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Capital all Paid-up - \$12,000,000
 Reserve Fund, - 6,000,000
 Undivided Profits - 886,910

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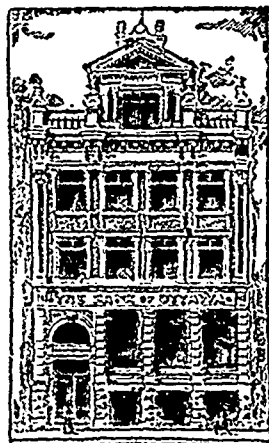
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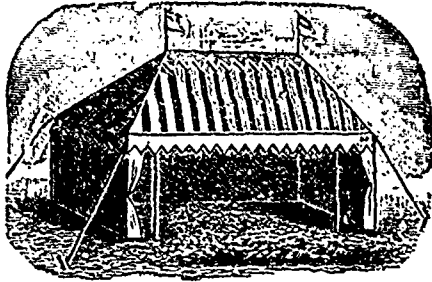
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THE COMMERCIAL

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

Sixteenth Year of Publication
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Office: 151 McDermot Street.

D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 19, 1898.

AN INTERIOR ROUTE.

A deputation representing the Winnipeg board of trade and the Winnipeg city council is now in the east upon very important business. The object is to urge upon the government the necessity of opening the interior route to the northern gold fields and also to seek the assistance of the eastern boards of trade in furthering this object. Without discussing at the present time the decision of the government to open the Stikine route, the necessity for the opening of an interior route will not in the least be lessened by the construction of the Stikine-Teslin railway. The opening of the Stikine route may be necessary as an emergency case. The opening of an interior route is necessary as a permanent and lasting investment in the interest of all Canada.

The Stikine route will provide means of ingress, and what is perhaps of more importance, of egress to the great crowd of inexperienced persons who are endeavoring to reach the famous Klondike. What will become of many of these people it is indeed hard to say, but the best possible will have to be done for them when they find themselves stranded in the far north. The opening of an interior route from some point on the north Saskatchewan, would provide, as we have said, a permanent highway, to the great north country, and also a permanent route which would be the

first great desideratum in the development of northwestern Canada.

The great point in connection with a route via the North Saskatchewan is, that it would open up a vast territory well adapted to settlement, wide at the same time it would afford a means of speedy communication with the far north entirely within Canadian territory. It is of paramount importance that those going to the northern gold fields should pass through Canadian territory all the way. Thousands and thousands of those who go north will not remain as miners. Thousands of them will never attempt anything as miners. If they were going in and coming out by an interior route, no doubt many of them would locate permanently in the northern portions of the country which offer good inducement for permanent settlement. A railway through the great agricultural region north of the Saskatchewan would mean the early location of thousands of permanent settlers in that region. A great many who would start for the Klondike via such a route, would probably never get that far. They would become permanent settlers at some point further south. There is not only a vast area of country north of the Saskatchewan well adapted to agriculture and stock-raising, but it is also well known that gold exists over a wide area of territory this side of the Klondike. Gold washing can be made to pay in almost every stream from the Saskatchewan northward. As to the value of the country for hundreds of miles beyond the Saskatchewan for agricultural purposes, it is hardly necessary to speak in detail. For the past fifteen years or more, the Peace river region has been considered quite equal to any part of the prairie country from the Red river westward. Official reports claimed that the region north of the Saskatchewan was equal to the best, and it has been the belief of those who were familiar with the country, that when the north country was developed, Canada would have a great agricultural province in the Peace river region.

We have now the opportunity to turn a tide of settlement into that region. The fabulous discoveries of gold in the far northern regions of Canada have moved the civilized world. Half a million people will, it is believed, attempt to get into the north country this year. This is Canada's opportunity to secure within a few years such a settlement and development of our unoccupied northern agricultural districts as would not come in a lifetime under ordinary circumstances. Shall we rise equal to the occasion? Shall we let this great opportunity slip by? The immediate opening of an

interior route to the far north would give such an impetus to the development and settlement of western and northwestern Canada as we have never yet even dared to hope for. Not only would it open the north country for settlement, but it would provide a market for the produce of our farmers, in the far northern gold regions, now being largely supplied from the Pacific coast states, thus proving a great benefit to our present population.

Gold or no gold in the Klondike, the opening of the country north of the Saskatchewan would be necessary at some future time. The great discoveries in the far north have, however, created a situation which should be taken advantage of. The cost would not be great in comparison with the results to be attained. The case is as urgent as the opening of the Stikine route. All eyes are turned this way. To miss the opportunity now, may retard our development a decade or more in comparison with what might be secured.

The Commercial has taken special pains to secure information regarding the routes to the far north via the North Saskatchewan. A representative of this journal visited Edmonton, Prince Albert, Fort Saskatchewan, St. Albert, and other Saskatchewan points, with the object of interviewing traders, trappers, missionaries and others familiar with the north country. The information gathered, which was published in our issues of October 18 and February 5, was sufficient to show the great desirability of opening a route via the North Saskatchewan. The information published in these two numbers is perhaps the most complete yet given in regard to the routes via North Saskatchewan points.

THE PATRONS.

When the order of Patrons of Industry was first introduced into Manitoba and began to make its presence felt, there was considerable alarm among country merchants at points where the Patrons were strong. The Patrons declared their intention of purchasing their supplies "from headquarters" thus doing away with the "middle men" as they termed the country traders. The Commercial received many letters from country merchants about the Patrons, and in some of these letters The Commercial was upbraided for not pitching into the Patrons an undertaking single-handed their extermination. One merchant claimed that their trade was being destroyed by the Patrons, and yet The Commercial, which should defend them, had not even denounced the order. To such letters a private reply was usually sent to the effect

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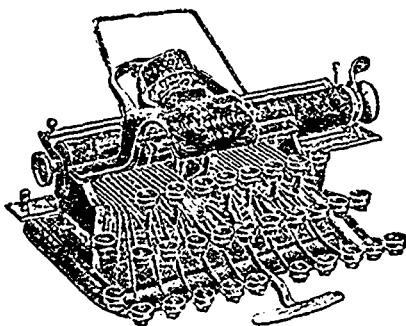
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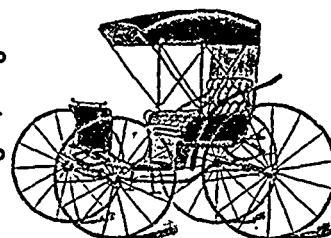
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that an agitation against the order would not do any good, and would probably only simulate the movement. Let them alone, we said, and matters will come out all right in a short time. Now the Patrons are no more. Several of the leaders in the order, who used the institution as all such institutions are largely used to further their own ends, have found more profitable employment in other ways. A new association has been formed on the ruins of the deceased one but of this the future will decide. The platform of the new order would indicate that it is to be a political organization chiefly. Their platform as laid down at the organization of the association, is in the abstract good. The Commercial could heartily endorse, with a few exceptions, the planks in the platform of the new association, which takes the somewhat peculiar name of the Industrial Independent Association. Independence, honest franchise, economy in the public services, land for the settler, no spoils for politicians, railway commission, direct taxation—all excellent in principle to be sure. If the association can bring about the adoption of one or two of these principles, it will not have lived in vain. We fear for results, however. Some of the very men who helped to frame these resolutions, will stick like leeches to their party when the next election comes around, perhaps in opposition to some of the chief planks in their platform. Some of them may even be party candidates. Not at all unlikely this.

MANITOBA EXPORTS.

Trade reports from Ottawa recently contained figures of exports of products from Manitoba. As previously pointed out in The Commercial, however, these figures are worse than useless, because they are misleading. The report says:

"Manitoba's exports for 1897 are shown by the trade and navigation tables to have been \$1,965,000. The main items of Manitoba's exports of produce were, in 1897, as follows: Agricultural products, \$749,000; animals and their products, \$924,441; fisheries, \$200,000; manufacturers, \$47,600."

The Commercial once more protests against the publication of such false and misleading statements. Manitoba's exports were of course, vastly greater than the figures here given. Exports of wheat alone would reach nearly five times the amount of the total exports credited to the province. The discrepancy lies in the fact that exports from Manitoba are largely entered at Montreal or other eastern ports and are credited to those ports. Only exports made direct from Manitoba, which amount to a small part of the total, are credited

to the province. It seems absurd for the government statisticians to continue this custom of showing exports by provinces when such figures are altogether misleading. Statistics of exports can only be given in the aggregate for the Dominion as a whole, and they should be so stated. As Manitoba is an inland province, her share of the export trade of the country will always be ridiculously underestimated, with the statistics compiled in this way. The exports from Canada as a whole are no doubt about correct, and the figures should stop at that. When an attempt is made to show exports by provinces the result is simply nonsense. Why these false statements are published year after year, is one of the things which it would seem difficult to justify on any grounds whatever.

THE MANITOBA NORTH-WESTERN.

The recent sale in London of the first mortgage bonds of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway has aroused much interest throughout the country. These bonds, it may be stated, cover the first 180 miles of the road, and the sale of these bonds means that this portion of the road has passed into new hands. The remaining 60 miles of the road is represented by the Allans, of Montreal, for the stockholders. For some years litigation has been going on between the bondholders, on the one hand, who claimed the road in default of the payment of the mortgages and the shareholders on the other hand, the latter represented, as stated, by the Allans. Meantime the road has been in the hands of a receiver. Last year the road cleared \$28,000, it is said, and a much larger surplus is expected this year.

The interest in the situation now lies in the query as to who are the purchasers of the first 180 miles of the road. So far this information has been entirely withheld. It would also be interesting to know what position the new owners will be in with regard to the owners of the westerly 60 miles of the road.

Many theories have been circulated as to who are the purchasers of the road. The Canadian Pacific Railway, the Grand Trunk, the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern are all mentioned as the possible purchasers, on various ingenious theories, one rumor being to the effect that the road will be extended to the Klondike by one of the United States roads mentioned. Of course it would hardly be possible to keep the Klondike out of anything earthly these days. A good deal of credence is placed on the rumor that the Grand Trunk is at the bottom of the purchase, with the object of extending the road to the Pacific coast,

via the Yellow Head Pass—the original route selected for the Canadian Pacific railway. It is also alleged that the Grand Trunk has arranged with Premier Greenway, of Manitoba, to control the proposed new road from Winnipeg to Lake Superior. All these theories must be taken with a liberal allowance of salt.

One point, however, seems reasonable, and that is, that the purchasers, whoever they are, have an understanding with the Allans about the remaining portion of the road, as without such an understanding the road would seem to be anything but a desirable purchase.

The price offered for the bonds of the first 180 miles is a liberal one, being 86 per cent net, and the sellers retain an interest in 191,000 acres of land, valued at equal to 10 per cent more, or 96 per cent in all. The fact that the bonds were quoted at 43 in the market before the offer of purchase was made, shows that a big price has been paid.

Whoever the purchasers are, it is to be hoped it will result in the early extension of the road as far as Prince Albert at least. It would open up a fine agricultural and stockraising country all the way, and thus prove a powerful factor in the development of Western Canada.

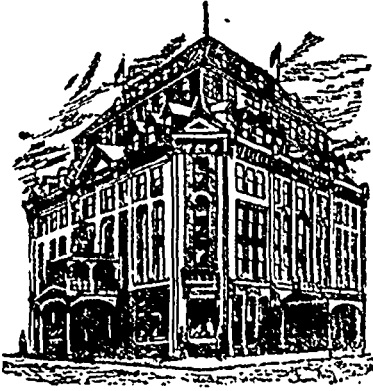
MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS.

A petition has been received by the municipal commissioner, signed by ratepayers of the municipality of Ashniboia, a rural district adjoining Winnipeg, asking for a special audit of the accounts of the municipality. The Commercial has no special information as to the affairs of this particular municipality, but speaking from a general point of view we believe the ratepayers are adopting a wise course in asking for a special audit. The auditing of municipal accounts is a matter which should be looked after by the government to a greater extent than is now done. This work, as now done, is little better than a farce in many rural districts. There should, we believe, be some provincial compulsory system for auditing municipal accounts, under the direction of competent persons.

Rumian's and Butler's departmental store, at London, Ontario, the largest in Western Ontario, has passed into the hands of a receiver.

Some of the eastern papers are reproducing the cuts used in The Commercial, along with the articles published in connection therewith. As a number of these subjects for illustration have been selected with a view to assisting the settlement and development of the west, their reproduction in the large eastern dailies should be of much service to the west.

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Guaranteed Gloves at 9.00,
9.50 and 11.50 in lace, 4
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Steel Storage Tanks and Elevator

The immense steel storage tanks and elevator being built at Fort William for the Canadian Pacific Railway company by the Steel Storage and Elevator Construction company, of Connersville, Ind., are the first of the kind erected in Canada. The idea of using steel is not new, that material having been used in the United States for the erection of some of the largest blocks in some cities and in its adaptation as in the present instance, to the storage of grain, a company has been formed and has erected a large number of tank elevators in the United States working under patent rights covering the idea.

The plant being erected for the C. P. R. is situated about one and a quarter miles west of the station in the Fort William yards, a considerable distance from any of the elevators now there. The site is right beside the Kaministiquia river and on a gradual slope of ground. Work commenced last fall and it will require from seven to nine months to complete the whole plant, though some of the tanks are already finished and when the "handling house," or elevator proper is finished and the elevating machinery put in, grain could be stored, if necessary, in those tanks that are finished. However, the whole plant will be complete long before the wheat crop of 1898 is ready to be moved.

The scene of operations presented a busy appearance when I visited it. Over 200 men are employed on the works and as all the material being handled is steel, and much of it in great sheets, the noise of the many clanging hammers was almost deafening at times though the riveting of the great plates of steel which form the tanks, made rather a musical echo as the hammers struck the sides of the vast empty, echoing cylinders.

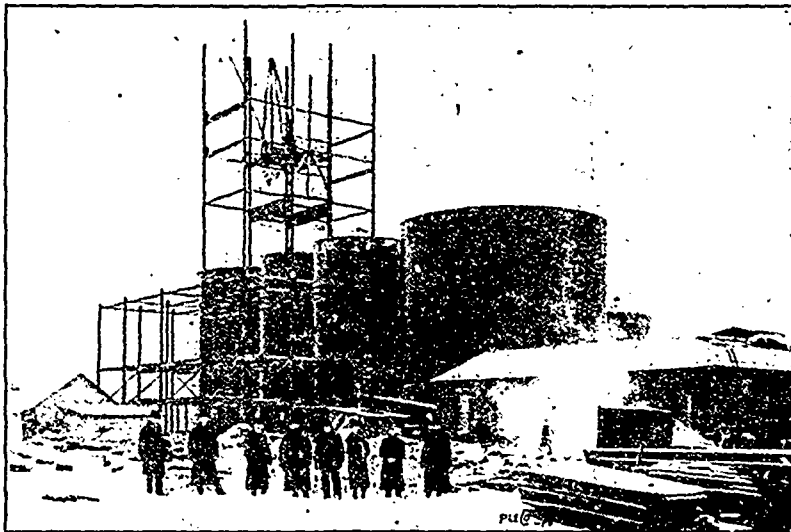
The first operation was the making of foundations for the tanks, steel girders filled in between with cement being used. On these the steel floors of the tanks were laid. There are to be twenty-four tanks in all set in four rows. The two outside rows are large tanks, eight in number, 57 feet, 9 in. in diameter, 60 feet high, capacity, 125,900 bushels each. The two inner rows, 16 tanks in all, are 28 feet, 9 inches in diameter, 60 feet high, capacity 31,240 bushels each, making the total capacity of the twenty-four tanks 1,500,000 bushels. The machinery of the elevator and the power are being put in of sufficient capacity to be adapted to the enlargement of the plant to 3,000,000 bushels capacity, the only requirement being to increase the number of storage tanks.

The structure of the tank is very simple, they are built entirely of steel plates, floor walls and roof, and entirely hollow, no framework or support being necessary to hold the walls, which are built fast together round after round until the height of 60 feet is reached. These plates are of graduated thickness, the heavier being used at the bottom and lighter as the height rises. The roof is cone shaped with a rise of six feet at the apex. It consists of steel plates riveted together and the steel rafters and tie beams by an ingenious appliance are each fastened to rings, the two rings being connected by short upright steel girders, acting as posts. This forms a truss which makes the roof self-supporting.

In constructing the tanks, a very large quantity of lumber is used for staking inside and this staking is continued up as each course of plates is riveted on, until the whole interior is filled with scantling and plank which is removed when the roof is finished. For working on the outside of the tanks, a car is slung on rollers such as heavy doors are hung by, and the rollers run on the top edge of the tank wall. A small opening is left in the roof of the tank and through this the wheat is run for storing. Two tunnels run the entire length of the rows of tanks, under the foundation and openings are made into these from the tanks so that the wheat may be taken back to the "Handling House," when being shipped.

The "Handling House," as it is called, is that part of the plant which corresponds to the elevating department of an ordinary grain elevator. It is an immense building, 140 feet high, the whole of which, like the storage tanks, is built of steel. An extremely heavy foundation of stone was first built and then the framework of massive steel girders, beams and braces was erected length by

The original feature of the machinery is the method of transferring the grain from the elevators in the Handling house to the storage tanks. Two steel galleries run the entire length of the rows of tanks above and supported by the tank roofs. In each of these are two 36-inch belt conveyers running in horizontal position, on which the wheat is carried, and each has a carrying capacity of 10,000 bushels, the same as the elevators, so that each elevator is served to its full capacity, and as there are four belts in all, each row of tanks may be receiving wheat at the same time. To divert the grain to any particular tank, two rollers are inserted, one above and one below the belt, doubling it back, and as the belt travels the grain is projected into a hood or hopper fixed in position in front of the "kink" in the belt and a spout directs it into the tank. Similar belts are run in the tunnels below the foundation of the tanks and the grain, through trays at the bottom, is projected on to them and carried back to the elevator when required to be shipped. It is re-elevated and to transfer it to boats at the wharf is



NEW STEEL STORAGE TANKS AND ELEVATOR AT FORT WILLIAM

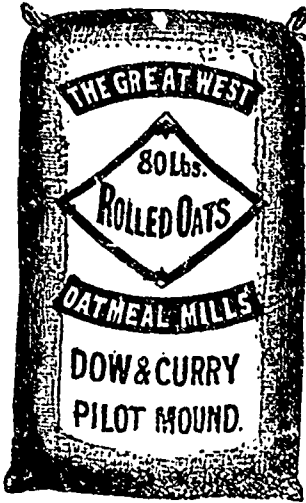
length upon that. The sheathing of this building is also of steel, the seventeen floors are also of steel plates one-quarter inch thick, and the stair ways, doors, etc., are all steel. One part of the framework was up at the time the accompanying illustration was obtained and the view of the end of the four rows of tanks will be concealed when the "handling house" is completed and closed in.

