

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially 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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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 a great majority of business men in the vast district described 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 22, 1897.

Manitoba.

N. Forsyth and H. B. Dangerfield have started business as carriage painters, etc., at Killarney.

The ninth annual report of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce exchange has been issued in pamphlet form.

The sum of \$5,000 will be granted by Winnipeg city council to the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association.

The city council of Brandon is petitioning the legislature for power to loan \$3,000 to the promoters of a felt factory who desire to establish the industry in that place.

Maw & Co., carriage dealers, Winnipeg, have let the contract for the erection of a three-storey warehouse on the site recently purchased by them on the Market square.

The annual report of the Winnipeg board of trade has been issued in pamphlet form. It is the most bulky report yet published by the board and gives all the reports presented at the recent annual meeting in full. Several pages of general statistics have been added this year, in addition to statistics given in previous reports.

W. M. Fisher, manager at Winnipeg of the Western Canada Loan and Savings company, returned home yesterday after attending the annual meeting of his company at Toronto. Mr. Fisher says that in eastern Canada the mining development of the west and the Crow's Nest Pass railway project engage a greater share of public attention than in the west, which is more directly interested.

A deputation from the Winnipeg board of trade had a conference with members of the government on Tuesday afternoon, when certain resolutions regarding the collection of debts, etc., passed at the recent business men's convention, were discussed, and the object of the desired changes in the law explained. The ministers promised consideration.

A deputation of Brandon citizens arrived in Winnipeg last week for the purpose of stating the claims of the Western Agricultural and Arts association for assistance before the local government and C. P. R. officials. The delegation intends to ask the government for a grant such as is given the Winnipeg Industrial. It is also intended to wait on Mr. Kerr of the Canadian Pacific railway with regard to a reduced rate similar to that

accorded the Winnipeg Exhibition Association.

W. W. Stevenson, general merchant, of Neepawa, burned out recently, proposes leasing new premises and will resume business.

The planing mill of Geo. Baker, at Dauphin, was burned recently.

Galloway Bros., of Gladstone, have begun improvements on their store. They are extending the length forty feet, and also building a warehouse 80 by 50 feet.

Considerable excitement was caused at Selkirk over some splendid samples of asbestos that were brought in from Lake Winnipeg by Gold prospectors. Experts pronounce the samples first class.

W. H. Lyon, of Salt Lake City, Utah, is dead. Mr. Lyon was one of the pioneers of Winnipeg. He established the grocery business here which later became the wholesale firm of Lyon, Mackenzie & Powis, and is now carried on by Kenneth Mackenzie & Co.

Tumoth & Co., general store, Belmont, have dissolved; Geo. Tumoth continues.

J. Broadley, lumber and hardware dealers, Ekhorn, has assigned.

The stock of D. D. Stewart, dry goods, Morden, is advertised for sale by auction on March 11.

R. Oldson, general store, Selkirk, is out of business.

Wilcox & Ramsay, general store, Virdon, have dissolved.

Elizabeth Furner, millinery, Winnipeg, has closed her Selkirk branch store.

Wm. H. Hill, book store, Winnipeg, has assigned.

The stock of J. Lamonte, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale by auction on March 8.

The Riddell Manufacturing Co's. estate, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale by auction on March 10.

Watt & Aldritt, butchers, Winnipeg, have dissolved. J. M. Aldritt continues.

W. H. Gibbs has opened a drug store at Selkirk.

Alberta.

A. T. Moon, Elmcuteen, has assigned.

No. 1 shaft at the Lethbridge coal mines is to be closed down on the 5th inst., and as a result a large number of the miners are leaving for Kootenay and other points.

Saskatchewan.

A. O. Garnot, advocate, of Prince Albert, is dead.

Assiniboia.

The Medicine Hat district is to have another large ranch. Mr. Prince, manager of the Eau Claire Lumber company of Calgary, has taken up a location on the Red Deer river and will stock it this spring.

The Queen's hotel at Moosomin and contents were burned on Feb. 27. The building was owned by Mr. Wysman and cost \$9,000 and was insured for \$5,000 in the Norwich and Hartford company. The contents which were owned by Mr. Cleverly, who conducted the house, were worth \$3,000; insured for \$1,500 in the Guardian company. The fire started at the furnace.

The Regina board of trade at its annual meeting held recently admitted thirty-three new members.

J. C. McLachlin's building adjoining the Lansdown hotel at Regina, was burned on March 1. The building was occupied by George Kaba, boot and shoe maker, and Tom Wong, Chinese laundry. The building was insured.

Monthly Trade Returns.

Dominion Government Savings bank transactions at Winnipeg for the month ending 28th February, 1897. were: Deposits, \$15,589; withdrawals, \$18,519.13; deposits exceed withdrawals, \$2,039 87.

The following is the statement showing the value of goods exported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon at the port of Winnipeg during the month of February, 1897, as compared with the same month in 1896:

Description	Value 1897	Value 1896
Exported	\$ 71,917 00	\$103,519 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable	189 151 00	185,816 00
Entered for consumption, free	42,017 00	49,558 00
Total for consumption	181,498 00	234,914 00
Duty collected	\$15,503 58	\$36,106 99

In comparing the amounts it should be remembered that last year Calgary and Regina were out ports of Winnipeg and this year they arose separate, which makes the increase all the greater.

The inland revenue collections in the Winnipeg district during the month of February were as follows:

Spirits	\$18,061 95
Malt	1,165 83
Tobacco	11,000 13
Cigars	792 60
Methylated spirit	89 87
Petroleum inspection fees	128 60
Other receipts	12 00
Total	\$23,253 93

Northwestern Ontario.

It is reported from Rat Portage that the Mosher mining location, in the Manitou district, has been sold for for \$25,000.

D. L. Mather is the purchaser of the Dick & Banning water power at Keewatin, and not an Ottawa syndicate, as first reported. Birley Smith has secured an option on the old Ross, Hill and Brown power.

John King, general merchant, Port Arthur, has assigned. Liabilities, \$6,000; assets nominally the same.

It is said the Ontario government will grant further aid to the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western railway, with a view to extending the line to Fort Frances.

Fraudulent Assignment Case.

John S. Douglas, boot and shoe and fur dealer, of Winnipeg, who was convicted at the last assizes for making a fraudulent assignment to defraud his creditors, but who was not then given sentence in order to allow a reserved case to be argued before the full court, was finally dealt with on Wednesday last. His Lordship Judge Killam, sentenced Douglas to pay a fine of fifty dollars. In passing the sentence he observed that this was the first case in the court under the statute, and it might act as a warning to others; and it might also be taken into consideration that in the civil suit of Pillar vs. Bartraud, a consent verdict had been entered so that the creditors would get the benefit of the chattel mortgage being set aside.

The case should serve as a warning to those who contemplate fraudulent actions, as the costs and loss to Douglas in this matter will be very large.