

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially 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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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, MAY 21, 1894

Manitoba.

J. R. Watson, blacksmith, Austin, has given up business.

James Ferguson, crockery, e'c, Winnipeg, has assigned.

T. Almaok, butcher, Binscarth, is succeeded by Hugh Skeoch.

Sampson Bros., general store, Altamont, has sold out to W. Madill.

J. W. Barter, butcher, Hartney, reported succeeded by Farwell and St. John.

J. W. Carroll, grocer, Winnipeg, has admitted one Howard into partnership.

Miss Armitage, millinery and dress maker has opened in the above line at Morris.

Jasper Nation, men's furnishings, Brandon, has assigned to Fred. Nation. (brother)

D. C. Fleming, butcher and flour and feed dealer, Shoal Lake, has moved to Binscarth.

A cheese factory is said to be assured at Souris. R. J. Crisp is the principal projector. Elliot & McJannet, furaiture, Pilot Mound, have not dissolved partnership, the report to that effect being in error.

Itobb & Livingston, butchers, Portage la Prairie, has dissolved partnership. Norman Livingston will continue the business.

The Winnipeg office of John L. Cassidy & Co., of Montreal, represented here by Charles Moore, has been moved to 228 King street.

Stevens & Burn, founders and machinery manufacturers, have moved their Winnipeg office to 228 King street, corner of Pacific Avenue.

The contract for the erection of two stores for F. Osenbrugge, to be built on the west side of Main street, Wionipg, near York, has been let to W. L. Smith for about \$10,000.

A cheese factory is being established on the farm of Chas. Cuthbert at Portage Creek, near Portage la Prairie, by the Portage Croek Cheeas and Butter Association. Chas. Cuthbert is president, Chas. Green vice-president.

Bulman Bros., engravers, Winnipeg, have removed to 136 Bannatyno avenue east. They are putting in one of the latest lithographic presses, and will be able to compete successfully in both photo-engraving and lithographing.

It is reported that several of the men recently released from duty at the Canadian Pacific railway shops, Winnipeg, have been reinstated, and a number are about to take advantage of the idle period by visiting friends in the old country.

On Saturday evening the large dry goods store of Lang, Strachan & Co., Winnipeg, was very seriously damaged by fire. The proprietors value the stock at \$55,000, and say that the damage amounts to almost half of this sum. The insurance amounts to 30,500. The clothing stock of J. Corbett & Co. was damaged by smoke. The block, which is owned by G. F. Carruthers is not seriously damaged, the dry goods being damaged mostly by fire and water.

At Holmfield, on May 13, fire broke out in W. Wack's house, occupied by Samuel Robinson and family, through a defective chimney. A heavy east wind was blowing at the time and the flames spread rapidly, and before they could be controlled had consumed S. Rutherford's house, George Fizzal's house and stable, F. J. Messur's store and contents, J. Heibert's store, occupied by Hanaford & Ake as general store, both building and stock destroyed. The buildings of Wack, B'utherford and Fizzal were uninsured. Messner carried \$2,700 insurance, and Heibert's store was also insured, but Hanaford & Ake had no insurance on their stock.

H. S. Rolston has arrived at Brandon to take over the business of the Imperial Oil company at that place, says the Times. Previous to this their oils have been handled by Wm. Johnson & Co, implement dealers. Their business in the west is largely on the increase, and it is their intention to establish a branch warehouse here on the line of the Canadian Pacific railway from which they can conveniently and promptly supply the city trade and also ship along the branch lines and to outlying districts. When arrangements are completed merchants will be supplied with oil in bulk, which will do away with any leakage and also the cost of barrels. Mr. Rolston will be in charge of the branch here as manager.

Alberta.

Geo. Thompson, druggist, Edmonton, has assigned.

A. W. Carey, hotel, Red Deer, has sold out to Folger & Wilon.

Assiniboia.

E. Wisner, butcher, Qu'Appelle, has given up business.

Joseph Shelford, blacksmith, Qu'Appelle, has given up business.

