

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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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, FEBRUARY 12, 1894.

Manitoba.

P. McConnell, flour and feed, Melita, moved to Deloraine.

C. Hiebert, general store, Gretna, sold out to Wm. Esau & Co.

Hugh Steele, blacksmith, Minnedota, sold out to Jas. Murphy.

R. Rogers, general store, Clearwater, sold out to Hunter & Moore.

Bradshaw & Burke, livery, Regina, succeeded by Moffat & Bradshaw.

The Winnipeg electric street railway is now carrying passengers at the rate of two cents.

W. H. Atkinson, lumber, Deloraine, admitted Alfred Atkinson; style, W. H. Atkinson & Co.

McInnes & Irwin, general store, Strathclair Station, stock sold at 54½c, book accounts at 12½c.

R. C. Callander, merchant, Hartney, is selling off his stock with a view of going out of business.

C. W. Johns, blacksmith and carriage manufacturer, etc., Roland, is reported to have been succeeded in blacksmithing business by Chas. Stewart.

Wm. Burton, of McGregor, has decided to open a dry goods and grocery business at Portage la Prairie, in the premises lately occupied by Jas. Anderson.

The Ferguson company, of Winnipeg, limited, is seeking incorporation under the Manitoba Joint Stock Companies act, to conduct the business of general stationers and booksellers.

J. T. Gordon of Pilot Mound, has shipped a carload of dressed hogs to Winnipeg. Mr. Gordon has been making one of his trips through the district, and reports that there are lots of butchers' cattle in the country feeding.

E. F. Hutchings, harness, Winnipeg, has purchased the large stock of H. D. Tulloch & Co., wholesale harness dealers, of Winnipeg, and will close the stock out at cost. J. C. Campbell will take charge of the store.

Portage-la Prairie has purchased a new chemical fire engine, at a cost laid down of \$1,720.

Stewart Bros., of Rapid City, have finished their season's log out. About 12,000 pieces have been secured. Axemen and skidders have returned from the bush, but it will take the teams about six weeks to finish hauling.

The annual meeting of the Western R-tail Lumber association will be held in Winnipeg on Monday evening February 12th. The wholesale lumber dealers who are honorary members of the association and many others will be present at the meeting. The association's representatives extend from Rat Portage to Vancouver. At the last annual meeting nearly 100 delegates were present, and this year it is expected that the number will show a large increase. Officers for the ensuing year will be elected at the meeting.

D. E. Sprague, the Winnipeg lumberman, who is in the woods on the Rosseau river, with a gang of 100 men and 40 teams, writes that the winter's work is progressing favorably. He adds that there is plenty of snow for the long haul. The white and red pine in that section of the province is of a superior quality. Mr. Sprague's cut this winter will exceed two million feet. The logs will be floated down the Rosseau river to the Red river, and thence to the mill at Winnipeg. Mr. Sprague expects also to get a quantity of logs from Minnesota, to be brought down the Red river for his mill.

The following statement shows the value of goods exported, imported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon during the month of January, 1894, at the port of Winnipeg, compared with the same month of 1893:—

Description.	Value 1893.	Value 1894.
Exported	\$ 83,799 00	\$110,574 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable	132,366 00	142,430 00
Entered for consumption, free	29,965 00	33,429 00
Total for consumption	162,331 00	175,859 00
Duty collected.....	42,386 97	48,269 00

The annual general meeting of the Manitoba Assurance Company was held at the head office in Winnipeg, on the 25th January, with R. H. Agur, president, in the chair. The following shareholders were present or represented by proxy:—James Fisher, M.P.P., Rober Hall (Griswold), E. R. Whithead, Estate of Thomas Routledge, C. P. Wilson, T. J. McBride, R. H. Agur, H. H. Beck, Hon. J. N. Kirchhoffer, A. M. Patton, John Russell, Acton Burrows and T. Burnett. W. P. Sweatman acted as secretary. The president presented the annual report which was unanimously adopted. The net premium revenue for the past year was considerably more than that of the previous year, and while the fire losses were somewhat heavy, the company was able to add considerably to its reserve, besides paying a cash dividend of 6 per cent upon the paid up capital. Votes of thanks were unanimously adopted to the director, manager, inspector, agents and staff for their services during the past year. The retiring board of directors was re-elected, namely: R. H. Agur, H. H. Beck, John Russell, Hon. J. H. Kirchhoffer, A. M. Patton, Acton Burrows and Frank Burnett. At a meeting of the board of directors held immediately after the annual meeting, R. H. Agur was elected president, and Hon. J. N. Kirchhoffer vice-president.

