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

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

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 24, 1896.

## AHEAD OF TIME.

OWING to the fact that Friday and Saturday are holidays, The Commercial is issued this week a couple of days ahead of the usual time. We wish all our friends a Merry Christmas.

### Manitoba.

It is said that a new Liberal paper is to be started at Selkirk.

E. A. Buley has disposed of his interest in the Emerson Journal.

Hooper & McChesney, of the Portage la Prairie Review, are dissolving partnership, Jas Hooper disposing of his interest in the paper to an eastern party.

W. A. Macdonald, barrister, of Brandon, is going to the gold district of British Columbia to locate. He has been one of the most prominent citizens of Brandon for years.

No better criterion of the prosperity of Manitoba and Territory farmers this winter could be desired, says an exchange, than the heavy passenger traffic for the east. All the railway lines are reaping a rich harvest. Farmers from all parts of the country are flocking east to spend the holidays with their friends. Not a few are going to Europe.

### Assiniboia.

Yorkton now has a paper—the Enterprise.

### Alberta.

The shipment of produce from Northern Alberta has increased to such proportions says the Calgary Herald, that the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. put on an extra train on Thursday last, and the regular north train also took up eight empty cars to bring down produce. It is stated by those who are in a position to know, that it will require three trains per week from now till New Year to take out all the produce that is to be shipped.

The Edmonton Bulletin has been enlarged.

## Montreal Wholesale Trade.

The demand for most lines is limited which is usually the case at this season of the year, consequently business generally is quiet and not much improvement is anticipated until the holidays are over and stock taking is completed. The sugar market has continued very quiet, but the feeling is steady and refiners show no disposition to shade present prices. Granulated is selling at 8½c to 4c as to quantity, and yellows at 8½c to 8¾c as to quality at the factory. The recent decline in prices for syrups has failed to induce any more demand, and the market is quiet at 1½c to 1¾c per lb. as to quality at the factory. In molasses a fair jobbing business has been done on country account, but business on spot has been rather quiet, with no change in values to note. Rice is firm, but the demand is of a limited character at present. In spices the demand has been principally for white and black pepper and nutmegs, and some fair-sized lots have changed hands at firm values. The scarcity of Maracaibo coffee still continues, for which there is a good enquiry and prices are firmly held at 12. Other grades are moving only in a small way at former quotations. A fair business is reported in teas and the situation of the market is growing stronger as the season goes on. Values of all grades are firmly held, with an upward tendency, which is due chiefly to the small stocks held here as compared with previous years. In paints, oils, leads and glass business has been purely of a small sorting-up character, and, in consequence, the market for these lines is very quiet, as is usual at this period of the year. Owing to the continued weak advices from abroad on linseed oil, prices here have declined one cent per gallon, raw now being quoted at 45c to 46c and boiled at 48c to 49c. Recent mail advices from Liverpool say:—Linseed oil is away down again to a point lower than ever; the demand for cake has brought far more oil into the market than there is any sale for, and almost every day for the last two weeks prices have declined, but at the time of writing there is a better feeling for forward, January and April being 9d to 1s, and May and August 1s 6d over the spot price. On spot the very firm feeling in castor oil continues and sales are being made at 9½c to 10c per lb. There is no demand of importance for heavy chemicals and the market at present is very quiet and steady. In cement and firebricks the feeling is steady, but the movement is very small as is usual at this season of the year. The demand for naval stores is slow and values are without any change. The feature in the hide market this week was the demand from American buyers, and a sale of 1,000 was made for shipment this week. There is no change in prices to note. In petroleum an active business is doing at steady prices. The market for ashes has been weaker and prices show a decline of 5c to 10c per 100 lbs., firsts now being quoted at \$3.40 and seconds at \$3.05 per 100 lbs.—Gazette.

## Winding up the Commercial Bank.

Yesterday at the court house before Justice Bain, an application was made in the matter of the winding up of the Commercial Bank. Mr. Phippen, as solicitor of the liquidators, presented to the court the report of the shareholders' meeting held a few days since. An affidavit of Mr. Ferguson was also filed, setting out the result of the meeting in detail; giving the names of those present personally and by proxy, and the number of shares represented. It appears that \$335,800 of the double liability on the capital stock has been paid up. Of this amount \$139,800 was represented at the meeting, and of the amount represented only \$12,000 was represented by shareholders personally present, and \$127,-

800 by proxy. It was pointed out in the affidavit that no change should be made in the management of the estate, further than dictated by reasons of economy, as those at present connected with it had a thorough personal knowledge of the affairs of the bank, which could only be acquired by strangers at considerable expense to the estate.

Isaac Campbell, Q. C., on behalf of several of the creditors of the bank, said that since he had been requested by the court to act on behalf of the creditors he had only had an opportunity of seeing a small number, who, so far as interviewed, thought it well to continue Mr. Ewart and Mr. Hespeler in office as liquidators, provided their salary did not exceed the amount suggested as probable to be paid Mr. Ross (1,200 a year) by the resolution of the shareholders.

Mr. Perdue, on behalf of some of the shareholders, urged the immediate appointment of I. M. Ross at the salary mentioned, of \$1,200 a year, in place of the present liquidators, pursuant to the resolution and desire of the shareholders.

Mr. Phippen tendered Mr. Ferguson's resignation, but said the other two liquidators, Messrs. Ewart and Hespeler were, if the court thought fit to continue them in office, willing to proceed with the liquidation of the estate.

At the close of the arguments of counsel, his lordship said as long as any creditors remained unpaid he would not make any further change in the liquidators than appeared to be reasonably necessary in the interest of economy. Mr. Ferguson now desires to retire, and he could see no objection to his resignation being accepted, as he felt that the liquidation would be perfectly secure in the hands of Mr. Ewart and Mr. Hespeler, and they would be continued, if willing to act. He would not consider the recommendation of the shareholders, until the creditors were paid off in full. After the creditors were paid, he would give due consideration to their recommendation.

## Hides, Wool, Etc.

A Toronto report says of hides: "The tanners are out of the market and say that they will not buy hides until prices come down to a basis where they can make a fair profit on leather. Local dealers are paying 6½c for No. 1 green; cars of cured are quoted at 7½c.

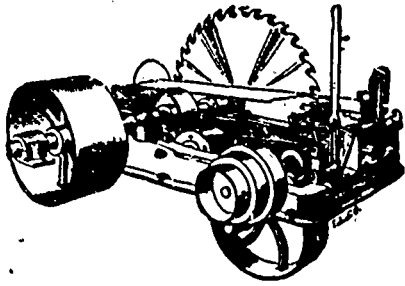
## November Trade Statement.

Dutiable goods entering Canada in November amounted to \$1,609,170; free goods, to \$3,851,381; and coin and bullion \$229,100; making a total of \$8,692,651. Duty collected thereon was \$1,421,342. Postoffice savings bank accounts for November show deposits of \$669,102, and withdrawals of \$590,216, leaving a balance to the credit of depositors of \$29,914,411. Canadian exports for November amounted to \$14,099,017; the produce of Canada and \$1,468,757 the produce of other countries, making a total of \$15,567,774. The inland revenue returns for November show a total revenue of \$689,015.84.

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Dec. 22, 1896.

There are no changes in the market to chronicle this week, with the exception of oats and hay. Oats is quoted at \$2 higher and hay \$1. Potatoes are still very scarce. Much of the root crop was destroyed during the recent cold weather and roots will be higher. A shipment of flour from Manitoba this week did not meet with ready sale owing to its inferior quality. Onions are higher in Manitoba, but remain the same here. There is abundance of Japanese oranges in Vancouver retailing at 50 cents a box.

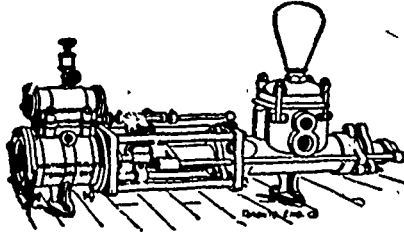


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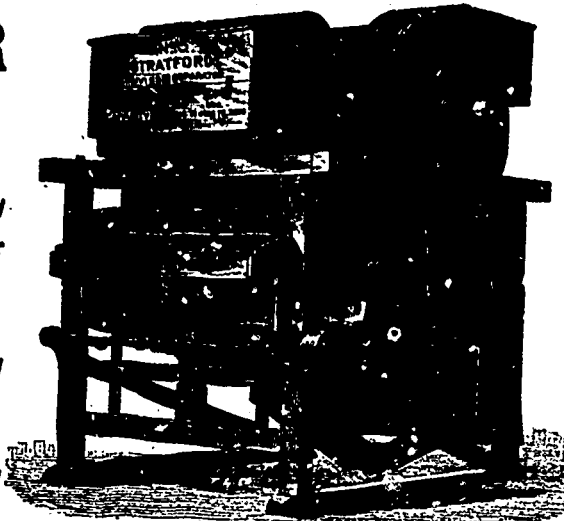
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 24, 1896.

## THE OLD YEAR.

The year now within a few days of its close has not been an unsatisfactory one for Western Canada. There have been some ups and downs, it is true, and everything has not been just as we would like it, but now that its days are about numbered, we can look back with much reason for thankfulness and small reason for grumbling. Compared with many other parts of the world we in Western Canada have special reason for feeling satisfied with the past and hopeful for the future.

In a region so largely dependent upon agriculture as in Manitoba, everything hinges on the weather. The past season was not a model one for the farmer. The spring was one of the latest on record and farm work was greatly hampered by wet weather. In the early part of the season the outlook was considered rather discouraging for the crops. But after all a very fair harvest was secured over a large portion of the country. What the wheat crop lacked in quantity has been made up in the value received for the crop. Another great fact is, that the crop was handled at a minimum of expense. In 1895 we had a tremendous crop in Manitoba, but the expense handling it, and the low price obtained for the grain reduced the profits very much to the growers.

This year, while the crop was not heavy, the expense of harvesting it has been light, and the price received has been very satisfactory. In fact, with the exception possibly of the eastern districts of Manitoba, where the greatest harm was done by the excessive moisture in the spring, the net profit of the farmers will in many cases exceed the profit received from the big crop harvested in 1895. This is proved by the comparative ease with which collections have been made this season. Loan companies, implement houses and other concerns which do a large credit business with the farmers, report to The Commercial that payments have been well met, and business men generally appear to be agreeably satisfied with the result.

All this is very gratifying. Of course in a country like the agricultural districts of Western Canada, we cannot expect one or even two very favorable seasons to place all the settlers in easy circumstances. The great majority of our settlers came here with limited means. In order to start upon their farms they had to go into debt to loan companies, implement firms and others. All we can expect is that they will be able to gradually pay off these claims and improve their surroundings. The progress made in this direction during the past two years has been very satisfactory.

The improved position of our farmers is to a considerable extent due to increased production of dairy products and live stock, as well as to the large crop of 1895 and the high price for wheat received this season. The dairy industry has made excellent pro-

gress the past two seasons, and the farmers are reaping a rich reward from this in lustry. The farmers have also gone more extensively into live stock, which has proved a source of much profit to them. Our best hope for the future lies in the further development of the live stock and dairy interests along with grain growing.

The year has not been without its drawbacks and disasters. One of the most serious drawbacks of the year was a severe storm which swept across the country just at the beginning of harvest, destroying the crops in its path. Many individuals suffered severely from this disaster, and some lost practically all their grain crop.

One of the important features of this year has been the great attention drawn to our mineral districts. There have been great discoveries in British Columbia, and a great interest has been taken in the development of the mineral interests there. The rich mineral territory close to the eastern boundary of Manitoba has also received much attention of late. Capital has been flowing into these regions, and the outlook is very hopeful for a wonderful development of our great mineral resources during the coming year. Our agricultural prairie lands are not the only source of wealth in Western Canada. This great prairie region is bounded both on the east and west by rugged but rich mineral regions. Many people believe we have here in the West the greatest mineral districts in the world. Now that capital has begun to flow in for the development of our mineral wealth, great things are looked for in the near future. The development of our mineral wealth is certain to be a leading feature during the coming year, and great prosperity to the country is expected to result therefrom.

In conclusion The Commercial wishes its readers the compliments of the season, and a full realization of their hopes for the coming year.

## THE ARGENTINE CROP.

Owing to the great interest taken in the Argentine wheat crop, Mr. N. Bawlf, grain merchant, Winnipeg, cabled the other day to Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic, for information regarding the crop. The cable was sent to John McNabb, formerly of Winnipeg, but now a resident of Buenos Ayres. The reply came as follows: N. Bawlf, Winnipeg:

Quality of new crop is inferior to that of last year. Prospects below an average crop. Estimated quantity for export, 20,000,000 bushels.

JOHN McNABB.

The annual average export of wheat from Argentine for the past five years has been about 33,000,000 bushels of wheat, and flour equal to 1,600,000 bushels of wheat. If Mr. McNabb's estimate is near the mark, it would indicate that the crop now being harvested in Argentine is a poor one.

Exports from Argentine for the past two years were much larger than the average for the past five years. The crop harvested in December, 1893, was the largest ever secured in that country, and exports ran away up during the season following as a consequence.

The following shows the wheat crop of Argentine for a number of years.

