

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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JAMES E. STEEN,
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, 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 8, 1897.

Manitoba.

M. Wodlinger, Altona, general store keeper, has sold out.

Logan & Co., Carberry and McGregor, bankers, have admitted W. M. Logan as partner at McGregor only.

R. H. Nunn, Winnipeg, has assigned to R. H. Manning.

J. G. Harvey, late of Winnipeg, intends to establish a private bank at Dauphin. He has been practicing law there for a few months.

A joint stock company is being formed to take over the business of Hart & Co., stationers, Winnipeg. Among the applicants for the charter are John Hart, Perth; W. B. Hart, Perth; H. Thorne, Toronto, with John A. Hart, Winnipeg, as managing director.

Mr. Huebach, of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition association, is endeavoring to arrange for excursions from Minneapolis and St. Paul and other points south to the next Winnipeg exhibition.

There was a large attendance of commercial travellers at the meeting in the Manitoba hotel Winnipeg, on Saturday night last, to further arrangements for the installation of a Winnipeg lodge of the United Commercial Travellers' association. The installation will take place next Saturday evening Feb. 6, in Friendship hall.

Notice appears in the official Gazette of the application for incorporation of a big mining scheme with Winnipeg capital and headquarters in Winnipeg. It is to be known as the Canadian Mining and Smelting company, who seek a charter for \$200,000. The applicants are Hugh-John Macdonald, J. H. Brock, W. J. Christie, Thomas Kelly, F. H. Phippen, D. E. Sprague and J. H. Brown of Winnipeg, and Geo. Broughall, of Toronto.

The Brandon board of trade has been re-organized. At the annual meeting held recently the following officers were appointed for the year: President, John A. Christie; vice-president, Geo. R. Caldwell; secretary-treasury, John R. Maltby. It was decided to revise the rules and by-laws of the board and reduce the membership fee from \$15 to \$2. A committee was struck to canvass for new members.

The Daily Nor'-Wester came out last Saturday with a very fine number of twenty pages containing a number of interesting

special articles on the country between Manitoba and the Pacific coast. Manitoba lands, Northwestern Ontario mineral resources, etc., were ably dealt with.

The Dairyman's association and the Pure Bred Stock Dealers' association have been granted the use of the Winnipeg council chamber for the evenings of Feb. 15, 16, 17 and 18 on the occasion of their annual meeting.

J. M. Robinson, late publisher of the Brandon Times, left last week for Rossland where he opens a real estate and mining agency. The Rossland people will find Mr. Robinson an amiable and progressive business man, and The Commercial wishes him every success.

D. C. McKinnon, proprietor of the Palace hotel, Brandon, asks The Commercial to correct a report which had gained currency that he had disposed of the business. He has no intention of selling out at present.

At a meeting of the Portage la Prairie board of trade, after the transaction of some general business, the election of officers was proceeded with. George Davison was elected president; H. S. Paterson, vice-president; H. J. Woodside, secretary-treasurer. The council is composed of T. B. Millar, E. Brown, S. R. Marlatt, J. G. Rutherford, A. Laurens, Chas. Graham, F. L. Newman, W. A. Crisp, John Giles, and M. Blake. It was resolved to be represented at the business men's convention at Winnipeg, and also at the tariff commission, which will sit in Winnipeg soon.

W. A. Ferguson, late of Woodstock, Ontario, has arrived in Winnipeg to take charge of the business of the Standard Life Insurance Co., of Edinburgh. Mr. Ferguson's field will extend from Port Arthur to the Rockies.

Alberta.

The recent cold wave extended all over the west and northwest and lasted about a week. Following shows the highest and lowest reading of the thermometer at Macleod during the cold dip:

	Max.	Min
Jan. 23	22	-12
" 24	22	-12
" 25	-7	-41
" 26	-6	-37
" 27	-5	-34
" 28	-6	-31
" 29	-10	-32
" 30	-6	-14

Since the rates given above the weather has been much milder. As there was very little snow on the ground the cattle would be able to get their feed and consequently would not suffer much.

