

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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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, APRIL 27, 1896.

Manitoba.

Friday, May 1 is Arbor day for Manitoba, and will be observed as a public holiday.

J. Tolos, baker, Boissevain, has sold out to Mr. Elston, and contemplates moving to Lake Dauphin.

The grocery store of J. C. Martindale, Fort Rouge, Winnipeg, was destroyed by fire on April 18.

The Commercial has been left a sample of the bread manufactured by the Riddell Manufacturing Co., Winnipeg. The bread appears to be of very fine quality.

Application has been made for the incorporation of the Strome and Whyte Co., of Brandon, with a capital stock of \$50,000 to carry on business as general merchants.

At the last meeting of the Retailers' Association over twenty new members were added to the membership roll. It is proposed to hold a social entertainment in the near future, the nature of the gathering to be decided at a later meeting.

The by-law authorizing a loan of \$30,000 to the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association for permanent improvements to its grounds and buildings, was carried by a vote of the ratepayers of Winnipeg, on Thursday last.

J. H. Lyons' brick residence at Carberry was burnt on April 23. The house and contents were totally destroyed. Lyons was absent in Brandon and his family in the country. The loss is \$6,000. The building was insured for \$3,000 in the Commercial Union company and the contents for a small amount with the Phenix.

Grain and Milling Notes.

The feature of the Montreal grain market on April 16 was the weak feeling in oats and prices declined $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ c.

There was enquiry at Montreal recently for a carload of rolled oats and holders quoted \$2.75 in bags and \$2.85 in barrels, but the sale was made by an outside dealer at a price believed to be 5c under the above figures.

American Grain Trade—a Chicago grain trade paper—says: "The Manitoba legislature passed a resolution the other day to the effect that the elevator monopoly existing throughout the province should be removed as being detrimental to the interests of the people generally. The resolution is aimed at the re-

fusal of the railways to allow the loading of wheat directly upon cars at points where elevators have been established. The railroad simply discriminate in favor of rapidity and the minimum of trouble to themselves. Incidentally they discriminate in favor of the elevator which is a permanent fixture of the town, and a steady feeder of the railroad. If this is monopoly it is of a very mild type, and one which finds a very considerable amount of justification with reasonable people.

The feature of the flour market at Montreal on April 16, says the Gazette, was the easier feeling in Ontario grades and prices declined 10 to 15c per barrel. Winter wheat patents were offering at \$1.10 to \$1.25, and straight roller at \$3.75 to \$3.80. The unsettled state of affairs in Manitoba grades continues.

Country elevator men, says an exchange, who clean seed grain for their farmer patrons at cost, find that it makes them many friends and reduces the amount of foreign seeds in the resulting crop as well as increases the yield. A large yield of superior grain in any district will bring prosperity to the farmer and elevator men alike.

There is a good deal of kicking in the grain trade over the high elevator charges at Buffalo and New York city. The American Elevator and Grain Trade says: "The elevator men of Buffalo and New York have always held up grain shippers for all they could possibly squeeze out of them, and this robbery has diverted much grain to other routes. Beaten in the legislature and then in the courts, the elevator men get around the law regulating the charge of transferring grain by refusing to receive grain for transfer. In all published statements regarding elevating and storage rates they state no grain will be received for transfer. The only way a shipper can get his grain transferred at these points is to pay for receiving and discharging $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent and $\frac{1}{3}$ for first 10 days storage, which amounts to $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cent for transferring. The cost of transferring the grain is not over 1-10 of a cent."

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:

| Grade. | Mar. 21 | Mar 29 | Apr. 4 | Apr 11 | Apr. 18 |
|------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Extra Manitoba | | | | | |
| hard | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 1 hard .. | 188 | 48 | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| No. 2 hard .. | 86 | 51 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| No. 3 hard .. | 42 | 30 | 21 | 5 | 0 |
| No. 1 North'n .. | 27 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| No. 2 North'n .. | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 3 North'n .. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| No. 1 white type .. | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| No. 2 white type .. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 1 Spring .. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 2 Spring .. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 1 frosted .. | 31 | 27 | 15 | 4 | 3 |
| No. 2 frosted .. | 13 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
| No. 3 Frosted .. | 8 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| No. 1 Rejected .. | 28 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| No. 2 Rejected .. | 40 | 31 | 14 | 4 | 1 |
| No Grade | 9 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 2 |
| Feed | 5 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Total | 408 | 508 | 89 | 33 | 29 |
| Same week last year. | 100 | 131 | 137 | 160 | 89 |

Oats—For week ended April 18—No. 1 white, 0; No. 2 white, 3; No. 3 white, 0; No. 2 black, 0; No. 2 mixed 1; feed, 2; rejected, 0; total, 6.

