

# 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.

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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, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 23, 1895.

## Manitoba.

E. L. McDonald has opened a jewelry store at Wawanesa.

R. L. Hood has opened a grocery store at Oak Lake.

M. A. Fieldhouse will open a book and stationery store at Neopawa.

S. L. Barrowclough has retired from the management of the Winnipeg Music company's business. He will open up another store.

W. J. Guest, dealers in fish and game, Winnipeg, has started his freezer for the season. Mr. Guest will freeze up and store grouse or other game for sportsmen or dealers, so that any one having an over supply on hand need not suffer any loss, as they can have it frozen and kept for an indefinite time in a perfectly fresh state.

W. F. Buchanan, of the firm of Buchanan & Gordon, commission merchants, Winnipeg, died at the St. Boniface hospital on Thursday, after a long illness. Mr. Buchanan has been ailing for a year or more. He was well-known in Winnipeg and throughout Manitoba, having been in business here since 1862.

The Commercial has received from R. E. Young, surveyor and draughtsman, Winnipeg, a very convenient guide map of the city, mounted on cardboard. Though small in size the map is so neatly executed, that streets and all important objects can be readily traced.

Some fine crops of crabs may be found in the few gardens about Winnipeg where this fruit is grown. It would seem possible to grow quite a quantity of this fruit in Manitoba, particularly in such favored locations as the lower Assiniboine and lower Pembina valleys and the Red river valley. The lower elevations of these regions ensures immunity from severe frosts for from one to three weeks later than many sections of the country, while the partially wooded nature of the country is a further protection for fruit trees.

## Alberta.

J. Creagh, recently publisher of the Calgary Tribune, has been appointed general agent for the Mutual Life Assurance Co. for British Columbia.

## Grain and Milling Matters.

The Dominion Millers' Association met in Toronto recently. Several very interesting papers were read, among them one by James Goldie on "How to Reduce the Fire Risk of Mills." The annual report showed that the past year had been the most successful for several years. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Alex. Dobson, Beaverton, president; 1st vice-president, Jas. Cummings, Lyn, Ont.; treasurer, Wm. Galbraith, Toronto; executive committee, H. Barrett, Port Hope; M. McLaughlin, Toronto; T. O. Kemp, Seaforth; J. M. Spink, Toronto; J. Noble, Norwood, Ont.; W. H. Meldrum, Peterboro, and Jas. Goldie, Guolph.

Ironsides & Kerr have finished their new elevator at Roland, Man. It is run by steam, which will also be used to run a grain crusher on the premises.

The number of threshing machines in some districts is small in comparison with the heavy crop, and threshing will spin out longer than usual. Help is also scarce in some districts, notwithstanding the large number of farm laborers from the east.

The Duluth Market Report of Sept. 16th says:—Locally, the situation is little, if any, better than heretofore. The elevators are not buyers to any extent as yet, and the mills are not taking over one-tenth of the daily receipts. The demand for wheat is, of course, good, but it seems to be mostly for shipment and the stiffening of lake rates this week has been an added incentive to pound another fraction off the price, which this week touched the lowest point on record for both No. 1 hard and No. 1 northern on the Duluth Board. There has been some talk of farmers holding back their grain, but as yet the receipts here and at Minneapolis have not decreased to any extent, being still the heaviest on record for this time of the year.

Parrish & Lindsay, of Brandon are building an elevator at Carroll, Man., of 25,000 bushels capacity. It is equipped with steam power and will be completed in about a week. They now control six elevators in the country.

Farmers are receiving comparatively much higher prices in Manitoba for wheat than are the farmers of Dakota, the difference in favor of Manitoba on some days this week being 4 to 6 cents per bushel. Prices have been well above an export basis in Manitoba ever since the markets opened on this crop, but it is difficult to see how dealers can long keep up this record. Manitoba wheat has to be sold in competition with Duluth in British markets, and as our grades are very similar to Duluth we cannot get any higher prices for our wheat than is obtained for Duluth, therefore it is clear enough that dealers are losing money when they pay above Duluth values. They may be buying on a speculative basis, in the hope that prices will advance, but this is a very risky course to follow and is not legitimate business.

