

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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JAMES E. STEEN,
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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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, MARCH 26, 1894.

Manitoba.

A cheese factory is being established at Deloraine.

The electric railway people have won in the legal contest between the Winnipeg street railway companies.

Thornton & Carmichael have opened up in the boot and shoe line at Portage la Prairie, in the premises lately occupied by D. A. Macdonald.

It is reported that wholesale liquor dealers are taking all their consignments out of bond, with the expectation that the revenue tax is to be increased.

Well's hardware store at Brandon was visited by fire on March 16. The stock was considerably damaged by water, but was not much injured by the fire.

The stock of W. H. Smith, plumber, Winnipeg, has been purchased from Jas. Robertson & Co. by C. H. Rivercomb, who will in future carry on the business.

T. E. Williams' grocery store at the corner of King and Market streets, Winnipeg, was burglarized Tuesday night. A quantity of groceries and \$5 in change was taken. The entrance was effected by forcing off a heavy hardwood panel in the door which had been substituted for glass several months ago.

Assiniboia.

The creamery at Moose Jaw will shortly begin operations, the requisite number of cows having been secured.

A petition has been signed by citizens of Estevan and sent to the proper authorities asking that a customs office be established there.

H. N. Rorison has purchased the Moose Jaw electric light plant, and, with contemplated additions, will make it one of the best plants in the country.

A by law to raise \$20,000 was submitted to

the rate payers of Regina recently for the purpose of paying off the debt incurred by last year's municipal improvements, to purchase a new fire engine and to build a new fire hall, etc. It was carried by a good majority.

Alberta.

Cattle and horses have wintered splendidly in the ranching districts.

Edmonton stock raisers have an order for 200 head of cattle to be delivered in April and May to McIntosh & Co., of Vancouver, B. C.

T. C. West, lawyer, Lethbridge, is reported to have "skipped," leaving many ordinary creditors, and others it is said mourn the loss of funds embezzled.

A number of French people are about to leave the state of Kansas and locate near Edmonton, Alberta. A special train consisting of twenty-eight cars will leave Kansas City, March 28, for Edmonton via the Soo line.

Wm. Yelland, of Oshawa, Ont., has arrived in Calgary with a car load of pedigreed Short-horn and Herford bulls for R. G. Robinson, of the Elbow Park ranch (formerly Chipman). The animals number twenty head, and range from ten or eleven months to a year and a half old. They were purchased specially for Mr. Robinson by E. B. Morgan, stock inspector of Montreal.

Northwest Ontario.

G. A. McLaurin, general store and trader, Savanne, assigned, offering compromise.

E. J. Rochon, hotel, Fort William, burned out recently, has opened again in his old original stand, which he occupied before building the new block that was burned.

Information has been received by the Bureau of Mines that tin ore has been discovered in the vicinity of Sudbury, but it is not stated in what quantities the ore is present, but if it proves to be of a sufficient extent to allow of its being profitably worked, the importance of the discovery will be far reaching.

A Port Arthur telegram says:—George H. Campbell, manager of the Winnipeg Electric railway, arrived yesterday and after inspecting Port Arthur's electric railway and power house left for home to-day. It is supposed that the inspection is in view of a probable purchase by the great street railway syndicate.

The Winnipeg grain exchange has decided to admit a new class of members, to be known as associate members, at a reduced rate, namely, entrance fee of \$25 and an annual fee of \$10. Only persons resident outside of Winnipeg shall be eligible as associate members, and such members will not be entitled to vote, nor participate in the property of the association.

Grain and Milling.

J. B. O. Archambault, grain dealer, Montreal, has assigned with liabilities unsecured of about \$21,000.

Two residents of Rosenfeld, Man., contemplate building a flour mill at that place.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co's stave and barrel factory at Keewatin will be running full blast next summer. Mr. Hammond is coming from the east to take charge. Ten or a dozen men will be employed.

The financial difficulties is reported of J. H. Lafreniere & Co., flour and grain merchants, Montreal. A few years ago, says a Montreal paper, Mr. Lafreniere could have retired with \$100,000, but heavy losses in business have wiped out his large surplus, and compelled him to call a meeting of creditors.

Lumber Trade Items.

The firm of Lamoureux Bros., saw mill, Edmonton, Alberta, has been changed to Chave & Co. The new company have begun sawing.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin, of March 16, says:—"Agents ask 2s to 2s 3d per quarter on heavy grain to Liverpool, London and Glasgow; but no business of any importance has yet been done for spring shipment, the only engagements so far heard of being two small jags for Liverpool and Glasgow at 2s, as reported by us about two weeks ago. The freight on flour is quoted at 10s Liverpool, 11s 3d Glasgow and 12s 6d London, by the five boats, which, it is thought will arrive earlier than usual this season."

The Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin of March 16 says:—"The railroads are getting a larger eastbound business in all lines of produce, but rates are very irregular, the tariff being reported to have been cut 5 to 7c, and it was said that the rate on flour and grain to New York was made 15c on the quiet, with rumors that it was also cut. Provisions were said to be taken at 25c, or 5c below the tariff. Through rates to Liverpool were unsettled, and the close were quoted at 29 to 30.13c on flour, 15c per bushel on grain, and 40 to 49.69c per 100 lbs on provisions. Lake freights were dull and lower at 2c for wheat and 2c for corn to Buffalo."

Insurance Items.

The Commercial Union Assurance Co. has purchased the business of the West of England Insurance Co. by issuing \$1,500,000 of 4 per cent debenture stock to the shareholders of the absorbed company.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the month of February, as compiled by the Journal of Commerce, shows a total of \$11,297,600, or an increase of over a million and a quarter as compared with the same month of 1893.

Money and Risks is the name of a new financial and insurance journal lately established at Toronto. It will be published monthly, at \$2 per year, by the Parr Press Co. The first numbers give evidence of a high standard as an insurance paper, and one which will prove valuable to insurance men.

An Eastern exchange says: "There is war between the Canadian accident insurance companies and the Canadian Pacific railway. Until a few days ago accident tickets of the Canadian companies were handled on the lines. Recently General Passenger Agent D. McNicoll ordered all ticket agents of the Canadian Pacific to suspend the sale of Canadian insurance tickets, at the same time stating that arrangements had been made with the Travellers of Hartford, Conn., for a certain consideration to give them a monopoly of accident insurance on their lines, including the right to canvass the employees of the company for accident insurance. McNicoll's order has caused a great disturbance among insurance men and protests are pouring in from all quarters."

A deputation representing the Toronto Board of Trade has waited upon the Ontario government and urged the establishment of boards of conciliation and arbitration throughout the province. Sir Oliver Mowat could not say positively that such a measure would be passed this session, but the probability was that it would.

Reports differ as to the condition of payments in the east. Some very favorable reports have been published. On the other hand the Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "The paper falling due on the 5th and 6th of the month was very poorly met, and renewals were the order of the day. In a number of instances country customers never even took the trouble to advise their Montreal correspondents that they were unable to protect their notes, much less to make arrangements for their retirement. It is expected, however, that remittances will be received from these makers in a few days. There is still an easy feeling in the money market, call loans being freely offered at 4 1/2 per cent, while discounts on mercantile paper range from 6 to 7 per cent."