

# 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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*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 desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwestern 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, JANUARY 19, 1891.

## Manitoba.

T. McDougall is opening a blacksmith shop at Neepawa.

Brown Bros., of Souris, have started a chopping mill.

R. Simpson, hotel, Neepawa, will be succeeded by B. Lyons.

Stewart & Burbank have opened a real estate agency at Carman.

G. Stott has accepted the agency of Sylvester Bros., implements, at Souris.

With its last issue the Selkirk Record entered upon its sixth year of publication.

Martel & Belliveau have opened a furniture store and restaurant at Oak Lake.

The plant of Winnipeg Siftings newspaper will be sold by the sheriff on Jan. 19.

Geo. Strachan & Co., dry goods and gent's furnishings, Morden, are giving up business.

Mrs. M. Bell, fruits and confectionery, Winnipeg,—bailiff in possession at instigation of landlord.

The people of Elm River district are organizing for the purpose of establishing a creamery or cheese factory.

J. J. Hughes, of Pilot Mound, will take charge of the branch of Massey & Co., established at Manitou.

J. T. Campbell, fancy goods, Winnipeg, is disposing of his stock by auction; contemplates giving up business.

W. P. Shaw, of Winnipeg, has purchased from R. Church, of Niverville, his flax dressing machinery, and has shipped it to Plum Coulee, Man., where he is going into the manufacture of flax fibre.

W. R. Smart, a Portage la Prairie lawyer, while on his way home from the council chamber, dropped dead last week.

The local agent for the Patterson & Co. machinery at Deloraine has resigned his position, and has been succeeded by W. Merrill.

W. P. Riddell, of the firm of Rublee, Riddell & Co., wholesale fruits, Winnipeg, was married in Ottawa last week to Rose Sproule, daughter of the late Thomas Sproule, of the department of the interior. THE COMMERCIAL extends its well wishes to the young couple.

The application to appoint C. H. Newton liquidator of the Empire Brewing Co., Winnipeg, is opposed by other shareholders and creditors who desired that the affairs of the company should be placed in the hands of S. A. D. Bertrand, official assignee.

A movement is on hand to organize a press association for Manitoba. Such an institution could no doubt be turned to good advantage. It should be made to take in all journalists. A sickly attempt has been made in Winnipeg once or twice to float an association or club for the city. A provincial organization should be more successful.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Dairy association was held at Portage la Prairie on Jan. 15, Senator Boulton, president, in the chair. The following officers were elected:—Senator Boulton, president; J. H. Glennie, Portage la Prairie, first vice; W. M. Champion, Reburn, second vice; Richard Waugh, Winnipeg, secretary-treasurer. Hon. W. Clifford, Austin; W. Wagner, Ossowa; E. A. Struthers, Russel; S. A. Bedford, Brandon; A. S. Bright, McGregor; J. S. Telfer, Robt. Watson, M. P., Portage la Prairie; S. M. Barre and W. S. Grant, Winnipeg, are the directors. Messrs. Bedford and Waugh were appointed delegates to the meeting of the Dairy association at Ottawa. In the evening a public meeting was held in the town hall. President Boulton delivered the opening address. W. P. Smith described his experiment with ensilage. Manager Bedford, of the Experimental farm, spoke on corn growing and fodder crops. S. M. Barre spoke on present co-operative dairying in Manitoba and Territories.

## British Columbia Trade Letter.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 13.—Business shows little change from last report except that the fine weather of the past week has livened up several lines of trade. Real estate is regularly improving and now the business is fairly active. There is a run on property across the Inlet, and steps are being taken to organize a municipality over there. A good many town sites in various parts of the province are now on the market and all more or less attracting attention. Vernon, the centre of the Okanagon Valley country, is especially in good demand. Missouri, Nelson, Revelstoke, Huntingdon, Abbotsford, Centreville, etc., are the town sites which railway development has brought into existence and which are expected to boom the coming spring and summer. Vancouver, Victoria and Westminster properties are, however, the standard and still offer the greater inducement for investments. Since writing last it has been definitely settled that the C. P. R. will extend a branch from Mission, on the south side of the

Fraser, to Chilliwack, another most important move.

The annual meeting of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association was held last week in Vancouver, and was very successful. The matter so frequently referred to in the columns of THE COMMERCIAL of the inferior fruit and careless packing observed in our markets, was brought up and discussed and the prospects are that a big improvement will take place next summer in this respect. The extension of a market in Manitoba and the Northwest and Eastern Canada was hopefully regarded.

Business is generally good. Dairy products are still plentiful, but butter shows signs of demand, especially in superior qualities. Pickled eggs are said to be cheaper here than in Toronto, a most unusual turn of affairs. It is a result of course of overstocking. Feed is scarce. Hay and potatoes are steady with signs of advancing. The sugar refinery has started up and the shortness in supply consequent upon expectations of a home supply will no longer continue. Fish still continues scarce, and only occasionally is a salmon, black cod or other large fish seen on the market. Some game is offered, and poultry is still in the hole at 10c per pound, dealers being bound to keep up the war to the last.

Advices from Ottawa are to the effect that an effort will be made to develop the oyster trade of British Columbia, some credit of which is due to Mr. Winch, of Vancouver, who has been indefatigable for two years or more in bringing this matter to a head. It now appears that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has decided to take the oyster beds under Government control and develop them for three years, then hand them over to those making application under certain conditions. Both the Government and the province are to be congratulated on this new move.

Green vegetables are still in good supply, although getting a little scarcer. It will only be a year or more now when gardens in this province will be able to supply customers every month in the year without apparent diminution. Beautiful bouquets of flowers, grown in the gardens in open air, were shown at the fruit-growers' meeting.

The dredge for the dyking of Pitt Meadows is being contracted and will be in operation the first of March.

Prices are as follows: Sugars—Yellow, 6½c; granulated, 7½c. All canned, dried and evaporated fruits are firm and steady. Lard 11½c in pails and 12½c in tins. Meats—Dry salt, 10½c; roll bacon, 10½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; hams, 13½c. Salt salmon, \$9 per 200 pound barrel; canned salmon is steady at \$1.50 per case. Butter—Best creamery, 27c; dairy, 15 to 22c. Cheese is weak with a light demand and big stocks, 12½c. The potato market is fairly steady, \$20 to \$22.50 per ton. Hay plentiful at \$16 per ton. Turnips and carrots, \$12, and table crotts, \$20 per ton; Onions are weak, native, \$3 per 100 pounds and Spanish, \$5. Oats, \$34 per ton. Feed steady—Shorts, \$25; chipped feed, \$32 to \$35; bran, \$24; wheat, \$35. Flour is steady, a few of the principal brands being quoted as follows: Manitoba patents, \$6 Manitoba bakers' \$5.75; Portland and Morning Star, \$5.25; Dayton, \$5.10; 2 Star, \$5.25; rolled oats, \$3.50 per sack; oatmeal, \$3 25; cornmeal, \$3.15. Apples, 50c to \$1.50 per box; oranges, \$4.25 to \$5.25 per case; lemons, \$11.