

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.

**Twelfth Year of Publication
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY**

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2.00 PER ANNUM (in advance.)

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JAMES E. 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 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, DECEMBER 18, 1893.

City Meat Dealers in Trouble.

A short time ago Winnipeg butchers were notified by the city health department that they were required to furnish the department with an affidavit as to the place at which meat sold by them was slaughtered. Some retail butchers did not pay any attention to the notice, and they have now been served with a notice to discontinue the sale of meat in the city. The demand for the affidavit is made under authority of the public health act. It is of course simply impossible for retail butchers to furnish any such affidavit. They buy their meats from wholesale butchers, from farmers on the street and from commission dealers. Some of the meat is shipped in by rail from all parts of the country, and finds its way directly or through commission dealers to the butchers. It is absurd to ask meat dealers to give an affidavit as to where the meat in their shops is killed. It is as unreasonable as it would be to ask the general merchant for an affidavit as to where all the goods in his store are manufactured or put up. Butchers who do a slaughtering business could make such an affidavit as to that portion of their supply which they kill themselves, but even those who do the largest slaughtering business buy meat on the street from farmers, and receive rail shipments, or obtain supplies in other ways, and they could not begin to state where the meat was killed. Most of the butchers, however, do not do any slaughtering at all, obtaining all their supplies in the various ways mentioned. It is absurd to ask them for such an affidavit. The only thing the health authorities can reasonably do, is to inspect the meat offered for sale, and confiscate, or prosecute parties offering diseased meat. It is an easy matter to find out those who do a slaughtering business, and inspect their premises, if it is so desired, without demanding an affidavit from all dealers, which it is quite beyond their power to supply.

Manitoba.

David Storey, proprietor of the Bay Horse hotel, Portage avenue, Winnipeg, is dead.

J. T. Gordon has sold his lumber business at Pilot Mound to Anderson and Elliott Gordon.

Edward Wiles, who until a few months ago, carried on a merchant tailoring establishment at Carman, died in Ontario recently.

The stock of Whitehead & Steward, general store, Neepawa, sold at 64½ cents on the dollar, to Davidson & Co., of the same place.

The partnership existing between S. C. Dinmore and R. Shesbotham, implements, Hamilton, has been dissolved. The business will be continued by Dinmore.

Duncan McArthur, late president of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, was tendered a banquet at the Leland House, Winnipeg, on Tuesday evening last, on the eve of a trip east for his health.

The stock in trade of James Heaman, of Alexander, composed of dry goods, groceries, clothing, etc., will be sold at a rate on the dollar, by public auction, at Winnipeg, on Thursday, December 14.

The stock of Alex. Ross, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar, on Monday, December 17. Stock consists of the following: Tweed suitings, etc., \$1,705.63; fixtures, \$352.50; book accounts, \$320.

The committee appointed to make arrangements for the Northwest Commercial Travelers' dinner have decided to have the dinner at the Manitoba hotel, on Dec. 26. Barracough's orchestra of six pieces will provide the music.

A mutual fire insurance company under the auspices of the wholesale trade of Winnipeg has been organized, with J. H. Ashdown as president; F. W. Stobart, vice-president, and R. T. Riley, treasurer. The object of the association is stated to be the securing of lower rates, and a guarantee fund to pay losses the first two years has been subscribed.

Wheat was a splendid crop here this year, writes a correspondent from the Lake Dauphin section. The lowest threshed by Stinson's machine went 26 bushels to the acre, and the best went 44 bushels to the acre. Oats were a light crop, the best threshed went 78 bushels and the lowest about 15 bushels to the acre. The sample of oats is also light.

T. A. Nowman & Bro., Portage la Prairie, have moved into their new premises, on the site of their former stores which were destroyed by fire last winter. They have decided to go out of the dry goods business, confining themselves to the grocery trade exclusively. Their new block is of solid brick, 30x80 feet, two stories high, with basement for cold storage. It is one of the most substantial buildings in the town.

