

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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JAMES B. STEEN,

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 east 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, FEBRUARY 25, 1895.

Manitoba.

J. Corbett & Co., clothing, Winnipeg, have assigned.

W. G. Nicoll & Co. are opening a private bank at West Selkirk.

The Elkhorn Milling Co., Elkhorn, is applying for incorporation.

M. Finkelstein & Co., Carberry, have admitted M. McCutchen as partner.

H. C. Clay, publisher, Rapid City, has sold out to C. H. Yeomans and W. King.

The Hudson Bay Co.'s store in Morden has decided to add millinery to its business.

C. V. Anderson & Co., general store, Virden, have sold out to McClellan & English.

The surplus—\$80—of the Winnipeg city travellers' "at home" has been donated to the Children's Home.

The new Merryweather fire engine purchased for the Winnipeg City fire department arrived on Tuesday.

Hunter & Moore, general merchants of Clearwater and Crystal City, have closed their Crystal City business.

There was a shower of rain at Winnipeg, on Tuesday night. The weather has been quite moderate for some time.

The stock of Reid and Gerhardt, general merchants, Neepawa, is advertised for sale by the sheriff on Feb. 27. The firm has assigned.

The Winnipeg Water Works Company is making a test of its new pumping plant. The test will last several days, and is entered upon to gauge the capacity of the new pump.

Commissioner Chipman of the Hudson's Bay Company left for Montreal last week en route to London. While in London the commissioner will attend the company's annual fur sales.

Owing to the fire and the removal of one large general store, says the Morden Monitor, it is probable that the firm of Schultz & Hansen, general merchants will not pull up stakes in Morden as they contemplated doing.

T. D. Robinson has withdrawn his tender offering to supply poplar wood to the city council at \$2.70 per cord, delivered, for relief purposes. John Fisher and M. P. Peterson have been given the contract at \$2.83 per cord.

In the Manitoba legislature on Thursday Mr. Duman, of Morden, said that even taking into consideration the low price of produce, farmers would be fairly able to meet their liabilities and many of them to do a little more."

Halcy & Sutton, dry goods merchants, Brandon, who were burnt out recently and subsequently sold their damaged stock to I. R. Strom and Whyte Bros., of the same place, will not resume business in Brandon, the sale having included their good will.

A joint stock company has been formed at Oak Lake, Man., and the stock subscribed for the purpose of erecting a creamery. It is expected that the milk of from four to six hundred cows can be obtained. The incorporation of the company will be proceeded with at once.

Within the last two months, says the Northwest Farmer of Winnipeg scarcely a day has passed in which at some point in the province there has not been a meeting of farmers held to consider the propriety of going into some form of dairying. Nearly all of these want a creamery.

F. Chilcott, traveller for Thompson, Codville & Co., Winnipeg, is about leaving on one of his periodical business trips to the Kootenay district, British Columbia, including Nelson, Three Forks and New Denver. Mr. Chilcott is the pioneer explorer for business in that region.

At the last meeting of the Winnipeg city council a by-law was introduced for the purpose of borrowing \$300,000 from the Bank of Montreal to meet current expenses pending the collection of taxes. Interest is charged at 5 per cent. and 5 per cent is allowed on all deposits from the city, a similar arrangement to last year.

The Dufferin house, Manitou, caught fire from a defective chimney on Wednesday, but was subdued, but not before the house, a two-story wooden building, had been completely gutted. The contents were all removed safely. The Dufferin house was occupied by T. Cassin. The building, which is owned by Geo. Whelan, is damaged about \$1,000.

A largely attended meeting of the Winnipeg Retail Association was held last week. The hotel interests were also represented, and the question of amending the present system of taxation was fully discussed. It was decided to hold a joint meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. in Delmonico hall, of all persons interested in a revision of the municipal system of taxation.

In the Manitoba legislature the other day, Mr. Hartney, a western member, said he "thought farmers could get along, even at the present prices of wheat, if they had a fair yield, seeing that 40c had as much purchasing power now as 65c when he first came to the province. Agricultural implements cost about half as much now as then and were a good deal better, also sugar, tea, cotton and woollen goods, etc., had been greatly reduced in price."

