

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 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 west 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 16, 1895.

Manitoba.

W. R. Burton is opening a grocery store in Winnipeg.

J. S. Douglas, dealer in furs and boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has assigned.

J. Heulin opened in the grocery business at Morden recently.

Chubb & Livingston, lumber dealers, Morden, have sold out to Alan Stewart.

The Winnipeg School Board will call for tenders for 500 cords of tamarac firewood, and 800 cords of jack pine.

Den Skandinaviske Canadianaren, the Winnipeg Scandinavian paper, has again made its appearance after an absence of several months. It is now published by Mr. John E. Forslund, of the Canadian Pacific Railway immigration department.

W. A. MacHattie of Winnipeg, who has been assisting Mr. Phillips in the management of the Merchants Bank, Brandon, during the past summer, succeeds that gentleman as manager. Mr. MacHattie has been connected with the Merchants Bank a little over thirteen years.

The Brandon Times says: "It having been rumoured that I. R. Strome and Whyte Bros., two of the leading dry goods merchants of this city, intend amalgamating and opening up a large departmental store in the near future, our reporter called upon these gentlemen and enquired as to the truthfulness of the rumor. We find the report is correct and that the amalgamation will take place the first of February and as early as the spring season will permit building operations will be commenced for a large departmental store.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association was held on Thursday evening, when the following directors were elected: L. A. Hamilton, Andrew Strang, D. E. Sprague, G. J. Moulson, Ald. I. M. Ross, F. A. Fairchild, Ald. A. J. Andrews, Wm. Brydon, Mayor Thomas Gilroy, Dr. E. Benson, T. W. Taylor, Daniel Smith, Joseph Wolf, H. S. Westbrook, G. H. Shaw, H. S. Crotty and Capt. W. D. Douglas.

Assiniboia.

Mr. Tudge has completed his new stone stable at Wapella.

T. Elliott has purchased the general store business of S. Piorcon, Fleming.

W. Scott, publisher of the Moosejaw Times, has sold the property to E. G. Woodward.

E. Thornton, of McLean & Thornton, livery stables, Moosomin, has disposed of his interest in the business to McLean, who will now be sole proprietor.

Alberta.

At a special meeting of the Edmonton town council a resolution was passed asking a government grant of \$100,000 to the Edmonton District Railway Co., for the construction of a railway and traffic bridge across the Saskatchewan at Edmonton, or if satisfactory arrangements cannot be made with that company to apply the amount to the construction of a traffic bridge. Also asking that the Edmonton district railway company be granted a cash bonus of \$3,200 a mile for four miles, from a point on the Calgary and Edmonton track to Edmonton, and for ten miles between Edmonton and St. Albert. The idea is to connect the town of Edmonton, on the north side of the river, with the railway, which now has its terminus on the south side.

British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express of December 9, in its weekly review of the British grain trade, says: English wheat during the past week has been steady, and foreign has brought an average rise of 3d. California, on passage, is held for 27s, and American spring for 25s 9d. Barley in sellers' favor, and oats steady, while linseed has advanced 6d. To-day, English wheat was quiet, and foreign were a shade dearer. Flour rose 5d.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—The offerings are fair and the market is easier. Odd car lots of red sold high freights west at 63c and red was offered on the Grand Trunk railway west to-day at 64c. White is rather easier at 66c on the northern. Manitoba No. 1 hard is held at 67c on track, Midland elevator and No. 1 northern at 65c. No. 1 hard is quoted at 71c Toronto and west, and 75c grinding in transit.

Flour.—Cars of straight roller are quoted at \$3 Toronto freights.

Milled.—Cars of shorts are quoted at \$13 and bran \$11 west.

Barley.—A few cars of extra choice have been sold lately to be shipped to the United States. Prices are steady at 14c to 15c for No. 1, 45 to 17c for No. 1 extra bright east, 87c for No. 2 north and 30c to 10c east, and 35c for No. 3 extra east.

Oats.—Are offering quite freely, but the market is no lower. Cars of white sold west at 23½c. Mixed are quoted at 22 to 22½c.

