

# 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, JUNE 15, 1896.

## Manitoba.

P. Dickson has opened a general store at Miami.

Hickling and Basler have taken the Windsor hotel, Rapid City.

Robinson & Co., retail dry goods, Winnipeg, are adding a grocery department.

The Winnipeg city council has passed a resolution favoring the adoption of a one cent rate for drop letters.

It is proposed to replace the woolen mills, burned recently at Rapid City, by a larger one. It is likely a local stock company will be formed at Rapid City to build the mill.

At the court house, Winnipeg, on Tuesday before Justice Bain, John S. Douglas, charged with fraud, was brought up for election. He elected to be tried before a jury at the fall assizes and was remanded for trial, bail being accepted, himself in \$1,500 and two sureties in \$750 each.

Tenders are being asked for the construction of a large four story brick and stone block, 25x150 feet, on the northwest corner of Grahame avenue and Main street, opposite the Manitoba hotel, Winnipeg. The owner is John Dyke, of England.

The Toronto Hide & Wool Co., of 298 Ross St., Winnipeg are agents this year for the Central Prison binder twine. They carry a stock of the twine in Winnipeg, from which to supply western customers. The central pure manilla is claimed to be unexcelled by anything in the market.

W. D. Scott, immigration agent at Toronto for the Manitoba government, has returned to Toronto from a trip through Michigan. He made arrangements for three excursions of Michigan farmers to go to Manitoba and look over the land there. These excursions leave Toronto on June 30, July 7, and July 31.

The stock of William Burton, merchant of the town of Portage la Prairie, will be sold at a rate on the dollar, on Monday, June 15, at 11 a. m., at the office of S. A. D. Bertrand, Winnipeg, consisting of the following: Dry goods, \$6,766.81; fixtures in connection, \$223.00; clothing, \$6,241.21; fixtures in connection \$33.17; book accounts, \$1,280.35.

Mr. Geo. Tuckett, Jr., of the great Hamilton tobacco firm of Geo. E. Tuckett & Son Co., manufacturers of the famous T. and B. smoking tobacco, paid Winnipeg a brief visit last week. Mr. Tuckett is on a flying visit

to the west, accompanied by Mrs. Tuckett, and will go as far as Victoria, B.C. Mr. Tuckett informs The Commercial that they are adding cigarettes to their manufactures. Their cigarettes will be known as the "Churib," and will be made of fine tobacco.

It is said there is an opening in Winnipeg to make money for someone who will undertake to handle dead animals. In most cases dead horses or other animals can be had for the trouble of hauling them away. Animals are now carted to the garbage ground and burned, without even removing their hides, which are worth considerable. A horse hide, for instance is worth \$1 to \$1.25. Any one going into this business would have the hides, besides having the remains of these animals for the various purposes for which they are valuable. It is said that a man in Toronto who went into the business of handling dead animals has become quite wealthy by it.

## Wheat Stocks on June 1.

One year ago available stocks of wheat in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains fell away 16,079,000 bushels during May, the eleventh month in the cereal year, while in May, 1896, the corresponding falling off was only 11,617,000 bushels. In April, 1896, the like shrinkage was nearly as large as in April, 1895, but in preceding months of 1896 decreases in eastern stocks of available wheat were disappointing as compared with like changes one year before. On the Pacific coast the May decrease was little more than one-third in 1896 what it was in 1895, but in April it was twice as large in 1896 as in 1895. The total shrinkage in stocks of available wheat, United States and Canada, last month was, therefore, only 12,243,000 bushels, against 17,784,000 bushels in the like month of 1895, which is a practical continuance of the records of smaller decreases in months of this calendar year compared with last.

Total supplies of American wheat on June 1, 1896, amount to 71,329,000 bushels, compared with 72,820,000 bushels one year before, 80,520,000 bushels two years previously, and as compared with 89,050,000 bushels on June 1, 1893. The quantity held on June 1 has, therefore, been slowly growing smaller for three years past, although as large to-day as one year ago, an increase of 75 per cent as compared with stocks held June 1, 1892, and heavier increases as compared with supplies June 1, 1891, 1890, or 1889.

