

THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to the progress and development of the West and progress in Western Canada, including that part of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Province 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. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

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New Quarters.

The business office and editorial rooms of The Commercial have been removed to the Merchants Bank building, Main street.

PURCHASING HOME MANUFACTURES.

The Canadian Preference League has been established with head office in the Freehold Loan building, Toronto. The league has the support of leading business men throughout Canada, who feel that some organized effort should be made to encourage or induce Canadians to give a reasonable preference to home manufactures, in making their purchases. An unreasonable prejudice, which is happily now gradually disappearing, has prevailed to a large extent in this country against home manufactures. In some way the idea became prevalent that it was the proper thing to buy imported goods. In certain lines of wearing apparel, particularly, it has been considered the "correct thing" to buy imported lines, and this foolish preference for foreign goods has been a great hindrance to the establishment of manufacturing in Canada. The Canadian Preference League will seek to remove what remains of this unpatriotic sentiment. The plan to be followed in prosecuting this work will be to secure as many members as possible who will sign the membership card issued by the league. By signing the card the member pledges himself or herself to "give preference, when making purchases, to the products of the country and to Canadian manufactures, when the quality is equal and the cost not in excess of similar foreign products." This, it will be seen is a very reasonable proposition. It does not bind the member to anything unreasonable, but only when the home article is as good as the foreign and will not cost any more. It includes home products as well as manufactures, and thereby will help the farmer and other producers as well as the manufacturer. Ladies are eligible for membership. There is no membership fee. Any one desirous of so doing, can obtain membership cards by applying to the Secretary Canadian Preference League, Toronto. Business men and others who are interested in this work are asked to secure membership cards and circulars explaining

the object of the league, for the purpose of obtaining members. While some may suppose that it will be difficult to accomplish much in this way, it will be recognized that the work done by the league will have an educative influence. While the actual number of members obtained may not be very great, the influence exerted in an educational way may be considerable.

If the principles which the Preference League desire to advance were generally acted upon by Canadians, a wonderful impetus would be given to home industry. While the individual purchases of a few people would not be very great, the amount in the aggregate of a large number would be considerable. If the people generally could be induced to give a reasonable preference to home products and manufactures, such as is set forth in the membership card of the league, the increased consumption of home goods would amount to millions of dollars annually. Such a great stimulus would be given to Canadian trade and industry, which would benefit all classes of people. Producers of raw materials or partly finished articles, as well as manufacturers would be

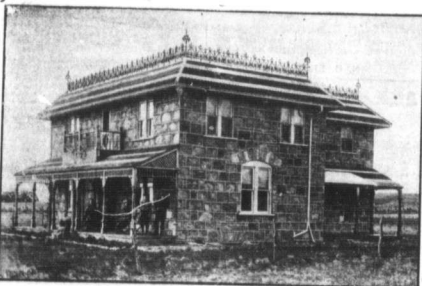
could complain with reason that Winnipeg had robbed them of the opportunity of selecting the name most suited to their institution. "The Northwest Bank of Canada" would be quite appropriate for a bank having its headquarters at Dawson City, but it is absurd to use it for an institution having its head office in Winnipeg. The vague and indefinite term "Northwest" probably came into use here on account of its application to the states south of Manitoba and the Territories. The states between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast are spoken of as the northwestern group of states. This is geographically correct as applied to this portion of the United States, but it is geographically wrong when applied to that portion of Canada bordering on these states. In the latter case the term southwest should be used. Manitoba and the divisions to the west could properly be referred to as the southwestern provinces and territories of Canada. The term northwest as now used is indefinite. It is usually applied to the Territories only, and not to Manitoba or British Columbia. It is a term which will gradually drop out of use, and will probably cease to be used at