1883	10,000,000
1891	12,000,000
1885	14,000,000
1886	14,000,000
1887	14,000,000
1888	11,000,000
1889	40,000,000
1893	82,000,000
1891	36,000,000
1892	57,000,000
1893	80,000,000
1894	60,000,000
1895	75,000,000

A surplus crop of 20,000,000 bushels for export during 1897, would indicate a total crop of under 50,000,000 bushel, which looks very small. The average production of wheat in Argentine for the past five years has been 61,600,000 bushels and the exports of wheat and flour equal to 31,600,000 bushels, leaving 27,000,000 bushels annually required for home consumption.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

THE last official crop report and review of agriculture in Manitoba calls attention to the fact that Manitoba is not self-supporting in the production of poultry. This is a matter which The Commercial has frequently called attention to. The production of poultry should be very profitable to our farmers, and it certainly seems that the supply should at least be equal to the home demand. The shortage is mainly in turkeys, while the supply of geese is also short of home requirements. Chickens are produced in sufficient quantity to meet the home demand, and sometimes we have a surplus to ship west, where there is always a good demand for poultry at profitable prices.

THOUGH Hon. Joseph Martin is "out of politics" for the present, he no doubt retains considerable influence in political circles, and particularly with his old friends at Ottawa. A recent event shows this. It has been customary in the past in Winnipeg to make a charge of 25 cents for moving goods from the railways to the customs examining warehouse. This was a matter of considerable importance to the business people of Winnipeg, and was an item of no small expense to those who frequently receive packages of imported goods. Mr. Martin looked into this matter and found that it was not the rule at other places in Canada. He promptly took up the question with the authorities at Ottawa, and succeeded in having this charge dispensed with, for which he will receive the thanks of the business men of the city.

IN REGARD to the question of Indian education, the difficulty is not in educating the young Indians, but in making them useful citizens after they have been educated. Some of those who have studied the matter say that the young Indians soon lapse into their old ways after they return to their people. This is what might be expected. If the young people could be settled in colonies by themselves, or placed out among the whites, no doubt good results would be obtained from them. The idea in sending

them back to the reserves is probable that they will gradually exorcise a civilizing influence over their savage neighbors, and thus in time bring the entire Indian population to a fair state of civilization. It is, however, a great hardship to the young people to be sent back to the reserves, after having received a taste of civilization. It is also probable that under such surroundings, very few of them will be able to make much use of their education. We cannot expect more from the Indian children than from the whites, and very few white children would ever become useful members of society under such circumstances.

\* \* \*

THE new bill to regulate immigration has passed the United States senate, by a large majority. The bill provides for the expulsion of persons who cannot read and write in some language. An admissible immigrant, however can bring his wife, parents or grandparents or minor children, regardless of the restrictions imposed in the bill. Immigrants who cannot meet the requirements of the law, shall be returned to the country whence they came, at the expense of the steamship or railway companies bringing them in.

\* \* \*

IN decorating their stores for Christmas or on other festive occasions, business men should know that it is not good taste to make a profuse display of any foreign flag. Foreign flags, if used at all, should always be placed in a subordinate position to the flag of our country. Several business men in Winnipeg seem to overlook this, and make such a display of foreign flags as is offensive to good taste and to patriotism. This was particularly noticeable in the Winnipeg market in the Christmas decorations this year. Business men would not knowingly do anything to offend their customers, but in making displays of a foreign flag in this way, they are very likely to offend some. The Commercial heard complaints made on this account, of the Christmas decorations in the market and one party even said he would withdraw his custom from one firm, on account of what he considered to be an offensive display of a foreign flag.

\* \* \*

THE TOWN of Portage la Prairie has evidently more enterprise than Winnipeg, at least in some matters. A by-law has recently been adopted at the Portage, providing for the damming of the river at that place and the flooding of the slough. This, it is expected, will produce a water-power equal to about 600 horse-power. Some time ago Winnipeg was very enthusiastic over certain proposals to utilize the water-power of the Assiniboine river here, but the enterprise seem to have dropped clean out of sight of late. A very much larger water-power is available here than at Portage la Prairie, but evidently we have not the enterprise to develop it. The city has recently been agitated over the questions of establishing water-works, electric light works, etc. Why not develop our water-power for the economical operation of these enterprises.

SOME MANITOBA municipalities have recently voted upon the question of bringing the provincial system of hail insurance into force in the municipalities in which the votes have been taken. We have a law in Manitoba which permits municipalities to adopt a system of hail insurance. The Commercial does not regard this system as of any great value to the province, and besides, the law is unjust and arbitrary in principle. If an official system of hail insurance is to be encouraged at all, it should be a general provincial system, and not a local option law. A local system of insurance is unsafe at best, and when applied to hail is not at all desirable.

\* \* \*

OF all the frivolous matter which appears in the daily press, the greatest rubbish of all are these long lists of names of persons who have attended or have been invited to attend various official and other social functions, and the descriptions given of the dress of the ladies. The chief effect of the publishing of such matter is to tickle the vanity of silly women, and goodness knows it is not desirable to encourage such vanity, as there is always a surplus of the commodity in the market. We do not mean to say that women are more vain than men. We do not believe they are. Their vanity simply takes a different form. While many men would not be puffed up with vanity by the publication of a description of their dress, they all have soft spots in some other direction which could be just as easily touched.

### The Ladies' Home Journal for 1897.

An even excellence makes the good things which The Ladies' Home Journal promises unusually interesting and strong. The list is long and sturdy. One series of papers alone would sell the magazine: that is, the three White House articles which ex-President Harrison is to write. No man has ever done what General Harrison will do in these articles: show us what "A Day with the President at His Desk" means in one article; in another tell of "The Social Life of the President" and in a third article describe "Upstairs Life at the White House." Each of the articles will be profusely illustrated. Another series equally fascinating is the one called "Great Personal Events" in which some of the greatest enthusiasms which have occurred in America will be revived: those wonderful times when Louis Kossuth rode up Broadway; when the young Prince of Wales was here; when Jenny Lind sang in Castle Garden; when Henry Ward Beecher electrified his congregation by selling slaves in his pulpit; when Grant went round the world; when Henry Clay bade farewell to the senate; when John Wesley preached in Georgia, of which so few know. All these memorable events and others will be vividly recalled, told more graphically than ever before, and illustrated with pictures which have occupied twelve artists for over a year. A third series is unique and valuable from the fact that it will give women scores of ideas for their homes. It will reveal what there is "Inside of a Hundred American Homes," and carefully reproduce pictures of one hundred completely furnished rooms in homes in this country—from Maine to California—where taste has gone farther than money. Two new

department writers have also been exclusively engaged by the Journal: Mrs. S. T. Rorer, who will hereafter have entire charge of the domestic department and give a series of cooking lessons, and Dwight L. Moody, the famous evangelist, who is to put the result of his life study of the Bible in a department entitled "Mr. Moody's Bible Class." The artist, Charles Dana Gibson, who created the Gibson girl, will present six full-page pictures showing "The People of Dickens," while Alice Barber Stephens will alternate with Mr. Gibson and present her idea of "Six Types of American Womanhood," showing the American woman in society, in religion, in business, in summer in the home, and as a mother. Mary E. Wilkins, the New England writer, will revive the old quilting-party, the ancient singing-school and the apple-paring bee in "The Pleasures of our Neighborhood." Sir Henry Irving is to tell how to study, read and present "Shakespeare in Small Communities." Tosti, the song writer, will give his first piano composition. Sir Arthur Sullivan is to present the first true and correct copy of "The Lost Chord" ever printed in America. Reginald D. Koven, John Philip Sousa and Jakubowski (who wrote "Erminia") have each written a waltz, while Ira D. Sankey has composed a hymn which he considers greater than his famous "Ninety and Nine." Ian Maclaren will have a story, while Herbert D. Ward's humorous serial, "The Burglar who Moved Paradise," will run through the year, followed by Hamlin Garland's new novelette, "The Spirit of Sweetwater." Jenny Lind's daughter is to sketch "My Mother as I recall Her," while George W. Smalley is to show "The Personal Side of Bismark," and the Personal Side of the Prince of Wales." Altogether, no magazine gives a list of attractions so interesting and promising as does "The Ladies' Home Journal," and certainly no periodical does it, as does the Journal, for only one dollar per year. The Journal is published by the Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia.

### Literary Notes.

Busy business men who wish to keep in touch with the times, find difficulty in keeping posted on current events by perusing the daily papers. The piecemeal and disconnected way in which important matters must of necessity be presented by the daily press, makes it difficult for busy people to follow the trend of events and gain a clear knowledge of the various questions which are agitating the world, civilized and savage. Some important connecting links in the various details are dropped here and there, and thus at best but a hazy idea is retained of even the most important questions which have been under consideration. What is required to supplement the information given by the daily press, is a review of current events, and this is given in concise form by Current History, a publication which is issued quarterly by Garretson, Cox & Co., of Buffalo, N. Y. This publication gives a complete review of every important current question, in such manner as to bring out clearly the ins and outs of the various questions, without forcing the reader to wade through a great mass of literature to get at the bottom of the matter. In a year like the one now closing, with so many important questions agitating the world, Current History will prove a great boon to the busy business man who wishes to keep posted on current questions. The last issue of this interesting publication has just been received. It treats of the Cuban question, the Venezuelan question, the Eastern questions, etc., etc., and is profusely illustrated with portraits of prominent men the world over.

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**DAVID DEXTER,**  
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Manufacturers in Canada.

Get your sorting orders filled by us in GLOVES,  
MITTS, MOCCASINS, Lumbermen's socks, Etc., Etc.

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Get our Special Discount on Tie Moccasins.  
Three Hundred Dozen of Boys' and Men's to be sold  
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Goods shipped promptly.

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THE BEST SOAP and the BEST SELLING  
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are equal to the best in the market. Hav-  
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Place your orders early, as on these terms  
they are money makers.

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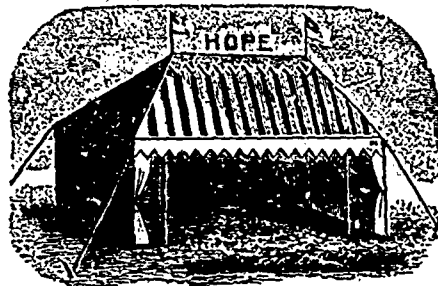
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E. NICHOLSON, Successor to W. F. Henderson & Co. 124 Princess St., Winnipeg, Agents.

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

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

“OGILVIE'S FLOUR.”

Messrs THE OGILVIE MILLING CO., WINNIPEG, MAN.

Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mills, of which we have imported considerable on this crop has given the highest satisfaction to 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 at 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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**OGILVIE'S FLOUR**

YOU HAVE

**THE BEST**

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

**OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,**

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

# THE RIDDELL MANUFACTURING CO.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

**HIGH CLASS BISCUITS AND CONFECTIONERY**

When you are stocking up in Confectionery, TRY OUR VELVETS

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

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

**British Columbia Markets.**

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for small quantities and 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, December 24, 1896.

**Butter.**—Manitoba Dairy butter, 20c; Manitoba creamery, 21c; eastern creamery, 20c; local creamery, 20c; Manitoba cheese, 11c; local cheese, 11c.

**Cured Meats.**—Hams 18 cents; breakfast bacon 12½ to 18c; backs 9½c; long, clear 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per pound; in vails and tubs 9c.

**Game.**—Mallard, 25c, wilder, 25c; teal, 20c; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand 5 to \$1.50c.

**Fish.**—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smolt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; taimy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 10c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; salt outachan, 25 and 50 lb. kits \$3.75 and \$8.50; smoked salmon 10c.

**Vegetables.**—Potatoes, \$25.00 per ton; onions, silver skins, 1c per pound; California onions 1½; cabbage, 4c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

**Eggs.**—Ranch 40c; Eastern eggs, 28c.

**Fruits.**—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 300 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 12½ to 150 naval oranges. Japanese oranges 6 to 7 doz. in box, 50 to 60c. California lemons, \$3.50; California oranges, \$3.50; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$3.75 to \$1.00 barrel.

**Evaporated Fruits.**—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 4½c to 7c; loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 7½c.

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

**Meal.**—National mills rolled cats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.10; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70.

**Flour.**—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.70; strong bakers, \$5.80; Oregon, \$5.40.

**Grain.**—Local wheat, \$85. Oats, \$25 per ton.

**Ground Feed.**—National mills chop, \$23 to \$25 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$20.00 ton; bran \$19.00; oil cake meal, \$30 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

**Hay.**—\$15.00 per ton.

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

**Live Stock.**—Steers, \$3.00 to \$3.50; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$1.50 to \$1.00 per 100 lbs; lamb \$3.00 to \$3.50 per head.

**Poultry.**—Turkeys, 12½c lb ducks, 12½c lb. Chickens, 11c lb., Geese, 11c lb.

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

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

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

**Comparative Prices in Staples.**

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Dec. 15, 1896.	Dec. 20, 1895.
Flour, straight spring	\$1.31 to \$1.40	\$3.00 to \$1.31
Flour, straight winter	\$1.01 to \$1.75	\$1.00 to \$3.40
Wheat, No. 2 red	1.02	07c
Corn, No. 2 mixed	28c	33c
Oats, No. 2	22c	22c
Rye, No. 2, Western	45c	46c
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	46c	43c
Cotton, mid. upld.	7 3-16c	8 6-16c
Print cloth, 64x84	2 9-16c	3c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X	17c to 18c	17 to 18c
Wool, No. 1 comb	21 to 22c	22 to 23c
Pork, mess new	8 3-16 to 8 7-16	\$0.00 to 0.50
Lard, western, cream	\$1.12	\$1.45c
Butter, ex. creamery	20c	27c
Cheese, ch. east fr.	10c	10c
Sugar, centrif., 90°	31c	3c
Sugar, granulated	43c	40c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7	10c	15c
Peroleum, N. T. Co.	9c	\$1.30
Peroleum, rid. gal.	\$6.25c	
*Iron, Bes. rd.	3 8-16	\$11.75
*Steel billets, ton	\$10.00	\$10.75
Ocean Steam Freight	\$1d	3d
Grain, Liverpool	1-25d	3-3d
Cotton		

\* Pittsburgh.

