

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, SEPTEMBER 21, 1896.

Manitoba.

The partnership existing between Stewart Grear and Clifford Watkins, general merch-
cants, Forre-t, has been dissolved; Watkins continues the business.

A new paper has been established at Wawanesa by The World Company, and it will be known as the Wawanesa World. The first number, which has been received, is neatly printed and presents a good appearance.

The last of the farmers' excursions from Ontario for this season arrived at Winnipeg on Thursday. There were about 200 persons on board. The majority of the excursionists are well-to-do farmers, who have come to locate permanently or to spy out the land.

The Caniff Fregard Co. are applying for letters patent of incorporation. The capital stock of the company is \$10,000 in 10 shares. The chief place of business is Winnipeg, and the object is to manufacture and sell fire-guard burners, stubble burners and similar appliances. Chas. Bagshaw is the secretary of the new company, and E. Caniff, manager.

The Brandon Times says "Wm. Long, lumber operator, of Lincoln, Minnesota, was in the city on Monday and made a deal with Hughes & Co. to handle two and a half million feet of his stuff. Mr. Long says that monetary matters are so unsettled on the other side that they do not want to let their capital out till the political atmosphere is cleared, and hence the entry of his lumber into Manitoba.

Northwest Ontario

Another clean-up has been made at the reduction works, says the Ra Portage Record, and 110 ounces of gold were taken from the tons of rock from the Mikado mine. This run was made as a check on the previous one of 214 tons as reported in our last issue. This last run of 25 tons produced bullion to the amount of \$2,500 from milling product, or over \$100 a ton. With two-thirds of the value of the ore still in the concentrates that would make \$150 to the ton in all.

The Bullion Mining Co. start a crew of men to work on the Jennie Leigh, mining location this week.

The bulk land machinery for a mining plant for the scramble mine has arrived at Ra Portage and will be at once transferred to the property.

Alberta.

R. Record and his staff are busy at Edmonton packing Nagle & Hislop's furs for shipment to the European markets. The lot consists of bear red cross and Arctic fox marton, lynx etc. The estimated value of the lot is \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Financial and Insurance Notes.

Council of the Canadian Bankers' Association has had an interview with the minister of finance, with regard to the interest on deposits on government and post office savings banks. It was pointed out that inasmuch as the government can obtain all the money they want in London for less than 3 per cent, that the rate now paid to depositors by the government is too high. Hon. Mr. Fielding said that the representations would be carefully considered, but no legislation of any kind would be presented this session.

In parliament at Ottawa, Mr. B. took made complaint that the bogus mining companies are damaging the reputation of British Columbia. He suggested more strict laws regulating this matter. Mr. Laurier promised the subject would be looked into by the government.

Dairy Trade Notes

At Woodstock, Ont., on September 9, the cheese factories offered 3,200 boxes cheese. Sales were 350 at 9 5-16c, 645 at 9 1/2c, 140 at 9s, 125 at 8 3/4c, market active seven buyers present.

At Brackville, Ont., on September 10, the bidding was confined to Wm. Johnston, who offered 9 3/4c for the entire board, 8 1/2c colored and 292 white. On the street a good many of the salesmen accepted 9 1/4c, though the bulk are holding.

At Woodstock, Ont., on September 10, 9 5-16c was freely offered and, while only one factory sold 850 boxes white at this figure, other salesmen who had been looking for 9 1/2c cleared out their August at 9 5-16c. Others sold at this price at factories. The pasture is in fine condition and reports from factories are that cheese is in fine condition.

The Dominion estimates include \$65,000 asked for the encouragement of the butter trade with Great Britain. In connection with this item Hon. S. A. Fisher repeated his previous declaration to the effect that the government intends to establish a cold storage system between the producer in Canada and the purchaser in Great Britain and said he would ask the house for a vote for the purpose next session.

At Bellville, Ontario, on September 12, there was some very heavy contracting of August cheese at 9 3/4 to 9 1/2.

Items about the Crops.

Saltoons, Sept. 13.—The grain is about all cut in this district, but the excessive rain of the past week has greatly delayed stacking. The acreage in crop was not perhaps larger than last year, but the quality, so far as can be judged as yet, is very good and untouched by frost.

Arden, Sept. 14.—The heavy rain of Saturday has completely stopped farming operations. There is but little left uncut and stacking has been general. A slight frost last week is said to have affected late grain slightly.

