

The Commercial

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

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Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country than any other paper in Canada, 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 almost all the business men in the most distant districts of the province, and in the various North-western 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, JANUARY 18, 1897.

Manitoba.

In the spring, the Whitlaw Trading Co. of Brandon intend establishing a central creamery for the manufacture of butter in Brandon. There will be an effort made to continue the business the year round.

J. A. Campbell, grocer, Stonewall, has sold out to W. J. Wright, general merchant, of the same place.

A new Liberal weekly paper is to be started at West Salkirk by E. A. Bailey, late of the Emerson Journal.

The vacancy in the directorate of the Western Canada Loan & Savings company, caused by the death of Sir David MacPherson, has been filled by the appointment of George F. Galt, of Winnipeg, wholesale merchant.

R. J. Hopper has taken in A. F. La Page as partner in his general store business at Rapid City, under the style of R. J. Hopper & Co.

The partnership recently announced from Minnesota between Mr. Myers and Mr. Stewart, lawyers of that place, will not go into operation at present.

The Ithex Mining company of Slocan, of which Mr. Steele, a well-known ex Winnipegger is treasurer, have opened an office at 508 Main street, Winnipeg. This is owing to the numerous inquiries regarding stock. Jas. Lunt, late manager of the Steam Boiler and Plate Glass company of Canada, has been appointed financial agent for the Ithex company here, the stock not being placed in the hands of brokers.

Alberta.

The range country enjoyed fine weather during December, and the following report of the readings of the thermometer at Macleod shows that the mild weather has continued into January:

	Max.	Min.
Jan. 1.	81	21
" 2.	80	13
" 3.	29	12
" 4.	85	18
" 5.	40	30
" 6.	45	35
" 7.	50	38
" 8.	50	38

Northwestern Ontario.

J. W. Wooster, merchant, Rat Portage, met with a severe accident recently while driving. His horse took fright and dashed headlong into a pile of boulders, and was killed instantly. Mr. Wooster was severely injured.

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.	Dec. 12	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	Jan. 2	Jan. 9
Extra Man. H'd	27	12	1	7	4
No. 1 hard	107	87	74	40	51
No. 2 hard	47	39	33	15	10
No. 3 hard	23	20	11	4	10
No. 1 North'n.	11	4	2	0	1
No. 2 North'n.	2	1	0	0	0
No. 3 North'n.	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 white fyte	0	0	0	0	0
No. 2 white fyte	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring	1	1	0	0	0
No. 2 Spring	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Frosted	12	14	1	6	4
No. 2 Frosted	10	14	4	4	2
No. 3 Frosted	2	4	0	0	2
No. 1 Rejected	9	7	4	5	2
No. 2 Rejected	4	4	0	2	0
No Grade	2	2	3	3	1
Feed	0	2	0	0	0
Total	263	211	146	95	102
same week last year	251	357	352	139	175

*Wheat inspection at Emerson going out via the Northwestern 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.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

This week a year ago wheat advanced 2c in the country markets. Eggs declined 2c here.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

- Wheat—About 38c to 42c for No. 1 hard, country points, to farmers, and 57 to 57c 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, 11 to 13c.
- Barley—A few loads sold at 16c to 18c for feed, car lots for shipment worth 14 to 16c.
- Flax Seed.—60 to farmers at country points.
- Butter.—Dairy round lots 12c to 14c
- Cheese.—Jobbing price 8 1/2 to 9c.
- Eggs.—Fresh, 19c for round lots.
- Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 6c, unfrozen; country frozen, 3 to 4 1/2c.
- Mutton.—Fresh, 6 to 6 1/2c, country do, 5 to 5 1/2c.
- Hogs.—Dressed, 5c.
- Cattle.—Nominal at 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for butchers' stock.
- Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3 1/2c.
- Sheep.—Sheep and lambs nominal at 3 to 3 1/2c off cars.
- Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.
- Poultry—Chickens, 7 to 9c lb; turkeys, 9 to 11c; ducks and geese, 8 to 9c.
- Hides.—Green frozen, 4 1/2 to 5c.
- Wool.—Unwashed fleeces, 10 to 12c.
- Potatoes.—20c per bushel.
- Hay.—\$5.50 per ton, car lots.

The tariff enquiry committee has definitely decided to visit Winnipeg.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

Grain—Oats in a small way sold at 21 1/2c to 21 3/4c; peas at 48 to 49c.

Flour—The market is quiet. Winter wheat patents are selling at \$1.70 to \$1.85; Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$5.00 to \$5.80; strong bakers, \$4.50 to \$5; straight rollers, \$1.25 to \$1.50, and in bags, \$2.10 to \$2.25

Oatmeal—The oatmeal market was quiet and steady at the recent decline in prices. Rolled oats are offering at \$3.30 to \$3.40 per barrel, and at \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.

Bran—Bran is quoted at \$9.50 to \$10 per ton, including bags, and Ontario at \$9.25 in bulk.

Dressed Hogs—In dressed hogs a fair jobbing trade was done. Carlots were offered at \$1.75 to \$1.85, and jobbing lots sold at \$5 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs.

Cheese—Cheese exhibited more strength. Most of the enquiry was and has been for white cheese, and holders in the majority of cases refuse to part with these goods separate from their colored. As a matter of fact there is very little finest white cheese to be had, when buyers will have to be satisfied with colored cheese. Values are now firmly held at 10 1/2c to 10 3/4c.

Butter—The butter market was quiet and steady. Any fine creamery that comes in is quickly absorbed for local wants at 19c to 19 1/2c.

Eggs—Montreal limed and choice candled stock are selling at 14c to 14 1/2c, Western limed at 13c to 13 1/2c, and held fresh at 12c to 12 1/2c per dozen.

Grain and Milling.

Stocks of available wheat in Australia on January 1 amounted to 1,023,000 bushels.

There was a weaker feeling in the oatmeal market at Montreal on Monday and prices for rolled oats declined 10c per barrel, to \$3.30 to \$3.40 and at \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag. This is another of a series of declines.

The Hardware and Paint Trade.

The Montreal Gazette says: The feature in the paint branch of the trade has been the alteration in prices for pure white lead as agreed upon by manufacturers and dealers. In all other lines there is no change to note. The demand is limited and business very quiet, which will likely continue so until the end of the month when stocktaking will likely be completed. Montreal prices are: Choice brands white lead, Government standard, \$5.00; No. 1, \$4.62 1/2; No. 2, \$4.25; No. 3, \$3.87 1/2; dry white lead, 4 1/2c; red lead, pure, 4c to 4 1/2c; do. No. 1, 4c; zinc, white, pure, \$7.25; glass, \$1.30 to \$1.35 first break; \$1.40 to \$1.45 second break, per 50 feet; \$3 to \$3.10 for third break, per 100 feet; linseed oil, round lots, raw, 45c to 46c; boiled, 48c to 49c; cod oil, 22 1/2c to 35c; seal oil, 50c to 52 1/2c; castor oil, 9 1/2c to 10c; putty, in bulk, \$1.85.

Merrick, Anderson & Co., Winnipeg agents for Crathern & Caverhill, have received a telegram from Montreal saying that the burning of Crathern's Colburne Street warehouse on Wednesday, would not interfere with the business of the firm. Orders will be taken as usual.

The heavy goods warehouses of Crathern & Caverhill, wholesale hardware merchants, Montreal, was badly damaged by fire on Jan. 13. Crathern & Caverhill have over \$300,000 worth of goods stored in this warehouse.

The Quebec woolen mills have compromised with creditors, offering 50 cents on the dollar. The liabilities are about \$200,000, with a deficit of \$75,000.