The building is, as mentioned before, 140 feet high, and 42 feet wide by 102 feet in length. It contains four receiving elevators of 10,000 bushels capacity each, and two shipping elevators of the same capacity, so that four cars may be unloaded and two loaded at the same time. The elevator shafts are 140 feet centers, the lower extremity of the "leg" being sunk several feet in a great shoe of steel in an excavation which is also built up with masonry. The grain when received is carried to the top of the "handling house," where a separate cleaner, hopper and scale for each of the four receiving elevators is situated, the grain passing down through the cleaner into the hopper and to the weighing apparatus.

again run on the upper belt conveyers in the galleries, which are extended past the tanks to great hoppers, at the end of each gallery, of 6,000 bushels capacity, and from there it is spouted direct to the holds of waiting vessels.

The power house is a stone building, built, like the foundation of the Handling House, of native stone. The power is developed from a 400 horse power condensing engine, with a boiler of 500 horse-power capacity. The gray and red stone of which the power house is built are worked in with very good effect. The building is 75x30 feet in dimensions, and is the work of resident stonemasons.

The work of putting up the tanks is sub-let to the Warren City Boiler Works Co., of Warren, Ohio, and the structural iron work, to the Indiana Bridge Co., of Muncie, Ind. W. Mitchell is in charge of the works for the latter, and A. R. Hughes for the former. Each has an office at the works and between them they have erected quite a large temporary machine shop, where rivet holes are punched in the great plates and other work necessary to fitting the parts together.



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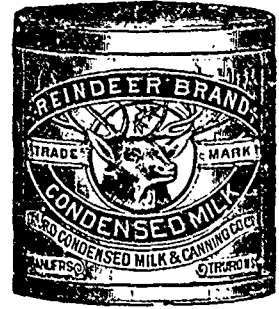
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Highest prices paid. Parties consigning to me will be liberally dealt with and returns will be made promptly.

er. Machinery for these purposes was brought with the material. An illustration of the magnitude of the plant can be given in the weight of the steel used, which is over 4,500,000 pounds. The steamer Sequin brought three straight cargoes of steel. The engine and boilers were furnished by Canadian firms.

Mr. W. E. Will, of Buffalo, N. Y., secretary of the Steel Storage and Elevator Co., is personally superintending the work of construction of this enormous plant. Speaking of the advantages of the system of handling and storing grain, Mr. Will said, the principal points were in brief, saving of insurance, preservation of the condition of the grain unchanged, as the storage was practically airtight, and the absence of loss from vermin. Of these the most important was the fire proof character of the plant. He defied any one to cause damage by lighting a fire in any part of the elevator or against the tanks. The saving in insurance is not only on the grain, but the building itself a not inconsiderable item. Whether banks advancing money on storage receipts will accept wheat entirely uninsured is a question not yet tested.

The advantage to the C. P. R. Co., in locating this great plant on the banks of the "Kam," is seen in the trifling cost of constructing the wharfage necessary for it, the piling being all in now, and the whole cost of the wharf being but a small fraction of what a wharf or dock on the lake would cost, besides the added safety and convenience to vessels in the river.

Considerable interest is being taken in this new departure in western trade, and as a steel plant of any size can be erected, several parties in the Canadian west have been making inquiries regarding the system, so the result may be the erection of one or more in the province of Manitoba next season. The illustration given herewith was secured expressly for The Commercial by a representative of this journal who recently visited Fort William.

Winnipeg Grain Exchange

The annual report of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange has been issued in pamphlet form. It contains the president's address at the recent annual meeting, the report of the council for last year, rules relating to sales for future delivery and definition of trade terms, rules governing the grading of grain, and statistical information relating to grain and milling matters in the west. Wheat exports from the crop of 1897, including flour reduced to its equivalent of wheat are placed at 18,500,000 bushels. Inspection returns for six months show that 64 per cent. of the crop graded No. 1 hard or better, the higher grade being extra hard, which shows that the crop is a good one as to quality. The grain storage capacity of our western wheat district, including lake ports and milling points, is placed at 18,378,500 bushels, being an increase of about 3,375,000 bushels as compared with the previous year. A detailed list of elevators, grain warehouses and flour and oatmeal mills is given.

Winnipeg Customs Returns.

The value of goods exported and imported during the month of January as shown by the returns of the Winnipeg customs house, was as follows:

	1897.	1898.
Exported ...	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 1,538,496.00
Entered for consumption dutiable ...	128,851.00	108,505.00
Entered for consumption free ...	61,100.00	98,453.00
Total ...	\$189,957.00	\$ 206,958.00
Duty coll.	\$ 42,943.33	\$ 52,843.81

It will be noted that the exports exceed one and a half million dollars, while a year ago there were only \$91,000. The exports were principally wheat.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Feb. 14.

The wholesale market is improving from week to week all along the line and money seems plentiful. Vancouver has all the outfitting she can attend to and some of the hotels have standing room only, while all are doing a rushing business. Houses and lots are held at a big advance in price over advertised prices six months ago, and numerous real estate transfers are taking place every week.

The shipping owing to the Klondike rush has of course doubled and tripled. The following is a list of steamers sailing for the frozen north up to March 31st: Packshian, of the Wellington and Alaska Steamship Co., Feb. 14; the Islander, Canadian Pacific Co., Feb. 16; the Cleveland, Wellington and Alaska Steamship Co., Feb. 20; the Danube, Feb. 23, C. P. N. Co., City of Seattle, Wellington and Alaska Co., Feb. 23; Coquitlam, Feb. 25; Packshian, Feb. 27; Islander, March 2; Centennial, March 3; Coquitlam, March 5; Seattle, March 8; Cleveland, March 8; Danube, March 9; Packshian, March 11; Caplano, March 16; Centennial, March 17; Seattle, March 20; Coquitlam, March 20; Cleveland, March 22; Danube, March 23; Packshian, March 23; Islander, March 30; Centennial, March 31; Caplano, April 1. Besides these the Thistle, Tees and Louise leaving Evans, Coleman & Evans' wharf are not scheduled.

With the two C. P. R. steamers which arrive shortly, there will be thirty-two steamers leaving here in two months for the Yukon, in forty-five days, or about five a week, and still they cannot handle the traffic, and Dan Mann is unable to get supplies and men through. The space on all steamers is ordered weeks in advance, and it will probably be necessary to make arrangements to have men and supplies go from Seattle as such a thing as chartering a steamer is out of the question, and it would take ten or twelve Yukon steamers to transfer Mann's entire outfit.

There are no changes in the market this week. Although prices remain the same, flour and feed will no doubt advance next week, as the supply is scarcely equal to the demand, and compressed horse feed is added to the list, and is specially put up for the Klondike trade. Hams and bacon remain firm. Potatoes are on the eve of an advance.

Assiniboia.

The Lumsden Farmers' Elevator Co., Lumsden, has been incorporated. The stock of McNeice & Burrows, general store, Lumsden, is advertised for sale.

D. Brown, late foreman of the Edgeley farm, has succeeded R. Johnston, butcher of Qu'Appelle.

There is a possibility that a wealthy eastern company may be found to take over the Souris coal mines and operate them on a larger scale than has been done heretofore. While nothing definite has resulted so far, negotiations to this end have been progressing for some time.

Alberta.

J. J. Melon has opened an hotel at St. Albert.

Morris & Taylor, hardware merchants, Lacombe, intend opening a branch store at Urquhart, with M. J. Taylor in charge.

R. J. Thompson has leased the Dickson block at Innisfall and will open business as grain buyer for Brackman & Ker, of Edmonton.

Northwest Ontario.

It is rumored that a large pulp mill will be established at Keewatin. The raw material is there in abundance, and one of the finest water powers on the continent is also there, so that the rumor is not at all an unlikely one.

The Prune Market.

Referring to the stronger feeling in the prune market, a New York commission man says that he would not be surprised if an advance of 10 per cent would be established soon. The Santa Clara fruit left on the coast, he said, was all controlled by one party and other kinds were closely controlled according to information he had received by telegraph.

Telegrams received from principals in California instructed a New York commission house which is credited with being one of the chief holders of prunes, to advance prices, as no more goods were to be had on the coast at less than 3c f.o.b. for Santa Clara fruit and the stock of Northern and southern prunes was closely controlled by speculators.

Stocker Cattle.

Mr. Robt. Kerr, traffic manager of the C. P. R., has written President Marsh, of the Western Stock Growers' association, pointing out that a large number of stocker cattle are being bought up in Manitoba for shipment to the United States. Mr. Kerr urges our western ranchers to take a hand in the purchase of these cattle; he offers practically nominal rates on any of these stockers that may be purchased for shipment to the Alberta ranges. He further offers to give free transportation to parties who ship not less than two carloads, to cover fare both ways. This should be a great inducement to our western ranchers to buy up Manitoba stocker cattle. It would certainly be better to have these cattle go to our own range country for finishing than have them shipped away to the United States.

The Lang Tanning company of Berlin, Ontario, will shortly begin the erection of a tannery which will be the largest in Canada. Three hundred hands will be employed.

The dry goods firm of Boisseau Freres, Montreal, has suspended payment. Liabilities \$110,000, which amount, it is claimed by the firm, is more than covered by the assets.

THE SUN LIFE The Confederation Life Association

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POSITION OF COMPANY
31ST DECEMBER, 1896

ASSETS	\$6,868,144 06
INCOME FOR 1896	1,886,258 00
LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE	38,196,890 92

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C. E. KERR, Cashier

D. McDONALD, Inspector

Experimental Agriculture.

The department of agriculture has issued a bulletin showing results obtained last year from trial plots of various crops, at the Dominion experimental farms. The bulletin shows the varieties of wheat and other crops, which have given the largest yield for a series of years, at the different farms throughout Canada, also date of ripening of different varieties, etc., with other information which should prove of special value to farmers, particularly at this season of the year, when they will soon be making their selections of seed for the next crop.

Binder Twine.

Farm Implements, a paper published in Minneapolis, points out how the United States manufacturers will be able to crush the Canadian twine industry, now that twine has been placed on the free list by Canada. It says: The advantage is altogether with the United States manufacturer, as the Canadian season comes later than ours and an opportunity is thus given to export into the Canadian market such surplus as may exist in the United States after our own harvest is over.

The Lumber Trade.

One of the matters discussed at the recent lumbermen's convention in Winnipeg was the question of lions. A more effective lien law is desired by the lumbermen. No action was taken however, in the matter.

Mr. Davis obtained the following information, in reply to a question in parliament at Ottawa, on Monday: The Moore and McDowall company held under license timber berths north of the north branch of the Saskatchewan river to the extent of 265 square miles. They had assigned to George Burn, general manager of the Bank of Ottawa, who had paid all the ground rents due up to December 31, 1898, and all royalty up to June 30, 1896. The company had not a mill in operation, as required by regulations, but negotiations were nearly completed for the purchase of a saw mill formerly operated by the company at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan territory.

A new copper wire will be strung by the Canadian Pacific railway between Montreal and Vancouver. A new cable will also be laid between Vancouver and Victoria.

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are not essence or extracts, but are good MEAT and VEGETABLES READY COOKED, packed in smallest possible bulk for easy transportation. They are all well

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or for prospectors', explorers' and surveyors' food supplies, and are

CHEAPER THAN FOOD BOUGHT AND COOKED

by the consumer. Ready cooked dinner, preserved and dried potatoes and other vegetables, besides our celebrated tea wafer by which the traveller can carry material for

ONE HUNDRED CUPS OF TEA IN A SNUFF BOX

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LOCKERBY BROS.,

Wholesale Grocers, MONTREAL.

INSURANCE

FIRE INSURANCE FOR LUMBERMEN.

The Western Retail Lumbermen's Association, which has over 600 members, including nearly every lumber dealer in Manitoba, has decided to consider the advisability of establishing a system of fire insurance in connection with the association. At the recent meeting of the association in Winnipeg, there was an almost universal desire expressed among the members for something of this nature. The Manitoba dealers have been influenced in this direction by the alleged success of the retail lumber association covering the states south of the boundary, in carrying on a fire insurance feature. They claim that they have secured insurance for their members at half the cost formerly charged them by the insurance companies. Of course it does not follow that the successful operation of an insurance department in connection with the southern association would bring equally as desirable results here. The southern association covers a much larger field, and other conditions may not have been similar to the situation here. These features should be carefully enquired into. It is also possible that the southern association has not yet experienced any great strain upon its resources, such as might come at some future date. Before the lumbermen here adopt an insurance department on the strength of the alleged success of the North-western Association of Minnesota and other states south, they should have a careful investigation made by an expert insurance man.

THE NORTH AMERICAN LIFE.

Last week reference was made in these columns to the annual report of the North American Life. This week the report is published in extended form so that those interested may have an opportunity of studying it more closely. This company is evidently a favorite in the local field. The company last year offered a purse and a gold watch to the agent securing the largest number of applications written by himself alone, and paid for in cash. This contest was open to any Canadian agent, and was won by Mr. McBride, manager here for the company. This in itself indicates the favor in which the company is held in the local field.

SOCIETY INSURANCE.

It is understood that the fraternal insurance order known as the Select Knights, is about to amalgamate with the Independent Order of Foresters. The Select Knights started out some years ago with a ridiculous endowment scheme, by which they proposed to pay \$1,000 at the end of ten years, on payment by each member of a sum aggregating about \$250. About the time the inevitable collapse of this absurd endowment scheme came, it was also found necessary to increase the assessments in the straight life department of the order. These two misfortunes coming at once, caused something of a panic among the members, resulting in a considerable loss of membership. It is now proposed to

shelve further trouble for the order by burying the society in the Forester order. Shifting the responsibility to other shoulders, as it were. While it will be a temporary relief for the Knights, the Foresters will not gain much by the bargain, as it will be the least desirable risks among the Knights who will be taken over, many of the young and healthy members having, no doubt, dropped out ere this.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE.

The annual meeting of this company was held at its head office in Toronto on January 25th. Details of the substantial gains made by the company during the past year are more particularly referred to in the remarks of the president and report of the consulting actuary.

Summary of the financial statement and balance sheet for the year ended December 31st 1897:

Cash income — — — — —	\$ 699,550.49
Expenditure (including death claims, endowments, matured investment policies, profits and all other payments to policy holders)	454,367.26
Assets — — — — —	2,773,177.23
Reserve fund — — — — —	2,245,920.00
Net surplus for policy holders — — — — —	427,121.33
WILLIAM McCABE, Managing Director.	
Audited and found correct. JAS. CARLYLE, M. D., Auditor.	

Mr. W. T. Standen, of New York, the company's consulting actuary, in his full and detailed report of the year's operations, said:

"I have very carefully examined the accounts and balance sheets of the company, as at December 31st, 1897, and beg leave to report to you as follows, upon the result of such examination:

"Your obligation for investment policies that matured in 1897 called for an outlay of over \$89,500—the individual settlements not only being generally satisfactory, but, as a matter of fact, comparing more than favorably with the settlements made by other companies upon similar forms of policies.

"The covering of this obligation, together with \$126,579.96 paid to beneficiaries under policies that matured by death of the insured; \$28,065.10 paid for matured endowment; \$1,291.46 paid to annuitants; and \$13,101.08 paid for surrendered policies, gives a total of over \$271,000 paid out during the year to policy holders alone.

"These and several other items of disbursements in a life insurance company's business are practically uncontrollable—some other items involved in the cost of management being more or less under control. It is, therefore, very gratifying to me, as an evidence of very careful management, to note that those controllable expenses are less than 8 per cent of your total disbursements.

"I am glad to see that the increase in your cash income—in 1897—\$57,762.41—is greater than the gain effected in the previous year—a most excellent result in view of the commercial and business conditions that prevailed.

"Notwithstanding the large amount paid to policy holders, heretofore referred to, namely, \$271,000—it is very satisfactory, indeed, to find that you were again able to show an increased net surplus. This gain has been effected in spite of the conserva-

tive basis of valuation, which has been applied to the assets of the company. For instance the market value of your debentures, etc., is \$21,453.15 in excess of the amount for which you have taken credit in your statement. Following the course usually pursued you could have properly increased your surplus amount over \$21,000.

"The new business written in 1897, \$3,556,024—being the largest in the history of the company—it is a very handsome result in view of increased competition in such a limited field, and especially of the financial conditions that existed throughout the greater portion of the year. I regard it as especially satisfactory that the bulk of the business is upon long term investment plans, most favorable to the policy holder, as well as to the company from every point of view.

"An extremely satisfactory feature of your business is its growing persistency—a most important element, tending to the upbuilding of the company, and the increase of its surplus earning capacity. This indicates to me—having many years' experience in field work—that your agents must be a class of men thoroughly versed in their work, and that the company's plans are well adapted to meet the needs of the insuring public. Naturally, the unsurpassed strength of the company, coupled with such desirable plans, must continue to attract the very best men, and the most successful agents to your field staff.

"A great deal of insurance is being done nowadays, of such a character that it may be more fairly regarded as imaginary rather than real insurance—no tangible assets being laid up out of which claims arising under such policies may be paid. As the figures before you will conclusively prove, the North American Life is upon a very different basis. Indeed—its foundation being solid rock—and its policy holders are abundantly justified in resting easy in their minds as to the ability of the company to promptly meet every claim as it may mature.

"It is often said by those who do not understand any better that life insurance companies make large profits by reason of so many allowing their policies to lapse, thus dropping their insurance after having paid, it may be only one or two premiums.

"This is a mistaken view of the matter. All companies regret exceedingly the terminations that take place every year.

"All respectable companies are most desirous that their policyholders should persistently keep up their policies, and not allow them to lapse or terminate.

"A year ago I submitted a table, showing the experience of eleven companies doing business in Canada, the amount of insurance issued, the total terminations each had experienced, and what the percentage was. The North American made a far better showing than any of the eleven, and official figures given in the last Dominion government report, showing a like experience, again place the North American in the first position.

There is a most careful and complete examination of everything relating to the company's position made every year by the Dominion government superintendent of insurance, who examines every security owned by the company, and sees that every requirement of the Insurance Act is being strictly complied with.