Poplar Point, Sept. 16.—Grain is all cut, stacking and threshing delayed by Saturday's heavy rains.

Roland, Sept. 15.—Threshing is general in this section. All the wheat is cut and the elevators are busy handling the grain.

Mouwen, Sept. 15.—The wet weather of the latter part of last week has put a check

on stacking, but by to-morrow all the farmers who have not already finished will be busy again. Threshing is now in full swing and a drop in the price of threshing has been made, and now three cents for everything is being charged, instead of three and four for oats and wheat respectively, as in former years.

Alamoda, Sept. 16.—The wheat market opened here at 42 cents for No. 1 hard, and one carload sold for 43 1/2c on Monday. The threshers report the yield about twenty bushels per acre and the sample good.

Pilot Mound, Sept. 17.—The heavy rain on Saturday afternoon and the dull cold weather since have delayed stacking very much, as the grain has not been fit to handle since, but a number of farmers intend to go on with it to day.

United States Crop Report

The September report of the statistician of the department of agriculture, Washington, shows a decline in the condition of corn from the August statement of six points, or from 95 per cent in August to 90. The general condition of wheat, considering both winter and spring varieties when harvested, was 71.6, against 75.4 in 1895 and 83.7 in 1894. The condition of oats when harvested was 74 per cent, against 77.3 in August; rye 82; barley 93.1, potatoes 83.2 against 90.8 per cent. last year.

The statistician of the Chicago produce exchange, figures the United States government reports as showing a total crop of wheat of 304,657,000 bushels; corn 2,152,200,000; oats 631,399,000.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

| | Sept. 11, 1896 | Sept. 13, 1895. |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Flour, straight spring | \$3.15 to \$3.20 | \$3.00 to \$3.25 |
| Flour, straight winter | \$3.20 to \$3.25 | \$3.00 to \$3.35 |
| Wheat, No. 2 red | 65 1/2 | 68 1/2 |
| Corn, No. 2 mixed | 25 1/2 | 27 1/2 |
| Oats, No. 2 | 2 1/2 | 2 1/2 |
| Rye, No. 2, Western | 4 1/2 | 4 1/2 |
| Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee | 4 1/2 | 4 1/2 |
| Cotton, mid. upland | 8 1/2 | 8 1/2 |
| Print cloths, 64x64 | 2 1/2 | 2 1/2 |
| Wool, Ohio & Pa., X | 16c | 17 to 18c |
| Wool, No. 1 combing | 15 to 19c | 22 to 25c |
| Pork, mess new | 7.60 to 8.25 | \$10.25 to 10.75 |
| Lard, westn, 54m | 3 1/2 | \$6.27 1/2 |
| Butter, creamery | 16 1/2 | 20c |
| Cheese, ch. east ftv. | 5 1/2 | 7c |
| Sugar, centrif. 96 | 3 1/2 | 3 1/2 |
| Sugar, granulated | 4 1/2 | 4 3-16 |
| Coffee, Rio, No. 7 | 10 1/2 | 10 1/2 |
| Petroleum, N. T. Co. | \$1.24 | 1.24 |
| Petroleum, rfd. gal. | 0.70c | 1.10 |
| *Iron, Bessemer | \$11.00 | \$11.25 |
| *Steel billets, ton | \$29.00 | \$24.75 |
| Ocean Steam Freight— | | |
| Grain, Liverpool | | 2 to 2 1/2 |
| Cotton | | 1-16d |

Pittsburgh.

At the meeting of the railway committee at Ottawa, Sept. 16, the act to incorporate the Hudson's Bay and Pacific Railway company, was up. It was in charge of Mr. Oliver, member for Alberta, who explained that he did not wish to be regarded as the promoter of the enterprise. W. L. Scott, barrister, of Ottawa, explained the details of the project, which was to build a line of railway from Fort Churchill to the head waters of Lake Winnipeg, and thence to Calgary, with branches to Edmonton and Lake Athabasca. All the company asked at present was a charter. The promoters, he said, had received assurances of imperial aid, in view of the fact that they would provide an alternative military route across the continent. Mr. MacDonald, of Sibirik, strongly opposed a clause, providing amalgamation with the Canadian Pacific Railway and challenged the vote, which was carried by a standing vote. The bonding privileges, were reduced from \$25,000 to \$20,000 per mile, and the bill went through committee with a few alterations.