

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.

FOURTEENTH 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.
257 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 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, JULY 18, 1896.

Manitoba.

The Brandon summer fair will be held on July 28 and 29, the week after the Winnipeg exhibition.

J. A. Mughan, who has been for some time past with Munson & Allan, barristers, Winnipeg, will shortly open a law office at Dauphin.

Mr. Bull, of the Royal Soap Company, Winnipeg, has let the contract for extensive enlargements and improvements to his premises.

W. D. Scott, Manitoba immigration agent at Toronto, arrived in Winnipeg on Thursday with the second summer farmers' excursion from Ontario.

A new brick block will be erected on Main street, Winnipeg, near the Bank of Montreal, jointly by D. McDonald and R. Wyatt. Mr. McDonald owning the south and Mr. Wyatt the north half. The building will have a frontage of fifty feet on Main street and a depth of 120 feet. It will be three stories high with a basement, and will cost from \$18,000 to \$20,000.

John Reid, of Ottawa, Ontario, has arrived in Winnipeg to take the management of the wholesale branch of the Ontario Glove Works, of Brockville, which has been established here for some time, which position was rendered vacant by the death of the late D. B. McLaren. Mr. Reid is experienced in general mercantile business, and has recently spent some time at the factory at Brockville familiarizing himself with the glove trade.

Assiniboia.

Henry Smith, butcher, Moosomin, has assigned.

A. Davidson, hotel, Indian Head, is succeeded by May & Boyd.

Creamer Bros., druggs, Qu'Appelle, have sold out to J. A. Unsworth & Co.

H. B. Foulkes, liquor merchant, of Moosomin, committed suicide on July 4 by taking strychnine.

S. T. Scott, who has been for nearly two years foreman of the Qu'Appelle Progress, has purchased the plant of that paper and will hereafter conduct the Progress under his own management.

T. K. Grigg, of T. K. Grigg & Co., of the Windsor hotel, Regina, died on July 8.

Deceased, with his brother, Sam Grigg, formerly managed the Grigg house of London, Ontario.

Alberta.

An irrigation ditch six miles long, is being completed at the Blackfoot Indian reserve. The work is being done entirely by Indians.

Dairy Trade Notes.

A decline of sixpence in the public cheese cable was reported on July 5.

At Woodstock, Ontario, on July 2 seventeen factories offered 8,164 boxes of cheese. Sales—1,566 at 6½c, 1,110 at 6 18-16c; market fairly active, but prices low.

At Brantford, Ontario, on July 8 at the cheese market 15 factories offered 2,490 boxes. No sales: 6½c to 6 11-16c was offered. Six buyers were present.

Dairy Commissioner Macdonald of Manitoba returned last week from visiting the creameries at Minnedosa, Newdale, Neepawa, Strathclair and Shoal Lake, all of which are producing splendidly. Mr. Macdonald was particularly struck with the Shoal Lake creamery owned by Mr. Scott. It cannot be beaten by any in Canada, he thinks, for modern arrangements.

At London, Ontario, on July 4, 81 cheese factories boarded 6,184 boxes June; 185 boxes sold at 6½c, 186 at 6½c, 1,158 at 6 11-16c and 857 at 6½c.

At the cheese board at Brockville, Ontario on July 2 there were 2,950 boxes of cheese boarded of which 920 were white and the balance colored: 208 boxes of colored sold at 6½c; 6½c was offered for white but none sold.

The Dry Goods Trade.

United States travellers are offering prints in Eastern Canada markets, at low prices, owing to the demoralized state of the United States markets.

Spool cottons have been in the past sold at a small margin. The makers of spool cottons a few weeks ago advanced their prices 15 per cent. It was admitted then that spool cottons had been too low. Advances received on June 80th advanced prices still further, ranging from 28 to 81½ per cent. Close competition had forced down the price of many lines to a very small margin of profit, and the mills to further their interests had an understanding which led to the advance referred to.

Grain and Milling.

A mill for the manufacture of pot barley has arrived for Dow & Curry of Pilot Mound, Man. The new machinery will be placed in position immediately.

The North Dakota crop report says: The weather conditions still continue very unfavorable for the wheat crop, owing to the hot weather and scarcity of rain over almost the entire wheat raising section of the state.

