

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, DECEMBER 7, 1896.

Manitoba.

Peter Reimer, general storekeeper, Greenfeldt, has assigned.

Roid & Morris, flour mill, of Lauder, have dissolved. James Morris continues.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association will be held on December 10.

Mr. Bethune, of J. W. Peck & Co., wholesale merchants, Winnipeg, left last Tuesday for the Pacific coast on a short trip.

The Winnipeg office and sample room of the McClary Manufacturing Co. has been moved to 192 Bannatyne street.

J. A. Kerr, of Manitou, has purchased the stock, and business of the estate of M. Hughes & Sons, undertakers, Winnipeg, and will continue the business. He will also continue his Manitou business for the present.

Alex Calder, employment agent, Winnipeg, states that there is a good demand for bush laborers at the present time. Over two hundred men are required, but the supply is poor. Experienced bushmen are wanted, but those who have worked in the bush are scarce or unwilling to go out.

Assiniboia.

A. C. Hawthorn is opening a general store at Medicine Hat, where he has resided for some time acting as clerk.

Alberta.

Minister Tarte, when at Calgary recently, was presented with an address by the city council. The address requested the establishment of an experimental irrigation farm, erection of a jail and insane asylum at Calgary, the extension of the Calgary and Edmonton railway to the United States boundary, and the building of the Crow's Nest pass railway.

A telegram from Lethbridge on Dec. 2 says: The severe tension to cattlemen since the cold spell began shows signs of relief. Last night the thermometer registered fourteen below zero, this morning a chinook sprang up and at 10 o'clock the temperature rose to thirty-four above. As there are two feet of snow on the level it will take the chinook at least two days to remove it.

Monthly Trade Returns.

Transactions at the Dominion Government Savings' Bank, Winnipeg, during the month of November were as follows: Withdrawals, \$24,999.12; deposits, \$21,818; withdrawals exceed deposits by \$3,651.12.

The inland revenue collections for the Winnipeg division for the month of November was as under:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Spirits..... | \$10,092 68 |
| Tobacco..... | 14,165 87 |
| Malt..... | 1,865 70 |
| Cigars..... | 950 60 |
| Methylated spirit..... | 283 14 |
| Petroleum inspection fees..... | 177 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$37,514 94 |

The following statement shows the value of goods exported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon during the month of November, 1896, compared with the same month, 1895:

| Description | Value 1895 | Value 1896 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Exported..... | \$38,119 00 | \$91,278 00 |
| Entered for consumption, dutiable.... | 150,183 00 | 134,242 00 |
| Entered for consumption, free..... | 63,052 00 | 72,858 00 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total for consumption..... | 218,235 00 | 206,595 00 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Duty collected.... | 52,725 98 | 47,868 67 |

Fur Trade Notes.

The New York Fur Trade Review says: Buyers of raw furs in writing their shippers should discourage trapping as far as possible. A small catch would be better, for all concerned, than a large one this season. Letting the animals care for themselves another year will be cheaper than carrying their skins in cold storage.

The next regular sale of salted fur seals will be held by C. M. Lamson & Co., on December 9, 1896. The offerings will comprise: 7,500 Alaskas; 14,400 Copper Island; 20,000 Northwest coast; 2,400 Cape of Good Hope, Cape Horn, etc. Culverwell. Brooks & Co., will offer on December 9: 2,500, salted, Northwest coast seals, 2,000, dressed, Northwest coast seals,

Grocery Trade Notes.

The rice market continues strong. A Montreal firm here asked for a quotation from Liverpool on a grade of Patna rice that cost them 11s 3d some time ago. The response was a request for an advance of 3s, 14s 3d being now asked for the same grade. If this strength continues abroad it seems inevitable that domestic mill prices, which were put up 25c recently will again advance.

The quality of the Malaga raisins this year is said to be exceptionally fine as compared with that of several seasons past, on the average quality of the stock received before buyers began to give preference to the California fruit.

Two deputations, one representing the wholesale and the other the retail grocery trade of Hamilton, Ontario, have asked the tariff commission for substantial reductions on articles on food of general consumption. Complaint was made by them that in some lines of goods they were reduced from the position of merchants to that of agents of monopolies, which were in a condition to impose practically any condition they chose as to sales price of their products.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matter.

The railway companies announce that from the 5th to 31st December, the \$10 Canadian excursion tickets will be on sale daily at all Manitoba ticket offices, giving parties going to Eastern Canada an opportunity to visit their friends at Christmas.

The agreement entered into by all the great trans-Atlantic steamship companies went into effect on Dec. 1, and as a consequence passenger rates are advanced from \$10 to \$15.

Dairy Trade Notes.

The Montreal Gazette of Nov. 26 says: "The butter market continues easy and it seems certain now that the balance of the October and November make will not less money to the factorymen. They sold most of it around 19½ to 19c, but for what is left will have to accept 18½ to 18¾c, which were the best bids today.

Reports from Ontario, especially around Brookville, would indicate that the make of winter creamery will be larger than it was last year. Many of the cheese factories have put in butter making machinery.

British Columbia Coast Mines.

Seaboard mines and mines operated from the seaboard are now engaging the principal attention of the mining world in the coast cities of British Columbia. The Shoal Bay mining district a dozen miles from Vancouver has come rapidly to the front of late. The rich Taxada Island claims have already more than a Provincial reputation and coming still nearer to Vancouver, the Albion groups of claims on Bowen Island, Howe Sound, are now just coming before the public. There are 12 claims in all extending two miles across the Island. An open cut has been made from the water's edge extending 90 feet along the course of the lead at which distance it shows a face of forty feet in depth, here the vein is five feet through and a tunnel has been driven in 70 feet. Along this tunnel assays have been made running from 60 to 87 ounces in silver and some gold. The company are now selling some 50,000 shares for development work, 20,000 shares were applied for before the scrip could be issued, showing the faith of Vancouverites in home mines.

The demand for Manitoba flour from Australia still continues. The Lake of the Woods Milling Company on Monday placed another round lot of 2,500 barrels for shipment in January via Vancouver.

The first calendar to come to hand this season is from J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg. It shows the yachts which engaged in the international race over which there was such a rumpus some time ago.

A couple of plow manufacturers appeared before the tariff commission at Brantford, and urged that the taxation on raw material was excessive. Cockshutt, of the Cockshutt Plow Company, said with free trade, including raw material, he would be satisfied.

A Toronto report of Nov. 27 says of poultry: The market is glutted and most of the offerings are in a bad condition. Chickens and geese are especially poor; ducks remain firm and scarce. Chickens sell at 20 to 30c, and occasionally as low as 15c per pair. Ducks bring 40 to 55c; geese 4 to 4½c, and turkeys 6 to 6½c.

Oats were about a cent lower at Toronto on Nov. 27, and mixed were quoted north and west points in Ontario at 19c and white at 20c.

At Montreal on Nov. 27 the feeling in the market for oatmeal was strong and prices have scored another advance with sales of rolled oats at \$3.75 per barrel.