December wheat closed at 61½c, and May delivery at 67½c. A week ago wheat closed at 65c for September and 68½c for December.

### Minneapolis Wheat.

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday at 59½c for September delivery, December at 57½c and May at 57½c. A week ago September wheat closed at 54½c.

### Wheat Stocks Errata.

Under the heading "Wheat Stocks" in this issue of The Commercial, a typographical error occurred in Bradstreet's report of stocks in the United States and Canada. Stocks east of the mountains on Sept. 2 should read 41,732,000 bushels, and similar stocks a year ago should read 79,826,000 bushels.

### The Weather and Crops.

Since the rains of Thursday and Friday of last week there has been a good deal of unfavorable weather to delay stacking and threshing. Work was not generally resumed after the general rains of last week until Tuesday of this week, and there has been considerable interruption since then from wet weather. The weather has been cloudy and unsettled almost all the week. The rains were mostly of a light, drizzling nature, not much water falling in proportion to the duration of the showers. They appeared to be more frequent in the west than in the eastern sections of the wheat belt, very little delay having occurred in eastern districts, while some western points reported very frequent showers. As a result of these rains some damp wheat was coming in towards the close of this week, evidently threshed damp from the stack. It is to be hoped farmers will be very careful about stacking or threshing damp grain.

There was frost all over the country on Saturday night of Sept. 7, very severe in the

far west, varying from 6 to 9 degrees in the extreme western and northwestern portions of the Territories, to 1 to 2 degrees in Eastern Manitoba and the Red River valley. At Winnipeg the official observatory reported 1½ degrees of frost, which is the lowest temperature of the season here to date. The frost did more or less damage in the far west and northwest, where the crops were much later than in Manitoba, but, with the exception of the extreme northwestern portion of Manitoba, there was practically no grain left to be damaged. About Winnipeg many of the market gardens show very little traces of frost, and nearly all kinds of green stuff is still being marketed.

There is no question as to the very heavy crop of all grains in Manitoba. Threshing returns are showing individual yields of wheat running up to 50 to 60 bushels per acre, and oats running up to 120 bushels per acre. There is no doubt but that the official estimate of oats in Manitoba of 45 bushels per acre, is much too low; while the quantity of merchantable wheat will no doubt come up very close to the official report of 25 bushels per acre. The average quality of the wheat crops, however, will be low, especially if the present broken weather keeps up. The principal damage as shown by receipts so far, is from uneven ripening, owing evidently to patches being down. A good deal of wheat mixed with green berries, has already been seen, and more frosted wheat is showing up in some districts than was looked for. Still there will be a large quantity of choice wheat.

In the territories it is more difficult to speak of the crops with any degree of certainty, owing to the vast extent of country over which settlement is thinly scattered. As the crops were generally much later in the Territories than in Manitoba, it is not expected, however, that the average quality will be as good as in the province, and the proportion of frosted grain will be greater.

### Don't Thresh Damp Wheat

A few loads of damp wheat were coming in late in the week, indicating that farmers were threshing too soon after the recent rains, evidently from stook. This is a great mistake, and will result in heavy loss. Damp grain cannot be taken into store, and is a very risky thing to handle at best.

### Winnipeg Markets a Year Ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William afloat, 55 to 56c new wheat, and 40 to 42c to farmers, Manitoba country points.

Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.55; Bakers, \$1.45.

Bran.—Per ton, \$11.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.

Oats.—Per bushel, new, 22 to 25c.

Barley.—Per bushel, \_\_\_\_\_

Butter.—Dairy 10 to 12c, round lots.

Cheese.—9 to 9½c.

Eggs.—Fresh, casier at 9c, round lots.

Beef.—Fresh, per lb., 5 to 5½c.

Mutton.—Fresh, 5c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 5½ to 6c.

Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 2½c.

Hogs.—Live, good packing 1½ to 1½c, off cars, Heavy, 1 to 1½c.

Sheep, average butchers 3c, live weight.

Somec Root.—23 to 25c per lb.

Chickens.—per pair, 45 to 50c.

Hides.—No. 1, 2 to 2½c.

Potatoes.—now 25 to 30c per bushel.

Hay.—\$1.50 to \$5.00 per ton, car lots.

Wool.—6 to 8½c, unwashed fleece.