**Montreal Grain and Produce Market.**

**Grain.**—Oats are easy at 25c. Peas 48c to 49c. Maltng barley at 45c to 47c.

**Flour.**—The demand for flour continues slow. Winter wheat patents are selling at \$1.75 to \$5; Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$5.20 to \$5.30; strong bakers, \$1.50 to \$5; straight rollers, \$1.25 to \$1.50, and in bags, \$2.10 to \$2.25.

**Oatmeal.**—Business quiet at \$1.10 to \$3.50 per barrel for rolled oats, and at \$1.70 to \$1.75 per bag.

**Bran.**—The demand for feed was fair and bran sold at \$10 to \$10.50 per ton for Manitoba, and at \$9.25 to \$9.50 for Ontario. Shorts are quiet at \$11 to \$12 per ton.

**Hay.**—Prices are \$10.50 to \$11 for No. 1, and at \$9 to \$9.50 for No. 2 per ton in car lots.

**Dressed Hogs.**—The demand was slow at \$1.75 to \$5 per 100 lbs. in a jobbing way, and at \$1.65 to \$1.85 in car lots.

**Butter.**—Quiet. Values range from 18c to 18½c on creamery.

**Eggs.**—New-laid sold at 20c to 22c, choice candied and Montreal timed at 14c to 14½c. Western limed at 18c to 14c, and Western held fresh at 12c to 12½c per dozen.

**Poultry.**—Choice Turkeys sold at 7½ to 7¾c, frozen at 6½ to 7½c; chickens at 6½ to 7c; ducks 7½ to 8c, and geese at 5½ to 6c per lb.—Montreal, December 21.

**Toronto Grain and Produce Markets.**

**WHEAT.**—Cars of red are offering west at 30c and white is quoted at 31c; goose sold on the Midland to-day at 65c. Manitoba wheat is steady at 9c Toronto and west, for No. 1 hard; 95c, all rail, North Bay.

**Flour.**—Is dull but steady; cars of straight roller are quoted at \$1.25, Toronto freights.

**Millfeed.**—Is quiet at \$5 to \$8.50 for shorts and \$7.50 to \$3 for bran west.

**Barley.**—Is dull and easier; No. 1 is quoted at 30c and 31c outside, No. 1 extra at 32c; No. 2, at 27c, No. 3 extra at 28c, and feed at 21c.

**Oats.**—Are dull and easy at 17½c to 18c for mixed west, and 18½c to 19c west.

**Butter.**—Large dairy rolls, 12c to 18c; dairy pound rolls, 15c; dairy tubs, 12c to 18c; creamery rolls, 19c to 20c; creamery tubs, 18c to 18½c.

**Dressed Hogs.**—Car lots are being offered freely. Western shippers are sending forward a large number. They are quoted at \$1.25 to \$1.40; selects are worth \$1.80 to \$5.

**Eggs.**—Lined, 14 to 15c; cold storage and late gathered, 15c to 16c, 19c to 20c for strictly new laid.

**Poultry.**—Chickens, 25c to 40c; ducks, 40c to 60c; geese, 6c to 6½c; turkeys, 7c to 8c per lb.

**Baled Hay.**—No. 1, \$11.50; low grades, from \$8 to \$9.—Toronto, Dec. 21.

**Grocery Trade Notes.**

Rumors are current says the New York Commercial Bulletin that 1897 spring pack Columbia river salmon is being offered through commission channels guaranteed at lower prices than the association will make. It is understood, however, that only the very largest buyers will get the benefit in the event that it can be done at all.

The California Fruit Grower says of the position of prunes: "The light shipping demand at this time has caused an easier feeling in the local prune market. Shipments for season to December 5 aggregate 30,124,900 prunes from the Santa Clara Valley; shipments from outside points have been in proportion. There is quite a quantity of prunes in the San Joaquin Valley unsold."

**Minneapolis Markets.**

The Market Record of Dec. 22, says that the market is fairly satisfactory but prices are rather easier. Prices are as follows, in bbls. f. o. b.: First patents, 4.25 to \$1.45; second patents, 4.05 to \$1.25; first clears, 3.85 to \$2.15; second clear, 2.85 to \$2.55; Red Dog, per ton, 110 for lbs. per 10.50 to \$11. These prices are 5 to 10c higher than a week ago for patents, and 15c lower for clears.

**Millstuffs.**—Bran in bulk, 4.50 to \$1.75; bran in sacks, 20½ lbs. 5.50 to \$5.75; bran in sacks, 100 lbs. 6 to \$6.25; shorts in bulk, 4.50 to \$1.75; shorts in sacks, 100 lbs. 6 to \$5.25; millings, fine, 7.50 to \$8. These prices are the same as a week ago.

**Oats.**—Range at 15c for light up to 16½c for No. 3 white.

**Barley.**—Quoted at 20 to 24c per bushel as to grade.

**Flax.**—Quoted at 68½c per bushel, being 4c lower than a week ago.

**Hay.**—Prairie, \$3 to \$1.50 per ton, as to quality.—Market Record, December 22.

**Freight Rates.**

The Chicago Trade Bulletin of Dec. 21 says: There are rumors of east bound rates being cut, as wheat and corn are going to the seaboard all rail. The tariff on flour and grain from Chicago to New York is 20c and on provisions 30c per 100 lbs. Ocean rates are slow and easy at 8d per bush. from New York to Liverpool. Through rates Chicago to Liverpool \$1.13 to \$1½ per 100 lbs. on flour, 18.80c per bush. on grain and 45 to 45.85c per 100 lbs on provisions. The last lake charter of the season was at 3½ for wheat to Buffalo, or ½ over rates a week ago.

Manitoba is not such a bad place for business after all. A merchant who recently sold out and went to Scotland, where he went into business, writes a Winnipeg wholesale firm that he is anxious to return to Manitoba, and would like to hear of any openings in his line here.

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**R. C. MACFIE & CO.,**  
LONDON, ONTARIO.

We can sell you Black Cattle Robes, lined and trimmed, perfectly moth-proof. Warranted never to get hard. They are the best and cheapest Robe in the market. Sizes about 60 x 70 inches. Prices, \$10.50 to \$12.00.

**RAW FURS WANTED**

**To Advertisers.**

All changes for advertisements must be at this office not later than Thursday noon.

**Mercantile.**

Stocks of merchandise of all kinds sold on commission. Merchants who are retiring from business and wishing to dispose of their stocks en bloc will find it to their advantage by placing them with us for sale. Business concerns of all kinds disposed of. Correspondence strictly confidential. Write for circular.

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Rolled Oats, Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley,  
 Rolled Wheat, Breakfast Cereals.

ORDER THROUGH WHOLESALE TRADE OR  
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**THE HUDSON'S BAY CO.**  
 — ARE THE —  
**LARGEST IMPORTERS OF TEA**

IN THIS COUNTRY

Therefore in a position to OFFER VALUES WHICH  
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THE TRADE SUPPLIED

CHINA, INDIA CEYLON AND JAPAN TEAS

**G. F. & J. GALT**

WHOLESALE GROCERS,

PACKERS OF

"BLUE RIBBON" and "UNION JACK" Packet Teas

**A COMFORTABLE HOME FOR YOUR FEET.**

By wearing *KING'S SHOES* made with  
 — PATENT —

**Sleeper Canvas Insoles.**

SOMETHING NEW, "LIGHT" FLEXIBLE  
 NO TACKS, NO NAILS, VERY EASY, NO SQUEAK.

Made only by **J. D. KING CO., Ltd**

**E. A. SMALL & CO.,**

MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE OF

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**Victoria Square, MONTREAL**

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**\$6.50 TON**

DELIVERED

No advance in price of the **FAMOUS GALT COAL**

Quotations for Car lots given at Railway points.

**A. M. NANTON, 381 Main Street.**

TELEPHONE 260.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Thursday, Dec. 21.

The Commercial is issued two days ahead of time this week, as Friday and Saturday will be observed as holidays and there will consequently be no markets to report on those days. There have been no very important happenings in local business circles this week, and prices generally are steady. Wholesale trade is very quiet, as usual at this season of the year. In the produce trade the main feature of importance is the demoralization of the poultry market by price cutting. Dressed meats are generally easy.

In the United States this week two important bank failures have affected the business situation, the failures being the Bank of Illinois, of Chicago, and the Bank of Minnesota, of St. Paul. Money was steady. At New York yesterday (Dec 23) call money was quoted at 1 1/2 per cent. and prime mercantile paper at 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 per cent., bar silver 65 1/2c.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 27.

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

**COAL**—The weather, though a little colder, is not what the fuel dealers would delight in. This continued mild weather has decreased sales of coal. The consumption of native western coals in preference to the imported coals continues larger than in previous years, owing to the greater difference in price this season, the native soft coals being about the same as last year, while the imported anthracite is very much higher. There is no change in prices. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton, Lethbridge \$6.50. These prices are delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal are held at \$3.85 to \$4.90 per ton here, or \$1.50 per ton on cars at the mines.

**CORWOOD**—The feeling is rather easier in wood fuel. Pine is held about \$1 for cars on track here, per cord; tamarac \$1.50 for last winter's cut, and poplar at \$2.50.

**DRUGS**—Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2c; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 23 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; copperas 3 1/2 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00; cream tartar, per pound, 30 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 1/2 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$1 per gallon as to brand; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c; potassium iodide, \$1.25 to 1.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 1/2 to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 1/2 to 5c; soda bicarb., per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25;

sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 4 1/2 to 5 1/2c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

**FISH**—The market is well supplied with both sea and fresh water fish. A very large trade has been done in oysters this season, sales having been double what they were last year with some dealers. The only difficulty has been in getting in supplies fast enough. Prices are as follows:—Finnan Haddies, 7 to 8c per lb., the lower quotation only in large lots; Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Pickerel, 4c; salmon, 12c halibut, 12c; Cod, 8c; Haddock, 8c per lb; smelt, 10c; herrings 25c per dozen; Oysters, \$1.60 per gallon for standards, \$1.80 for selects, and \$2 to \$2.25 for extra selects and counts; shell oysters, \$8 per barrel; smoked salmon, 15c lb. cloaters, \$1.50 box; red herrings, 20c box, pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lbs; pickled whitefish, \$6 per barrel; salt herrings \$1.50 per barrel.

**FLUID BEEF, ETC.**—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminol—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz, \$5.10.

**GREEN FRUITS.**—Large supplies of California oranges have arrived, and the fruit is said to be of better quality than it usually is so early in the season. Malaga grapes are very firm, owing to light stocks, and a sharp advance is looked for in this line any day. A few bananas are occasionally arriving. Prices are as follows: Anoles, \$2 to \$2.50 per barrel as to quality. Mexican oranges, \$5 to \$5.50 per box; California navels, 5 to \$5.25 per box; California seedling oranges 4 to \$1.25 per box; Messina lemons, \$5.50 to \$6 per box Cape Cod cranberries, \$7 per barrel; Washington pears, \$2.50 per box; Malaga grapes, \$3.50 per keg; bananas, \$1.75 to \$3.50 per bunch; sweet potatoes, \$1.50 to \$5 per barrel.

**HARDWARE**—Business is very quiet in this branch and prices are simply nominal. Prices are as follows:

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

**TIN PLATES.**—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

**TERNE PLATES.**—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.00 to 8.50.

**IRON AND STEEL.**—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.85 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs.; \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

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

**CANADA PLATES.**—Garth and Blaina, \$3.10

**GALVANIZED IRON.**—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 4 1/2c; 26 gauge, per lb., 4 1/2c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5c.

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

**LEAD.**—Pig, per lb., 4 1/2c.

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

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

**AMMUNITION.**—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American; 12 per

cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 80 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 1/2c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

**WIRE.**—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs.

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

**AXES.**—Per box, \$6.00 to 9.00.

**NAILS.**—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.16 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 3 to 6 inch, \$3.60 per keg; 3 to 4 inch \$3.91 keg; 2 1/2 inch, \$1.22 keg.

**HORSE NAILS.**—Pointed and finished oval heads. List prices 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 off above list prices, 45 per cent.

**NUTS**—Ontario Chestnuts are about out of the market. New nuts are now mostly in stock. Tarragona almonds, 16c; Sicily filberts, large, 15c. filberts ordinary, 12c, peanuts, roasted, 12c; peanuts, green, 9c. Ontario butternuts 9c; Ontario Walnuts 6c; hickory nuts, 10; Grenoble walnuts, 15c; French walnuts, 12 1/2c lb.

**PAINTS, OILS, ETC.**—There is very little doing in this branch. Prices are steady as follows:

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

**DRY COLORS.**—White lead, per lb., 7c; red lead, kegs 5 1/2c; yellow ochre in barrel lots, 2 1/2c; less than barrels, 3c; gold 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 to 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 gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

**SUNDRIES.**—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12 1/2 to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 to 18c. Stovo gasoline, per case, \$1.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$3; Portland cement, per barrel, \$1.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. 90c per bale; putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2 1/2c per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2 1/2c.

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

**LINSEED OIL.**—Raw, per gal., 55c; boiled, per gal., 58c in barrels; less than barrels 5c per gallon extra, with additional charges for cans.

