

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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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desks of the majority of business men in the district designated above, 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, JUNE 7, 1897.

SHIPPING EGGS.

A city dealer complains about the careless manner in which eggs are sometimes shipped. There is usually a space between the last or top filler and the top of the case, and unless this space is filled up with packing the eggs are liable to considerable shaking about. The filler will work up, and frequently a number of eggs in the top rows will be broken. To avoid this, shippers should fill up the space at the top of the case with paper or some other suitable material.

DISPLAYING GOODS ON THE STREET.

The Winnipeg city council has consented to the request of a number of merchants to allow the display of goods upon the sidewalks. A by-law was passed a short time ago prohibiting the use of the sidewalk for this purpose, but it only remained in force for a short time, on account of the opposition of some city merchants. Those who wish to make a street display of goods will now be allowed two feet of the street for this purpose.

Though a majority of the merchants appear to be opposed to the by-law, The Commercial is of the opinion that the restriction was a wise one. The street is a public thoroughfare, and not a place for the display of goods. The temptation as well as the opportunity for loitering is greatly increased by the custom of placing goods on the street for display purposes. We believe it in the interest of the good

government of the city that this by-law should have been retained in force.

EXPORTING STOCKER CATTLE.

Toronto reports state that cattle are being purchased there for shipment to Nebraska and other western states points, for feeding. This refers to stocker or unfinished cattle. Ever since the quarantine was removed, large numbers of stocker cattle have been shipped from Eastern Canada points to Buffalo, where they have been purchased by feeders.

Coming nearer home, we find that the same thing has been going on in Manitoba. The farmers have been selling their lean cattle for shipment to the States, quite a number having been exported lately. It does seem strange that this should be the case. Farmers, indeed, need educating in the matter of handling their live stock to better advantage. Experienced persons claim that there is more money in finishing an animal for the market than there is in raising them. The very fact that feeders are buying our lean cattle is proof that there is good money in the business. In time of drouth and shortage of feed, allowance could be made for the disposal of unfinished animals, but under ordinary circumstances it seems hard to account for this practice.

Canadian farmers may be well up in grain growing, but they are evidently away behind the times in the matter of handling live stock. Perhaps our government agricultural institutions could give more attention to the live stock question, with a view to educating the farmers in the matter of the more profitable handling of stock. Certainly some effort should be made to check this great waste.

Eight New Elevators.

Mr. R. Meighen, president of the Lake of the Woods Milling company, arrived in the city Monday afternoon, on his annual tour of inspection of the company's property in Manitoba. He is accompanied by Mrs. Meighen, Miss Meighen, Miss Stephens, of London, Eng., and Mr. J. A. Cantle, Jr., and the party are travelling in the private car "Earncliffe," but during their sojourn in the city are guests at the Manitoba hotel. Mr. Meighen will remain in Winnipeg some days, and before returning east will visit western points. A Free Press reporter was accorded an interview in the evening, and in reply to a question as to the company's intention of erecting new elevators this summer, Mr. Meighen said that they would build seven or eight at different points in the province, but the locations had not been decided on, as he desired to consult the local officials in the matter.

"I have faith in the future of the Canadian Northwest," continued Mr. Meighen, discussing the outlook, "and also have faith that the policy of the government will be to build up one of the greatest industries in the Dominion, namely, the milling business. It is a pity that such a large quantity of the wheat produced in this province should be shipped out as raw material. It should be manufactured in the country, then it would find its way to foreign markets through Canadian territory, whereas now a large portion of the wheat is shipped from Fort William, through a foreign country, to Great Britain."

"Are you not afraid that such a policy would increase the milling facilities of the Northwest, and thus affect the company's interest by giving you keener competition?" interrogated the reporter.

"No!" was the emphatic reply, with the smiling addition: "If we are unable to keep in the front row, we intend to be in the procession."

"Were your shipments to Australia a success; and does the trade continue?"

"Yes; and we are still shipping large quantities of flour to the island continent."

"Recent dispatches from the east intimate that your company has been looking to other countries with a view to developing trade?" remarked the reporter.

"We have made the first shipment to South Africa, and I believe it is the first ever forwarded from Canada to that country. The fact is, we intend to do our own business, as we do not believe in the policy of foreigners monopolizing all the trade."

Speaking of the company's property in Winnipeg, Mr. Meighen said it was the intention to make such improvements this season as to enable the handling of wheat from farmers in a more expeditious manner.

Board of Trade Council on the Crow's Nest Pass R. R.

At the meeting of the council of the Winnipeg Board of Trade on Thursday afternoon the following resolution was passed and ordered to be transmitted to Hon. Clifford Sifton, and also to R. W. Jameson, M. P.; R. L. Richardson, M. P.; J. A. MacDonnell, M. P.; and Dr. Rathford, M. P.; with the request that they would further the board's views in the matter referred to:

"Whereas telegraphic advices of the arrangements entered into between the government and the Canadian Pacific railway for the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, report said arrangement includes reductions on through rates from eastern to western points, but expressly state that no reductions from Winnipeg to the west will be made; and whereas such a policy, if carried out, would be ruinous to business interests here and most detrimental to the whole western country; therefore, be it resolved: That this board, on behalf of the business interests of Winnipeg, most strongly protest against any such discrimination, and insist that any reduction in rates, must equally apply between Winnipeg and points west, the same as they do between points in eastern Canada and the west."