Assiniboia.

A Regina correspondent says: J. D. Sibbald has withdrawn from the Western Milling Co. His intention is to commence business in Revelstoke, British Columbia. Mr. Spring Rice is now acting president and manager of the company.

The Regina town council has finally adopted and passed the single tax system. It taxes all town lots, exempting buildings and improve-

ments; it puts a tax upon the salary of the wage-earner and taxes the turnover or amount of business transacted by each business house or profession. This last clause is the subject of a great deal of unfavorable discussion. The dealers in coal, wheat, flour and coal oil, etc., who necessarily have to make a very narrow margin, pay the same tax on their sales as the druggist and others who make a larger percentage of profit, and who clear, as it is claimed, as much on a \$1,000 turnover as the former class do on a \$1,500 or \$2,000 turnover. Under this system all secret and benefit societies holding meetings and transacting business within a municipality shall be assessed, and pay a license tax not exceeding \$10 annually. The railway, telegraph, telephone and express companies, banks, insurance, mortgage, loan and electric light companies will all be assessed, varying from the half of 1 per cent to 5 per cent on their gross earnings; within the municipality.

Sealed tenders will be received until the 15th of February for the stock in trade of the Estate of G. P. Murray, Indian Head, Assa., consisting of—dry goods and furnishings, \$1,330.28; clothing and fur goods, \$501.37; boots and shoes, \$354.61; hardware, paints and oils, \$567.32; groceries, \$781.11; fixtures, \$372.82; and sundries, amounting to a total of \$4,165.01.

Alberta.

J. S. Ingram, saloon, Calgary, assigned to I. S. Cowan.

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D. H. Murphy, publisher, is starting business at Red Deer.

H. Hetu, hotel, Edmonton, succeeded by Jackson & Grierson.

Norris & Carey, general store, etc., Edmonton, sold out and retired.

J. Chenier & Co., general store, Canmore, dissolved; S. Laurendeau continues.

J. H. Gariepy, general store, Edmonton, admitted Chenier; style, Gariepy & Chenier.

Northwest Ontario.

The report of the collector of customs for Port Arthur for the year ending Dec. 31, 1893, shows the arrivals of Canadian vessels to be 574, American 220; total, 794. The registered tonnage of Canadian vessels is 493,442; American, 220,686; total 714,128. The imports aggregate \$680,668; exports, \$4,311,157; duty collected, \$75,891.48.

The dry goods stock of the late C. W. Hamilton, Port Arthur, was sold by tender to Matthews & Fraser for seventy-seven cents on the dollar.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

Western freight men were in session at Chicago on Tuesday considering the advisability of restoring rates on wheat to 25c, and 20c on corn, between Missouri points and Chicago. The Atchison announced that it would not consent to the advance unless guarantees were given that there would be no manipulations of through rates in such a way as to amount to a cut in two of the local rates between Kansas City and Chicago. This proposition occupied the meeting all day.

A Chicago telegram says:—The failure of the Lake Carriers' association to effect the laying up of one fourth of the boats for the season to avoid ruinous rates from competition, has induced vessel men to accept the very low rates to store grain the rest of the season and take it to Buffalo in the spring. The vessel men are underbidding the elevators so seriously that considerable grain is likely to be transferred to the boats. Not a vessel owner in Chicago has signed the agreement, and private advices from Buffalo and Cleveland show the same conditions at those ports.