The president, Mr. John L. Blakie, in moving the adoption of the report, said:

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Large Quantities
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FROM NO. 1 HARD WHEAT.

Bran, Shorts and all kinds of
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B. C. He is now on the road. Headquarters for
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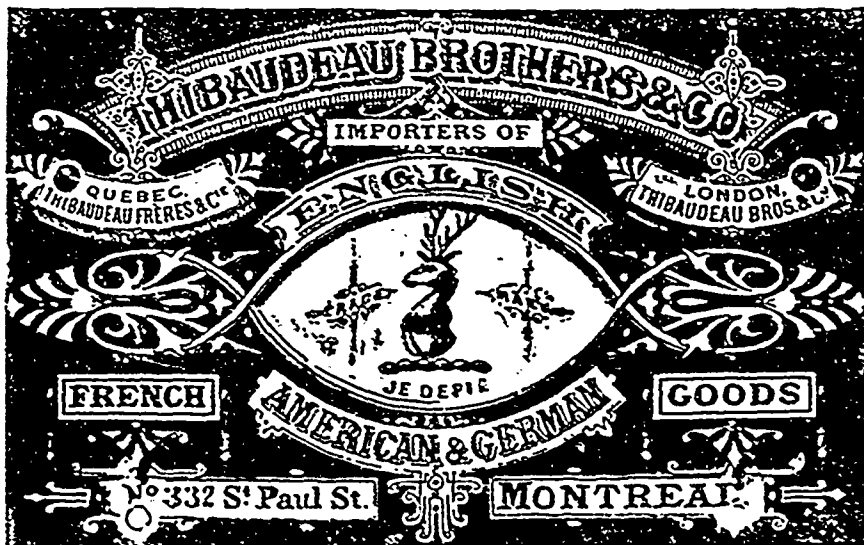
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With Maps, Illustrations and
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ADDRESS:

THE COMMERCIAL



"Permit me to invite your attention to some important and interesting facts therein contained, but before proceeding to do so I heartily congratulate the policy holders upon this annual meeting being held in this splendid office, the building being owned by the company, and secured on such extremely favorable terms, that at a moderate cost, we occupy one of the finest business buildings in the city, beautifully lighted on all sides, with abundant vault accommodation, and with a sufficient depth of lot to admit of great addition to our space as the business continues to grow in the future.

"The securing of this property is generally regarded as a splendid stroke of business, and as a profitable, solid investment, making a valuable addition to the assets of the company.

"As on many previous occasions, you will be pleased to observe that in everything that goes to make a life insurance company successful, the North American Life again shows progress, solidity and gain for the policy holders.

"For example, compare the business of 1897 and 1896 under the following heads:

	Increase over 1896.	Percentage of Increase.
Assets as at Dec. 31 1897..	\$2,773,177.22	\$ 557,347.81 10.2
Cash income..	693,580.09	57,762.41 9.
Ins. in force..	18,915,978.00	1,451,778.00 7.3
Premium Income.....	582,431.96	42,670.41 7.9
Interest Income.....	117,118.53	15,092.60 11.5

"The assets of the company are of a high class, and after providing for every liability, there remains a net surplus of \$427,121.33, the percentage of assets to liabilities being 118.2.

"This examination is made entirely independent of any person connected with the company and the result is published in the Insurance Blue Book in detail.

"I cannot conclude without bearing testimony to the unwearied zeal, diligence and ability of Mr. McCabe, our managing director, Mr. Goldman, our efficient secretary, and, I may add, of the office staff generally.

"And last of all, though certainly not the least of all, we are indebted to our army of agents in the field, who have to fight many battles, but having such a company as the North American Life at their back, they win many victories, and that, too, by fair and honorable means."

The Hon. G. W. Allan, vice-president, said.

"I think the very best evidence of the excellent character of the assets of the company, and the care shown by the directors in the investment of the funds, is the large increase in our interest income for the year, namely, \$15,092, and the fact that our interest and rents, due and accrued, at the end of the year should show a decrease of \$1,119.57. Now, here is the position of our assets. We have invested in.

	Amount.	Percentage of Total Assets.
Mortgages, etc.....	\$1,108,667.93	40.
Debentures.....	635,197.89	22.9
Real estate.....	292,263.83	10.5
Stocks and bonds.....	203,331.44	7.3
Loans on policies.....	176,381.61	6.4
Loans on stocks.....	157,780.00	5.7
Outstanding premiums in course of collection, and quarterly and half yearly premiums,		

being balance of year's premiums not yet paid ...	100,460.37	3.6
Cash in banks ...	57,743.07	
Cash on hand ...	7,317.8	2.1
Interest and rents, due and accrued	38,370.95	1.4
Reversions ...	3,046.35	.1
	\$2,778,177.22	100.

*Market value exceeds this by \$21,425.15.

**Including the company's building. "I think you will agree with me, this shows a highly satisfactory state of affairs, and must be doubly reassuring to all the policy holders of the company, as well as its excellent agency staff, as to the high standard this company has attained among the life companies in this country. So far as I can judge, it stands at the head.

"Our real estate shows but a slight addition in amount, except that we have now added thereto our own home, this handsome building, in which we are holding this meeting. It was an excellent stroke of business on the part of the company in securing this property, as we have now every accommodation for the proper conduct of the business; in fact, one of the best-equipped offices in the city, and the cost to the company will be but a moderate one. Already the space we have to rent is well tenanted, and the one office at present vacant is already bespoken. All the properties in possession of the company are well rented, and giving the company a fair return.

"From the figures taken from the last Dominion government report I find that our company receives a not return on its real estate largely in excess of any of its competitors."

Mr. J. N. Lake, in moving a vote of thanks to the company's provincial managers, inspectors and agency staff, said:

"The value of our agency staff is shown by the persistency of our business. From the last government report I find that of the total net increase in insurance of all Canadian companies for that year, this company hold almost 25 per cent. of such additions. I attribute this satisfactory statement of affairs to our agents being men of integrity and high standing in their profession. No doubt the agent is very materially aided in his work by representing the North American—a company having such a large surplus in proportion to its liabilities, and its earning power being relatively so great as compared with the majority of its competitors, as a tower of strength to its agents. I most sincerely congratulate our very efficient staff of representatives on the work they accomplished last year, the number of the policies being 2,621, and the amount of insurance thereon \$3,556,024—a truly grand year's work.

"It will be gratifying to everyone interested in the company, and speaks volumes for the energy displayed by our agents, that our new business this month is the best business for January in the history of the company.

"Another satisfactory point in the company, which reflects credit on the whole of our agency staff, including our local agents, is the small amount of outstanding and deferred premiums at the close of the year. The best test on this point is a comparison with our business and that of other home companies in that respect. From an examination of the last Dominion Government report it will be found that the North American is the lowest, namely, 18 per cent., while the highest is 35.56.

"It is interesting to note the great progress this company has made during the last ten years, as shown by the following table:

Yr.	Cash Income.	Assets.	Insurance in force.	Net Surplus.
1st	\$228,285.64	\$12,318.99	\$6,914,890	\$51,895.94
10th	431,628.42	1,113,977.60	12,064,480	225,435.80
17th	639,550.49	2,773,177.60	18,915,978	427,121.33

"You will see that the cash income increased over three-fold; assets over five times; insurance in force, nearly three-fold, and net surplus nearly eight-fold—the latter indicating that the company is a good one for the policy holders.

Mr. McCabe, managing director, said he could heartily endorse all that had been said as to the efficiency of the agency staff, and the energetic and satisfactory manner in which they had accomplished their work during the year just closed. Although the territory of the Dominion is very large, the population is small, and the competition is therefore exceedingly keen and sometimes exceedingly injurious from the extraordinary and improper business methods adopted by these anxious to place business on the books, irrespective of the cost. In this connection I would remind you that of all the companies starting about the same time as the North American or subsequently, not one of them outside of our own has met with but moderate success.

The following figures will show the profits earned by these companies since 1882:

Company.	Earnings since 1882.	Total Assets since 1882.	Percentage of Total Earnings.
1.—North American	\$600,081.89	23,85	
2.—	101,881.00	8.48	
3.—	63,480.27	10.56	
4.—	51,637.71	10.18	
5.—	36,340.99	5.93	
6.—	No net surplus.	Nil.	

These figures are taken from the official government reports, and I refer to the companies by number and not by name.

The course we have adopted has been a conservative one in every way, and we propose to follow that course, believing that our first interests must be those of our policyholders, and that ultimately the test of business between the different companies is, "What are you doing, and what are you likely to do for your policyholders?"

Mr. Galley, in referring to the company's loans and real estate, said:

"In looking over the mortgage list, I was pleased to find the satisfactory manner in which the interest had been paid during 1897. The interest due and accrued on all loans held by the company showing a decrease, as compared with 1896, of \$2,201.73. From an examination of the real estate, I consider that the company must sooner or later realize a handsome profit from these properties, when it is deemed advisable to sell them.

"I certainly join with Vice-President Allan in congratulating my fellow-policyholders and all those interested in the company, on the splendid building the company has secured. From my extended knowledge of real estate I can heartily endorse everything he has said with respect to this building. * * * The position of the company is highly satisfactory, and as one of its earliest and large policyholders, I feel very pleased at the splendid position that the company has attained, and only regret that when insuring in the company I did not do so to the extent of \$25,000, as I am quite satisfied it would have



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GRANBY RUBBER COMPANY

Full Line Lumberman's Gum Goods and Snow Excluders

Fine Jersey Goods in Men's, Women's, Misses' and Children's

See our New Frieze Top Heavy Gum Overshoe—The best in the market

OUR TRAVELLERS WILL HAVE FULL LINE SAMPLES ON THE ROAD
IN APRIL AND MAY

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GRANULAR

Ogilvie's Hungarian FLOUR

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

"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

Messrs the Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, Man.

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

WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

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YOU HAVE

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

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN

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

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

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HONEST WEIGHT GUARANTEED

proved one of the best investments I could have made.

The great progress the company has made and the strong position it has attained, make it a good company for the policyholders."

After the usual vote of thanks had been passed, the election of directors took place, after which the newly-elected board met and Mr. John L. Blake was unanimously elected president, the Hon. G. W. Allan and Sir Frank Smith, vice-presidents.

INSURANCE NOTES.

Special life insurance policies to cover the Klondike fever, are now being issued.

A. McT. Campbell, manager at Winnipeg for the Canadian Life Assurance company, left on Wednesday on a trip to British Columbia.

Manitoba Dairy Association.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Manitoba Dairy association began in the city council chamber Tuesday. Mr. R. Waugh, first vice-president, occupied the chair; and the proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Chas. W. Gordon. The chairman then briefly stated the object of the convention to be a practical conference of dairymen; and he expressed gratification at the large attendance, and the high character of the representation of dairy interests present. Miss E. Cora Hill read the minutes of the last annual meeting, and the same were adopted, on motion of Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. McQuaig.

Mr. E. C. Macdonald gave notice of a motion that the executive be given power to hold the annual meeting at different points outside of Winnipeg.

Mr. James Morrow, of Silver Springs, was appointed to audit the books, in conjunction with Mr. D. Munroe, of St. James, representing the directors.

Mr. Thos. Dickle, M. P. P., of Souris, was called upon to give the first address. He began with a few words respecting the useful career of the late Mr. Hettle, M. P. P., president of the association. He proceeded to speak of the creamery with which he had become connected during the past year. Twenty business men took one share each of \$50. A call of \$25 per share was made, and \$500 borrowed from the provincial government. Some \$750 was expended for machinery, and the total outlay, \$1,210, including expenditure for improving the building. The building was leased for \$130 a year; the creamery not being run on the co-operative plan. The factory was run from May 22 to October 15. The number of patrons for the several months were 58, 46, 15 and 8. A loss was incurred of \$200. Seven causes were assigned. The factory opened too late. The farmers were not prepared to supply cream. The charge for making the butter, 6 cents, was too high. The first sale was delayed, and was too low. The delivery to the factory and the arrangement of routes were not the best. The class of dairy cows was poor. There was a lack of hearty support of patrons. The last cause was the high price of ordinary dairy butter in Souris.

Mr. S. Larcombe gave a statement of the experience of the creamery at Birtle. The cost of the plant, building, ice house, machinery, and wagons, amounted to \$3,000. The creamery was owned by a joint stock com-

pany; the shares were of \$10 each, drawing interest at 6 per cent. They had the best cold storage system out of Winnipeg. An average of 456 lbs. of butter to each patron. One route was 45 miles out and back, the cost was \$2.95 per trip. The average cost of collecting was in the neighborhood of 2 cents per lb. The salaries were \$479.93. The total expenditure was \$1,796.8. The butter sold for an average of 18 1-4 cents per lb. He considered that too many creameries had sprung into existence. Twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and forty-six lbs. had been produced last year. In the course of his remarks supplementing his paper, Mr. Larcombe suggested that dry wells be filled with snow in winter, and that these be used for storage of the cream.

Mr. J. D. Hunt told the experience of the creamery at Carberry, which is managed by a joint stock company. The outfit was worth \$3,000. The product was 36,000 lbs. of butter. They had eight routes. The total cost of making the butter was a fraction under 5 cents; the cost of management, that is, salaries, postage, etc., is 1 1-2 cents per lb. Five hundred lbs. had been sold locally, and the balance shipped. The average price had been 18.10 cents. Mr. Hunt dwelt strongly on the advantages of a one-man management. The lowest price paid to patrons was 10 cents. The farmers were told two weeks beforehand what would be paid; and the cheques were always ready promptly.

Mr. Wm. G. Crassick, of Pilot Mound, gave an account of a creamery having a capital stock of \$2,000 in shares of \$10 each. A loan was obtained from the government of \$500. They had 127 patrons, who owned 1,100 cows; all made butter and sent the balance of the cream to the creamery. The cows were mostly short-horns, and were good cattle. One patron has 16 cows, the majority 5 to 12 cows and the majority 3 to 5 cows; 49,454 lbs. of butter had been made; \$3,736.72 had been received for butter, and \$30.34 for buttermilk. There had been paid cash to patrons, \$6,316.83. The cost of manufacturing had been 5.01 cents. The building cost \$836.20; the plant, \$1,192.56; total, \$2,028.76.

Mr. E. Downton told of the first two years' operations of the creamery at McGregor. The cost of building complete was \$2,300 or \$2,400; \$500 was borrowed from the government. The shares of the company were \$5 each, no shareholder to take more than 20 shares. The cost the first year to manufacture was 6 1-4 cents. Average cost of collecting had been 2 1-4 cents. The patrons had been paid every two weeks by cheque; 80,000 lbs. of butter had been made in three years; 9 cents was the least and 14 or 15 cents the highest that had been paid to patrons. The speaker was strongly in favor of management by one man. The factory had not been in operation more than five months during the year. The municipality had 800 to 1,000 cows, but not more than 500 cows supported the creamery.

Mr. W. D. McQuaig gave facts about the Macdonald creamery, which is situated 10 miles from Portage la Prairie, on the Manitoba and North-western railway; 3,000 to 5,000 lbs. were sold in Portage la Prairie at prices obtained for the article when shipped. In 1896, 22,000 lbs. had been sold; the cost of manufacturing was 4 3-4 cents; the cost of collecting was 1 1-2 cents; 18,077 lbs. had been made last season and sold at 18 cents; cost of manufacturing 5 1-4 cents.

Mr. A. R. Fanning of Newdale was the next speaker. He told of the results of operating the creamery at Newdale, 56,226 lbs. of butter having been made, for which \$9,391.75 had been received, being an average of 16.70 cents per lb; \$7,312.41 had been paid to patrons, or an average of 13 cents per lb. The cost of making had been \$1,419.87. The cost of making had been 2.52 cents per lb.

Mr. W. J. Hellwelf of Oak Lake stated that the creamery there had been in operation for three years. A brick creamery 20x30 feet, with 10 feet walls, had been built. A joint stock company had been formed, chiefly of farmers; the shares were \$10 each. It cost about 7 cents to make, the first year, and some 20,000 lbs. were made. The next year, the factory was leased at 5 cents per pound of butter; 25,000 pounds were made. This year the quantity had dropped to 18,000 lbs. The price obtained had been \$2,725, about 15 1-2 cents per lb. They shipped every week. There were 60 patrons, and they were paid every two weeks.

Mr. Angus McKay, of Indian Head, manager of the Dominion government experimental farm, related the history of the factory, which was built two years ago and taken charge of by the government. He spoke chiefly of the question of routes. He stated that a good deal of money had been lost by the long hauling. The route had been turned into a cream route; and they had been drawing cream since. Last year they paid a man \$75 per month, nearly \$3 per trip; one trip being of 45 to 50 miles and another 38 to 40 miles. This year two of the patrons had undertaken to draw, each over his own route; the one receiving \$2.50 per trip, and the other \$2 per trip until the season was fairly opened, and then \$3. A man was hired in the village for the third route, at \$3 per trip. Thirty-two thousand pounds had been made last year and 22,000 pounds this year. Mr. McKay advised the starting of the creameries early in the season, and the growing of bromo grass in order that the milk might be obtained earlier.

The directors' report was read by the secretary. It began with a reference to the death of the esteemed president, John Hettle, M. P. P., in these words: "When we met a year ago none thought that it was the last time many of us would see his familiar figure, hear his kindly greeting and feel the warm clasp of his hand." A very handsome wreath was purchased and sent in charge of Mr. Macdonald, with card from the Dairy association attached for the funeral. At the first meeting of the executive a resolution of sympathy was passed. In dairying matters generally, the report went on to say, the year has been a quiet one, but prosperous, and with good outlook for the future of this industry in the province. The total make of butter for the year, including both dairy and creamery, is given as 2,397,464 pounds. There is some little dispute as to the average price obtained for creamery, but all are willing to admit that butter making has been a paying business through the past year. Cheese has been even more profitable perhaps than butter, the total sale being \$97,007 pounds, at an average price of 8 1-2 cents. The market in the province has been somewhat peculiar, being, throughout the season, largely speculative. In fact the market in Manitoba, so far from being fixed by the Montreal market,



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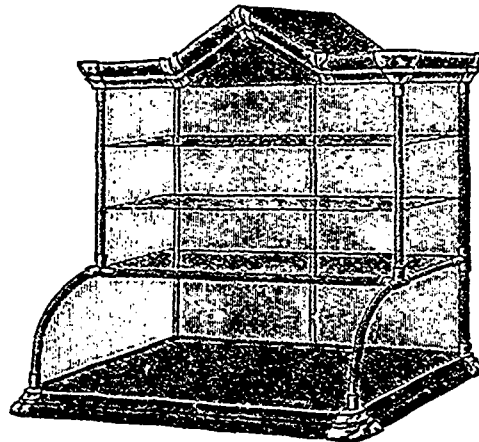
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SOLE AGENT
IN CANADA

was really higher. This, of course, was caused by the large western trade and the anticipation of dealers that that trade would increase during the latter part of the season, has been correct. The government was asked for a grant of \$200 and gave cheerfully. Following the course of last year regular markets were received from Montreal, printed in the Free Press and sent regularly every week to all members of the association. In the weekly bulletin furnished the members, in addition to the Montreal markets, all information as to Winnipeg prices that could be secured were given. There is no doubt that the receipt of these markets has been a natural help to both creameries and cheese factories. Reference was made to the visit to Winnipeg during the summer, of Miss Maidment, a famous English dairy and poultry expert.

