

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.

Eighteenth Year of Publication

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY

SUBSCRIPTIONS, CANADA AND UNITED STATES
\$2.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE OR \$2.25 WHEN
NOT SO PAID; OTHER COUNTRIES, \$2.50 PER
ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

Changes for advertisements should be in not later
than Thursday Morning.

Advertisements purporting to be news matter,
or which profess to express the opinions of this
journal, will not be inserted.

Office: 181 McDermot 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 Can-
ada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also
reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manu-
facturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, NOV. 4, 1899.

HIDE PRICES.

Comparison of the prices which have
been prevailing in the Winnipeg mar-
ket this year for hides with those of
previous years for a decade back
show that the market is a de-
cidedly satisfactory one for the pro-
ducer. The prevailing price to-day
for No. 1 inspected hides at Winni-
peg is 71-2c per pound, which is a
good price compared with other mar-
kets. The market has for some
months back been a strong one and
the general tendency right along has
been to advance. Contrasted with the
prices at the same date for ten years
back is 71-2c is a good price for hides
as will be seen from the following
table.

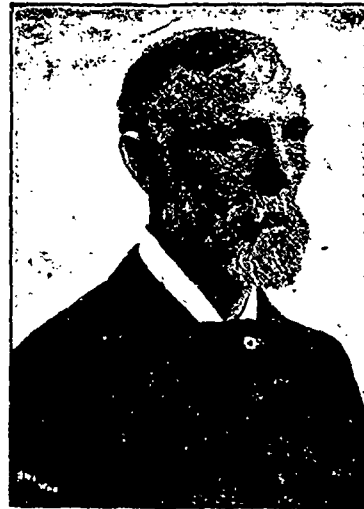
	No. 1 per lb.
Nov. 1, 1889	41-2c
Nov. 1, 1890	6c
Nov. 1, 1891	51-2c
Nov. 1, 1892	5c
Nov. 1, 1893	4c
Nov. 1, 1894	31-2c
Nov. 1, 1895	5c
Nov. 1, 1896	5c
Nov. 1, 1897	7c
Nov. 1, 1898	7c

Winnipeg has always been a good
market for hides, not only as regards
the number and quality of the hides
produced but also as regards the
prices realized. As a rule dealers here
have paid the outside price which the
state of the consuming market would
warrant and at times have paid above
the market value when competition
for the hides has been keen. Although
according to the above fig-
ures 71-2c is apparently the
outside price yet reached that
is by no means the case as
higher prices have frequently been
paid on a spurt by some dealer to
secure stocks.

A great many of the hides handled
through this market come in in the
winter and in a frozen condition. This
gives unscrupulous people plenty of
chance to practice fraud and it is not
an infrequent occurrence to find the
feet and horns of the animal wrapped
up in the hide in such a manner as
to almost defy detection until it is
thawed out. These, of course, help out
the weight of a shipment wonderfully.
Dealers have learned, however, to
watch this sort of business pretty
closely and the persons who make a
practice of such frauds soon become
spotted.

DEATH OF JOS. HARRIS.

The friends of the late Jos.
Harris will learn with regret of his
death, which occurred at Toronto on
Wednesday last. Mr. Harris gave up
the position of grain inspector at To-
ronto, in 1890 to come to Winnipeg.



LATE JOS. HARRIS,

where he engaged in the grain trade.
On the organization of the Dominion
Elevator Co., his business was merg-
ed in this company, of which he was
vice-president at the time of his de-
cease. Mr. Harris soon became very
popular in grain circles here, on ac-
count of his friendly, straightforward
and kindly disposition. At the last an-
nual meeting of the Winnipeg grain
exchange, he was elected to the high-
est post of honor in the gift of the ex-
change, but a short time ago he re-
signed the presidency, owing to ill-
health. Mr. Harris has not enjoyed
good health for some time back, and
it was known to his friends here that
since going to Toronto a few months
ago his condition had not im-
proved, but rather the contrary was
the case. The members of the Win-
nipeg grain exchange held a meeting
and passed a resolution of regret and
sympathy on learning of the death of
their late president; also requesting
J. Cavanagh, of Toronto, formerly of

Winnipeg, to provide a suitable
wreath on behalf of the exchange,
and to represent the exchange at the
funeral.

CLERKS APPEAL.

The Winnipeg Retail Clerks' Union
has issued an appeal to the public in
favor of the earlier closing of stores.
The circular states that the clerks are
desirous of closing at 6 o'clock in the
afternoon, except on Saturdays, when
9 o'clock in the evening would be the
closing hour. The appeal points out
that the work of the clerk is not done
when the shop is closed, and that under
the present system of closing at 7
o'clock, it is often 8 before the clerks
reach home, thus debarring them to
a great extent from social enjoyment.
The appeal of the clerks is a very rea-
sonable and fair one, and should have
some effect upon the purchasing pub-
lic, who, through thoughtlessness or
selfishness, cause so much hardship to
be borne by a section of their fellow
citizens.

The Maltreated Store Clerks.

"The reputation which some large
stores get for being disobliging to
their customers or having uncivil clerks
could in the majority of cases be traced
directly back to the shoppers them-
selves," writes Edward Bok, of "Sys-
tematic Shopping," in the November
Ladies Home Journal. "I make no
claim of perfection for the clerks who
stand behind the counters of our great
stores where women shop. They are
only common mortals, full of faults.
But considering what they are called
upon to go through and endure at the
hands of thoughtless women, the con-
stant wonder is that they are so
civil and obliging. If the truth could
be known it would be found that they
suffer far more than they inflict suf-
fering. If the roll could be called of
hard-working, innocent girls who have
lost their positions because of ill-found-
ed complaints made by 'influential' cus-
tomers whose accounts the firm could
not afford to lose, it would be a roll
of disgrace to American shoppers. The
girls behind the counter are human—
although from the actions of some
women we might believe otherwise—
human in their faults, but also in their
finer feelings. Very often they repre-
sent better families, better breeding,
than that which is revealed to them
from the other side of the counter."—
Ladies Home Journal.

Unprecedented British Coal Exports.

"The exports of coal for the first
three quarters of 1899 have been
the largest in the history of the
trade, says an English coal-trade
journal. "With the coal shipped for
the use of steamers engaged in the
foreign trade, they exceed 40,000,000
tons, being more than four times the
total output of coal in the United
Kingdom in the first year of the cen-
tury. Our best customer has been
France, which has taken close on 5,
000,000 tons in the nine months, or
more than 1,000,000 tons in excess of
the quantity taken in the correspond-
ing period of 1898. Our exports to
Russia also show an advance of more
than 1,200,000 tons in excess of those
of any previous corresponding period."