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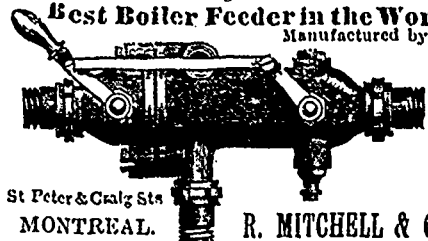
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Stock of Goods of my own manufacture is also complete and am
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

Published by James E. Steen—Every Tuesday—Subscription, \$2 per annum.

VOL. 5.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1886.

No. 1.

The Commercial

Journal devoted to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Mercantile, Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest.

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY

THE COMMERCIAL will be mailed to any address in Canada, United States or Great Britain at \$2.00 a year in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES.

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THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North, west.

Book, Newspaper, Railroad, Commercial and Job Printing, specialties.

Office, 4 and 6 James St. East.

JAMES E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 28, 1886.

G. W. ROBINSON, will open in the furniture line at Killarney.

WALTER PELFORD is winding up his drug business at Stonewall.

W. McDONALD has taken charge of the Queen's Hotel, Minnedosa.

THE Saskatchewan Hotel, Minnedosa, is now conducted by R. Murdoch.

PEEL & Co., groceries and liquors, Winnipeg, have sold out to T. T. Smith.

CARMICHAEL & McDOWELL, have opened in boots and shoes at Portage la Prairie.

C. W. WILLIAMS, general storekeeper, Wakopa, Man., will move to Killarney.

W. WHITE, late of Scott & White, Regina, has opened a law office at Moosomin, Assa.

A. C. SPARROW, butcher, Calgary, has sold out to Dunn & Lincham, in the same line of business at that place.

MILLWARD & FREEZE, painters, Calgary, have dissolved partnership. J. H. Millward will continue the business.

COUNT DE SIMENCOURT, who has a ranch at Shoal Lake, has opened a meat stall in the Winnipeg city market.

GATLIFF & FRASER, lumber merchants, Emerson, have dissolved partnership. Gatliff will continue the business.

SARGEANT & GIFFORD, butchers, Virden, Man., have dissolved partnership. W. B. Sargeant will continue the business.

Three hundred and four Post Offices have been opened in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, during the past five years.

A HERD of 130 cattle were recently shipped from Brandon to Battleford. The price paid at Brandon was 3c and 5 per cent off for shrinkage.

THE Northwest Indicator, a monthly paper, published in the interests of provincial rights, by E. A. Bailey, of Brandon, will be published as a weekly.

C. H. WESBROOK, dealer in agricultural implements, Moosomin, Assa., has formed a partnership with — McKennit, under the style of Wesbrook & McKennit.

THE stock of Wm. Wellband, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, was bid in at 73c in the dollar at Sheriff's sale. It is understood the stock reverts to the former proprietor.

THE Bank of Montreal have rented offices in Dunn & Lincham's new block, now in course of erection at Calgary, and an agency of the Bank will be opened as soon as the building is ready.

WOODS, jeweller; Arthur, confectioner; and the Central Hotel, Port Arthur, kept by Rolph, were burned on Saturday. Marks, McKay & Co., gents' furnishing; Rodder, druggist; and Brown, dry goods; had their stocks damaged by moving.

THE Winnipeg Gas Co. has authorized the directors to borrow \$300,000 upon the debentures of the Company and give a mortgage upon the entire property of the Company. The works of the Company in the city will be greatly extended. The Gas Company has purchased the plant of the Electric Light Co.

Over 250 immigrants arrived last week in Winnipeg.

A new line of steamers has commenced running between Port Arthur and Duluth.

The Calgary Tribune reports that cherry trees set out there have borne fruit equal to Ontario cherries this season.

A meeting of delegates from a number of municipalities interested will be held at Brandon, to arrange a test case to see if the Northwest Land Co., cannot be compelled to pay taxes on its lands.

THE rate of taxes at Brandon for 1886 has been fixed at 12.85 mills on the dollar. This is something like two mills less than last year, notwithstanding that the assessed valuation of property has been reduced.

It is reported that negotiations are in progress between the Government and the C.P.R. Co., for the transfer of the Government telegraph system in the Northwest to the latter company. This would include the line to Edmonton and branches in the Saskatchewan country, in all about 1,000 miles of wire.

THE following unique letter was received from a farmer by a Winnipeg bank manager, in answer to a communication regarding an overdue note:—"Sir: I am unable to meet your note at present, I have not thrashed yet, but expect to next week, and as soon as I can I will pay you. Now boss you were constantly writing me last fall for money, will you please out of a favor to me never in God's name take any of my paper again after this is paid. I have over \$2,000 of paper out and somebody will get left sure.

THE secretary of the Winnipeg Board of Trade has received the following communication from the Post-Office Department at Ottawa, regarding the resolution lately passed by the Board:—"Sir:—I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th instant enclosing a resolution of the council of the Winnipeg Board of Trade asking that the postal car service be extended west of Manitou; and in reply have to inform you that the subject to which you refer is receiving due enquiry and consideration.—W. WHITE, Secretary."



Business East.

ONTARIO.

Robt. Copeland, grocer, Brantford, was burned out.
 Excelsior Straw Works, Toronto, have dissolved.
 D. McGillivray, grocer, Clamnis, has sold signed.
 Emileu Turcotte, trader, Ottawa, has assigned.
 Henry Papuette, dealer in shoes, Ottawa, has assigned.
 W. Y. Martin, saloon keeper, Toronto, has sold out.
 Hamilton Drop Forging Co., Hamilton, has sold out.
 Geo. Grunder, grist mill, Ridgetown, has sold out.
 Foley & Wilker, undertakers, Toronto, have sold out.
 John P. Armour, druggist, Wardsville, has sold out.
 Nelles & Ryan, hotelkeeper, London, have dissolved.
 John Graham, hotelkeeper, Toronto, is about selling out.
 Geo. ith, grist mill, Comber, is moving to Ridgetown.
 Frank Hughson, general storekeeper, Mull, has sold out.
 W. Elliott, general storekeeper, Wingham, has assigned.
 Moses Stern, dealer in fancy goods, Toronto, has assigned.
 Thompson & Co., gents furnishings, Trenton, has assigned.
 H. Lync, general storekeeper, Clarksburg, has assigned.
 Wm. H. MacGuire, tinsmith, North Gower, has assigned.
 A. W. Hettger, dealer in fancy goods, Lindsay, has assigned.
 A. C. Larose, dealer in dry goods, Ottawa, has assigned.
 Rutherford Bros. stationers, Owen Sound, have assigned.
 Boomer & Walton, confectioners, London, have dissolved.
 — Faulkner, printer, Rat Portage, has removed to Manitou.
 J. A. Wilkinson, general storekeeper, Holbrook, has assigned.
 W. J. Drake, livery and carriages, St. Thomas, has sold out livery.
 Olmsted & Kemptorn, planning mill, Pickering, was burned out.
 Wm. Wilkinson, grocer, Ingersoll, has sold out to J. McGillivray.
 R. Hinchcliffe, foundryman, Hamilton, is removing to United States.
 E. Jacobs & Co., dealers in fancy goods, Smiths Falls, have assigned.
 Mrs. Woolway, hotelkeeper, Melrose, was burned out; insured \$2,000.
 Paschal Faulkner, general storekeeper, St. Albert, has assigned in trust.
 S. Robinson general storekeeper, Cassels, has sold out to Wm. Armstrong.
 J. R. Trimble, general storekeeper, Markdale; stock sold to J. R. Armstrong.
 B. B. Hughes, dealer in dry goods, Guelph, has sold out to Zingler & Smith.

Strong & Donnell, general storekeepers, Barrie, have sold out to S. Johnstone.
 J. D. McDonald, general store and mill, Port Lambton, has sold out general store business.
 J. Wanless & Sons, dealers in hardware, Parkdale, have sold out to C. J. Brown & Co.
 Sheppard & Gummon, dealers in tins, Dundas, have dissolved; each continues on own account.
 Stock & Armstrong, general storekeepers, Tavistock, have dissolved; Val. Stock continues.
 Campbell & Meyers, general storekeepers, Ayton, have dissolved; D. O. Campbell continues.

QUEBEC.