The treasurer's report was submitted and adopted, showing total receipts \$271.73, and of expenses \$258.32, being a balance on hand of \$13.41.

Mr. C. C. Macdonald, dairy inspector, presented his report as the representative of the association on the Winnipeg Industrial exhibition board of directors. He reported the extremely good success of the dairy department, especially in the butter section. There were 18 creameries represented, 15 of which were Manitoba creameries. This made 45 entries for the Manitoba creameries, each creamery making three entries, namely 56-lb. boxes for export, assorted tubs of 30, 20 and 10 lbs. respectively, and print butter for table use. The other three creameries represented at the show were those under the Dominion government supervision situated in the Territories. These three creameries made two entries each, namely 56-lb. tubs for export, and assorted tubs of 30, 20 and 10 lbs. respectively. The Manitoba creameries carried off all the prizes of this class. The quality of the creamery butter was most excellent. There was but one very objectionable feature with the Manitoba creamery package, and that was the absence of any covering for the package for transit. The package coverings consist of a jute bag made to fit any sized package with a gathering cord at the top. The cost of these bags is practically nil. In the cheese department of the Industrial there were eight entries, all from Manitoba factories. There were also a number of cream cheese, the quality of which was very good. There was but one entry in the Stilton cheese class, and it was a very creditable one. The dairy butter exhibits were very numerous, there being 365 entries. There were two entries from Iowa, U.S.A., and a small number from Ontario. The members of the exhibition board were ever ready to do all they could to further the interests of this department, when matters pertaining to it were brought to their attention. Mr. Macdonald strongly urged the association to bring the matter of enlarging the dairy exhibit building before the executive of the Winnipeg Industrial association. He said the time has come when that building is far too small to receive all the exhibits. The building was full from door to door, and the butter packages had to be piled, in many cases, three deep in order to make room; and, as the dairy industry of the province is growing at such a rapid rate, it will prove utterly impossible to get all the exhibits prop-

ly placed next year. I would recommend enlarging the present building by building at the west side an extension the same size as the present one, making it all one building by removing the western present wall. This is a matter that should be brought before the exhibition board at an early date, in order that it may have their full attention, so that the building may be got ready for the present show.

A resolution was passed expressing gratitude to Mr. Macdonald for his services as representative and for his suggestions.

Mr. D. Monroe, the present representative of the association on the exhibition board, addressed the meeting on the subject of improvements to the dairy building, showing the necessity for more room to display the products properly. He suggested a building on the north side of the present one and double its width, half of it to be devoted to exhibits of implements and apparatus, an engine to be located outside and the separators to be shown in actual operation. He pointed out defectiveness in the system of milk testing, advocated the placing in a separate building suitably arranged of cows subjected to dairy testing; objected to dairy cows being thrown into competition with beef grades; showed the unprofitableness of keeping cows that would not produce a pound of butter a day for three hundred days in two years; and asked for instruction as to whether the representative of the association on the exhibition board should be allowed to exhibit.

Expressions of opinion on these various points were invited, and the position taken by Mr. Monroe on each was endorsed by the meeting. A resolution was passed favoring permission to the representative to be a competitor in the dairy classes, with such protection as could be provided to secure him from criticism in the discharge of his duties as an exhibition director.

On motion of Mr. C. C. Macdonald, seconded by Mr. A. R. Fanning, it was resolved that the executive have power to hold the annual convention at any point in the province, at its discretion.

The following officers were elected
President—W. M. Champion, Reaburn.

First vice-president—D. W. McQuaig, Macdonald.

Second vice-president—Rich. Waugh, Winnipeg.

Secretary-treasurer—Miss E. Cora Hind, Winnipeg.

The meeting of the Dairy association was continued Wednesday afternoon and an instructive practical paper was read by Mr. F. Lutley, instructor, dairy school, on "Home Butter Making." He pointed out that a large amount of butter is made by farmers who have no special training and who have little or no knowledge of the contents of milk or of the principles involved in its care or management, so that when their butter reaches the market it meets with such poor demand that the prices the farmers receive are far from being remunerative. The reason is that there is no uniformity in the making or the quality of the butter. The first thing to be considered is the proper care of the cows. They must be liberally and regularly fed at all times and treated with kindness. Dairy cows should have a good warm barn or stable, well ventilated. Cows in summer should have good pasture and not be compelled to travel for it, winter feeding is just as

important to make it pay. Coarse grains should be sown for fodder, cut green and cured, being more valuable than prairie hay. See that the cows have good water and all they require. They should have salt every day. The following are requisites for milking: kindness, neatness, system, regularity, and milking out clean. The average cow produces about 3,000 pounds of milk or 125 pounds of butter yearly. It costs about \$30 to keep a cow for the same time, so that her product must be about 300 pounds of cheese at 8 cents or 150 pounds of butter at 16 cents to balance account. The minimum standard for a dairy cow should be 600 lbs. cheese or 250 lbs. butter. Cows should be tested regularly for quantity and quality. Other points discussed in the paper were breeding; management, objections to calves for the dairy, suckling, care of calf pens, of heifers, of dairy utensils, composition of milk, creaming methods, the shallow pans or deep can, and the separator, the natural and the mechanical. The conclusion was that the separator, if properly handled, will ordinarily recover 25 per cent. more cream than either of the natural methods. The advantages of deep setting over the shallow pan were pointed out, also the disadvantages, and the use of the separator method was explained. The treatment of cream, setting of cream, preparing cream for churning, working butter, packing butter, butter-making on the farm, etc., were explained.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, and the following were chosen:

W. M. Champion, Reaburn, president. The president-elect, on taking the chair, said he could hardly speak, as he remembered that he was filling the place of a very dear friend; but he had on his right, Mr. Wagner, who was the founder of the association twelve years ago.

D. W. McQuaig, Macdonald, 1st vice president.

R. Waugh, 2nd vice president.

Miss E. Cora Hind, secretary.

Ballotting for directors was next proceeded with, Messrs. H. McKellar and Wm. Baldwin acting as scrutineers. The election resulted in the following being chosen: J. D. Hunt, Carberry; W. Scott, Winnipeg; Thos. Dikle, M. P. P., Souris; T. L. Morton, M. P. P., Gladstone; Wm. Ryan, Nisga. Wm. Grassick, Pilot Mound; W. B. Gilroy, Austin; Jas. Bray, Longburn; A. E. Struthers, Russell.

Mr. C. C. Macdonald gave a short address on the packing and shipping of butter. He exhibited a number of jute bags, the use of which he strongly recommended. They are to be stretched over the boxes or tubs of butter after the butter is packed. The sacks are made square, and around the top is a string with which the top is readily pulled up. The advantage of the bag is that as soon as it is wet, it shrinks up and keeps all dust out of the package. Where the bags are not used the butter often becomes filthy. The cost of the jute bags is about one-ninth of a cent per pound of butter. Better prices would eventually result by using bags for the butter. Mr. Macdonald advised that in packing butter boxes nearly square and holding 57 lbs. or net 56 lbs. be used as these sell better in England and the demand for them is increasing elsewhere. He showed how these should be lined with parchment paper weighing at least 50 pounds to the ream, and how the butter should be carefully

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packed, first into the sharp corners and around the edges. If the air gets in where the box is defective it spoils the butter wherever it touches. The box should be filled over full and then levelled, the butter being cut off with a cord rather than with wire. The advantage of square boxes was seen when the butter came to be cut up. Samples of each day's making should be left with the covers unfastened until the day of shipment, in order to facilitate inspection.

Mr. W. Wagner, honorary president, read a short instructive paper on "The Proper Food of Infants." He described how milk is prepared for children and for the sick in Germany. He quoted an opinion that if all milk were clean the lives of thousands of little ones would be spared. He told how on noticing an estimate that of the death rate in Winnipeg one year the per centage of children was 51 1-2. He had then inspected the stables, and found them in a very bad state. He spoke of the importance of keeping the digestive functions in good condition, and described the care taken in private institutions and co-operative ones in the production of milk, which sold for 6 1-2 cents to 9 cents per quart, about double the price of ordinary milk. Only sound, healthy cows were used, and severe tests were used in their selection. The stables must be separated from other stables; one man had very strict supervision; a veterinary surgeon made the inspections, and a chemist was employed to test the milk.

Mr. Hugh McKellar, of the department of agriculture of the province, addressed the meeting on thoughts suggested by the convention. The meeting he considered to be one of the most practical ever held. The reports were exceedingly satisfactory; he would convey to the premier information of the good work done; and he could recommend to him a generous consideration of the association. The government grants to the twenty creameries that had been assisted had not helped those institutions, but the whole province Manitoba creamery butter always commanded a price equal to what was obtained in any part of the Dominion; it was shipped out, and as a result the inferior butter was raised in price four or five cents a pound. He asked how many cows were considered a limit that would support a factory successfully. One member answered that a factory could handle the milk from 1,500 cows; another said 1,000; two others 800; and one said 600 would be satisfactory. Another question was whether, if a sufficient number of cows could be obtained within a radius of ten miles, it would be considered profitable to go out fifteen miles to get more milk. One member answered in the affirmative.

The subject of creameries being multiplied and encroaching upon one another was further pursued by Mr. D. W. McQuaig. Speaking of a projected creamery at Portage la Prairie, only ten miles from the Macdonald creamery, he maintained that there was no room for one at that point; and if such a creamery were started it would close up some of these now in existence.

After some discussion, Mr. McQuaig moved, seconded by Mr. Gilroy, that the Dairy association cannot approve of the R. A. Lister company, England building a creamery in the territory organized by other creameries, which

is sure to be detrimental to their interests.

The meeting was closed with a few remarks by the president.

After the adjournment of the general meeting, a meeting of the directors was held.

The executive for the coming year was appointed to consist of the president, the first and second vice-presidents, the secretary-treasurer and Mr. J. D. Hunt. The second vice-president, Mr. Waugh, was authorized to sign cheques.

Dairy Trade Items.

Roy McVeigh has bought out the plant of the Birtle Creamery Co., Birtle, Man.

J. Bousfield, manager of the Brandon creamery, has completed arrangements for establishing a creamery at Portage la Prairie.

R. Scott, of the Shoal Lake creamery, in this province, will devote his attention this year to the Japan and China trade. He has adopted the Paster sterilizing system in his creamery.

The Commercial has several times called attention to the false statements published regarding the price received by patrons of the territorial creameries for their butter. In parliament at Ottawa the other day a western member again repeated the statement that the farmers were receiving 20 cents for their butter. Those familiar with the dairy trade of course, know that the farmers have not received any such price for last season's butter. A falsehood once started, however, seems to die hard.

The Canadian Fire Insurance Company.

The third annual meeting of this local fire insurance concern was held at the office of the company in Winnipeg on February 8. The financial statement shows the amount of capital paid up has been increased to \$67,810, and it is the policy of the company to further increase this item until it reaches \$100,000. The assets of the company, represented almost entirely by Dominion government bonds and cash on deposit, amount to \$108,763. The business showed a satisfactory increase during the past year, the premium income showing an increase of over \$20,000, number of policies in force, an increase of 296, and the amount at risk an increase of \$1,087,000. The net losses, after deducting for re-insurance, were \$13,866. The balance to the credit or revenue account at the end of the year was \$37,634. A dividend of 6 per cent for the year was declared. A Dominion charter was obtained during the year.

In moving the adoption of the report the president, Mr. J. H. Ashdown, explained the circumstances that necessitated the acquiring of a Dominion charter in May last, and commented on the various items of the balance sheet, showing that the expense ratio compared favorably with that of other companies doing business in Canada; and that the amount of business done by this company in Manitoba and the Northwest promised in the near future to exceed that of any other company. He showed that the business had been conducted on careful and conservative lines, all the larger risks being re-insured, and that the company had

filled the position it was the intention of its promoters that it should.

Mr. G. R. Crowe seconded the motion for adoption of the report in a few words, regretting the absence of the vice-president, Mr. F. W. Stobart. The report was then unanimously adopted, Mr. McKay was re-appointed auditor.

Mr. J. B. McLaren moved a vote of thanks to the directors, officers and agents of the company for their very efficient services, after which the following gentlemen were elected directors for the year 1898: J. H. Ashdown, F. W. Stobart, G. R. Crowe, E. F. Hutchings, R. J. Campbell, J. A. Richard and R. T. Riley.

Saskatchewan.

The annual meeting of the Prince Albert board of trade was held on February 4. President T. J. Agnew occupied the chair. Capt. Smith addressed the board in reference to the Prince Albert route to the Klondike. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, D. C. McLellan; vice-president, J. F. Betts; secretary, A. McNabb. Council:—F. C. Baker, S. McLeod, R. Davidson, J. R. McPhail, Jas Sanderson, Capt. Smith, A. S. Stewart, T. J. Agnew, Geo. R. Russell, A. A. B. Sproat, H. W. Mitchell and Andrew Stewart. A vote of thanks was tendered retiring president, T. J. Agnew, and secretary, A. S. Stewart.

British Columbia Items.

The Kootenay house at Golden has been taken over by Barry & J. C. Ulcock.

T. S. Annandale has purchased the stock of the Imperial grocery at New Westminster. D. W. Gilchrist, late manager of the business, will continue with Mr. Annandale.

The Canadian Pacific railway have concluded the purchase of Heinz's railway and smelter, thus giving them access to Rossland. Lower rates will be made, it is said, on ore intended for the smelter.

Snowshoes.

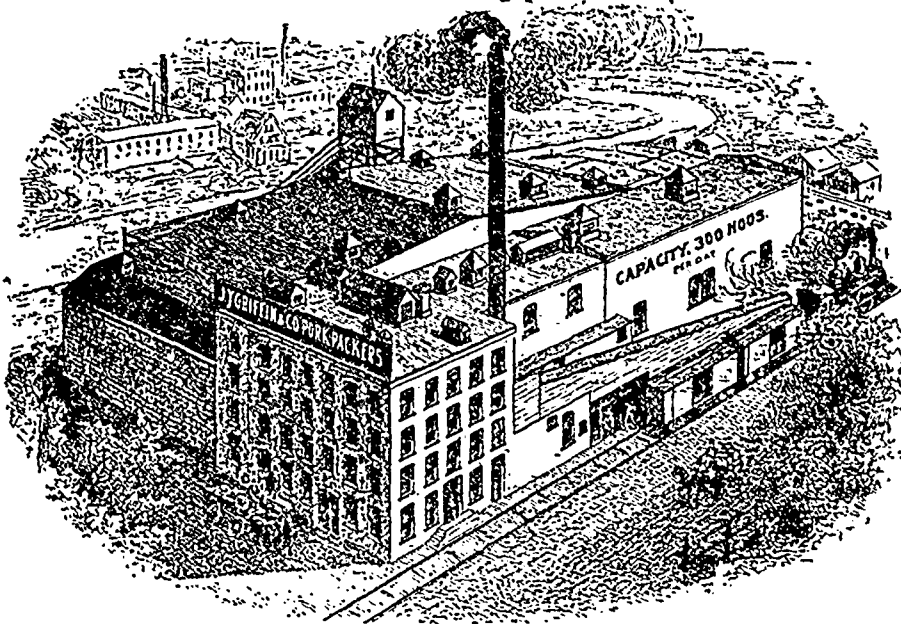
Snowshoes are a scarce article all over Canada, as a result of the Klondike demand, and prices have advanced sharply. In fact snowshoes are hardly obtainable at any price. Snowshoes are made by Indians at Caughnawaga and two or three other Indian settlements, in Eastern Canada, and they have not been able to turn them out fast enough to supply the demand. They are made by hand. An attempt to make them by machinery in Montreal has not proved successful.

For Druggists.

At the recent meeting of the Wholesale Druggists' association in Montreal, Evans & Sons, one of the largest drug houses in Canada, gave notice that they wished to retire from the association. The reasons given were that it had failed in its primary object of aiding the retailers, and that the principle of a combine on prices was wrong, and that the members had not lived up to their agreement. The withdrawal of Evans & Sons meant that the association could not live. So a resolution was passed voting the association out of existence.

The annual meeting of the council of the college of physicians and surgeons of Manitoba, was held in Winnipeg recently.

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You can't fool very much with the produce business—its hard enough for an expert. But to consign produce to people who have nothing to recommend them excepting "nerve" pure and simple, is taking bigger chances than any level headed business man is justified in doing. If there's an extra cent per pound to be made on your Butter, the firm of experience and complete organization can make it for you, and not the irresponsible amateur. We are paying TOP PRICES for Live and Dressed Hogs.

WRITE OR WIRE.

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PORK PACKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

FINANCIAL

DIVIDENDS DECLARED

Haltfax Banking company has declared a dividend of 3 1-2 per cent for the current half-year, payable 1st February.

Bank of Nova Scotia has declared a dividend of 4 per cent for the current half-year, payable the 1st of February.

La Banque de St. Hyacinthe has declared a dividend of 3 per cent for the current half-year, payable 1st February.

Bank of Yarmouth has declared a dividend of 3 per cent for the current half-year, payable 1st of February.

The Dominion bank has declared a dividend of 3 per cent for the current quarter, payable 1st February.

Notice is given by the directors of the Dominion Telegraph Company, that the guaranteed dividend at the rate of six per cent per annum for the quarter ending 31st December instant, will be payable on the 15th of January.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

The January Colonist has a write-up of the banking interests in Winnipeg, with illustrations of several city and provincial banks and bank buildings.

J. B. McLaren, who has recently been appointed local manager for the Canada Landed and National Investment company, has opened an office above the Molson's bank, Winnipeg.

