

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially 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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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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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, NOVEMBER 6, 1893.

Canadian Cheese Sweeps the Fair.

The result of the final cheese competition at the World's Fair is published, and is of startling significance to all interested in the dairy industry of the Dominion. The cheese was judged by two United States and one Canadian judge. In the classes for Cheddar cheese made previous to 1893 Canada won 103 awards and the United States not one. In the class for Cheddar cheese of this year's make Canada took 369 awards, against 45 to the United States. Canada had 130 exhibits of cheese which scored higher than the highest of the United States exhibit.

Ontario had 275 exhibits of cheese of 1893, and won 260 awards. Five lots scored 99½ points out of a possible 100 for perfection.

Quebec had 113 exhibits of cheese and won 105 awards.

Nova Scotia had ten exhibits and secured three awards.

New Brunswick had four exhibits and obtained two awards.

Prince Edward Island had nineteen exhibits and took eight awards.

Manitoba had four exhibits and received three awards.

The total number of exhibits of cheese from Canada was 539, and secured altogether 490 awards. Nine of the exhibits from Canada secured 99½ points out of a possible hundred for perfection. Five of these lots were from Ontario and four from Quebec.

Germans in Western Canada.

Der Nordwestern newspaper of Winnipeg publishes a report of H. Carstens, the German Dominion Government officer in Winnipeg, who has recently returned from a three weeks' trip through the settlements. The object of his visit was chiefly to inspect the German colonies, in order to report to the government from his personal observation on the present condition of the settlers. He went first to Langenburg and vicinity; thence to Josefsberg near

Grenfell; thence to Edenwald and the remaining colonies near Balgonie and Regina, and from there he travelled to Edmonton. Everywhere he found the settlers, with few exceptions, very contented and hopeful; and everywhere a healthy growth in the prosperity of the settlers was observable. The wheat harvest this year in the Langenburg and Edmonton districts has turned out very well, and the other field and garden products yielded a good return. Between Grenfell and Regina the heat in August diminished the yield somewhat; but over here the harvest was in general not unsatisfactory. Near Langenburg, and southerly from Balgonie, many settlers complained of lack of water. With the help of a government boring machine, which is now already at work near Langenburg, it is hoped that this evil will soon be obviated. The lack of schools in some of the younger colonies will soon disappear of itself with the increasing prosperity of the settlers. The most of the settlers now possess very neat houses and large convenient stables, and live in very good circumstances.

Comparative Wheat Movement.

It is claimed that the reason that the wheat movement, since the beginning of the crop year, is so much smaller than that of the two past years is because farmers will not sell freely at the low prices current during this time. Experience, however, does not show that low prices curtail the movement, but that they tend to increase it. This is proven by comparative records of the movement during seasons when prices were high and seasons when they were low.

In 1888 No. 1 northern wheat was up to \$1.18 on Oct. 30, yet the total receipts at the principal spring and winter wheat markets to that time amounted to only 54,470,084 bushels from the commencement of the new crop year. In 1889 and 1890 the movement was still smaller, notwithstanding prices were up in the nineties. In 1891, on Oct. 30, the movement had reached 98,979,704 bushels, and prices were on the decline, while in 1892 the market was down to 68c, and the movement had reached the large amount of 116,471,119 bushels. This year it amounts to 68,151,576 bushels and No. 1 northern wheat is selling at 61c. This amount is larger than that of the three years mentioned when prices were high and smaller than that of the two years when prices were going down rapidly.

The reason the wheat movement is larger when prices are down is, likely, because farmers have to sell more to bring in the necessary money to meet expenses than if prices were higher. If that theory is correct then the movement this year, compared with the amount raised, is larger than it was in previous years when prices were low. The total primary movement from last year's crop was 252,647,979 bu and 116,471,119 bu had been received up to the last of Oct. The year before the total movement was 242,001,927 bu and 98,979,704 had been marketed by Nov. 1. The previous three years, excepting 1889, the percentage of the movement up to this time, compared with the total movement, was even smaller, although prices were higher. That year considerably over half of the amount received had been sold by Oct. 30 and prices were going down rapidly, dropping 15c from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. The movement during the year was smaller than that of any of the five years under review.

These comparisons show that declining markets and low prices in the past have not lessened the farm movement. This year, however, is an off year all around and perhaps what will happen cannot be gauged by what has happened. Still, it is not likely but farmers have as much expense to meet as they had in former years and that they have had to dispose of more wheat, compared with the amount raised, than they did then.—Minneapolis Market Record, Nov. 1.

Grain Prices in England.

L. Norman & Co., of London, write as follows on October 16th:—

Since our last report, of the 9th inst., the heavy supplies of foreign wheat and flour in the United Kingdom, and a further increase in the United States visible supply, tend to keep our market in a very dull state. The Washington bureau report for October pointing to a crop of less than 400 million bushels, against previously estimated fully 400 million bushels, or probably 450 million, failed to impart any better tone, the buyers requirements being fully supplied for some time to come; moreover the American markets remained in the same dull and weak state.

American sellers do not press sales. As a matter of fact, the prices asked are much too dear compared with Russian wheats, which are offering freely from 23s 6d to 27s, according to quality, at which prices a large business has been done for shipments from October to December.

In Canadian grain shippers offer but sparingly, and little business is passing.

Hard Manitobas—Easier. Shippers have modified their views, and No. 1 hard is offering at 27s 3d, c.i.f., for October, November shipment, at which figure a parcel of 1,000 quarters has been sold.

Barley.—Good qualities of foreign and English keep firm with upward tendency. Grinding sorts easier, but a firm business has been passing in cargoes at rather lower prices as compared with last week. Californian brewing barley is quoted at 23s 6d c.i.f. per 4½ lbs.

Peas.—Quiet, and little or nothing doing. To London for prompt shipment 25s 6d was realized for small parcel. Selling to day at 25s 3d c.i.f., but no buyers. Liverpool and Glasgow weaker.

Oats.—Quiet. Canadians not offering. No. 2 mixed American are quoted 17s, c.i.f.

Hay.—Steady and higher prices asked, but buyers do not readily respond. Shipment October to February sellers ask £5 5s 0d to £5 7s 6d, but very little business has been done at £5 5s 0d, buyers not being disposed to pay over £5 2s 6d.

T. W. Teasdale, general passenger agent of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway, usually known as the "Northwestern Line," says in a private letter to THE COMMERCIAL: "We have handled more business during the World's Fair season than any other western line and without the slightest accident. In securing the business from your vicinity we feel that our success is in a large measure due to the assistance of your valuable paper. We hope soon again to make use of your advertising columns in telling your readers about our service."

Four Manitoba cheese factories entered cheese for competition at the World's fair, three taking prizes. In order to secure an award, it was necessary to obtain 95 points. S. M. Barre scored 99 points on cheese from one of his factories, and 96½ points on the product of another factory. David Shunk, of St. Anne, scored 97½ points, and D. Pelletier, of Lorette, obtained 91 points. Thus three out of the four cheese exhibits from Manitoba took prizes. The score of 99 made by Mr. Barre is as high as was secured by any of the long list of Ontario exhibitors, only a very few obtaining this distinction.

R. Baxter, of Springfield, near Winnipeg, a successful Manitoba farmer and stock breeder, has added 200 head of sheep to his flock, including some imported English shropshires. Mr. Baxter has made a specialty of shropshire sheep, and he has always carried off a liberal percentage of prizes in these sheep and also in hogs at the summer and fall fairs. High class sheep and hogs are his specialties. He finds a good demand for his surplus stock for breeding purposes from Manitoba farmers.