Jos. Brisbaoise, grocer, Montreal, was burned out.
 A. Ledue & Co., hotelkeeper, Montreal, has assigned.
 John Massie, printer, Cowansville; advertises business for sale.
 Blanchard & Williamson, forwarders, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Jos. Brault, general storekeeper, Barrington, is asking an extension.
 H. M. & T. B. Rider, general storekeepers, Fitch Bay, have dissolved.
 Isaac Dubard, general storekeeper, Victoriaville, has assigned in trust.
 Jos. Goulette, dealer in shoes, Quebec, has called a meeting of creditors.
 Fisher & Sheppard, dealers in millinery, Quebec, was damaged by fire.
 Gallery & O'Neil, dealer in dry goods and tailor, Montreal, have dissolved.
 L. N. Bernachez, general storekeeper, St. Thomas de Montmagny, has assigned.
 J. N. Soly, dealer in sewing machines and fancy goods, Montreal, was burned out.
 Isaac Duhord, general storekeeper, Victoriaville, demand of assignment made on him.
 Aph. Labelle, wholesale and retail confectioners, Montreal, is offering to compromise.
 James Langlands & Son, agents and manufacturers of coffee and spices, Montreal, have dissolved.
 G. C. Hickok, plumber, Montreal, has admitted Mercer E. Medard as partner; style G. C. Hickok & Co.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Wm. W. Ramsey, trader, Lower Stewiacke, has assigned.
 J. R. Saunders, tobaccoist, Halifax; advertises stock for sale.
 C. C. Veysey, dealer in carriages, North Sydney, has assigned.
 Harrington Bros., general storekeepers, Antigonish, have dissolved.

The State of Trade.

The trade dispatches this week tell of an increased distribution of merchandise, with a distinct and widespread tendency toward higher prices for staple goods. From New England the autumn business is reported in excellent shape. Philadelphia reports satisfactory activity in most branches of the distributing trade, with no complaint of collections in any quarter. Kansas City reports the best business for several months, with prices firmer. St. Louis finds

still further improvement, with free buying, in anticipation of higher prices. At Louisville business maintains an active and firm movement, with the distributive trade especially well employed. The merchandise movement at New Orleans has been very brisk, with the prices of staple goods, except flour, generally advanced on the week. From Chicago report comes that in important branches of trade surprise is expressed at the ease of western and northwestern collections, some lines reporting that money is coming in a month ahead of time. Good reports of collections generally have been received. Iowa trade centers report further satisfactory trade movements. Reports from St. Paul and Minneapolis of general trade are again favorable. The dry goods trade of St. Paul is particularly prosperous. The loan markets throughout the country are generally reported more active, with a tendency to higher rates. At Cincinnati the rate of interest has advanced from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. At New Orleans the money market is active, with a hardening tendency. Collections are somewhat slow at Louisville on account of low prices of tobacco and the reluctance of shippers. The bank clearings at thirty cities for this week, amount to \$874,676,336, as compared with \$778,069,914 last week, and with \$727,569,309 in the like week of 1885. The increase last week from the total of the preceding week was $3 \frac{4}{5}$ per cent., and this week the increase is 12.4 per cent.; as against one year ago the gain is 20 per cent. There is a marked revival of speculative activity in the New York stock market. Transactions this week amount to 1,769,000 shares, against 859,000 shares last week. Bonds of all classes are active and strong. Governments advanced on purchases by the national banks. Money is easier though rates are firm at between 5 and 6 per cent. The eastern wool markets are no less favorable for holders, the tendency of prices being upward. On some lines a rise of $\frac{1}{2}$ c. a pound has been attained. The Boston wool market was stronger and more active at the close. At London wool prices are firm and strong. Wool sales at Philadelphia are larger than for any previous week this year. Boston reports remarkably favorable conditions in the dry goods trade. Cotton goods are closely sold up at the mills. Distribution is considerably ahead of last year. The jobbing dry goods trade at New York is slightly less active. The improvement in the coal trade is well maintained. The general situation in the iron trade continues strong, and prices are well maintained. There were 183 failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* this week, against 153 last week 148 in 1885, 305 in 1884, 177 in 1883, and 139 in 1882. Canada had 28, against 22 last week, and 18 in 1885. The total in the United States this year is 7,187, against 8,193 in a like period in 1885. The visible supply of sugar, which stood at 1,077,643 tons two weeks ago, has further decreased to 973,599 tons against 1,026,391 tons same date last year. This, with reports of damage to beet crop, has caused higher prices. Coffee has again been excited under further speculative manipulation strengthened by smaller receipts and advanced $1 \frac{1}{2}$ c. a pound. Domestic rice has sold in New York at lowest prices for years in consequence of heavy supplies.—*Bradstreet's*

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We the undersigned do hereby warn Merchants and others
from purchasing or trading in a certain Laced Moccasin which is a
direct infringement on the

"Patent Bellows Tongued Laced Moccasin,"

controlled by us, and patented in Ottawa, March, 1885.

Anyone found dealing in the said Moccasin will be prosecuted
as the law directs.

JAS. HALL & CO.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 28, 1886

ANOTHER YEAR.

With this issue THE COMMERCIAL enters upon its fifth year of publication, the first number having appeared on the third day of October, 1882. Since then the interests which the journal has looked after and defended, have had a varied experience. Starting out on the verge of a speculative collapse, journal and interests have gone linked together through the depths of depression, and the slow process of return to prosperity. Rebellion has clouded around, commercial disaster has been passed through, and panic only has been avoided, so that all of the past four years have not been sunshine with the commercial interests of the Northwest no pleasant and profitable to the publisher. The dark days are over for the present at least, and it is to be hoped that journal and interests will now pass through years of prosperity linked together as closely and inseparably as they were in the days of depression.

When the first number of THE COMMERCIAL made its appearance, railway communication westward had scarcely crossed the western boundary of Manitoba, and to the east it still failed to reach the shores of Lake Superior. The city of Winnipeg was a railway centre, with radiating lines ending at nowhere, while now prosperous towns and cities in other portions of Manitoba were mere villages. Now the city and province are linked with both the Atlantic and Pacific coast, while within the Canadian Northwest, the term applied to the country from the eastern boundary of Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains, nearly seventeen hundred miles of railway are in operation, and several promising cities, besides scores of growing and prosperous towns and villages are now scattered over, what five years ago was unbroken prairie.

The Northwest when THE COMMERCIAL first appeared was a new country, importing nearly all its supplies and exporting practically nothing, whereas the exports of the city of Winnipeg alone during 1885 reached an aggregate value of \$2,180,820, and those of the province of Manitoba for 1886 promise to aggregate if they do not exceed a value of \$5,000,000.

We have now safely gathered in a harvest, which will add greatly to the exports

and wealth of Manitoba, and we have arrived at a state of safety in trade affairs, such as should satisfy the most conservative students of commerce, so that while we have no boom tendencies or inflated ideas of our present state, we may safely calculate upon having entered upon a steady and progressive prosperity, with which there is no reason to fear unpleasant reactions.

While we have reached prosperity, and made great progress during the past four years, there is still no room for lingering in our onward movement. During the coming four years we have before us the great work of building a railway to the shores of Hudson's Bay, and opening the great northern outlet for our products. We have the duty of freeing ourselves from the chain of railway monopoly with which we are bound down, and which so impedes and encumbers us in our progress. We have the additional duty of securing settlers for our fertile lands, so that we may take our proper place as a populous land of plenty. These and other duties are before us, and in grappling with them the progressive element of our country will find one unflinching supporter in THE COMMERCIAL, and one guided by the motto "ever aggressive." In the struggling years that have passed, we have had the steady support and confidence of the commercial community around us, and in the more prosperous era which has now dawned, it shall be our aim to retain the same.

THE BONUS SYSTEM AGAIN.

We have received a communication from Mr. J. B. Rutherford, of Stonewall, called forth by the perusal of an article published in THE COMMERCIAL of the 14th instant, dealing with municipal indebtedness. Our correspondent refers to that portion of the article in which allusion was made to the indiscriminate manner in which bonuses have been voted for the establishment of roller flour mills. Mr. Rutherford says: "Whilst I agree with your remarks in the main, there are exceptional instances where it is a good investment for municipalities to bonus enterprises that afford accommodation the ratepayers cannot well afford to do without." Our correspondent then instances the case of the farmers about Stonewall, who are compelled to purchase their flour at the retail price for the same, whereas they could save a considerable outlay by having their wheat ground, were there a

mill in their district. Mr. Rutherford is the joint owner of a stone mill located at Stonewall. This mill of course is now useless for merchant work, and it does not pay to run it for custom work alone. He has therefore asked for a small bonus from the municipality to enable him to change the mill to the roller process; and in return for such assistance he offers to grind fifty bushels of wheat yearly for each ratepayer, at the rate of ten cents per bushel, or a reduction of five cents from the usual rate. He also agrees to chop thirty hundred weight of grain at eight cents per hundred weight, to use our correspondent's words, "a reduction in itself sufficient to pay each farmer the amount he would have to contribute in taxes." Under these circumstances it would seem that the farmers (ratepayers) are getting altogether the best of the bargain. Would not Mr. Rutherford be money in pocket in the long run by raising the funds necessary for his undertaking in some other way and charging the regular rates for his work? However, if Mr. Rutherford is willing to make such an arrangement, it would certainly appear to the advantage of the ratepayers to accept it, providing the sum asked for is not exorbitant. Such an arrangement could not be termed a bonus within the strict meaning of the word, and would simply be an agreement between the parties thereto, where value for value would be supposed to be given.

