

# 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, 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, NOVEMBER 4, 1895.

## Manitoba.

The town of Brandon is asking for tenders for a bridge across the Assiniboine river at Eighteenth street.

J. Heuhn and L. Weisgerber have formed a partnership and will open a grocery store at Morden

The Barbour terrace, Princess street, Winnipeg, was damaged badly by fire on Sunday last. It was valued at \$10,000 and was insured for \$7,500.

A correspondent at Gladstone says: "Mr. Schooley will move into his new store this week. Business is very good. The creamery has closed for the season.

The Hartney Star newspaper has been resuscitated and a new plant has been put in. Mr. Woodhull, the former proprietor, will conduct the paper.

Morden Merchants are said to be doing a rushing business at present and large quantities of new goods are arriving daily.

The deposits in the Dominion government savings bank at Winnipeg for the month ending Oct. 31, amount to \$21,009. The amounts withdrawn aggregated \$12,591.83.

The hardware business of Geo. Ashdown, at Morden, says the Monitor, is growing to such an extent that the adjoining premises, recently belonging to J. H. Ruddell has been purchased to give more room for business expansion.

J. L. Meikle & Co., musical instruments, etc., Winnipeg, will move into the new block on Main street, between Market and James streets, west side.

J. Y. Griffin & Co., are pushing work on the enlargement of their pork packing factory at Winnipeg. The foundation is down and the brick work is now under way.

During the winter months, J. Bousfield & Co., of the Hamiota creamery will manufacture butter for 8½ cents per pound, from cream delivered by the patrons every Wednesday. 1 cent extra will be charged when prints or fancy small packages are made.

The Ferguson company, stationery, Winnipeg, has sold out its retail stock of books and periodicals to Alex. Taylor, stationer of this city, and will move to new quarters on McDermot avenue, in November. The company will now devote its attention to wholesale business entirely.

J. H. Ashdown's new wholesale hardware warehouse in Winnipeg has now progressed toward completion sufficiently to give some idea of what the building will be when the finishing touches have been put on. It will be truly a magnificent structure, surpassing all other warehouses in the city.

The large barns and stables of J. Thompson, near Emerson, were burned last week. Thirty cows and several horses were burned before they could be got out. The fire is supposed to have originated by men sleeping in the barn. The loss is estimated at \$5,000. Insured for \$2,000 in the Commercial Union.

Through the influence of a committee of the Winnipeg Retailers' association, a number of names have been withdrawn from the petition to the city council, in opposition to the early closing of stores. The petition has, therefore, fallen through and early closing will remain in force.

At the last meeting of the Winnipeg Retailers' association, the question of civic elections came up for discussion. It was the general opinion that the retailers ought to take an active interest in securing the election of suitable aldermen, and that the Ward Four seat at least should be occupied by a good business man. This subject will be further debated at the next meeting.

Business has been very good in Brandon lately, writes a correspondent. The merchants here were never in better heart. They are doing a good trade and confidently look forward to an improvement in business. It is expected that the volume of trade this fall will greatly exceed that of last year.

J. T. Spiers, baker, Winnipeg, offers an illustration of what can be accomplished in this country by perseverance and industry. Mr. Spiers came out from Glasgow a dozen years ago and for a time worked at his trade here with a city baker. Later he went into business for himself, and he has now built up, with possibly one exception, the largest bakery business in the city. He has erected a fine brick and stone building this season, on the corner of Fonseca and Maple streets, for a bakery, store and residence. The basement is fitted up in the best of style for the bakery department, the ovens extending out under ground, at one side of the basement.

The inland revenue collections at Winnipeg during September were as follows:

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Spirits .....             | \$27,785 75 |
| Tobacco .....             | 16,196 50   |
| Malt .....                | 1,465 44    |
| Cigars .....              | 773 10      |
| Methylated Spirits.....   | 197 41      |
| Petroleum inspection..... | 53 30       |
| Licenses .....            | 170 00      |

\$46,591 50

Receipts for September, 1891.. 48,829 04

Increase .....

\$2,762 46

The town of Pilot Mound is improving in size and appearance this season, says the Sentinel. The new grain elevator now going up for Frazer & Donald will be a valuable addition to the business facilities of the town and an encouragement to the people of the country, for farmers are much more ready to bring grain to a station where there are four or five elevators than to sell at a place where there are only one or two. The new stone store of D. B. Graham is a proof of advancement and enterprise. The new store recently opened by E. B. Campbell is a substantial evidence of business advancement. A number of good dwellings have been erected during the summer and others have been enlarged and improved. The changes and additions which have been made to Dow & Curry's oatmeal mill give evidence of the success of this useful and profitable manufacturing establishment. The general trade of Pilot Mound will this season far exceed the business that

has at any time before existed, for not only is there an exceedingly heavy crop in the surrounding country but fortunately no prairie fires have ravaged the district. By filling up their stores with new and abundant stocks of goods the merchants of Pilot Mound have made preparations for supplying the wants of many customers during the fall and winter.

## Alberta.

Geo. and H. B. Alexander, of Calgary, and others are seeking incorporation as the International Trading Company with a capital of \$92,000.

## Northwest Ontario.

Howe and Blouquet have purchased the bakery business of Jacob Smith at Norman.

## Manitoba Wheat Movement.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William from September 1 to October 26, amount to 4,576,018 bushels, as compared with 5,179,262 bushels for the same period last year. Shipments east of Fort William for export or to Eastern Canada to October 26 this year amount to 2,661,654 bushels, as compared with 4,550,710 bushels for the corresponding period of last year, showing a falling off of nearly 2,000,000 bushels in shipments this year. Stocks at Fort William on October 26 were 2,076,480 bushels, compared with 1,529,642 bushels a year ago and 1,201,598 bushels two years ago. Receipts for the week ended October 26 at Fort William were 998,223 bushels (the largest week this season) and shipments from that point were 720,002, also the largest week's shipments on this crop. For the corresponding week last year receipts were 893,860 bushels and shipments 890,672 bushels.

## Silver.

There was another of those mysterious advances in silver quotations this week, says Bradstreets, of October 28. The London price for bars advanced from 30½d, to 31 1-16 d per ounce. New York following it with a rise from 67½c. to 68c. Both markets, however, reacted subsequently to 30 13-16d. and 67½ respectively.

## A Commercial Traveller Fined.

A case was before the Winnipeg city police magistrate one day last week which is of interest to commercial men. Edward Dumaresq, representative of Y. Paquet, fur manufacturer of Quebec, was charged with being a transient trader without a license and fined \$10 and costs. Mr. Dumaresq has been accused by the license inspector of selling goods to the trade from a stock which he keeps at the Manitoba hotel in the city. His defense is that he is a commercial traveller, and that he only follows the usual custom of men in his calling. Occasionally an order to a customer has been supplied from the samples in stock and on these sales the license inspector based his prosecution. Mr. Campbell asked if the defendant were willing to take out a license, to which the defendant replied that he could not see his way clear to do it. He was doing nothing unusual for a commercial traveller and cited several cases the same as his own. The question whether or not a traveller is allowed under the city by-law re transient traders to supply customers with odd lines from his stock of samples will interest commercial men and will probably be settled in the appeal which has been entered.

[NOTE—We learn since that the appeal has been withdrawn.]