

POTATOES dropped to \$1.25 per bushel at Regina, last week.

R. RIDDELL, butcher, Moose Jaw, Assa., has sold out to F. Colpitt.

THE confectionery business of Mrs. J. Roudley, at Regina, has passed into the hands of Mrs. W. C. Asprey.

R. & J. WATSON have purchased the planing mill property at Portage la Prairie, which has been idle for some time, and will put it in shape for beginning operations at once.

THE handsome diplomas presented to the exhibitors at the Colonial Exhibition, have arrived. Among those in Winnipeg receiving them are McBean Bros., for grain, and S. Nairn, for oatmeal.

CHAS. ORR, A. Irvine and Geo. Baxter, of Winnipeg, have bought out the stock and business of Ed. Kelly, plumber, of the same place. They will continue it under the style of the Canadian Plumbing Co.

THE journeymen tailors of Winnipeg have demanded an increase of wages of nearly one-third per cent. The employers say they cannot pay higher wages at present prices, and to advance prices would be to cause the sending of many orders out of the city. There will probably be trouble, if a compromise is not arranged.

REFERENCE was made last week to the establishment of The Permanent Mortgage Company & Building Society, limited, in this city. It would be seen by the list of directors then given that the gentlemen at the head of the new company are such as augur well for its future. The company have also secured an able manager in the person of Mr. Arthur Stuart, late secretary of the Eastern Judicial Board. The company will lend money on improved real estate and have as one of its important features a Savings Branch in which moneys will be received on deposit, a liberal rate of interest being allowed. A limited amount of stock is now offered to the public at par and a circular just issued announces that the next issue will be at a premium. The company is established in a similar manner to the leading loan companies of Ontario, such as the Canadian Permanent, the Freehold, Huron and Erie and other corporations in which the stocks now stands at a very high premium. In the case of the Canadian premiums an original share of \$100 is now worth \$208. The success of similar institutions in Ontario has been marvellous, there being now over \$90,000,000 paid in on stock, and over \$15,000,000 in their savings branches. The establishment of this Company should tend to encourage saving and provident habits among the people, more especially those having stated salaries. Any sum from \$1.00 upwards will be received on stock or in the savings branch, and interest allowed from date of payment in to date of withdrawal.

A CALGARY correspondent sends THE COMMERCIAL a budget of business items from that place. Trade has commenced to improve since warmer weather set in, and already it looks as though there would be quite a building boom here soon. W. H. Lee, carriages, etc., has commenced the erection of a large building, three stories high, and 60x100 in size. Rankin

& Allan, dry goods, are also having the plans prepared for a commodious stone store. It is said that a large hotel, to cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000, will be among the buildings shortly to be commenced. The proposed building will be at least three stories high, and perhaps four, with stores on the ground floor. A. Grant, late of the hardware firm of Rogers & Grant, will erect a building at once, and open out in the hardware line. The increase in the freight rates on the C.P.R. from the west, will have the effect of very materially increasing the cost of building, as a large portion of the lumber used here comes from the Mountains. It is reported that local lumber dealers have cancelled orders previously given western manufacturers owing to this increase in freight charges. Several business changes have occurred of late. Rogers & Grant, hardware dealers, have dissolved partnership, E. Rogers continuing the business. Julian & Kemp, architects, have dissolved partnership, Julian continuing. A. W. McVittie, Childs and J.J. Oxley have formed a partnership as architects, surveyors, etc., under the style of McVittie, Childs & Co. Jarrett & Cushing, planing mills, have furnished their mills with new machinery and commenced the season's operations. The lumber mills are also preparing for the season's cut, which it is expected will be much larger than usual. Lumber dealers anticipate a good summer's trade. Major Walker started his Kananaskis mill last week. Davidson Bros., jewellers, have presented the Alberta Rifle Association with a handsome cup, for competition. The past winter though a very severe one, has not proved as disastrous to stock in this vicinity as was at first supposed. If the spring continues favorable, some of the ranches will come out with only moderate losses.

Dairying Matters.

New buildings will be erected for the Rapid City cheese factory.

J. Dyke Parker will start a dairy at Battleford, Sask., this spring.

A. C. Hutton & Chas. Scofield, will run the Woodlands cheese factory, this season.

A Mr. Taylor, from Ontario, has completed arrangements for establishing a cheese factory at Crystal City, Man. A start will be made with 250 cows.

A movement has been set on foot to establish a cheese and butter factory at Arrow River, Man. At a public meeting held for that purpose, it was decided to issue 400 shares, at \$5 per share, to float the project.

The following directors have been appointed by the Rockwood Dairy Co., for the current year: S. J. Jackson, S. D. Garside, John Hays, A. G. McKenzie, A. Magwood, Alex. Hickey, Alex. Irwin, Thos. McFarlane and Wm. Lindsay.

The Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, has arranged for a large number of copies of the work recently published by W. H. Lynch, entitled "Scientific Dairy Practice." In order to encourage dairying in the province, a copy of the work will be mailed free to any one sending a written request to Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Personal.

W. J. Mitchell, wholesale druggist, has returned from the east.

Mr. J. S. Moore, buyer for Geo. D. Wood & Co., has returned from an eastern trip.

Mr. J. H. Ashdown, wholesale hardware dealer, has returned from a visit to the mountains.

Mr. Rublee, of Vipond, McBride & Co., wholesale fruits, has returned from a business trip to Montreal.

Mr. T. C. Livingston, Northwestern manager for the Mutual Life Insurance Co., of New York, left on a brief visit to Ontario, last week.

Mr. Thos. Clearihue, representing Jas. Hall & Co., manufacturers of gloves, etc., of Brockville, Ont., was doing the city last week, previous to taking in the west.

Mr. R. P. Roblin, lately carrying on a general store business at Carman, Man., was in the city last week, on his way to Ontario. He thinks it not unlikely that he may return to Manitoba in the not distant future.

Mr. A. F. Eden, land commissioner, of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway, has returned from an extensive trip in Great Britain and the continent. His tour was in the interest of his company, in securing settlers for the country served by the Northwestern road.

What They Must Do.

The railroad managers have been trying to interpret the inter-State law to the end that they can operate their roads under it as a combination, but as yet have not succeeded.

Gentlemen managers, we beg to tell you that this law was not made to run pools, monopolies or combinations; and the sooner you break up your meetings and go home, and make your schedules alone, the sooner you will get to work satisfactorily under the law. Why not act like sensible men, and meet the inevitable; and remember that the Government of the United States says you must stand alone, and not combine.—*Wall Street News.*

Trade Depression in England.

The report of the Royal Commission on the depression of trade in England, which was published in London on the 17th instant, assigns as the two principal causes for the existing dullness, the appreciation of the standard of values, referring, of course, to the demonetization and depreciation of silver, and the prejudicial operation of foreign tariffs. The Commission thinks this subject worthy of a most serious and independent inquiry. As to the foreign tariffs, they say that these artificial difficulties, created by the legislation of foreign States, tend continually to grow from the circumstance that tariffs which in former years offered but slight obstruction to trade have become more and more serious through the advance of protected industries towards equality with the British. The commission then proceed to recommend an imposition of 10 to 15 per cent. ad valorem duty on all imported articles, as a means to counteract the effect of foreign tariffs.—*Foreign Trade Gazette.*