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

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

**REFINED PETROLEUM.**—Coal oil remains at the decline mentioned last week. Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 19¢; crescent, 22¢; oleophene, 21¢ in barrels. Car lots 1c per gallon less. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 28c for cocene and 25c for sunlight.

**WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION.**—Considering that this is holiday time, there has been as much life in wheat as could have been expected, and prices have been fairly strong. After the new year some are looking for a strong market. Wheat buying has kept up very well and cables were mostly firm. United States bank failures were a weakening feature. Stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the mountains, increased 879,000 bushels last week, though for several weeks previously there was a decline each week. The relative position of wheat stocks will be seen by tables and articles on other pages of this issue of The Commercial.

**LOCAL WHEAT.**—There is no material change in the local situation, and the market is very quiet. In the country deliveries continue light and the range of prices at most points has been from 60 to 65c for No. 1 hard, to farmers, according to freights and local conditions. In the Winnipeg market May wheat was offered at 83c early this week, which is 1c lower than was quoted last week. Cash wheat was held at about equal to 77 to 77½c Fort William float. Yesterday and to-day prices were firmer. In sympathy with United States market, and to-day we quote 78 to 78½c for cash No. 1 hard, float Fort William. May nominal. Receipts of wheat at Fort William last week were 242,572 bushels, and stocks in store were 2,089,585 bu at the close of the week. There were no shipments from Fort William stocks.

**WHEAT—Winnipeg Street Price.**—The millers are paying 61c to 68c to farmers for choice samples of hard wheat.

**FLOUR.**—Quotations are the same as noted last week. The extreme range of quotations in the local market is from \$2.30 net for patents up to \$2.45, and \$2.10 net for bakers to \$2.25. XXXX \$1.30, second bakers \$1.75 to \$1.80. These are prices delivered to retail dealers in the city.

**MILLSTUFFS.**—There is no change in bran and shorts. City mills are selling at \$7 per ton for bran and \$9 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots. These prices do not include sacks. Larger orders are filled at \$6 and \$8 per ton.

**BARLEY.**—Feed barley 20 to 21c per bushel of 48 pounds has been paid to farmers, 23c being the usual price for loads offered here. City brewers are paying 23 to 25c for malting samples to farmers here, and 27 to 28c on track here for car lots.

**OATS.**—The declining tendency noted last week has continued and prices are again decidedly lower. In the Winnipeg market from 16 to 20c per bushel of 31 pounds is paid to farmers, as to quality. Car lots of light new crop have been offered here as low as 22c, and we quote 22c to 25c for cars of feed quality. Choice white will bring 1 to 2c more.

**OATMEAL.**—Prices are the same. Following are prices in large lots, with small lots to retail dealers held about 15c more. Rolled oatmeal in 80 lb sacks \$1.65 per sack; standard, \$1.90 and granulated \$1.90 in 98 lb sacks. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.60 in round lots. Pot barley, \$1.70 in round lots.

**GROUND FEED.**—Prices are steady. Prices range from \$13 to \$17 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed. Ordinary mixed mill feed is held at \$12 per ton,

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

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

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

**BUTTER.**—The market continues as reported last week, being decidedly easier for butter. The western trade is stocked up for the winter, and is taking very little now. Even if there were any demand from the west, fancy prices could not be had here, in the face of the easy market at Montreal, as western buyers could buy in the latter market. We quote good dairy at 11c culls thrown out, in round lots. Creamery is held in a jobbing way at 22 to 23c.

**CHEESE.**—Quiet. We quote the jobbing price at 8½c to 9½c as to quality.

**EGGS.**—Dealers are still paying 20c per dozen here for receipts of fresh, and selling limited at 17c.

**GAME.**—Rabbits bring 30c each and jack rabbits 20c each.

**POULTRY.**—The poultry market has been demoralized this week, right in the face of the Christmas trade, by rivalry between a couple of large retail dealers. Retail prices were reduced to the wholesale cost, and jobbing prices were affected thereby, jobbing prices having also been cut sharply. There has been a large supply of Ontario turkeys in the market. In some cases Ontario geese were jobbed at 8c per lb., and fine Ontario turkeys at 11c, at which prices shippers would not clear their expenses. This cutting of prices of Ontario poultry in this market has reduced the price paid for Manitoba poultry. Some inferior lots of Manitoba turkeys have sold as low as 8c, and poor chickens at 5½c. The best chickens will not bring more than 7c to 7½c in a jobbing way. We quote turkeys 9c to 10c; geese, 7c to 8c; ducks, 7c to 9c; chickens, 5½c to 6c; jobbing prices, 1c more, with an easier tendency, as prices usually go lower after New Year's.

**LARD.**—Prices are: Pure \$1.50 for 20 lb pails, and \$3.75 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 7½c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins, \$3.00.

**CURED MEATS.**—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11½c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c; short spiced rolls, 7½c shoulders, 7c smoked long clear, 8 cents; fancy clear, 8½ cents; Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 6½c per lb.; shoulders, 6½c; backs, 8c; barrel pork, clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$15.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sausage, 8c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 3c; pickled tongues, 9c; sausage casings, 25 to 30c lb.

**DRESSED MEATS.**—The usual fine Christmas display of meats is being made in the city market and is fully up to the usual thing, some wonderful carcasses being shown. The general trade in dressed meats is slow and prices are easy. Dressed hogs held at the decline noted last week, prices ranging from 4 for heavy up to 4½c for choice weights. Packers are largely stocked and are slow buyers. Beef is also slow, as the demand from the lumber regions is not coming up to expectations. The mild weather and the low price of beef in Eastern Canada is apparently cutting off some of our trade. Last winter large quantities of dressed beef were sent from here to the lumber regions of northern and northwestern Ontario, but this year the demand has not been nearly so good so far. Considerable beef suitable for this

trade is held here, but offerings are not as large as last year. We quote frozen country beef at 3 to 4c. Fresh city dressed beef is selling at a little way from 1½ to 6c, fancy Christmas beef being held at 5½ to 6c. Wholesale butchers have considerable supplies of beef on hand and trade has hardly been up to expectations. Mutton sells about 5c for ordinary, up to 6½ for choice Christmas stuff. There is some poor stuff offering at under 5c.

**HIDES.**—The general price is still 4½c for green frozen hides, flat rate, but it is alleged that ½c more was paid, and this is as probably done in a few instances. We quote 4½c as the general price for country frozen hides, or 5c for No. 1 and 4c for No. 2, calf, 8 to 15c lb. skins, 4 to 6c per lb; dekins 10 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheepskins range from 40 to 60c according to quality. Horsehides, 75c to \$1.25.

**WOOL.**—Nothing doing here and prices nominal at 7 to 9½c.

**TALLOW.** Dealers are paying 4c for No. 1 extra and 2½ to 3½c for undergrades. Rough tallow 2c.

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

**HAY.**—Held at about \$5 per ton for baled prairie on track here. Loose offering very freely and selling at \$2 to \$3 per load.

**VEGETABLES.**—Prices are: Potatoes, 25c; Onions, 1c to 1½c lb; carrots, 30c bushel; beets, 30c bushel; turnips, 20c; parsnips, 60 to 75c bushel; celery, 25 to 30c dozen; cabbage, 30 to 40c dozen. These are prices dealers buy at from market gardeners.

#### LIVE STOCK.

The market is very flat. Prices in fact are simply nominal for cattle and sheep, as butchers are stocked up and are not buying. Retail butchers have stocks sufficient to last them for some time, and wholesale butchers also have considerable stuff on hand, so that buying will be very limited for the next few weeks. Live hogs are the only things wanted. We quote cattle normal at 2½c to 3c; rough oxen, bulls, etc., 1c to 2c; sheep and lambs nominal at 2½c to 3c.

**HOGS.**—Live hogs are in better demand than dressed at the moment. There is no change in prices. We quote: Good bacon stock weighing 150 to 300 pounds 3½. Sows and heavy hogs 2½ to 3½c, according to quality. Stags 1½ to 2½c, off cars here.

### Live Stock Markets.

At Chicago on Dec. 23 hogs were active at unchanged prices, sales ranging from \$2.95 to \$3.25 for packing droves, up to \$3.42½ for selected light weights averaging around 100 pounds, with the bulk of transactions at \$3.15 to \$3.20.

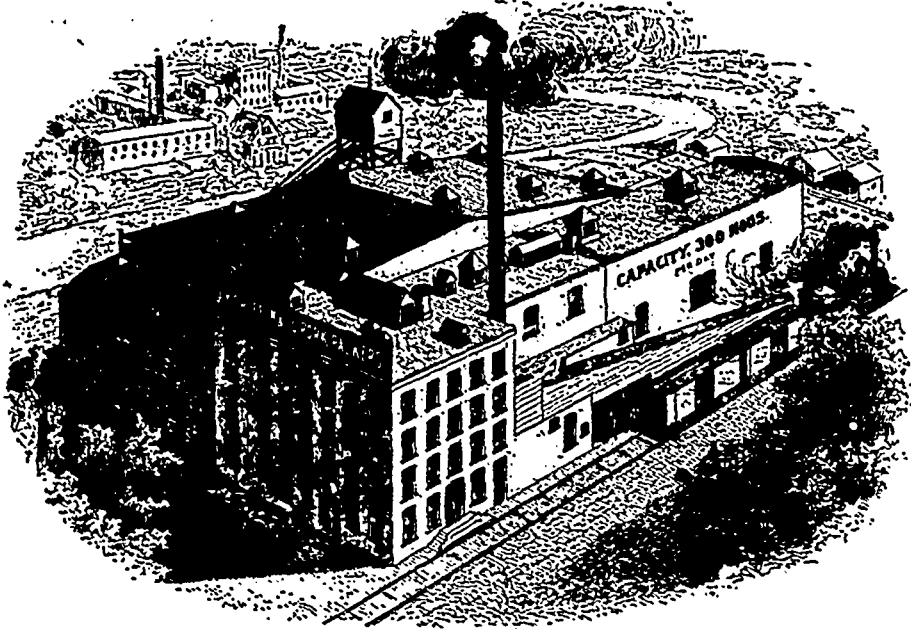
### Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Dec. 77c, May 80c.  
Tuesday—Dec. 76c, May 80c.  
Wednesday—Dec. 78½c, May 81½c.  
Thursday—Dec. — 78c, May 81c.  
Friday—H. Holiday.  
Saturday—H. Holiday.

Saturday last December delivery closed at 77½c, and May at 80½c. A year ago December delivery closed at 52½c, and May at 56½c. Two years ago Dec. closed at 59½c, and May at 62c, and three years ago at 59½c for Dec. and 63½c for May.

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Chickens, Ducks, Dressed  
Hogs, Beef, Everything.  
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for every pound, that's*

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300 pairs, by express already this season and 200 pairs more in route.

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## Business Openings.

A rising town in Southern Manitoba offers good openings for the following: A Chartered Bank, a Physician, a Lawyer, and a Dentist. Address answers to L T C, care The Commercial.

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## For Sale and Rent

A couple of unimproved farms in the Winnipeg district for sale. Might arrange to take suitable live stock in exchange or part payment. Also farm to rent, with possession of buildings at once. Address:

**D. W. Buchanan** Commercial Office,  
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**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

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

Wheat was irregular on Monday. The failure of the Bank of Illinois was a cause of some weakness. Export orders and firm cables helped to sustain prices, which closed slightly lower than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat.....	76½	—	79½-¾	71½
Corn.....	22½	—	25½	—
Oats.....	16½	—	19½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 65	7 95	—
Lard.....	—	8 85	4 02½	—
Short Ribs.	—	8 85	4 02½	—

On Tuesday wheat prices opened stronger, influenced by firm cables and light receipts, but another bank failure, (the Minnesota Bank of St. Paul) caused a break.—Prices recovered however, on good exports. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat....	77	—	81½-¾	75½
Corn.....	22½	—	25½	—
Oats.....	16½	—	19½	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 60	7 90	—
Lard.....	—	8 82½	4 02	—
Short Ribs.	—	8 85	4 02½	—

Wheat was strong at the opening on Wednesday, on higher cables and good foreign buying. Prices eased off some lower on realizing. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July.
Wheat....	78½	—	81½-¾	75½
Corn.....	22½	—	25½	—
Oats.....	16½	—	20	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 60	7 87½	—
Lard.....	—	8 77½	8 97½	—
Short Ribs.	—	8 80	4 60	—

On Thursday May wheat opened at 81½c and held steady and firm. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May	July
Wheat....	78½	—	81½	76½
Corn.....	22½	—	25½	—
Oats.....	16½	—	20	—
Mess Pork..	—	7 57½	—	7 87½
Lard.....	—	8 77½	—	8 97½
Short Ribs.	—	8 77½	—	—
Flax Seed..	75	—	77	—

Last week May wheat closed at 79½c. A year ago December closed at 55½c and May at 58½c and two years ago December closed at 53½c and May at 57½c.

Friday—Holiday.

Saturday—Holiday.

**New York Wheat.**

On Thursday, December 21, December delivery closed at — May option at 87½c and July at 89½c. A week ago May option closed at 85½c.

**Minneapolis Wheat.**

On Thursday, December 21, No. 1 Northern wheat closed as follows: December at — and May at 79½c. A week ago May wheat closed at 78½c.

**New Mining Companies.**

The Gold Hills Exploration and Developing Co., Toronto, is applying for incorporation.

The Golden Goblin Mining Co., of Ontario, is applying for charter.

The Nuggett, Gold Mining Co., of Rat Portage is applying for charter.

