

THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in Western Canada including that part of Ontario west of Lake St. Clair, 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 West region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast than any other paper in Canada, and especially of western Canada. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 5.

Manitoba Wheat Stocks.

There were 1,324,000 bushels of wheat in store at Fort William on Dec. 29. Receipts for the week were 50,000 bushels, and shipments were 38,000 bushels, compared with receipt of 362,000 and shipments of 174,000 bushels for the corresponding week last year. A year ago stocks in store at Fort William were 2,807,000 bushels. Stocks in store at Fort William, Port Arthur, Keewatin, Winnipeg and interior points were estimated approximately at 3,300,000 bushels, compared with 3,000,000 bushels a year ago, and 7,850,000 bushels two years ago.

MANITOBA WHEAT MOVEMENT.

For the four months of the crop year ended Dec. 31, 1900, a total of 7,803 cars of wheat have been inspected, or say 6,500,000 bushels. This includes all wheat which was moved forward from country points and shipped east, or held in store at Winnipeg, Keewatin or Lake Superior points. It is estimated that about 3,000,000 bushels of wheat are held in store in country elevators west of Winnipeg, making a total of 9,500,000 of this crop marketed and shipped eastward or held in store at Lake Superior western points. This does not include wheat ground by mills west of Winnipeg. The quantity of wheat held by farmers is limited, and will not likely bring the total up to more than 12,000,000 bushels, when the balance of the crop is in, exclusive of home requirements for bread, seed and country mill.

To the end of December, 1899, about 17,000,000 bushels of wheat had been shipped from country points, and about 6,000,000 were in store in country elevators, making a total of 23,000,000 of the crop of 1899 shipped or in store west of Winnipeg at the end of that year.

Winnipeg Grain Inspection.

For the week ending Dec. 31, there were 325 cars of grain inspected which graded as follows:

- Wheat—1 hard, 1; 2 hard, 34; 3 hard, 86; rejected, 18; no grade, 17; condemned, 1 car.
- Barley—No. 3, 2 cars.
- Oats—No. 2 white, 2; no grade, 6; feed, 5 cars.
- Flax seed—Rejected, 1 car.

For the corresponding week of last year there were 432 cars of grain inspected, of which 258 graded 1 hard.

MONTHLY STATEMENT.

For the month of December, 1900, there were 1,872 cars of grain inspected, which graded as follows:—

- Wheat—1 hard, 24; 2 hard, 263; 3 hard, 662; 3 northern, 5; 2 white soft, 11; 1 rejected, 34; 2 rejected, 21; rejected, 7; no grade, 790; condemned, 5 cars.
- Oats—2 white, 3; no grade, 16; rejected, 6; feed, 14 cars.

- Barley—No. 3, 3; no grade, 2; feed, 3 cars.
- Flax seed—Rejected, 7; no grade, 4 cars.

Trading Stamps.

According to agreement among the retail merchants of Winnipeg the use of trading stamps was discontinued at the close of the old year, and as far as can be learned there is now only one small dealer giving stamps. The Winnipeg Trading Stamp Company, Limited, issuers of the red stamp, kept their show rooms open this month, at least, and will honor all their stamps, giving the regular choice of premiums or cash for full books and allowing at the rate of 40c per 100 stamps for uncompleted books. This latter offer is payable either in cash or goods. The Dominion Trading Stamp Company, who issue the blue stamp, are honoring all full books, but have as yet made no arrangements regarding uncompleted books.

Retail Holiday Trade.

Inquiry among the retail dealers of Winnipeg regarding this year's

MINING MATTERS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

It is rumored that the directors of the King Mining Company Limited, Summit Camp, propose starting work on the Oro Denero. Another mine in the same camp is the E. Bell, owned by J. Hanly, and the Minor Graves Syndicate. The spring will see this mine in the ranks of the producers.

John Dorsey has organized a company and secured the Blue Bell and J. S. claims, in Summit Camp, under bond. The amount given out as consideration for the property is \$37,000. Of this sum \$40,000 goes to William Shaw, Chris McDonald and Thomas Stack, owners of the Blue Bell, and \$27,000 will be divided by Henry Snibly and James Jarrell, who own the J. S. The work of developing the properties is to be started at an early date.

Justice Walkem, of the British Columbia superior court, has just handed out a judgment that should prove of interest to holders of so-called fully paid-up mining shares, issued at a discount. In brief Judge Walkem rules that the purchaser of such

ed on boats for shipment at Port Arthur.

There is some activity in mining property in the vicinity of Ignace, Ont., and a stamp mill is to be erected on one property by the proprietors.

