

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially 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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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 23, 1894.

Manitoba.

The Patrons' Commercial Union, Portage la Prairie, is seeking incorporation.

The Morden tannery has turned out 100 sides of leather, which is said to be of good quality.

Speers Bros., of Griswold, have shipped a car load of cattle and a load of hogs to British Columbia.

Chalmers & Watson, of Pilot Mound, shipped a carload of cattle and hogs to Winnipeg on Wednesday.

Mr. Clougher takes possession of the bar and billiard rooms of the Clarendon hotel, Winnipeg, on 1st of June.

R. T. Crisp, of Souris, was in Winnipeg last week in connection with the establishment of a cheese factory at Souris, which he is endeavoring to work up.

Burchill & Howey of Brandon have shipped two double decked cars of fat hogs, in all about 250 head, to Vancouver. Mr. Howey accompanied the shipment.

S. W. Rowe is about to sever his connection with the Queen's hotel, at Pilot Mound. It is understood that R. McKay will apply for license with the intention of continuing business.

Gordon & Ironsides will make their first shipment of Manitoba cattle for export this season, next week. Car lots will come from various sections and trains will be made up at Winnipeg.

Wm. Hunt, a rancher of Calgary, has been in the vicinity of Brandon for some days gathering up young cattle for shipment west to be fattened on his ranch. He has shipped three cars from that point.

The first train load of cattle for the Old Country markets this season from along the line of the M. & N. W. railway will leave on May 3. The shippers are Dr. Harrison, Neopawa; J. Wake, Minnedosa; T. Almack, Bincarth. The train will consist of about 15 cars.

A. Houle, general store and lumber, Lot-fellier, has assigned.

Winnipeg stands third highest among the post offices of the Dominion in gross postal receipts for the last fiscal year. Toronto is first with \$394,168.41; Montreal second with \$342,874.67; Winnipeg third with \$93,211.56; and then follow Hamilton, \$30,898.14; Halifax, \$62,630.67; Ottawa, \$57,220.99.

The first trade sale of bankrupt stock goods under the auspices of the Winnipeg Jobbers' Union was held on Tuesday last, and hereafter sales will be held every second and fourth Tuesday of each month, when it is expected merchants from all parts of the country will be in attendance. The warehouse is open for private sales on all regular business days. The railways have granted a half rate on stocks sent to the city for these sales, and an effort will be made to get a reduced passenger rate for merchants coming to the sales.

The council of the Winnipeg board of trade considered on Tuesday last the revised insolvency bill which has been introduced into the Dominion senate. The council found that a number of recommendations made by them to the minister of finance had been incorporated in this revised bill; but one or two of their principal objections had not been met. These objections are shared by all the eastern boards, and arrangements are being made by these boards for the sending of deputations to Ottawa to attend the meetings of the joint committee of the senate and the house of commons which is to sit on the details of the bill. The great objection to the bill is to the heavy expenses that may be incurred by the official receiver immediately following the assignment, and before the first meeting of the creditors takes place when they appoint the permanent liquidator.

A new industry has been established in Winnipeg, in electroplating. The business will be carried on by the Winnipeg Electro Plating Co. A. C. Foster, who is well known throughout the West as a commercial traveller, is manager of the business, and S. B. Owen of Chicago has been engaged to take charge of the practical work. A complete plant has been put in, and every kind of electro plating will be done, including gold, silver, copper, brass, bronze, nickel, oxidizing, lacquering, etc., on all kinds of metal. This establishment will be a great convenience to jewellers, carriage makers, saddlers, undertakers, hardware merchants and others who require plating work, as well as to the general public, as heretofore nothing of this kind has been done in the city by a concern regularly engaged in the business. It is reported that some silver plating has been done here before, but not by the Winnipeg Electro Plating Co., as this is a new concern, and their first work was turned out last week. The manager is prepared to warrant all his work.

Alberta.

The Willow Creek Cattle Co., Calgary, has been incorporated.

The Red Deer Review has suspended publication and the editor, Mr. Murphy, intends starting another paper at Innisfail.

The engine and machinery for the Edmonton butter and cheese manufacturing association has been shipped from London, Ontario.

The machinery for Pomerleau's creamery, near Edmonton, has arrived and will be put in place immediately. A professional butter maker, from Winnipeg, has arrived to take charge of it.

Northwest Ontario.

Thos. Spence has opened a real estate office at Rat Portage.

Mr. Thomson, of the Bazaar, Port Arthur, has decided to open a branch store at Fort William. He will occupy the vacant store room in the McDougall block.

W. D. Atwell contemplates opening in the mercantile business at Norman.

The scarcity of fish in Lake Erie is causing something of an exodus of dealers from Lake Erie. The Sandusky Fish company, which consists of all the firms in Sandusky and vicinity, has decided to move its entire business to the Lake of the Woods, on the boundary between the United States and Manitoba. Nine car loads of nets, a tug, etc., were shipped to Duluth en route to the point stated.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

Not much grain space has been engaged during the week, says the Montreal Trade Bulletin of April 13, and freights are nominally quoted at 1s 6d to 1s 9d Liverpool and Glasgow, 2s London, 2s 3d Bristol and 2s 6d Hamburg. Flour has been engaged at 25 to 27½c per bbl to the lower ports and St. John's, Newfoundland.

The Grand Trunk railway having refused to grant the millers the same rate on flour proportionally as wheat for export from Ontario points, the millers propose to petition parliament to take steps to compel the Canadian railways to make no distinction in favor of wheat for export. The millers claim that the discrimination against flour in freight rates prevents them from shipping flour to England, and say that if the rates were the same the export flour trade would be greatly increased.

Lumber Trade News.

Somebody is going to make a lot of money out of pine lands in northern Minnesota, says the Minneapolis Lumberman, especially on the lands up in the Duluth district before many years have gone by. There is an abundance of good timber up in the vicinity of Rainy lake, and when that region is developed with railroads and water transportation available, it will undoubtedly be a great lumbering district. Michigan men are already awakening to the fact that there is money in Duluth timber. Years ago they bought Michigan timber at the cheap prices it was then selling at, and since then they have become millionaires. They didn't make their money out of lumber so much as out of timber lands, and they are of the opinion that the same condition of affairs will result in northern Minnesota before long, and they are backing their judgment with money. Saginaw men are sacrificing their present interests and are putting all the money they can get hold of into Minnesota pine. Stumpage at \$2 a thousand near Duluth as compared with from \$5 to \$8 a thousand in Michigan is quite a difference, especially when lake rates from Duluth to Tonawanda are only \$1.75. Such an advantage is hard to overcome.

J. F. Waddell intends starting a planing mill at Newdale, Man.

The Vancouver board of trade has passed a resolution requesting the Dominion government to retain the duty on shingles until the Wilson bill came into force. Both bills propose the abolition of the duty, but as the Canadian tariff comes into force immediately the United States manufacturers have a decided advantage.

Oranges from Mexico.

A City of Mexico dispatch says: "The Department of Promotion of the federal government are in receipt of interesting statistics bearing on the cultivating and shipment of Mexican oranges. These statistics show that a big trade is being built up in the United States in this product. During the months of January and February of the present year about 300 carloads of oranges were shipped to the United States from the state of Sonora alone. A large number of carloads of the fruit were also shipped from the states of Nueva Leon and Tamaulipas to Chicago and other markets in that country.