

# THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in 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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Advertisements purporting to be news matter,  
or which profess to express the opinions of this  
journal, will not be inserted.

Office: 181 McDermot Street.  
D. W. F. CHANAN,  
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much  
larger circulation among the business community  
of the vast region lying between Lake Superior  
and the Pacific Coast than any other paper in Can-  
ada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also  
reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manu-  
facturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, JAN. 27, 1900.

## FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

It is to be hoped the movement at  
Ottawa to organize a forestry asso-  
ciation, will result in something prac-  
tical being done, not only to encour-  
age the growth of trees, but also to  
protect our natural forests. This is  
a question of great importance to  
Canada, and particularly to the west-  
ern half of the Dominion. Our cities  
and towns take active measures to  
prevent the destruction of property by  
fire, and the loss of a hundred thou-  
sand dollars or so by fire is considered  
a serious matter. At the same time  
millions of dollars worth of timber have  
been destroyed by forest fires, with-  
out hardly a passing notice being  
taken of it. In the so-called prairie  
provinces of Manitoba, the destruction  
of timber by forest fires within the  
past few years, has probably amounted  
to millions of dollars. This destruction  
of timber is a very serious matter for  
the West.

There is room for much active work  
on the part of the proposed forestry  
association. A merely formal red tape  
organization will not do. The gov-  
ernment, however, should take hold of  
this matter of forest protection more  
energetically than has been done in the  
past. Large forest reserves should be  
established, particularly of forest belts  
in the prairie regions, and every ef-  
fort made to preserve these reserves  
from damage by fire. This is only of  
course one feature in the work of pre-  
serving the forests.

We do not know what official stand-  
ing the proposed forestry association  
will have. The association, however,  
could circulate information relative to  
the value of tree cultivation and the  
necessity of protecting the natural for-  
ests; also acting as an advisory body  
to the government. There is room for

active work for all who take an in-  
terest in forestry and forest pro-  
tection. Our forests are one of our  
greatest sources of national wealth.  
By careful handling they may be pre-  
served almost indefinitely. Besides the  
actual value of the timber, the whole-  
sale sweeping away of the forests  
which has been going on is a menace  
to our agricultural industry, threat-  
ening as it does serious climatic  
changes as a result of the removal of  
the timber belts.

## Winnipeg Waterworks.

A test has been made of the new  
source of Winnipeg's water supply.  
Pumping was kept up for a week with-  
out diminishing the supply appreciably,  
though about double the quantity at  
present consumed was daily pumped  
from the well, proving that there is  
practically an inexhaustible supply of  
pure water to be obtained from the  
artesian wells. The new system is  
expected to be ready for operation  
early in the spring, when Winnipeg  
will have a municipal system of water-  
works worthy of the city, and one of  
the best on the continent as regards  
purity. Citizens who have so long  
put up with the atomizable service  
we have had in the past, will certainly  
feel relieved at this announcement.

## New Winnipeg Light Plant.

The city electric lighting plant is  
not yet in place, but it is expected  
that it will be in about two weeks.  
It is housed under the same roof as  
the pumping engines of the new  
waterworks. There are three dyna-  
mos supplied with power from a 300  
horse power engine, and have a capa-  
city of about 300 arc lights. In addi-  
tion there is a smaller engine of  
about 100 horse power. At present  
there are only about 120 arc lights  
furnished by a company, and very  
poor lights at that. It is proposed  
as soon as possible to increase this  
number very considerably, and there  
is no doubt that the plant will have  
to be enlarged in a very few years  
in order to keep up with the grow-  
ing requirements of the streets. The  
boilers which feed the pumping  
engines will also feed the electric  
light engines. The plant is being sup-  
plied from the Polson Iron Works, of  
Toronto, and the dynamos by the  
Westinghouse company, of Chicago.

## Pulp Manufacture in Quebec.

In order to encourage the manufac-  
ture of pulp within the province, the  
provincial government of Quebec has  
increased the stumpage dues from 40  
cents to \$1.90 per cord, giving a re-  
bate of \$1.50 per cord upon all pulp  
wood manufactured within the prov-  
ince. Quebec possesses vast and  
valuable spruce forests, suitable for  
pulp wood, but heretofore the timber  
has been largely exported to the pulp

mills of the New England States, and  
these mills have subsisted and done an  
export business in the manufacture of  
pulp and pulp products, on the forests  
of Canada. Of course it will be great-  
ly to the advantage of Quebec to have  
this enormous manufacturing interest  
centred in the province.

## Famine in British Coal Trade.

"A famine in the coal trade of the  
north of England is stated to be im-  
minent," says the London Times.  
"The collieries are producing much  
less coal than of late. Few colliers are  
at work, but the demand is greater,  
and is in fact of a very pressing char-  
acter. The calling up of the reserves  
and of the militia has had the effect of  
reducing the number of men employed  
at the collieries, and those who are  
working are in all cases earning  
wages on a higher scale than usual,  
and are content to put in less time.  
Stocks are generally well held before  
the holidays, so as to keep up supplies  
until the men return to work, but this  
year stocks have practically been de-  
pleted, and the colliers will probably  
take a longer spell of leisure than usual.  
It is almost certain that by the  
middle of January a crisis will be  
reached, as a result of which supplies  
to several large industrial concerns  
will be lessened, bringing about a  
partial or a complete stoppage of  
operations."

## Stock Breeders' Convention.

The sixth annual meeting of the live  
stock associations will be held during  
the second week of the bonspiel, in  
Winnipeg. The Sheep and Swine Breeders  
meet on Wednesday, Feb. 21, and the  
Pure Bred Cattle Breeders on Thurs-  
day, Feb. 22. As in previous years, the  
conventions will be held in the city hall  
and in conjunction with the dairy asso-  
ciation, which meets on Tuesday, Feb.  
20, and the horticultural association on  
Friday, Feb. 23. Arrangements have  
been made with the railroad companies  
to sell bonspiel tickets, single fare re-  
turn, up to Monday, the 19th of Feb.  
The live stock associations have accom-  
plished much in the way of reduced  
transportation rates and improved ship-  
ping facilities for pure bred stock, be-  
sides introducing many improvements in  
the live stock departments of our in-  
dustrial and local exhibitions, and in  
many other ways advancing the inter-  
ests of the breeder and farmer. In ad-  
dition to the regular business, election  
of officers and representatives to agri-  
cultural exhibitions, full programmes of  
addresses on practical and technical  
subjects will be presented. Speakers  
from Ontario and the United States  
will assist in making this convention  
the most successful yet held. Among  
the prominent men already promised are  
Prof. W. A. Henry, dean of the Univer-  
sity of Wisconsin and agricultural col-  
lege at Madison, and author of one of  
the best modern works on stock feed-  
ing, entitled "Feeds and Feeding." Prof.  
Henry has built up the Agricul-  
tural College of Wisconsin until the  
attendance now numbers 360 students.  
He speaks on "Agricultural Education"  
and "A Lesson on Feeding Stuff." Jos.  
Yuill of Carlton Place, Ont., a veteran  
Ayrshire breeder, and successful dairy-  
man and breeder of poultry, will speak  
on subjects of interest. F. W. Hodson,  
the newly appointed Dominion live  
stock commissioner, will deal with the  
question of "Transportation," and J. H.  
Grisdale, manager of the live stock de-  
partments of the Dominion experimen-  
tal farms, and a number of prominent  
local breeders will take up subjects of  
importance to all stock men.

Keele & Bellby, livery and harness,  
are opening business at Holdmfield,  
Man.