The article in THE COMMERCIAL which our correspondent refers to, was not intended for a dissertation on the bonus system. The primary object of the same was to show the evils of encumbering town corporations with heavy debts, for whatever cause contracted. Reference was merely made incidentally to the indiscriminate manner in which bonuses had been voted for the establishment of flour mills, and even then it was stated that "this is probably the least form of the evil." In THE COMMERCIAL of July 13th there appeared an article dealing with the bonus system, in which the following paragraph occurred:

"Perhaps this system of bonusing flour mills is the least objectionable feature in connection with the whole bonus system, and there are many arguments which may be used in its favor. The principal among these is the argument that a better market is provided for the farmers' leading crop, and that the enhanced price which he will receive for his wheat will more than compensate him for his share in the bonus expenditure. Then there is the convenience to be derived from having a mill for custom gristing purposes, instead of having to purchase flour.

Looking at the question from this standpoint there may be exceptional reasons for granting aid in establishing flour mills in a country like Manitoba, where wheat and flour must continue for some time at least to be the leading support of the country."

Whilst therefore holding to the belief that the bonus system is wrong in principle, occasional innovations of the rule may be found to prove satisfactory in practice; and in no respect is this more likely to be the case than in the establishment of flour mills in Manitoba. Therefore under certain conditions, a moderate bonus given to a good local man, may not be found a bad investment for a municipality as a whole. In cases where actual and direct return is made to the rate-payers in consideration of receiving a bonus, as in the arrangement offered by Mr. Rutherford, the objections to the same are minimized, though even here an injustice may be done to some, who, though having no wheat to grind will be compelled to pay their share of the additional taxation; and just here lies one of the greatest objections to the whole bonus system.

THE GREAT PROBLEM.

Almost everybody in the Northwest is interested in the price of wheat, either directly or indirectly. Wheat is the great source of income to the province of Manitoba, and therefore the value of this cereal is a most important matter to all classes of our people. A good price for wheat means a better profit for our farmers directly as a return for their labors of cultivating the soil. Next the country merchant will feel the benefit in the more liberal supply of cash which will find its way to his till. Then wholesalers will share in the returns of the country dealer, and so on through every line of business. Seventy-five cents for wheat at Chicago when it should bring a dollar per bushel there, just means twenty-five cents per bushel less for the Manitoba farmer. Estimating that our exports of wheat of this season's crop will reach 6,000,000 bushels, Manitoba farmers will lose something like one and a half million dollars through the low prices now ruling for the leading cereal, or nearly one-half the amount they will realize from their entire exports of this grain at present values. From the foregoing it will at once be seen what an important question the price of wheat is to the whole Northwest, and what a great advantage it would be to

this country to have the old basis of values once more established.

Unfortunately ever since Manitoba entered the arena as a wheat-exporting country, the prices for this cereal in the markets of the world have been low. During this time wheat has continued to decline in price, and although "public opinion" at leading wheat centres has numerous times announced that the bottom had been reached, still the price kept sliding down, till one would think that the wheat market, like the conjurors box, has many bottoms.

There is probably no other commercial commodity upon which half so much is written as this wheat question. The country editor prognosticates the future prices for wheat as freely as the sage looking village weather prophet foretells the rains and droughts, and storms and calms, which are to come upon this mundane sphere, and in the one case there is as much likelihood of an accurate forecast as in the other. Even the political editor of the city organ pauses in the heat of a party discussion to elucidate his readers upon the outlook for wheat prices, and this he does with as much apparent self-assurance as he would undertake to foretell who will be the successful candidate for Way Back. General Managers of banks and corporations of all kinds predict at their annual meetings the price of wheat for a whole year in advance. The host of speculators great and small who infest the boards of trade and chambers of commerce all issue their circulars regarding the situation in wheat, and friends are advised to buy or sell according to the views or desires of the writer, each one proving to his own satisfaction at least, the future course of prices. Where so much is written there must of course be a great diversity of opinion, and to the untutored individual, an attempt to arrive at any definite conclusion in regard to the probable course of the wheat market, if persisted in, might end in bringing the subject into an undesirable intimacy with the internal arrangements of a lunatic asylum. The opinions expressed are as varied as the writers themselves and the same statistics are made to do duty to prove that wheat will go up or down, according to the bearish or bullish propensities of the writer. In fact the whole question of probable future wheat prices is one of chaos and to find a parallel of contradictory representation one can only go to the columns of the politi-

cal party organs, and there read the different accounts given of the political doings of the times, inspired according to the party stripe of the writer.

To arrive at a tolerably clear idea of the present situation in wheat one would require to study carefully the causes which have led to the long-continued depression in this cereal, and just here opinions are as varied and contradictory as they are in regard to the probable future course of prices. However, there are two points which have been pretty well established as having considerable to do with low prices for wheat. The first is, that the past few years have been remarkable for low values in nearly all commercial commodities, and that wheat has been sympathetically low in keeping with the times. This is a very plausible argument, and one worthy of more attention than it has generally received. Many statisticians have been so busy figuring up visible and invisible supplies that they have lost sight of every other influence. From the figures in their possession in regard to the supply and demand they have been wondering why wheat kept low in price, and have failed to note low values in most other commodities. It is quite reasonable to believe that in a time of generally depressed values, wheat should also be similarly influenced, unless such influences should be overcome by an extraordinary shortage in the world's supply. Another generally admitted cause for low prices of American wheat during the last few years is found in the competition of several new wheat exporting countries. Whilst American exports have been steadily declining year by year, other countries have come into existence as exporting countries, and are now formidable rivals. Although the surplus of wheat available for export in Canada and the United States is small in comparison with the total production, yet it is large enough to keep prices down to an export value. We cannot compel the British and European consumers to take our wheat at our own prices so long as they can make their purchases from other countries at lower values. We are therefore under the necessity of selling at current export prices, or holding, which latter means the encouragement of wheat-growing in other exporting countries.

Therefore, though American markets may and do exert an influence over prices ruling at importing markets, yet American dealers cannot wholly dictate prices to the importers. The price which the foreigner will be willing to pay must always be taken into consideration, and this will generally be a better one in flush times than during seasons of low values, always allowing for the influence of supply and demand.

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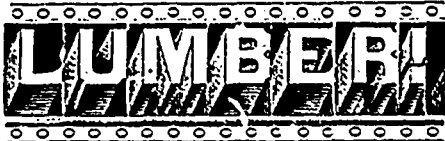
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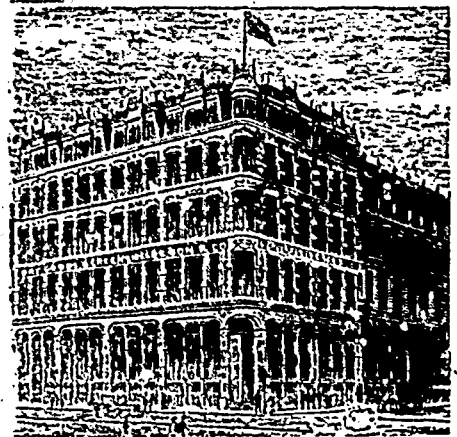
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Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

Business at the banks is generally reported to have undergone very material improvement during the past week, though there were some exceptions to the rule, some of these institutions having experienced little more than the ordinary call for funds. The principal increase in business came from grain circles, the increasing movement in new grain having at last made itself felt in monetary circles. In commercial discounts there was about the usual call. Rates of discount are steady at 7 per cent for large advances on first class security, and about 8 per cent for ordinary commercial paper. In the real estate mortgage loan line there has been about the usual call for this season of the year, which of course is rather light so far as loans on farm property is concerned. On city securities a few transactions have taken place during the week. Rates of interest steady at from 7 to 9 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

In city wholesale circles there has been a continuation of the seasonably active trade noted in our last report. Wholesalers generally give satisfactory statements as to the outlook and the prospects for the fall trade, and the hopeful feeling still prevails. In most lines the opening trade has been considerably better than last year, and if subsequent sorting orders come up to expectations, the trade here will have little cause for complaint. Of course there are some branches that have not experienced as favorable a business as others, but taken all together there is no question but that the aggregate trade of the city will show a market improvement over last year. The greatest activity during the past week was still with lines of season goods, such as dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, etc. Hardware also shows some improvement. The usual rush for builders supplies which generally occurs about this time of the year has not yet set in to any noticeable extent, but this may be partly accounted for from the fact that building in the city has been fairly active all summer. Prices have held steady here during the week, though the firmer feeling in outside markets is also exerting an influence here. Collections have not perceptibly improved and have continued a little slow all round, but this feature may be expected to change soon.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

The movement in this line during the past week has been confined almost exclusively to cross plows, in which implements considerable trade has been done. A few wagons have also been going off, but the season is now rather late for these. Collections still slow and no attempts being made to hurry matters in this respect.