**Europe's Wheat Requirements.**

Broomhall's says:—Forecast of requirements and supplies of wheat for remainder of the cereal year, from Nov. 21, 1893, to July 31, 1897 (36 weeks).

	Qrs.
Requirements 1,000,000 qrs per week for 36 weeks	36,000,000
Supplies Available—	
By reduction of quantity afloat..	1,600,000
Shipments to arrive by July 31, '97—	
Austria Hungary.....	600,000
Chile, N Africa, France, etc.....	1,600,000
Argentina and Uruguay.....	2,500,000
India.....	1,000,000
Kuxine 10 per cent less than last year.....	12,500,000
Total without the U.S.A.....	10,500,000

Balance required from U.S.A. and Canada.. 10,600,000

Can America furnish such a quantity as 16,500,000 qrs, during the ensuing 34 weeks after having parted with 8,000,000 in 16 weeks, equalling annually 25,000,000 qrs, or 200,000,000 bushels.

There can be only one answer to such a query, and that clearly in the negative. We have heard of estimates of 20,000,000 qrs. (and our original estimate of September 22nd was for 18,000,000), but no one has ventured to credit North America with a bigger total than 160,000,000 bush., and there are scores of reliable and clever observers who look upon 15,000,000 qrs. as a more reasonable estimate than either of those already mentioned. We are bound to admit that the market was never in a more critical position, when viewed from the standpoint of statistics alone, than it is at the present moment. However little may be thought of the strength of our figures no one can pretend that it is an easy matter this season to point out the way how the requirements of importing countries are to be filled, even after allowing for a further reduction of stocks in every quarter. In importing centres they are still perilously low; in one great exporting country they are already waning. The outlook at the start for next season is not bright in France, Russia, the United Kingdom, India, Argentina and Australia, and to-day we learn by cable of the first complaint as to the American winter wheat crop about which glowing reports have hitherto been spread.

**The Position of Wheat in United States.**

The movement of wheat from first hands from July 1 to December 1 was about 118,000,000 bushels, against 114,000,000 bushels for the corresponding time in 1895. The exports of flour and wheat during the same period were about 78,000,000 bushels, against about 51,000,000 bushels last year. The official visible supply on Dec. 1 was about 5,000,000 bushels less than that reported one year ago. These figures would indicate that the wheat crop of the United States for 1896 does not vary much from that reported for 1895 — 467,000,000 bushels. However, allowing 450,000,000 bushel as a conservative estimate of the crop — which the future movement will no doubt confirm — and allowing 118,000,000 bushels for the supplies in all hands on July 1, 1896, the aggregate supplies would be 568,000,000 bushels. Allowing 865,000,000 bushels for domestic wants and seed, 78,000,000 bushels for exports to date, and 65,000,000 bushels for supplies on hand July 1, 1897, makes an aggregate accounted for of 508,000,000 bushels, and leaving for export during the current season months about 55,000,000 bushels.—Chicago Trade Bulletin,

**Winnipeg Clearing House.**

Clearings for the week ending Dec. 21 were 1,602,124; balances, 245,670. For the previous week clearings were 1,816,808. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were 1,191,060 and for the week two years ago, were 1,181,889. Clearings for the month of Nov. were \$8,995,175, compared with \$8,503,272 for Nov. 1895, and \$9,607,493 for Nov. 1891. Clearances for all Canadian cities the week ended December 10 were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$12,828,650
Toronto.....	8,496,640
Halifax.....	1,852,017
Winnipeg.....	1,925,008
Hamilton.....	780,051
St. John.....	652,592

Total bank clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, and Halifax on the week ended Dec. 17, amount to \$22,861,000 compared with \$24,832,000 last week, and with \$23,201,000 in the corresponding week one year ago.

**British Columbia Business Notes**

Wm. Powel, Victoria, blacksmith, is dead.  
Z. G. Goldberg, Vancouver, clothing, has assigned.

N. D. McDonald, Kamloops, restaurant, advertises selling out.

Chas. E. Stevenson & Co., Nanaimo and Union, dry goods, advertise to sell out Union branch.

O'Leary & Cunningham, Rossland, hotel, have sold out to McKeefe & Donohoe.

Geddis & Hume, Vancouver, grocers, have dissolved. J. H. Geddis continues.

Geo. R. Gordon, Vancouver, clothing, advertises retiring from the retail business.

Geo R. Meek, Vancouver, hardware and groceries, is advertising to sell out.

Hill & Vital, Trail, cigars, &c., have sold out.

Facilities for accommodating commercial travellers have been added to the Nelson house, at Saltcoats.

Mr. Pierson, a leading business man of Gretna, called at The Commercial office this week.

The conviction of John S. Douglas, of Winnipeg, fur and boot and shoe dealer, for fraudulent assignment, has been confirmed by the full court.

**CHANGE ADS.**

Change Advertisements should be in early next week, as it may be necessary to issue the paper on Thursday again, instead of Saturday, owing to the holidays.

**JAS. McCREADY & CO.,**

WHOLESALE

**Boot and Shoe Manufacturers,**  
MONTREAL

W. WILLIAMS, AGENT.

SAMPLE ROOM—Room M, McIntyre Block,  
MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

# ON ALL MAIL ORDERS SPECIAL 10 PER CENT. DISCOUNT

nett 60 days will be given off mail orders on the following lines for THIS MONTH ONLY:

**DRESS GOODS, COTTONADES, VELVETEENS.**

These three lines we have a full stock on hand and can ship same day as order received. Let us here on you.

**Geo. H. Rodgers & Co, Wholesale Jobbers,**  
**217 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg**

## Poultry-Fish

To arrive this week from Ontario one carload poultry Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Chickens  
 Have also in stock Finnan Haddies Pickled Herring, Boneless Codfish, Medium Smoked Herring.  
 Correspondence and orders solicited.

**THE MANITOBA PRODUCE & COMMISSION CO.,**  
**175 McDermott Street, Winnipeg.**

PROSPECTUS OF

## THE WESTERN Gold Mining Co.,

OF RAT PORTAGE.  
 NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

CAPITAL, \$750,000.

In 750,000 Shares of One Dollar each.

Head Office, RAT PORTAGE, ONT.

PRESIDENT—H. W. JAMESON, ESQ., Mayor of the City of Winnipeg.

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

DIRECTORS.

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

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

Trustees—R. W. JAMESON and C. S. HOWRE.

Bankers—IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

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

- |                |                  |               |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| R. W. JAMESON. | F. W. DREWRY.    | H. G. WILSON. |
| R. H. AGUR.    | G. H. CAMPBELL.  | H. H. BECK.   |
| J. PLAXTON.    | K. R. WHITEHEAD. | H. S. CROTTY. |
|                | D. WILSON.       |               |

CONSULTING ENGINEER for British Columbia—Jno. J. Mayahan, of Mayahan and Campbell, Rossland.

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

OBJECTS—

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

PROPERTIES—

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

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

Both fine tunnel propositions.

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

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

ADVANTAGES—

The investor in shares of this company is not confined to dividends obtained from one claim only, but from a large number, which will be developed and sold by the company, which gives him 100 chances to one over the investor in stocks of ordinary companies toed.

200,000 shares of stock are now offered for sale at 10 cents per share, par value one dollar. No liability beyond the amount actually paid upon stock in the company attaches to the subscribers thereto or to holders thereof.

The practical operations of the company will be carried on under the supervision of the best mining engineering skill that can be procured, so that the stockholders will have the fullest guarantee for the practical as well as the financial management of the company's affairs.

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

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

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

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

### British Columbia Mining News.

Mineral oil is reported to have been found near Vancouver. The owner of the claim is not wealthy and is waiting for some one to bring along a diamond drill and prospect on shares. He is afraid if he talks too loud about the petroleum that the Standard Oil people will hear him and he will be lost. Black oil in the vicinity has been found floating down the creek, and when set fire to it burns fiercely.

A map of the Phillips Arm district, near Vancouver, has just been issued, showing all the claims. There are in all 182 mineral propositions.

Mr. Neelands, of the Athabasca Mine Company, the stock of which is largely held in Westminster, has just returned from Nelson district. He says the new 150 feet tunnel is in about 40 feet and has ore all the way. The ledge varies from 18 to 21 inches in width. Mr. Neelands made two careful samples of the ledge for the purpose of determining its value. One assay went \$91.65 to the ton in gold, and another \$172.80 in gold. In addition to gold there was considerable silver.

Mining is very quiet in Vancouver and there will be little activity until the spring. All stocks are inclined to be weak and can be bought considerably below the market price in many instances on forced sales.

Two more carloads of the Two Friends ore are ready for shipment, and it is said the ore is even richer than ever.

The Commercial staff express their thanks to Paulin & Co., for a Christmas treat in the shape of a box of choice creams and chocolates.



# The Rat Portage Gold Mining Co., Limited.

NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

President, D. C. Cameron, Pres. of the Rat Portage Lumber Co.	Secretary, John H. Chalouner.	Engineer, C. H. Park.
Vice-Pres., Angus Carmichael, Merchant.	C. W. Chadwick, Insurance Broker.	Solicitor, Henry Langford, Crown Attorney.
Treasurer, J. H. Neeve, Local Manager Bank of Ottawa.	Hugh Armstrong, Wholesale Fish Dealer.	Bankers, The Bank of Ottawa.
	Geo. Barues, Mayor of Rat Portage.	Broker, C. H. Enderton, Winnipeg.

**CAPITAL—1,000,000.** Shares of the par value of \$1 each 600,000 of these shares are in the treasury, to be issued and sold only as required for expenditure on the property.

The first issue, 100,000 shares are now offered to the public at **TEN CENTS** per share, fully paid and non-assessable. This is the only opportunity now offered the public for investment in a working mine in the Rat Portage District. The property is known as

## THE MASTER JACK MINE

### ENGINEER'S REPORT.

**SITE**—The "Master Jack" mine comprises what is known as Mining Location 610 P., and contains 87 and a fraction acres. It is situated on the east arm of Blindfold Lake, about one mile from the Lake of the Woods, and lies in the heart of what has proved to be the richest gold belt so far discovered in the Lake of the Woods region. To the north and northwest of it lie the famous Siltana, the Pine Portage, the Scramble, the Treasure and many other rich properties. Immediately adjoining the Master Jack on the south and southeast lie the rich Gold Hill mines, the Junny Leigh and a host of promising prospects.

**FORMATION**—The Master Jack vein is in a somewhat altered granite closely resembling the protogine in which lie the Foley, Ferguson and other mines in the Seine River. To the south of it one-half a mile the schists and traps of the Huronian system of rocks appear.

**VEIN**—The vein is a true fissure, strong and well defined and its surface croppings show its width to be from four to eight feet. This width is very uniform, much more so than the average vein. In no place where it has been uncovered is it less than four feet wide, and the gangue is remarkably free from the impurities of earthy matter. It is clean quartz only. This is an important factor, an absence of slaty and talcose matter in the ore means a low cost for crushing and a large percentage of its value saved. A shaft has been sunk upon it which has now reached a depth of 75 feet. Upon the surface the vein showed about four feet of clear quartz and as depth was attained a gradual widening of the vein took place. This widening seems to be permanent and it is reasonably safe to assume that the vein will average six feet of a fine quality of milling ore.

**ASSAY**—The assays taken from the surface was comparatively low, few of them going more than six or seven dollars a ton, but in sinking the improvement has not been in the size of the vein only. The improvement in value is as marked as is the widening of its vein; so much so that at 50 feet a general sample taken across the vein nearly seven feet wide gave \$22 a ton. Other assays gave \$10, \$17.50 and \$20, with the higher assay from the deepest portions of the shaft.

**FACILITIES FOR MINING**—The location of the mine is all that can be desired. Two hours' run on a steamboat from Rat Portage lands one there. The location is densely timbered with a very fine quality, and the shaft is distant from the shore of Blindfold Lake about 1000 feet only. The facilities for the rapid and economical mining and milling of its ores are exceptionally good. I should say that given a 20 stamp mill, four dollars a ton should cover cost of mining and milling. Thus it will be seen that in the case of such a large and clearly defined ore body as the Master Jack vein, ore running eight or ten dollars a ton would pay large dividend.

There is every reason to believe that as the mine is developed large bodies of high grade ore will be encountered. The increase in value as depth is attained is a very promising feature.

In conclusion I should say that the chances for the success of the Master Jack Mine are very good.

(Signed) C. H. PARK."

## IMPORTANT FEATURES

1. The large amount of development work (140 feet of shafting and drifting up to date) under which the vein had widened from 4 feet, assaying \$6.00 at surface to 7 feet assaying \$10, \$17.50, \$20 and \$22, increasing in richness as depth is attained. Work is being pushed night and day.

2. The Officers and Directors are all well known leading business men of Rat Portage, a guarantee of practical and economical management.

3. The proportion of Stock in Treasury for development purposes is unusually large and the balance of the stock will not be offered for sale in competition with the treasury stock.

4. The proceeds from the sale of stock are to be used for development purposes only.

5. The Company is incorporated under Section 18 of "An Act relating to Mines and Mining Lands" of the Ontario Laws, making shares sold at a discount free from assessment.

6. The Ontario Government Bureau of Mines periodically inspects working mines in this district and its official reports are open to the public.

Subscriptions for 100,000 SHARES of Stock or TEN CENTS on the dollar will be received at the office of the undersigned. Prospectus containing report and full information will be furnished on application:

## C. H. ENDERTON,

Real Estate and Mining Broker, 446 Main St., Winnipeg.