The situation of the feed market, says the Montreal Gazette of July 7, is somewhat unsettled. Millers in some cases have advanced prices for both bran and shorts 50c per ton to \$12 and \$18 but others still continue to sell at \$11 and \$12, including sacks, which means \$10 for bran and \$11 for shorts without sacks.

The flour combination, entered into by the spring wheat millers of the United States, says an exchange, is said to be in danger of collapsing, owing to the fierce war waged against it by the city mills combine, which has cut its prices 15c per bbl. Although as yet there is no break in the former combine, it is thought that it cannot hold out much longer. In New York the price has been cut

to \$3.50 per bbl. for choice spring wheat brands.

Heavy dew and hot sun still prevail and rust is making rapid headway in the wheat, causing it to look very poor, and in all reports, with a few exceptions, mention of rust is made. The later sown wheat is not looking well, in consequence of which some farmers are thinking of plowing a portion of the crop under. Oats, barley, flax, corn and potatoes still hold their own and with a few exceptions are advanced favorably, but rain is greatly needed for corn and potatoes.

Wheat Stocks on July 1.

The total net decrease in available wheat stocks, both coasts, United States and Canada, within six months ending June 30, is 41,581,000 bushels, compared with 66,899,000 bushels in the first half of 1895, 57,852,000 bushels in the corresponding portion of 1894, 88,525,000 bushels in 1893, and as compared with 42,524,000 bushels in the first six months of 1892. The total falling away during the past six months is, therefore, slightly heavier than the average shrinkage in the corresponding portions of 1892, 1893 and 1894. It is less than two thirds of the decrease in the first half of last year, and is 3,000,000 bushels smaller than the total net increase in available stocks, both coasts of the United States and Canada, from July 1 to December 31, 1895.

The total quantity of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantity afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on July 1, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's is as follows:

	East of Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Europe and aloft.	Grand total.
July 1, 1896	61,254,000	1,927,000	41,920,000	105,201,000
July 1, 1895	63,568,000	6,549,000	70,760,000	140,877,000
July 1, 1894	65,250,000	8,253,000	78,076,000	146,579,000
July 1, 1893	72,066,000	9,842,000	76,860,000	162,808,000
July 1, 1892	33,287,000	2,375,000	63,514,000	99,203,000
July 1, 1891	21,054,000	1,031,000	60,360,000	83,395,000
July 1, 1890	20,846,000	2,395,000	40,144,000	60,185,000

The total supply of wheat at home and abroad, amounting to 105,201,000 bushels on July 1, 1896, is the smallest aggregate so held since July 1, 1892, when the total was 99,203,000 bushels.—Bradstreet's.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	July 3, 1896.	July 5, 1895.
Flour, straight spring...	\$3.00 to \$3.40	\$3.50 to \$4.15
Flour, straight winter...	\$3.10 to \$3.45	\$3.50 to \$3.90
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	65c	73c
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	33½c	49c
Oats, No. 2.....	21c	28c
rye, No. 2, Western.....	38c
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee.....
Cotton, mid. upld. ..	7 7-16c	7½c
Print cloths, 64x68....	2 7-16c	2½c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X....	16c	16½ to 17c
Wool, Nc. 1 combg.....	19 to 20c	21 to 22c
Pork, mess new.....	\$8.00 to \$8.75	\$13.25 to 14.00
Lard, westn. stm.....	4.20c	6.05c
Butter, creamery.....	15c	18c
Cheese, ch. east frv.	7c	8c
Sugar, centrif., 90°.....	3½c	3½c
Sugar, granulated.....	4½c	4 7-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	18½c	16½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co....	\$1.15½	\$1.45
Petroleum, r'd. gal....	6.90c	7.8c
*Iron, Bess. pg.....	\$12.25	\$14.00
*Steel billets ton.....	\$20.00	\$21.00
Ocean Steam Freight—		
Grain, Liverpool.....	1½d	1½d
Cotton.....	1-16d	1-16d
	* Pittsburgh.	

The Fur Trade Review says: "The force of example is very great, whether for good or evil. It is our sincere opinion, consequent upon observation, that more failures have been due to easy and unconsidered compromises than any other cause. We hope there will be no failures this year. We know there would be very few if the proper remedy should be applied at the outset."