

THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in 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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Advertisements purporting to be news matter, or which profess to express the opinions of this journal, will not be inserted.

Office: 181 McDermott Street,
D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada

WINNIPEG, MAY 19, 1900.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

Thursday next, May 24th, being a public holiday, advertisers in The Commercial are requested to send in copy for advertisement changes earlier than usual so as to ensure proper attention being given to them.

Milling Manager Interviewed.

A Commercial representative interviewed this week Mr. F. W. Thompson, manager of the Ogilvie Milling Company, in the course of which Mr. Thompson said much that was interesting regarding the crops and business situation. Speaking of the crops he said: "Notwithstanding the dry weather, the reports generally are very satisfactory, although rain is much needed in certain localities where the soil is inclined to be light. Within the past two days or more some westerly parts of the province have had moisture. The present cool weather may be considered rather beneficial, the season being so much earlier than usual there might be a tendency towards rank growth but for these necessary checks. While we cannot yet speak positively as to the actual acreage and probable yield, we feel sure that with ordinarily favorable weather and the large increase in acreage which is known to have been sown, there should be a very satisfactory yield of wheat this year."

Asked as to the financial outlook, Mr. Thompson said: "Money is undoubtedly scarce at the present time. As to the cause, it is a little difficult to determine. I imagine much of it is due to the large amount of money which has gone into land. Farmers, during the past year, have largely increased their holdings of land, and the money used in making payments has left a temporary shortage in the ordinary channels. This shows their faith in the country. All our reports say there is an increased acreage under crop this year."

As regards the milling business, Mr. Thompson said: "The demand for flour holds good. All our mills are running full time and turning out more flour than ever before."

Exhibition Attractions.

Manager F. W. Heubach, of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association, returned from New York this week, where he has collected a list of attractions for the coming fair. Mr. Heubach says he has secured a number of features which will not be equalled at any other fair on the continent.

Wheat Supplies Decreasing.

American supplies of wheat fell off to the extent of 9,083,000 bushels during the month of April, the heaviest decrease, by the way, reported in any month for several years past, and more than double the decrease shown in April a year ago, but slightly smaller than the decrease in April, 1898, when the falling off was 10,277,000 bushels. It is, therefore, necessary to go back to the year of golden memory, 1898, to find a depletion of stocks in keeping with that just noted.

The total American stock is the heaviest held at this date since May 1, 1896, being 26,101,000 bushels large, than a year ago, 43,724,000 bushels larger than in 1898 and 26,516,000 bushels larger than in 1897, but 5,758,000 bushels smaller than in 1896 and 12,000,000 to 21,000,000 bushels smaller than at this time in the years 1893 to 1895 inclusive.

Quite a decided tendency toward a decrease in European supplies is indicated, the falling off for the month being 4,500,000 bushels, but the gain since January 1 has been 2,000,000 bushels, and the present stock is larger than at any preceding May 1 for five years past. The combined American and European supply no May 1 makes the following comparisons:

	(000 omitted.)	1900.	1899.	1898.
Jan. 1...	167,477	117,980	132,434	
Feb. 1...	162,390	118,476	127,723	
Mar. 1...	159,654	121,389	118,515	
April 1...	101,597	123,659	114,267	
May 1...	148,014	117,213	95,590	
June 1...	116,267	99,662		
July 1...	119,393	80,304		
Aug. 1...	119,110	69,733		
Sept. 1...	117,169	53,264		
Oct. 1...	135,698	69,128		
Nov. 1...	159,880	86,551		
Dec. 1...	160,465	109,810		

The combined supply it will be seen fell off 13,000,000 bushels during the month of April, as compared with 6,000,000 bushels a year ago in April and 19,000,000 bushels in April, 1898. The following table shows the position of the world's stocks on or about May 1 as compared with April 1 this year and as compared with May 1 last year:

	(000 omitted.)	May 1, 1900.	April 1, 1900.	May 1, 1899.
U. S. and Canada	77,814	86,897	51,713	
Europe and afloat	70,200	74,700	65,500	
Australia	7,500	8,200	7,800	
Argentina	3,680	5,888	5,520	
Totals	159,194	175,685	130,533	

The total world's visible supply, it will be seen, fell off 16,491,000 bushels during the month, every stock-carrying country contributing, against a decrease a year ago of only 4,200,000 bushels, but comparing with a decrease of almost 20,000,000 bushels in April, 1898.

Bicycle Factory Burned.