BOOTS AND SHOES

Fall orders have continued to come in freely and dealers have been kept actively engaged in receiving new goods and sending out fall shipments. The outlook still continues most favorable for a large seasons trade, though the call from the city is a little slow.

CLOTHING

In this line fall orders have now been about all cleared out and dealers are filling up their stocks in preparation for the sorting trade.

Several late buyers were in the city during the week and made good purchases. Travellers will soon go out for sorting orders. Collections quiet.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

In this line dealers have been busy during the week opening their stocks of fancies and novelties for the holiday trade. A new style of goods introduced this season will be found in the Wedgwood ware, in teas and sundries. Some very handsome novelties and ornaments will also be shown in Venetian glassware, etc.

DRY GOODS

In this branch the activity noticed last week as going on at the warehouses has continued, and all hands have had plenty to do in opening up new goods and filling and sending out orders as fast as these could be made up from the new goods coming in. New orders have also continued to come in freely. The tendency of prices keeps firm, especially in some lines of woolen goods, the recent advance in wool having rendered another advance in manufacturers' prices likely. It is said that the mills are not at all anxious to take orders ahead, unless with the understanding that values will be fixed according to current prices at the time of delivery. Collections remain rather slow.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Business is now moving along steadily, and quotations are still unchanged as follows; Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 60 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 30 to 35c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$4.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES

In the more staple lines of this branch a very good business has been doing during the week, and dealers have been kept busy filling orders of this nature. Fancy lines are yet quiet, though some shipments of such goods have been made to the more distant points off the lines of railway, where orders are generally sent out earlier. Values in staples show a tendency to advance.

FISH AND GAME

Game are only offered in limited quantities and prices irregular. Fresh lake fish have held at last quotations. The first consignment of fresh sea fish was received about the first of the week, and the market will hereafter be supplied with such varieties. Oysters are also offered in wholesale lots. Quotations are: Lake Winnipeg white, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 3c; salmon, 18c; cod, 11c; Haddock, 11c; Halibut, 20c; Flounders, 15c. Oysters, standards, 50c per can.

FRUITS

The city was just about as bare of fruit all last week as it could be. A consignment of Ontario fruit which should have arrived here by the first of the week, was delayed several days in transit on the lakes. There also seemed to be great difficulty in getting anything from the south. In apples there was nothing but balance

of stocks of poor fall varieties, which were picked over and made to take the place of expected stocks. The market this week will be well supplied with consignments from both the east and south. Quotations are: Apples, \$4 to \$4.50 per bbl, with perhaps \$5 for some very choice. California pears, \$5 to \$5.50 per box; Let. ns, \$10.50 to \$11. Bananas, \$2 to \$4 a bunch, California. Muskat and Tokay grapes, \$6 to \$7 per crate of 40 lbs; Concord grapes, 12½c per pound. Ontariograpes 10c per lb; California peaches \$3.50 a box; Tomatoes, \$2.50 per bus. Figs, 50 lb sacks, 12½c a lb; Golden dates, 10c a lb; peanuts, roasted, 17c; peanuts, raw, at 15c; walnuts, at 15 to 18c; almonds 15 to 20c; filberts 13 to 15c. Dried fruits are quoted as follows: Valencia raisins \$3.15 to \$3.25; London layers \$3.90 to \$4; black crown \$5 to \$5.25. Apple cider is worth \$10 a barrel.

FUEL

No change to report as yet. Quotations are to some extent nominal as follows: tamarac on track in round lots \$3.25 to \$3.50; poplar \$2.25 to \$2.75. Anthracite coal is worth \$9 to \$9.50; bituminous \$6.85; and Lethbridge at \$6.50 on track.

FURNITURE

There has been some few orders coming in from the province and west, but trade has been somewhat quiet.

GROCERIES

Sugars have held firm in sympathy with the outside feeling, but prices have not changed. New canned goods are now in the market, at steady prices. Provisions hold firm and tend toward higher prices. Quotations are: yellow sugar 6½ to 7c; granulated 7½ to 8c; lump sugar, 9 to 9½c; Coffees, Rio, 12 to 13½c; Government Java, 28c, other Javas, 22c; Mochas, 31 to 34c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 28 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range, Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.00 to \$2.35; sugar, cane, \$1.85 to \$2.00; T. & B. tobacco, \$10.

HIDES

Quotations are unchanged and are as follows; Steers, Winnipeg inspection, No. 1.7c; No. 2, 6c; cows, No. 1, 7c; No. 2, 6c; bulls, 5c; calf, fine haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10c; No. 2, 8c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Talow 3½c per lb.

HARDWARE AND METALS

Prices remain steady here at last quotations, with an improving trade doing. The stove trade has opened up fairly good. Prices are: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$5.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 50 to 55 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 26 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7½c.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Trade continues steady and in fair volume and prices are unchanged and as follows:

Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughtered sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf 90 to \$1.00; French kip \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 25 to 27c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings 12c.

LUMBER

A number of shipments have been made to the country, but trade in this direction has not been particularly active. From the city a good demand keeps up.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Some improvement may be noted in the call. Prices steady as follows; Turpentine, 75c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 65c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; lard No. 1, \$1.25 per gal.; olive, \$1.00 to \$2.00, according to quality; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 26c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 36c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 30c; Eldorado, machine, 56c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS

There is nothing new to report in this branch beyond the fact that business has been moving along very nicely and in fairly large proportion.

STATIONERY AND PAPER

The movement in this branch continues to be confined principally to staple lines, though some fancies have been called for.

WINES AND SPIRITS

Cooler weather has induced a better demand for spirits, which have taken the place to some extent of summer drinks. Prices are: Good-cream & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; 7 year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6.50; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$4.00 to \$4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

WOOL

Receipts have been light and it is thought that lots throughout the province have been pretty well picked up. It is said that a considerable quantity is still held by ranchmen in the far west, but that those holders have so far refused to part with their stocks at ruling figures, and are determined to hold for an advance, which may be a long time in coming. Prices are steady as follows; Leicester and Cotswold, washed, 14c to 16c; cotted and broken, washed, 12c; unwashed 9c to 11c; unwashed and tags off, 10 to 12c; Montana sheep, unwashed, 11 to 12c.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS

At one or two provincial points it appeared that considerable wheat was marketed during

last week, but at some of the leading primary markets very little grain of any kind has yet come in, and farmers seem inclined to hold with the expectation of higher prices. However, at this time last year nothing at all had been done toward delivering grain, and the present movement is in advance of former seasons. In addition to the desire to hold, there is a feeling that prices cannot go any lower, whilst there is a chance of improvement in values, and this being the case, farmers will employ their time now principally in plowing, and leave their grain marketing until frost stops the plowing. However, if prices were to advance very materially, there is no doubt that a good deal of grain would come out immediately. During the week a few cars of new wheat have gone through, some two or three for all rail transportation east, but the bulk designed for Lake Superior ports. Some cars have also arrived in the city for local milling purposes, which, with receipts of farmers' loads on the market have about kept the mills grinding, but not any more than that. Buyers are now on hand at nearly all grain points throughout the province, but a good many of them have not had much to do yet. Coarse grains have not moved yet. Provisions hold very firm, and prices have advanced for most hog products.

WHEAT

The continued slumpy feeling at Chicago and Duluth has not been without its influence on this market, and top prices were not so frequently paid. Several sales were reported from outside points at about equal to 57 to 58c on track here for through shipment, for No. 1 hard. Sales of No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern were made at equal to 54 to 55c here. No sales of car lots on track here were reported. Quite a number of loads were offered on the market by farmers, and up to Thursday 65c was paid for No. 1 hard, but on Friday the best samples of wheat brought 64c, with 63c paid for samples of hard which might not grade as high as No. 1. Northern sold at about 61 to 62c.

FLOUR

The mills have been grinding on new wheat, but the supply has hardly been sufficient to keep them going on full time. Samples of new flour have been sent east and have been very favorably commented upon. One miller said it was almost impossible to make poor flour with the sample of wheat available this year, and it may be expected that the Manitoba product will take a firm hold upon eastern markets this season. If it does not, it will not be the fault of the flour. Prices here have held steady with the exception of patents, which has been cut 10c. Quotations for broken lots delivered in the city or f.o.b. are as follows: Patents, \$2.50; strong bakers', \$1.90; XXX, \$1.50; superfine, \$1.00.

BRAN AND SHORTS

Quotations are unchanged at \$8 for bran and \$10 for shorts per ton.

OATMEAL

Prices hold steady at last quotations and no immediate change is apprehended.

OATS

Very little has been done in this grain, and no movement of new in car lots reported. Quotations would range about 28 to 30c.

BARLEY

Nothing has been done here in barley, and only a few samples have arrived for inspection of dealers here.

