

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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JAMES B. STERN,
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 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, DECEMBER 29, 1890.

Manitoba.

Souris wants a good laundry badly.

Dr. Stoyte has opened at Souris in stationery and toys.

A. E. Hayward, jewelry, Carberry, has sold out to J. Ovens.

A. E. Munsen, of Shoal Lake, is opening a drug store at Carberry.

McDowell has purchased the Mills property with bakery at Souris.

The snow which commenced falling after Christmas was welcomed.

G. H. Mott, butcher, Brandon, is forming a partnership with W. J. Chittick.

Ross, representing N. Bawlf, Winnipeg, has commenced buying grain at Wawanessa.

A. E. Storey has been appointed agent at Carberry for F. A. Fairchild & Co., implements.

Stark & Isbister, blacksmiths, Griswold, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by Isbister.

Banfield & McKeichan, dry goods, Winnipeg, advertise expiration of partnership and a change in the business.

Mr. Lewis, of Winnipeg, has taken possession of the hardware business at Souris, purchased from Joseph Young.

The Brandon Mail newspaper and all its belongings pass into the hands of a joint stock company on the first of the year.

Geo. M. Geishman, who represents the Ogilvie Milling Company in British Columbia, was in Winnipeg on a visit last week.

Jos. A. Merrick & Anderson, general merchants, Virdeb, are dissolving partnership, Jos. A. Merrick retiring from the firm.

At Brandon last week 66 cents was about the best price for wheat, 25 to 26 cents per bushel (34 pounds) for oats, and 25 to 30 cents for barley.

McLeod, formerly of the Maxwell Co., Brandon, has been engaged by F. Fairchild & Co. to manage their branch implement business at Brandon.

J. Smith & Co., general storekeepers, Crystal City, announce that after last week they will move their stock to Baldor, a new town on the Northern Pacific Brandon branch.

James A. Grigor, of the firm of Grigor Bros., wholesale jewelers, Winnipeg, went south last week on his regular spring buying trip. He will visit all principal eastern markets.

O. V. S. Fraser, who has been a resident of Brandon for a few years past, died suddenly at Edinburgh, Scotland. He was a partner with Edgar, of Brandon, in the grain business.

The Northern Pacific Railway Co. will issue return trip tickets on its Manitoba lines on the 23rd, 24th and 25th, and also on the 30th, 31st and Jan. 1st, at one and one third fare, good to return up to Jan. 3rd.

A new industry recently started in Winnipeg is basket making. The pioneer in this branch is a Mr. Dearton. The material used is the native willow, which is excellent for basket making and the supply unlimited.

A correspondent writes: "Rails are laid on the Canadian Pacific Souris branch to Hartney, and should the present fine weather continue, Melita may see the iron horse before the New Year. A switch is being put in to McCulloch & Herriot's mill at Souris."

Pound Bros., carriage builders and dealers, Morden, have been in trouble, and it was rumored that they had assigned, though it is now said they will pull through. Too much credit is the trouble. The brothers are pushing business men and it is hoped they will come out all right.

The estate of Thos. Galloway, general store, Selkirk, will be sold by auction in Winnipeg, on Jan. 2. The stock, fixtures and furniture amount to \$2,452, and book debts to 3,100. This is a very bad showing. The amount of book debts is out of all proportion to the stock, and indicates looseness somewhere.

The following items come from Griswold:—The firm of Stark & Isbister have dissolved. The business is continued by Isbister. The Patterson Manufacturing company have built a new warehouse. Humphrey has built a new blacksmith shop. W. J. Shaw, dry goods, is about selling out his business.

The Deloraine Times of Dec. 25, says: There has been considerable wheat marketed in Deloraine this week, round about the elevators presenting a very crowded appearance on Monday night and Tuesday; on the later date over 7,000 bushels being marketed, the daily average for the week being about 6,900 bushels. This morning the price weakened again, from 50 to 60c being quoted. As high as 60 to 62c had been paid during the week until this morning.

At Portage la Prairie the local government has erected a fine building, the home for incurables, at a cost of some \$15,000, which adds solidity to the appearance of the town; and also the lands title office at a value of \$10,000. Besides these structures there has been some one

hundred and seventy-five buildings erected of small dimensions valuing on an average say \$350, which would mean \$61,250, making a grand total of \$131,550 as actual money invested this year at Portage in buildings.

The Pilot Mound Sentinel says: "Very few farmers are burning their straw stacks this season. The scarcity of provender last winter taught a lesson that is not likely to be forgotten and which it may be most profitable to remember." If the farmers will not learn by the experience of last year, they are certainly incapable. The straw wantonly destroyed by burning to get out of the road, during the previous year, would have been sufficient to have carried the farmers through last winter without compelling them to buy hay at exorbitant prices. One year such as last should teach them for all time the necessity of preserving their straw.

Saskatchewan.

A petition is being circulated by Prince Albert citizens calling the attention of the Department of Agriculture of the Dominion to the immediate and pressing necessity of providing suitable buildings for the accommodation of the large numbers of immigrants whom it is certain will pour into that town and district next spring.

The C.P.R. has given a special rate of ten cents per one hundred pounds on cordwood from Prince Albert to Regina. This will enable the settlers of that district to ship fuel to points on the main line. It is likely that some enterprising citizen of Prince Albert will buy the wood from the settlers and attend to the shipping. The rate given will amount to about \$2.50 per cord. The distance of the haul is 250 miles.

During their recent visit to Prince Albert, Supt. Whyte and Mr. Kerr, of the C.P.R., were waited on by a deputation from the Prince Albert board of trade. Matters pertaining to a readjustment of freight rates, both import and export, of the Prince Albert branch were discussed. The gentlemen who composed the deputation, Dr. Jardine, J. MacArthur and F. C. Baker were assured of more satisfactory rates by the officials, and as a result of the interview the exporting from Prince Albert of such commodities as cordwood, lumber, wool, lime and several other articles, will be begun at once on a scale that will prove this town and district vastly superior to those which rely entirely on the wheat crop for their support.

W. R. Baker, general manager of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway, while in Prince Albert recently, was waited upon by Mr. Ellis, representing the settlers of the Carrot River and Stony Creek settlements. The urgent necessity of extending his road to these localities next year was pointed out to Mr. Baker, who was well pleased with the information he received regarding existing settlement and progress along the proposed route of the Manitoba & Northwestern, and proposed to use every endeavor to accede to the wishes of those represented by Mr. Ellis. Two hundred of the settlers in the districts named above have petitioned the Dominion Government to grant sufficient aid to the M. & N. railway to enable it to build to Carrot River next year.

G. Trowinan has opened a tailor shop at Port Arthur.