

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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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, FEBRUARY 24, 1896.

Manitoba.

R. Machon, of Prince Albert, will open a fruit store at Brandon.

A department store was opened at Brandon recently by the amalgamation of I. R. Strome and Whyte Bros.

S. T. Hopper, general storekeeper, Rapid City, advertises giving up business.

Wm. Young has retired from the firm of A. Young & Co., druggists, of Neepawa.

G. A. Hogarth, general storekeeper, Minnedosa, has assigned.

Assiniboia.

J. Carson has sold his blacksmithing business at Mocsomin to W. Spooner.

The general store business of B. B. Gilbard, Fleming, is now carried on by Gilbard & Craig.

Morrison, druggist, Whitewood, has bought out McDonald, his local competitor in the same line

Alberta.

No. 8 shaft of the Lethbridge colliery has been shut down, about forty miners being thrown out of employment in consequence. Several of the miners have gone to Canmore and Anthracite, Alberta.

C. Gallagher, says the Edmonton Bulletin, is in communication with a dressed meat firm at the coast with a view of securing a market for the large number of light hogs remaining in the Edmonton district, which are not suitable for packing here. The trade here demands heavy sides and the fatter the better. Hogs under 200 pounds weight are not suitable, and consequently it is desirable to find an outlet for them. The price quoted so far would not admit of paying more than 3½c here, live weight.

Dairy Trade News.

J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg shipped last week a carload of Manitoba dairy butter to Liverpool.

A meeting of the producers of butter and cheese was held in Winnipeg on Tuesday afternoon, to discuss modes of marketing their product. It seemed to be the feeling that the dairymen should form some association to place their goods on the market. In

the evening of the same day a general meeting of dairymen and others was held in the grain exchange, to consider the plan of organizing a dairy exchange in connection with the Winnipeg Grain and Produce exchange. This meeting was called by the committee appointed at a preliminary meeting held on January 10 last. A large number of dairymen were present, besides dealers in dairy goods, members of the grain exchange and others interested in the dairy industry. A lengthy discussion ensued, but no general line of action was developed, there seeming to be a great diversity of opinion. Some were opposed to working with the grain exchange, and preferred to work with the Manitoba Dairy association. The dairymen all seemed to be in favor of an association of some sort, but they were all more or less at sea as to how to proceed in the matter. About the only practical suggestion was that made by Mr. Crerar, to the effect that the dairymen form an association and appoint an agent in Winnipeg to act for them, all goods to be shipped to Winnipeg to be placed in cold storage, and sold through the agent. The advisability of having an official inspector and weigher appointed was also discussed, but no definite action was taken in this respect. It was finally moved by Mr. Crerar and seconded by Mr. Struthers, "that in the opinion of this meeting it would be well for dairy men (manufacturers and producers) to organize and affiliate with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange." This motion was carried. It was then moved by Mr. Champion, seconded by Mr. Pearson, that Messrs. Crerar, Pearson, Bousfield and Barre be a committee to confer with the grain exchange, re such organization. This was also carried. On Wednesday morning a meeting of the dairymen alone was held in the dairy school building. There was a unanimity of opinion as to the advisability of devising means by which producers and purchasers could be brought into more direct communication, the only question being the best means to be employed to secure that desideratum. After considerable discussion the following motion: moved by Wm. Ryan, of Ninga, seconded by Prof. Barre, was adopted: Resolved, "that it is the opinion of this meeting that the Manitoba dairy association should be requested to form a board, under the provisions of their charter, to facilitate the marketing of cheese, butter and produce, including provision for cold storage, butter and cheese boards, the securing of cable quotations, the appointment of a public weigher and a committee of arbitration to settle difficulties between buyers and sellers; and that a committee composed of factory men be appointed to look after the proper organization of such a board, and to prepare rules and regulations for their guidance." A proposition to affiliate with the grain exchange, which was advocated by Mr. Bousfield, of Hamiota, Mr. McCuaig, of Portage Plains, and others was rejected. It was also decided to ask for an inspector. At a final meeting of the dairymen the following resolution was passed: "Moved by S. M. Barre, that D. W. McCuaig, T. L. Morton, M. P. P., D. O. Allaire, Mr. Rogers, Kenneth McKenzie, S. M. Barre, and D. W. Skunk be a committee to prepare rules and regulations for a board or committee on trade, said committee to report to the executive of the dairymen's association. This committee met later and discussed the business referred to it, but, as the shortness of the notice of meeting prevented the attendance of some of the members, nothing definite was decided upon. The meeting was adjourned till the 5th of March.

In the house at Ottawa on Feb. 20, Hon. Mr. Foster introduced a bill to provide for the stamping of cheese and butter packages with the word "Canadian," and also for the registration of factories. The registration can extend to the districts, as well as to in-

dividual factories. Several members insisted that the packages should be stamped with the date of production, as a further measure of protection to the producer and consumer, as middlemen practiced misrepresentation in this particular. Under the provisions of the bill, no cheese or butter can be held for export except that produced in properly registered factories.

A Railway for Dauphin.

In the Manitoba Legislature on Tuesday, Hon. Mr. Greenway gave notice that he would on Thursday move the following resolution: That this house do forthwith resolve itself into committee of the whole upon the following resolution: Resolved, that it is expedient for the government of Manitoba in such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon with the Lake Manitoba Railway and Canal company, to aid and assist the construction of a line of railway by said company from a point in or near the town of Portage la Prairie, or in or near the town of Gladstone, or from some point on the line of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway, which may be authorized by the charter of the said company, running in a northerly or north-westerly direction west of Lake Manitoba to a point west of Lake Dauphin, or passing west of Lake Dauphin to a point at or near Lake Winnipegosis, by guaranteeing the principal and interest of the first mortgage bonds of the company to the amount of \$3 000 per mile of said railway, said bonds bearing 4 per cent interest and maturing at the end of 80 years from the issue thereof; and by exempting the said railway, its property and franchise from taxation during the period of such guarantee, provided that the said bonds and interest thereon shall be a first charge upon the said line of railway and its revenues and franchise, rolling stock and equipment in pursuance of the act of incorporating of the said company and the general railway act of Canada.

Seed Grain at Half Rates.

The following circular has been issued to Canadian Pacific Railway agents throughout Manitoba and the Territories: Notice to agents.—The company will transport seed wheat, oats and barley, between stations from Whitemouth westward to Calgary, inclusive and branch lines in Manitoba and the Territories, from the 1st of March to the 10th of May, 1896, at one half tariff rates, under the terms and conditions of Circular F, 776, of February 15th, 1895.

Samples of seed grain prepared by the Dominion grain inspector at Winnipeg for the guidance of agents, will be distributed to agents, and only seed grain equal in quality to the samples, will be carried at the reduced rate.

Silver.

Both the London and New York markets for silver were featureless last week. Silver prices on Feb. 14 were London, 80 15-16d; New York, 67½c.

The Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association has issued a very handsome calendar. In the centre a colored photogravure of the grounds is surrounded by tablets upon which the months are shown. The dates of the next exhibition are prominently shown and timely advice to farmers is given in the indications in date lines. This fine hanger was executed in Winnipeg.

Hart A. Massey died at Toronto on February 20, after an illness lasting practically since the beginning of the year. Deceased was probably the best known manufacturer in Canada, having built up a huge agricultural implement manufacture. Deceased was in his 78th year and was head of the Massey-Harris company.