Details of stocks of wheat available, both coasts of the United States, together with those in Canada, on June 1, as reported to Bradstreet's, are contrasted with those on like dates in preceding years as follows:

June 1, 1896.....	71,329,000
June 1, 1895.....	72,820,000
June 1, 1894.....	80,520,000
June 1, 1893.....	89,050,000
June 1, 1892.....	41,674,000
June 1, 1891.....	30,454,000
June 1, 1890.....	33,791,000
June 1, 1889.....	26,275,000

The total quantity of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantity afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on June 1, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's, is as follows:

June 1, 1896.....	117,969,000
June 1, 1895.....	141,476,000
June 1, 1894.....	160,892,000
June 1, 1893.....	167,183,000
June 1, 1892.....	120,170,000
June 1, 1891.....	90,694,000
June 1, 1890.....	84,610,000
June 1, 1889.....	81,795,000

Unexpectedly well maintained stocks of visible wheat during recent months have

evidently not been without significance to the trade in importing countries, as shown by aggregates of stocks of wheat held in Europe on June 1 out of farmers' hands plus stocks afloat for Europe from all exporting countries. On June 1 in 1892, 1893 and 1894 supplies of wheat afloat for and in Europe amounted to about 78,000,000 or 79,000,000 bushels. During the same period stocks in the United States and Canada were steadily increasing, ranging from 41,000,000 bushels on the date named in 1892 to 89,000,000 bushels in 1893, and to 80,000,000 on June 1, 1894. By that time the succession of under-reported or underestimated crops of wheat in the United States has become generally recognized, and Europe began to hedge to the extent of permitting exporters of wheat, the United States among the rest, to carry more of the world's supplies, while it bought and carried less. On June 1, 1894, stocks of wheat in and afloat for Europe amounted to nearly 80,000,000 bushels, one year later to only 68,656,000 bushels, and on June 1, 1896, to only 46,640,000—a smaller aggregate than for years past at a corresponding date.

The foregoing explains why there is a sharp reduction in the volume of world's available wheat supplies as compared with June 1, 1895. It is due to the sharp shrinkage in stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe as compared with a year ago—not of supplies in the United States and Canada, the latter being about as heavy now as on June 1, 1895. The disappointing character of the falling away in supplies since January 1, 1896, is shown in an accompanying table, with a decrease for five months of only 28,976,000 bushels east of the Rocky mountains against a shrinkage of 49,592,000 bushels in five months of 1895, and 28,820,000 bushels from January 1 to May 31, 1894. On the Pacific coast wheat bins emptied more satisfactorily, the falling off for the past five months being 4,560,000 bushels, against 4,864,000 bushels in the like portion of 1895, and 2,015,000 bushels in 1894. Combining totals for both coasts, the net loss of wheat in sight January 1 to March 31, United States and Canada, both coasts, is 83,536,000 bushels, whereas in a like portion of 1895 it was 54,195,000, and in 1894 it was 30,895,000 bushels.

In May, 1890, there was no net falling off in the world's wheat stocks, the early crop resulting in a net gain of about 1,800,000 bushels. In May, 1891, the net loss in supplies in the United States, Europe and afloat for Europe was about 5,100,000 bushels; in 1892, 5,700,000 bushels; in 1893, 4,900,000 bushels; in 1894, 10,800,000 bushels; in 1895, 18,510,000 bushels, all but about 1,000,000 bushels of the last decrease being accounted for in this country and Canada.

The most bullish aspect of the world's wheat stocks situation is found in the total June 1, 1896, 117,969,000, as compared with 118,857,000 bushels on August 1, 1895. With an average decrease in stocks for June, 1896, the outlook is for only about 106,000,000 bushels in the world's available July 1, compared with 130,876,000 bushels one and 146,519,000 bushels two years ago.

## United States Crop Report.

The government wheat crop report for June states that since the May report the condition of winter wheat has fallen 4.8 points, that of June being 77.9 against 82.7 on May first. The condition of spring wheat indicates a yield that closely approximate a full crop, the average for the country being 99.9 per cent. The average for the year 1895, was 97.8. The report places the acreage of oats at 98.9 per cent of last year's area. The acreage of rye is 96.9 of last year. The acreage of barley is 89.9 per cent, or area of 1895 and its condition stands at 98 per cent.