

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 9, 1895.

Manitoba.

The Manitoba hotel at Treherne will be re-opened by Parker Bros.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition will be held on December 12.

The St. Jean Baptiste Grist Mill and Elevator Co., Ltd., St. Jean Baptiste, is incorporated.

Rumor has it that two leading dry goods merchants of Brandon will amalgamate and carry on a large general store business.

J. E. Dingman, commission agent, Winnipeg, is on a business trip east, and will visit the various establishments which he represents here.

A hotel, which will be a great convenience to travellers, has been opened at Newdale, by Chas. H. Brown. It is called the Ray house. It will be found a very comfortable place.

The Winnipeg Water Works Co. is calling for tenders for the supply of 1,300 to 1,200 cords of dry tamarac wood, or an equivalent quantity in value of poplar or pine. Tenders close on December 18.

Tenders are being called by the provincial government for the supply of groceries, meat, bread, flour, etc. for the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Winnipeg. The government is also calling for tenders for similar supplies for the Selkirk Asylum. Tenders close at noon on December 24.

The Baker at Melita has folded his tent and departed, and the people who are not used to preparing the staff of life for themselves, are in distress. Hence a correspondent asks The Commercial to say that Melita wants a baker at once. A shop and oven can be rented.

Bulman Bros. & Co., lithographers, engravers, etc., Winnipeg, have purchased the Free Press lithographing department. This acquisition, with new plant they have lately purchased, will give them a very complete establishment. They are bringing six new men from the eastern cities for the various departments of their business—lithographers, engravers and artists.

The annual general meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association was held in Winnipeg on Saturday in the rooms of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The principal business was nomination of officers for the next year.

E. F. Hutchings, wholesale harness, etc., Winnipeg, has decided to build a large warehouse and manufacturing establishment on the transfer spur track, Winnipeg, next spring. The structure will be 50x155 feet and six stories high. It will be built of brick and stone and will be modern in every respect.

Application is being made for letters patent incorporating the "Winnipeg Coal company." The applicants for incorporation are: Charles A. Hutchinson, Winnipeg, fuel dealer; Freeman H. Hudson, Minneapolis, auditor; Joseph Martin, Winnipeg, barrister at law; Elvero L. McMillan, Minneapolis, attorney at law. The said Freeman H. Hudson, Joseph Martin, and Elvero L. McMillan are to be the first or provisional directors of the company.

The Virden Advance says: "A young lady recently visited a merchant who has been established here for some years and desired to know the price of goods. The young lady volunteered the information that she lived a long way in the country and was enquiring for a friend who was about to be married. After obtaining the prices of a long list of articles, including some things that a newly married person would hardly require, the young lady retired. From after events the merchant discovered that this young lady was the daughter of a rival merchant recently established in business.

Northwest Ontario.

The Empress Gold Mining Company, Ltd., is being organized at Port Arthur and Fort William, with the view of working McKellar's rich gold discovery at Jack Fish. The capital stock is being placed at \$100,000, of which the original owners got half for the property. Walter Ross, of Rat Portage, is the principal promoter and leaves to-morrow with a large gang of men to commence operations. It is expected that work on a ten stamp gold mill will be started by January 1.

According to the Rat Portage Record the total production of the Lake of the Woods gold mines for November was 700 ounces of gold, of the value of \$12,600. This was from the Sultana, Regina and Gold Hill mines and the Rat Portage Reduction works. The Sultana was running its ten stamps full time and the Regina ten stamps were running very little over half time as they are still doing development work. The Gold Hill ten stamp mills and the Reduction works (twenty stamps) were running very short time as they are only just beginning. M. T. Hunter brought in from the Sultana mine on Monday two gold bricks, one weighing 80 ounces, and the other 86, a total of 166 ounces, being a coin value of \$3,100. This was from the clean up of the previous week's run of the mill.

Assiniboia.

Joseph L. Lavont, hardware merchant, Whitewood, has moved into his new brick store. His former business has been purchased by J. A. MacDonald, druggist, who will shortly occupy them.

McGillivray's photo gallery and carpenter shop at Saltcoats was destroyed by fire last week. S. G. Fisher's residence adjoining was saved by a bucket brigade and hard work, but is badly damaged.

Dairy Trade News.

J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg, shipped last week a car of dairy butter to Liverpool.

The La Borderie's Company, butter manufacturers, La Borderie, Man., is incorporated.

The butter of the Birtle, Man., creamery has been shipped to British Columbia, an agent going with it.

The combined exports of cheese from Montreal and New York, from the commencement of the season to the close of last week, were 2,037,810 boxes, against 2,365,436 boxes for the same period in 1884, showing a decrease of 327,626 boxes.

The Manitoba department of agriculture has leased the model laundry, building on Bannatyne street, Winnipeg for the dairy school. The rooms are on the ground floor, steam heated, and equipped with an engine and boiler. The size of the building which will be partitioned off into the two rooms required is 65x30 feet, and one room will be used for butter, one for cheese. In addition to this there is a large hall, the full size of the building, overhead, which will be used for a lecture room.

Arrangements have been made for the opening of the Manitoba provincial government dairy school in Winnipeg, on January 6, under the direction of C. C. Macdonald, the provincial dairy superintendent. The lecturers who will aid in conducting the school are: John Hettle, S. J. Thompson, provincial veterinary, J. G. Rutherford, and R. Waugh. The cheese and butter makers courses will begin on the following dates: First course, Monday, Jan. 6, and end on Jan. 27; second course Feb. 8, and end on Feb. 21. Examinations, both written and oral, will be held on Jan. 23, 29, 30 and 31, and Feb. 25, 26, 27, and 28. The farm dairy course will consist of two parts, viz: March 2 to 14; and March 16 to 30. Thorough instruction will be given in the use of the Babcock milk test and the separation of cream by centrifugal separators. The churning of cream and the working and packing of butter will constitute a portion of this instruction. The month of April will be devoted to a thorough course of review for those who wish to attend. Any person over sixteen years of age who has worked at least one season in a butter or cheese factory is eligible for admission to the cheese and butter makers' course. Tuition is absolutely free to all students coming from the province of Manitoba. Diplomas will be awarded each student passing a satisfactory examination at the end of the term, and who proves to be a careful and competent cheese and butter maker and manager by successfully conducting a factory during one season after leaving the school.

Financial and Insurance Matters.

The Imperial Bank of Canada will open a branch at Vancouver at once.

Apart from a little hardening in call money rates on the New York Stock Exchange there is little to record in the New York loan market this week, says Bradstreets of Nov. 30. The movement in question was apparently caused by the withdrawal of part of the balances which some of the foreign houses have been employing in that way, and by preparations for disbursements on the 1st of the coming month. A temporary scarcity was shown on Monday and the call loan rate advanced to 3 per cent., though by Wednesday it was again quoted at 1½ to 2½ per cent. The inquiry for time money is light and the supply is still large, rates being 2 to 2½ per cent. for thirty to ninety days and 3 to 4 per cent. for longer accommodation. Mercantile paper is offered moderately so far as desirable names are concerned, and the buying demand is sufficiently large to cause some concessions in favor of choice offering. Rates on the basis of 3½ to 4 per cent. for doubles.

Silver.

The silver market was steady and lifeless this week. Quotations were practically unchanged, and there was no news of any kind to affect the situation. Silver prices on Nov. 29 were: London 80 11-16d; New York 67½c.