

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, AUGUST 10, 1896.

Manitoba.

W. J. Winning has opened a tailor shop at Neepawa.

S. C. Wales, butcher, has opened business at Brandon.

Patterson & Co., planing mill, Winnipeg, have assigned.

Coppleman & Epstein, are opening a general store at West Selkirk.

S. T. Hopper is retiring from the general store business at Rapid City.

Titus & Son, hardware, Napinka, are dissolving; Samuel Titus continues.

The Ferguson Co., wholesale stationers, Winnipeg, have assigned to S. A. D. Bertrand.

Paul, Knight & McKinnon, coal, Winnipeg and Regina, Assa., have dissolved; R. Paul retires, style unchanged.

A hail storm passed over Foxwarren district, west of Birtle, on August 2, doing much damage in its course, which fortunately was not very wide.

Letters patent have been issued to the Winnipeg Rubber Company, which has been formed with the object of carrying on business in all kinds of rubber goods.

L. W. Leithead, chemist of the Martin, Bole, Wynne Co., Winnipeg, who left last week for Duluth, where he has taken a position with a drug house, was presented with a cane by the employees of the firm before taking his departure.

At Winnipeg on the morning of August 2, the warehouse of J. D. Peck & Co. was struck by lightning and a chimney damaged. The St. Boniface woolen mill, just across the river from Winnipeg was also slightly damaged by lightning the same night.

George Strelow, contractor, employed on the Dauphin railway construction, says everything is being pushed along rapidly and the progress of the work just now is satisfactory. Grading is being rushed, track-laying has commenced, stations are being erected and indeed all along the line there is activity and push.

W. Senkbeil, who is retiring from the boot and shoe trade at Brandon, and E. Merner, formerly in the grocery trade at the same place, contemplate establishing a felt factory at Brandon. They want a loan of \$3,000 and a special rate of taxation from the municipality.

At the next meeting of the finance committee of the Winnipeg city council a request

of the Union Shoe & Leather Company for exemption from taxation for twenty years on their industry will be considered. The company propose to extend their business by erecting a new factory at a cost of \$10,000 and equip it with machinery, etc., which will cost \$20,000 more. The industry will employ steadily from fifty to sixty workmen which is a much larger number than are now employed.

Northwest Ontario.

The Ontario Mining institute will hold its next annual meeting in Rat Portage in September.

Wm. Margach is transporting speckled trout from Port Arthur to the lakes and waters along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway west.

The Bullion Mining company of Rat Portage, has received applications for two thousand one hundred and thirty shares, over and above the twenty thousand they desired to sell. The company has now two properties in hand which they will open up; and if the indications warrant mining operations being entered upon, stock will be floated for that purpose.

Saskatchewan.

The book store of H. L. Ingram, Prince Albert, was burglarized recently.

A building in course of erection at Prince Albert, for the Mitchell Drug Co., of Winnipeg, was discovered on fire, and some lumber was burnt.

D. D. McLeod, hotel, Prince Albert, is retiring from business.

Assiniboia.

Lindsay & Patterson, general store, Estevan, have sold out to M. H. King.

Magee & Thompson, harness and lumber dealers, Sintaluta, have added hardware.

A. Roberts & Co., general store, Wapella; stock sold at 66½ cents to J. E. McGrath, of Saltcoats.

Alberta.

The Edmonton board of trade has received a free railway pass for a delegate to go to British Columbia to obtain latest information about the markets there, with a view to shipping Alberta produce to that province.

Notice is given that application will be made at the next session of parliament to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass railway with power to build and operate a line from some point at or near Lethbridge through the Crow's Nest Pass to connect with the existing railway at Nelson, British Columbia.

Financial and Insurance Notes.

The liquidators of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba on Friday paid another dividend of ten per cent, which makes a total of ninety per cent. paid to the creditors.

The Imperial Bank contemplates erecting a banking building at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan territory, to cost about \$10,000.

The Winnipeg sub-section of the Canadian Bankers' Association is collecting information regarding the crops. The questions asked are as to the estimated yield and the date of the beginning of harvest.

Hon S. C. Wood, of Toronto, general manager of the Freehold Loan and Savings Co., arrived in Winnipeg on Thursday on his annual summer trip of inspection to the West. Mr. Wood will spend several weeks going through the grain fields.

Mr. Chipman of the Montreal clearing house, says the Montreal banks will shortly

decide to refuse not only United States silver but United States silver certificates.

The Dry Goods Trade.

Notice has been received of an advance of 5 per cent on fancy yarns in worsted makes. Black and blue worsteds remain at the same quotations.

A Toronto exchange says that the large stores in Toronto have caused many dry goods merchants throughout the country to adopt the cash principle, and that it may ere long be universal. If this is the result, the big stores will have done some good after all. In order to compete with the big city stores, country dealers will be obliged to sell for cash, as selling for cash means lower prices, as there are no losses from bad debts.

The Toronto Globe dry goods report says: "Prices are firm in the British markets for woollens. The woollen manufacturers have taken a step in the right direction by reducing the time of dating. This will no doubt be followed by others. Jobbers are in sympathy with shortening the time on bills. In the United States the dating on cotton fabrics and many other goods is 80 and 60 days, with a special discount for 10-day payments. This is a better feature than the general terms now ruling in dry goods. It is to be hoped that the mills will continue in their good efforts.

Fur Trade News.

The fur trade for the season is pretty well over at Winnipeg, most of the northern furs being in. The market is closing weak, and buyers have been bidding considerably lower on lots offered lately.

R. Secord, of Edmonton, has the robes of the only two wood buffaloes killed in the north last winter. They are magnificent specimens. Larger, darker and one of them having finer fur than any that have been brought out of late years.

The fur brought in by Colin Fraser, says the Edmonton Bulletin is the largest and most valuable lot brought in by any single trader this season. There are 3,000 marten and 1,000 beaver in the lot, besides quantities of bear, cross and red fox, rat, lynx, etc.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	July 31, 1896.	August 2, 1895.
Flour, straight spring..	\$2.50 to \$3.40	\$3.15 to \$3.60
Flour, straight winter..	\$2.50 to \$3.30	\$3.40 to \$3.75
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	67c	73c
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	30½ to 30¾	43c
Oats, No. 2.....	23c	28c
ye. No. 2 Western.....	40c	53
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee		
Cotton, mid. upd.....	7 7-16	7c
Print cloths, 6x24.....	2 7-16	2 15-16
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X.....	16c	17 to 18c
Wool, Nc. 1 combg.....	19 to 20c	21 to 23c
Pork, mess new.....	7.50 to 8.25	\$11.75 to 12.25
Lard, westn., stim.....	3.50	\$6.45 to \$6.57
Butter, creamery.....	15c	17c
Cheese, ch. east 44.....	7c	7c
Sugar, centrif., 90°.....	3 5-16c	3 5-16c
Sugar, granulated.....	4c	4 7-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	12 to 12½c	16c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.....	\$1.04	\$1.30
Petroleum, rid. gal.....	6.65c	7.10
*Iron, Best, pg.....	\$11.50	\$14.50
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$19.00	\$21.75
Ocean Steam Freight.....		
Grain, Liverpool.....	2d	3½d
Cotton.....		5-6½d

* Pittsburgh.

Silver.

The market this week has been featureless with scarcely any change in quotations. Trading in bullion certificates here amounted for the week to 230,000 ounces at from 68½ up to 69½c. Silver prices on July 31 were:

London 81½d; New York 68½c.—Bradstreet's,