CHEESE

The market is very firm for this product, owing to recent advances east. Dealers still dispose of small lots to the trade at 11c, but should prices continue to advance, a higher rate may be looked for.

EGGS

The supply coming to this market has continued rather light and not more than sufficient to fill local demands. Prices have held firm and the range somewhat wide. Fresh in case lots have been disposed of by dealers and commission men at from 10 to 13c, probably according to freshness.

BUTTER

Choice butter has held very firm, owing to light receipts, which have not been more than sufficient for the local demand. Stocks of medium held in the city are also thought to be not very heavy. The scarcity is probably owing to the fact that western dealers have been shipping both butter and eggs to western territorial and British Columbia points. Selections would readily bring 15c here, and extra choice as high as 16c. Medium grades quieter at 12½ to 13c. Poor obtainable at 10.

BACON

Prices have held very firm in all grades of bacon, and in most an advance has taken place. Dry salt is ½c higher and quoted at 10c. Smoked 11 to 11½c; rolls ½ higher at 12½c; breakfast bacon 13c.

HAMS

Have held firm. Plain are quoted at 15 to 15½c and canvassed at 15½ to 16c. American at 16½c.

LARD

The demand has been steady and prices firm. Pails quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.35.

DRESSED MEATS

A few hogs have been received and taken at 5c. Beef sides are held at 6 to 6½c; mutton, 9c; veal, 7 to 8c.

LIVE STOCK

Prices are steady all around. Good beef cattle, off cars, would bring 3c and 5 per cent. off. Cows and oxen on market 2½ to 2¾c. Hogs, 3½ to 3¾c off cars, light being in best demand. Lambs \$3 to \$4, according to weight.

MINNEAPOLIS

A sluggish export demand and an enormous increase in the visible supply were the main causes for another drop in prices the past week, and at the lowest point bulls were scarce and slow to act. For once strength in pork seemed to have no effect on wheat, but the stuff cannot be expected to rise when it has so few friends and so little merit. English farmers, who are mainly in pressing need of money, as well as discouraged over a poor crop, are beginning to market freely, curtailing demand from that country, and with the prospect of two dull months before them, American bears seem disposed to fight the bulge and to crowd the market down as much farther as possible.

Receipts have again been close to a million bushels, and shipments were fairly large. Farmers continue to market freely. The most remarkable thing about the heavy movement thus far this month has been the fact that it is mostly old wheat, a fact which confirms our previous statements as to holdings of farmers.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on change during the week ending Sept. 22nd, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

WHEAT—	Highest	Lowest	Closing	Sept. 22, 1888
No. 1 hard	73	72	72	91
" 1 northern	71	70	70	80½
" 2 "	68	68	68	81½

Options were weak and lower, October 1 hard closing at 72½c, November at 74c and December at 75½c. October 1 northern closed at 70½c, November at 72c and December at 73½c. Coarse

grains were quiet, corn closing at 38 to 40c, oats at 27 to 28c, barley at 42 to 52c, and rye at 49 to 51c, all by sample.

MILISTUFF—Has been easy, though moving freely. Bulk bran closed at \$6.75 to \$7, and shorts \$7.75 to \$9.75 per ton.

FLOUR—The decline in wheat has lessened the movement of flour and trade is very dull. Exporters are bidding very low again, a cable from London offering the equivalent of \$4.03 per bbl for patents. The domestic trade is thoroughly sick of buying in large lots, and reasonable concessions by millers are sneered at, as a rule.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are: Patents, \$4.15 to \$4.30; straights, \$3.90 to \$4.15; first bakers', \$3.50 to \$3.70; second bakers', \$2.80 to \$3.00; low grades, \$1.70 to \$1.80, in bags; red dog, \$1.30 to \$1.40, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 25c per bbl for 280 and 147 lb jute bags, 25c for 93 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49 lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24 lb cotton sacks. In half barrels, the extra charge is 30c per bbl.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

Trading was active on Monday and the aggregate of sales large. Prices were as follows:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Cash	—	—	73 1/2
Oct	75 1/2	74 1/2	—
Nov	76 1/2	75 1/2	76 1/2

On Tuesday a heavy bulge occurred on advices from Chicago of a bullish nature. Selling however went on freely and some 3,000,000 bushels changed hands. Prices were:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Cash	—	—	74
Oct	75 1/2	74 1/2	75 1/2
Nov	77 1/2	76 1/2	77

Wednesday witnessed the decline of the bullish feeling, and the market was decidedly dull. Prices ranged:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Cash	—	—	75 1/2
Oct	75 1/2	74 1/2	77
Nov	77 1/2	76 1/2	78 1/2

On Thursday there was but little trading, and the feeling unsettled. Prices ranged:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Cash	—	—	—
Oct	74 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2
Nov	76 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2

On Friday sales were fairly large and the market generally steady. The crowd, however, seemed ready to buy or sell on the slightest influence in either direction. Prices ranged:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Cash	—	—	73 1/2
Oct	74	73 1/2	74
Nov	76 1/2	75 1/2	76

Train and Milling News.

Over 39,000 bushels of wheat were marketed at Morden last week.

Considerable wheat was marketed at Emerson last week, nearly all No. 1 hard, for which 57c was paid.

But very little grain of any kind was marketed in Brandon last week. About 53c was paid for hard wheat by sample.

The Rockwood flour mill at Stonewall has been put in operation, and will be run with the stones, until the machinery arrives for substituting the roller process.

The *Portage Review* says: R. Lipsett, of Meadow Lea, has tested the Azov wheat and finds it to be two weeks earlier and to yield nine bushels more to the acre than Red Fyfe.

A petition will be presented to the Municipal Council of Shoal Lake, asking them to submit a by-law to raise \$5,000 to be given as a bonus to any person who will build a roller process mill.

The *Calgary Tribune* says:—Smith Bros., of Pine Creek, have commenced threshing. Their oats are yielding between 50 and 60 bushels to the acre. They threshed out one and a half acres of wheat which yielded sixty bushels, or forty bushels per acre. The grain is exceptionally large and well filled.

The Portage la Prairie grain markets were very dull last week and the farmers seemed to be keeping their grain for higher prices. Wheat brought about 55c and not much coming in. Oats, 25c black, and 27c, white. The crop of new oats is not very good, and at the Oat Meal Mills oats of last year only are being bought up.

Montreal *Witness*, of Monday, 20th inst., has the following: Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Cookson showed on 'Change to-day the first sample of this year's crop of Manitoba hard wheat that has been seen there this season. The wheat was very hard, plump, and clear-looking—a very fine sample—and was very favorably spoken of by the authorities present.

An eastern exchange says: "It is rarely that Canada has produced as fine a crop of barley as that of the present season, and owing to its choice quality, a large demand from the United States is expected. A considerable portion of the crop in Ontario, it is claimed, is equal to No. 1 and 2 Oswego, being very plump and heavy. The total crop of Canada has been estimated at between 16,000,000 and 18,000,000 bushels.

The figures showing the flour production of Minneapolis for the year ending August 31st, are worth looking at. The grand total is 5,936,530 barrels. If, as it is generally stated, the millers of Minneapolis made no money last year, they certainly made some flour—just how much will be realized when it is considered that they turned out about one barrel in every ten ground on the continent. It is the greatest concentration of a single industry known to the world.—*Northwest Miller*.

According to some of the Russian provincial papers there are tens of thousands of tons of wheat rotting in the granaries along the Volga, because the present prices abroad would not cover the cost of transport to freight markets. More railways, planned for commercial rather than strategical purposes, properly constructed ports, elevators, and systems of credit—these have been Russia's crying wants for years; but to apply them Russia would have to diminish her vast army of \$20,000 to a peace footing and suspend some of her diplomatic aggressiveness."

Movements of Business Men.

Mr. J. S. Moore, of Geo. D. Wood & Co., wholesale hardware, is east on a business trip.

Mr. T. J. McBRIDE, manager for the Massey Manufacturing Co. in this city, returned from the east last week.

British Columbia.

New Westminster City will soon be lighted with gas.

British Columbia shingles have been shipped as far east as Calgary.

The first party of through passengers from San Francisco to Chicago, over the C. P. R. passed through Victoria lately.

One hundred and fifty pounds of fine Bartlett pears were sold yesterday at Vancouver for \$5.25, just 3 1/2 cents per pound.

The report of Special Agent Tingle on the seal fisheries of Alaska shows that during the past year Alaska Seal Company under its contract took 99,990 seal skins, in return for which it paid the government \$262,437.

Squatters are making clearings in the heavily timbered lands of British Columbia by boring one large hole in the trunk, slanting upward and another from a point well up the trunk and slanting downward, both meeting in the heart of the tree. Then the upper hole will be filled with any convenient combustible and ignited. The long hole acts as a chimney, and the fire burns furiously until the tree is destroyed.