This week last year wheat was moving actively, receipts at country points reaching 5,000 to 10,000 bushels per day at each of the principal country markets.

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Print**

Anything that can be  
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**COMMERCIAL PRINTING CO.,**  
186 JAMES ST., WINN PEG.

**To Let!!**

Two stores in the Coombs-Stewart Block, Brandon. Size 48 ft. front and 65 ft. deep with cellar.

For Particulars apply to

J. R. FOSTER, Brandon.

R. M. COOMBS, Elkhorn, Man.

**P.A.I.N.T.**

Get ready for Trade.

Stock up with —

**RAMSAY'S**  
RUSSIAN PURE LEAD.  
UNICORN MIXED PAINT.  
UNICORN OIL STAINS.  
COLORS IN OIL.  
VARNISHES, Etc., Etc.

W. G. McMANON, Winnipeg,

Representative for Manitoba.

**A. RAMSAY & SON.,**  
MONTREAL.

**WALKER HOUSE.**

The most conveniently located Hotel in Toronto.  
One Block from Union Railway Depot  
A First-class Family and Commercial House

Terms from \$2 a Day

DAVID WALKER, PROPRIETOR.

Corner York and Front Sts., TORONTO, Ont.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

—DEALERS IN—

FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.

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

Yates Street, VICTORIA, B.C.

P.O. BOX 538.

AGENTS Skidgate Oil Works, B.C.; D. Richards, Laundry Soap  
Woodstock; Ontario; Toller, Kitchwell Co., Montreal, Faristan  
Washing Blue.

We have a large cool warehouse with good facilities for handling  
Butter and Produce in quantities.

Consignments Received in all Lines. Correspondence  
Solicited.

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BUTTER, EGGS, FRUITS AND PRODUCE

A PERFECT SYSTEM OF

COLD STORAGE.

230 ABBOTT STREET, - VANCOUVER,

P.O. BOX NO. 286.

Quote prices on first quality Dairy Butter or consign it  
to us and get top market prices.

**The Brackman & Ker Milling Co.,**  
LIMITED)

**MILLERS**

AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

**FLOUR, FEED & GRAIN.**

Head Office, Victoria, B.C.

Branches } VANCOUVER, B.C.  
NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.  
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**The Western Fisheries  
and Trading Co., Ltd.**

WHOLESALE AND EXPORT . . .

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Commission Agts **FISH MERCHANTS**

Fresh Salmon a Specialty.

NEW WESTMINSTER, - B.C.

**READ THIS.**

FOR SALE OR LEASE

ON VERY REASONABLE TERMS, A

**Magnificent Farm**

Of rich black soil, situated on Lulu Island, North Arm  
Fraser River, B. C. being composed of west halves of lots  
12 and 13 and part of 1, Block 4 North, Range 7 West,  
200 acres more or less; over one-half under good cultivation,  
mostly in meadow, the balance having been plowed  
once or twice and yielding abundance of grass for stock;  
has a very large barn, house and orchard of good bearing  
trees, all well fenced with stakes and boards; all well  
dyked and ditched, and about two-thirds well underdrained;  
it is six or seven miles from the city of Vancouver;  
good roads, with stages to and from Vancouver daily; the  
river at the door teems with salmon, and has excellent  
shooting for ducks, geese and snipe; also pheasants in  
the near future; good school and churches near by;  
climate lovely and scenery simply charming. We particularly  
wish to sell out, but failing which, shall leave  
to party with sufficient capital to stock and work the  
place properly.

For further particulars apply to J. H. TODD & SON  
owners, Victoria, B. C. or to Messrs. Rand Bros,  
Vancouver.

**Osmund Skrine & Co.,**

Wholesale Produce and Commission.

CHOICE CALIFORNIA FRUITS.

BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, etc.

Special attention given to Manitoba and  
N.W.T. Consignments.

Correspondence Solicited.

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

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Butter, Eggs, Cheese and Pork Products

FRESH EGGS WANTED.

Sole Agents for Vancouver, New Westminster and  
District for Letch Bros. Celebrated Oak  
Lake Manitoba Flour.

**Palmer House**

J. S. CORRIGAN

Proprietor.

Three-story Brick Building Centrally Located.

Best Rates in the City, \$1 to \$1.50 per day.

Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

Large Sample Rooms.

313 to 321 Cordova Street, Vancouver, B.C.

