

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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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, JANUARY 20, 1896.

Manitoba.

H. Braun, hotel, Winnipeg, has sold out to Jas. Fairbairn.

J. J. Ritchie has sold out his blacksmith business at La Riviere.

Cooms & Co., general merchants, of Elk-horn, have assigned.

H. C. Hamilton, general merchant, Lauder, has sold out to Shillington & Co.

F. D. Barclay has succeeded to the general store business of Barclay Bros., of Wawanessa.

Capt. Robinson has 200 men employed in the woods on Lake Winnipeg, getting out logs.

Mr. Donaldson, manager of the Donaldson Trading Co., successors to C. R. Gordon, general merchant, Manitou, comes from Ottawa, Ont.

The general store and stock of H. Roberts & Co., Strathclair, was totally destroyed by fire on Jan. 15. The insurance is \$2,500 and the loss much more.

The council of the Winnipeg board of trade has completed arrangements for the annual banquet which takes place at the Manitoba hotel on February 4. A very successful dinner is anticipated.

Dr. Bedford, one of the oldest residents in Emerson, died on Jan. 11, after one week's illness from pneumonia. Dr. Hepworth is locating at Emerson, taking up the practice of the late Dr. Bedford.

J. I. Bargaen, whom we stated recently had purchased the branch general store business at Plum Coulee of E. Penner & Co., has been a resident of Plum Coulee for six years, during which time he acted as manager of the business which he has now purchased.

La Touche Tupper, inspector of fisheries in Manitoba, has just shipped from the Manitoba fish hatchery a consignment of eyed out or half hatched white fish eggs to the hatchery at New Westminster, British Columbia. These white fish will eventually be deposited in the Okanagan and other fresh water lakes of British Columbia. This is the second shipment of white fish eggs sent to the Pacific province, the first shipment of two million being made two years ago and were successfully hatched.

We have received a new price list from Jas. McMillan & Co., of Minneapolis, Minn., and Winnipeg, hide and fur dealers.

Grain and Milling Notes.

Manitoba low grade wheat is finding a market in British Columbia to some extent for feed. The Brackman & Ker Milling Co. have used some and want more. Mail samples and price to their Vancouver office.

The unexpected small decrease in the visible supply week before last has been accounted for at New York, where a lot of Manitoba bonded wheat in store there was counted in the visible stock for the first time. It made a difference of 750,000 bushels.

The exports of wheat from India since April 1, aggregate 17,008,000 bushels, of which 13,024,000 bushels went to the United Kingdom and 3,984,000 bushels to the continent. The total shipments for the corresponding time last year were 10,396,000 bushels, of which 7,656,000 bushels went to the United Kingdom and 2,636,000 bushels to the continent.

The total receipt of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City, from July 1st to date, are 22,269,713 bushels against 23,617,258 bushels in 1895 and 36,675,267 bushels in 1891. The total receipts at the four principal spring wheat points since Aug. 1st, the beginning of the crop year, foot up—Minneapolis, 51,338,790 bushels; Duluth, 39,169,204 bushels; Chicago, 17,451,308 bushels; and Milwaukee, 6,111,834 bushels; making a total of 114,071,136 bushels, against 82,397,774 bushels during the same time last year and 73,865,157 bushels in 1891.

Winnipeg Dairy School.

A representative of The Commercial dropped into the Winnipeg dairy school the other day and found Mr. Macdonald busy getting things in shape. Some butter has been made, but the cheese machinery was not all in position yet. A large attendance is already assured. January and February will be devoted to practical instructions in butter and cheese making, butter one day and cheese the following day, alternately. In March instructions will be given in private dairying, when any one desirous of learning how to make good butter can attend. The February and March course is open only to butter and cheese makers who have worked one season or longer at the business. Instructions will also be continued during April, in the form of a general review of the work of butter and cheese making.

British Columbia Fur Trade.

The fur market of British Columbia is very dull at present, and indication of any improvement in the near future are not good. Furs are scarce. Martin and mink are the favorite skins in the market, while beaver and otter are in fair demand. Skunk, coon, mud cat, wolf and lynx are in poor demand. Bear skins are very poor and a drug on the market, and the trade here has been warned against them. Hides are very low. Deer skins are in fair demand. Prices are as follows for No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 skins:

Black bear \$20, \$15, \$10.
Brown bear \$16, \$14, \$8.
Grizzly bear \$25, \$20, \$10.
Mink \$1, 75c.
Martin, dark, \$6, \$4, \$2.
Martin, pale, \$2.50, \$2, \$1.50.
Beaver \$7, \$5, \$3.
Land otter \$3, \$6, \$4.
Fisher \$9, \$6, \$4.
Lynx \$2.50, \$2, \$1.50.
Fox, silver, \$75 to \$150, \$40 to \$60, \$15 to \$30.
Fox, cross, \$12, \$8, \$5.
Fox, red, \$2.50, \$2, \$1.
Wolf \$2, \$1.50, \$1.
Wolverine \$4, \$3, \$2.
Raccoon 40c, 30c.

The Demand for Cents.

The mint at Philadelphia is turning out cents at the rate of 15,000 a day. Of a total 780,000,000 pieces coined, 504,700,000 have been coined since 1880. It would not have been surprising if the demand for cents had increased during the hard times of 1878 or 1893, but as a fact the demand came when the times began to improve. The cent is now used for change all over the country. Up to the last four or five years it was not used in many of the western states and territories, but now its use is universal. Probably this is due in a large measure to the great reduction in prices making small differences of importance. Possibly the reduction of the newspapers all over the country has increased the demand. The inevitable fall in the price of street car fares will call for another increase.—Milwaukee Journal

Bounty on German Sugar.

Private cables were received by sugar merchants in this city Thursday stating that the German Federal Council has prepared for the Reichstag the national budget for 1896, in which is incorporated a recommendation urged by the Emperor that the government increase the bounty that is now paid on sugar exported from that country. The present export bounty is equal to about 18½c per 100 pounds for raw sugar. This it is proposed to increase to 29½c, while the rates on refined it is proposed to increase from 29½c, the present rate, to 56½c.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

Vancouver Statistics for 1895.

The year's statistics for Vancouver show in every instance the increase over the returns of 1894 are large. Following are statistics for 1895:

Imports.....	\$985,452
Exports.....	897,035
Duty Collected.....	300,477
Inland Revenue.....	107,849

The loss from fire in Vancouver during the year was \$54,787, and the insurance \$53,000. Vancouver has abundance of water, a high water pressure and excellent paid fire brigades.

British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, of January 13, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: "During the week English wheats have advanced 6d. In foreign wheats California has risen 6d, and other American 8d. California on passage has been quoted at 27s 6d, January shipment at 28s, hard Duluth at 26s 6d, and No 2 Manitoba at 25s 6d. Today the tone of the market was good, and the rise in English and foreign wheats was maintained."

The packers are holding very firm on hide values, says the Chicago Shoe and Leather Review. Sales of the packers' leather in Boston at good prices tend to stiffen their views of hides. One of the packers holds most of the stocks of branded hides, and he is holding strong opinions, while the supply of native hides is so small everywhere that a very little demand serves to keep the quotations firm.

The Breeder's Gazette says: "Notwithstanding the fact that the price of all kinds of farm animals are low, the fact remains that it is suicidal to try to carry on farming operations without live stock. It is unquestionably true that the average farmer of the country will do better by following a well-ordered system of "mixed" husbandry than by putting all his eggs in one basket, but no system of mixed farming can pay that does not include the maintenance of some kind of good live stock."