

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.

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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 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, NOVEMBER 2, 1896.

Manitoba.

The Oak Lake News is the latest Manitoba publication. The first number appeared last week. R. E. Beatty is the editor.

Robt. McLean, a young man from the state of Michigan, is moving to Dauphin, where he contemplates opening a general store business.

A robbery was committed in A. Acheson's store, at Rosenfeldt, recently, by removing two panes of glass from a window. Several fur coats and other goods were taken.

Wm. Pitcher, from Portage la Prairie, has decided to open a bakery and confectionery business at Dauphin.

The Winnipeg Retail Association will hold a banquet early in November, and a committee has been appointed to take the matter in hand.

C. F. Turner, late of Mount Forest, Ontario, has opened in the hardware trade at Dauphin.

Two stores were burglarized at Winnipeg on Tuesday night. The hardware store of C. A. Baskerville was entered, but nothing was secured, except a little small change in the cash drawer. Mr. McKeichan's dry goods store was also entered and a quantity of goods were taken.

W. B. Der, of Glenboro, has purchased the bakery business of F. C. Martin, of Cypress River.

J. R. Strome, dry goods merchant, of Brandon, has sold his branch store at Rapid City, to a Mr. Tassmore, from Ontario.

The Assiniboine Lumber Co., Brandon, sent their first gang of men for the winter to their timber limits in the north country on Tuesday.

Smith Curtis, a Portage la Prairie lawyer, has moved to Roseland, B. C.

Two men giving the names of Frank Nolan and John Gleason have been arrested at Fort William, charged with the recent robbery of Andrew's jewelry store in Winnipeg.

Mr. Shaughnessy, of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, has offered to reduce the freight on stone for paving in Winnipeg to one-half the former rate.

Mr. Powell has disposed of his interest in the flour mill at Melita, Man., to Thos. Bulloch, and the mill will now be carried on by the firm of Ferguson & Bulloch. Mr. Powell, has, however, been retained as miller.

Alberta.

The article in The Commercial of September 28 last, regarding the shipment of coal by water from the North Saskatchewan to Winnipeg, caused quite a little flutter at Edmonton, so writes a correspondent. Many people at Edmonton regard the proposals, as outlined in The Commercial, as perfectly feasible, and already visions of a large coal industry are looming up there. It is felt that a strong effort should be made to secure the improvement of the water route between Winnipeg and Edmonton, so that this trade could be developed and a great boon thereby conferred upon the people. The Edmonton people expect assistance from Winnipeg in pressing the importance of this question upon the government.

Ross Bros., Edmonton hardware merchants, are erecting a new brick warehouse, size 20x91, two stories, adjoining their store on Jasper avenue.

C. Gallagher, of Edmonton, is buying hogs for packing purposes, and is paying 3c to 8½c a pound live weight. This is from half a cent to a cent lower than he paid last year.

John Cameron, Edmonton, has shipped another carload of vegetables, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, to the Kootenay.

An Edmonton correspondent says that wheat is turning out fairly well. Oats are going up, 20c being paid at the oatmeal mill, and wheat is selling at 65c. Potatoes are being shipped to the Kootenay. They are of fine quality and the crop is large.

Grain and Milling Notes.

A new boiler has been placed in the mill at Holland Man. owned by John Muir, and the mill is now full of orders.

The Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, has received orders for 800 tons of Manitoba flour, from Australia. On Tuesday 100 tons were shipped. The next consignment of 200 tons has been booked for December and the remaining 500 in January next.

Oats were offered ½ to 1c lower at Montreal, on October 23, at 28½c.

The cost of storing grain in Duluth elevators is in all cases and for all grains ½c per 30 days, or part thereof, after the preliminary charges, which are as follows: Wheat, barley, oats, rye and corn—elevating, cleaning and 15 days' storage, ½c per bushel. Flax—Elevating and 20 days' storage ½c per bushel. Flax and barley—cleaning ½ cent per bushel.

Two elevators at Chicago, belonging to the Chicago and Pacific line, were burned on Monday, with 1,100,000 bushels of wheat.

The new roller mill at Fort Saskatchewan Alberta, is about completed.

The best bids for oats at Montreal on October 26 were 26 to 26½c, showing a considerable decline nominally, there being no sales.

J. W. Cochrane, proprietor of the flour mill at Glenboro, Man., is putting an electric lighting plant in his mill.

Fur Trade News.

Jas. McMillan & Co., in their last circular say: "Of the fur bearing animals we only advise trapping beaver, muskrat and skunk at the present time. Skunk become prime before any other kind. Beaver and muskrat will grade as fall. Mink will commence to be good next month. The prospect is that furs will rate low during the coming season, although little if any lower than the low prices paid for the end of last season's collection. Manufacturers are using but few native furs, consequently a large proportion of the collection has to be sold in Europe. Until the fur manufacturing business in this

country is good and consumes a large part of the native furs the Europeans will not pay high prices, because such large quantities are offered."

Inspection of Wheat.

At the recent meeting of the grain standards board in Winnipeg, a resolution was passed that the chairman be requested to furnish the press with an explanation of the provisions of the classification in the inspection act, so that the public will understand the requirements as to weight, etc., of the standards.

Mr. Spink, chairman of the board, has accordingly furnished the following explanation. The meaning of this provision is quite clear. No matter what may be the weight of the standard samples chosen by the standards board, if any wheat is presented to an inspector for grading which weighs at least as much as the classification calls for and is in other respects equal in percentage of Red Fyfe, soundness and cleanliness as any particular standard sample, the inspector is bound to issue a certificate showing it to be that grade. Thus if wheat weighs 60 pounds per bushel and has the percentage of Red Fyfe, soundness and cleanliness of the standard sample for one hard, selected by the standards board, an inspector is bound to give the grade of one hard to the grain, even if such standard sample selected by the board weighs 61, 62 or 63 pounds to the bushel. The term "commercial grades" is applied to those grades for which the regular classification schedule makes no provision, but for which the standards board, by the general authority given it by the inspection act, selects standard samples, because some peculiarity of the season's crop requires that such grain should be kept separate in handling and in buying and selling. For instance, the present standards board selected samples for commercial grades to be known as Extra Manitoba Hard wheat, and Nos. 8 hard and 1 and 2 frosted wheat, because in their judgment there is considerable wheat of this crop similar to these commercial grade samples, and such should be kept separate and not handled with the regular grades.

The following resolution, not reported last week, was also passed by the standards board. That the department be requested to endeavor to have the grain classifications schedule posted up in all elevators, mills and warehouses where grain is bought.

Seneca Root

Jas. McMillan & Co. write The Commercial as follows: "We wish to call your attention to the fact that while a considerable quantity of seneca root was carried over from last year, on account of the light demand, there is not at present an over supply. The low prices which have prevailed during the summer have deterred diggers from securing it, and now the demand equaling the supply prices have risen nearly 10c a pound and may advance still further. It occurred to us that you might wish to place this fact before your readers, so that those who are in a position to do so could dig while the weather is propitious, and could sell their root at the improved prices."

Winnipeg city commercial travellers have decided to organize a permanent association.

The Commercial has received a neat card folder from Robin, Sadler & Haworth, manufacturers of leather belting, of Montreal and Toronto, showing a cut of their factory, which is certainly an elegant building.

There was an estimate of the next best crop of 4,600,000 tons, which is slightly under general expectations, which range from 4,700,000 tons to 5,000,000 tons.