

# 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.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.  
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY.

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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, the 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 Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 28, 1895.

## Manitoba.

Reid & Tait, who operate a fishing plant on Lake Winnipeg, will build a steamer at Selkirk for use in their business.

Philip Brown, tailor, Winnipeg, has assigned. His stock was sold recently by the sheriff.

McBean Bros., grain dealers, have dissolved. D. G. McBean continues the business at Winnipeg, and A. G. McBean, continues at Montreal.

W. Bagshaw, hardware dealer, Minnedosa, is dead. He went to California recently for his health, where he died.

The first snow of the season at Winnipeg came on Monday morning, October 21. There was enough to whiten the ground for a short time and it quickly disappeared.

At the next meeting of the Winnipeg Retailers Association, the civic elections will be discussed. A proposition will be submitted also whereby the retailers will take steps to protect themselves from dead-beats in future.

The warehouse of Gowans, Kent & Co., crockery, Winnipeg, was burned on Monday night. The fire appears to have originated in a crate of straw near the warehouse, and was communicated to a stable and thence to the warehouse. Loss, \$8,000; insurance, \$7,250.

W. W. Watson, grain broker, Winnipeg, was a loser by fire last week. The fine stables, granary and store houses on his farm at Kildonan, together with nearly all his crop and six cows, were totally destroyed. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

The five large scales with which the new Northern Elevator Co.'s elevator in Winnipeg is furnished, were supplied by the Gurney Scale Co. They are a very fine scale, and standing all in a row form one of the imposing features of the institution.

The Neepawa Electric Light and Power company, is applying for incorporation. The capital stock is \$20,000, and directors are: J. J. McFadden, J. H. Hamilton, J. H. Davidson, J. H. Howden, G. A. Davidson, all of Neepawa.

The contract for the draining of the big St. Andrew's marsh north of Winnipeg, has been let to C. Whitehead & Co., of Brandon, for the sum of \$91,760. There were two other tenders put in, one from S. Gaudaur, of

St. Boniface, and the other from J. Kennedy, of Fargo. This will reclaim a large area of rich land.

The Winnipeg Savings and Loan Company is applying for a charter of incorporation. The capital stock is \$20,000 and the directors are: William Andrew Windatt, Walter Wilson Scrimas, A. N. McCutcheon, Robert Henry Nunn, William Adams and Andrew Grievoe.

The Minnedosa Tribune says the growth and prosperity of the Scandinavian colony, north of Minnedosa, is proof that the Scandinavians are among the best settlers that come to make their homes here. They may have faults. But they come here evidently determined to make the best of the situation.

The A. Booth Packing Co. of the United States, who do a mammoth business in fish, report that they will build at Selkirk one of the largest ammonia refrigerators or freezing plants on this continent, with a 6,000,000 pound capacity. The building will be of wood with stone foundation, and will cost a large sum. Work on the new plant will commence immediately on the arrival of A. Booth Sr., who will return from a European trip shortly. His approval of the amended plans is the only remaining step. The establishing of this plant is to give the Booth people facilities for handling the fish and game business of the Northwest.

## Assiniboia.

The Qu'Appelle Progress has completed its tenth year of publication.

## Alberta.

The Edmonton Pork Packing Company will begin the purchase and slaughter of hogs about Nov. 1. They will only handle live hogs and will pay Winnipeg prices.

The pork packing factory at Calgary, conducted by the Northwest Trading Co., is getting about \$1,000 worth of live hogs per week from Manitoba.

## Northwest Ontario.

A. M. Wiley has been appointed customs collector at Port Arthur.

The Equitable Co-operative Store Association, Fort William, has sold out to Alex. Snelgrove.

The Ontario & Western Lumber Co. have erected a sash and door factory at Rat Portage and placed it in charge of Mr. Neilson, of Winnipeg. The new departure for the lumber company will no doubt be a good thing for the company and a benefit to the town.

## Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending October 24, were \$1,925,803; balances, \$205,517. For the previous week clearings were \$1,605,016. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$1,477,891. For the month of September clearings were \$4,008,906, as compared with \$3,975,406 for Sept last year.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Oct. 10.	Oct. 17.
Montreal..	\$11,923,006	\$11,172,524
Toronto...	6,687,751	6,209,581
Halifax...	1,918,235	1,186,954
Winnipeg.	1,728,614	1,605,016
Hamilton .	802,819	813,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,460,335</b>	<b>\$21,018,006</b>

## Increasing the Cost.

In order to form a correct idea of the rapid rise in the assessments of the Mutual Reserve, all that is necessary is to examine the differ-

ences of rates this company has placed before the Canadian public.

The figures in column 1 are taken from Form 122 of the association issued in March, 1886; those under 2 from an advertisement appearing about the same time; those in column 3 are from the association's Form No. 315, issued May, 1891, and those in fourth column are the rates published by the association to take effect January 1, 1896.

Age.	1 (Form 122-86). - "Average annual assessment during past five years."	2 (Advt.) - "Maximum amount which can be collected in any one year on \$1,000 insurance for death claims and 'Reserve Fund'."	3 (Form 315-91). - "Monthly Premium including Reserve or Emergency Fund and Dues"	4 Proposed rates to take effect January 1st, 1896.
25	\$ 4 90	\$10 76	\$13 80	\$13 93
6	4 90	10 81	13 86	14 01
7	5 09	10 93	13 92	14 10
8	5 19	11 03	14 01	14 22
9	5 29	11 13	14 16	14 31
30	5 39	11 24	14 22	14 52
1	5 49	11 35	14 31	14 76
2	5 59	11 48	14 46	15 06
3	5 69	11 63	14 61	15 42
4	5 88	11 77	14 76	15 81
5	6 08	11 93	14 91	16 32
6	6 27	12 12	15 12	16 86
7	6 47	12 32	15 30	17 46
8	6 66	12 55	15 51	18 12
9	6 85	12 79	15 78	18 78
40	7 05	13 07	16 20	19 44
1	7 25	13 33	16 50	20 10
2	7 45	13 67	16 86	20 82
3	7 65	14 03	17 22	21 60
4	7 81	14 44	17 58	22 50
5	8 04	14 89	17 91	23 52
6	8 23	15 43	18 42	21 71
7	8 45	16 00	19 02	25 01
8	8 62	16 68	19 68	27 48
9	8 82	17 48	20 46	29 10
50	9 80	18 37	21 36	30 90
1	11 02	19 39	23 46	32 88
2	12 25	20 53	25 68	35 04
3	13 47	21 79	27 96	37 44
4	14 70	23 20	30 18	40 08
5	15 93	24 76	32 46	43 02
6	17 15	25 52	34 68	46 26
7	18 37	28 45	36 96	49 36
8	19 60	30 59	39 18	53 82
9	20 83	32 96	41 46	58 20
60	22 05	35 00	43 68	63 00

The reader will observe that during the first five years policyholders in the Mutual Reserve had insurance at a very low cost. Had the association then charged the rate now proposed (column 4) there would under careful and economical management have been a chance for it. Instead of so doing, it charged a low rate, and it has not been able to lay in its early years a reserve to meet the increasing death rate that it is experiencing. Members who now join must help make up the deficiency caused by not charging a rate sufficient in its early years to guarantee permanency. There is another alarming prospect ahead of its present members—the excessive increase in rates. One member who has paid \$12.06 bi-monthly for an insurance of \$2,000 and dues \$4 per year, or a total of \$76.36 per annum is now asked to pay \$18.06 bi-monthly and his dues as before, or a total of \$112.86 per annum. He has now arrived at an age where it is almost impossible to insure in a level premium company, so he must remain where he is or forfeit his insurance, on which his cash surrender value is nil. Another unfortunate has been paying \$2.91 bi-monthly, and was asked to pay \$3.78, being sound in health and still of an insurable age he declined to pay the advance.—The Bulletin.