Montreal Grocery Market.

The market shows no improvement over a week ago in regard to business, notwithstanding the fact that stocks at all points are reported as being very low, and refiners state that within view of the fact of the possibilities of an increase in the duty on the raw article the market is absolutely without any speculative feeling, and that buyers at the present show little disposition to lay in stock. Prices are unchanged at 3½c to 4c for granulated, and at 3½c to 3¾c for yellows, as to quality, at the factory.

The demand for syrups continues slow and the market is exceedingly quiet with prices unchangeable at 1½c to 1¾c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

Business in molasses also continues very quiet, which is usually the case at this season. The feeling, however, is firm and prices show no change. We quote pure Barbadoes at 28½c to 29c, mixed at 26½c to 27c, Porto

Rico at 27½c, Antigua at 22½c to 23c, and St. Kitts at 23½c to 24c.

The market for rice is without any new feature. The demand is limited and business quiet. We quote:—Crystal Japan, \$5.00 to \$5.25; standard B., \$3.70; Patna, \$4.50 to \$5.25; Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75; choice Bermuda, \$4, and Java kinds, \$4.25.

The feature of the coffee market just now is the scarcity of the Rio grade, for which there is a fair enquiry at 15c to 16c. On the whole business is quiet and values steady. We quote:—Maracaibo, 17½c to 18c; Santos, 14c to 16c; Rio, 15c to 16c. and Mocha, 24c to 26c.

The tea market during the week has shown a degree of activity, which is due principally to the possibility of an increased duty being put on teas, and in consequence buyers show a better disposition to do business, both here and in the West, and they have been quietly taking almost every lot offered. The prospects are encouraging, and although no extensive sales have been made considerable business is reported in a small way. The tone of the market is firm, and as stocks here are not excessive it is not expected that better prices will be realized later on if the present demand continues. A lot of 850 packages of Japan was placed on Toronto account at 14½c, and it is stated that some other sales of fair size have also been made. Locally sales of Ceylons, in 100 package lots, have taken place at 15c; Young Hyson, in 150 package lots, at 11c to 12c, and Japans, in 150 package lots, at 15c to 17c.—Gazette.

London Raw Fur Sales.

Following is a revised and more complete report of the recent London fur sales. Prices at C. M. Lampson & Co's. sales were:

Bear, black and brown. Same as March, 1896.		
Marten	"	"
Muskrat, fall	"	Jan. "
Japanese fox & Marten	"	Oct. "
Muskrat, fall	10 per c. higher than	Mch., '96
Muskrat, small	"	"
Muskrat, black	5	"
Raccoon	12½	"
Baum marten	10	Oct., '96
Stone marten	15	"
Japanese sable	10	"
Gray fox	20	Mch., '96
White fox	20	"
Hair seals, dry	30	"
Wolf	10	"
House cat	10	"
Badger, north'n	10	"
Chinchilla, best	30	Oct., '96
Aus. opossum	12½	"
Wallaby	12½	"
Kangaroo, gray	10	"
N. A. rabbits	100	Mch., '96
Russian sable	10 to 20	lower
Red Fox	5 per c. lower than	"
Muskrat, spring	10	Jan., '96
Skunk, old, 30 ;		
new	5	Mch., '96
Opossum	5	"
Mink	10	"
Grizzly bear	10	"
Beaver	12½	Jan., '96
Lynx	25	Mch., '96
Wild cat	20	"
Badger, western	50	"
Wombat	15	Oct., '96
Kangaroo, blue	15	"
Thibet lamb	10	"
Civet cat	25	Mch., '96

Prices at the Hudson's Bay Co's sales were as follows:

Beaver	12½ per c. lower than	Jan., '96
Muskrat	2½	higher

Northwest coast fur seals, salted, 12½ per cent. lower than C. M. Lampson & Co's, sale in December, '96,