

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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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, 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, MARCH 16, 1896.

Manitoba.

W. Clow has opened a butcher shop at Oak Lake.

E. Landton has opened business in flour and feed at Virden.

J. P. Keeler, tobaccos, etc., Winnipeg, has sold out to S. G. Giroux.

Jas. Murphy, blacksmith, Minnedosa, has sold out to Henry Steel.

J. S. Andrews has opened business at Brandon as merchant tailor.

John McKenzie, carriage ouilder, Portage la Prairie, has moved to Winnipeg.

Buchanan & Hunter, liverymen, Carberry, have dissolved. S. Hunter will continue in the business.

E. Meharry has purchased the fruit and confectionery business of J. C. Saunders, of Maniton.

Eleven Winnipeg dealers were fined on Monday for selling cigarettes to boys under fourteen years of age.

T. S. Mathewson, grain dealer, Brandon, has purchased the business and plant of the Brandon Machine Works Co.

T. M. Percival, grocer, Brandon, who was burned out recently has opened again in new premises.

F. H. Joslyn, baker, and Jas Lyons, butcher, Belmont, were burned out on March 9. Partially insured.

Blanchard & Co., Bankers, Carman, have completed arrangements for opening a branch bank at Miami.

Geo. Hogarth, general merchant, of Minnedosa, has arranged a compromise settlement with his creditors and will continue the business.

W. H. Hall of the Advance newspaper of Virden, Man., has retired from the management of the paper and is succeeded by D. J. Benham, who has bought the business.

The stock of R. J. Spratt & Co., general dealers, Minnedosa, is in the hands of the sheriff, and advertised for sale on March 20, under chattel mortgage foreclosure.

Morfit & Raincock will open a general store at Gladstone, on March 16. Both gentlemen are residents of Gladstone. Mr. Morfit having been employed with different merchants in Gladstone, while Mr. Raincock has been farming in the district.

The law amendments committee of the Manitoba legislature discussed municipal taxation in Winnipeg on Tuesday afternoon. The committee declined to take up the proposals made owing to the lateness of the session for the imposition of an income tax. The special classes of barbers, photographers, carpenters, blacksmiths and other mechanics, are to have their rental tax rate put at 6 1/2 per cent instead of 10 per cent, and in the case of barbers who have bath rooms, the latter to a certain limit of space are to be exempt altogether. The business tax for merchants is to be 8 1/2 per cent, computed on the rental, instead of 10 per cent.

Alberta.

Jas. Scott, of Leeson & Scott, general merchants, Morley, is dead.

Gordon & Ironside have recently purchased five cars of cattle in the vicinity of Wetaskiwin for export.

Fraser & McKernan, lumber dealers, Edmonton, have dissolved partnership. McKernan will continue the business.

Van Wart & Livingston, lumber, Calgary, have dissolved partnership. The business will be carried on by Van Wart alone.

The stock of John Cameron, general dealer, Edmonton, is offered for sale by tender.

Assinibola.

Caswell's creamery at Qu'Appelle station made 88,200 pounds of high grade butter last year.

Mowat Bros. & Baxter, grocers, Regina, who were reported in difficulties a few weeks ago, have now assigned.

The number of stores in Solsgirth will be increased by the dissolution of Anderson & Clair, who will each continue business alone.

Grain and Milling Notes.

The Edmonton Milling Co. have purchased a quantity of wheat in Manitoba.

The Sowden elevator of Souris, Man., has been leased to Wm. Postelwaite of Brandon.

It is expected that 150,000 bushels of wheat will be handled at Qu'Appelle station this season.

Tenders are asked for a supply of seed wheat, oats and barley, in carload lots, by the commissioner of the mounted police, Calgary.

The shipments of grain from Pilot Mound, Man., of the crop of 1895 to date are wheat 100,520 bushels, oats 175,350, barley 23,540, oatmeal 9,000 barrals.

Dow & Curry, of Pilot Mound, Man., are manufacturing ten cars of oatmeal for export, says the Sentinel. The meal will be shipped at once to Fort William and stored there till navigation opens.

A petition signed by over half the ratepayers in Wolseley municipality has been presented to the municipal council asking that a by-law be submitted to the people for borrowing \$6,500 to build an elevator of 80,000 bushels capacity at Wolseley, Assa. The council has taken the necessary legal proceedings in the matter to have a vote taken.

Our Annual.

The special number of The Commercial, issued in February of each year, is now ready for distribution. Every regular subscriber of The Commercial has been sent one free copy. Extra copies can be had for 25 cents each. New subscribers sending in their subscriptions now, for one year in advance, will be given a free copy of the Annual. No better advertisement for this country could be procured to send to friends abroad, than this special

number of The Commercial. No similar publication ever issued here, we believe, contained such a fund of reliable information about this country as this special number.

Northwest Ontario.

The Regina mine, Lake of the Woods, recently turned out 204 ounces of gold in a run of eight days—value \$3,500. The prospective output from present indications when further development will have exposed a large body of ore, is largely in excess of the above.
—Rat Portage News.

Fur Trade Matters.

Occasionally an instance comes up of some one being fined for killing game or fur bearing animals out of season. The law, however, is not enforced in Manitoba and the Territories as vigorously as it should be. These animals are a source of wealth, as well as one of the attractions of the country, and every effort should be made to perpetuate them.

The New York Fur Trade Review says: Owing to the moderate values of many articles, our home trade has evidenced some interest in American furs and fair-sized parcels of mink, muskrat, skunk, raccoon and small lots of other skins have been secured by manufacturers. These purchases would no doubt have been much larger, were it not for the fact that manufacturers still have considerable capital tied up in stock from last year, and in outstanding accounts. The present indications are that American furs will, during the coming season, be more popular than they have been within some years past, and we are glad to note this prospect, as we are certain that the various articles will, in general give more satisfaction than the large proportion of the very low priced common dyed furs so extensively handled last year.

United States Crop Report.

Washington, March 11.—The agricultural department has issued the following crop report. Returns from the township, county and state correspondents of the department indicate as the amount of corn yet held by farmers 49.8 per cent of the total crop or 1,072,000,000 bushels. Proportion and total farm reserves are both unprecedented. A year ago this stock so held was but 476,000,000 bushels. The amount to be sold outside the country is estimated at 21.9 per cent, last year's percentage having been 13.4. The merchantable property is 88.14 per cent, against 82.4 last year. Average value of merchantable corn 25.6 cents and of unmerchantable 15.4 cents. The wheat reserves in farmer's hand amount to 26.8 per cent, of the crop or 123,000,000 bushels. Of this amount 4.9 per cent is reported as coming over from 1894 or before.

The new British Columbia fruit exchange, which takes every fruit grower in the province under its maternal wings, is at present very active in organizing and preparing for the summer trade. Its eye is turned on Manitoba and the Northwest and its every effort will be to successfully introduce its goods into those markets. The by-laws and constitution have been placed in the hands of competent lawyers to revise. There is at present a total paying membership of 75, while each fruit district is organizing of its own local interests. One thousand shares are to be issued at \$10 each. All shareholders will at once notify the secretary of their requirements as shippers. The machinery of the association appears rather complicated at present, but no doubt any part that jars will be properly adjusted by experience. G. W. Henry was elected president, and A. H. D. Macgowan secretary.