The Morden Monitor says: There is every probability that a large vacant space will remain for some time where the fire occurred. Mr. Doll will not build, Mr. Lemon is not likely to do so, and it is very evident that Mrs. Dr. Wilson, who now resides in Ottawa, will have no incentive whatever to speculate in building. It is not yet certain that H. B. Brown will rebuild the Morden house. The only one certain to build as soon as possible is J. Heiman, who owned the Commercial hotel in addition to his liquor store. He will put up a first-class hotel, in every respect superior to the last one.

Mr. Fisher, member of the local legislature for Russell district, northwestern Manitoba, says: "This winter there is more ready money than ever before in his constituency.

owing to the richness of the country and the advantages for mixed farming. As far north as township 25, farther than the narrows of Lake Manitoba, a friend of his had harvested forty bushels to the acre. During September, October and November, 1893, there had been shipped from Binscarth and Russell 40,900 bushels, and in 1891, 78,000 bushels, in 1893 there had been shipped 646 cattle and in 1894 from the two little stations 1,035 head."

In the Manitoba legislature, on Wednesday, Mr. Adams of Brandon spoke as follows. "A year ago he had stated that the farmers were in a better position financially than they had been the year before; he had now no hesitation in saying that they stand to-day in a better position than they did a year ago. The passing last session of the act prohibiting the chattel mortgaging of crops has been a benefit. That wholesale men were grumbling meant that farmers were buying what they could pay for. Farmers who contracted debt in the past year had been very prompt in payment. If it was not for the old boom debts the farmers would be in a fairly prosperous condition."

Alberta.

John Cameron, grain merchant, Edmonton, estimated before the freight rates commission the amount of grain in the hands of Edmonton and South Edmonton dealers for shipment at between 70 and 80 car loads. Much of this grain was bought two months before and was being held either for a rise in the markets or a fall in rates, as the top figure had to be paid for it.

At a creamery meeting held in South Edmonton, R. Dinwoodie, East Edmonton; F. Ellet, Sandy Lake; and Thos. Stewart, Rabbit Hill, were appointed to canvass in their respective districts. T. Daly and L. Fulton were appointed to find out if 300 cows could be secured to give milk for the creamery next season. Shares in the company were fixed at \$10. Wilson and Dickson were appointed a committee to correspond with Mr. Kennedy president of the Poplar Lake creamery, to see if they would unite with this one.

The annual meeting of the Edmonton board of trade was held recently, president John Cameron in the chair. The president read an address sketching the purposes of the board and the results of its efforts. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, J. A. McDougall; vice-president, C. F. Strang; secretary, Isaac Cowie; treasurer, Jas. MacDonald; councillors, J. T. Blowey, T. W. Lines, J. Cameron, S. R. Benoit, N. D. Beck, K. A. McLeod, J. A. McBride; arbitrators, F. Fraser Tims, G. J. Kinnaird, W. S. Edmiston, J. H. Gareppy, S. Larue, I. Cowie, T. Bellamy, G. W. Gardner, C. Gallagher, J. A. McDougall, J. T. Blowey and Jas. McDonald.

Saskatchewan.

The new officers of the Prince Albert board of trade are: President, T. J. Agnew; vice-president, D. C. McLellan, sec-treas., A. S. Stewart; council, Justice McGuire, H. J. Montgomery, J. D. Maveety, R. W. Gunn, Geo. R. Russell, F. C. Baker, J. E. Young, A. A. B. Sproat, R. T. Goodfellow, J. E. Sinclair, J. R. McPhail, C. R. Stovel. Messrs. Stewart, McLellan and Young represent the board on the immigration committee.

Smythe Bros., who came to the Prince Albert district a year ago, from Dakota, have purchased from D. L. Shannon the machinery and engine now in his mill at Prince Albert East. They will move it to Staep Creek, and carry on business as lumber and shingle manufacturers. Mr. Shannon has ordered from A. H. Woodman a new outfit of heavier machinery to replace that sold.