**Manon**

**House.**

VANCOUVER, B.C.



Only First-class Hotel.

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Charging Moderate Rates



First-class Sample  
Rooms.

**\$2.00 per Day**

AND UP.

**P. F. EMERSON,**

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# THIS SEASON

WE WILL CARRY IN WINNIPEG FULL LINE OF

SEAMLESS  
WHEAT  
JUTE WHEAT  
(TO HOLD TWO BUSHELS.)  
SHORT, POTATO  
FLOUR, Jute and Cotton.  
BRAN,  
OAT, COAL,

# BAGS

WRITE US FOR SAMPLES AND PRICES.

PROMPT SHIPMENT ON RECEIPT OF ORDER.

Hessians, Plain and Striped.

Sewing Twines. -- Branding Inks, Blue, Red and Green.

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Agents for The Canada Jute Co., Ltd., Montreal, Que.

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

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

WINNIPEG, Oct. 5th, 1893.

Messrs. Ogilvie Milling Co.,

GENTLEMEN:—I have great pleasure in giving you my opinion of the two grades of flour, Patent and Bakers, you are now manufacturing. It excels all other flours that I have ever used, and makes more bread per barrel, and gives me splendid satisfaction in my business, and I am very glad to express my opinion after a number of years experience in flour. Yours is certainly the best I have ever used. H. LISTER, Baker.

—IN HANDLING—

**OGILVIE'S FLOUR**

YOU HAVE

**THE BEST**

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

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,

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

**J. & T. BELL**  
FINE  
**BOOTS & SHOES**  
MONTREAL.

Representative for Manitoba, N. W. T. and British Columbia,

L. GODBOLT, WINNIPEG, McIntyre Block.

**GEO. H. RODGERS & CO.**

WHOLESALE JOBBERS

DRY GOODS,  
BOOTS AND SHOES.

"If you want to Lead" see our Fall Samples before placing your orders. It will pay you. Our traveller is now on the road and will be pleased to show you our samples.

Way to get a practical education is by attending Winnipeg Business College and Shorthand Institute for a term. Circulars free. Address C.A. FLEMING & CO., Winnipeg, Man.

**Kirkpatrick & Cookson**

Established 1862.

MONTREAL,

**Commission Merchants,**

Flour, Grain, Butter, &c.

Advances made on Consignments to British or Continental markets

**St. Lawrence Hall**

MONTREAL, - - P.Q.

Every Attention paid to Guests. First-class in every Respect. Appointments Perfect. Graduated Prices.

**THE WHEAT QUESTION.**

Continued from page 6.

experienced by exporters about their shipments being under sample or not up to quality, etc.

Now, while all sorts of scandalous and absurd charges are being made against the grain trade by a few Manitoba papers, particularly the Winnipeg Tribune, no effort has been made by these papers to find out the real cause of the low prices. The Tribune has contained almost daily columns of slanderous charges against the grain men, insinuating that they are robbing and grinding the farmers, and calling for interference to protect the farmers from the grain buyers, yet in all these pages of matter published, we have not seen the first argument to show that the grain buyers are not paying full export values. While columns of abuse have been heaped upon the grain interest, not the faintest attempt has been made to show that full values are not being paid. The fact is, prices in Manitoba opened at comparatively high prices, in comparison with export values. The Tribune no doubt knows this. This is not what the Tribune wants to know. What it delights in is to lead an agitation of some sort, and this is an agitation which will, it fancies, please the farmers.

There is one feature of the grain trade which has been the cause for a good deal of agitation, which The Commercial would like to see removed. We refer to the special privileges to country elevators. These served a good purpose in their day, in assisting to provide Manitoba with a superb elevator system, thereby reducing the cost of handling grain. As the situation exists to-day, these special shipping privileges to elevators are the cause of a great deal of agitation and ill feeling against the grain trade, without any corresponding advantage to the trade. We believe these elevator privileges ought now to be dispensed with, and we do not believe that any of the leading shippers would place any obstacle in the way of their removal.