Barley—For week ended April 18—No. 2, 0; No. 3, 0; feed, 1; total, 1.

*Wheat inspected at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

| | Apr. 17 1896 | Apr 19, 1896 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Flour, straight spring | \$3 10 to \$3 10 | \$2.75 to \$3.00 |
| Flour, straight winter | \$3 25 to \$3.75 | \$2.50 to \$2.90 |
| Wheat, No. 2 red | 77c | 63c |
| Corn, No. 2 mixed | 39c | 54c |
| Oats, No. 2 | 25c | 32c |
| Rye, No. 2, Western | 47c | |
| Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee | 43c | 62c |
| Cotton, mid. upld | 7 15-16c | 6 16 10c |
| Print cloths, 64x64 | 21c | 23c |
| Wool, Ohio & Pa., X.... | 17 to 17c | 15 to 16c |
| Wool, No. 1 embx. | 21 to 21c | 20c |
| Pork, mess new, | \$9.75 to \$10.25 | \$13 50 to 14 00 |
| Lard, westn., strm. | 5.300 | 7.17c |
| Butter, creamery | 14c | 20c |
| Cheese, ch. east fr. | 10 to 10c | 11 10 11c |
| Sugar, centrif., 90° | 4c | 3c |
| Sugar, granulated | 5c | 3 15-16c |
| Coffee, Rio, No. 7 | 14c | 16 c |
| Petroleum, N. T. Co. | \$1.20 | \$ 29 |
| Petroleum, rfd. gal. | 6.00c | 11c |
| *Iron, Besse. pg. | \$13 25 | \$10 75 |
| *Steel billets, ton | \$20 25 | \$15 75 |
| Ocean Steam Freights— | | |
| Grain, Liverpool | 1d | 1d |
| Cotton | 1-16d | 7-64d |

* Pittsburgh

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, car lots, country points, 57 to 58c.
Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$19.5; Bakers, \$1.75.
Bran.—Per ton, \$12.
Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.
Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, local freights, 80 to 82c.
Barley.—Per bushel, 40c, local freights.
Flax Seed.—
Butter.—Country dairy 10 to 12c in a small way.
Cheese.—small lots 10c.
Eggs.—Fresh, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8c in small lots.
Beef.—City dressed, 6c.
Mutton.—Fresh, 10c, frozen 7c.
Hogs.—Dressed, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6c.
Cattle.—Butchers, 3 to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.
Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Sheep.—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Seneca Root.—19c lb.
Poultry—Chickens, 8c, turkeys, 10c, geese, 9 to 10c, ducks 8c.
Hides.—No. 1 cows, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c.
Wool.—Unwashed Manitoba fleece, 7 to 9c.
Potatoes.—80 to 85c per bushel.
Hay.—\$4.00 per ton, car lots

The Dairy Outlook.

Editor Commercial.

Dear Sir,—I cannot help commenting on your remarks, on page 709, April 20th, re the "Dairy Outlook." They are to the point in every letter. Last year Manitoba established a reputation second to none in Canada for factory made butter and cheese, and it is to be hoped that the Manitoba farmers will not act so unbusinesslike as to go back to the home dairy work. I am happy to say I have had no notice of any of the creameries not opening up this spring, but on the other hand four new ones are being constructed.

I regret to inform you that I have heard of some two or three cheese factories that are not likely to run this year, as there is every prospect of cheese bringing good prices this year and will remunerate the farmers handsomely.

It is natural to suppose that the farmers who withdrew their support from these cheese factories will make dairy butter, and it is more natural to suppose, judging from past experience, that the farmers who make dairy butter this year will only do an injury to the dairy industry of the province and have their labor for nothing, as the outlook for dairy butter is very gloomy indeed and about the only favor it will meet will be "not wanted."

I am, Yours truly,

C. C. MACDONALD.