Mr. A. Wickson, manager of the Winnipeg branch of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, returned from Neepawa recently, where he had been opening a branch of the bank. W. A. Allan, of Winnipeg, has been installed as manager of the new branch.

An Ottawa telegram says the Bank of Commerce has made arrangements with the government for opening a branch in Dawson City to handle bullion for the government, issue drafts and carry on a general banking business there. Willis, the local manager of the Bank of Commerce at Orangeville, Ont., has been appointed manager for Dawson City.

D. Todd Lees, of Vancouver, agent for the Birkbeck Investment, Security & Savings Co. has established a branch of his company at Edmonton. G. W. R. Almon will be the agent.

S. H. Willis, secretary treasurer of The Western Co-operative Loan and Investment company, has organized a local board of this company at Beulah, Man., J. G. Taylor was elected president, F. W. Breen, vice-president, H. Wilkins, secretary-treasurer and G. B. Chichester, F. H. Paynter, J. Clode and D. Frazer, committee.

C.P.R. Earnings.

Montreal, Feb. 14.—At a meeting of the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway company to-day the usual half-yearly dividend of two per cent on the preference stock was declared and a dividend of two and a half per cent was also declared on the ordinary stock, making with the dividend already paid four per cent for the past year. The results for the year were: Gross earnings, \$24,490,534; working expenses, \$13,745,

758, net earnings, \$10,803,775, income from other sources, \$340,706; total net income, \$10,644,482. Fixed charges, including guarantees and interest on land bonds, \$6,783,367; net revenue available for dividends, \$3,861,115, out of which a dividend of two per cent on the preference and one and a half per cent on the common stock for the June half year was paid in October last.

Bank Statement.

London, Feb. 17.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes compared with previous account:—

Total reserve, increased	£632,000
Circulation, decreased	184,000
Bullion, increased	447,873
Other securities, increased	5,000
Other deposits, decreased	738,000
Public deposits, increased	1,431,000
Notes reserve, increased	663,000
Government securities, decreased	5,000

Manager Whyte, of the Canadian Pacific, says the company will spend a large amount of money this year improving their lines in the west. A new stone bridge will be built over the Kaministiquia river. One hundred miles of track between Winnipeg and Fort William will be relaid with heavy rails, thus completing this work, so that heavy engines can be used between Winnipeg and the Lake. Thirteen large engines are now being built for the company. West of Winnipeg a fine new depot and dining station will be erected at Moose Jaw. A fine new depot will also be built at Vancouver, and new stations at Carberry, Altona, Winckler and Sinitluta.

Manitoba

G. Sanders has opened a shoe shop at Selkirk.

Mr. Bell, of the Consolidated Stationery company, is in New York.

The Merchants' Hotel stables at Selkirk were burned this week.

The dwelling house of Geo. Gibson, of Belmont, was burned during the high wind Saturday last.

The residence of James Lavery, Canadian Pacific railway agent at Selkirk, is burned. Loss about \$2,000; insurance \$1,000.

A Mr. Rock, from Ontario, will start a second paper at Manitou. This is rather to be regretted, as the town can only support one paper decently.

The liabilities of J. Hebert & Co., of Pilot Mound, will amount to \$14,000 or \$15,000. The estate is expected to pay 30 to 40 cents in the dollar.

The Winnipeg city commercial travellers held their annual social event at the Manitoba hotel on Tuesday evening. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

The Trust and Loan Company of Canada will erect a two story brick and stone building on the south side of Portage avenue next to the Livingstone block, Winnipeg.

A Brady, of Warden, will move with his family to Reston, Man., where he will manage a branch of the W. J. Kennedy & Co., implement business, which will be opened there.

The good will, etc., of the farm implement agency of Sparling & Wade, at Ninga, has been secured by James Fowle & Co., of Boissevain, who will open a branch of their business at Ninga.

Another gold vein is reported to have been discovered at Black Island, Lake Winnipeg. Discoveries of silver ore are also reported from the Tiger Hill district, in this province.

The liabilities of the estate of Geo. Craig & Co., dry goods, etc., Winnipeg, will reach about \$86,000, making this the heaviest failure in Winnipeg for years. The dividend is not expected to exceed 20 per cent.

Thos. Lee, late of the firm of Bryan & Lee, cigar manufacturers, Winnipeg, will start a new cigar factory in Winnipeg. The old business, as reported last week, is being continued by G. F. Bryan & Co.

The Winnipeg dry goods business formerly carried on under the name of Dunwoody, Steen & Co., has been purchased by the Imperial Dry Goods Co., with A. E. Ham, of Toronto, as manager. The dissolution of Dunwoody, Steen & Co. was announced last week.

Winnipeg city tax collector gathered in \$595,188 for the nine months ended January 31, which is stated to show a considerably larger amount than was collected for the corresponding period of last year. This is taken as indicating better times in the city.

The Grantham Manufacturing company is the name of a new concern which has recently opened business in Winnipeg, the principal business of which will be the manufacture of Pino disinfectant powder. The manager of the company has been connected with this branch of business in England.

The stock of the J. B. Henderson estate, general storekeeper, Carberry, realized about \$8,000, out of which

a judgment of \$2,100 and other preferred claims in rent and wages, etc., amounting to about \$800, will have to be paid. This will leave less than \$5,000, after expenses are met, to divide among creditors, whose claims amount to about \$24,000.

Furniture dealers and others requiring tow may not be aware that a tow mill was established some time ago at Gretna in this province, for the purpose of manufacturing tow from the flax grown in the Mennonite districts of Southern Manitoba. J. G. Kertcher is the proprietor of the industry, and he claims to be able to supply a good article at a lower price than the tow now brought in from the east.

The D. McCall Co., whole and millinery, Toronto, have extended their Winnipeg agency to something of the dignity of a branch business. They have taken the premises at 220 Notre Dame street, in this city, and will have a grand millinery opening in Winnipeg on March 7, and following days. Hereafter they will also carry a stock of staple goods at their Winnipeg agency. This will be a great convenience to the western trade.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Veterinary association was held in the committee room of the city hall on Tuesday evening, Dr. Hinman, president, in the chair. The following were elected officers of the association for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Little; vice-president, Dr. Spiers; secretary-treasurer, Dr. Dunbar; examiners, Drs. Hinman, Torrance and Dunbar; auditors, Drs. Williamson and Robinson.

The town of Morden has suffered a serious loss by fire, which broke out in D. Kilgour's general store. The following are the estimated losses: Henry McKay, building, \$200; Wm. Steele, building, \$1,500; insurance, \$500; John McConnell, loss \$1,500; insurance \$1,100 in companies represented by Carruthers, Brock & Johnson. J. H. Smith, building, \$3,500, insurance \$1,600. A small building owned by W. Cochrane, was removed to check the progress of the fire, loss \$250. D. Kilgour, dry goods and groceries stock \$10,000, insurance unknown.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Some eastern packers have advanced lard 1-4 to 1-2c, mess pork 50c, to \$1 per barrel and fractional advances on smoked meats.

The Montreal Gazette says: "There has been a good demand for canned goods. The feature has been the number of enquiries received from English buyers for canned apples and some large sales have taken place. Some small sales on local account are reported at \$2.75 per dozen for one gallon tins, and holders are now asking \$3. Sales of peas at western points have been made at \$1 per dozen f.o.b., which is equal to \$1.10 here. Corn has sold at 95c to \$1 per dozen.

A Toronto report says: There have been sales of good-sized round lots of Japan teas on the Toronto market during the past week at from 14c to 16c, but it is the opinion that holders sacrificed prices. One wholesale house alone bought 1,200 packages. Other shippers of teas of this quality are holding for higher prices. Prices for low and medium grades of Indian tea are higher in Calcutta than they were at this time last year, and, as the market there is near its close, teas of the grades mentioned are hard

to get. Low grade Ceylons are firmer in Colombo, and teas formerly held on the local market at 12 1-2c could not be repeated under 14c per lb.

The recent trade sale of groceries in Winnipeg showed that many of the retail grocers were not as familiar with market conditions in connection with their business as they should have been. One line of goods, for instance, which cost 23 cents per lb. to lay down here, was offered for sale, and the highest bid received was 10 cents. Another line of canned goods was bid up to 25 cents above the ordinary jobbing price. Another feature which showed great laxity on the part of the dealers present was the fact that the best bid on canned tomatoes was \$2.55. This would indicate that retailers were not aware of the great advance that has taken place in canned tomatoes. This line would now cost \$3.10 or more to lay down here in car lots. A jobber offered the \$2.55 for the entire lot after the sale, and no doubt would have considered it a great snap to get them at such a price.

Grain and Milling News.

It is rumored that another big flour mill will be erected at Keewatin.

The town of Sidney, Man., wants a flour mill, of about fifty-barrel capacity, and is prepared to give a bonus as an inducement.

There is a chance that Dauphin, Man., will have a flour mill. Parties with capital have been inquiring about Dauphin as a point to erect a mill.

An agreement for constructing an elevator at Midland, Ont., with a capacity of over 100,000 bushels, for the Grand Trunk Railway Co. has been signed.

The Manitoba Grain Co. have bought the Alberta roller mills, at Calgary, and will increase the capacity to 150 barrels. J. A. Thompson, of the company, and formerly of the Carnduff Milling Co., will be resident manager. D. McLean, formerly proprietor, will remain as head miller. The company will erect an elevator of 60,000 or 75,000 bushels capacity. They will use Alberta wheat largely and will also import Manitoba wheat. They are already doing this as they find it improves the flour.

Dry Goods Trade.

The beginning of the fourth week of the mill operative's strike in New England showed no change in the situation, and a long struggle may result.

An exchange says: Cotton factories in New England are reducing wages, and strikes are impending. The cotton trade, it seems, is generally declining, the article not being used for some purposes so much as it was. But one cause of depression in New England is probably the competition of the Southern states, in which factories are now rising, and which have the advantages of cheap labor and of working up the cotton on the spot.

In the United States medium count fine-yarn goods, such as are made in New Bedford, are quoted 5 to 10 per cent. higher on account of the strike, while print cloths are stronger and have met with recent large sales. Men's-wear woollens continue in excellent demand for fall, and some mills have further advanced prices 2 1-2c, to 5c, this week.

Statistical Wheat Reports.

WHEAT IN CANADA

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

Montreal	94,000
Toronto	51,000
Kingston	7,000
Winnipeg	419,000
Manitoba elevators	3,310,000
Fort William, Port Arthur and Keewatin	1,153,000

Total February 5 5,034,000

BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains as reported by Bradstreet's on Feb. 5, were 50,061,000 bushels.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 68,092,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

Pacific coast wheat stocks on February 1 were 5,318,000 bushels, compared with 3,005,000 bushels a year ago.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains for the week ended Feb. 12, was 35,034,000 bushels, being a decrease of 388,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 46,658,000 bushels, two years ago 65,926,000 bushels, three years ago 80,733,000 bushels, four years ago 78,667,000 bushels.

WHEAT STOCKS AT U.S. POINTS.

Chicago	9,725,000 bushels
Duluth	2,483,000 "
Minneapolis	12,926,000 "
New York	2,073,000 "
Buffalo	1,119,000 "

STOCK OF OATS AND CORN.

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 14,012,000 bushels, compared with 13,494,000 bushels a year ago. The visible supply of corn is 38,572,000 bushels, compared with 24,394,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS.

Stocks of wheat in the United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe, on February 1, for a series of years, were as follows, Bradstreet's report: February 1, 1898, 129,123,000; February 1, 1897, 128,629,000; February 1, 1896, 160,425,000; February 1, 1895, 181,419,000; February 1, 1894, 183,927,000; February 1, 1893, 178,038,000; February 1, 1892, 155,308,000; February 8, 1891, 105,037,000; February 1, 1890, 105,533,000.

CROP MOVEMENT.

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

	This Crop	Last Crop
Minneapolis	55,556,520	43,631,180
Milwaukee	6,461,222	5,833,864
Duluth	33,248,137	32,689,968
Chicago	26,606,407	13,780,350

Total 121,872,286 95,935,362

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

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

	This Crop	Last Crop
Toledo	9,364,659	6,239,101
St. Louis	10,276,956	9,867,893
Detroit	4,022,012	2,846,344
Kansas City	24,413,366	5,839,200
Total	48,076,993	24,771,538

Winnipeg Raw Fur Prices.

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

Badger	\$.05	\$.50
Bear, black	5.00	25.00
Bear, brown	4.00	20.00
Bear, yearlings	2.00	8.00
Bear, grizzly	5.00	16.00
Beaver, large	5.00	6.50
" medium	3.00	4.00
" small	1.50	2.25
" cubs . . . . .	.50	1.00
" castors, per lb	2.50	5.50
Fisher, dark	6.00	9.00
Fisher, pale	3.00	5.00
Fox, cross dark, large	5.00	15.00
" cross pale	2.50	5.00
" kitt . . . . .	.10	.50
" red	1.00	1.60
" silver dark	40.00	75.00
" peale	25.00	60.00
Lynx, large	1.50	2.00
" medium	1.00	1.25
" small . . . . .	.50	.75
Marten, dark	2.50	5.00
" pale or brown	1.50	4.00
" light pale	1.00	2.25
Mink, dark	1.00	1.50
Mink, pale . . . . .	.75	1.25
Musquash, winter . . . . .	.04	.10
" fall . . . . .	.04	.07
Otter, dark	6.00	10.00
Otter, pale	5.00	8.00
Skunk . . . . .	.25	.50
Wolf, timber	1.00	1.50
" prairie . . . . .	.40	.75
Wolverine	1.00	3.50

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William, 75c.

Flour—Local price per sack: Patent, \$2 20@2.25, Bakers, \$2.00@2.05.

Bran—Per ton, \$6.

Shorts—Per ton, \$8.

Oats—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 20@26c.

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

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

Butter—Dairy, dealers' price, 12@16c.

Cheese—Dealers selling at 8@10c.

Eggs—Dealers were paying 20c net for fresh.

Beef—City dressed, fresh, 5@6c; country beef, 3@4c.

Mutton—5@6c.

Hogs—Dressed, 3 3/4@4 1/4c.

Cattle—Butchers nominal 2 3/4@3 1/4c.

Hogs—Live, off cars, 3 1/2c for best bacon.

Sheep—Nominal at 3@4c.

Hides—Green frozen, 6@6 1/2c.

Seneca Root—Dry, 19@20c.

Poultry—Chickens, 6@7c per pound; turkeys, 9@10c per lb.

Potatoes—30c per bushel.

Hay—\$5.00 for baled on track.

The W. J. Boyd Candy Company

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

Pure High-Class CONFECTIONERY

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

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TRAVELLER

Experienced Salesman wants position as Traveller for either a Grocery or Dry Goods firm. Good knowledge of western country and trade. First-class references. Would work for commission or salary. Address

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"Glimpses of the Unseen." Fascinating book. Sweeps the entire field of borderland subjects. Everybody orders. Marvelous illustrations. Prospectus \$1.

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TORONTO

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"The best life of Her Majesty I have seen," writes Lord Lorne about "Queen Victoria." Agents make five dollars daily.

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Men and women who can work hard, talking and writing six hour daily for six days a week, and will be content with ten dollars weekly, address.

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A few good men for canvassing on yearly salaries.

THE LINSOTT COMPANY

TORONTO

Winnipeg Hardware and Metal Prices.

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

Tin Plates—Charcoal plates, 1 C, 10 x 14, 12 x 12 and 14 x 20, \$4.50@4.75; I X, same size box, \$5.75@6; I C, charcoal, 20 x 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50@9; I X, box, 20 x 28, 112 sheets, \$10.50@11.

Terne Plates—I C, 20 x 28, \$8.50 @ 9. Iron and Steel—Bar iron, 100 lbs., base price, \$2.10 band iron, 100 lbs., \$2.05@2.75; Swedish iron, 100 lbs, \$5.25 @6; sleigh shoe steel, 2.75@3; best cast tool steel, lb., 9@11c; imitation Russian sheet, 7@8c; genuine Russian sheet, lb., 12@13c.

Sheet Iron—10 to 20 guage, \$3; 22 to 24 and 26 guage, \$3.25; 28 guage \$3.50 Canada Plates—Garth and Blaina, 3.00 @3.15.

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

Iron pipe is quoted as follows per 100 feet: 1 inch, \$2.50; 3/8 inch, \$2.75; 1/2 inch, \$3; 3/4 inch, \$4; 1 inch, \$5; 1 1/4 inch, \$7; 1 1/2 inch, \$8.50; 2 inch, \$11.50.

Lead—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2 to 5c.

Sheet Zinc—In casks, \$8.00 lb., broken lots \$6.50.

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

Ammunition—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American discount 40 per cent; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent, shot shells, 12 guage, \$6 @ 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 6c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6 1/2c. Robin Hood powder, 17 lb kegs, \$10; 1/2 kegs, 4 1/2 lbs, \$3; Canister, 9 oz., 60c. Loaded shells, 12 guage, soft shot, \$18 per 1,000, No. 10 guage, \$20.70 per 1,000.

Dupont Powder—Dupont Rifle FFG, 25-lb keg, \$5.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$2.75, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$6.60, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$8.50, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$9.25; Dupont Rifle FFFG, 25 lb keg, \$5.25, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$3.00, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$7.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$9.00, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$9.75; Dominion Rifle, 25 lb keg, \$5.75, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$3, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$7, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$11, cases of 48 1/2 lb canisters, \$12; Sea Shooting Fg, 25 lb keg, \$6; Manitoba Sporting, 25 lb keg, \$8.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$4.25, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$9.00; cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$12.00; Eagle Ducking, 25 lb keg, \$11.00, 12 1/2 lb keg, \$5.75, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$12.00; Crystal Grain, cases of 4 6 1/2 lb kegs, \$14.00, cases of 24 1 lb canisters, \$17; Blasting, 25 lb keg, \$3.00. Dupont Smokeless powder, 12 1/2 lbs, \$22.00, 6 1/2 lbs, \$11.25, 3 1/2 lbs, \$5.75, 1/2 canisters, \$1.00.

Wire—Galvanized barb wire, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; Plain wire and staples, \$3.00.

Rope—Sisal, lb., 7 1/2c base; manilla, lb., 9c base; cotton, 1/2 to 1 inch and larger, 16c lb.

Axes—Per box, \$6@9.

Nails—Cut, keg, base price, \$2.50 for 20 to 60d., with new classification of extras; common steel wire nails, 4 1/2@6 inch, \$2.65 per keg, with usual extras for smaller sizes

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

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

Winnipeg Prices of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc.

