

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 east 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 9, 1895.

Manitoba.

Portage merchants now provide stabling free for their country customers.

Bell & Hanley have opened a butcher shop at Boissevain.

Newby & Harrison, of Holland, are building a new hardware store.

W. R. Shields, blacksmith, Manitou, has dissolved with his partner and is now carrying on the business alone.

Hoover & Co. are opening a general store at Franklin, on the Manitoba Northwestern railway. M. A. Hoover will be manager.

This is the way the Pilot Mound Sentinel takes of showing the superiority of Manitoba pastures over those of the Eastern provinces. It says: "Some lots of Ontario's half-starved cattle have been brought to Manitoba and the much surprised animals have been turned loose on the fine pasture lands in the neighborhood of Newdale."

The tenders for a steam roller for the Winnipeg civic board were as follows: R. E. H. Gardner-Buckner, representing Aveling & Porter, of Rochester, Kent, England, offering a single roller for \$3,450; a double for \$3,900; Kelly Bros., offering a roller, single, of the Enterprise Manufacturing Co., Columbus, Ohio, for \$3,785, the Waterous Engine Co., offering a Buffalo Pitt steam roller, double, for \$4,890. It was decided to accept the tender of Gardner-Buckner for \$3,900.

The department of agriculture has sent to Toronto a carload of agricultural products gathered from different parts of the province to be exhibited at the Toronto and other leading fairs in Ontario. The collection is comprised in the main of grain in the straw and native grasses. A lot of vegetables, etc., will be sent later to supplement the collection. The Canadian Pacific railway immigration officials in the east will take charge of the exhibit.

The Riddle Manufacturing company is applying for incorporation. This is the biscuit and confectionery business now carried on in Winnipeg by Rublee, Riddle & Co. The same firm will carry on the incorporated business, but it will be distinct from the wholesale fruit business now carried on by this firm.

Assiniboia.

W. Binning, storekeeper, Lumsden, has moved into the large store formerly occupied by T. B. Hill, and is preparing to do a large trade this winter. He has also been appointed grain buyer for Phillipps & Richardson, who own the elevator there. Mr. Hill and family have gone west.

Saskatchewan.

A. G. McDonald, a fish dealer from Detroit, Mich., has been up at Prince Albert looking into the prospect of securing fish from that region. A good many fish are taken in the lakes north of Prince Albert in the winter, and Mr. McDonald will likely send a buyer in the winter, when they can be shipped out in a frozen state.

BRITISH COLUMBIA BUSINESS REVIEW

Vancouver, Sept. 8, 1895.

For the past week business has shown considerable improvement and money is easier than it has been for twelve months and should the improvement continue a short time longer, collections will be good. New hay is coming in in large quantities and the price will be much lower. Potatoes are rather weak at \$8 to \$10. The fruit market is constantly changing at this season; the latest prices are as follows: British Columbia greengages 80cts. British Columbia egg plums 50 to 60cts. Apricots and raspberries are out of the market. Local apples have taken the place of the foreign article and are quoted at 75cents a box, whilst California apples are selling a \$1.35. Tomatoes are selling at \$2.00 a box and California pears at \$2.00 a box. The salmon canning season is at an end, and although the pack will be larger than last year, it will not be so profitable to the canners owing to the low prices prevailing in London. Although the cannery business brings two or three million dollars into the province every year, the province does not reap the full benefit, for besides the enormous amount that goes out of the province for food stuffs, a portion of the cannery business is run with borrowed capital, and the banks get a handsome slice in the way of interest, etc. The big leak, however, is occasioned by the province not being able to supply the home market with farm produce—which occasions sending out of the province each year a large sum of money—is being gradually stopped up, the drain this year not being nearly so heavy as previous years. The fruit crop has been unusually large, which has materially checked the import of California fruit and enabled fruit growers to ship comparatively heavy consignments to the Territories. The hay and grain crop also promise a bountiful yield, whilst potatoes are in excess of the demand. As for dairy produce, another year will no doubt see several creameries established, as the success of the first one in the Delta district has been beyond the most sanguine expectations and at the present time the Dominion dairy commissioners are in the province, with their travelling dairy instructing the farmers how to make butter profitably. So that with the mining and lumber industries prospering the outlook for the province seems at present favorable.

British Columbia Business Notes

The New England Fish Co., have chartered two large steamers of the Union Steamship Co. here, the Capilano and Coquitlam, for the purpose of embarking in the halibut fishing industry. A large number of British subjects must be employed in this venture so that the enterprise will be a benefit to the province, although the joint fishing com-

mission have reported that from present indication the wholesale taking of halibut in shallow waters, will eventually drive the fish from these shores.

Wisconsin lumber men are spying out lumber in the province. The party consist of F. B. Hickson, president of the Scott Lumber Co. of Merrill, Wis.; H. H. Foster, secretary of the same company; Messrs. Anson and Landers, president and secretary of the Gillsey and Anson Lumber Co., Merrill, Wis.; A. H. Stang, president of the Stang Manufacturing Co., Merrill; C. F. Dunbar, president of the Wasau Chair Manufacturing, Wasau, Wis.; Messrs. Stewart and Alexander, president and secretary of the Alexander-Stewart Lumber Co., Wasau, and John Daly, of the firm of Daly and Oday, loggers, Wasau. The capitalists are after timber limits but according to the law they will have to work any limits that they may secure through mills in the province. It is thought they will either buy or erect mills of their own.

Sturgeon are being caught in nets in the Fraser River, without injury to the nets. Ten sturgeon aggregating a ton and a half were caught in one drift this week and the net uninjured. If it is practicable to catch sturgeon in salmon nets it will revolutionise sturgeon fishing here.

The grain merchants of the province have made arrangements to handle all the hay and oats in the province at prices that will shut out foreign competition.

Prof. Prince, Dominion Fishery Commissioner, has been tirelessly at work since arriving, and his collection of fishery specimens have reached enormous dimensions. Great good is expected to result from Prof. Prince's visit.

One hundred men left here this week engaged on a contract to clear the right of way for a thirteen mile extension of the Arrow Lake branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Another effort on the part of the Canadian Pacific to save the wealth of the Great Kootenay's for Canada, whilst looking for their share of the profits when they come.

Silver.

A slight advance in prices is noted, without any particular reason to account for it. Silver prices on Aug. 30 were: London, 30 9-16d.; New York, 67c.

A carload of grains, vegetables and native fruits from Manitoba and the Territories has been sent east by the Canadian Pacific railway land department for distribution at the Montreal and Toronto fairs. After these fairs close the exhibit will be divided up and sent to the smaller exhibitions in the counties of Ontario and Quebec.

Waghorn's Guide for September is well up to its usual excellence and affords complete time cards and tables of travel sailing lists and rates of passage &c, officially corrected to date. Full particulars of the game laws are given.

A lumber yard will be opened at Qu'Appelle, Assa., by Mr. Lidgate, who has lately arrived from British Columbia.

British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express of Sept. 2, in its review of the British grain trade, says: Old English wheats have declined slowly to 1s 6d below new wheats, the average price of which has been 26s. Foreign wheats dropped 6d under large supplies. Linseed has fallen 6d. To-day now English wheats sold at 26s to 30s,