**Canadian Fruit for England.**

The steamship Mongolian, of the Allan line, which sailed for Liverpool from Montreal last week, took an experimental shipment of perishable Canadian fruit. The shipment is being made by the Horticultural association of Ontario and Quebec, and cold storage transportation is provided free by the federal authorities. There was a large loss of perishable fruit in the Niagara district last fall for the reason that the growers could not find a market for all that they had. If fruit can be landed fresh in England, losses of this kind will be avoided. The Ontario fruit in the shipment under consideration consists of a carload from St. Catharines, Grimsby and Winona, in the Niagara district. It is packed in small cases, each specimen wrapped in tissue and the grower's name and the section stamped on the box. It is made up of pears, peaches, plums, grapes, apples and tomatoes, and was brought to Montreal in one of the special refrigerator cars used for the transportation of butter. The Quebec shipment consists of fifty cases of these choice red cheeked apples, for which the island of Montreal is famous. The consignment will be looked after in Liverpool by J. R. P. Byrne, the agent of the

**Every Mackintosh**

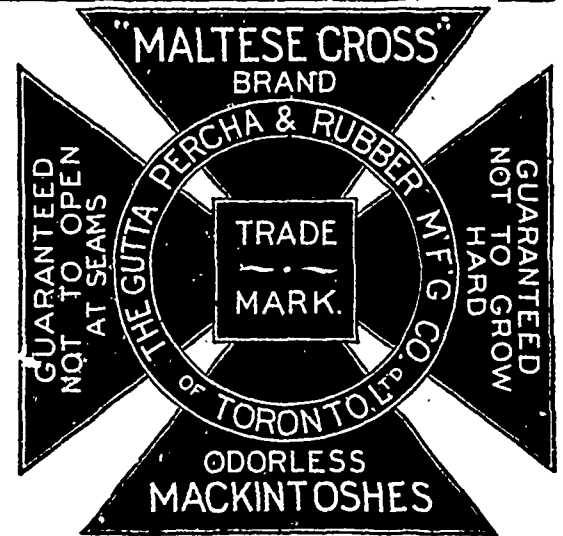
Bearing this Trade Mark is

**Thoroughly Guaranteed.**

These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are THOROUGHLY WATER PROOF and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

For Sale by all the Leading Wholesale Houses.

Try them and you will Buy Again.



Ontario Government at that port, who will see that the lots are promptly forwarded to Covent Garden market.—Montreal Gazette.

**The Iron Boom.**

The following statement shows the course of the iron and steel products that have undergone the most marked change in the United States markets since the beginning of the present year. These prices are weekly quotations in the Pittsburgh market for pig iron and billets by the gross ton and for common iron bars by the 100 pounds:

Date.	De-semer pig iron.	Ressemer billets.	Gray forge pig iron.	3 1/2" x 1/2" bar iron.
January 3 ...	\$9.80	\$14.80	\$9.25	\$0 90
January 10 ...	9.85	14.80	9.15	.90
January 17 ...	9.90	14.90	9.15	.90
January 24 ...	9.85	14.90	9.15	.90
January 31 ...	10.15	15.00	9.15	.90
February 7 ...	10.10	15.00	9.15	.90
February 14 ...	10.00	15.00	9.10	.90
February 21 ...	10.00	15.00	8.95	.90
February 28 ...	9.90	14.80	8.95	.95
March 7 ...	10.15	14.75	9.00	.95
March 14 ...	10.15	14.75	9.00	.95
March 21 ...	10.15	14.90	9.00	.95
March 28 ...	10.35	15.00	9.00	.90
April 4 ...	10.65	15.50	9.25	.95
April 11 ...	10.75	15.20	9.25	.95
April 18 ...	10.65	15.50	9.25	.95
April 25 ...	10.65	15.40	9.35	1.00
May 2 ...	10.75	15.40	9.40	1.00
May 9 ...	10.90	15.50	9.40	1.00
May 16 ...	11.40	16.50	10.15	1.00
May 23 ...	11.50	16.75	10.10	1.00
May 30 ...	11.65	17.50	10.35	1.00
June 6 ...	12.00	18.00	10.15	1.05
June 13 ...	12.40	18.50	10.85	1.10
June 20 ...	12.65	20.00	10.65	1.15
June 27 ...	12.90	20.00	10.65	1.15
July 4 ...	13.50	20.00	11.00	1.20
July 11 ...	14.40	21.00	11.25	1.20
July 18 ...	14.35	21.00	11.50	1.20
July 25 ...	14.35	22.00	11.50	1.20
August 1 ...	14.35	21.50	11.40	1.20
August 8 ...	14.00	21.00	12.00	1.30
August 15 ...	14.00	21.75	12.00	1.30
August 22 ...	14.65	22.00	12.00	1.30
August 29 ...	16.00	23.00	12.50	1.30

Taking into consideration the large advance in values and the great increase in the volume of business, the present revival of the iron trade is probably of greater proportions than any similar movement in the history of the American iron and steel industry. During the boom of 1879-80 the advance in prices far exceeded the upward movement of the past six months, but the production of pig iron during the entire year 1880 was less than the output in the first half of this year.—Bradstreet's.