Any one who may be looking for a city opening in the dry goods trade, should make enquiry regarding the sale advertised by George H. Rodgers & Co., Winnipeg. This stock is to be sold en bloc on very easy terms, on Dec. 29, as Mr. Rogers is giving up the retail trade. The stand is one of the best in the city, and since previous to "boom" days has been one of the leading dry goods stores of Winnipeg. The building can be leased by the purchaser of the stock. The business done during late years by Mr. Rogers has amounted to over \$100,000 in one year. If a purchaser does not appear for the whole stock, it will be jobbed off in smaller lots and by retail sale.

George Wilson, a well known Montreal boot and shoe merchant, died suddenly at his store on Notre Dame street. He was seen to fall heavily to the floor. Death is supposed to have been caused by syncope of the heart, but an inquest will be held. Mr. Wilson was one of the best known men on Notre Dame street, having been in business there over thirty years.

Northwest Ontario.

Charles W. Hamilton, one of Port Arthur's most promising young business men, died suddenly on Dec. 12 of heart failure.

Alberta.

M. G. Connor, furniture, Edmonton, has assigned.

The Bentley Lumber Co., Lethbridge, sold out to Stanbury & Colpman.

Carlin & Lake, general store, Anthracite, sold out to G. C. Little & Co.

L. H. Doll, jeweller, Calgary, is selling off stock by auction in retail quantities.

At the sheriff's sale of the stock of Hill & Wallace, general dealers, Lethbridge, says the *News*, the stock was purchased by E. J. Hill at 100 cents on the dollar, and the book accounts by the same party at 60 cents.

Assiniboia.

The new depot building at Regina has been completed.

Thos. Nevison, harness, Regina, has assigned.

The Saltcoats Dairy association is in difficulties, and the plant has been seized by the sheriff, and will be offered for sale at Moosomin on Dec. 23.

Coal mining is active in the Souris district. The Dominion company are shipping from Estevan as well as Rochee Perce. Three new mines are being worked at Estevan by Jas. Wilkinson, George Rookes and J. Coldwell, all having struck good seams. These new mines have been opened in the valley south of the town. The coal is teamed across and loaded into the cars. The citizens are supplied at \$1 per ton laid at their doors. At Rochee Perce three mines are being worked besides the Dominion company, viz. the Hassard, the Gow and the Beaver, the latter being run by Gordon & Russell. Two sidings have been put in at this point.

Grain and Milling.

The steamer Acadia has gone into winter quarters at Port Arthur, loaded with about 20,000 bushels of grain.

The following item appeared under this heading in the last number of THE COMMERCIAL: "Out of forty car loads of wheat shipped from Moosomin by Jas. Sharp only three graded No. 1 hard." It is hardly necessary to state that this is incorrect. The item should have read "all but three" instead of "only three."

The town of Carman, Man., is sustaining its reputation as one of the leading wheat centres in Manitoba. Before the season is over it is expected the amount shipped will reach close upon 600,000 bushels.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matter.

The Canadian roads have met the reduction in rates from Chicago east, lowering rates from London and west to Boston from 19½ to 17½ per hundred and from London and east to Toronto from 17½ to 15½ cents per hundred to Boston. Rates from Ontario to all points in maritime provinces have been reduced two cents.

The *Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin* of Dec. 9, says: "The eastbound rates were demoralized during the past week and although the tariff on flour and grain to New York was reduced 5 to 20c and on provisions 7½ to 22½c per 100 lbs, the roads made further reductions on the quiet and it is said that grain was taken at 17 and 18c. Through business to Liverpool was slow, but rates firmer. Flour ranged at 31 to 32.00 per 100 lbs. Grain at 30½ to 31c per 100 lbs, and provisions at 40 to 50½c per 100 lbs. Lake navigation has closed for the season. The charters were on a basis of 3½c for wheat and 3½c on corn to Buffalo, with the privilege of storing there all winter. A few boats were chartered here for Buffalo shipment in the spring at 3½c for wheat and 3½c for corn."