# ENCOURAGE HOME INDUSTRY

You are foolish to go abroad for YOUR WINTER'S FUEL  
If you do so, you will get an article far inferior to

# THE ROCHE PERCEE COAL

IT IS ALLOWED BY ALL WHO HAVE USED IT TO BE

**THE MOST ECONOMIC FUEL IN MANITOBA.**

OFFICES, 413 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG  
TELEPHONE 319

**TRY IT AND BE CONVINCED**



## J. & T. BELL,

Fine Boots  
and Shoes

MONTREAL

Representative for Manitoba, N. W. T. and British Columbia  
L. GODBOLT, MCINTYRE BLOCK, WINNIPEG.

## KILGOUR, RIMER & CO.,

WHOLESALE

### Boots, Shoes

Overshoes, Rubbers, Mitts & Moccasins

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

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

## C. A. CHOUILLOU & CO.,

BROKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

IMPORTERS OF

Foreign Wines, Brandies  
St. Andrew's Scotch Whisky  
Chocolate Menier,  
Dried Fruits, Etc.

EXPORTERS OF

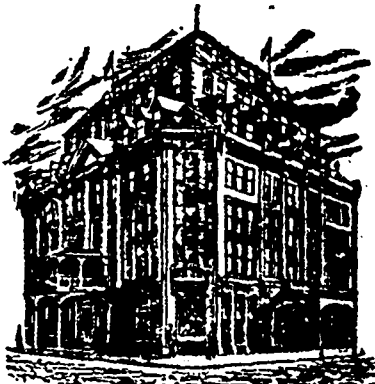
Grain, Produce  
Butter and Wools  
Consignments solicited, and receive  
prompt returns at full market rates

Large Storage Accommodation Free, and in Bond.

CORRESPONDENCE IN: FRENCH,  
ENGLISH AND GERMAN.

487 St. Paul Street, MONTREAL.

# HOTEL LELAND,



The palace Family and Commercial  
Hotel.

→ RATES, 2.00 TO \$4.00 A DAY. ←

Second to nothing in Canada.

W. D. DOUGLAS, - Mgr.

City Hall Square, WINNIPEG.

## Carriage Dealers

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

## R. Cochrane & Co.,

WINNIPEG

**Final Manitoba Crop Report.**

The final official report on the crops, live stock, etc., in Manitoba for 1896, has been issued by the department of agriculture and immigration, compiled from the returns received from regular correspondents of the department made under date of Nov. 25.

The estimated yield of all kinds, as given in the August bulletin has not been realized. Crops were lighter on the ground, less straw, and heads not so well filled as was expected on the 1st of August. Actual yields for the year are now given. The following tables give a summary of the yields of the various crops of the province:

	Area in		Total yield.
	crop.	Yield per acre.	
	Acres.	Bush.	Bush.
Wheat .....	1,081,960	18.31	14,498,706
Oats .....	412,445	28.25	12,522,818
Barley .....	127,895	21.8	3,171,717
Potatoes .....	12,260	160	1,962,490
Roots .....	6,715	282	1,898,805

**FLAX, RYE AND PEAS.**

	Bush.
Total yield of flax .....	259,148
Total yield of rye .....	52,255
Total yield of peas .....	23,383

Total grain crop .....

**WHEAT.**

Although the average yield for the whole province is only 18.31 bushels per acre, the greater part of this is of a high grade, No. 1 or No. 2 hard. The expense of harvesting and threshing has not been over one half of the cost of saving last year's crop and the price received by farmers for this year's crop has really given them, on the whole, as much money as was realized from last year's immense crop. The general use of blouses to prevent smut has had the desired result. This year's crop was virtually free from smut.

**OATS.**

The oat crop in many parts of the province has been disappointing. Growing fields gave promise of the usual heavy yield, but rust or blight prevented grain from maturing properly.

The yield is, therefore, smaller than usual and the grain when threshed is reported in many districts as of inferior quality.

**BARLEY.**

The remarks regarding oats may also be applied to the barley crop. The result is a fair yield but kernel thin.

**FLAX.**

Owing to the hurried and imperfect way that flax was sown in the spring, the yield is smaller than usual. It is generally speaking a fair sample but not quite as matured as desirable.

**LIVE STOCK.**

Beef cattle—The number of beef cattle exported from Manitoba this season was 13,833. Hogs—The number of hogs shipped out of the province on foot was 3,831. The number received by Winnipeg packers and butchers 22,000. Total 25,831.

**POULTRY DISPOSED OF BY FARMERS**

Turkeys .....	43,065
Geese .....	13,810
Chickens .....	169,580

Again it is necessary to report that this quantity is not sufficient for home consumption, and that British Columbia and other western markets which should be our markets are being supplied from Ontario.

**STOCK IN PROVINCE.**

From statistics of last revised assessment sent in by the clerks of the various municipalities in the province the following statement is compiled:

Number of horses in province .....	95,145
Number of cattle in province .....	210,507

Number of sheep in province .....	88,812
Number of pigs in province .....	72,592

An illustration of what it is possible to do in general farming, the following figures are given regarding a small portion of the province that gives special attention to mixed farming:

Shipped to Winnipeg from points on the M. & N. W. Ry :

Cattle .....	8,287
Hogs .....	8,484
Butter (lbs) .....	791,510
Cheese (lbs) .....	92,480

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**

The low price received for dairy products in 1895, and the possibility of another immense wheat crop, served, for the time to check any special development of our dairy industry. Reports, however, indicate that farmers are not neglecting this branch of mixed farming. From answers of correspondents carefully compiled, the amount of dairy butter disposed of by farmers during the year is placed at 1,469,025 lbs. The average price realized for the same was 11 2/3c. per lb., chiefly in trade. The amount of creamery butter manufactured at factories—although returns are not completed—is placed at 775,000 lbs. Total butter produced of the province 2,245,025 lbs. Returns from cheese factories are not yet complete. The total produced may be given as 985,000 lbs. No doubt but that the appreciation in the price of cheese during the last few months will encourage the factories in the province to enter upon next year's work with renewed energy.

Harvest laborers—Early in the season it was estimated that 2,000 laborers would be required to assist in the harvest fields. This number came from the east in August and all secured employment. A scarcity of help was reported from a number districts, but the work of harvesting and threshing was handled with dispatch.

New buildings—The estimated expenditure for the erection of farm buildings, dwelling houses, etc., for the year by districts is as follows:

N. W. District .....	\$ 98,175
S. W. " .....	205,140
N. C. " .....	81,000
S. C. " .....	212,000
E. " .....	81,000

Provinces .....

Fall plowing—As the work of harvesting was handled much more expeditiously this season than last, much attention was given to fall plowing. Fairly accurate figures give the acreage as 524,810. From the August Bulletin the new breaking is reported as 82,710 acres and summer-fallow, 361,610 acres. This makes a total of 968,830 acres now ready for seeding, which is much in excess of the figures for last year and presages a large acreage in wheat for 1897.

Prairie fires—Although fears were entertained that prairie fires would be destructive during the past fall, on account of luxuriant growth of grass during the season, it is pleasing to note that such was not the case. The total loss in the province is estimated at \$50,000, and in most cases the losses were hay stacks. The loss last year was \$148,810.

General remarks—The wonderful fertility of our soil and its adaptability for farming purposes is clearly testified by the crop just garnered. With most unfavorable climatic conditions which rendered it almost impossible for farmers in most parts of the province to put seed in the ground until a late date, with much seed badly put in and with wet, cold weather continuing for some time thereafter, we nevertheless have a crop of thirty millions of bushels of grain, half of the extraordinary crop of 1895, and but little less than an average crop.

**Cremation.**

At a meeting of the Mount Royal Cemetery Company about to be held at Montreal, it is said that a motion will be introduced in favor of the attachment of a crematory to the burying ground. It is proverbial that nothing is so difficult to change as custom, particularly if the custom be irrational. But opinion is gradually gaining ground in favor of the better mode of disposing of our dead. As to the sanitary advantages of cremation, there can be no doubt. But it has true sentiment not less on its side. A speedy absorption into the general frame of nature is that which in death true sentiment will lead us most to desire for our own remains, and for the remains of those whom we love. No idea can be more loathsome than that of the protraction of decay by coffin burial. There is, besides, the hideous risk of premature burial, the existence of which authentic instances have proved, and by which many minds are haunted. The religious objections are with out force, and have been pronounced invalid by at least one Anglican bishop. They are connected with a belief in the resurrection of the body, as though the difficulty of resurrection would be greater when the body had been burnt than when it had mouldered, the particles being equally dispersed in both cases, and as though Almighty power could not re-animate the ashes as well as the dust. It is not unlikely that the privacy of burial, compared with the Roman funeral pyre might commend it to the early Christian as a persecuted sect. A happy incident of change will be the abolition of that museum of macabrely absurdities, the necropolis. In the old English churchyard, there is a penive sanctity of repose, and a certain charm arising from the local fraternity of the hamlet. But, what can be more revolting to good and religious feeling than one of our great cemeteries, in which rival vanities struggle to over-top or out-vie each other with columns, obelisks, pyramids, and mausoleums, each more ridiculous than the other, and all alike offending against the dignity and equality of death? Such ghastly trippery would surely be well exchanged for the unpretending, yet pathetic, urn.—By-stander in the Toronto Weekly Sun.

**Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.**

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

Grade.	Nov. 21	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	Dec. 12	Dec. 19.
Extra Man H'd	20	6	0	27	12
No. 1 hard .....	197	79	53	107	57
No. 2 hard .....	79	41	31	47	39
No. 3 hard .....	15	19	8	23	29
No. 1 North'n .....	12	7	5	11	4
No. 2 North'n .....	9	1	3	2	1
No. 3 North'n .....	0	0	1	0	0
No. 1 white type	4	0	0	0	0
No. 2 white type	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring .....	1	2	2	1	1
No. 2 Spring .....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 fruited .....	17	12	17	12	14
No. 2 fruited .....	33	7	16	16	14
No. 3 fruited .....	7	3	2	2	4
No. 1 Rejected .....	7	8	5	9	7
No. 2 Rejected .....	9	3	0	4	4
No Grade .....	1	4	2	2	2
Feed .....	0	0	1	0	2
Total .....	451	192	167	203	211
Same week last year .....	338	227	233	231	357

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

# FLOUR!

**SOMEBODY** Claims to make the best.  
**ANYBODY** May do likewise.  
**EVERYBODY** Cannot be convinced,  
 but buyers who purchase goods on their merits write  
 us before ordering elsewhere.

**The Western Milling Company, Limited, Regina**

## The Confederation Life Association

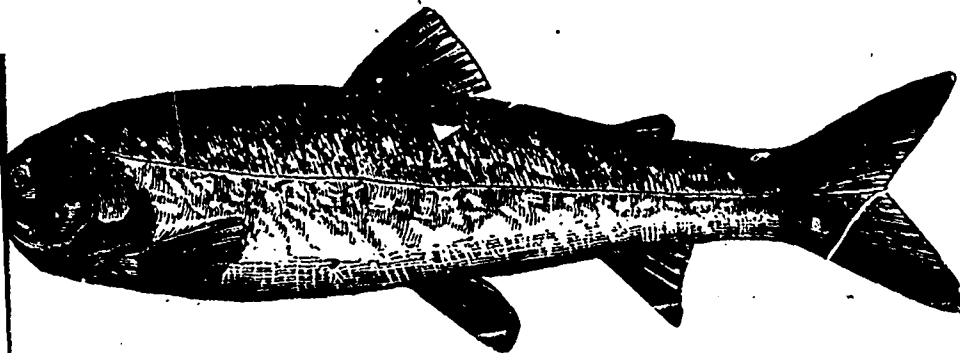


ISSUES a Policy absolutely free from all conditions. It is a simple promise to pay the sum insured in the event of death. Write for Information to the Winnipeg Office, or to any of the Company's agents.

**W. O. MACDONALD, Actuary**                      **J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director**  
*Man., N.W.T. and B.C.—Winnipeg Office, 167 Main Street,*  
**C. E. KERR, Cashier.**                              **D. McDONALD, Inspector.**

## W. J. GUEST,

Wholesale dealer in **FISH, GAME, POULTRY** etc.  
**SALT TROUT in PACKAGES; also SALT WHITE FISH!**



We are now receiving weekly shipments of finnan haddies. Orders large and small promptly attended to.

Oysters in shell and bulk a specialty. Try our brands, the best in the market.  
**602 Main St., winnipeg**

## DICK, BANNING & CO

MANUFACTURERS OF

**Lumber, Shingles and Lath,**

DOORS AND SASH.

MILLS AT KERWATIN. OFFICE: OPPOSITE C.P.R. PASSENGER DEPOT, WINNIPEG.

## Kirkpatrick & Cookson

Established 1860.

MONTREAL.

Solicit for consignments of BUTTER ETC

AGENTS OF  
**HATS**

WHEAT of the Various Grades.  
 FEED BARLEY.

## S. A. D. BERTRAND, OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE

For the province of Manitoba, under the recommendation of the Board of Trade of the city of Winnipeg. Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.  
 Special attention to Confidential Business Enquiries.  
**Corner 2nd. Avenue and 2nd St. North,  
 WINNIPEG MAN**

## OSMUND SKRINE & CO.,

VANCOUVER, B.C.

DEALERS IN

**BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS,**

Choice California & Local Fruits

### Our Specialty :

Consignments of Produce from Manitoba and Northwest Territories.

