

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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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. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desks of the majority of business men in the district designated above, including Northwest Ontario, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, and the Territories of Assinibola, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 1, 1897.

DISTRIBUTING WEEDS

Seeds of noxious weeds are often distributed through the seeds remaining in feed given to animals. Even ground feed often contains a large number of small seeds which are not destroyed by the process of grinding, and which will grow after being fed to animals. Feed, of course, can be ground fine enough to destroy the seeds; but much of the ground feed offered is full of small seeds which have not been destroyed in the process of grinding. Those who wish to keep their land clear of weeds, should be very careful about the feed used for their stock. Cooking will destroy the seeds.

MANITOBA LANDS

Manitoba farm lands seem to have indeed taken a turn upward. Almost every provincial paper has occasional items telling of the sale of lands at improved prices. In some districts the prices quoted are considerably higher than are asked for lands in the Winnipeg district. Lands around Winnipeg do not seem to have experienced as much of an upward movement as in many other districts, as real estate agents report that while there is rather a better feeling and the demand is somewhat improved, prices are still very low. The day is coming, however, when Winnipeg district lands will be considered valuable properties.

BEEF ROOT SUGAR

A beet sugar industry is talked of for Winnipeg. Parties who are said to control abundant capital to float such an enterprise, have been considering the matter, and will confer with a committee of the board of trade regarding the matter. It is greatly to be hoped that the evidence will show that the industry can be carried on successfully here. So far as growing the beets is concerned, there would seem to be little room for doubt. The qualities of the soil about Winnipeg for growing vegetables are well known. Roots and vegetables seem to be particularly adapted to this district, and no doubt the sugar beet would thrive here as well as other similar roots. The industry would be a very important one for the city. In spite of the old belief that Winnipeg could never become an important manufacturing centre, new industries have gradually been springing up. As population increases and the development of the country goes on, no doubt industries not now thought of, will be found profitable here. The establishment of a sugar refinery would help to dispel the old belief that we have not much room here for the establishment of profitable manufacturing concerns.

NEW LUMBER INDUSTRY

There has been considerable talk of late about the establishment of a big lumber manufacturing company in Winnipeg, to be known as the Minnesota and Winnipeg Lumber Company. This company, it is said, has acquired a large area of pine timber country in the state of Minnesota, south of the Lake of the Woods. The most available way to get this lumber to market is to bring the logs down the Rosseau river, to the Red river, whence they can be taken to any point along the latter river. The names mentioned in connection with the company are C. A. Moody, of War Road, general manager; Senator Buckman, president, and Albert Berg, vice-president, all of the state of Minnesota. A. E. Allison, of Winnipeg, has been mentioned as local manager at Winnipeg.

It is said that the company will connect the Rosseau river with the Lake of the Woods, by building a short canal through the low country separating the lake from the head waters of the river. This part of the scheme is no doubt perfectly feasible. In fact, The Commercial some time ago explained how a cheap water route could be established from the Red river to within twenty miles of Lake Superior, by using this same route for a portion of a cheap water highway.

According to reports, the company talks of cutting lumber at Winnipeg for the Dakota market. With the

present duty on lumber going into the United States, we fail to see why they should bring their logs to Winnipeg to cut, when they could take them to a point on the Red river in Minnesota or North Dakota and save the duty, though in the latter case the logs would have to be rafted for towing up stream.

Some of the statements as to what the company intends to do sound rather like "boom" reports, but aside from these flourishes there seems to be something genuine about the enterprise.

Note—A press telegram from St. Paul, since received, denies any knowledge of the proposed industry, at least so far as Senator Buckman is concerned therewith.)

EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE

The clerk or employee of any kind who gets ahead in life is usually the man who tries to further the interests of his employer, while he occupies such a position. The possession of such a disposition will show that the man is careful and honorable, as well as the possessor of good business instincts. There are too many employees, however, who seem to think very little of the interest of their employers. Their chief aim would almost appear to be to do as little work as possible for as much pay as possible. Men of such a disposition can hardly expect to succeed in business for themselves, for they evidently are careless and thoughtless in their ways, and it is not easy for them to change their manner when they start out for themselves.

The merchant who succeeds in securing a man who is thoroughly alive to the interest of his employer, should know that he has a good thing and strive to keep him, for such men are not readily picked up.

A representative of The Commercial went into a place of business in Winnipeg recently and found the proprietor in a disturbed frame of mind. He at once proceeded to tell The Commercial man the cause of his worry. His first remark was that he hadn't a man about the premises whom he could trust to do anything out of his sight. The said proprietor went on to say that he had served as an employee for six years in one establishment, and he had worked faithfully to advance the interests of his employer, doing many things which were not necessarily a part of his work, simply because he saw they should be done by some one. Now that he was in business for himself he had not been able to secure a man whom he could trust. For instance, he said, a line of goods which he frequently ship, have to be packed in a certain way to prevent damage in transit. He had