

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

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 17, 1896.

## Manitoba.

J. G. Harvey, barrister, of Winnipeg, has located at Lake Dauphin.

A Manitoba government well boring machine when at work near Cartwright recently, struck coal sixty-two feet below the surface of the ground. The vein, however, was not very thick and was surrounded by sand and gravel.

A. C. McRae, dealer in carriages, etc., Winnipeg, received a car of goods recently from Orillia, Ontario, via the Canadian Pacific Railway, in five days from date of shipment. This is considered excellent time for ordinary freight.

R. Paul has bought the interest of Mr. Knight in the firm of Paul, Knight and McKinnon, coal dealers, of Winnipeg and Regina. The business will be continued under the style of Paul & McKinnon. The firm has already 95,000 tons of western anthracite coal stored at Winnipeg for the fall trade.

Winnipeg's tax for 1896 is \$345,417.15. The rate required for municipal purposes was found to be 15.20 mills on the dollar; for public school purposes the sum required was \$105,000 and the rate required 4.3 mills; for municipal commissioner's levy \$10,396.66, a rate of .5 of a mill; and for public park purposes .5 of a mill; all the aforesaid rates making up 20 mills on the dollar as the rate of taxation for the year. It was provided that the taxes shall be due and payable on the 1st of October; that a rebate of one per cent. shall be made upon taxes paid on or before Nov. 1, and of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one per cent. from Nov. 1, to December, 1896.

## Alberta.

Bleasdel & Co., drugs, Macleod, advertise business for sale.

Carson & Shore, harness makers, Calgary, have opened a branch store at Maple Creek, with G. Vico in charge.

The Canadian Pacific Railway have built stock yards at Cayley, a siding between Nanton (Mosquito Creek) and High River. This will be a great convenience to shippers from that stock district.

## Assiniboia.

The International hotel, at Maple Creek, was burned on Aug. 9. It was owned by E. Fearson and was fully insured.

E. A. Simpson & Co., lumber, planing mill, etc., Moose Jaw, have sold out their lumber stock to H. McDougall.

The stock of A. Roberts & Co., general store, Wapella, has been sold at 45c on the dollar to J. E. McGrath of Saltcoates.

The legal firm of Hamilton & Robson, of Regina has been dissolved and a partnership has been formed by F. W. G. Haultain and H. A. Robson.

## Northwest Ontario.

The steamer Swallow, on the Lake of the Woods struck a rock and will in all probability become a complete loss. She was owned by Captain Lewis, of Rat Portage.

## Grocery Trade Notes.

The California Fruit Grower, in its issue of July 30th, says: There are no new developments in the raisin market. The growing crop has been well advanced by the hot weather, and all things considered the outlook is promising. New crop raisins are being quoted for first half of October shipment as follows:—Five-crown clusters, 20lb boxes, at \$1.75; four do do at \$1.50; four do layers, 20lb boxes, at \$1.25; three do do at \$1.10; four do loose, 20lb boxes, at 95c; three do do at 85c; Sultanas do do at \$1; four-crown do, sacks or 50lb boxes, at 87c; three do do at 84c; two do do at 24c; seedless, at 44c.

A cable from Greece quotes an advance in the price of currants to 9s 3d. The last previous quotation by cable for prompt shipment was 8s 6d.

Advices received announce a large decline in the price of Jordan shelled almonds, owing to the prospect of a large crop after two small ones. The quotation cabled is equivalent to 80c New York, and the fruit will be ready for shipment in the last half of August or the first half of September.

## Cutting Wheat.

J. G. Rattray, of Pipestone, western Manitoba, wired The Commercial as follows on August 12: "Wheat cutting general. No hurt from rust, but slight damage by hail. Wheat will average seventeen to twenty bushels per acre. There is a good opening here for an elevator."

## The Anthracite Coal Trade.

The Philadelphia Ledger says: "The local anthracite trade has been stimulated to renewed activity during the past week by the expectation of an advance in the price for coal of 10c per ton, to be made August 1. This increase in prices, however, will apply only to the line and city trade, but the quotations for tidewater shipments will probably be strengthened 25c per ton on or before September 1. When the last increase in the wholesale prices of 15c per ton was made the local retail dealers found it inexpedient to increase their prices, but now that there is to be a further rise of 10c for anthracite to the trade the consumers will have to pay 25c per ton more than the ruling figures. The line and city trade is taking a good volume of coal, and the tidewater business is absorbing all the coal that the shippers can spare from the limited output that is being made. There is considerable coal going North and West as well as East on old orders, and it is likely that the production will be increased. It is reported that several of the leading mining and carrying companies have ordered their collieries to be worked full time this week, and if business demands it they will continue running full time until the end of the month. All of the companies, however, are still working in close harmony, and there will be no overpro-

duction, while the prices for anthracite will in all probability be well maintained, if not increased materially, during the remainder of the year.

## United States Dry Goods Trade.

The movement in dry goods continues slow with conditions unfavorable. Cotton fabrics meet the slow sale at first hands and prices are low. The curtailment in production continues, many mills being closed down. Raw cotton has shown a sharp advance, but this does not affect the market, as goods are selling without regard to cost of production. Printed fabrics for fall are attracting some attention, but sales run slow. Gingham are quiet and the market featureless. Dress woollens continue dull and agents report little business at the mills. Jobbers are having only a very moderate trade. Men's wear woollens continue slow, although small orders for some of the cheaper cost chevots for spring are being booked.—Bradstreet's.

## Wool in Montana.

A Great Falls Montana report says: The wool season, just closed in Montana, has been marked by two peculiarities—the largest clip ever marketed and the lowest price ever received. Great Falls, which receives more than twice the amount of wool marketed in the remainder of the State, was the only place at which cash was paid for any clip, and the wool growers who sold their wool outright were few even here. At Billings, Big Timber and Fort Benton all wool was consigned with a maximum advance of 5c. Prices paid averaged between 6c and 8c, though one or two select or choice clips brought 10c. The total receipts this year were 8,100,000 lbs, against 5,200,000 lbs, last year. Receipts at other points in the State aggregate about 4,000,000 lbs.

## Wool in the United States.

The market shows no improvement in tone or condition, the demand being very meager and confined to actual needs. Manufacturers are taking very few orders for woollens, and they will not buy wool except to make up goods sold. Meantime the stock of wool on the market is large, and, with almost nothing selling, the outlook is very unfavorable. Wools are nominally quoted at about the same range of prices, but there is not enough doing at present to establish quotations. Territory wools are in large stock.—Bradstreet's.

## Tallow and Grease.

The Chicago Shoe and Leather Review says: "London continues to make new records on tallow, and again declined 6 pence at Wednesday's public sales, with one-half the quantity taken that was offered. Tallow values here are now entirely regulated by the foreign demand, and as the production is much in excess of home requirements, still lower values seem imminent. France has bought fully 100,000 tierces of our tallow. The French buyers are however, well supplied now, and are making miserable bids for future shipments. New York still holds a large accumulation and is selling a little at 8 cents, packages extra. The Review quotes No. 1 country tallow at Chicago at 24 cents which is a remarkably low price.

B. Levine & Co., fur manufacturers, Montreal, have made an assignment. Liabilities are \$40,000.

At London, Ontario, on August 8 at the cheese market thirty factories boarded 4,859 boxes July. Sales: 264 at 72-16c, 770 at 74c, 895 at 75-16c, 200 at 77-16c.