**Wheat Stocks.**

There were 53,531,000 bushels of wheat reported available in the United States and Canada, both coasts, on September 1, 1895, a smaller quantity than at the like date in 1894 or 1893, but more than was held at a corresponding time in preceding years. The falling away of the quantity in sight as contrasted with one year ago is about 84,827,000 bushels or 40 per cent, while as compared with the total two years ago the decrease is 16,916,000 bushels, or 24 per cent. But on September 1, 1892, the total of domestic and Canadian available stocks of wheat was only 46,464,000 bushels, or 15 per cent. less than at the present time, while on the like date in 1891 the aggregate was nearly 9 per cent. less; in 1890 and in 1889 each it was fully 9 per cent. smaller.

When stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe on September 1 are included the grand total of supplies available for Europe, with those held there, and in the United States and Canada amounts to 119,499,000 bushels or 21 per cent. less than was so held one year ago, 21 per cent. less than two years ago, but 7 per cent. more than was available on September 1, 1892, 38 per cent. more than on September 1, 1891, and relatively greater increases as contrasted with corresponding totals in 1890 and 1889.

European stocks of wheat, in which are included totals afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, which amounted to 65,963,000 bushels on the 1st inst., show an increase of about 728,000 bushels during August this year, and an increase of 2,741,000 bushels as compared with September 1891.

The August movement of the world's wheat stocks shows a gain much below the normal average. In that month wheat stocks in and afloat for Europe, plus those in the United States and Canada, increased only 642,000 bushels, and in 1891 the increase was 9,268,000 bushels; there was a decrease in 1893 of 1,663,000 bushels, but 1892 the increase was 12,483,000 bushels, and in 1891 it was 987,000 bushels, and in 1890 it was 361,000 bushels, and in 1889 4,738,000.—Bradstreet's.

**United States Crop Report.**

The September report of the United States department of agriculture shows a decline in the condition of corn to 93.4 from 102.5 in the month of August. The crops have suffered from drought during August. The general condition of wheat, both winter and spring varieties, when harvested, was 75.4, against 83.7 last year, and 74 in 1893. The condition of oats when harvested was 85, rye 83.5, barley 87.6, potatoes 90.8.



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Of Butter, Eggs, Poultry or any other Products or the Farm solicited, and Carefully Handled.

Try our Fresh Pork and Bologna Sausage.

**Live Hogs Wanted.**

**J. Y. GRIFFIN & CO.,** Pork Packers, Winnipeg.

## BROMLEY & CO

MANUFACTURERS OF

Awnings,  
Mattresses, Etc.



Woven  
Wire Springs, Etc.

Corner Princess and Alexander Streets,

TELEPHONE 68.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

## CENTRAL PRISON BINDER TWINE.

Pure Manilla Binder Twine, made at the Central Prison Factory, Toronto, is now offered to the Trade. This Twine is made in two grades, both of which are pure manilla, and each bale is guaranteed to weigh 50 lbs net of twine, averaging 640 feet to the pound. The cheapest twine on the market, quality considered.

JOHN HALLAM, Sole Agent.

Write for Prices to THE TORONTO HIDE & WOOL CO., WINNIPEG.

A large stock of the finest English SHEEP DIP on hand, for curing scab in sheep, destroying ticks, lice, etc.

**TORONTO HIDE & WOOL CO,** 298 ROSS ST  
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W. E. Sanford Mfg. Co., Ltd.

Manufacturers of

# Clothing.

45 to 49 King St.

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Hamilton and Winnipeg

LEITCH BROS.

# OAK LAKE

"Anchor Brand"

# FLOURS

—FROM—

No. 1 Hard Wheat.

BRAN, SHORTS

AND ALL KINDS OF

Chopped Feed and Grain.

—ADDRESS—

# OAK LAKE

MANITOBA.