The entire plants of the Welland Vale company's works and the Canada Motor and Cycle company's works at St. Catharines, Ont., were destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning. The fire started in the hardening department of the cycle works. The fire throws 500 men out of employment, and means a loss of half a

million dollars. The fire destroyed the large factory building occupied by the Canada Cycle and Motor company, and the whole of the Welland Vale Manufacturing company's shops, with the exception of two store-houses. The Welland Vale company's loss will be about \$200,000, with insurance of about \$85,000. The Canada Cycle and Motor company had an insurance of \$40,000 on the machinery and \$65,000 on its stock.

London Fur Sales.

The following were the prices realized at the Hudson's Bay Company's sale at London, March 19 to 22, 1900:

Cross Fox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, No. 1, 130; No. 2, 52.6, pale, 34; seconds, 47.4; thirds, 26.3; fourths, 5 shillings. Moose River. Firsts, No. 1, 150; No. 2, 60; pale, 45; seconds, 49; thirds, 31 shillings. Esquimau Bay. Firsts, No. 1, 160; No. 2, 65; seconds, 52.6 shillings. Canada. Firsts, No. 1, 180; No. 2, 51.3; pale, 31; seconds, 43.4; thirds, 26 shillings. Northwest. Firsts, No. 1, 145; No. 2, 52.6; pale, 35; seconds, 41; thirds, 21 shillings.

Red Fox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, dark, 37.6; medium, 34; pale, 34; low, 33; greasy, No. 1, 36; greasy, No. 2, 35; seconds, 26; thirds, 12; fourths, 4 shillings. Moose River. Firsts, dark, 42; medium, 38; pale, 35; low, 36; greasy, No. 1, 38; No. 2, 37; seconds, 30; thirds, 14.3; fourths, 8 shillings. Canada. Firsts, dark, 28.9; medium, 28; pale, 28; low, 24; greasy, No. 1, 30; seconds, 20; thirds, 12; fourths, 7 shillings. Esquimau Bay. Firsts, dark, 48; medium, 44; pale, 40; low, 38; seconds, 37; thirds, 17 shillings. Northwest. Firsts, dark, 52.6; medium, 42; pale, 41; low, 36; seconds, 34; thirds, 14 shillings.

Silver Fox.—Yorkfort. Dark, firsts, 310; middling, firsts, 115; pale, firsts, 67.10; seconds, 28 to 45.4; thirds, 15 pounds. Moose River. Dark, firsts, 340; middling, firsts, 120; pale, firsts, 100; seconds, 53.15; thirds, 20.10 pounds. Canada. Dark, firsts, 75; middling, firsts, 42.10; pale, firsts, 52.10; seconds, 38; thirds, 20 pounds. Esquimau Bay. Dark, firsts, 155; middling, firsts, 100; pale, firsts, 50; seconds, 35; thirds, 22 pounds.

Blue Fox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, No. 1, 120; No. 2, 120; seconds, 75; thirds, 30 shillings.

White Fox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, No. 1, 46.9; No. 2, 41; greasy, No. 1, 43; greasy, No. 2, 40; seconds, 36; thirds, 20; fourths, 9.62 shillings. Little Whale River. Firsts, No. 1, 56; No. 2, 40; greasy, No. 1, 42; greasy, No. 2, 40; seconds, 40.8; thirds, 26 shillings. Esquimau Bay. Firsts, No. 1, 68.4; No. 2, 49; greasy, No. 1, 38; seconds, 45; thirds, 29.6 shillings.

Kitt Fox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, No. 1, 7.6 shillings.

Fisher.—Yorkfort. Large, 38.3; small, 42; large, pale, 28; small, pale, 27; seconds, 29; thirds, 18 shillings. Moose River. Large, 39.6; small, 50; large, pale, 30; small, pale, 30; seconds, 30; thirds, 17 shillings. Northwest. Large, 34; small, 43; seconds, 27 shillings. Canada. Large, 37; small, 39.6; small, pale, 28; seconds, 28; thirds, 19 shillings.

Mink.—Yorkfort. Large, firsts, 20; small, 11.4; seconds, 10.7; thirds, 2.8; mixed, 12.9 shillings. Moose River. Large, firsts, 19; small, 10.9; seconds, 8.6; thirds, 2.6 mixed, 6.3 shillings. Canada. Large, firsts, 14.10; small, 10.6; seconds, 8; thirds, 2.9; mixed, 8 shillings. Esquimau Bay. Large, firsts, 19; small, 12.3; seconds, 11.3; thirds, 3.7 shillings. Northwest. Large, firsts, 15; seconds, 8; thirds, 2.11; mixed, 7.9 shillings.