PROMPT RETURNS MADE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH. **TRY US**

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—DEALERS IN—

**FRUITS AND ALL KINDS OF PRODUCE.**  
 Special attention to consignments of Furs and Skins, Butter and Eggs.

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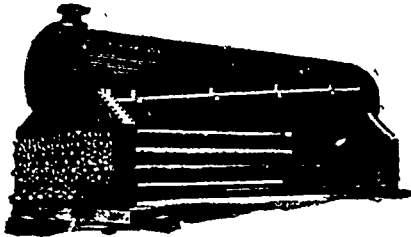
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Large full Stock of English American, Turkish and Canadian Tobaccos and Cigarettes.

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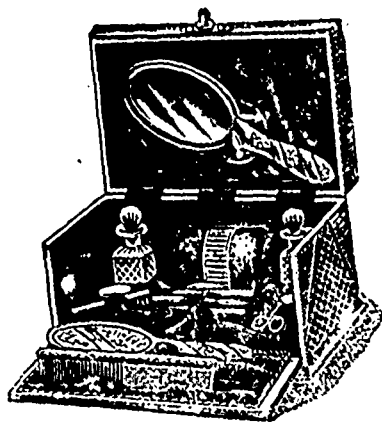
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### Monthly Wheat Statement.

The regular monthly exhibit of available stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada, and afloat for and in Europe on December 1, constitutes the most bullish presentation of the statistical position of that cereal at a corresponding date for the past six years.

Total available stocks of wheat in the United States on December 1, 1896, with comparisons for like dates in preceding years, as reported to Bradstreet's, are as follows:

	East Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Total U S
1896 ...	76,183,000	6,548,000	82,981,000
1895 ...	87,688,000	8,278,000	95,964,000
1894 ...	118,116,000	14,582,000	127,698,000
1893 ...	96,597,000	10,629,000	107,226,000
1892 ...	91,671,000	10,415,000	105,085,000
1891 ...	62,828,000	10,620,000	72,948,000
1890 ...	44,818,000	12,861,000	57,205,000
1889 ...	54,455,000	8,120,000	62,575,000
1888 ...	51,891,000	6,477,000	57,871,000

Total stocks of available wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, amounting to 76,493,000 bushels, are smaller than corresponding aggregates on like dates since December 1, 1892, but larger than at corresponding periods on December 1, 1891, and in preceding years. The unusual decrease in available supplies of wheat on the Pacific coast during the fall and winter this year and last have reduced the total held to the smallest proportions on like dates since 1889. Total stocks, United States and Canada, both coasts, amounted, therefore, December 1, 1896, to 82,981,000 bushels, about 7,000,000 bushels less than one year ago, 45,000,000 bushels less than two years ago, 25,000,000 less than on December 1, 1893, and 23,000,000 bushels less than on the corresponding date in 1892, the increase as compared with the corresponding total in 1891 being about 10,000,000 bushels.

The total quantities of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantities afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on December 1, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's, are as follows:

	East of Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Europe and afloat.	Grand total.
	Million bushels.	Million bushels.	Million bushels.	Million bushels.
1896 ...	76,493*	6,548*	65,504*	148,485,000
1895 ...	87,688	8,278	68,181	161,818,000
1891 ...	118,116	14,582	56,917	181,610,000
1893 ...	96,597	10,629	83,160	190,886,000
1892 ...	91,671	10,415	70,728	175,814,000
1891 ...	62,828	10,620	81,800	157,718,000
1890 ...	44,818	12,861	50,464	107,669,000
1889 ...	54,455	8,120	54,680	117,255,000

\* 000 omitted.

It is found on December 1 this year there were 65,504,000 bushels of wheat afloat for and in Europe, only about 2,600,000 bushels less than one year ago, 8,000,000 bushels more than on December 1, 1891, but 18,000,000 bushels less than on the like date in 1893, 5,000,000 bushels less than at the corresponding period in 1892, and almost 20,000,000 bushels less than on December 1, 1891.

Incorporating totals of wheat afloat for and in Europe with available stocks both coasts of the United States and Canada, it is found there were 148,485,000 bushels so held on December 1, 1896, 16,000,000 bushels fewer than were reported one year ago, 86,000,000 bushels less than on December 1, 1891; 42,000,000 bushels less than at the corresponding date in 1893, 27,000,000 bushels less than in 1892, and 9,000,000 bushels less than on December 1, 1891, making the existing total of world's supplies of wheat, so-called, the smallest on December 1 in six years, although the existing total is about 40,000,000 bushels larger than the aggregate on December 1, 1890, and 81,000,000 bushels larger than on the corresponding date in 1889.

Bradstreet's reports of increases or decreases of stocks of wheat, both coasts of the United States, by months during the current calendar year, furnish in the November figures a most bullish report as to the statistical position of wheat in the United States. Thus, during November, 1892, stocks of wheat east of the Rocky mountains and in Canada, increased 16,000,000 bushels; in 1893, 18,000,000 bushels; in 1891, 7,300,000 bushels; in 1895, 12,000,000 bushels, but last month they fell off 283,000 bushels.

On the Pacific coast the increase in available wheat stocks in November, 1892, was 1,700,000 bushels, in the corresponding month of 1893 it was 2,800,000 bushels, in 1891, 2,500,000 bushels, but in November, 1895, wheat stocks there decreased 1,876,000 bushels, and last month they decreased 335,000 bushels.

Aggregating totals for both coasts, it is found, whereas available stocks of wheat, United States and Canada, increased 17,747,000 bushels in November, 1892, the increase was 6,200,000 bushels in that month in 1893, 9,816,000 bushels in 1891, and 10,715,000 bushels in November, 1895, while in November, this year, there was a net decrease amounting to 618,000 bushels.

Between July 1 and November 30, 1892, the first five months of a cereal year, total available stocks of wheat, United States and Canada, both coasts, following the enormous wheat crop of 1891, increased 69,426,000 bushels. In the corresponding five months of 1893 the increase was only 81,118,000 bushels, but in the like period of 1891 there was another heavy gain in the visible supplies here and in Canada, amounting to 51,195,000 bushels, while during the period from

July 1 to November 30, 1895, one year ago, the increase net, in available wheat stocks was only 85,755,000 bushels. The bullish character of the statistical position of wheat now is emphasized by records of the movement of wheat during the last five months, which shows a total net increase of available stocks amounting to only 19,700,000 bushels, one-half of what it was in the like portion one year ago, one-third what it was in the corresponding portion of 1891, a little more than one-half what it was in the like portion of 1893, and a little more than one-quarter of what it was in the like period from July 1 to November 30, 1892.

The November increase in the so-called world's total wheat supplies was about 11,000,000 bushels in 1895, contrasted with 11,000,000 bushels in November, 1895, the distinction being that last month the increase was almost entirely in stocks afloat for and at points in Europe, while in the month a year ago European purchases were falling off, and the gain was almost exclusively in the United States. In November, 1891, the gain was only 6,000,000 bushels, about one-third of what it was in 1893, a little more than one-quarter of what it was in November, 1892, exactly one-quarter of the increase in the like month of 1891, and a little more than one-third of the total gain in available supplies of wheat in November, 1891.—Bradstreet's.

### Annual Meeting of the Travellers.

The annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association was held Saturday evening, 19th inst., in the board of trade room, Grain Exchange. President-elect A. L. Johnston, occupied the chair, president Binns being unavoidably absent. About thirty members were present. After the minutes of last meeting were read and approved, the meeting went into committee of the whole to consider the proposed amendments to the by-laws, with L. C. McIntyre in the chair. Each clause was taken up separately and explained by A. L. Johnston. The changes provide that there shall be a first and second vice-president, and that the board of directors shall be increased to nine, including the retiring president; that the annual meeting shall be held on the last Saturday in November; that the secretary and treasurer shall furnish bonds; and that the mortuary insurance shall be carried by the association on its members until the 25th of February following the issuing of the members' certificates. The report was adopted as amended, and a vote of thanks was passed to the special by-law committee for the careful work they had done in so thoroughly revising the by-laws, and an acknowledgement of the vote was made by A. L. Johnson on behalf of the committee.

**Wheat Stocks**

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Dec 19, 1893, shows an increase of 879,000 bushels, against an increase of 2,564,000 for the corresponding week last year, an increase of 899,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 101,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first three days of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1896.	1894.	1893.	1892.
Jan. 2...	88,531,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	87,376,000	79,863,000	81,393,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,786,000	75,569,000	79,068,000	41,556,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,654,000	41,034,000
May 8...	62,196,000	65,156,000	73,069,000	36,190,000
June 5...	62,222,000	69,824,000	71,030,000	27,910,000
July 3...	44,561,000	54,687,000	62,310,000	24,262,000
Aug. 7...	38,517,000	60,001,000	59,424,000	26,078,000
Sept. 3...	36,784,000	69,198,000	56,143,000	33,700,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,275,000	61,256,000
Nov. 4...	52,990,000	80,047,000	71,396,000	64,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,903,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,580,000

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

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,836,000	79,963,000	81,798,000
" 11...	68,945,000	86,615,000	80,433,000	83,080,000
" 18...	67,968,000	85,298,000	80,332,000	82,227,000
" 25...	67,523,000	84,665,000	80,254,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1...	66,734,000	83,378,000	79,363,000	81,330,000
" 8...	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,650,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,936,000	81,733,000	78,697,000	80,314,000
" 22...	65,011,000	79,476,000	77,237,000	79,435,000
March 1...	64,069,000	78,761,000	76,569,000	79,095,000
" 7...	62,696,000	77,717,000	74,697,000	74,133,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,874,000	73,369,000	74,300,000
" 21...	61,348,000	76,773,000	72,161,000	78,200,000
" 28...	61,045,000	76,308,000	71,468,000	77,654,000
April 4...	60,322,000	75,703,000	70,762,000	77,294,000
" 11...	59,330,000	75,075,000	69,217,000	76,098,000
" 18...	58,433,000	68,620,000	68,425,000	74,369,000
" 25...	57,946,000	66,778,000	66,553,000	73,027,000
May 2...	55,119,000	62,110,000	65,156,000	73,003,000
" 9...	54,000,000	60,623,000	63,510,000	70,624,000
" 16...	53,140,000	60,810,000	62,444,000	71,526,000
" 23...	51,288,000	54,244,000	61,229,000	70,159,000
" 30...	50,340,000	52,220,000	59,291,000	70,307,000
June 6...	50,147,000	49,739,000	58,211,000	63,665,000
" 13...	49,488,000	47,717,000	57,150,000	60,375,000
" 20...	48,819,000	46,225,000	55,851,000	63,031,000
" 27...	47,860,000	44,361,000	54,057,000	62,310,000
July 4...	47,199,000	43,359,000	54,114,000	61,319,000
" 11...	47,220,000	41,257,000	53,154,000	59,328,000
" 18...	46,743,000	40,440,000	52,771,000	53,903,000
" 25...	47,142,000	39,222,000	51,144,000	59,349,000
Aug. 1...	46,734,000	38,517,000	50,001,000	60,424,000
" 8...	46,429,000	37,839,000	49,321,000	63,809,000
" 15...	45,818,000	36,882,000	48,001,000	67,312,000
" 22...	45,189,000	35,855,000	47,711,000	61,240,000
" 29...	45,574,000	35,433,000	46,949,000	66,831,000
Sept. 5...	46,495,000	36,754,000	46,163,000	66,111,000
" 12...	47,002,000	36,092,000	45,211,000	67,331,000
" 19...	49,035,000	39,335,000	47,789,000	66,603,000
" 26...	48,110,000	40,768,000	47,410,000	60,525,000
Oct. 3...	50,100,000	41,832,000	47,304,000	64,275,000
" 10...	51,444,000	44,431,000	47,710,000	61,234,000
" 17...	54,388,000	46,199,000	47,619,000	60,973,000
" 24...	67,230,000	50,360,000	48,180,000	60,320,000
" 31...	65,019,000	52,934,000	48,927,000	71,306,000
Nov. 7...	19,930,000	48,938,000	41,220,000	74,000,000
" 14...	61,003,000	61,000,000	58,230,000	76,530,000
" 21...	63,971,000	62,221,000	63,011,000	77,223,000
" 28...	68,914,000	63,003,000	65,150,000	75,001,000
Dec. 5...	68,312,000	63,780,000	65,978,000	75,759,000
" 12...	64,341,000	66,834,000	68,172,000	80,128,000
" 19...	65,163,000	69,398,000	69,071,000	81,240,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on December 12 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	417,000
Toronto.....	219,000
Kingston.....	60,000
Winnipeg.....	204,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,165,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keowatin.....	2,175,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on December 12, 1893:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	72,212,000
Pacific Coast.....	6,518,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	92,896,000
Pacific Coast.....	3,270,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Dec. 19, shows an increase of 1,236,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 73,179,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on December 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and about for Europe) were 148,135,000 bushels, as compared with 161,819,000 bushels on Dec. 1, 1895; 181,610,000 on December 1, 1894; 190,339,000 on December 1, 1893; 175,814,000 on December 1, 1892; 157,748,000 on Dec. 1, 1891; 107,669,000 on December 1, 1890.

**Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.**

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

- Wheat—About 37c to 40c for No. 1 hard, country points, to farmers, and 51 to 54c afloat Fort William.
- Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.70 to \$1.75; Bakers, \$1.50 to \$1.55.
- Bran.—Per ton, \$9.
- Shorts.—Per ton, \$11.
- Oats.—Per bushel, Winnipeg street price, 15 to 16c. Car lots at country points, 12 to 18c.
- Barley—A few loads sold at 17c to 18c for feed, car lots for shipment worth 14 to 17c.
- Flax Seed.—60 to farmers at country points.
- Butter.—Dairy round lots 12c to 15c
- Cheese.—Jubbing price 8 1/2 to 9c.
- Eggs.—Fresh, 21c for round lots.
- Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 5 1/2c, fancy Xmas, 6 to 6 1/2c; country dressed, 3 to 4 1/2c hore.
- Mutton.—Fresh, 5 1/2 to 6 1/2c; lamb, 5 to 6c.
- Hogs.—Dressed, 5c.
- Cattle.—Butchers' 2 to 3 1/2c. Fancy, Christmas, 4 to 5c.
- Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3 1/2c.
- Sheep.—Sheep and lambs 2 1/2 to 3c off cars.
- Sauces Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.
- Poultry —Chickens, 6 to 7c lb; turkeys, 9 to 10c; ducks and geese, 8 to 9c.
- Hides.—Green frozen, 4 to 4 1/2c.
- Wool.—Unwashed fleece, 10 to 12c.
- Potatoes.—20c per bushel.
- Hay.—\$5.50 per ton, car lots.

**Grain and Milling.**

The new flour mill at Deloraine, Man., will be completed early next month. It will have a capacity of 50 barrels per day. It is being erected by the Ontario Milling and Manufacturing Co.

T. T. W. Broady, who is out amongst the farmers a great deal as a traveling representative of the Winnipeg grain trade, says the farmers are in better shape this year than they have ever been before in Manitoba and the wheat districts of Assiniboia. Many of them, he says, have money to bank after paying off their debts, and altogether there is a great feeling of prosperity and happiness amongst them.

The Canadian Pacific Railway wants a bonus of \$10,000 from the town of Owen Sound, Ont., for the erection of a 1,000,000 bushel grain elevator and a storage warehouse for 30,000 barrels of flour.

A sale of 25,000 bushels of No. 1 hard, Manitoba wheat, was made at Montreal on Dec. 16, at equal to 76c., afloat Fort William.

Oats declined 1/2c at Montreal on Dec. 18 to 25 to 25 1/2c. for No. 2 white.

A report from Langdon, North Dakota, near the Manitoba boundary, says: "The wheat of the northwestern part of this country, which has always been hauled to Langdon, has been this year brought across the line and shipped from Manitoba points, the distance being much less, and no duty being charged. Those who have investigated say that the custom house officer at Crystal City, Manitoba, permits the farmers from Dakota to bring their wheat duty free to Crystal City. The Great Northern railway officials are very much disturbed over the loss of the grain carriage." This report is probably overdrawn. No doubt a few loads of wheat have come in, but it is not probable that any large quantity of Dakota wheat has been marketed in Manitoba, escaping the duty thereon.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg grain exchange will take place the second Wednesday of January.

A neat little calendar for 1897 has been received from Stephen Nairn, oatmeal miller and grain merchant, Winnipeg.

**A New Company.**

At the last session of the Manitoba legislature a special act was obtained incorporating the Manitoba Trust company with a capital of \$500,000, having for its object the carrying on of a general trusts and agency business, the administering of estates etc.

The powers of the company are similar to those of the Toronto General Trusts company. Provision was made that the company should not commence business until at least \$100,000 of stock had been subscribed and fully paid up. A meeting of the shareholders of the company was held recently, when the following were elected as directors: Hon. Thomas Wardlaw Taylor, chief justice of Manitoba; Hon. Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior; Hon. Hugh John Macdonald, M. P., Hon. J. D. Cameron, attorney-general for Manitoba; Hon. Geo. A. Cox; E. L. Drawry; James H. Ashdown; William J. Christie, J. H. Brock; R. H. Agur; Israel M. Ross; Elisha F. Hutchings; A. J. Bannerman; A. McT. Campbell.

After the meeting of the shareholders had closed, a meeting of the directors was held, when the following were elected as officers for the ensuing year:—Hon. Thomas Wardlaw Taylor, president, and Hon. Clifford Sifton and Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald, vice-presidents. An executive committee was also appointed from among the directors, consisting of the Chief Justice and Messrs. W. J. Christie, I. M. Ross, J. H. Brock and A. J. Bannerman. Arthur Stewart, manager of the Central Canada Loan and Savings Company of Ontario, has been appointed manager of the Company, and T. H. Webb, secretary. F. H. Mathewson, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, was appointed auditor.

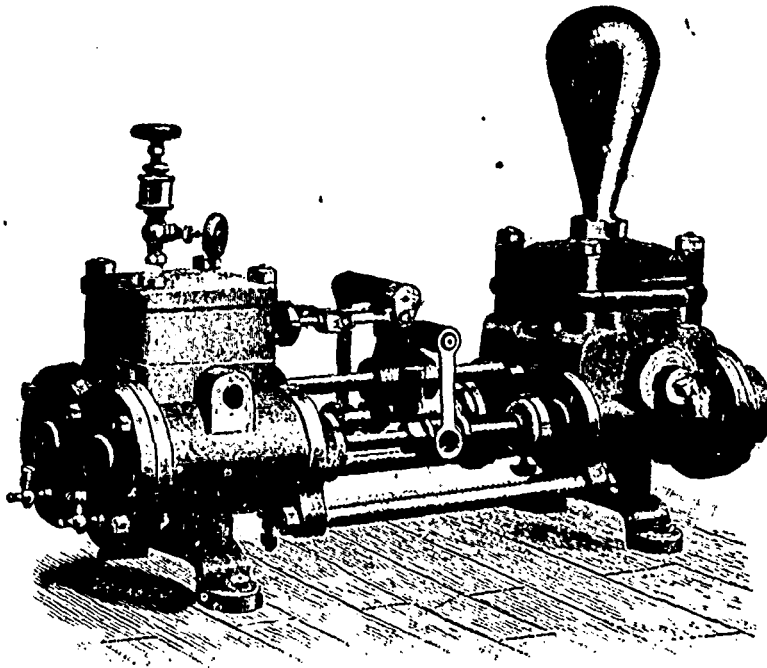
The company's offices are at No. 451 Main Street, Winnipeg. The directors are confident they will do a large business in managing estates for deceased persons, etc., collecting rents for parties living outside the province, managing properties, investing private funds and paying taxes, etc.

**Grocery Trade Notes.**

The Grecian currant market is reported firm with an upward tendency.

Telegrams from prominent Fresno packers in response to offers for three-crown loose muscatel raisins, state that none of the houses have any stock of this grade left.

**DUPLEX STEAM PUMP**  
 All sizes at very lowest prices. Every pump guaranteed. Ask for circular and prices. State service required.



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 Branches, MONTREAL, BRANTFORD and LONDON.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN ENGINES AND BOILERS, Iron and Woodworking machinery, Saw Mill machinery, Shingle Mills. Electric Dynamos and Motors, Contractors machinery, Mining Machinery and Mill Supplies etc.

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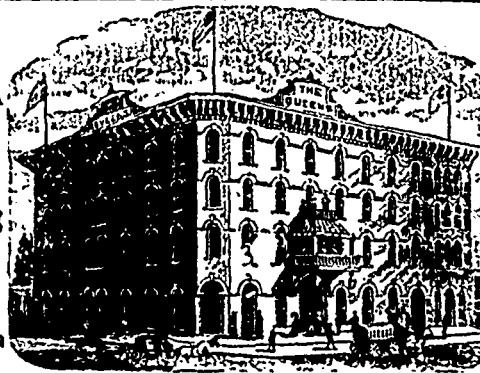
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PURE VINEGARS.

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**Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies**

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**Merrick, Anderson & Co. Agents**  
 Winnipeg,



## Annual Meeting of the Travellers.

Continued from Page 381.

The scrutineers who had been appointed to count the ballots, handed in their report, and the chairman declared the following elected as directors.—F. W. Dewry, J. A. Lindsay, W. Hargrave, J. B. Perso, S. S. Cummius, M. W. Rublee, K. Mackenzie; also H. S. Binns, the retiring president, in accordance with the provisions of the new by-law.

The following report from the officers and directors was read and adopted:  
To the members of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada:

Gentlemen.—It is a matter of satisfaction to your directors in submitting the fourteenth annual report to state that the prosperity, which has been such a marked feature in the Association's work in other years, has been well sustained during the year now closing. As the result of the resolution passed by the association last year, for the purpose, if possible of obtaining a reduction in passenger rates, the president and vice-president were instructed to proceed to Montreal and there meet delegates from all the Commercial Travellers' Associations of Canada. Your delegates met and conferred with those from the sister association of the east, and placed the matter before the Canadian Pacific Railway authorities. The delegation was received very kindly and courteous consideration was given to their requests. Mr. McNicol, general passenger agent, stated that at present the C. P. R. Company could not grant the 2½ cent rate from Fort William to Canmore and on the branch lines in Manitoba, as asked for by the delegation. While your directors regret their inability to report that the reduction in passenger rates, which they believe should be granted, has not been allowed, they still believe if the matter is kept prominently to the front, this and other reductions will ultimately be conceded. Your directors would refer to the hearty co-operations of the delegates from the other associations in this matter with our representatives, and express appreciation of their generous assistance. It affords us much pleasure to state that during the year, in response to our repeated requests, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has reduced the rate on the Prince Albert, Edmonton and Macleod branches from 5 to 3 cents per mile to commercial travellers; and has also granted permission to members of the association to use their certificates on that portion of the C. P. R. west of Canmore without endorsement, thus doing away with the inconvenience of sending the certificates to Vancouver to be endorsed as formerly.

The insurance carried by this association through the Mortuary benefit at present amounts to \$52,167.03. The only call upon this fund during the past year was in the case of the regrettable death of W. F. Henderson.

It is a matter of congratulation that we have been able to renew our contract with the Manufacturers' Accident Assurance Company under more favorable conditions than in former years. Our relations with this company during the past year have been most satisfactory in every way.

The British Columbia branch of this association still continues to grow in numbers, under the able management of our local secretary, A. R. Tufts.

Your officers and directors in retiring from office, desire to testify to the harmony which has existed among all our members, and to express their thankfulness for the prosperity which this association has enjoyed during the year.

We hope the commercial activity now so observable may continue through the coming year, and that our association with the

whole business community may profit thereby.

A. S. BINNS,  
President.

JOHN M. O'LOUGHLIN,  
Secretary.

The treasurer's report was then read, and the members were much pleased to learn that the financial standing of the association was eminently satisfactory. After a full discussion the report was adopted as read. The report follows:

To the members of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada: Gentlemen.—The success which has attended our association during the past year is again a matter for congratulation. Our membership now consists of the following: Active, 345; honorary, with mortuary benefits, 8; honorary, 14; and honorary life, 2; making at total of 369.

There was one claim upon the mortuary benefit reserve fund during the past year, owing to the death of our late member, W. F. Henderson, and which was promptly settled by payment of the amount of his mortuary benefit, viz., \$120 to Mrs. Henderson, being settlement in full.

The interests collected during the past year amounted to \$999.37, and there are arrears on mortgage of interest unpaid of \$19.51. During the year our association received the dividend from the Commercial Band of Manitoba, \$381.49, which pays the original claim in full. There is a possibility of receiving the amount of interest due.

The balance of the funds are on deposit in the Molson's bank, and that portion of the funds on deposit receipt drawing interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. It is very gratifying to know that our funds continue to show a steady increase. The balance on hand at the end of this year amounted to \$16,410.31 in assets, which shows an increase over the balance of last year of \$2,121.48. There are no unpaid accounts. The books and vouchers have been duly audited and the auditors' report is submitted with the statement.

I have to thank the secretary for the assistance he has rendered me, thereby reducing my work to a considerable extent. I have to thank you also, gentlemen, very sincerely, for the honor conferred upon me by re-election for the coming year, and I trust that at the end of the year 1897 we shall be able to report as favorably of the success of the association as at the present time.

I am yours respectfully,

L. C. MACINTYRE,  
Treasurer.

A resolution was passed urging the board of directors to use every reasonable effort towards obtaining reductions in passenger rates for the commercial travellers of Canada, and in that direction to act in conjunction with the Eastern Commercial Travellers' associations.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the retiring officers and board, the auditor, the scrutineers, the grain exchange, and also the board and the very energetic secretary of the British Columbia branch. The meeting then adjourned.

The officers and board for the ensuing year will be as follows:

President—A. L. Johnston.  
Vice-president—J. Mundie.  
Treasurer—L. C. MacIntyre.  
Secretary—J. M. O'Loughlin.

Directors—F. W. Dewry, J. A. Lindsay, W. Hargraeves, J. B. Perso, S. S. Cummius, M. W. Rublee, K. McKenzie.

A letter was read from D. B. Hanna, manager of the Dauphin road, stating that all privileges granted by other railways would be given the travellers as soon as trains were running regularly on that road.

## WALKER HOUSE.

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

Terms from \$2 a day

DAVID WALKER, Proprietor

Corner York and Front Sts., TORONTO, Ont.

## AUSTIN & ROBERTSON,

WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

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Dealers in all Classes of

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Quotations and Samples on Application.

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

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LINES.

LATEST TIME CARD.

Daily Through Trains.

12.45 pm	6.25 pm	Lv. Minneapolis	Ar. 8.00 am	4.50 pm
1.25 pm	7.15 pm	Lv. St. Paul	Ar. 8.00 am	3.40 pm
	4.05 pm	Lv. Duluth	Ar. 11.10 am	
	7.15 pm	Lv. Ashland	Ar. 8.15 am	
7.15 am	10.5 am	Ar. Chicago	Lv. 6.0 pm	4.40 pm

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