## BUCK'S STOVE WORKS.

WILLIAM BUCK,

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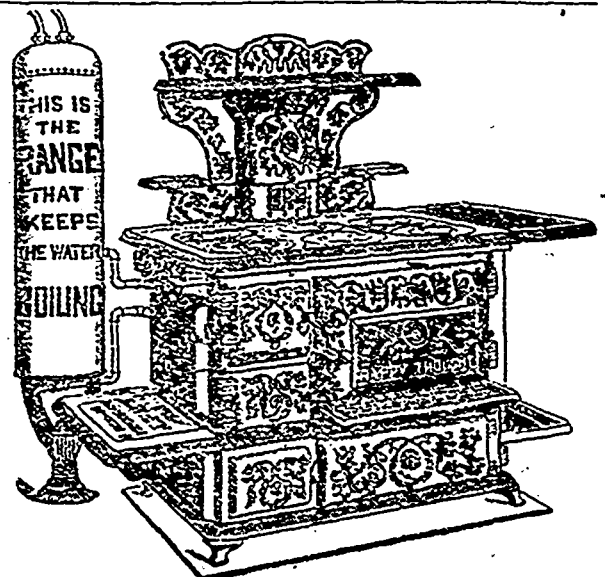
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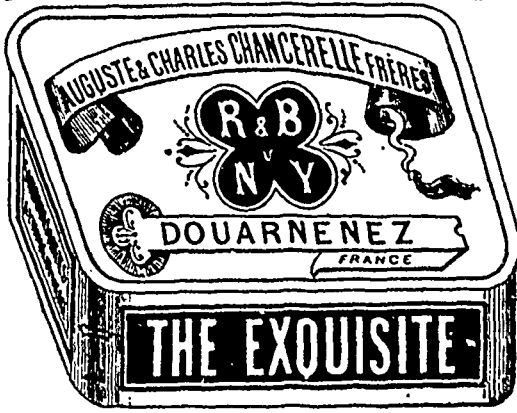
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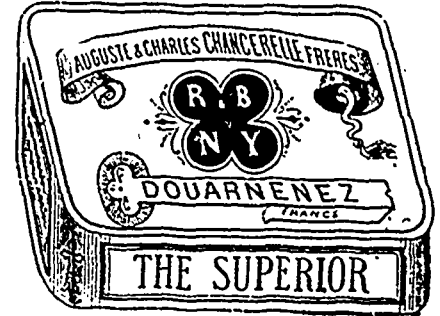


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### THE ROSEBUD CLEARED ALL UP.

He had just finished the addition of fourteen columns of tantalizing figures, and was brain weary, when a friend and customer entered his private room. There was temper plain upon the intruder's face, for he was a man easily irritated, though generous to a fault. There was a misunderstanding, and he came not to clear it up, but to mix it up worse in a loud and useless wrangle. Ere he had finished his first burst of temper in loud words, his friend handed out the box containing "Reliance Rosebuds." The visitor grasped one bit the end off savagely, and wasted three matches ere he got it lighted. This act interrupted for a little his voluble irritation, but his first puffs were nervous and quick in succession. Before he was well seated and prepared for more loud talk, his friend had got in a few calm sentences, and as the misunderstanding was simple, the explanation was short and lucid. Few men have the blunt moral courage to acknowledge their mistake the moment after it is made, but as the smoke curled up from that cigar, the visitor saw clearly and acknowledged his, and a few minutes later left the room with expressions of perfect satisfaction, and avowals of continued friendship. This is but one of a hundred such instances. Cigars made from a coarse rank tobacco only increase the ill-temper of an irritated man, but the "Reliance Rosebud" contains the finest Havana tobacco, and smoking it never fails to soothe the nerves, and calm the temper. Try one when you are bothered and annoyed, and all doubt upon the matter will quickly vanish. This cigar is manufactured only by TASSE, WOOD & Co., REFINANC CIGAR FACTORY, MONTREAL.

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**EDITORIAL NOTES.**

THIS issue of The Commercial begins volume 14.