David Graham, butcher, Broadview, has sold out to J. A. Trusler.

Whiffen & Barnes, hotel, Qu'Appelle, has been closed out by the landlord.

Northwest Ontario.

The total assessment of Rat Portage this year is \$939,545; the population 3,183. There are 581 children between the ages of 5 and 16 exclusive; 315 between 7 and 13, and 102 between 16 and 21.

Grain and Milling Items.

Application will be made for the incorporation of the Virden Milling Co., constituting J. F. Frame, W. J. Kennedy, J. J. Caulfield, W. J. Wilcox, H. Cathcart Simpson, J. Saunders, and Robert Trumbell, all of Virden. The object is to build and operate a flour mill and grain elevator at Virden, Man., with a capital stock of \$12,500 divided into 500 shares of \$25 each.

G. S. Middaugh, of Dunville, Ontario, has been enquiring as to the prospects for establishing a flour mill at Edmonton.

Insurance and Financial Notes.

It is reported that Mr. Breeden, manager of the Bank of British North America at Winnipeg, will be succeeded by D. Simpson, a gentleman who has recently arrived from the east to take charge of the bank.

A. H. Dickens, late of the Commercial bank, has been appointed manager of the Bank of Ottawa at Rat Portage.

For the second time within a brief period the insurance companies will be called upon to make up a heavy loss on account of the damage of a large merchandise stock in Winnipeg. Following represents the insurance of the dry goods stock of Lang, Strachan & Co., which is said to be damaged about \$25,000:—

Norwich Union (Carruthers & Brock)	\$3,000
Hartford (Carruthers & Brock)	1,000
British America	3,500
Phoenix	4,000
Western	2,500
Northern	2,000
North British and Mercantile (Carruthers & Brock)	2,000
Eastern (Allan & Williams)	6,000
Quebec	2,500
London Assurance (Augur & Book)	3,000
London and Lancashire (R. Strang)	1,000

Total\$30,500

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin, of May 11, says: "The ocean freight market on grain was seldom in a sicker condition than at present, the bulk of the American stuff apparently going via Buffalo and the Erie Canal. Rates are quoted at 1s 3d to 1s 6d Glasgow and London, 1s 4½d Liverpool, and 1s 3d to 1s 6d Bristol. Sack flour has been taken at 7s 6d Liverpool, 8s 6d Glasgow, and 9s London, for local as well as western account. Provisions are quoted at 12s 6d Liverpool, and 15s to 17s 6d London and Glasgow. Butter and cheese 25s, Cattle 40s to 45s. Deals 40s to United Kingdom ports."

The Duluth Market Report of May 12 says: "Charters on wheat were made this week at lower and at higher figures than during last week. About 72,000 bushels of wheat were shipped, about half of which was taken by liners. The week started in with a 2c vote on wheat to Buffalo. Some of the liners wanted cargoes about the middle of the week and they took some stuff at 1½c per bushel. Strength in ore freights and some demand for tonnage to carry ore at 80c per ton from Lake Superior ports caused an advance in grain rates in the latter half of the week. A few charters were made at 2½c, and shippers were willing to pay 2½c this morning for boats that could be guaranteed to move grain out of the elevators before the evening of the 15th, when an additional ½c per bushel storage charge accrues. Charters to Kingston have been made during the past 24 hours at 3½c, vessels paying tolls. A number of vessels have taken on fuel coal here during the week."

A telegram from St. John, New Brunswick, says: "The Valley cotton mill, owned by Parks and company, has closed down, throwing 500 people out of employment. Inability to compete with the Upper Canadian combine and over production is the cause of the shut down."

It is reported that at Chicago surplus funds were never known to be in such abundance as at present, and that bankers are offering to loan freely at 3 per cent. on call with big blocks going on duty at 2½ per cent., while one of the trust companies placed a loan of \$200,000 at 2 per cent. Chicago always goes the whole hog.