

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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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 the great majority of business men in the vast district designated 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, FEBRUARY 19, 1894.

Manitoba.

Geo. Wood & Co., dry goods and millinery, Brandon, assigned.

A prohibition convention was held in Winnipeg last week.

Wm. Rempell, grocer, Gretna, sold out to Wm. Esau & Co.

Jos. Burke, general store, Morris, sold out to Jas. Blair.

A. F. May, agricultural implements, Carberry, bill of sale recorded favor Wm. J. May.

Hugh Steele, blacksmith, Minnedosa, sold out to Jas. Murphy.

Fullerton & Ross, general store, Manitou, sold out to C. R. Gordon.

E. A. Pifer, harness, boots and shoes, Oak Lake, bill of sale recorded in favor C. Adams covering stock in trade.

The estate of Snider & Miller, general store, Portage la Prairie, stock sold at 62½c and book debts at 32c to R. J. Campbell.

H. J. Cohn is opening in clothing and men's furnishings at Winnipeg.

F. Rimer, of Kilgour & Rimer, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, is east on a business trip.

Henry Burke, general store, St. Charles, closing out and moving to Winnipeg.

A. (Mrs. N.) Chevrier, clothing, Winnipeg, dissolved; A. H. Bertrand retires.

The Massy Harris's Co.'s implement warehouse at Griswold was destroyed by fire last week. Everything was got out of the building, except some repairs and binding twine.

H. F. Anderson and F. J. Calvert, implement dealers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership. Calvert retires, and Anderson will continue the business alone.

The general stock of Rogers & Douglas, of Elkhorn, amounting to \$2,906 of goods, and \$436 of store fixtures, will be offered for sale by auction at Winnipeg on Feb. 22nd.

Mr. Burrows has presented to the Manitoba Legislature a petition from Mrs. B. Playfair

and 2,000 others, praying that the right of citizenship be not abridged or denied on account of sex; and that the franchise be granted to the women of this province on an equality with men.

The Northwest Fire Insurance Co. held its annual meeting in Winnipeg on Thursday last. The annual statement was submitted showing that premium receipts for the past year aggregated \$32,800, and two half yearly dividends at the rate of 8 per cent were declared. The insurance reserve fund was increased. The following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Hon. John Sutherland, Hon. Colin Inkster, Chief Justice Taylor, Hon. Walter Clifford, G. W. Baker, W. R. Dick, D. S. Curry, Ald. Gilroy, J. A. Christie, W. A. Macdonald, J. Stanley Hough and G. W. Girdlestone. A directors' meeting was afterward held, at which, by unanimous vote, the Hon. Colin Inkster was elected president, and the Hon. Mr. Sutherland was re-elected vice president.

Alberta.

W. Thornton, druggist, Calgary, has sold out to Owen H. Bott.

Bangs & McDermott, horse dealers, etc., Edmonton, have dissolved.

J. L. Somers, hardware, Edmonton South, is succeeded by J. J. Fergusson.

T. Cairns, contemplates starting in the manufacture of aerated water at Edmonton.

Ross & Forbes, general dealers, Fort Saskatchewan, have dissolved partnership, Forbes retiring, and the firm is now known as Ross & Stewart.

It is expected that a large number of settlers from the United States will locate in the Fort Saskatchewan district this spring.

J. B. Smith of Macleod is opening in the general merchandise line at Lethbridge, in the premises lately occupied by Little & Cleveland.

The winter on the range in the Calgary district has proved a favorable one and cattle are rolling fat. There has been no scarcity of water, as the springs in the foothills are all open. The ranches continue to be troubled with wolves killing young stock.—Calgary Herald.

Assiniboia.

W. H. Maulson, general store, Moosomin, assigned. meeting of creditors to be held on 26th inst.

Rufus Atkinson & Co., Estevan, have sold out their lumber business to Noble & Plummer, of Oxbow and Estevan.

The business men of Regina have signed a petition agreeing to close their respective places of business at the hour of six o'clock p.m. from February the 15th to October 31st inclusive, Saturdays and the days before holidays excepted.

Northwest Ontario.

The Rat Postage Hardware Co., Ltd., has taken over the business of Jas. Robertson & Co. C. E. Needs is manager of the new company.

Under the provisions of a warehouse receipt there will be offered for sale by public auction, at the office of the Minnesota & Ontario Lumber Company, at Norman, on Wednesday, March 14, a quantity of lumber, consisting approximately of 8,000,000 feet of sawn lumber, 1,263,500 shingles, 439,250 laths.

Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition.

It was decided at a meeting of the directors of the association on Thursday last, to hold the next exhibition from July 23 to 28, inclusive. There was some argument in favor of a fall fair, but those in favor of a summer fair prevailed.

The Commercial Bank

In connection with the settling of the list of creditors of the Commercial Bank, Mr. Phippen, on behalf of the liquidators, applied to Mr. Justice Bain, at Winnipeg last week, for an order settling the same. The list filed in court contains over 2,500 names; of these, a large number are admitted to be correct, but, in a large number of cases, the auditors have not yet filed their claims, and they will not receive any dividend until they do so, because, before any dividend can be paid, the list must be finally settled, and the disputed claims disposed of. Creditors having marked cheques, or drafts, of the bank, must file them with the liquidators before claims on them will be allowed; and, to permit of this being done, Mr. Justice Bain has adjourned the consideration of the list for three weeks.

It was shown by the evidence brought before the court that, since the liquidators have been appointed, the liabilities of the bank have been reduced by \$715,000, and in addition to this sum, they have about \$7,000 on hand. The secured and privileged claims have all been disposed of, with the exception of a claim by the local government for interest and one of the Northwest Fire Insurance Co for a \$10,000 deposit hypothecated with the government as a deposit, as required by their charter, and both these claims are disputed by the liquidators.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for week ending Feb. 15, were \$684,650; balances, \$141,282. For the previous week clearings were \$1,001,840.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses:

	Clearings.	
	Feb. 1st.	Feb. 8th.
Montreal	\$8,730,144	\$9,374,691
Toronto	5,858,149	5,202,152
Halifax ..	870,870	1,125,348
Hamilton ..	612,391	841,847
Total	\$16,867,092	\$17,545,878

Freight Rates.

In the Manitoba Legislature on Thursday Mr. Davidson gave notice of the following motion for Tuesday next:—

"Whereas the freight rates charged by the lines of railway reaching into this province from the east and south, both from the transportation of our products to the seaboard and for the carriage of the articles necessarily imported into the province for the use of its settlers are very high, and, in the opinion of this House, excessive, and the efforts of our farming population in the development of the agricultural resources of the province are thereby seriously hampered and discouraged.

"And whereas the continuance of such rates, notwithstanding the great natural resources of the province, and the fertility of its soil, will not only make the pursuit of agriculture, upon which the province mainly relies, unprofitable for our present settlers, but will tend to prevent the success of our efforts to secure additional settlers.

"And whereas these railway systems, having been largely subsidized, not only by most liberal grants of public money, but by very extensive grants of the most valuable lands in the province, special grounds exist for expecting that freight rates in this province be reduced to the very lowest possible rates, and it is the duty of this House, in seeking the welfare of the province, to urge in every way that is open to it the necessity of a reduction in such rates; and, therefore, this House does most earnestly declare that, in its opinion, the present rates are unreasonably high, and the circumstances stated justify the people of the province in calling for a material reduction of the same.