

Commercial Travellers' Association.

On Saturday evening a meeting of the directors of the North-West Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada was held at the offices of Messrs. Turner, McKeand & Co. Mr. Thos. Johnson, the vice-president, occupied the chair, and there were present Messrs. Langridge, McKeand, Wilkinson and Chullecotte. The business of the meeting was of an informal character, and comprised the making of arrangements for a general meeting of the Association to be held on Saturday week. The secretary was instructed to have copies of the by-laws and other printed matter of the Association ready for Saturday first, when another meeting of the directors will be held, at which fuller arrangements can be made for the coming general meeting.

It is intended that the directors, as soon as the forms are ready, shall proceed with the receiving of applications for membership, and the securing of subscriptions of funds to the Association.

The meeting of the directors next Saturday will take place at the offices of Messrs. Turner, McKeand & Co., and the general meeting the Saturday following at the Grand Union Hotel.

Memorial to Sir Charles Tupper.

Unfortunately Sir Charles Tupper did not return to Winnipeg before going East, but sailed from Prince Arthur's Landing. The memorial of Council's praying for Government action in the construction of locks on the Red River at St. Andrew's Rapids has been forwarded to him by mail. The memorial, which is signed by Mayor Logan, and Aklermen Bathgate, Sutherland, McMicken, and Wilson, sets forth the advantages to be conferred on Winnipeg by the cheapening of fuel on points on the shores of Lake Winnipeg by giving an impetus to lumber manufacture for the Winnipeg market at these points, and on the whole lake and Saskatchewan River districts by opening up unimpeded navigation between these and the Capital and points further south. The advantages of a water power at the St. Andrew's Rapids and a means of preventing floods on the Lower Red and Assiniboine Rivers are also set forth.

It is to be hoped that the Government at Ottawa will take prompt action in this matter, as nowhere in the North-West can such an amount of public good be accomplished with so limited an outlay.

Brandon.

Mr. J. E. Woodworth is erecting a grain warehouse on First Street. His purchases will be made for a Winnipeg Company.

It is rumored that the Reformers have formed a Joint-Stock Company, and have bought out the *Brandon Sun*, which will be published daily. Mr. Gibbins, late of Rapid City, who has been in Winnipeg shipping plant for the new Conservative paper, has sold out to Mr. Charles Douglas, of Emerson, who will issue the first number of the *Brandon Blizzard* within two weeks.

The hotels have been greatly over-crowded this week, and the hotel accommodation is totally inadequate.

Mr. Harris is furnishing the large hotel in the Jackson block, and when Mr. T. Murdock has completed furnishing his house in the Murray block the travelling public will be made more comfortable.

Mr. Geo. Munro, of Sixth Street, and Mr. J. Moblo, of Ninth Street, have secured licenses and are going into the liquor business extensively.

The new engine house, which has eight stalls, is being pushed vigorously, and it, as well as the new passenger station, will be ready for occupation in about six weeks.

The school accommodation being inadequate, a large addition is being built, and it is expected that several ward school houses will have to be erected during the winter.

Business has not been as good this week as last. However, the business men have had no reason to complain, as towards the end of the week it was booming again. A great number of commercial men have visited the city this week, and have received large orders. Considerable relief is felt at the improvement there has been in getting freight through.

Wheat selling at 72c to 75c, oats 50c, and potatoes 75c. Coal, \$20. No wood to be got.

The Transfer Company's Case.

In a former issue we noticed a case before Col. Peebles in the Police Court, in which the City of Winnipeg sought to compel the North-West Transfer Company to take out a license for each of their wagons. After reserving judgment until Friday last his Honor gave his decision to the effect that if they removed goods from their own warehouse they would require the City ordinance to take out a license for each wagon so engaged. For the removal of goods from the cars or the freight sheds of the C.P.R., however, no license was necessary. The decision places the company in a very awkward position. According to the ordinance any wagons for which they take out a license must be open for hire to the first person who calls upon them when disengaged. It will take some ingenious arrangements to save the company from considerable annoyance at times, but the difficulty can no doubt be overcome.

How much truth was in his remarks we are not prepared to say, but we were impressed by a further remark of his to the effect that Manitoba gave every promise of following the example of Hoosierdom by having too much politics and too little business before many years have passed. He added that while Indiana had advantages which should enable her to take her place as third, if not second, among the industrial States, she now occupied the ninth place, and her lagging in this respect he attributed, to a great extent, to too much politics.

In view of a coming election those whose real interests lie in industrial progress more than politics might profit by remembering our Hoosier visitor's remarks.

Politics and Business.

An old native of Indiana who recently visited Manitoba remarked to a representative of THE COMMERCIAL that he always thought his old State stood number one for political discussion until he visited the Canadian North-West. "Why," he added, "two-thirds of the settlers who have come out to your country during the past few years have, as far as I can see, located with the intention of running the whole North-West, and two-thirds of the balance of Canada, on their own hook."

Winnipeg Wholesale Trade

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

In this branch trade in vehicles for winter travel is progressing well. Quite a number of car loads of bob-sleighs and cutters have arrived during the week, and heavy shipments have been made to retailers at a distance. The feeling is very hopeful, and a busy turn during most of the winter is fully expected.

ROOTS AND SHOES.

There is no change to report in this line of business. Trade is still good and demands from the country for winter stock are still numerous. Consignments of new goods are still arriving, and several weeks of good lively business are anticipated.

CLOTHING.

It will take three or four weeks yet before the winter trade in this line is over. New and unexpected orders are coming in from many points, and it takes much activity to fill the same in reasonable time. The number of new houses started throughout the newly settled portions of the west are far beyond the expectations of three months ago, and it is doubtful if some houses do not fall short of the demand in different lines.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

There has been a slight lull in this branch during the past week. Heavy consignments of new goods have been received, and with the start out of travellers this week a great increase in business is confidently expected.

DRY GOODS.

There is no decrease in the activity in this line of business, and houses are hard pressed to fill orders. Goods are going out with as much rush as in the beginning of the season, and some houses have all the orders they can fill for two weeks. It is now certain that the trade of the season has been underestimated, and on several lines of goods almost every house in the city will find themselves short of supplying the demand. Collections are reported freer during the past week, and confidence is general in the trade.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Trade keeps steadily active in these goods, and wholesalers report a demand increasing rather than diminishing.

FISH.

Findon Haddocks are the most recent addition in this market, and they now find ready sale at \$1.75 a kit. Oysters in bulk have also made their appearance, and their price is quoted at \$4.00 a gallon. Canned oysters are unchanged at 65c for selects, and 55c for standard. Fresh white fish and lake trout are selling at 11c, and