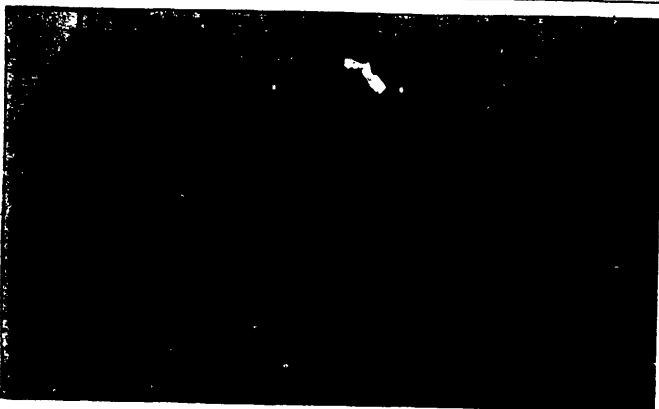
It is reported that another valuable strike has been made on the Sultana mine property, Lake of the Woods, thing yet taken from that mine. As this company adopts the policy of withholding all information regarding their property the rumor has not been confirmed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A syndicate which is developing the Moore-Black property on the Manitoba boundary, are reported to have struck some very rich quartz. They have sunk a number of test pits along the lead and have got good results in each. They expect to have a mill run ready shortly.

Cotton Goods Situation in Canada.

The position of the market for cotton goods in Canada is very strong at present. The Colored Cotton Company



Flour Mill, Minnesota, Man.

Christmas and New Year's trade, indicates that it fully met their expectations and was about equal to that of the last few years. A considerable difference was noticeable, however, in the amounts of the sales, which were this year below the average, but while the individual sales were smaller there were more purchasers, which brought the volume of business up to about the usual standard. It was noticeable also that the purchases were largely of the staple and more useful articles, fancy goods being in very small demand. While there was no real feeling of hard times manifest, still money was not nearly so free as in former seasons, with the result, as before stated, that the purchases did not run into so large amounts and the articles were more carefully selected.

Reports from Manitoba country towns indicate that the holiday trade was very light, but as Winnipeg does business with a large territory, in part of which the last season's returns were very satisfactory, the depression has not been as much felt here as was expected.

A new steamship service from New York to South African ports and Calcutta will shortly be inaugurated.

The John Morrow Machine Screw Company, of Ingersoll, Ontario, has favored The Commercial with a copy of the fine, large calendar which it is sending out to customers and friends.

In the annual review of the wool situation in the United States The American Wool and Cotton Reporter gives stocks of wool in the country, exclusive of manufacturers' holdings, at \$32,247,350 pounds, as compared with 157,088,579 pounds a year ago. Stock in the three principal markets, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, amount to 125,000,000 pounds, against 113,285,579 last year. Stocks of wool in Boston are 120,019,834 pounds, as against 68,113,743 pounds last year.

shares direct from the company is liable for the difference between the price paid and the face value, but the second-hand purchaser is not so liable. The case in question is Kettle River Mines, Limited, vs. Bleasdel, et al. In this case, and it affects many others, his lordship gave his judgment for the defendants, and in doing so he reaffirmed the decision which has been rendered by a number of the greatest lord chancellors of Great Britain. The effect of which is, as applied to the present case: "If you buy shares at ten cents each on certificates that represent them to be of a par value of \$1 each 'paid-up' direct from the company, you must pay the difference between the ten cents and the par value, because you knew at the time you bought that you had not paid their face value. If, however, you have bought the same shares in the open market, on the same certificates and at the same price, you are not responsible for the payment of the difference, as you are entitled to rely on the company's statement in the certificates that the shares are paid up and non-assessable."

NORTH WEST ONTARIO.

A mining location on Eagle Lake, owned by R. McKintyre, has been purchased by a St. Paul capitalist named McClure, who will commence work on it in the spring.

A great of men under the direction of Mr. John W. Forde, is opening a deposit of iron pyrites at No. 2 siding on the Canadian Northern railway, west of Port Arthur. The deposit is a massive one, and is said to carry a very high percentage of sulphur. A shaft 612 feet in being sunk in the ore. The deposit is located at the northern limit of Combee township, a half mile from the railway, and three miles from Port Arthur. It is owned by the Davis Chemical company, of New York, who also own a deposit of similar ore near Schreiber. If the proposition is worked the ore will be load-

the past week advanced three lines of apron gingham 5 per cent. The position of the Canadian mills is a very strong one. They are very firm on all goods. There has never been a time in the history of the trade in the Dominion when there were less clean-up or job lots of goods offering by the mills. The mills are very busy on orders. They are working on contract orders that keep them busy well up to the extent of their capacity. It is already impossible to get them to accept repeat orders in certain lines, they having withdrawn from the market in such cases. The local firms say that the retail trade cannot make any mistake in ordering early owing to the strength shown by the domestic markets.—Toronto Globe.

The prospectus of the St. Lawrence River Navigation Co. with a capital of half a million pounds, is a result of the company proposes to construct and to operate ice breaking steamers of the Ernaack type, between Montreal and Quebec.

Further failures have occurred among the stock brokerage firms of London, England, as a result of the failure of the London and Globe corporation on Friday, the 28th ult. The firms now in trouble are those of A. S. May, A. N. Clark and G. Blundell, Jr. This makes about eighteen failures in all besides that of the big corporation itself. A committee of brokers has been appointed to look into the transactions of the London and Globe which led to the failure.

The Aetna and Travellers life insurance companies advanced their premium rates on the first of the year to correspond with the advance made on January 1, 1900, by all the companies doing business in America which had not previously adopted the higher rates made necessary by the fall in interest rates on first-class securities. With these two companies in line practically all the American companies are now on a similar basis as regards premium rates.