Manitoba Flour.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* refers to Manitoba flour as follows:—"Samples of New Manitoba flour have been received and inspected, and most of them give great satisfaction, several lots being ordered from different milling sections upon receipt of samples. One of our best judges in the trade says all the samples he has tested come well up to the standard and requirements of strong flour. The dough, as he puts it, "pulls like a rope, with color perfect." We came across one sample, however, that was considered not as desirable as it might be, and the receiver here accounted for this exception to the rule, by stating that the flour had the appearance of being ground from new wheat mixed with frosted. If millers should take this means of getting rid of the residue of frosted grain left in the country they will make a great mistake, as traces of the old damaged stock are bound to be detected, even though only a small percentage of it be mixed with the splendid quality of the new crop. What there is of frozen wheat left in the North-West had far better be disposed of for feed purposes, rather than allow it in the least, to stain the high reputation which Manitoba Strong Bakers' flour has already attained." The *Bulletin* need not become alarmed in the matter, as all the damaged wheat left in the Northwest would go a very little ways, either for mixing with new or for any other purpose. Manitoba millers, however, should be very careful not to do anything which would injure the reputation of their flour right at the commencement of the season.

It is expected that the cut of logs in the Upper Ottawa country next season will be unusually large.

The Toronto Board of Trade have decided to purchase the American Hotel property, for the purpose of erecting a new Commercial Exchange.

There are 100,000,000 sheep in Australia. Flocks there are large, numbering from 50,000 to 250,000, one flock containing 1,500,000.

H. SHOREY & CO

Wholesale Clothiers,

—AND—

MANTLE MANUFACTURERS,
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Coffins and Caskets of every description in stock. A great variety of Trimmings. Undertaking a specialty. Undertakers furnished on reasonable terms. Telephone.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS,

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New Season's Teas,
Congou, Assam, Young Hysons, Pekoes.

Japans,
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of all grades.

TEAS!!

Manitoba Representative:

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Tuning and Repairing a Specialty.

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181, 183 & 185 McGill St., MONTREAL.

ASSORTED PACKAGES ON HAND FOR COUNTRY TRADE
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Samples with W. B. McArthur,

Donaldson's Block, WINNIPEG.

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Produce Commission Merchant,

GRAIN, GRASS SEEDS, ETC.

80 Front Street East, TORONTO.

Special attention given to handling consignments of
Grain. Advances made. Correspondence solicited.

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Manufacturers of Clothing

44 BAY STREET,

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GURNEY & WARE,

Manufacturers of
Platform Scales—all sizes,
Millers and Grain Scales,
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Hay, Coal and Stock Scales,
Grocers, Counter and Union
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Finely Finished Photos,

Only Obtainable at

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Manufacturer of

Shirts, Overalls, Mattresses, Bed Springs,

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Correspondence solicited and Mail Orders Carefully
Attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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Manufacturers of & Wholesale Dealers in

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Near McGill Street,

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SPECIAL BRANDS—Parlor Light, Economy and American Oils.

MACHINE OILS—Castorine XXX Castorine, Locomotive Valve, Filtered Cylinder, Summer Eclipse, Oil and all other products of Petroleum. We guarantee our products of Petroleum to give good satisfaction.

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ROYAL HOTEL, CALGARY.

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OFFICE:—Corner King and Alexander Streets, Winnipeg.

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Wheat buyers at all C.P.R. Shipping Stations

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The wheat market during the past week has been rather an inactive one, as indeed has been the case in all speculative commodities with the exception of provisions. Trading in wheat has been dull on almost every day and the market has been to a great extent featureless. There was a noticeable falling off in receipts toward the close of the week, but this was looked upon as but a temporary lull and did not influence prices. Statistics have not counted for much in making forecasts of late, the principal feature seems to be the large receipts and accumulating stocks, and the tendency to hold off from buying. British markets have shown an inclination to follow rather than lead in the weakness here. Provisions have been the great centre of attraction. Prices ruled strong during the fore part of the week, but easier toward the close. The situation was extremely nervous, and prices bobbed up and down, showing a very wide range of fluctuations. The market is looked upon as occupying an artificial position, and prices kept up through manipulation. Receipts of hogs were excessive, amounting to 109,000 for the week.

The wheat market was weak on Monday, with a desire on the part of many small holders to unload. The lowest point reached was 74c for October. Corn was speculatively active. Oats quiet. Pork took a sudden spurt from \$9.65 to \$10.05 for October, but reacted almost as suddenly to \$9.92½. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	73½	74½
Corn	37½	38½
Oats	25	25½
Pork	9.90	9.92½
Lard	7.25	6.20

There was a stronger feeling in wheat on Tuesday and the market was nervous and unsettled. Fluctuations were more sharp and trading fairly active. Trading in November corn was active at 40½ to 40¾c. Oats firm in sympathy with corn. Provisions opened weak and continued dull till toward the close, when the feeling became firmer and trading active. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	74½	75½
Corn	38½	39
Oats	25½	26½
Pork	10.10	10.02½
Lard	7.20	6.25

On Wednesday wheat opened strong, but weakened on the absence of buying orders and favorable outside news. Corn was heavy. Oats inactive. Provisions were lower and inactive. October pork sold down to \$9.60. In the afternoon pork was stronger and recovered prices. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	74½	74½
Corn	38½	38½
Oats	25½	26½
Pork	9.80	9.80
Lard	7.20	6.17½

Wheat was dull and lower on Thursday, owing to weak cables and light export business. This caused a general desire to sell and prices fell away, closing ¾c lower. Corn and oats were dull and easier. Provisions were nervous and

spasmodically active, with a bearish feeling predominant. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	73	73½
Corn	37½	37½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	9.62½	9.65
Lard	7.20	6.10

On Friday trading in wheat was light and mostly of a local nature. Prices fluctuated within a limit of 1c and closed the same at one o'clock as on the previous day. In the afternoon wheat was stronger. Corn and oats were both weak and lower, but somewhat firmer in the afternoon. Provisions were firmer, owing to limited offerings. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	73½	74½
Corn	37	37½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	9.75	9.77½
Lard	7.25	6.30

Saturday was a decidedly weak day all around and the entire list of speculative commodities closed lower, with the exception of September lard. Wheat tended steadily downwards, closing at the bottom, and at the lowest figures reached for some time. November closed at 77¾c. Corn was weak and inactive. Pork closed 5c above the lowest point reached for the day. November pork closed at \$9.55 and December \$10.42½. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	72½	73½
Corn	36½	37
Oats	—	—
Pork	9.50	9.50
Lard	7.30	6.17½

TORONTO.

STOCKS

Stocks were quiet but firm for the leading banks, though a number of sales were recorded at slightly varying figures. Loan and Savings stocks were very quiet. Manitoba Loan was offered at 95. Closing quotations for Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, were as follows:

	ASKED.	BID.
Montreal	220	225
Ontario	—	122
Toronto	211½	211
Merchants	131½	130½
Commerce	131½	131
Imperial	140	138½
Federal	115	114½
Dominion	230	219½
Standard	127½	127
Hamilton	188	187
Northwest Land	72½	71
C.P.R. Bonds	106	105
do Stocks	—	67½

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS

The grain market here has continued very quiet since our last report, and offerings have amounted to next to nothing. Low prices owing to weak outside markets have kept farmers from marketing to any extent as yet. The feeling here has held unsettled and any offerings have been made at prices above the views of buyers. Provisions have held steady and firm throughout the list.

FLOUR

In flour the demand has been slack and the feeling easier. Superior extra sold at \$3.65, and patents at \$3.80. Very few sales were reported.

WHEAT

Offerings were limited to a few car lots, but there were not buyers for these, except at easier prices. No. 3 spring sold at 73c on Tuesday.

Some No. 2 Manitoba hard sold at 87c. No. 2 fall for milling sold at 77c, but this was considerably above the views of shippers.

OATS

Were offered more liberally and sold fairly well, though at somewhat lower prices. New mixed sold at from 32 to 33c on track.

BARLEY

Nothing offered in car lots. Street prices ranged from 47 to 63c.

PEAS

Purely nominal at 56 to 57c.

POTATOES

Cars on track sold at 60 and 65c. On the street from 70 to 80c per bag was paid.

APPLES

Only one car lot sale reported, the price paid being \$1.50. Street prices \$1.25 to \$2.

EGGS

All offered have been taken and more wanted. Round lots sold readily at 13 to 13½c, with an upward tendency toward the end of the week.

BUTTER

Prices have been steadily maintained for choice lots, which have brought 15 to 16c. The demand for medium was also improved, prices ranging from 10c for poor to 13 to 14c good. However, there was plenty of these grades the only scarcity being for choice.

CHEESE

Sales of small lots were made at 10½c, but the feeling was firmer and prices advanced later to 11c, 700 boxes sold at Ingersoll at 10½c.