Following are close jobbing prices, as to quantity:

White Lead—Pure, \$6.25 100 lbs. Prepared Paints—Pure liquid colors, gallon \$1.15@1.25.

Dry Colors—White lead, pound, 7c; red lead, kegs, 5 1/2c; yellow ochre in barrel lots, 2 1/2c; less than barrels, 3c; golden ochre, barrels, 3 1/2c; less than barrels, 4c; Venetian, red, barrels, 3c; less than barrels, 3 1/2c; American vermilion, 15c; English vermilion, \$1 per lb., Paris green, 18@19c; Canadian metallic oxides, barrel lots, 2 1/2c; less than barrel lots, 3c; English purple oxides, 100 lb. kegs, 4c; less than kegs, 4 1/2c lb.

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

Sundries—Glue, S. S., in sheets, 1b 12 1/2 @15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 16 @25c. Stove gasoline, case, \$4; benzine, case, \$4. Axle grease, imperial, case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, case, \$3.75; Diamond axle grease, \$2.25 case. Coal tar, barrel, \$7. Portland cement, barrel, \$4@4.25; plaster, barrel \$3.25; plasterers' hair, P. P., 90c bale. Putty, in bladders, barrel lots, 2 1/2c lb., do., in 100 lb kegs, 2 1/2c., do., less than barrels, lb, 3c. Alabastine, cases of 20 pkgs., \$6.50@7.50 as to color.

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

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

Turpentine—Pure spirits in barrels, 60c; less than barrels, 110n, 63c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

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

Refined Petroleum—Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 18 1/2c; crescent, 20c; oleophene, 20 1/2c in barrels. Car lots, 1c gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 2 1/2c for cocene and 2 1/2c for sunlight.

Winnipeg Lumber Prices.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lath—Pine lath, per M, \$3.00.

Finishings—1 1/2, 1 1/4 and 2 inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$65.00, 3rd clear, \$55.00, selects, \$45.00, shops, \$38.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$32.00; B.C. cedar clears, \$55.00; B.C. fir clears and stepping, \$45.00; \$5.00 per M advance on 2 1/2 inch and thicker. One inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, \$60.00, 3rd clear, \$48.00, selects, No. 1, \$38.00, selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com) \$30.00; red pine, clear, \$40.00, selects, \$30.00; B.C. cedar, clear, \$55.00.

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

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c; lattice, 1x1 1/2, 100 feet lineal, 75c, 1x1 1/4, 100 feet lineal, 85c; window and door stop, 1 1/2 inch lineal, \$1.25, ditto, 2 inch lineal, \$1.50; 1/2 round and 3/4 cove, 75c; 1 1/2 inch mould, \$1.50; 2 inch mould, \$1.75; 2 1/2 inch mould, \$2.00; 3 inch mould, \$2.25; 3 1/2 inch mould, \$2.50; 4 inch mould, \$2.75; 4 1/2 inch mould, \$3.00; 5 inch mould, \$3.25; 6 inch mould, \$4.00; 5 inch window stool, 1 1/2 \$4.50; 6 inch window stool, 1 1/2, \$5.25, 4 inch casings, \$2.50; 5 inch casings, \$2.75; 6 inch casings, \$3.25; 8 inch base, \$4.50; 10 inch base, \$5.50; 12 inch base, \$7.00; hand rail, 2x4, \$5.00; wainscot cap, 2 1/2 inch, \$2.35, 3 inch, \$2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1 1/2 stock add 25 per cent; 1 1/2 add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

THE TARIFF

Every new subscriber to THE COMMERCIAL, sending not less than \$1.00 in advance, for 6 months subscription, will receive a free copy of the NEW CANADIAN TARIFF, in handy pamphlet form. A pamphlet of about 30 pages. Exact official copy complete. A useful reference for every business man.

WINNIPEG PRICES CURRENT

GROCERIES

Prices to retail dealers for ordinary lots, with usual discounts for cash or large lots.

Canned Goods		Per case
Apples, 3s, 2 doz.	2 25	2 50
Apples, preserved, 3s, 2 doz.	3 25	3 50
Apples, gallons (per doz.)	3 00	3 25
Blackberries, 2s, 2 doz.	3 25	3 50
Blueberries, 2s, 2 doz.	2 50	2 75
Beans, 2s, 2 doz.	1 80	2 00
Corn, 2s, 2 doz.	1 60	1 75
Cherries, red, pitted 2s, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Peas, Marrowfat, 2s, 2 doz.	1 90	2 00
Peas, sifted, 2s, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Pears, Bartlett, 2s, 2 doz.	3 50	3 75
Pears, California, 2 1/2s, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Pears, Bartlett, 3s, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Pineapple, 2s, 2 doz.	4 50	5 00
Pineapple, imported, 2s, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Peaches, 2s, 2 doz.	3 50	4 00
Peaches, California, 2 1/2s, 2 doz.	4 75	5 00
Peaches, Canadian, 3s, 2 doz.	5 50	6 00
Plums, 2s, 2 doz.	3 50	4 00
Plums, California, 2 1/2s, 2 doz.	4 50	5 00
Pumpkins, 3s, 2 doz.	2 25	2 50
Raspberries, 2s, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Strawberries, 2s, 2 doz.	3 50	3 75
Tomatoes, 3s, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Salmon, talls, 1s, 4 doz.	4 50	5 00
Salmon, Cohoes talls, 1s, 4 doz.	2 50	2 75
Per tin.		
Sardines, domestic 1/4s	0 60	0 65
Sardines, imported, 1/4s	0 65	0 70
Sardines, imported, 1/2s	1 15	1 25
Sardines, imp. 1/2s, boneless	2 00	2 35
Sardines, Dom., mustard 1/2s.	1 10	1 12
Per doz.		
Imported Fresh Herring, 1s.	1 50	1 75
Imp. Kippered Herrings, 1s.	1 90	2 00
Imp. Herrings, Tom. Sauce 1s.	1 90	2 00
Imp. " Augh. Sauce 1s.	1 90	2 00
Imp. " Shrimp Sauce 1s.	1 90	2 00
Canned Meats		
Corn Beef, 1s, 2 doz.	3 00	3 25
Corn Beef, 2s, 1 doz.	2 75	3 00
Lunch Tongue, 1s, 2 doz.	6 50	7 00
Lunch Tongue, 2s, 1 doz.	6 25	6 50
Braven, 2s, 1 doz.	5 50	6 00
Pigs Feet, 1s, 2 doz.	6 00	6 50
Roast Beef, 2s, 1 doz.	2 75	3 00
Chicken, Duck or Turkey, 1s	2 00	2 25
Per doz.		
Potted Ham, 1/4s	7 25	7 50
Devilled Ham, 1/4s	7 25	7 50
Potted Tongue, 1/4s	7 25	7 50
Potted Ham, 1/2s	1 50	1 75
Devilled Ham, 1/2s	1 30	1 50
Potted Tongue, 1/2s	1 50	1 75
Coffee		
Green Rio	12	15
Cereals		
Split Peas, sack 9s	2 25	2 50
Pot Barley, sack 9s	2 00	2 20
Pearl Barley, sack 9s	4 00	4 50
Rollod Oats, sack 9s	1 80	2 00
Standard Oatmeal, sack 9s	2 10	2 20
Granulated Oatmeal, sack 9s	2 10	2 20
Beans (per bushel)	1 25	1 30
Cornmeal, sack 9s	1 45	1 55
Cornmeal, 1/2sac 49 (per 1/2sac)	75	80
Per pound.		
Rice, B	4 1/2c	4 1/2c
Rice, Japan	5	5
Sago	4	4
Tapioca	4	4
Cigarettes		
Old Judge	\$8 90	\$8 90
Athlete	\$8 90	\$8 90
Sweet Caporal	\$8 90	\$8 90
Sweet Sixteen	\$5 70	\$5 70
Derby	6 60	6 60
Cured Fish		
Codfish, whole cases, 100 lbs.	6 00	6 00
Codfish, boneless per lb	0 1	0 1
Codfish, Pure per lb	0 7	0 8
Herrings, in kegs	3 50	3 75
Dried Fruits		
Currants, Prov'l Barrels.	06	6 1/2
Currants, Prov'l 1/2 Barrels.	06 1/2	6 1/2
Currants, Prov'l Cases	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Vostizza Cases	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Finistria, bbls	07 1/2	7 1/2
Currants, Finistria, cases	07 1/2	7 1/2
Dates, Cases	07	7 1/2
Figs, Breme, about 10 lb box	12 1/2	12 1/2
Figs, Cooking, Saz	06 1/2	06
Prunes, Bosnia, Cases	08	08
Prunes, French, Cases	06	07
Sultana Raisins	10	10

Dried Fruits

	Per pound
Raisins, Val., box of 25 lbs	1 70
Raisins, Val. Layers, per box	2 55
Loose Muscatels, 2 crown	06 1/2
Loose Muscatels, 3 crown	07 1/2
Loose Muscatels, 4 crown	08 1/2
London Layer, 20 lb Boxes	1 90
Apples, Dried	05 07
Evap. Apples, finest quality	11 12
California Evaporated Fruits	
Peaches, peeled	15 20
Peaches, unpeeled	11 13
Pears	11 12
Apricots, new	10 11
Pitted Plums	11 12
Prunes, 100 to 120	5 1/2
Prunes, 90 to 100	6 6 1/2
Prunes, 80 to 90	7 7 1/2
Prunes, 70 to 80	7 1/2
Prunes, 60 to 70	8 8 1/2
Prunes, 40 to 50	10 11
Matches	
Telegraph	\$3 60
Telephone	3 40
Tiger	3 25
Nuts	
Brazils	12 1/2
Paragon Almonds	13 15
Peanuts, roasted	13 15
Peanuts, green	10 12
Greynole Walnuts	15 15
French Walnuts	13 15
Sicily Filberts	11 15
Shelled Almonds	25 30
Syrup	
Extra Bright, per lb	3 1/2c
Medium, per lb	3c
Maple, case 1 doz. 1/2 gal. tins	\$7 00
Molasses, per gal.	35c
Sugar	
Extra Standard Granulated	5c
German Granulated	4 1/2c
Extra Ground	6c
Powdered	6c
Bright Yellow Sugar	4 1/2c
Maple Sugar	12 1/2c
Salt	
Rock Salt	1 1/2c
Per barrel	
Common, fine	1 90
Common, coarse	1 20
Dairy, 100-3	3 25
Dairy, 60-5	3 15
Per sack	
Dairy, white duck sack	00 50
Common, fine jute sack	00 45
Spices	
Assorted Herbs, 1/2 lb tins	75 90
Per pound	
Allspice, whole	15 20
Allspice, pure ground	15 20
Allspice, compound	15 20
Cassia, whole	15 20
Cassia, pure ground	20 25
Cassia, compound	13 15
Cloves, whole	15 25
Cloves, pure ground	25 30
Cloves, compound	15 20
Pepper, black, whole	10 15
Pepper, black, pure ground	13 15
Pepper, black, compound	10 13
Pepper, white, whole	20 25
Pepper, white, pure ground	25 35
Pepper, white, compound	15 20
Pepper, Cayenne	30 35
Ginger, whole, Jamaica	25 30
Ginger, whole, Cochin	20 25
Ginger, pure ground	25 30
Ginger, compound	15 25
Nutmegs, (per pound)	60 1 00
Mace (per pound)	1 00 1 25
Teas	
China Blacks—	
Choice	35 40
Medium	25 35
Common	15 20
Indian and Ceylon—	
Choice	33 40
Medium	25 32
Common	25 25
Young Hysons—	
Choice	35 45
Medium	25 35
Common	22 30
Japan—	
Finest May Picking	35 40
Choice	30 35
Fine	25 30
Good Medium	20 25
Common	15 20

Tobacco

	Per pound
T. & B., 3s, 4s, and 9s Cads.	00 76
Lily, 8s, cads.	00 63
Cresant, 5s, cads.	00 60
T. & B. Black Chewing, Sorl 6s	00 64
T. & B. Mahogany Chewing	00 64
8s or 16	00 64
T. & B. 1-12 pkg, cut	00 59
T. & B. 1-5 pkg, cut	00 91
T. & B. in pouches, 1-4	00 91
T. & B. in 1-5 tins	00 99
T. & B. in 1/2 tins	00 90
T. & B. in 15 tins	00 87
Orinoco, 1-12 pkg, cut	00 55
Orinoco, 1-5 tins	00 91
Orinoco, 1/2 tins	00 86
Tuckatts Cherub Cigarette	1-12
Brier, 7s, cads	00 65
Derby, 7s, cads	00 65
Derby, 7s, cads	00 68
P. & W. Chewing, Cads.	00 66
P. & W. Chewing, Butts	00 66
Wooden Ware	
Pails, 2 hoop clear	1 50 1 60
Pails, wire hoop	2 25 2 40
Pails, Star fibre	4 00
Tubs, No. 0 common	9 50 10 50
Tubs, No. 1 common	8 50 9 00
Tubs, No. 2 common	6 50 7 00
Tubs, No. 3 common	5 50 6 00
Per nest.	
Tubs, nests (3)	1 65 1 75
Tubs, wire hoop (3)	2 25 2 40
Per doz.	
Tubs, fibre, No. 0	16 50
Tubs, fibre, No. 1	14 50
Tubs, fibre, No. 2	12 50
Tubs, fibre, No. 3	10 50
Per nest	
Tubs, fibre, (3)	3 20
Butter Tubs, wire hoop (2)	50 55
Butter Tubs, wire hoop (3)	75 80
CURED MEATS AND LARD	
Lard, pure, 20 lb pails	\$1 70
Lard, pure, 50 lb pails	4 15
Lard, pure, in 3, 5 and 10 lb tins, per case of 60 lbs	5 75
Lard, Tierces, per lb	7 1/2
Smoked Meats	
Hams	11 11 1/2
Breakfast bacon, bellies	11 11 1/2
Breakfast bacon, backs	10 10 1/2
Spiced rolls	8 1/2
Shoulders	8 8 1/2
Long Clear	8 1/2 9
Dry Salt Meats	
Long clear bacon	8 1/2 8 1/2
Boneless Shoulders	8 1/2 8 1/2
Backs	8 1/2 8 1/2
Imported Short Clear	8 1/2 8 1/2
Barrel Pork	
Heavy mess	15 00 15 50
Short cut	16 00 16 50
Meat Sundries	
Fresh pork sausage, lb	7 1/2
Bologna sausage, lb	6 1/2
Ham, chicken and tongue, doz	\$1 20
Pickled hocks, per lb	0 1
Pickled tongues	0 5
Pickled pigs feet, pail 15 lbs	1 40
Sausage casings, lb	20 25
FRESH FISH	
OYSTERS	
Whitefish, lb	4 1/2 05
Pickrel, lb	0 1/2 05
Trout, lb	0 09
Lake Superior Herrings, doz	20
Pike, lb	0 02
Salmon, lb	12
B.C. halibut, lb	10
Smelts, lb	0 09
Cod, lb	0 08
Haddock	0 08
Rhoades, per box	1 25
Finlon haddock, lb	6 1/2 07
Smoked goldeyes, doz	30
Oysters, standards, gal	1 50 2 00
Oysters, selects, gal	2 00 2 30
Oysters, shell, barrels	7 50 7 75
Salt Whitefish, per 1/2 bbl	6 50
Salt Trout, per 1/2 bbl	7 50

DRUGS

Following are prices for parcel lots, with usual reductions for broken packages.

Alum, lb	3 1/2
Alcohol, gal.	50 5 75
Bleaching Powder, lb	06 07
Borax, lb	11 13
Bromide Potash	65 75
Camphor	65 75
Canthar, ounces	50 60
Carbolic Acid	40 65
Castor Oil	15 17
Chlorate Potash	25 30
Citric Acid	55 65
Copperas	0 3 1/2
Cocaine, oz	4 50 5 00
Cream Tartar, lb	30 35
Cloves	30 35
Epsom Salts	0 3 1/2
Extract Logwood, bulk	14 18
Extract Logwood, boxes	18 20
German Quinine	35 45
Glycerine, lb	30 35
Ginger, Jamaica	30 35
Ginger, African	20 25
Howard's Quinine, oz	45 55
Iodine	5 00 5 50
Insect Powder	35 40
Morphia, sal.	2 10 2 25
Opium	4 50 5 00
Oil, olive	1 25 1 40
Oil, U.S. Salad	1 25 1 40
Oil, lemon, super	2 75 3 25
Oil, peppermint	4 00 4 50
Oil, cod liver, gal.	1 50 2 00
Oil, Kaloche	14 16
Potass Iodide	3 75 4 00
Paris Green, lb	18 20
Salt Petre	10 12
Sal Rochelle	30 35
Shellac	35 40
Sulphur Flowers	3 1/2 05
Sulphur Roll, keg	3 1/2 05
Soda Bicarb, keg of 112 lbs	3 75 4 25
Sal Soda	2 00 3 00
Tartaric Acid, lb	45 55
Strychnine, pure crystals, oz	5 1 00
LEATHER	
Per pound	
Harness, oak	35
Harness, union oak No. 1	35
Harness, union oak No. 1 R	37
Harness, hemlock No. 1, anchor brand	33
Harness, hemlock No. 1 R, anchor brand	33
Harness, hemlock country tannage, No. 1	33
Do., No. 1 R	31
Black collar leather	30
Sole, union oak	31
Listowell, sole	27 30
Penatang, sole	27 30
H. F. French calf	1 25 1 30
H. F. French kip	9 1 15
Canada Calf, Horseshoe	65 80
Horseshoe Brand Kip	50 60
Karn Kip	50 55
Wax upper	31 45
Kangaroo, per foot	25 30
Dolgora, per foot	25 40
FUEL	
Coal	
These are retail prices, delivered to consumers in the city, or 50c per ton less at the yards, except western anthracite nut size, which is 40c less at the yards.	
Per ton	
Pennsylvania anthracite—	
Stove, nut or lump	10 00
Pea size	7 50
Western anthracite, stove	9 50
Western anthracite, nut	7 25
Lethbridge bituminous	7 50
Hocking	7 50
Southern Lignite	4 50
Southern, car lots F.O.B. mines	1 50
Hlossburg smithing	9 50
CORKWOOD	
These are prices for car lots, on track	
Per cord	
Tamarac, good, last winter's cut	4 25
Pine, green cut, dry	3 75 4 00
Pine, dead cut	3 50 3 75
Spruce	2 75 3 00
Poplar, green cut dry	2 50 2 75
Poplar, dead cut	2 25 2 50
Oak, green cut dry body	4 50 4 75
Oak, dead cut	4 00

THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, February 19, 1898.