\* \* \*

THE first annual convention of the International Deep Waterways association will be held at Cleveland, Ohio, on September 21 and following two days. Delegates from states and provinces, territories, cities and towns, boards of trade and other commercial bodies, etc., in the United States and Canada are invited to be present. The gathering will undoubtedly be a very important one, and certainly the subject is one of great interest. Primarily, we understand, the object is to secure the fuller development of the great St. Lawrence route, by an international system of canals, but waterways generally will receive more or less attention. The question of the development of the St. Lawrence route, by the construction of a deep water passage from the head of the great lakes to tide water, is a matter of vast importance to the country west of the lakes, on each side of the boundary. We know of no other question of such far-reaching importance to the producers of the West. The association was organized at a convention held in Toronto about a year ago, and the executive have since brought the matter before the governments of Canada and the United States, with the result that a joint commission has been provided for, composed of three persons appointed by each government, to meet and confer together upon the whole subject of the practicability of making a navigable channel throughout the St. Lawrence system for ocean vessels, to consider what international regulations are necessary to carry out the same, and consider all other points bearing on the question. What further progress may be made at the Cleveland meeting will be interesting to note.

**Grain and Milling Matters.**

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co. began buying wheat at a number of country points last week, and they opened the market at 45 cents per bushel for No. 1 hard, to farmers, at points having an 18 cent freight rate to Fort William. This is a comparatively high price, being really above an export basis, as can readily be seen by reference to our market quotations in this issue. These prices are about 5 cents higher than was paid a year ago in Manitoba country markets, though prices in the world's markets are not materially higher than a year ago.

A Minneapolis grain firm, writing about oats, says: "The crop is so large in the United States that it has scared almost every bull out of the market."

It is reported from Duluth that very little of the new crop is grading No. 1 hard. Last year 70 per cent. graded No. 1 hard, but this year the bulk of the crop is grading No. 1 northern. Of 2,154 cars of wheat received at Duluth in four days recently, 1,461 graded No. 1 northern, and only 283 graded No. 1 hard, and 276 went No. 2 northern. Various parties have been predicting that the Manitoba crop would grade mostly No. 1 northern this year, on account of the wet season, there being a theory that a wet growing season has a tendency to produce softer wheat than a dry warm season. If Duluth receipts are any

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.....8th September, 1895.

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.....Manager.....Creamery.

Please read my advertisement in Commercial of Sept. 9th.

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criterion we will not have much No. 1 hard in Manitoba this year, though it is only guess-work to attempt to predict the grades before a sufficient quantity of the new wheat has been received upon which to base a reasonable opinion. It is not at all likely, however, that the Manitoba crop will grade nearly as high as it did last year, as there has been some damage by frost as well as an uneven sample in some cases from grain being down. On account of the heavy crop and cool weather, some farmers started cutting a little too green. Lately there has been considerable wet weather. All these things will have a tendency to reduce the sample.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin speaks of the arrival there of a batch of samples of new Manitoba wheat, previous to September 5, the date of the publication of the paper. The Bulletin says of these samples: "The majority were in very poor condition, being quite wet from rain, while some were partially frosted. From what we can gather, however, there will be more damage from wet than from frost." There is something very peculiar about these samples. The Manitoba crop had suffered no damage whatever from wet up to the date referred to, and the samples must have either been soft from being on the green side or got wet accidentally. General rain was experienced here on the night of September 5, or following day, according to district, but there was no damage from rain previous to that date and we do not think the rain of September 5 and 6 did much harm.

At a recent meeting of the board of trade of Virden, Man., a discussion took place as to the best method to adopt for the local market, and it was decided that the board would take steps to help the farmers out if it was found that buyers were buying below the export price of grain. In case the buyers do this, says the local paper, the board of trade will form a company to handle grain for the farmers, and ship through the bank.

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**STAMPS BOUGHT.**

\$150.00 paid for a certain Stamp. Old correspondence of thirty or more years ago. Canada Provinces, United States, &c., and Revenues, Collections, and Canada now used bought.

**WM R. ADAMS, 7 Ann Street, Toronto, Ont.**

T. H. Metcalfe has gone into the grain buying business at Portage la Prairie.

W. H. Sowden is building a new elevator at Souris, Man., of a capacity of 35,000 bushels.

### Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

**Flour.**—The market is dull and prices are irregular, sales of straight roller flour having sold in this market at a wider range, all the way from \$3.25 to \$3.50 on track here, and a dealer who was asked for an explanation of such a wide range replied that the lower price was on new wheat flour and the higher for old wheat flour, the old commanding a big premium over the new. This flour is delivered in smaller lots at \$3.85 to \$3.65. There is also a wide range of prices in Manitoba strong bakers' flour, best brands being quoted at \$1, while very good grades have sold at \$3.65 to \$3.75, and it is said that \$1 has been shaded for round lots of best brands. A better inquiry has been experienced for spring wheat flour for export and about 10,000 sacks have been placed for the United Kingdom.