PORK

Quiet at \$13.50 to \$14.00.

BACON

Old long clear sold at \$3 for a lot of 100 sides, and 9c for cases. Backs and bellies 10 to 10½c.

HAMS

New offered at 14 to 14½c.

LARD

Quiet at 9½c for tierces, 10 to 10½ for pails.

DRESSED HOGS

Were very scarce early in the week, but later the supply was liberal. Prices ranged from \$6.50 to \$7.

LIVE HOGS

Light fat hogs continue in good demand at \$5 off cars. Some extra sold at \$5.12. Stores and heavy easy at \$4.50.

HIDES AND WOOL

Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$9; No. 1 inspected cows, \$8.50; No. 2 inspected, \$7.50; No. 3 inspected, \$5; calfskins, green, 11 to 13c; calfskins, cured, 13 to 14c; calfskins, dry, 11 to 13c; sheepskins, green, 45 to 60c; wool, super, 22 to 23c; extra super, 27 to 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered 4½ to 4¾c.

MOOSEJAW.

About the first thing observed on stepping from the train at Moosejaw, as indeed is the case at almost every station west of Qu'Appelle, is the great heap of buffalo bones piled up along the track. At Moosejaw there is an unusually large pile of these bones. The bones are gathered up on the prairie and hauled to the stations by Indians and half-breeds, who receive about \$5 per ton for them. The bones are shipped to the States, where they are ground up for fertilizers. It must require heavy machinery to reduce to dust the great hard skulls of the buffalo, upon which a bullet would make no impression. A great many cars of these bones have been exported during the past two or three years, and still the supply seems to keep up. It is estimated that about 400 tons will be exported up to the end of the present

year from Moosejaw alone. The bones have all been gathered within a radius of from ten to twenty miles around the station. Estimating that it takes the bones of 50 buffalo to make a ton, and we have the enormous number of 20,000 buffalo which have left their bones within a few miles of Moosejaw. And yet this is only a drop in the ocean as compared with the whole country. What immense herds of these animals must have once wandered over the prairies of the great Northwest! Surely a country furnishing nourishment for millions of wild cattle, will yet support vast herds of domestic animals.

The crops around Moosejaw have not turned out worth much this year, and a great portion of the grain has not been cut. In the spring the crops looked very fine and the farmers were consequently jubilant, but hot winds and drought destroyed their bright hopes. Merchants therefore do not regard the situation as very encouraging for the coming season, but the majority of them will endeavor to hold out to see what another year will bring forth. Many of the farmers took their teams and went out to work on the extension of the M. & N. W. R'y when they saw that the grain would not be worth cutting. Commercial changes at Moosejaw have been few. The old houses of Messrs. R. Bogue, J. J. McLean and E. M. Robinson still hold the ford. Woods & McKenzie, brewers, are still doing a large trade all over the Northwest. They have the most complete brewery in the territories.

REGINA.

Coming eastward we shall stop for a glance over the capital of the Northwest Territories. The district around Regina, in common with other parts of the western country, has suffered greatly from drought this season. A good deal of grain has not been worth cutting, and the portion cut will yield very lightly. This has proved somewhat discouraging to the business men as well as to the farmers, and will check for this season a number of contemplated local improvements. However, the people are generally hopeful and confident for the future of the town. Besides a failure of the crops, although undoubtedly a great drawback, will not be felt so keenly at Regina as at towns depending almost entirely on farmers' trade, owing to the fact that a considerable portion of the trade of the former is done with the Mounted Police, Indian department, and other Government expenditures. Building operations at Regina this season have therefore been limited in extent, the principal work going on in this line being at the Mounted Police barracks, where about \$30,000 will be expended by the Government in new building.

One of the live institutions of Regina is the Board of Trade. Nearly all the leading business men have united with this organization, and a good deal of useful work has been done through the labors of this body in forwarding the interests of the town. Through the instrumentality of the board a trail has been opened to Wood Mountain, including bridging and other improvements to render travel over it safe and easy. A trail has also been opened more lately through to the Saskatoon settlement. This shows what may be accomplished by the united action of the business men in the

interests of a town. In addition to being on the main line of the C.P.R'y, Regina is also at railway terminus. The Regina & Long Lake R'y Co. have worked along so quietly that it was hardly known outside that they were doing anything. Nevertheless some twenty odd miles of the road have been built and equipped and a daily train now runs out to the end of track. An effort will be made to push the road forward next season, with the intention of ultimately reaching the North Saskatchewan. In industries Regina boasts the westernmost flour mill in the Northwest. This new mill is constructed on the improved roller process system, and is capable of turning out 100 barrels per day. Financially the corporation of Regina has been managed carefully and the town is now in a good position in this respect. The debenture debt of the town amounts to \$10,000, which sum was voted some time ago for local improvements. The money was expended judiciously in grading streets, building sidewalks, providing protection against fire, and building a town hall. This careful management has left the town in a position to help itself in the future, in case further expenditure should be deemed imperative. One drawback in regard to taxation is the amount of property held by the Northwest Land Co. This lauded monopoly has heretofore refused to pay taxes, on the ground that the company is entitled to the same exemptions as the C. P. R. Co., from which latter company the lands were obtained. It is understood that the matter will be tested in the courts and an effort made to compel the Land Co. to bear its share of taxation. One of the bugaboos of Regina has been the supposed lack of water, but this idea has been pretty well exploded, practical tests having proved that there is almost a certainty of obtaining a plentiful supply of water by going down about 125 feet. A well put down by the town corporation this summer proved very successful, a flowing stream having been struck at a depth of 120 feet, which filled the well in a short time, and the level is not perceptibly reduced by pumping.

A commercial sketch of Regina would be incomplete without a glance at the wholesale drug house of Dawson, Bole & Co. This firm commenced jobbing about three years ago, and since that time their trade has grown steadily till now they do the largest straight wholesale business in the territories. In addition to handling drugs they carry lines of staple stationery, and also do a very large trade in cigars. In the latter goods they have the exclusive agency in the territories for several popular brands. Their jobbing trade extends from Oak Lake in Manitoba to away into the Mountains in British Columbia, and to the North Saskatchewan. This season the firm have made extensive improvements in extending their building accommodation, rendered necessary through their increasing business. A large fire proof warehouse has been erected at a little distance from the main building, and also a laboratory provided wherein are manufactured the proprietary medicines largely handled by the firm. Commodious offices and stock rooms have also been added. The success which has attended the operations of this house shows what may be accomplished in wholesale business in the territories.

The Ranches:

About 2,000 head of Montana sheep have been shipped to Chicago from Medicine Hat.

A car load of horses from the Stewart rancho for English Cavalry service, was shipped east on Tuesday last.

Several car loads of sheep for breeding have lately been imported from Ontario, for distribution over Manitoba.

The grass on the ranges is said to be good this fall. The plentiful rains are daily lessening the chances of a big burn up.

The Montana wool clip for next year is put at 10,000,000 pounds, and its value is estimated not to fall far short of \$2,500,000.

A herd of cattle belonging to the Montana Cattle Co., numbering 1,700 head, will be shipped to Chicago from Medicine Hat.

A new ranching company has been organized by Sheriff Chapleau, of Regina. The promoters are Americans. The rancho will be located in Alberta.

In the Pincher Creek district a large number of calves are being branded. In fact the fall branding throughout the country promises to be most satisfactory.

The Medicine Hat Rancho Company have secured from the Dominion Government a lease of 17,000 acres of land. They will increase their herd this fall.

Reports from the round up are to the effect that cattle are in splendid fix. One foreman told us that he did not remember ever seeing cattle in better condition at this time of the year.—*Gazette*.

W. L. Nichol, of Medicine Hat, has been notified that he would receive a lease for nine sections of land in a few days. This lease will be used as a sheep rancho and 1,600 head of sheep will be placed on it at once.

An eastern paper is authority for the statement that "upwards of 65,000 pounds of fine graded merino wool has been procured from this season's clip in Alberta Territory. It is the same class of wool as in the United States bought from 22 to 25c. per pound. A wool growers' association has been formed in the district. The flocks in Alberta are, we are told, all imported Montana sheep, and produce the grade of wool which bears the now well recognized name of Montana."

There are now in the vicinity of Maple Creek, Assa, fifteen thousand head of cattle, all reported doing well and in a flourishing condition. The Cypress Hills, which are a short distance south of the town, contain good grass and showers have kept it green. Mr. Oxarant has taken a lease in the vicinity and will bring in about 1,500 head of horses this fall. It is expected two droves of cattle will be in from Northern Montana about 6th of September, for shipment to Chicago via the C.P.R. Stockmen say that fully as many cattle will be shipped this year as last.

