

# 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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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, JULY 6, 1896.

## Manitoba.

A license has been refused the brewery at Neopawa, on the ground that a local option law is in force in the district, and the people are strongly opposed to the local sale of the beer.

The June number of The Colonist, Winnipeg, contains an extended write-up of the town of Selkirk, the head of Lake Winnipeg navigation, and the headquarters of the fishing and lumbering industries on the lake. The number is profusely illustrated.

Robt. Douglas, saddler, Deloraine, has sold out to Mr. Rockett.

## Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

- Wheat.—No. 1 hard, Fort William, afloat nominal and weak at 80 to 85c.
- Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$2.25; Bakers, \$2.05.
- Bran.—Per ton, \$11.
- Shorts.—Per ton, \$18.
- Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, local freights, 33 to 33½c.
- Barley.—Per bushel, about 40 to 42c, local freights.
- Flax Seed.—Small sales retail at \$1.50 per bushel.
- Butter.—Dairy 8 to 10c and very dull. Creamery, 15c.
- Cheese.—New 6 to 6½c.
- Eggs.—Fresh, 8c net, jobbing 9½c.
- Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 6c.
- Mutton.—Fresh, 7 to 7½c.
- Hogs.—City dressed, 5½c.
- Cattle.—Butchers' 2½ to 3c.
- Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3½ to 4c.
- Sheep.—3½ to 3½c.
- Seneca Root.—Dry 17 to 19c lb.
- Poultry.—Chickens, 40 to 45c per pair, turkeys, 8c lb., live weight.
- Hides.—No. 1 cows, 7½c.
- Wool.—Unwashed fleeces, 9 to 10c.
- Potatoes.—45c per bushel.
- Hay.—\$1.00 to \$1.50 per ton, car lots.

## Financial and Insurance Notes.

The governor and committee of the Hudson's Bay Company have recommended a dividend of 13s per share for the past year, carrying forward £26,082. The dividend paid last year was 12s per share, and \$25,805 was carried forward.

## Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended June 29, 1893, shows a decrease of 959,000 bushels, against a decrease of 1,661,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,195,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 765,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	88,581,000	80,228,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	88,376,000	79,883,000	81,390,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,766,000	75,609,000	79,068,000	41,556,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,654,000	41,036,000
May 6...	62,196,000	65,158,000	73,069,000	36,190,000
June 3...	52,229,000	59,294,000	71,080,000	17,910,000
July 1...	41,561,000	54,557,000	62,318,000	24,282,000
Aug. 8...	38,717,000	60,001,000	59,124,000	28,079,000
Sept. 7...	36,754,000	69,168,000	66,140,000	33,760,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,275,000	51,256,000
Nov. 4...	52,990,000	80,017,000	71,396,000	61,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,923,000	85,179,000	78,601,000	72,430,000

