

# 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.

Office, 186 James St. East.

JAMES E. STERN,  
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, MARCH 23, 1896.

## Manitoba.

The stock of E. Rayner, grocer, Winnipeg, has been sold by the bailiff.

Sterling & McCaul, general merchants, Emerson, have dissolved partnership.

W. H. Eaton & Co., general merchants, Selkirk, have sold out to M. Finklestein, general merchant of the same place.

A fire was started in the Clements Block, Main St., Winnipeg, by mice nibbling matches. It was noticed and subdued before much damage was done.

Jas. G. Harvey, a promising young Winnipeg barrister, late of the firm of Mulock, Roberts and Harvey, has opened a law office on his own account in this city.

Alex. F. Pirie, of the firm of Deegan & Co., clothing and furnishings, Winnipeg, died suddenly on Wednesday. Mr. Pirie was formerly with J. W. Peck & Co.

S. A. Ripstein, says the Glenboro Gazette, has a car of goods on the track here and is about to open a store, if he can make a deal for any building in town to open up his goods in.

The Brandon Times says: "Wilson, Rankin & Co., opened the doors of their new department store in the Syndicate Block yesterday morning and were thronged with customers throughout the day. This firm formerly carried furniture only, but have now added a general stock.

A meeting of the retail association was held at the English Chop House last evening. A resolutions was passed that Messrs. Aikins & Culver be retained to see that the enforcement of the early closing by-law is carried out, and that they be present at the court today to watch the case of F. Cloutier and take such steps as they may deem necessary. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Kennealy for the use of the room.

F. Cloutier, Winnipeg, was up at the police court on Thursday for infraction of the early closing by-law. He is charged with keeping his boot and shoe store open during prohibited hours. I. Campbell appeared for the city, and J. H. D. Munson for Mr. Cloutier, and Mr. Aikins for the Retailers' Association. The case will likely be an interesting one, as the legality of the law may be attacked, and a decision may not be reached for some time.

Winnipeg is not only becoming recognized as the most important western commercial centre, but it is gaining a wider reputation

even as a sporting centre. Our oarsmen, hockeyists, skaters, etc., are gaining a continental reputation. The latest development in the sporting line is the Northwestern Sportsman, a weekly sporting journal, which has made its appearance in this city. Published by the Sportsman Publishing Co., Winnipeg.

The following gentlemen have applied for an act to incorporate the Manitoba Trust Company: Hon. Thomas Wardlaw Taylor, Chief Justice of Manitoba; Geo. A. Cox, of Toronto, president of the Bank of Commerce; E. L. Drawry, manufacturer; Wm. J. Christie deputy collector of inland revenue; I. M. Ross, contractor; Colin Inkster, sheriff; A. McT. Campbell, manager of the Canada Life for Manitoba; F. F. Hutchings, merchant, and A. J. Bannerman. The object of this corporation is to act as agent in the management and winding up of estates, etc. the collection of rents, etc., to receive and manage sinking funds, to grant and sell life annuities and invest the proceeds of annuities and all money entrusted to the company for investment. The capital stock of the company shall be five hundred thousand dollars, and the company shall not be entitled to do business until one hundred thousand dollars is paid up.

## Northwest Ontario.

T. Dunbar has purchased the barbering business of Jas. Hall at Fort William.

At a meeting of the Port Arthur Board of Trade, it was resolved that the government of Canada be requested to extend the period during which mining machinery, milling and smelting machinery, not manufactured in Canada be admitted, free of duty for another five years.

The people of Port Arthur have decided by popular vote to let a contract to the Port Arthur Light and Power company for the putting in of waterworks, a new electric lighting plant, the building of a pulp mill, and furnishing power for the electric street railway for twenty years. This scheme includes among other things, the development of the Current river and McVicar creek water powers, and will land in the centre of the town about 3,000 horse power, easily available for all sorts of industries.