Butter.—Large rolls are coming forward freely and stocks are accumulating. Prices in this line will probably be lower. In dairy tubs considerable stocks are being carried in medium and lower grade. Choice dairy tubs sell at 15c to 16c; medium is in small demand at 8 to 11c; large rolls sell at 15 to 16c; pound dairy prints at 15 to 17c. Good creamery tubs are quoted at 20c to 21c and rolls at 22c.

Eggs.—Lined eggs sell at 14 to 14½c, late gathered at 17 to 17½c, and held fresh at 15 to 16c. There is a good sale for strictly new laid at 20c.

Poultry.—Heavy stocks are being carried and commission houses are offering at low prices to clear off lines of scalded stock. Geese sell at 5 to 5½c, turkeys at 6 to 7c, ducks at 40 to 60c pair, and chickens at 25 to 35c pair.

Baled Hay.—Prices are firm at \$11.50 to \$14.75 for No. 1, and \$13.25 to \$13.75 for No. 2, in car lots on the track here.

Crossed Hogs.—Packers are waiting for a lower market. Prices range from \$1.50 to \$1.90 for cars of choice weights delivered here. —Globe, Dec 10.

United States Crop Report.

The December returns to the United States Department of Agriculture relate principally to farm prices on Dec. 1st. The farm price of corn averages 26.7c against 15.6c last year. The average price of wheat is 53.2c per bushel, against 49.8 last year; of rye 13.7c, against 50.5; of oats, 20.5c, against 32.9c; of barley, 35.1, against 11.3; of buckwheat 19.2c, against 56.2c last year. The returns show the average price of hay to be \$9.38 per ton, against \$8.35 same date last year. The price of potatoes on the farm is reported at 28.8c per bushel, against 55.5c last year. The condition of winter wheat on Dec. 1st averaged for the country 81.1 per cent., against 89 last year, and 91.1 in 1893. In the principal winter wheat states the percentages are as follows: Ohio, 71; Michigan, 79; Indiana, 80; Illinois, 79; Missouri, 79; Kansas, 80; Nebraska, 90; California, 102. The returns make the acreage winter wheat just sown 104.6 per cent. of that harvested in 1895. The estimate, which is preliminary to the completed estimate of June next, therefore makes the area sown for the harvest of 1896, 23,646,000 acres.

Chicago Packer Hides

Packer hide values have declined 42.8-10 per cent since July and are now lower than at this time in previous years. The quotations are, however, still 60 per cent higher than the lowest point touched during the panic period of 1894. There is a general feeling that prices have receded about as far as they are likely to go. The supply is small when compared with the immense stocks of other years, but there is a lack of commercial courage that prevents capital from boldly taking up the hides offered and carrying them until the period when they will surely be wanted. The tanners as a rule have had all they could in holding their stocks of leather. Shoe and harness manufacturers have accentuated and prolonged the dull season with the special intention of crowding down the leather market. The policy of neglect has been measurably successful and buyers are becoming more plentiful in the leather markets. The packers have made several large sales of union sole leather in Boston, and the general opinion is that a free buying movement has been inaugurated.—Shoe and Leather Review.

Value of Dead Horses.

A concern in Portland, Oregon, says an exchange, realizes \$24 from the carcass of every horse. In the first place, the hide is valuable, the leather called cordovan being taken out of the part over the rump. The other leather is soft and is mostly used for slippers and heavy driving gloves. The hair from the tail and mane is used for hair cloth and for curled hair, and the short hair is used for stuffing cushions and horse collars. From the hoofs oil is extracted, and the horny substance is sold to comb manufacturers. The leg bones are used for knife handles. The heads and ribs are burned to make bone black after the glue has been extracted. By various processes phosphorus, carbonate of ammonia, cyanide of potassium, and prussic acid are obtained, and sometimes the meat is canned and shipped to Europe.

Bryan & Lee, cigar manufacturers, Winnipeg, have distributed among their friends a beautiful lithographic copy of that celebrated work of art known as the "Maiden's Prayer." Thanks for the copy left The Commercial. We will call and have a cigar on it some day.