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,856,000	79,053,000	81,786,000
" 11...	83,945,000	86,615,000	80,433,000	84,080,000
" 18...	67,928,000	85,286,000	80,332,000	82,327,000
" 25...	67,623,000	84,665,000	80,234,000	81,437,000
Feb. 1...	66,734,000	83,376,000	79,863,000	81,309,000
" 8...	68,119,000	82,332,000	79,860,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,926,000	80,733,000	78,667,000	83,214,000
" 22...	65,011,000	79,478,000	77,257,000	79,433,000
March 1...	64,089,000	78,761,000	75,569,000	79,083,000
" 7...	62,696,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	79,103,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,873,000	73,359,000	79,000,000
" 21...	61,318,000	75,773,000	72,163,000	78,208,000
" 28...	61,018,000	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,654,000
April 4...	60,322,000	72,703,000	70,762,000	77,293,000
" 11...	59,330,000	70,497,000	69,217,000	76,096,000
" 18...	58,493,000	68,626,000	68,425,000	74,862,000
" 25...	57,916,000	68,776,000	66,593,000	75,027,000
May 2...	55,619,000	62,196,000	65,156,000	73,069,000
" 9...	54,000,000	59,623,000	63,510,000	74,632,000
" 16...	53,116,000	56,481,000	62,014,000	71,526,000
" 23...	51,298,000	54,214,000	61,329,000	70,159,000
" 30...	50,840,000	52,229,000	59,394,000	70,387,000
June 6...	50,147,000	49,739,000	58,21,000	63,661,000
" 13...	49,486,000	47,717,000	57,105,000	66,376,000
" 20...	49,819,000	46,225,000	55,832,000	63,081,000
" 27...	47,860,000	44,561,000	54,637,000	62,316,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on June 20 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	458,000
Toronto.....	153,000
Kingston.....	10,000
Winnipeg.....	140,000
Manitoba interior elevators	1,550,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keeswatin.....	2,120,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on June 20 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	63,457,000
Pacific Coast.....	2,556,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	56,591,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,445,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended June 27, shows a decrease of 2,103,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 61,851,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks of wheat on June 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 117,969,000 bushels, as compared with 141,476,000 bushels on June 1, 1895, 160,892,000 bushels on June 1, 1894, 167,188,000 bushels on that date in 1893, and as contrasted with 120,170,000 bushels on June 1, 1892, and with smaller totals on June 1 in preceding years.

## Anthracite Prices Advance.

Further preparations have been made this week by the coal mining and transportation companies for the first of what it is anticipated in trade circles will be a series of advances in the price of anthracite. As was pointed out in these columns recently, the new order of things in the anthracite business has been from the company's point of view, decidedly successful. Under the agreement of the presidents the output has been restricted as it never was before, and the accumulated surplus of mined coal left over from the coal war of 1895 has been soroluced that it no longer occasions either anxiety to the trade or concessions in prices for the sake of moving it.

The advance now determined upon is 25c per ton in the circular figures, to take effect at once. All old contracts at lower prices are to be abrogated on the 31st of the current month.—Bradstreet's, June 27.

## The Winnipeg Early Closing Law.

Re Cloutier.—Appeal from Chief Justice Taylor. The defendant, Ferdinand Cloutier, carrying on a boot and shoe store on Main street, was convicted before Police Magistrate Peobles of a breach of the early closing by-law, passed by the city council and fined \$10 and costs. A motion was made for a cartiorari to remove the conviction with a view to having it quashed. The matter was argued before the chief justice, who dismissed the application and defendant appealed to the full court. The court allowed the appeal, but without costs and the conviction is quashed. The court held that the by-law was objectionable.

## United States Wool Markets.

The volume of business shows a slight increase, but buyers are yet bidding below the market for any lines. The result of the St. Louis convention has made dealers a little firmer, and it looks as though the decline was checked. The strength comes largely from the interior, however, growers and holders in some sections having marked up prices ½ to 1c per pound. A large part of the new wools coming in are consigned, and in many instances are accompanied by instructions to hold until after election. The supply of old territory wools carried over is large, but dealers are not disposed to sell any lower at present.—Bradstreet's,

## Silver.

The conspicuous factor in the silver market this week was the speculative buying of silver bullion certificates on the New York Stock Exchange. It was reported that this was based on the idea that a free silver platform will be adopted at the coming Chicago convention. The quotation for bars in this market advanced from 68½c per ounce to 69½ to 70c, and London though somewhat backward, had a sympathetic rise from 81 7-16d to 81½d. The market there is favorably affected by the strong tone of India exchange on the issue of a new rupee loan in India. On Friday both markets reacted slightly. Silver prices on June 19 were: London 81 9-16d; New York 69½ to 70c.

## Canning Horse Meat

One of the dangers that threatens the American meat trade with Europe is loading invalided omnibus horses of London for Rotterdam and Antwerp, where they are converted into "canned beef, which is retailed throughout Europe in sealed boxes with American labels." This industry is calculated to ruin the American export meat trade.—Bradstreet's.