The failure record is attracting considerable attention of late. It cannot be denied that Manitoba, and Winnipeg in particular, are making a very bad showing this season. While the number of failures is not abnormally large, the aggregate liabilities will certainly pile up to astounding totals, in comparison with previous years. This is owing to the assignment of a number of concerns having much larger liabilities than the average of bankrupt estates in Manitoba. The George Craig failure alone in Winnipeg will represent in liabilities an amount equal to what would be shown by fifteen to twenty ordinary failures. Then there have been two failures of jobbing concerns in the city, and though in each case the houses were classed among the smaller jobbing concerns, yet their liabilities will amount to very considerably more than the average of bankrupt concerns here. The J. B. Henderson failure at Carberry also represents liabilities running up to considerably over the average. These four failures represent total liabilities which will make the record for this season an unusually bad one. Nor is this the least regrettable feature of the situation. All these failures are extremely bad ones in the proportion of liabilities to assets, and the dividends paid will likely aggregate under 20 per cent. They are among the very worst failures, in point of probable dividends to creditors, on record here.

It seems peculiar that the failure record should be so bad at a time when the country is more prosperous than usual, and the outlook more hopeful than it has been for many years. Indeed, it is fortunate that they have come at such a time, for a record such as has been made this season at a time when the outlook was unfavorable, might lead to something akin to a panic. As it is, it is not believed that the bad showing made will result in any loss of commercial confidence.

It should be borne in mind that a number of these failures represent concerns which have been bankrupt for many years, and it is possible that the present has been considered a favorable time to force the inevitable assignment. In some cases concerns which have been carried for years by the creditors, are now being dropped. It is quite possible that it would have been better for the creditors to have allowed the assignments to come sooner, but it is also true that the time is favorable for weeding out bankrupt concerns, owing to the fact just noted, that under existing conditions these failures are not likely to cause any panic feeling in the business community. The liabilities of the larger concerns do not fall upon local houses to any large extent, proportionate to the totals.

WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 19
GREEN FRUITS.

Lemons now coming to hand are very much better quality than earlier receipts. Prices have been reduced 25c. per box. Mexican oranges are still in the market, but they are selling

25c. per box lower. Bananas are coming forward in small lots, but more freely. Prices are as follows: Mexican oranges, \$3.75 to \$4; naval oranges, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bananas, per bunch, \$3 to \$3.50, California lemons, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per box; apples, Ontario stock, \$4 to \$4.50 per barrel for good to choice; southern apples \$4 per bbl. of quality, \$2.50 to \$3.50 per bbl. as to condition; Cape Cod cranberries, \$7.50 to \$8 per barrel; sweet potatoes, \$5 per bbl.; Malaga grapes, \$7.50 per keg for medium and \$3 for heavy weights; Ontario black walnuts, 8c. lb.; coconuts, \$1 per doz.; Sicily filberts, large, 11 to 12c per lb.; Grenoble walnuts, 13c; figs, fancy elements, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 10 lb. box. 30 b. boxes, 16c; 50 lb. boxes, 17c per lb.; dates, 7 1-2c per lb; shelled walnuts, 20 to 25c. per lb.; imported celery, 40 to 70c per doz.

GROCERIES.

Prices continue very much below a parity with eastern markets on many staple lines, the steady upward tendency on many lines of goods, in the east, has not been taken advantage of here. Tomatoes are now quoted at \$3 per case, but this is below the price they could be laid down for in car lots, so that though it shows an advance, there is room for a considerable further advance. All lines of canned goods are very firm and frequent advances have taken place in the east, particularly on tomatoes, corn and peas. See quotations on another page.

HAIRDWARE.

The only change reported this week is on rope. Both manilla and sisal have been advanced 1-2c, the former to 9c base and the latter to 7 1-2c. Business is good with jobbers in this branch, the movement being considerably above the average at this time of year. Prices in this market are below a parity with eastern markets, and the trade is beginning to appreciate this fact.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—The week has been a strong one in the wheat markets and prices advanced about 3c. On Wednesday there was a sharp advance of about 2c in United States markets, and a further gain on Thursday of about 1c. Yesterday, however, prices were off about 1-2c.

The local market kept full pace with the advance elsewhere. Some business was transacted at 97 to 97 1-2c alfalfa basis. Fort William for No. 1 hard after Wednesday's advance, the quotation being between 95 and 96c earlier in the week. A round lot sale of 100,000 or 125,000 bushels was reported to have been put through at 95c, a large milling company being the purchaser. Yesterday 97c was quoted, alfalfa basis, for No. 1 hard. In the country about 82c is paid to farmers, at 18c freight rate points to Fort William, but there was very little offering, the weather having been rough. In the Winnipeg market 84 to 85c was paid to farmers yesterday.

FLOUR.—The market is firm. An advance of 10c was asked for some brands, but others were quoting old prices. We quote: Patent, \$2.45 to \$2.55; best bakers, \$2.25 to \$2.35; second bakers, \$1.85; XXX, \$1.40 per sack of 98 lbs.

MILLFEED.—Prices are unchanged. We quote bran at \$11 and shorts \$13 per ton in bulk. Large lots \$1 per ton less.

OATMEAL.—Prices are firm. Imported meal would cost \$1.70 to lay down here now in car lots, but jobbers are still selling at \$1.80.

GROUND FEED — Pure grain feed is quoted at \$22 to \$24 for rolled oat feed inferior mixed mill feed, \$18 to \$20 per ton. Ground corn feed is quoted at \$16 to \$17 per ton. Oil cake \$22 per ton.

OATS—There is very little doing, and prices are about the same. We quote 34 1-2 to 37 as to quality, for car lots here.

BARLEY—Feed barley is quoted at about 35 to 38c, nominal. Very little demanded. Maltng samples 38 to 43c as to quality, and 1 to 2c higher for fancy samples.

CORN—Car lots cost higher to lay down here owing to the advance south. We quote 39 1-2c per bushel of 56 lbs., for cars on track here.

BUTTER, creamery—A little fall creamery is still held, which is selling at 23 to 23 1-2c.

BUTTER, dairy — Market quiet. Stocks are not large, and demand about equal to the supply. We quote 16 to 18c for fresh tub and rolls, the outside price for selected packages in small quantities. Ten per cent commission off these prices to country shippers.

CHEESE—Dealers are selling at 10 1-2 to 11c in small lots.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens are rather scarce and good prices are being offered for them. Chickens will bring 8 to 9c as to quality. From 10 to 11c would be paid for Manitoba turkeys. Geese 9 to 10c. Ducks would bring about 8c.

DRESSED MEATS—The firm tone for dressed hogs continues, 6 1-2c being paid for choice lots of desirable weights. Heavy hogs bring 5 1-2 to 6c as to quality. Frozen beef is dull and quoted at 4 to 5c as to quality, and fresh unfrozen at 5 1-2 to 6 1-2c as to quality, for sides. Mutton 5 to 7c as to quality.

CURED MEATS and LARD—Prices are advancing. Smoked shoulders and special rolls were quoted 1-2c higher, and long clear is up 1-2c. Heavy mess has been advanced 50c per barrel. Lard is up 10c for 20-lb. pails, and other sizes in proportion. See quotations on another page.

EGGS—Stocks of hatched have been about exhausted, and in consequence the market is firmer, assisted also by colder weather. Pickled eggs are now quoted at 14 to 15c, and ordinary receipts of fresh at 17c. Choice fresh are held at 18.

HIDES—Offerings are very light. 6 1-2c is the general price for frozen hides, with 5 lbs. tare. We quote: Butchers hides, 7 to 7 1-2c. Green frozen hides, 6 1-2c; bulls, oxen, stags and brands, 5c to 6c; kip hides, 6 to 7c; calf, 8 to 9c per lb; deacon skins, 15c to 25c each; sheep pelts will average 40 to 75c each; horse hides, 75c to \$1.75 each, colts, 25c each.

WOOL—Nominal at 8 to 10c here for unwashed fleece.

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

SENECA ROOT—The market is weak. About 16c is now offered.

VEGETABLES—Prices as follows: Potatoes, 35 to 40c per bushel; carrots, \$1 to \$1.20 per bushel; onions, native, 2 to 2 1-2c per lb; imported, 3c; celery, 40 to 70c per doz. bunches; cabbage, 40c to \$1 per doz.; beets, 30 to 40c per bushel; turnips, 15 to 20 per bushel; parsnips, 11-2 to 2c.

HAY—\$6 per ton is the usual price for baled hay f.o.b. country points.

LIVE STOCK.

Butchers cattle are quiet at 3c for cows and heifers and 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c for choice. Very few wanted. Sheep nominal at about 3c. Butchers are all carrying large stocks of frozen meat and scarcely any killing is being done. Some buying of cattle to ship later is reported from the country. One party was said to be buying for the Klondike.

HOGS—The market for live hogs is firm at the last advance. We quote choice bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 lbs at \$5 per 100 lbs; 250 to 300 lbs \$4.25 to \$4.50, heavy hogs over 300 lbs, \$3.25 to \$4 as to quality, live freight.

Important Business Change.

A change is announced in the consolidated Stationery company, of Winnipeg. J. M. and M. R. O'Loughlin have sold out their interest in the concern to the remaining partners S. R. Parsons, one of the principal partners, but who has been residing in Toronto for a few years, will return at once to Winnipeg with his family and once more take an active part in the business. Mr. Parsons has been connected with the Toronto Biscuit Co., for some time. It is understood he has disposed of his interest in the latter company. Mr. J. M. O'Loughlin will remain in Winnipeg and handle the business of the Hamilton Powder company, for which he has held the agency for many years. He will also continue to look after the affairs of the Northwest Commercial Travellers association. Mr. M. R. O'Loughlin has been a resident of New York for some years.

Cornell Spera Failure.

The stock of the estate of Cornell & Spera, jobbers in men's furnishings, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale on Saturday, February 26, by auction, under virtue of a chattel mortgage. A meeting of the creditors of the estate will be held on Thursday, February 24, at the office of Bertrand, Newton and Davidson, Winnipeg. The prospects of the ordinary commercial creditors for obtaining a fair dividend are not very bright. The stock is estimated at about \$19,000, against which there is a chattel mortgage of \$10,000, given for trust moneys held by the estate. The paper in the form of bills receivable is understood to be pretty much in the hands of the Molson's bank. In addition to the chattel mortgage, there will probably be some more preferred claims in wages rent, etc., which with expenses of winding up the business will reduce the available surplus for distribution among the ordinary creditors to a very small sum.

The Oatmeal Duty.

The question of the tariff on oats and oatmeal will be brought up by the Winnipeg deputation now at Ottawa. The western members have also been sent copies of the resolution passed by the Winnipeg board of trade recently in regard to this matter. There should be little difficulty in convincing the government of the desirability of a change in the tariff on oats and oatmeal. Manitoba oatmeal mills have been closed up nearly all this season and an important home industry thereby strangled owing to the tariff discrimination against home oatmeal-milling. It seems absurd that

the tariff should be very much higher on the raw material than it is on the manufactured product, but that is the position of the tariff on oats and oatmeal. We should fancy that it will only be necessary to call the attention of the government to the matter to secure the desired changes.

Minneapolis Markets.

Flour—Prices in barrels: First patents, \$5 to \$5.10; second patents, \$4.85 to \$4.95.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$9.50 to \$10, bran in bulk, \$10 to \$10.50; corn feed, \$11.25 to \$13 per ton, as to quality.

Corn—Quoted 27 1-2c for No. 4; 27 3-4c for No. 3; 28 1-4c for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.

Oats—Held at 27c for No. 3 white, and 26 3-4c for No. 3 per bushel of 32 pounds.

Barley—Feed quoted at 28 1-2 to 29c.

Flax seed—\$1.21 for No. 1 per bushel. Eggs—11 3-4c for strictly fresh, including cases; seconds, 6c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, 8 1-2 to 10c; fair to good, 7 to 7 1-2c.

Butter—Creamery, 17 to 18 1-2c; seconds, 13 to 15c, dairy, 10 1-2 to 17c.

Dressed meats—Mutton, 4c to 6c; lambs, 5 to 8c; hogs, 4 1-4c for heavy, and 5c for medium and light.

Potatoes—Car lots mixed, 36 to 38c; choice named varieties, 40 to 55c.

Poultry—Chickens, 6 to 9c; old fowls 4 to 8c; turkeys, 7 to 10 1-2c; ducks, 8 to 9c; geese, 7 to 8 1-2c.

Hides—Green, frozen hides, 7 to 8c; bulls, oxen and brands, 5 1-2 to 7 1-4c; sheepskins, 40 to 70c each; tallow, 2 1-4 to 3 1-4c; seneca root, 18 to 22c.

Toronto Grain and Produce Markets.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Feb. 19.

Flour, wheat, oats, barley, millfeed and oatmeal are all higher this week. In other lines there are no important changes.

Flour—Manitoba patent, \$5.50; bakers, \$5; Ontario straight roller, \$4.20 to \$4.30.

Wheat—Ontario wheat, 90c to \$1; Manitoba No. 1 hard, \$1.10, North Bay.

Oats—No. 2 white, 29 to 31c. Barley—Quiet, at 40c for No. 2; 35c for No. 3 extra, and 29 to 30c for feed.

Millfeed—Shorts, \$12 to \$13.50 per ton; bran, \$9 to \$9.50 per ton.

Oatmeal—\$3.70 to \$3.80 per barrel for car lots.

Eggs—New laid, 17c; fresh 14 to 16c, hmed, 13 to 14c.

Butter, dairy—Tubs, choice, 15 to 16c; medium, 12 1-2 to 14c.

Hides—No. 1 green, 9 1-2c, the latter or steers; cured, 9 3-4c; sheepskins, \$1.10 to \$1.27 1-2 for fresh killed; tallow, 2 3-4 to 3 1-2c.

Dried apples—Firm at 4 to 4 1-2c; evaporated, 8 to 9c.

Honey—6 1-2 to 7c per lb. in bulk. Beans—75 to 90c per bushel.

Dressed hogs—\$6.20 per 100 lbs. for choice.

Wool—Fleece 20 1-2. Pulled super, 19 to 21c; extras, 21 to 22c.

A. H. Baker, general storekeeper, Roxebank, Man., has assigned.

Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week were \$1,186,546, compared with \$816,242 a year ago and \$935,582 two years ago.

British Columbia Markets.

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

BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.

Vancouver, February 19, 1898.

New Zealand creamery butter is offering in this market. Australian creamery is 1c lower. Eggs are 1 to 2c lower. Flour has advanced 20c per barrel. Poultry is higher. Fruits lower.

Butter—Manitoba dairy 19@20c; Manitoba creamery 22 1/2@23 1/2c per lb; Australian creamery 24c; Ontario creamery 25c; New Zealand creamery, 25c.

Eggs—Eastern eggs, 17c per dozen. Local, 35c; Oregon eggs, 24c.

Cheese—Manitoba 11 1/2@12 1/2c per lb. Cured Meats—Hams 12 1/2c; breakfast

bacon 13 1/2c; backs 13c; long clear 10c; short rolls 10 1/2c; smoked sides 11c; Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9 1/2c per lb, in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Fish—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; frozen salmon 6c lb; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon 10c; finnan haddie 9c; kippered herring 8c; Columbia river oolochans 7c lb; fresh halibut, 6c; spring, salmon, 7c; frozen white fish, 10c lb.

Vegetables—Potatoes \$12@14 per ton asberoffs \$20; California onions 2 1/2c lb; cabbage 1 1/2c lb; carrots, turnips and beets \$10.00 a ton.

Green Fruits—California lemons \$3.50 box; apples, 75c@\$1.25 box; Navel oranges, \$3.25@3.50; seedling oranges, \$2.50@2.75 box.

Meal—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$2.75; 2 1/2 45 pounds sacks \$2.80; 4 2 1/2 pound sacks \$2.90; 10 7 sacks, \$2.50 Oatmeal 10 10's, \$3.25; 2 50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.50 per sack.

Flour—Delivered B. C. points—Manitoba patent per barrel \$6.50; strong bakers \$6.25; Oregon, jobbers price \$6.00.

Grain—Oats, \$2.80 per ton; wheat, \$25@26 per ton; barley, \$26 per ton.

Ground Feed—National mills chop, \$26.00 per ton; ground barley, \$26 ton; shorts \$24 ton; bran \$22; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

Hay—\$18 per ton.

Dressed Meats—Beef \$5.75 @ \$6.00; mutton 11c; Australian mutton, 8c; pork 6 1/2@7 1/2c; veal 7@9c; Pemmican 40c lb.

Live Stock—Steers, grass feed \$3.25 @3.50 per 100 lbs; sheep, \$5.25@5.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50@6.00 per 100 lbs; cows \$2.75@3.00 per 100 lbs live weight.

Poultry—Chickens, 11c lb; ducks, 11c lb; turkeys, 15c lb.

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

Evaporated Fruits—Apricots, 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums, 9@10c; prunes, French 5@7 1/2c; loose muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6@8 1/2c lb.

Nuts—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12 1/2c; peanuts, 10c, Brazil, 12 1/2c; walnut, 13c lb.

Sugars—Powdered and icing, 6 1/2c; Paris lump, 5 1/2c; granulated, 4 1/2c; extra C. 4 1/2c; fancy yellows 4c; yellow 3 1/2c lb.

Syrups—30 gallon barrels, 1 1/2c pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2 1/2c; 5 gallon tins \$1.65 each; 1 gal. tins, \$1.25 case of 10; 1/2 gallon tins, \$5.00 case of 20.

Teas—Congo: Fair, 1 1/2c; good 1 3/4c; choice 2c. Ceylon: Fair, 2 1/2c; good 30c; choice, 35c lb.

New York Wheat.

New York, Feb. 14.—Wheat receipts, 71,225 bushels; exports, 39,824 bushels; sales, 2,275,000 bushels futures; 24,000 bushels spot. Spot steady; No. 2 red, \$1.03 3-4 to \$1.04 1-4 f.o.b. afloat spot; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, \$1.10 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.09 3-4 f.o.b. afloat spot. No. 1 hard, Duluth, \$1.11 1-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive. Options opened easy at 1-4c decline, following cables and advanced sharply on covering inspired by large clearances and bullish Argentine news. There was an irregular decline based on disappointing export demand, with a final slight rally on a scare of shorts, closed unsettled at 1-8c net decline. No. 2 red f.o.b. closed \$1.02 3-4; March, \$1.02 1-2 to \$1.02 3-4, closed \$1.02 3-4; May, 97 3-4 to 98 5-8c, closed 98 1-4; July, 89 3-4 to 90 3-8c, closed 90 1-4c.

