

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially 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 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 desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwestern 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, APRIL 28, 1890.

Manitoba.

Virdeu is moving for incorporation.

John Robertson, tailor, Minnedosa, is about to move to Ontario.

H. C. Clay, hotelkeeper, Rapid City, is selling out to Teddy, of Brandon.

A. J. Watkinson, painter and decorator, Virdeu, has located at Victoria, B. C.

Boisvevain merchants have adopted the early closing principle—a very wise move on their part.

The estate of Miss I. Andrews, millinery, Emerson, has been sold to R. J. Whitla for 25 cents on the dollar.

H. E. Walthew, dyer, Winnipeg, has gone out of business; succeeded by Keir & Armstrong.

W. Boyd is opening business in the drug line at Neepawa, where he succeeds Dr. McFadden, druggist.

F. C. Vanbuskirk, druggist's sundries, etc., Manitou, will add fruits to his stock during the summer months.

Rennick & Co., fancy goods and millinery, Portage la Prairie, in difficulties, have been enabled to resume business.

W. & J. Pearson, creamery, St. Francois Xavier, are in difficulties, and the sheriff has taken possession of their chattels.

Blackwood Bros., aerated water manufacturers, of Winnipeg, have bought out the business of T. E. Pilgrim in the same line at Emerson.

The Royal Soap Company, of Winnipeg, have just received a carload of pure cocoanut oil which is to be used in the manufacture of toilet soaps.

It is reported that A. E. Hitchcock, of the firm of W. H. Hall & Co., general merchants, Souris, intends withdrawing from the firm, and going to England.

The contract for the supply of groceries for the Winnipeg general hospital for one year from the 1st of May has been awarded to the Hudson's Bay company.

Le Manitoba, the French journal of St. Boniface, is informed that it is proposed to open a branch of the French Canadian Bank of Montreal in Winnipeg.

The Brandon Times of Friday last says: The sowing of wheat and oats on the Experimental Farm was completed last week. The apple trees that are in the shelter of the bluff are looking well.

Jas. Mather, merchant tailor, Pilot Mound, has gone on a trip to British Columbia, and may decide to give up business at Pilot Mound, though he has not disposed of his stock of goods at the latter place.

We have received a copy of a fine new catalogue, issued by Fairchild & Co., wholesale agricultural implements, etc., Winnipeg. The book is of large size, being about 75 pages, neatly printed and illustrated with cuts of the goods handled by the firm.

S. C. Matthews, representing Greene & Sons Company, hats, caps, fur goods, etc., Montreal, arrived in Winnipeg last week, on his semi-annual business trip to the west. He will call upon the customers of the house, going as far as the Pacific Coast, with full lines of samples.

The Manitou Mercury of last week says: "Jas. T. Gordon intends shipping a couple of car loads of fat cattle from the Manitou station this week. The animals have been purchased in the Manitou district at an average price of about four cents per pound, and are intended for the Winnipeg market."

Some buffalos are still owned in Manitoba, though many believed that the Stony Mountain herd, sold and shipped to a party in the United States some time ago, were the only ones in the province. Anderson Bros., of Winnipeg, are the owners of several head, and they purpose raising buffalos at their ranch near Lake Winnipeg.

The total assessment of Winnipeg, according to the report of the assessor, presented at the last meeting of the city council, amounts to \$18,615,890 and the population to 22,892, an increase of 1,564 over 1889, to which may be added the usual average of floating population of 3,000, bringing the total population up to about 26,000.

The Rapid City Vindicator says that a joint stock company is being organized in that town to establish a woollen mill, to employ twenty-five hands the first year. There is probably some mistake about this paragraph, as Rapid City now has a good woollen mill, the only one in Manitoba except a small mill at St. Boniface. The supply of native wool is not sufficient at present to very largely extend the business.

Farming in Manitoba is carried on on an extensive scale. The following are the acreages sown or to be sown by a number of the farmers in the Portage la Prairie district: A. Spangstein, 1,200 acres; W. Smith, 600; McLean & McRobie, \$2,000, an increase of 700; Wishart, 700; Sorbie, 900—of this 700 acres is new land, and the remaining 200 has only been under crop one year; Campbell Bros., 1,600; McIntyre

Bros., 1,100; P. Cameron, 600; Brown & Caruth, 1,600; John Lee, 800; A. & R. Smith, 1,600 at Portage and 600 at Griswold. In addition to the above, there are many other farmers who are sowing from 200 to 500 acres. Such large acreages would be a surprise to the owners of the fifty to one hundred acre farm, of the east.

A meeting was held in Winnipeg last week to further the exhibition scheme. It was decided to go on with the exhibition, and a committee was appointed to prepare a prospectus for the exhibition, which will be presented at a general meeting of citizens to be held shortly. Now that a final decision has been arrived at, it is to be hoped the citizens will all be prepared to do whatever they can to make the affair a great success.

It is understood that the insurance companies are shortly to submit a readjustment of rates for Winnipeg. A report will be prepared by the local agents and sent to the east, where the companies have their headquarters, for final action. It is high time that a move was being made to lower insurance rates here. There is no reason for holding rates fifty to one hundred per cent. higher here than in the east, as the risk is not any greater than in eastern cities.

The Canadian Pacific Railway land department has just issued a new folder for distribution at home and abroad. It is one of the finest folders ever issued by the Company. It contains two splendid maps—one showing all the townships, and all railroads built in Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta to date, together with the names of all stations, lakes, rivers etc.; and the other showing the C. P. R. Canadian system, with the United States railway and Pacific and Atlantic steamship connections. On the reverse side there is a great amount of carefully prepared facts regarding the four great agricultural and stock districts above named; and information as to the terms of settlement and purchase of land, and other useful matter. The letter press is appropriately illustrated with farm and ranche scenes in Manitoba and the west.

Alberta.

Owing to the demand for town lots in Lethbridge, the railway company, which owns the town site, has raised the price of lots from 50 to 100 per cent. according to location.

The Royal hotel, Calgary, is again changing hands, says the Tribune. This time Mr. Ingram and Mrs. Clark become the proprietors. They will take possession on May 1st.

The following are market quotations at Calgary for the week as given by the Tribune:—Feed oats 50c, seed oats 52½c, barley feed 55c, seed barley 60c, wheat 90c, potatoes 85c per bushel; beets 3c, carrots 3c, turnips ½c, butter 25c, eggs 25c per pound.

Saskatchewan.

Battleford Herald: "We said last week that Speers & Son were the first to get their wheat in, having sown on the 4th of April. Since then we have heard that Farming Instructor Nash, on Thunderchild's reserve, was ahead of them, having sown his wheat on the 2nd of April." Saskatchewan Territory though farther north, is apparently not behind the southern portions of the prairie belt in the matter of early seeding.