The following from the *Macleod Gazette* will be interesting in view of the recent discussion regarding the establishment of stock yards at Winnipeg:—" (What will be the surplus of steers, say in this district, this fall,)" asked a *Gazette* reporter of a well informed cowman the

other day. The said cowman considered for a moment and then said:—"(Well, I don't think there will be any surplus this year. When the Indians have been fed down here, and the local demand has been satisfied, I don't think there will be many marketable steers to ship east. And I think that the Calgary and High River markets will use up all the available steers in the country.") The *Gazette* is inclined to agree with its informant. It is not probable that the regular eastern shipment of beef will commence this fall. When it does once commence, though, it will develop very rapidly. There may be a few straggling shipments from this country, but it will not be a regular business this year."

Wheat in Sight.

The total quantity of wheat in sight on this continent and afloat to Europe, calculating according to the Chicago visible supply, is 69,189,000 bushels, an increase of 1,470,000 bushels compared with a week ago, an increase of 6,095,000 with two weeks ago, an increase of 6,683,000 with three weeks ago, an increase of 7,959,000 with four weeks ago, and an increase of 13,310,000 with a year ago.

Items of Interest.

Cauliflowers grown within a mile of Calgary took first prize at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

A car load of silver ore has been shipped from the Rockies to Chicago, for the purpose of testing the same.

The Port Arthur Board of Trade has a membership of over sixty and the entrance fee has been placed at \$10.

Artichokes grow wild in some parts of Manitoba, and these afford quite a source of summer feed for pigs on range.

Emerson *Times*: "Our streets for the past two weeks have presented a more lively appearance than at any time in the past two years, and the merchants report a lively trade.

The introduction of sheep among the Indians of the reserves seems likely to prove a wise measure. The sheep supplied last winter to the Indians of the Bird Tail have already doubled in number.

D. Mann is getting along well with his contract for grading the Northern branch of the M. N. W. R. He expects to reach the village of Russell, eleven miles distant, in a few days. Track laying on the main line continues.

The work at the mines of the Ottertail Co., in the Rocky Mountains is steadily progressing. About 25 men are employed and a good saw mill is in operation. A good deal of ore is being taken out, which is being reduced by a five stamp mill, and a couple of carloads of the reduced ore will be shipped about the 1st of October.

At a meeting held at Minnedosa, J. D. Gillies, W. E. Roche, J. Jernyn, T. A. Cuddy, R. H. Myers, A. C. Sewell & S. Fairchild, were elected as a citizens committee to manage the affairs of the town. This action has been rendered necessary through the resignation of the town council, owing to the difficulty with the creditors of the place.

Says the *Birtle Observer*: The position taken by Portage la Prairie and Minnedosa with regard to their indebtedness has caused the banks to close their pockets to other towns, and Birtle will have to do without the \$10,000 which it was trying to borrow; at the end of ten years the place will be better off than if now encumbered by liabilities.

The annual meeting of the Canada Life Insurance Co. was held on September 14th. During the year there were 2,634 applicants for insurance, of these 186 were rejected. On April 30th last the Company was carrying \$39,511,347.44 of insurance, under 20,073 policies and upon 15,613 lives. During the year 156 deaths occurred for \$438,547.

Montreal Trade Notes.

The hog market was weak and declined 5 to 15c. The closing quotations were:—Light grades, \$3.90 to \$4.70; mixed packing, \$4.00 to \$4.40; heavy shipping, \$4.45 to \$4.95.

As a feature of the tea market, Congou grade is said to be rapidly gaining in favor. The consumption of green tea in this country appears to be steadily on the decline.

There was very little business done in Canadian wheats, and prices are steady at quotations:—Canada spring, No. 2, 84 to 85c; Canada white winter, No. 2, 83 to 85; Canada red winter, 84 to 85c.

The market for coarse grains continues to rule quiet and unchanged. We quote:—Corn, in bond, 48 to 50c per bushel of 56 lbs; peas, 71½ to 72½c per bushel; oats, 32 to 33c per bushel of 34 lbs; barley, 45 to 60c, according to quality, per bushel of 48 lbs; rye, nominal at 57 to 58c per bushel of 56 lbs.

Since our last report there have been sales of Minnesota flour on this market at prices ranging from \$4.40 to \$4.70, good to fine grades. There has also been a fair amount of business in St. Louis flour, supposed to be for through-shipment. In Canadian, there have been sales of superior at \$4.05 to \$4.07½, of patents at \$4.25 to \$4.50, of extra at \$3.90, and of spring extra at \$3.40 to \$3.45.

The cheese market continued strong in tone, and values were pushed a little further up, with many holders asking 11c. The offerings of finest goods are light, if not positively scarce, and 10½c was refused for a good line to-day. The cable advanced another 1s to 49s, but the private despatches referred to the strength as proceeding from speculative manipulation. There was a fair amount of animation in the market, with the general feeling very firm, although some doubts are expressed that the advance is being carried too far.

Insurance Briefs.

The Royal Insurance Company of Liverpool made a present of \$25,000 to its late London Secretary on the occasion of his retirement after nearly forty years' service.

Capt. McComber of Rabbit Mountain Mine arrived in Port Arthur the other morning with a solid silver brick weighing forty-five pounds, which is now on exhibition at the Northern. The captain says they can make plenty more of them, too.

A story is told by the *Chicago Tribune* of a young widow in Waukesha, whose husband had been dead for a month. She had always supported her husband free from the small vices, but when overhauling his clothes the other day, found a large plug of tobacco in a coat pocket. "Oh George, George!" she exclaimed despairingly, "you and I will never meet in the good world." In another pocket of the same garment she found a life insurance policy for \$5,000 of which she had known nothing, and she burst forth exultingly, "Oh, yes, we will, we will! Heaven will forgive him his one little fault!"

A prominent policy-holder in a large company says this concerning life insurance: "I like life insurance because it has compelled me to save my money. Always a free liver, earning and receiving a good salary, the end of the year always found me about even with the world. Some years ago I was induced to take out an endowment policy on my life. I entered into the scheme with some doubts and misgivings as to my ability to meet the premiums; but to my surprise I found that with but little appreciable effort, I was able to meet my premiums as they fell due, and I therefore consider myself indebted to life insurance for the handsome endowment policy I now hold, now considerably more than half paid up. The money paid for premiums has been actually saved, for from my previous experience I knew my salary would have all been spent in other directions had I not diverted a part for this purpose."—*Coast Review*.

One of the French life insurance companies, the Phenix of Paris, which insured the life of the consumptive king of Spain, and paid the amount of the policy without dispute, has recently successfully defended in the courts a claim made by the heirs of a physician named Boyson, on the ground that he omitted to mention in his application for the insurance, that he was ill with rheumatism eight years previous to the making of the application. The French papers, including the *Gazette des Assurances*, strongly condemn the actions of the company in contesting the Boyson claim, contrasting that action with the company's course in the matter of King Alphonso, where there was an advertisement to be gained, and warns French companies that they cannot successfully compete with foreign companies doing business in France, if this illiberal policy continues to be pursued.

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Ontario Crop Report.

The Ontario Bureau of Industries publish the following report: The breadth of wheat sown last fall was 902,753 acres, but the injury by winter exposure was so severe that 76,171 acres were either plowed up or re-sown in the spring. The remaining 826,582 acres in crop have produced an estimated yield of 18,057,794 bushels. The straw was short, owing to a period of drought in June and July in the fall wheat districts of the Province; but the heads were well filled, and the quality of the grain is reported excellent. The reaping season began about the middle of July, and nearly the whole of the crop was safely housed by the end of the month. The great drought area of the Mississippi valley appears to have included Ontario about as far eastward as the meridian of Port Hope, and all spring crops have been affected to some extent. Of spring wheat, barley, oats, peas, hay and roots the reports say that growth was visibly arrested at one time, but a succession of showers in the second week of July saved them from serious harm. The cereals and peas are uniformly reported as short in straw and slightly thin on the ground over the whole dry area; but there was no appearance of rust and scarcely any insect enemies, and the crops were maturing favorably. In the eastern portion of the Province, and especially in the St. Lawrence and Ottawa counties, the rainfall has been abundant, and vegetation is luxuriant. Complaints are made of rust and mildew in localities, and the barley crop is likely to be discolored to some extent. The acreage and estimated produce of crops are presented in the following table.

	Aeres.	Bushels.	Per acre.
Fall wheat	880,402	18,057,794	20.4
Spring wheat	57,465	9,27,783	16.5
Barley	735,78	19,695,830	26.8
Oats	1,021,991	58,231,57	35.9
Rye	67,779	1,140,371	16.9
Peas	703,933	16,162,255	23.4

Compared with the average of the past four years, the fall wheat this year is 120,000 acres and 3,219,224 bushels less; the spring wheat, 96,119 acres and 1,253,118 bushels less; the barley, 9,448 acres and 107,987 bushels more, the rye, 70,995 acres and 1,205,080 bushels less, and the peas, 123,798 acres and 4,107,846 bushels more.



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