**Oatmeal.**—In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$1.90 to \$1.95, and standard at \$1.75 to \$1.85. Pot barley \$1.25 in bbls. and \$2 in bags, and split peas \$3.50.

**Bran, etc.**—The market for bran is lower with sales at \$15.50 to \$16, sales having been made at both figures. Shorts are steady at \$17.50 to \$19.00. Moullie sells slowly at \$20 to \$22.50 as to grade.

**Oats.**—There is a fair inquiry for old oats, with sales reported in car lots at 8½¢; but new are offered to arrive at 32¢.

**Barley.**—A number of samples of new barley have been received from Ontario during the past week, most of which were badly stained. Food barley will therefore no doubt be plentiful and malting grades scarce. Feed is quoted at 47 to 48¢ and malting at 55 to 60¢.

**Butter.**—Shippers are willing to pay 17½¢ for late made creamery delivered here but factorymen want 18¢ at the factory. It is reported that one or two purchases have been made this week for export, but the price did not transpire. The last sales reported to us were made at 17½ to 17¾¢ here. Eastern Townships dairy have been placed here at 15½ to 16¢ and western dairy is quoted at 18 to 14¢, the latter for good selections.

**Cheese.**—The cheese market has passed through another unsatisfactory week, although during the past few days there have been quite a number of cheese bought at the low price ruling, several thousand boxes having changed hands at 6½¢ to 7½¢, the latter figure representing very good Quebec cheese and the former underpriced Eastern Townships. At the boat 7½¢ was bid, but holders refused to accept that figure, and put them into cold storage. What with the shrinkage in the milk and the closing of quite a number of factories owing to unremunerative prices it looks as though the fall make would be short. Prices have dropped ½¢ on the week.

**Eggs.**—A lot sold at 11¢ and 80 cases at 10½¢; but we question if the latter figure would be accepted to-day. Single cases of choice candled stock would bring ½ to 1¢ more.

**Wool.**—The wool market continues active at firm prices, quite a few small lots of greasy cape changed at 14 to 15½¢; Canadian fleeco continues to be bought for United States account at 23½¢. Prices here remain firm as follows: Greasy Cape 18½ to 15½¢; Natal 15 to 16½¢; Canadian fleeco 20 to 23¢; Buenos Ayressoured 26 to 32¢. In Canada pulled wool 20 to 21½¢ is quoted for supers, extra 23 to 26¢; Northwest wool 12 to 15¢; British Columbia 9 to 11¢.

**Hides.**—Lambskins have advanced 10 to 45¢ each. We quote prices here as follows: Light hides 8½¢ for No. 1, 7½¢ for No. 2, and 6½¢ for No. 3; to tanners 9½ to 10¢ for No. 1; heavy hides 8½ to 9½¢; calfskins 8¢; lambskins 45¢.—Trade Bulletin, September 6.

### Flax Culture.

J. A. Donaldson, of Toronto, makes the following reference to flax in a private letter to The Commercial: I have been looking for an item occasionally in The Commercial on flax culture, a branch of Canadian industry I look upon as most important, now that wheat is so low in price, while flax seed is much higher in price, say nothing of the value of the fibre, which is quite equal in value to the seed with us in Ontario.

I feel a pride in having been instrumental in bringing this valuable branch of industry under the notice of the agriculturalists of the Dominion as far back as 1864, and while the Mennonites were passing through my hands as emigration agent, I advised them to take some flax seed with them and you will now be aware of the great progress they have made in this direction. Mr Livingston of the county of Waterloo who carries on the most extensive flax works on the continent, informed me a short time ago he had from the Mennonites 160,000 bushels of seed the year before last, and last year over 100,000 bushels.

Early this spring in company with John Lowe, Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, he visited these works and he was so taken with what he saw he ordered his manager on his farm near your city to put in 160 acres and would have extended the order to 300 acres but the seed was not to be had. This I believe has turned out to be an abundant crop as well as all other crops you are blessed with this season.

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