A number of Hamilton, Ontario capitalists have decided to form a company to work a gold mine west of Port Arthur. The claim was originally held by T. S. Wiley, Mayor Marks, and other Port Arthur gentlemen, and they will retain an interest in the company. The Hamilton men are J. H. Tilden, T. M. Lester, W. Southam, H. N. Kittson, J. Hoodless, F. C. Bruce and G. L. Staunton. The mine is in the Seine River country, 33 miles south of Bonheur station, on the Canadian Pacific Railway about half way between Port Arthur and Winnipeg. The vein averages over two feet wide, and surface indications are very favorable.

## Alberta.

O. H. Bush has purchased the bankrupt millinery stock of Mrs. Bush, of Edmonton.

The Hudson's Bay company have subscribed \$5,000 towards the new traffic bridge to be constructed across the Saskatchewan river at Edmonton.

William Baillie, a former Calgary newspaper man, has bought out the plant and business of the Inland Sentinel, of Kamloops, British Columbia.

## Saskatchewan.

The report of gold discovered at Birch Hills near Prince Albert, says a report from the latter place appears to have materialised. R. J. McKenzie, who came here about

a month ago, returned last week with an expert who pronounces there is gold in paying quantity. The townspeople are greatly excited and large crowds have gone out to the spot. A great many claims have already been staked. The discovery was made on a farm owned by one Cadwallar, who is now in England.

## Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Mar. 13 1896.	Mar. 15, 1895.
Flour, straight spring	\$3 10 to \$3 60	\$2.76 to \$3.46
Flour, straight winter	\$3 30 to \$3.80	\$2.40 to \$2.90
Wheat, No. 2 red	38½c	61½c
Corn, No. 2 mixed	38½c	51½c
Oats, No. 2	25½c	35½c
Rye, No. 2, Western	48c	
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	45c	64 to 65c
Cotton, mid. upld.	7½c	6 1-10c
Print cloths, 64x64	2½c	2 7-16
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X	18c	15½ to 16c
Wool, No. 1 combg.	22 to 23c	20 to 21½c
Pork, mess new	\$10 00 to \$10.50	\$13 00 to 13.50
Lard, westn., stm	6.60c	7 10c
Butter, creamery	22c	19c
Cheese, ch. east ter.	10½c	11½c
Sugar, centrif., 96°	4½c	3c
Sugar, granulated	6c	5 15-16c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7	14½ to 14½c	17c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.	\$1 39	1.09½c
Petroleum, rd. gal.	7.25c	6.85
*Iron, Bess. pg.	\$12 ½	\$10.15
*Steel billets, ton	\$17.00	\$14.75
Ocean Steam Freights—		
Grain, Liverpool	1½d	2d
Cotton	3.3½d	4d

\* Pittsburgh.

## Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William May, 66½ to 67½. To farmers Manitoba points 50c.

Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.85; Bakers, \$1.65.

Bran.—Per ton, \$12.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.

Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, local freights, 29 to 30c.

Barley.—Per bushel, 35 to 40c, local freights.

Flax Seed.—

Butter.—Country dairy 8 to 14c in a small way.

Cheese.—Small lots 10c.

Eggs.—Fresh, 10 to 11c in small lots.

Beef.—City dressed, 5½c.

Mutton.—Fresh, and lamb, 6 to 8c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 4½ to 4¾c.

Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 3¾c.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4c.

Sheep.—4c.

Seneca Root.—

Poultry.—Chickens, 8c, turkeys, 10c, geese, 10c, ducks 8c.

Hides.—No. 1 cows, 4½c.

Potatoes.—35 to 40c per bushel.

Hay.—\$4.00 per ton, car lots, country freights.

This week a year ago the principal feature was a decline of 4 to 5c in fresh eggs.

## Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending March 19 were \$926,547; balances, \$164,435. For the previous week clearings were \$1,011,361. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$695,454, and for the week two years ago, \$824,174. For the month of February clearings were \$4,052,581 as compared with \$2,721,028 for February, 1895, and \$3,132,537 for February, 1894.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	March 12.
Montreal	\$9,208,850
Toronto	6,666,498
Halifax	974,036
Winnipeg	1,011,661
Hamilton	622,622
Total	\$18,478,712