

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially 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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JAMES B. STEEN,
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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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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, MAY 14, 1894.

Manitoba.

W. Madill has opened a general store at Altamont.

J. A. Ovas intends opening a grocery store at Brandon.

J. H. Davis, fish and game, Winnipeg, has assigned to R. A. Rogers.

F. W. Fisher, general store, Lundyville, assigned on 4th inst.; meeting of creditors 14th inst.

Mr. Whitman, of Emerson, is opening a stock of dry goods and groceries at Portage la Prairie.

Falconer & Martin, Deloraine, have moved their stock of hardware from Oxbow to their Deloraine store.

Porter & Sparling, agricultural implements, Portage la Prairie, reported dissolved partnership; J. P. Porter to continue.

A. F. Boisseau, proprietor of the Grand View hotel, Brandon, and well known to travelling men in the west, is dead.

The cheese factory building at Deloraine, says the Times, is finished and ready for occupation. The machinery is expected in a few days.

A committee of farmers in the vicinity of Brandon, in conjunction with the town market committee, have arranged to hold weekly markets on every Friday in the Brandon market. The first market day is fixed for June 1.

W. A. Carson of 679 Main street, Winnipeg, has disposed of his butchering business to L. R. Mackenzie and G. Bowes. Bowes has been with Carson for a long time and Mackenzie was formerly in the meat business in the north end.

Chalmers Bros. & Bethune, Manitou, have purchased and forwarded a car load of choice cattle and hogs for shipment to Port Arthur, and another carload will be sent east next week. They report the supply of fat cattle somewhat limited, and another carload or two will probably end the shipments for the season.

Assiniboia.

Misses Hamilton & Anderson are opening in millinery at Estevan.

A. E. Potter, vehicles, organs, etc., Moose Jaw, are moving to British Columbia.

M. Austen, baker, etc., Moosomin, reported sold out bakery business to S. Widdle.

The estate of F. T. Carman, drugs, etc., Moosomin, reported sold to W. Pennington.

John McCurdy, lately McCurdy & Tucker, blacksmith and machinist, Moosomin, is establishing an iron and brass foundry in connection with his business.

Alberta.

Thos. Cairns has opened a brewery at Edmonton.

D. A. Bain, merchant tailor, of Lethbridge, has opened business at Macleod.

The stock and effects of W. Phillips & Co., woolen mill at Midnapore, near Calgary, has been seized by the sheriff.

Northwest Ontario.

Wm. Hoarde is starting a saw mill at Enniskillen. H. Holmes, printer and publisher, is opening in business at Rat Portage.

Wm. Bros. & Gray, mining engineers, have opened an assay office at Rat Portage.

Mr. Mills, recently burned out, has decided to open out again in the jewelry business at Fort William.

Grain and Milling Items.

Martin & Co.'s elevator at Pierson, Assa., containing about 12,000 bushels of grain, was burned on May 9.

Insurance and Financial Notes.

The town of Boissevain, Man., offers for sale \$10,000 of school debentures.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin, of May 4, says: "The freight market for grain is a sick one, latest engagements reported being at 1s 6d Liverpool, London and Glasgow, 1s 10½d to Leith, and 2s 6½ to Hamburg.

Flour 8s 6d Liverpool, 9s 6d Glasgow, and 10s London. Provisions 12s 6d to 13s 9½. Cheese and butter 25s to Liverpool, London and Glasgow and 27s 6d to Bristol. Cattle 40 to 45s to Glasgow, Liverpool and London."

The Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin of May 5 says: "Rail rates held steady with a light business at 20c per 100 lbs. on flour and grain and 30c on provisions to New York. Through rates to Liverpool were easier, with business rather slow. Flour was taken at 20½ to 21½c per 100 lbs, wheat 11 70c and corn 11½c per bushel, and Provisions 41 to 46.88c per 100 lbs. Through rates via lake and rail to New England points were steady at 5½c per bushel for corn and 5½c for oats. Rates to New York were firmer 6½c for corn and to Philadelphia at 5½c. Lake rates were not as strong, with a fair business at 1½c for wheat and 1¼ to 1½c for corn and oats to Buffalo, 1c for corn to Port Huron and 3c for wheat to Kingston."

The Duluth Market Report of May 5 says: The marine situation this week remains dull and many vessels desiring to move westward are still unable to get coal either for cargoes or fuel. Charters have been made steadily at 2½c per bushel Duluth to Buffalo and 3½c to Kingston and Ogdenburg vessels paying tolls, some of the lines have taken grain in small lots at 2½c, but the going rate on full cargoes is still 2½c. Charters were made here to day at the same rate that has ruled for the past ten days. With this week's shipments the total cargo shipments from this port since navigation opened will be about 2,100,000 bushels.

The Canadian Pacific railway has issued a new freight rate to affect business on the Shuswap and Okanagan railroad in British Columbia. The new rates are a reduction of fifty per cent on the old ones, and are put in force to give the producers of Okanagan district an opportunity to compete with California growers. For vegetables in mixed or straight car lots, a rate of thirty-five cents per hundred has been made. On fruit or green vegetables seventy-five cents per hundred will be charged.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for week ending May 9, were \$337,572; balances, \$155,360. For the previous week clearings were \$632,077.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Clearings.	May 3rd.	April 19th.
Montreal	\$9,286,939	\$8,769,024	
Toronto	5,570,570	4,977,334	
Halifax	1,227,930	1,010,550	
Winnipeg	632,077	581,343	
Hamilton	687,517	546,616	
Total	\$17,405,053	\$15,886,467	

The Insolvency Bill.

Several important changes have been made in the Insolvency Bill by the Senate committee. The rate of composition to entitle a debtor to a discharge is raised from 33 to 66 per cent. This is within 9 per cent. of what would meet the views of those who insisted on a higher figure, and will have to be accepted as a reasonable compromise, however desirable it be that a higher figure should be insisted on. Incorporated trading and manufacturing companies are to come under purview of the act. In spite of objections urged against it, the farmer is to be entitled to the benefit of the act; but he is not, as at first proposed, to be allowed the option of going into insolvency himself; this precaution against abuse, experience sufficiently attests in the case of traders, and there is no reason to suppose that, in the case of the farmer, it would never be necessary. The question of the right of a creditor to transfer book debts secretly, was discussed, and the Montreal delegates expressed themselves strongly against the practice, which is not unknown in Ontario. When it is done, the fact ought to be brought to the knowledge of all whom it concerns, otherwise a preference of which other creditors know nothing might be made; and they might make advances of goods which, if they had not known the whole truth about the condition of the debtor, they would not have made.—Monetary Times.

Says a telegram from Victoria British Columbia: The salmon canners of this province have held a conference here and have devised a scheme whereby the salmon packs this year will be limited to a certain quantity from each cannery. A fixed price at which sales will be made was also determined on similar lines as those which the San Francisco salmon canners work upon, or as in eastern Canada in canned fruits and vegetables. It is expected that this will prevent the disposal of salmon at such ruinously low prices as are current at present.

The Canadian Pacific railway has decided to place only the Alberta and the Athabasca on their lake route for the present, and the Manitoba will remain tied up. The sailing of the steamers commences on Saturday, the 5th inst., when the Alberta will leave Owen Sound with a full cargo; the Athabasca sails on Wednesday, the 9th. The first steamer to leave Port William is the Alberta, on Tuesday, the 8th, followed by the Athabasca on the 12th. After these dates the boats sail from Owen Sound every Saturday and Wednesday, and from Fort William every Tuesday and Saturday, until further notice.