The movement of new wheat is shown in the inspection returns this week, by the re-appearance of the No. 3 hard grade. There was no No. 3 hard in the last crop, but quite a little of this grade is showing up in the new crop, owing to slightly frosted or shrunken wheat. The quantity of "rejected" and "no grade" wheat has also increased with the new crop movement, the former on account of smut and the latter on account of the grain being damp. So far, however, the inspection is averaging very well and showing a good percentage of No. 1 hard; but the present average will not be maintained, as the bulk of the wheat moving is coming from the points where harvest was earliest, and where the crop was saved in better condition than in districts where harvest was later.

## Wheat Prices in Great Britain.

The London Miller reviews the course of wheat prices in British markets during August as follows:

The month's trade opened with scarcely any business doing; but after the Bank Holiday interval very active buying was resumed on the 9th at Mark Lane and Liverpool, value for wheat being fully maintained at both places. Wet weather caused a delay in the appearance of new wheat samples, even at the most southern exchanges, and the comparative scarcity of English wheat led to full prices being made at Norwich on the 10th, at Mark Lane on the 12th, and at Ipswich on the 18th. Liverpool on the 19th was a penny per cental cheaper for some sorts of wheat, American advices being weaker from the 9th. The markets of the 14th and 15th were very dull, and on the 16th both London and Liverpool were again in buyers' favor. Old wheat was firm in value at the country markets of the 17th, at which, with improved weather, there was for the first time a reasonably representative show of new wheat samples. These were better in quality than had been expected, and less damp than had been feared. Opening prices were 24s. to 26s. for Red, and 26s. to 29s. for White wheat. New samples were not much in evidence north of Norfolk, or west of Hampshire. London, on the 19th, was depressed by large supplies of foreign wheat, and Liverpool, on the 20th, was 2d. per cental cheaper for Red American, a 1d. for Californian. The tone of the Liverpool market, in fact was most discouraging, and reacted on the subsequent markets of the week. Edinburgh and Glasgow, on the 21st, were 6d. per qr. lower for wheat, and 6d. per sack for flour; while foreign wheat, on the 22nd, fell 1s. per qr. at Birmingham, Plymouth, Bristol, and Manchester. The price of English wheat was not quotably changed at Maidstone or Nowbury, but at Bristol some new samples of Red wheat were sold as low as 23s. per qr. By the 23rd the dullness had spread to Ireland, and 1s. per qr. decline on wheat was admitted at both Dublin and Belfast. The country markets on the 24th were well attended, the weather being fine, though a terrific and destructive thunderstorm occurred the same evening. New wheat samples at the western markets were lacking in quality, and made 22s. to 25s. only; but at Canterbury 28s. was paid for White and 26s. for Red. At Norwich 25s. was made for fine Red (sixty-three pound samples), and at Reading 27s. was quoted for new White wheat. On the 26th Mark Lane was weak and flat, nearly all sorts of wheat and flour being in buyers' favour. At Liverpool, on 27th, there was a further fall of fully a 1d. per cental in wheat prices, and the last three days of the month were marked by a reactionary tendency in value for every description of foreign wheat. Old English wheat, being very scarce, was fairly steady at 24s. to 25s. per qr., while new ranged in value from 21s. to 27s. for Red, and from 24s. to 29s. for white. It was only in the West and South-west, however, that any new wheat was offered under 24s. per qr. The quality of latest offerings has sustained the promise of earlier samples.

## Lincoln as a Lover.

Abraham Lincoln's sentimental perplexities are to be shown in an article of singular interest which John Gilmer Speed has written from unpublished letters of Lincoln to Joshua Speed, for the next issue of The Ladies Home Journal. The article will show that the great president was not steady in his affairs of the heart, that he floundered in his love, and finally induced his friend Speed to marry and tell him (Lincoln) whether marriage was a failure or not.