

# 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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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, APRIL 6, 1896.

## Manitoba.

Magnusson & Anderson have opened out a stock of boots, shoes and harness at Rapid City.

J. T. Venable has purchased the jewelry business of H. H. Knox, Miamiota, and takes possession May 1.

The stock and plant of Winnipeg Saturday Night Company is advertised for sale by the sheriff on April 4.

The Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association officials expect to have the prize list ready to send out by the end of this month; that is a month earlier than last year.

A by-law will be voted on in Winnipeg on April 23, to grant \$30,000 to the Industrial Exhibition Association for building improvements. This is in excess of the annual grant to the association from the city.

During the month of March there was a heavy fall of snow in the Brandon district. The official measurements at the Experimental Farm show a fall of 16 inches, most of which was heavy wet snow. This augurs well for crops.

The stock in trade of Spratt & Co., of Minnedosa, will be sold at a rate on the dollar on Tuesday April 7, at Winnipeg. Stock consists of Groceries \$991.28; dry goods \$2,114.88; boots and shoes \$991.28; clothing, hats, caps, and furnishings \$1,463.21; crockery and glassware \$374.25; shop furniture and fixtures \$552.15; total \$6,487.

H. N. Boire, manager of the Winnipeg branch of the Banque d'Hochelega, is about to return to the province of Quebec, where he will resume his old position as manager of the Three River's branch, which he held before coming to Winnipeg. W. H. Pambrun, manager of the Vancleek Hill, Ont., branch of the bank is Mr. Boire's successor. Mr. Boire's removal will be very much regretted by the business men with whom he has been associated here.

R. H. Agur has been appointed manager at Winnipeg for the Massey-Harris Co., in place of Mr. McBride, who is now assistant manager for the company at Toronto. Mr. Agur's field covers all the western business of the company and is of vast magnitude. He is thoroughly familiar with the work, having acted as assistant manager here for some years. Mr. Agur has been connected with the Massey-Harris company here since the

amalgamation of the Winnipeg firm of V. M. Allan & Agur with the former company.

## Assiniboia.

A combined cheese and butter factory is being established at Regina.

H. B. Joyner has been appointed delegate of Fort Qu'Appelle board of trade to attend the third congress of the imperial chambers of commerce to be held in London in June next.

## Alberta.

Peters & Martin have succeeded R. P. Pettipiece as editors and publishers of the South Edmonton News.

Tenders will be received until April 10, for the gent's furnishing stock of Sutter & Dunlop, of Edmonton, addressed to J. T. Blouey, assignee.

The Brackman & Ker Milling Co., South Edmonton, are paying 17c a bushel for milling oats, 14c a bushel for feed oats, and 18c a bushel for feed barley, says the Bulletin.

The report of the department of interior says of gold mining on the Saskatchewan: "During the summer of 1895 there were about 1,000 persons engaged in placier digging on the North Saskatchewan and Athabasca rivers, of which probably forty per cent. were within a radius of thirty miles of Edmonton. There were also two or three dredges of rude construction in operation. The number of miners given is considerably over the mark, says the Bulletin.

## Northwest Ontario.

E. Smith, at present proprietor of the Albion hotel, Fort William, will occupy the Manitoba hotel at the same place, on May 1. The Manitoba has been closed two years.

The annual meeting of the Fort William board of trade was held March 26. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, J. T. Horne; vice-president, Jno. King; secretary-treasurer, C. W. Jarvis; council, Mayor McKellar, G. A. Graham, A. Snelgrove, E. A. Morton, A. H. Brown, Jno. Morton, R. Bowman, Fred Brown, W. L. Morton, E. J. Rochon, R. R. Beaveley, W. H. Mackenrot.

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, March 31, 1896.

There is little or no change in trade except the favorable signs of activity caused by outside work. The customs' entries at the Port of Vancouver are now 50 per cent more numerous from the 1st of January to the present time than for a similar period last year. A pretty sure indication that the business of Vancouver is rapidly increasing in volume. The lumber mills are still kept very busy, vessels arriving almost every day. There are but few changes in the market. California creamery butter is commencing to arrive and brings good prices. Fruits are stiffening but owing to a late consignment of California lemons being slaughtered on the market, this fruit is selling for almost any price, several lots having been disposed of at a \$1.50 rate. Spring salmon is very scarce. Fresh meat is firmer all around. From indications the predicted boom will soon be on in Kootenay, whether it is warranted or not is another question. Stocks are being freely advertised and mines are being boomed and written up as they never were before. There is at present a great rush of miners into the interior, a large proportion of them coming from San Francisco and the Sound.

The feature in trade most freely commented upon in Vancouver is the proposed holding of a world's regatta on Burrard Inlet, the principal oarsmen competing being Stanbury and

Gaudaur. It is a business venture. A by-law is to be submitted to the people asking for \$5,000, and an additional \$5,000 is to be raised by private subscription. It is expected that the world's regatta, a week's carnival of sport will bring 80,000 or 40,000 people to the city, who will spend from \$5 to \$10 each. A race is to be arranged if possible between four-oared crews from Winnipeg, Toronto, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Victoria and Vancouver. R. P. Rithet & Co., in their shipping report for February say: "A further slight decline in grain freights and very few charters to report are about the only features that have developed during the month in that market. Lumber carriers, however, have continued in great request, and our list of fixtures is again of goodly length. As will be seen the voyages are well distributed and rates have remained steadier than might have been expected. During the month the last salmon vessel of the season was despatched, which enables the usual statement of the pack to be completed."

## British Columbia Business Notes

Seven new canneries will operate in the rivers of British Columbia this year. Among them a Chinese cannery and co-operative fisherman's cannery on the Fraser. This is the fourth year for salmon and the run is expected to be poor. The last of the fry from the New Westminster fish hatchery have been liberated, including 6,400,000 sockeyes and 4,000,000 whitefish. This year is a record breaker for fry. The following table has been compiled by Inspector McNab.

1895.....	1,800,000
1886.....	2,625,000
1887.....	4,414,000
1888.....	5,807,000
1889.....	4,419,000
1890.....	6,610,000
1891.....	3,603,800
1892.....	6,000,000
1893.....	5,754,000
1894.....	7,800,000
1895.....	6,390,000
1896.....	10,400,000

It is now a foregone conclusion that a co-operative creamery will be established in Chilliwack—the garden of British Columbia.

## Grain and Milling Notes.

Material is being placed for a new flour mill to be built at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. This mill proposes to give 35 pounds of flour, 10 pounds of bran and 3 pounds of shorts in exchange for a bushel of sound clean wheat.

The feature of the local grain market at Montreal on March 27, was the demand for Manitoba wheat, but the volume of business transacted was not large, the only sales made were one lot of 10,000 bushels of No. 1 hard at 64c, and one lot of 10,000 bushels of No. 3 hard at 59c, afloat, Fort William, May shipment. The demand for oats was limited, but the feeling is about steady and prices show no change.—Gazette.

Stocks of grain in Duluth elevators increased the week ended March 23, 1,012,000 bushels. The total amount in store at present is 17,170,000 bushels, which with the 512,000 bushels of wheat afloat makes a total of 17,682,000 bushels grain to be moved out by lake, and by May 1st these stocks will undoubtedly exceed 20,000,000 bushels, and probably the flour in store will not be far from 500,000 barrels.

One Way.—"Bridget you've broken as much china this month as your wages amount to. Now how can we prevent this occurring again?"

"Oi dont know, mem, unless yez raise me wages."