

# 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 desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwestern 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, SEPTEMBER 14, 1891.

## Manitoba.

Adam Walton, livery, Virden, is dead.

Morden is now illuminated by electric light.

R. Moffat has opened a blacksmith shop at Souris.

G. A. Mitchell, late of Harrison, Ont., has opened a grocery store at Souris.

Joseph Nott, plumber, etc., Winnipeg, has sold out to W. H. Smith.

Whitehead & Green are opening a general store at Neepawa.

W. H. Hooper has opened out in the auctioneer and real estate business at Brandon.

J. Kuhn & Son, general store, Balmoral; stock sold to T. Finklestine at 53c on the dollar.

Saunders & Talbot, painters and wall paper, Winnipeg, have dissolved; W. R. Talbot will continue the business.

The Morden *Monitor* has published a fine supplement, giving a lot of information about that progressive Manitoba town. It is handsomely printed, and contains about 25 illustrations of local interest.

**Manitou Mercury:** Mr. Ironside, the Southern Manitoba cattle king, left on Thursday for the Battleford country in search of cattle. He has a large number of animals on his ranch near Manitou and may possibly send another cargo of cattle across the Atlantic this fall.

W. J. Shannon, a well-known Winnipeg commercial man, has decided to branch out for himself in the wholesale cigar trade. He has

secured quarters in the second floor of the Dundee block, corner of Portage avenue and Main street, and is now ready for business. He will carry a full stock of popular brands of cigars.

It is understood that J. H. Lawson, who has had charge of the land department of the Hudson's Bay company since the death of the late C. J. Brydges, has been offered, and has accepted, a post in one of the principal business houses in Victoria, B. C., and that the land department will be amalgamated with the other interests of the company in this country, and placed under the immediate supervision and control of the commissioner, C. C. Chipman.

At a recent meeting of the Portage board of trade the following officers were elected: President, Mr. McLennan; vice president, J. Rutherford; secretary-treasurer, P. Whimster; council, G. B. Housser, W. P. Smith, D. B. Hanna, T. B. Miller, T. A. Garland, W. Foasythe, John Watson, G. W. Robinson, Edward Brown and Geo. Armstrong. Considerable talk was indulged in as to the fee that should be charged. A number advocated the advancement of membership fee from \$2 to \$5 per annum. The matter was finally left over.

The Brandon general hospital, which is situated on the corner of McTavish avenue and Russell street, in the east end of the city, will soon be a completed structure and ready for the reception of the patients. The building will be a credit to the province and particularly to those immediately connected with its erection. It is a commodious and well ventilated structure and appears to fulfil all the requirements of sanitary science and to comply with all that regards the comfort and hygienic condition of the patients that will find their way to its shelter.

Geo. Strevel, railway contractor, says the outfit is now at Alameda, on the Souris branch, grading. The road will be graded to the coal fields by Nov. 1st. Already it has been ironed to Melita, and the railing will progress at the rate of two miles a day and the track will reach the coal fields about December 1st. Through the entire district, Mr. Strevel says, the crops have not been touched in the slightest degree with frost and that the yield will be phenomenal. In the Souris district he met a number of experts who told him that that the pottery and brick clay there was the finest in the world.

## North West Ontario.

The Fort William journal, formerly published weekly, will hereafter be issued twice each week.

Geo. Drewry is building a new brick hotel at Pat Portage. It will be three stories high with a basement the full size of the building which will be 50 feet wide by 90 feet long.

The Rat Portage *Record* says: "Though the blueberries were a short crop this season, 103,000 pounds have been shipped to western points. On an average four cents per pound were paid for the berries."

At a conference of the local directors of the Rat Portage Reduction Works Co., it was decided to go on and complete the works with the least possible delay. It is the intention to put them into actual operation by treating 100 tons or more of ore and turning out the bullion.

A Port Arthur telegram says: Marvellously rich gold bearing quartz has been discovered on the Atikokan iron range. Surface samples broken at random run from \$11 to \$1,000 to the ton, five samples averaging \$262 per ton. That section of this district is evidently intended to produce bullion as well as steel. The location on which the discovery was made is owned by local men, who are much elated over the prospects. It is expected that work will start immediately.

## Alberta.

Wm. Macdonald, of Saskatoon, will establish a drug store at Edmonton.

Blueberries are being shipped from Edmonton to Calgary.

The firm of Campbell & Co., butchers, Edmonton, has been changed to Howey & Campbell.

Two sheep ranchers from Dupuyer Creek, Montana, named Davis and Harding, with five hundred head of Shropshire ewes have arrived at Calgary. They will locate at McPherson's coulee, twenty-two miles north of Calgary, where the country is very suitable for a sheep ranch.

## Saskatchewan.

Goodfellow & McCall, of Prince Albert, have closed up their confectionery store on account of dull trade.

Mr. Henderson, of Winnipeg, has received several letters, which confirm previous reports of the safe gathering of a fine crop in the district tributary to Prince Albert.

## Assiniboia.

Hinck & Ulrick, general store, Langenburg, are reported to have dissolved, with Ulrick to continue the business.

A by-law to raise \$7,000 for permanent improvements was voted on at Moose Jaw last week, and carried by a large majority.

## Irrigation in Wyoming.

The census office at Washington has issued a bulletin on irrigation in the state of Wyoming. It is shown that in this state there are 1,917 farms that are irrigated out of a total number of 3,236. The total area of land in these 1,917 farms is 1,506,850 acres, upon 229,676 acres of which crops were assisted by irrigation in the year 1889. In addition to the irrigated area from which crops were cut or gathered there were approximately 240,000 acres irrigated for grazing purposes. The average size of the irrigated farms on which crops were raised is 119 acres. The average first cost of water-right is \$3.62 per acre, and the average cost for preparing the soil for cultivation, including the purchase price of the land, is \$9.46 per acre. The average present value of the irrigated land of the state, including buildings, etc., is reported at \$31.40 per acre, showing an apparent profit less cost of buildings, of \$18.30 per acre. The average annual cost of water is 44c. per acre, which, deducted from the average annual value of products per acre, leaves an average annual return of \$7.81 per acre. The farms or stock ranches in Wyoming irrigated merely for grazing purposes have not been taken into account in this bulletin beyond the foregoing statement as to their approximate total area.