

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.

THIRTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY.

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

ADVERTISING RATES MADE KNOWN ON APPLICATION.

Fine Book and Job Printing Departments.

Office, 186 James St. East.

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 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, MAY 20, 1895.

Manitoba.

The Winnipeg Music Co., has been incorporated.

Moody & Sutherland, hardware, West Selkirk, are adding flour and feed.

W. Delahey, general store, Balmoral, is succeeded by J. A. Frayne & Co.

Gardner & Owens, hardware, Rapid City, have dissolved; Edgar Gardner continues.

Velie, Carey & Co., wholesale liquors, Winnipeg, have dissolved; George Velie continues.

The contract for building the Macdonald creamery has been let and work has begun. The building is 24 by 38 feet with an engine room 10 by 13 feet.

City assessor Harris reports the population of Winnipeg at 37,062, an increase of 2,000 over last year. Henderson's directory now in preparation will place the population in excess of 38,000, including floating population.

W. A. Carson, who sold out his meat business in Winnipeg about a year ago, has again decided to open in the fresh meat trade here. He has had the premises at 594 Main Street fitted up in nice style and is opening for business to-day.

The plant of the Brandon Mail, newspaper, has been sold to satisfy claims for rent, taxes, etc., to a party in Sault Ste. Marie. The subscription list has been purchased by the Brandon Times, newspaper. C. Cliffe, publisher of The Mail, says he will get in a new plant and start another paper.

Mr. Stairs Duffus, of Halifax, of the Consumers' Cordage Co., has been visiting this week in Manitoba, looking up prospects for the season's trade here. Mr. Merrick, of Merrick, Anderson & Co., spent a few days driving about the country with him.

The plans for the new hotel to be erected by J. Heiman & Co., at Morden, have arrived from Winnipeg. It is expected that the contract will be let in a few days. The hotel will be one of the best in the province, being 80 feet by 50 feet, three stories high, of solid brick and stone.

Haley & Sutton have decided to locate in Morden where they will open a private bank. This firm was engaged in the mercantile business in Morden some years ago. They moved to Vancouver, then to Edmonton, next to Brandon, and are now back to the southern Manitoba town again.

At the last regular meeting of the Winnipeg Retail Association reports were given of certain places of business now under the by-laws being open after hours. The early closing committee were instructed to attend to the matter. The taxation question was left over until the next meeting on May 28th. It is the intention of the members to hold an excursion or pic-nic early in the summer.

The statement appearing in some western papers to the effect that a number of farmers in sections of Manitoba have been compelled to seed a second time a considerable acreage of ground, the first grain sown having been blown out of the soil by heavy winds, is an error. High winds prevailed on several days early in the spring, but advices to The Commercial from the districts most affected say that no damage was done to the crops.

J. W. Harris, Winnipeg, assessment commissioner, reports the total assessment of the city for the current year at \$22,150,160, exclusive of exemptions, which amount to \$4,505,980, being an increase on the latter item of \$81,560 over that of 1894. For the year 1894 the rateable property of the city was \$22,001,330, showing an actual increase, therefore, of nearly \$150,000 for the present year. This is a smaller increase than in former years, owing to the large reductions made in the assessed value of outlying lands, and owing to changes made in the law, whereby billiard rooms have been relieved from business tax assessment, this change alone accounting for the greater portion of the \$200,000 decrease shown in the assessment for business tax. The total business tax assessed for 1895 is \$3,045,380.

Alberta.

J. L. Beatty, blacksmith, Lacombe, has sold out.

G. B. Batho, hotel, is opening a lumber yard at Olds.

Wm. Schmoek, butcher, Lacombe is succeeded by — Puffer.

Entrance was made into the Canadian Pacific Railway office at Macleod during the night of May 11. The cash drawer was taken from the desk and \$11 in silver, also a remittance of \$727 taken from the safe by prying off the safety board and taking the lock box from the safe.

Fire broke out in the engine room of Cushing's sash factory at Calgary on May 12. The building and machinery was saved after a hard struggle. The engine room and part of the machinery and some stock in the drying room was destroyed. The loss amounting to about \$3,000 is partly covered by insurance.

The Canadian Agricultural, Coal and Colonization Company has decided to withdraw from all its operations in the territories except so far as relates to cattle ranching. On the 5th June next the company will sell by public auction at the cold storage establishment at Calgary its entire stock outside the range cattle.

Canned Horse.

Portions of the states of Oregon and Washington are over-run with semi-wild horses, and as they are unsaleable, being worth only \$2 to \$10 per head, the idea has been devised to can them for the flesh. The Herrick cannery, at the Dalles, has already begun to pack horse meat. Six horses have been slaughtered and canned, and Mr. Herrick is now feeding a fine three-year-old filly on grain to see if the quality of the meat will improve. Samples of canned horse meat have been distributed in the large cities and if the demand warrants it, one hundred horses a day will be slaughtered and canned.

North West Ontario.

A customs office will be opened at Fort Francis, which will be made a port of entry. Goods in bond may be manifested direct to Fort Francis, while matter in bond for Hannaford, Couching, Rainy Lake city and all Seine river points may be bonded on the same point.

Grain and Milling News.

Tenders are asked for the excavation of the brsement of Brackman & Ker's oatmeal mill to be built at South Edmonton, Alberta.

The directors of the Northern Elevator Company, of Winnipeg, waited upon Superintendent Whyte, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, one day this week, and stated that it was their intention to erect a large cleaning and storage elevator in Winnipeg this year, if proper arrangements can be made with the railways. The superintendent said the railway company was in favor of the proposed elevator.

Dairy Matters.

The butter which the Dominion government bought at 20 cents per pound from Ontario creameries was sold in England for 15 cents per pound, that was the highest price, the other consignments brought less.

It is said that over 20,000 packages of last year's creamery butter is being placed in cold storage to carry over until next winter, the owners preferring to hold rather than sell at the heavy loss they would make by selling now.

N. F. Davin has given notice in parliament at Ottawa of a resolution declaring the expediency of applying \$20,000 to aid in the establishment of creameries and cheese factories in the Territories. He will also ask the government to consider giving a bonus on butter exported to England, and of raising the customs duty from 4 cents to 6 cents in order to enable the territory farmers to compete with United States exporters in the British Columbia market.

Financial and Insurance Notes.

R. T. Riley and J. H. Ashdown have been making a visit to leading Manitoba towns in the interest of the new fire insurance company which has been established in Winnipeg. They are meeting with liberal encouragement from the principal merchants.

By the majority of 526 to 52 the ratepayers of Winnipeg on Thursday, endorsed the school board by-law to issue four per cent fifty year debentures to the amount of \$65,000, for the furnishing of accommodation for the rapidly increasing school population of the city.

Comptroller Currie, of Winnipeg, announced to the civic committee the receipt of two tenders for local improvement debentures— one from H. O'Hara & Co., Toronto, for \$37,315 of fifteen year debentures at 107.36, and the other from Hanson Bros., Montreal, for \$24,203 of seven year debentures at 103.55. These are the highest prices ever obtained for city bonds of this description.

Silver.

The only feature of any importance in the silver market was the report that Japan has waived the accession of territory for an increase in its money indemnity. This checked any declining tendency in the London silver market, though it did not impart decided strength, as the actual demand is slow and light. The New York market at the end of the week is firm in sympathy with London. Silver prices on May 10 were: London 30½d; New York 66¾c.