

# THE COMMERCIAL

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D. W. BUCHANAN,  
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 Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

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## Southern Manitoba Towns.

NOTES FROM A RAMBLING CORRESPONDENT

### DELORAINÉ.

Delorainé has experienced the benefits of a prosperous year, in spite of the fact that 400,000 bushels will probably cover the amount of wheat received for the season, while the 1895 crop marketed here was double that figure. But quality and price have more than made up for any lack in quantity. The average crop was given by some as 18 bushels per acre. This is probably high though some individual crops went 23 bushels to the acre. Next year will see a great extension of the wheat acreage in the Delorainé district.

Business men in Delorainé seem prosperous and contented. Most of the old-timers continue which is an encouraging feature. Among these old-timers are P. McConnell, baker and grocer, pegging away in the same old stand, Falconer & Martin, hardware merchants, still on the ground floor with the field to themselves once again and more than a big trade this fall, Con. Clearihue, their chief factotum is another old-timer. J. Boyd and W. H. Atkinson are old timers in the lumber business. Mr. Boyd also deals in furniture. This year Mr. Atkinson put up a new warehouse and handles farm machinery, vehicles, etc. J. Lohead also has a lumber yard. O. C. Smith, general merchant, is still

to the fore with his store extended back quite a distance, and a new brick warehouse, 26x46, with basement, built this year. He has also put in an acetylene gas plant, which worked fairly well when I saw it. H. L. Montgomery, another old time merchant, has a partner now, the firm being Montgomery & Colquhoun. They have a store crammed full and all hands busy as bees. Major Evans is another merchant who has admitted a partner, Evans and Stovin now being the style. They report business satisfactory. The H. B. Co. still holds it down in their big store, almost by itself, at the other side of the wide space which is made by the C. P. R. track, and which mars the appearance of the town greatly. Mr. Buxton is manager for the H. B. Co. at Delorainé. Horn & Traynor are a comparatively new business firm. F. L. Kilbourn, an old resident of Delorainé, started in flour, feed, fruit and confectionery last spring. Temple the barber, and McKee the jeweler have also fitted up their places, which adjoin, with an acetylene gas plant. The two hotels, the Revere house, W. B. Williams, proprietor, and the Queen's, S. Leach, proprietor, are worthy houses of entertainment. Delorainé has a roller mill which is yet in a partly finished condition. The local newspaper, the Times, must not be over-looked, being one of the best in the province, and by the same token, the fighting editor is a lady, Mrs. F. E. Daubney. The prospects for Delorainé are excellent for one of the largest wheat areas tributary to a town surrounds it, and the end is not yet reached in developing that area. The find of coal on the mountain a few miles away has not been much of a financial success. The cost of elevating the coal from the bottom of rather a deep shaft being a bad feature. The quality is much the same as the Souris coal. Fires on the mountain greatly injured the wood reserve this past season.

### BOISSEVAIN.

This town can hardly be denied the claim to possess the best public or business blocks of any town in that corner of the province. Souris may out-class her, but that would be the only one and the new store of Andrew Hilday at Boissevain is probably the best without exception, not only in Southern Manitoba, but in any provincial town in Manitoba. This splendid building only completed and occupied a couple of months ago. The building is of stone, 30x75 feet, with plate glass front. The interior is handsomely fitted up and contains a large stock of dry goods. Stone is the material used in the majority of the buildings, a very good quality of pleasing bluish color being quarried close to the town. J. P. Graves and

Son last year purchased the Martin Craig block, which they fitted up and added a large extension to the rear. They are grain dealers and have the half of their block occupied with a stock of groceries. Hunter & Moore, general merchants, occupy a large stone store, one of the first built in the town. This firm carries a large stock and does a good business. One of the oldest and perhaps the largest stores is that of the J. D. Baine Co., Ltd. Mr. Baine is one of the pioneer merchants and has been here steadily. Morrison Bros. are two progressive young merchants, carrying a large stock and doing a good trade. They have in connection with their general store, dressmaking, millinery and custom tailoring, the latter being a large and flourishing branch of their trade. W. H. Benuett is a new man in business, though long connected with trade in the town. He has a good store and very well kept stock. E. Nichol & Son, at the west end of the town, are another pioneer firm, having been here from the first. They have a large grain business as well as their general store. H. S. Price, formerly with Jas. Robertson & Co., wholesale hardware, is now the owner of a good retail hardware store in Boissevain, where he is fast becoming as popular as he was "on the road." David McCausland and W. Hanley are the local butchers and each have good shops, and carry choice stocks of meat. The Union Bank has a branch here, occupying a neat stone building. Boissevain has a good little local paper, the Globe, published by W. H. Ashley. A. McKnight, postmaster, was formerly in business here and at Ninga. The Boissevain mill, capacity 150 barrels, is a leading industry. It is owned by Hurt & McKay, who do a large merchant milling trade in the east. They have elevator capacity of 35,000 bushels. Mr. Hurt estimates the wheat tributary to Boissevain this year at about 450,000 bushels, of which quite a quantity remains to be marketed. The crop is small compared with last year, running about ten bushels to the acre. In 1895 Boissevain marketed over 900,000 bushels of wheat, standing second in the province. There are seven elevators in Boissevain, several belonging to private buyers, as Graves & Son. E. B. Tatchell, F. F. Cole, Nichol and Hurt & McKay. The effect on the market was very emphatic this year, the price going up to 85 cents on open market. Boissevain's two hotels, J. W. Knittel and W. E. Saults, proprietors, are very good class of hotels, better than is often found in towns of that size. A large number of handsome stone residences and two of Winnipeg brick were built this year, and houses to rent are an unknown quantity in this thriving town.