Columbia and Western railway a little over two years ago and the installation of smelters at Greenwood and Grand Forks somewhat later. This district at once took a foremost place in British Columbia. Lode-mining, and in now ranks as one of the most important and producers of copper in Canada. Though the country is not rugged, prospecting has been difficult because of the surface. Eruptive rocks in general, and altered siltstone and metamorphic rocks are met with. The surface has been diversified by distribution and appears to be of diagenetic porphyry, while the dykes which traverse the country are of a very horribly, biotite granite or diorite porphyry. The ore bodies may roughly be divided into three classes: (1) the large low-grade copper-bearing sulphide deposits; (2) the oxidized copper veins; and (3) the small lead and silver-bearing quartz veins; which are the most striking characteristic is their most striking characteristic is their Mother Lode mine, development work so far has been confined to a length of 1,150 feet, an ore body 140 feet, and it is continuous to the surface. The ore is of a high grade. The Knob Hill ironstones are probably of greater dimensions. The lowest stone is of a high grade, the highest point of the vein, and it has been proved for a width of 400 feet. The principal minerals are pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, and magnetite, with pyritic minerals. Marcasite, arsenopyrite, galena, and stibnite, also occur in smaller quantities. Calcite and quartz are the common gangue minerals. The ore is of a high grade except the most recent, and probably belongs to the early Tertiary age. The value of the ore is principally in copper and gold, with accessory silver. In some cases, when occurring alone, and pyrrhotite barren in gold, and the best gold values are said to be obtained in the Mother Lode mine, when the ore contains about 3 per cent. of copper. The ore, as a rule, is of a high grade, lower than was at first hoped. This has been partly counterbalanced by the size of the ore bodies, and the development, and their remarkable adaptability to smelting. The magnetite, quartz and calcite, and the required proportion, so that no fluxing or roasting is necessary, and the cost of mining and smelting these ores is exceptionally low. It is generally admitted that many of the properties can only be successfully exploited by doing their own smelting, and for this reason a union of the smaller mines has been suggested. A sample of ore from Greenwood camp, showed a net value of copper \$3.10, gold \$2.40, silver \$0.22, per ton of ore, while at Winnipeg mine values as high as \$30 per ton are reported, but the latter return is exceptional—Imperial Institute Journal.

Great Nile Dam.

Assouan, Egypt, Dec. 10.—The great Nile reservoir and dam were opened to-day in the presence of the King and many other distinguished persons. Today's ceremonies at Assouan mark the completion of the greatest work ever attempted. As a triumph of engineering the Assouan dam stands perhaps at the head of human achievement, and is 1,600 feet high, 134 miles long. It is placed by 180 feet wide, 25 feet high, and seven feet deep, while wide in places. The supplementary dam at Assouat, a few miles up the river, is intended as a reinforcement of the great dam, to resist the force of spring floods and restrain them in a local reservoir capable of storing more than 1,000,000,000 cubic feet of water. The irrigation works supplied by this great reservoir will enable the fertile Nile to bear two crops a year instead of one, and will bring waste districts into tillage, and will greatly increase the area of sugar cultivation. The work of construction was performed by the English firm of John A. Smeaton, and it is estimated that the cost will amount to a little over \$25,000,000.

Returns of the referendum vote in Ontario on the House act for the act, 154,747 in favor, 17,747 in favor for the act, 70,252. The total vote is over 200,000 to enforce the act. Over 200,000 votes were required.



Western Farm Homes—Residence of Mr. W. H. Bryce Percy, Assiniboia.

benefitted, while work for the Canadian people would be greatly increased by reason of the increased consumption of home goods. If really an extensive movement of this nature could be worked up, it would certainly produce wonderfully favorable results. It is a movement which is free from any shadow of party politics, and one in which all Canadians can join without fear, favor or prejudice. The Jamnison, who have made great progress in commerce, industry and civilization during recent years, acted on the principle of purchasing home goods whenever possible, and to this policy is due much of their rapid advancement. Are Canadians less wise than the Japanese?

WHAT'S IN A NAME.

It is said that the new bank which is to be organized, with headquarters at Winnipeg, will be known as the "Northwest Bank of Canada." It is to be hoped that some more sensible or appropriate name than this will be selected. While the name is perhaps not a very vital matter, it is still an important feature, and it would be just as well to have an appropriate as a singularly inappropriate name. Certainly the name is about as inappropriate as one as could be well imagined for a bank having its head office at Winnipeg. The enterprising people of Yukon may some day decide to organize a bank, and in that event they

all after the division of the Territories into provinces, and the opening of new territories to the north of the present organized territories. In view of the probability that the term northwest will soon cease to be used here, this name should not be adopted by an institution which is likely to exist for a long time in the future.

Manitoba is the central province of Canada, taking a line across the Dominion from east to west. Winnipeg is the central city of the country. Taking the country from north to south, Manitoba lies along the southern boundary of the Dominion, and Winnipeg is only 60 miles from the southern boundary. In a country which extends 1,200 or 1,500 miles from north to south, Northwestern Canada, correctly speaking, is composed of the districts of Yukon and Mackenzie. It would seem to be bad taste to perpetuate a name which is a geographical absurdity, by applying it to business institutions and other organizations, especially in view of the apparent fact that sooner or later the term or name will be dropped, so far as its present use is concerned, as applied to this portion of Canada.

The Ore Deposits of the Boundary (Greek) District, B. C.

This district is that lying along the international boundary line in the neighborhood of and between the valleys of the north fork of the Kettle River and Boundary Creek, B. C. Following upon the construction of the