Manitoba

M. Wilson will start a brickyard at Gladstone.

A board of trade will be organized at Boissevain.

A new paper to be called the Dufferin Leader will be started at Carman.

Messrs. Ross have rented their hotel at Winnipegosis to Mr. Colwell, of Melita.

The nineteenth annual report of the Winnipeg board of trade has been issued in pamphlet form.

F. T. Eames & Co., hotel, Brandon, have dissolved. Eames continues the business; Wm. Law retires.

T. A. M. Hughes & Co., stationery, Souris, have dissolved partnership. The stock will be sold by tender.

Davidson Bros., photographers, of Brandon, are opening a branch gallery in Deloraine.

D. K. Book, of Portage la Prairie, has taken a position as traveller with Thos. Ryan, of Winnipeg.

The stock and plant of the bicycle department of Cornell & Spera's business, Winnipeg, will be sold to-day by auction.

A general store will shortly be opened in Ninga by H. George. He will occupy the premises vacated by Andrew Holliday.

A. Herron will continue the Clarendon hotel at Cypress River, the transfer of the license to other parties having been refused by the commissioners.

The stock and book debts of the estate of A. H. Baker, of Rosebank, will be sold in Winnipeg on March 2 by auction. Stock amounts to $4,-216. Book debts, $1,669.

R. C. Webber, of Toronto, has recently arrived in Winnipeg to take charge of the printers' supplies department of the local jobbing house of Love, McAllister & Co., which includes the agency for Miller & Richard's type and printing supplies.

Benjamin Swears is erecting a large building at Winnipegosis, the upper story of which is to be used as a hall, and the ground floor will be divided into two apartments, one for a general store and another for a billiard room and restaurant. These will all be conducted by Mr. Swears.

The frame building occupied by O. Desilet, barber, and G. Valde, merchant tailor, Brandon, was burned on February 21. Both lose all of their stock. The damage, including the building, is estimated at $2,500, partly covered by insurance.

Application will be made for the incorporation of "The Imperial Dry Goods Company," of Winnipeg. The applicants are: R. T. Riley, R. Driscoll, S. Dunwoody, J. H Brock, A. S Binns, and S. Spink, all of Winnipeg. The capital stock is $25,000. The company will take over the dry goods business of Dunwoody, Steen & Co., of Winnipeg, as announced in The Commercial a week ago.

Those burned out recently at Morden are getting into new quarters. W. Hall has erected a temporary building on the corner of the burned out block and again commenced business. Postmaster Dunsford has secured temporary quarters in the building lately occupied by Rogers & Ray. J. H. Smith has opened his book store in a part of the post office building. McCannell, barber, has secured the old municipal office.

F. W. Heubach, manager of the Winnipeg Industrial exhibition, has received a telegram from Herbert Saunders & Co., importers and manufacturers, London, Eng., asking for space at the coming exhibition. Mr. Heubach says that the exhibits this year will be larger than ever before. The greatest difficulty they will have, he says, will be to provide building accommodation fast enough to meet the demand caused by the great expansion of the exhibition.

J. M. Perkins, seedsman, Winnipeg, has issued a very handsome spring catalogue descriptive of some of the varieties of grains and vegetables, the seeds of which he handles. The catalogue is profusely illustrated, each one of the fifty odd pages having one or more illustrations. The cover shows a fine field of cabbage grown from Perkin's seed, in a market garden near Winnipeg. The mechanical work of the pamphlet is creditably executed by E. W. Rugg Co., Winnipeg. Gardeners and farmers should get a copy of this catalogue.

The stock in trade and book debts of the estate of Geo. Craig & Co., dry goods, etc., Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar on the premises on Tuesday, March 8. The stock amounts to about $31,000, shop fixtures and furniture about $6,000, book debts $10,600. These with real estate and other property make up assets of about $54,000 all told, but as in the case of book accounts the amount realized will be small. The liabilities, as previously stated, amount to over $81,000. This includes the ordinary commercial creditors and preferred claims to the amount of $1,335 for rent, taxes and wages. There are also some indirect liabilities, which amount to a few thousand dollars, which will probably rank against the estate.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Feb. 21.

It is a remarkable fact that in spite of the statement made by a prominent member of the board of trade here that Vancouver had and would have all the Klondike outfitting business she could attend to, merchants are cutting prices. It is strange that business men like railway corporations find it impossible to form a combination of rates or prices fair to the public and fairly profitable to themselves. Wherever three or four are gathered together for their common benefit there is one Judas who will go back on the arrangement and precipitate a rate war. At present their is a rate war on the railway and a rate war in the town and the public are getting the benefit of it. Perhaps this is one of those Divine arrangements of nature "pro bono publico."

All the well known jobbing houses in Vancouver are carrying supplies and all claim to be doing a fair share of the Klondike trade. They report business generally very good and money easy.

Australian creamery butter is rather weaker but a very fine quality of New Zealand butter is selling at 25 cents. It is expected that in another fortnight California will be able to supply good fresh butter that can be sold several cents under present prices. The Parsons Produce company quote eggs considerably lower, Oregon eggs being procurable at 23 cents.

The Parsons' Produce company have issued their first list of prices for cured meats, having lately embarked in the business here. The Commercial correspondent was shown through their curing establishment. They have 300,000 lbs. of hogs under way all shipped through in bulk from Manitoba. The first load of lard turned out looked very clean and white.

Mr. Tyson reports a great variety of fish of all kinds on the market. Manitoba whitefish are meeting with a ready sale. Fruits are lower. Game is pretty well out. Mallards are selling at 50c. and pintails 75c. a brace. Brackman and Ker chronicle an advance in flour. They state that though Manitoba flour has advanced, and the price of wheat is up at this writing, Oregon flour is held at the same price.

Brackman & Ker explained the manufacture of their compressed horse feed for Klondike trade, to The Commercial man. They are having an enormous sale and have applied for a patent. It is composed of one part corn, three-quarters oats and one part hay. The bundle ready for shipment could be tucked under the arm of a strong man, and weighs about 100 lbs. In this form $7 freight is saved, as it is carried as merchandise. It is bound by wire, but sacked to save waste.

Lower prices for sheep are reported and a ready sale of pemican for the Klondike trade is noted.

Grocery Trade Notes.

The Montreal Gazette says: In syrups business continues exceedingly quiet, which is due principally to the small stock held in first hands. There is a fair enquiry for dark grades, which are scarce, and only one or two lines of the bright are offering at 2 1-4c per lb. In regard to molasses the market is strong and as stocks are exceedingly small, prices are fully maintained, with an upward tendency. The demand is good and supplies in wholesale grocers' hands are decreasing fast.

Belgium has decided to postpone the international sugar conference indefinitely, owing to the want of unanimity among the beet growing powers. Great Britain will probably now invite a conference in London on the question. If the British government would impose a duty on sugar to offset the bounty, before the conference is called, it would no doubt secure the success of the proposed meeting.

Railway Rate War.

The railway rate war is attracting great attention. There is war all along the line, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, affecting Canada and the northern states. There has been great slashing of rates, former rates being cut in two, and even greater cuts in some cases. The cutting was inaugurated by the Canadian Pacific railway, which claims that it is fighting for legitimate Canadian business. Local rates in Ontario have been cut one-half or more to force the Grand Trunk to terms, the latter road having been working in with United States roads to the detriment of the Canadian road. Rates from Winnipeg to the coast have been cut in two.