New York, Feb. 15.—Wheat receipts, 84,175 bushels; exports, 16,272 bushels; sales, 5,355,000 bushels futures; 120,000 spot. Spot steady. No. 2 red, \$1.05 3-8 f.o.b. afloat spot; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, \$1.10 7-8 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.10 3-8 f.o.b. afloat spot. No. 1 hard, Duluth, \$1.11 7-8 f.o.b. afloat to arrive. Options opened strong at 1-4 cent advance on higher cables and further improved on nervous covering, inspired by strength in Chicago, May wheat, which crossed New York prices. An afternoon reaction under long selling and smaller export demand was followed by a second short scare, and the close was firm at 1-4 to 5-8c net advance. No. 2 red, Feb., closed \$1.03 1-4; March, \$1.03 1-2 to \$1.03 1-2; closed \$1.03 1-2; May, 98 1-4 to 99 7-16c, closed 98 7-8c; July, 90 3-16c to 91, closed 90 1-2.

New York, Feb. 16.—Wheat: Receipts 15,725 bushels; exports 41,616 bushels; sales 5,455,000 bushels futures, 232,000 bushels spot. Spot firm. No. 2 red \$1.06 to \$1.06 3-8, No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.11 7-8 to arrive; No. 1 hard Manitoba, \$1.11; No. 1 hard Duluth \$1.12 7-8. Option: opened strong at 1-2 to 5-8 advance on renewed activity among shorts based on May corner at Chicago. Local traders were bearish and fought the advance, causing a mid-day reversion, but were finally run in by a second sensational advance at Chicago. Prices closed strong and 1c to 2 3-4c net higher, the latter on July. On the curb May jumped to \$1.00 1-2; No. 2 red Feb. \$1.06 1-8 to \$1.06 1-4, closed \$1.05 1-8; March \$1.04 3-4 to \$1.05 3-8, closed \$1.05 3-8; May 98 7-8c to 99 7-8c, closed 99 7-8c; July 90 5-8c to 93 1-8c, closed 93 1-3c.

New York, Feb. 17.—Wheat receipts, 31,450 bushels; exports, 114,298 bushels; sales, 3,605,000 bushels futures; 116,000 bushels spot. Spot steady; No. 2 red, \$1.08 1-8 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, \$1.13 1-8 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard, Manitoba, \$1.12 5-8 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard, Duluth, \$1.14 1-8. Options opened stronger at 1 5-8c to 2c advance, influenced by better foreign news and a bad scare of shortage. Foreign houses traded both ways. The Havana news had no important effect. No. 2 red, March, \$1.06 1-2 to \$1.07 7-8, closed \$1.06 7-8; May, \$1.00 7-8 to \$1.01 1-4, closed \$1.01 1-8; July, 93 1-2c to 95c, closed 94 1-4c.

New York, Feb. 18.—Wheat. Receipts: 9,250, sales 4,485,000 bushels futures 32,000 spot. Spot steady, No. 2 red \$1.06 3-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 Northern Duluth \$1.12 1-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive; No. 1 hard Manitoba \$1.12 1-4 f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 hard Duluth \$1.13 3-4 f.o.b. afloat to arrive. Options opened weaker at a partial 3-4 to 7-8 decline, following heavy Argentine shipments and unsatisfactory cables. They declined further on liquidation, but rallied in the last hour on reported heavy freight room engagements for Letter wheat and bullish Argentine crops news. Closed steady at 1-4 to 1 1-4 not decline. No. 2 red

March \$1.05 3-4 to \$1.06 7-8, closed \$1.06 1-4; May \$1.00 to \$1.01, closed \$1.00 3-4; July 92 1-2 to 93 1-2, closed 93.

On Saturday, February 19, No. 2 red wheat closed at \$1.02 7-8 for May option, and 95c July.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices

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

Chicago, Feb. 14.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, Feb., \$1; May, 98 1-4c; July, 85 1-4c.

Corn, Feb. 28 5-8c; May, 30 1-4 to 3-8c; July, 31 1-2c.

Oats, May, 26 1-4c; July, 24c.

Mess pork, May, \$10.95; July, \$10.97 1-2.

Lard, May, \$5.20, July, \$5.30.

Short ribs, May, \$5.32 1-2; July, \$5.40.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, Feb., 99 3-8c; Feb. \$1; July, 85 3-4c.

Corn, May, 30 3-4c to 7-8c, July, 31 7-8c to 32c; Sept., 33c.

Oats, May, 27 1-8c to 1-4c; July, 24 1-2 cents.

Pork, May, \$11.15, July, \$11.15.

Lard, May, \$5.20, July, \$5.27 1-2.

Ribs, May, \$5.32 1-2, July, \$5.40.

Chicago, Feb. 16.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—Feb. \$1.04 1-4, May \$1.03 1-4, July 89 1-2c.

Corn—May 31 1-4c to 3-8c, July 32 1-2c, Sept. 33 5-8c.

Oats—May 27 5-8c, July 24 3-4c to 7-8c.

Mess pork—May \$11.10, July \$11.10.

Lard—May \$5.77 1-2, July \$5.25.

Short ribs—May \$5.27 1-2, July \$5.35.

Chicago, Feb. 17.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat, No. 2 red, May, \$1.04 1-8; July, 99 cents.

Corn, No. 2, May, 30 7-8c to 31c; July, 32 1-8c; Sept., 33 3-8c.

Oats, No. 2, May, 27 1-8c; July, 24 1-2 cents.

Mess pork, May, \$11.07 1-2, July, \$11.05.

Lard, May, \$5.17 1-2; July, \$5.22 1-2.

Short ribs, May, \$5.25; July, \$5.32 1-2.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—The leading futures closed as follows:

Wheat—No. 2 May \$1.03 1-2; July 89 5-8.

Corn—No. 2 May 30 1-2 to 30 5-8; July 31 5-8 to 31 3-4; Sept. 32 7-8.

Oats—No. 2 May 26 3-8 July 24 1-3.

Mess pork—May \$10.95, July \$10.95.

Lard—May \$5.20, July \$5.27 1-2.

Short ribs—May \$5.25, July \$5.32 1-2.

On Saturday, February 19, May wheat opened at \$1.03 1-2 and ranged up to \$1.09. The market was a wild one, varying 1 cent at a time, between sales. Closing prices were:

Wheat—May, \$1.06; July, 92c; Sept., 92 1-8c.

Corn—Feb., 29 5-8c; May, 31 1-8c.

Oats—Feb., 26 5-8c; May, 27 1-8c.

Pork—May, \$11.02 1-2; July, \$11.

Lard—May, \$5.20; July, \$5.30.

Ribs—May, \$5.27 1-2; July, \$5.32 1-2.

Flax Seed—Cash, \$1.27; May, \$1.28.

A week ago May option closed at 97 3-4c. A year ago May wheat closed at 76 1-2c, two years ago at 64 5-8c, and three years ago at 53c.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

On Saturday, February 19, No. 1 Northern wheat closed at 98 1-4c for May option, 97 3-8c for July and 80c for September.

TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Feb. 19.

Dry Goods—Business in all lines is increasingly active. Values, particularly in woolen goods and heavy cottons are very firm. Large numbers of orders from Manitoba and the Pacific coast for staples. Flour sacks have advanced. Makers have agreed to a schedule of prices. Remittances are improving and there are fewer failures. Larger cash sales reported this week.

Groceries—Sugars are slow; other groceries active. Stocks of Ceylon teas at 12 1-2 and 13 cents are exhausted. Heavy demand from Manitoba and British Columbia for canned vegetables. One thousand cases of tomatoes sold at \$1.15.

Hardware—The hardware trade is improving with a good demand from the west. Shelf hardware and metals are firm; sisal and manilla rope have been advanced 1-2c.

Produce—Grain markets very active and firm. A private letter received here says Ogilvie bought thirty thousand bushels No. 1 hard wheat afloat Fort William at 98, May delivery. Manitoba wheat dearer. Manitoba flour 40c higher. Millfeed 50c higher; Rye two cents up. Oats cent and half dearer.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

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

Monday—May 95 3-8c, July 94c.

Tuesday—May 95 5-8c, July 93 3-4c.

Wednesday—May 98c, July 96c.

Thursday—May 98 3-4c, July 97 1-4.

Friday—May 98 3-8c, July 97c.

Saturday—May, \$1; July 98c.

Cash, No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at \$1.01 1-2, and cash No. 1 Northern at \$1.01 1-2.

Last week May options closed at 98 3-8c.

A year ago May options closed at 76 1-2c, and two years ago at 61 7-8c, three years ago May option closed at 57 7-8c, and four years ago closed at 60 3-8c.

WINNIPEG CLOSING WHEAT.

The market is irregular to-day, (Saturday) with 98 to 98 1-2c quoted for No. 1 hard, afloat Fort William.

BUSINESS IN ONTARIO.

Special to The Commercial.
Toronto, Feb. 18.—Business moved greatly since last week, but a heavy snow storm on Tuesday checked the movement in spring goods and caused quite a serious set back. Orders during the first part of the week were very numerous and the wholesale dry goods houses have been busy day and night shipping out goods. The mills are all very busy and it is difficult now to get prompt delivery of cottons, cottonades, linens, grey cottons and woollens. Two of the mills working on blankets have sufficient orders now to keep them busy for the next six months. The Canadian tweed manufacturers are selling more goods than ever before. A year ago many of them went to great expense in having their looms altered in order to turn out 6-4 cloths instead of the 3-4 sort formerly turned out, the change being made to compete with the English goods. Their enterprise has been well rewarded.

The Ontario rolling mills, at Hamilton, Ontario, were destroyed by fire recently. About 230 men are thrown out of employment.

MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Feb. 19.

There is a brisk demand for paints and oils. Metals are quiet. Prices have not been changed in any important particular this week.

White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c, red lead in kegs, 43-4c; linseed oil raw, 45 to 46c; boiled 48 to 49c; turpentine 50 to 51c; bar iron, \$1.40 to \$1.50, tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90, I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75, Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.90 to \$4; spout in bulk, \$1.65; in bladders, 80; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Feb. 15.

At the semi-weekly market yesterday cattle were firm, with fairly liberal offerings. Choice sold at 41-2c; good at 4c to 41-4c, fair at 31-4c to 33-4c, and lower grades at 21-4c to 3c. The demand for sheep was fair at 31-2c, and lambs at 41-2c to 5c. Hogs continued weak, prices making a further decline of 1-4c, with sales at 5c per lb, off cars, live weight.

THURSDAY'S MARKETS.

Montreal, Feb. 18.

At yesterday's market prices were the same as on Monday.

Cattle—Choice 41-4 to 41-2c, fair to good, 31-4 to 4c.
Sheep—3 to 31-2c per lb., lambs, 4 1-2 to 5c.

MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Feb. 19.

The grocery market is steady and firm. Molasses is quoted 1c higher and the inside price on syrups has been advanced 1-4c, 2c now being the lowest price. Low grade syrups are very scarce. Rice is firm, on foreign advices.

Quotations are: Granulated sugar, standard, 15-16c at the refineries; Canadian-German granulated, 4c; yellows, 39-16 to 37-8c; imported best granulated, 4c. Molasses, 29 to 30c; syrups, 2 to 2 1-2c as to quality; Valencia raisins from 43-4 to 51-2c, Valencia layers, 61-2c; currants, 51-8 to 61-2c, as to brand; coffee, Rio, 81-2 to 10c; Mocha and Java, 20 to 24c; rice, Crystal Japan, 5c, B. 3 1-2c.

Canned goods—Tomatoes, \$1.20 to \$1.25; corn, 90c to \$1; peas, 90c to \$1.00.

MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.
Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, Feb. 19.

Oats have been steadily climbing upward 1-2c at a time and show an advance of 3c over a week ago. There has been some export demand for Manitoba flour, 1,000 sacks were sold on Belfast account by the Lake of the Woods. Oatmeal is unsettled and irregular in price, and millers quote widely different prices. Dairy products are quiet. Butter dull. Cheese easy.

Oats—Strong at 31 to 34 1-2c per bushel for No. 2 white.

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$4.95, Manitoba patents, \$5.35 to \$5.40.

Millfeed—Bran \$14 to \$14.50 per ton; shorts, \$15.50 to \$16, including sacks.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.70 to \$1.80 per bag.

Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.

Eggs—Fresh, 15 to 16c, per dozen, new laid, 19 to 20c.

Butter—Dairy, 15 to 16c.

Butter—Creamery, 18 to 19c

Cheese—8 to 8 1-4c.

Dressed hogs—\$6 to \$6.50 per 100 pounds.

Dressed beef—Front quarters, 31-2 to 41-2c; hinds, 51-2 to 71-2c.

Dressed mutton—Lamb, 7 to 8c; mutton, 6 to 7c.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARKET.
Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Tuesday 15.

Offerings to-day were 48 cars of stock, including 100 hogs and 320 sheep and lambs. There was some export buying for shipment via St. John at 33-4 to 41-4c and 31-2 to 33-4c for bulls. Butchers' cattle sold at 31-4 to 33-4c for the general run; choice touched 4c. Common slow sale at 23-4c to 3c. Stockers for Buffalo sold at \$2.80 to \$3.35 per 100 lbs., and feeders at 31-2c for choice Export sheep, 3 to 35-8c; lambs 47-8c to 51-8c. Bucks, 21-2 to 3c. Hogs were weaker at \$1.90 for the best; thick fat \$4.50, light fat \$4.65, sows \$3 to \$3.25, stags \$2 to \$2.25, stores \$1.50.

FRIDAY'S MARKETS.

Toronto, Feb. 18.

Receipts of live stock of all kinds at the semi-weekly market to-day were 60 carloads including 1,000 sheep and lambs, and 1,500 hogs. Butchers' cattle were \$3 per head lower, best selling at 31-4c to 33-4c. Lambs 20c dearer per head. Sheep 1-4c lower per lb. as compared with Tuesday. Other lines unchanged.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

London, Feb. 14.—The trade in cattle to-day was slow, but prices were firm. Choice States cattle were unchanged at 11 1-2c; choice Canadians were 1-2c lower at 10 1-2c, and Argentine sheep were firm at 12c.

Liverpool, Feb. 14.—An easier feeling prevailed in this market, and prices declined 1-4c. Choice States cattle sold at 11c, and Canadians at 10 1-2c.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A. Theodore, fruits, Victoria, has sold out.

J. Teague, has opened in drugs, at Victoria.

N. Lamont, tinsmith, has started business at Greenwood.

M. S. Butler, harness, has started business at Greenwood.

Houghton & Barnett, general store, Rossland, have assigned.

C McKay, general store, Golden, is in trouble with the sheriff.

W. J. Tappin, confectionery, Victoria, offers his business for sale.

Arthur & Pretty, stationery, Rossland, reported succeeded H. S. Wallace.

J. Ferguson, New Westminster, has sold the Douglas bakery to A. Jackson.

W. A. Griffith & Co., drugs, Vancouver, style now Griffiths & Macpherson.

McKee & Snodgrass, hotel, Greenwood, are succeeded by Cameron & McKenzie.

The Kootenay Brewing, Maltng & Distilling Co.; sheriff's sale advertised for Feb. 15th.

The stock of S. G. Stevens, novelties, etc., Nanaimo, has been bought by John Sampson.

F. R. Stewart, produce, Vancouver, has admitted F. M. Black as partner. Style F. R. Stewart & Co.

Empey Bros., grocers, Rossland; F. E. Empey has sold his interest in the business to Samuel Carnahan.

The Fisherman's Canning Co., at Port Guelion, general store and hotel, has been taken over by Wm. McBride.

James M. Patterson, late manager of Dr. Arthur's drug store, at Nelson, is opening business in drugs at the new town of Kuskankock.

WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS.

J. C. Laidlaw, butcher, Carman, Man., advertises his business for sale.

W. T. Daly, butcher, is opening business in Winnipeg.

H. Penneck, tailor, Fort William, is burned out.

Aaron & Co., general store, Wabigoon, Ontario, have assigned.

Hargrave & Seasons, general storekeepers, Carlton, Sask., are giving up business.

McLaughlin Bros., of Gorrie, Ont., will open a general store at Regina, Assa.

Winnipeg city grocers will on Tuesday evening next entertain the travelers to an oyster supper.

Wm. Piper is negotiating for the store building and stock of A. McBride & Co., hardware, at Red Deer.

W. R. Dunlop is opening a flour and feed store at Neepawa, Man.

W. R. Cathness, baker, fruits, etc., Neepawa, has sold out to H. B. Trimble.

W. F. Orr, a well known resident of Calgary, but not in business at present, is dead.

J. H. M. Carson, late of McGregor, Man., will open in the hardware business at Macleod, Alberta.

The dwelling and store of John Farr, of Bradwardine, Man., has been burned. The buildings were a total loss, but the greater part of the contents were saved. The amount of insurance is said to be \$2,000.

A. E. Whiffin, Medicine Hat, has opened in wholesale liquors, in W. Cousins' old store. He was formerly proprietor of the Queen's hotel, at Qu'Appelle.

Some very important conventions were held at Winnipeg this week, chiefly in the agricultural interest, including the different Live Stock Breeders' associations.

E. J. Brooks has purchased the building of A. J. Osment, at Indian Head, Assa., and will in August next take possession. Mr. Osment has taken A. L. Hubbs into partnership in his Kenlis branch store.

Building will be brisk in Portage la Prairie this year. Besides the big Cowan block, J. Robb will erect a new building, Fairbairn & Co., will enlarge their premises, White Bros. will complete their foundry and an elevator will be built in connection with the oatmeal mill.

At Rapid City, Man., on February 17, fire broke out in the building occupied by T. Mohr, barber, and burned the buildings of H. C. Ross and Zink Bros., occupied by N. McKelvie as a general store. Nearly all of McKelvie's goods were got out, but were badly damaged by smoke and water. The loss to the stock is fully covered by insurance. The building of H. C. Ross was insured for \$300 and the loss is about \$400, and that of Zink Bros. is insured for \$200 and the loss will be about \$300. The fire originated from a defective chimney.