

THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in 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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or which profess to express the opinions of this
journal, will not be inserted.

Office: 151 McDermot Street.

D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much
larger circulation among the business community
of the vast region lying between Lake Superior
and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Can-
ada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also
reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manu-
facturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 24, 1898.

XMAS GREETING.

The Merry Christmas time is again
with us. In this part of the world
at least peace and prosperity prevails,
and we have every reason to rejoice
and be happy. Let us all then try
and forget the worries of business
and make merry with our friends for
a season. The Commercial wishes its
readers, one and all, a Merry Christ-
mas.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

G. W. Murray, in a letter to the
Winnipeg Free Press, puts in a plea
for technical education in our public
schools. While in a new country
like Manitoba,—particularly a new
agricultural country—technical edu-
cation may not be considered as very
necessary, still it is a matter which
is worthy of consideration in laying
the foundation of our educational sys-
tem. In some of the older countries
of Europe, as pointed out by Mr. Mur-
ray, technical education has been quite
generally adopted, particularly in
Germany. The great progress made
by the latter country in expanding
her trade throughout the world, is no
doubt traceable to some extent to the
advancement made in technical educa-
tion.

The primary object of education
should be to impart useful, practical
information, such as can be turned to
account in the every day duties of life.

The Manitoba school system recognizes
this principle in providing for an ele-
mentary agricultural course. Some
approach has also been made toward
recognizing the advisability of im-
parting knowledge of a commercial
nature. There is room for improve-
ment, however, in the direction of
making both the commercial and agri-
cultural instructions partake of a
more practical nature. The adop-
tion of the principle of technical edu-
cation would only be a further step
in the same direction.

Our educational system is frequen-
tly spoken of very highly, and no doubt
from the pedagogic standpoint it is
very near perfection. We are now,
however, beginning to recognize that
we have made serious mistakes in the
past. Education in Canada has tend-
ed constantly in the direction of what
we call higher education. We have
been turning out school teachers, pro-
fessional men and graduates of var-
ious degrees. We find many men who
have taken these higher courses, who
are quite incapable of turning their
education to practical account. With
all their learning they are almost un-
able to earn a living. We have been
straining for an ideal and missing
what is useful and practical in life.

It is the first duty of the state to see
that the young are given reasonable
instruction, of as practical a nature
as it is possible to make it. Higher
education is of decidedly secondary
importance, in comparison with the
need of imparting a good practical
education to all. The tendency of the
times to come down from our ideal
views and endeavor to turn education
to more practical account, is worthy
of the age in which we live.

RAISE MORE HOGS.

The final crop and live stock bulletin
of the Manitoba department of agri-
culture, published in The Commercial
last week, says:

"The number of hogs ship-
ped from Manitoba to Brit-
ish Columbia was 5,100. The num-
ber received by Winnipeg butchers and
packers was 18,000. Total, 23,100.
Returns show that 1,919,784 pounds
of pork were imported to Winnipeg
from the United States to supply the
demand of markets supplied from Win-
nipeg."

The quantity of hog product brought
in from the United States, as stated
in the bulletin, would represent 10,000
hogs of about 200 pounds dressed
weight, plus the shrinkage in
curing. Allowing for the shrinkage
in weight in curing, and the elimina-
tion of bones, etc., the actual number
of hogs, at an average dressed weight
of 200 pounds each, would be increased
by a few thousand. Some quantities
of cured hog product were also brought
in from Eastern Canada, so that we

can easily place the quantity of out-
side hog product handled by Winni-
peg houses as equal to 15,000 hogs
of an average dressed weight of 200
pounds, or almost as many hogs as
were produced here. There is cer-
tainly room for an expansion of the
hog raising industry here. This outgo
for freight and duty on hog products,
besides first cost of the goods, should
go to Manitoba farmers.

H. B. ROUTE.

We reproduce this week the more
important portions of Mr. Fisher's re-
port on the Hudson Bay expedition.
No doubt much surprise will be oc-
casioned among the ardent supporters
of this route, by the position he has
taken. As to this: The Commercial
has no comment to make at present
simply giving the report as an im-
portant matter of news.

THE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Perhaps the most interesting and
unique of the numerous trade displays
of the Christmas season in Winnipeg is
that made by the butchers of the city
market, showing their stocks of poul-
try, beef, mutton, etc. Very few
cities on this continent or on any other
can boast of such an exhibit of holi-
day meats as the citizens of Winni-
peg annually witness in their city
market and it has come to be one of
the essential features of the week's
sight seeing to visit the market and
see the display. The city butchers
can generally safely boast that the
meat supplied to their patrons is of
the first quality, but when it comes to
making a Christmas show words are
not necessary to convince the visitor
to the market of this. Most of the
meat is bred and raised with this
special end in view. No amount of
care or money is spared to have every-
thing of the finest quality and almost
any of the leading butchers could show
to-day the animals which will adorn
their stalls at Christmas time two or
three years hence.

Gallagher & Sons have gone to great
lengths this year to make their meat
the best. Two beef carcasses are
shown which have taken first prizes in
their class at the Winnipeg exhibition
for two years in succession. Another
carcass shown by this firm is a steer
which weighed before killing the en-
ormous amount of 2,800 pounds, fully
400 pounds heavier than any animal
ever before killed for this market. In
mutton, their display is no less inter-
esting. Over 100 carcasses are shown
which are to all appearances the pink
of perfection. These were picked from
a flock of 1,400 sheep, all of the best
quality. This firm is also carrying
a stock of three carloads of Ontario
turkeys, besides a large amount of
bacon, hams, sausage, home grown
poultry, game, etc. The decorations
of these stalls and the dressing of the
meats is beautifully done.

Kobold & Co., are also making a
great display of meats this year.
Hung up in front of their stalls may
be seen four immense beef carcasses,
which weighed respectively 2,350, 2,-
150, 1,800 and 1,600 pounds. These
are handsomely dressed and decorated.
Of mutton they have also a fine col-
lection, all grown by themselves.
Besides two carloads of Ontario tur-