

## Notice to Advertisers.

Thursday next, August 14th, being civic holiday at Winnipeg, there will be no work done on The Commercial that day, and advertisements featuring changes in their matter are requested to forward copy by Wednesday noon in order to ensure proper attention being given such changes.

## Winnipeg City Estimates.

The city council met on Monday evening to consider the estimates for the ensuing year. The estimates as submitted total \$913,240.27, made up as follows:

	Expended 1902-3.	last year. Estimate.
Committee .....	\$83,902.2	\$28,111.8
Finance .....	82,919.17	81,120.00
Fire, water and light .....	26,018.33	10,442.91
Waterworks operations .....	94,819.16	114,714.00
Market, license and health .....	41,044.12	44,304.00
Police commissioner .....	4,499.97	5,513.5
Revised board .....	15,975.00	123,210.00
Parks board .....	18,019.77	19,422.84
Public works .....		
Improvement debentures .....	22,322.22	26,594.91
General debentures .....	7,086.32	12,077.22
Electricity .....	10,442.91	10,442.91
Pensions .....	1,700.00	1,236.00
Net debt appropriation .....	38,101.93	3,386.10
Interest on loans .....	7,161.53	3,564.93
Miscellaneous estimates .....		
Taxes collectible 1902 and 1903 .....		7,186.94
Totals .....	\$831,651.38	\$913,240.27
Less revenue other than from taxation .....		217,119.73
including waterworks .....		217,119.73
	\$62,679.14	\$696,120.54

The most important feature of these estimates is the increase in the amount provided for fire protection. This committee proposes to establish another fire station, also a hook and ladder truck station. The equipment and operating expenses for the former is estimated at \$6,087.00, and for the latter, \$8,120.48. The cost of the buildings proposed is not named, but the amounts necessary would be in any circumstances be charged to capital account and raised by debentures. The fire alarm system, under city management, will fall heavier on the ratepayers the first year. The estimate for construction is \$3,461, and for operation \$1,286.67. Increases are also made in the provision for waterworks, lighting and police.

## Strikes.

The American commissioner of labor, Carroll D. Wright, presents some interesting statistics in The American Review. He shows that 30 per cent of all the strikes in the United States are successful, 15 per cent are successful in part, while 37 per cent fail completely. During the period from 1881 to 1901 there were 20,703 strikes, involving 117,563 establishments and throwing out of employment 4,105,004 wage-earners. The average duration of these strikes was 23.8 days. The total wage loss to the strikers was \$250,867,478; to the employers, \$2,731,121; two-thirds of the losses falling on labor, one-third on the employer. The result is modified by the increase in wages that labor secures when a strike is successful. A little more than 28 per cent of the strikes were for higher wages, 11 per cent for higher wages and fewer hours, and 11 per cent for fewer hours alone. Twenty-nine strikes amounted to less than 4 per cent; less than 1 per cent were against the employment of women, and less than 2 per cent to compel a recognition of the union, and of this last class 87 per cent failed.

The announcement that the Dominion government has arranged for a direct service between Canada and South Africa is being well received by Montreal merchants. For the past year or 18 months the Canadian manufacturers have been doing a considerable business with South Africa, and for the most part have been obliged to ship all their goods to New York and other American ports. Orders for flour and feed which have left Canada for South Africa reach no inconvertible figure. Both the Lake of the Woods Milling Company and the Ogish Flour Mill Company have been heavy shippers of flour.

Weir's Perfect Trouser Cabinet.  
(Patent Applied For.)

Adaptable for use in all clothing stores as an economizer of space and a modern way in which to show and handle a trouser stock. The cabinet is made of oak or other hard wood, with glass top, through which may be seen the different patterns of the goods contained therein. 38 inches across and 29 inches broad; each section has a carrying capacity of 25 pairs, and is so constructed that any number of sections may be fitted together, and yet, if required, one or more can be removed without spoiling the finished look of those remaining.

which both clerk and merchant will be truly grateful.

Further information may be obtained from the patentee, Mr. Rod Weir, for the last five years chief clerk of the Semi-Ready Wardrobe, Winnipeg, where his close connection with the requirements of the clothing trade has helped him in the perfecting of his cabinet.

## Banking Business Extending.

A noteworthy feature of the Canadian Stock Exchanges during the past two months has been the steady strong advance in bank shares. This is a most significant movement, as the

bank shares can become more valuable. The Imperial bank has secured an advance of twelve points in two months, and the Dominion shares have advanced from 344 to a fraction over 353. The bank of Montreal, the Bank of Nova Scotia have advanced six points each, and the Bank of Toronto has advanced twelve points. There has been a gain of four points in the Bank of Commerce shares. While these advances have been showing an increase in the value of general banking, the banking enterprises have been successfully launched, the whole showing the substantial nature of Canadian commercial development.—Globe.

## Labor Notes.

The strike of coal miners at Fernie, B. C., was declared off on the 4th.

Labor is scarce in Manitoba, especially farm help. Forty dollars per month is already being offered by some farmers for harvest help. Female help is also badly wanted by farmers' wives. Railway labor is scarce and several hundred men could find employment in this line alone.

W. English and B. Western were arraigned at the court at Regina, Saskatchewan, on August 1, charged with assault and intimidation in connection with the recent strike at the home of C. N. R. strikers at Oakville. Both pleaded guilty and were fined \$10 and costs each for the first offence, \$2 and costs for the second. Two other more serious charges were withdrawn. Bolshewiki and shipbuilders, and their helpers to the number of 1,500 employed in contract and job shops in Chicago, struck on August 1, because the master bolshewiki association refused to concede a demand to increase the wage scale of bolshewiki from 30 to 35 cents an hour for inside work and 50 cents for outside work, and to increase the helpers and heaters wages.

Organized English trades, as they have become rich, have been exposed to attacks by the employers. The Taffade and other recent decisions have established the principle that the acts of individual employers are not for breaches of the law, and compelled to pay damages, collectively, for the acts of individual members. The application of this principle is sought in an important action brought by the colliery firm against the Miners' Federation, which has a membership of over 125,000. This case, in which Mr. B. C. was the leader, for the last year, is pitted against Sir Charles Clarke, is a suit for damages arising from cessation of work at the collieries for four successive days under the orders of the federation. It is attracting much attention, since a decision in favor of the employers in the courts, if it is rendered, will complete the record of the full financial responsibility of federated labor unions for the acts of officers, even when no aggressive action such as picketing or blacklisting, is taken, and nothing more serious than stopping work for a few extra days has been ordered. These litigations are of critical importance to the labor unions, since they will involve the risk that every strike will be followed by demands for damages, and the exhaustion of the savings of the workers in reimbursing employers for their losses.

A report from Lethbridge this week said that sheep shearing in that district was about over and that the city was larger than usual.

The total number of failures in Canada last week was 14, against 17 the previous week, and 20 the same week last year.

## Notes.

J. R. Stringer & Co., of Chatham, write The Commercial as follows of the bean market: "We have to report a healthier bean market since the two weeks past. The advance from the low point of a month ago is something like 25 to 30c per bushel and dealers sales this week show \$125 to \$127.50 per bushel f.o.b. Chatham freight for a carload. The market is now somewhat handpicked, with stock now scarce and no receipts worth mentioning. The price of beans has advanced 10 per cent of the advance have taken place. Excessive wet with cold weather has interfered with the planting of beans, and thought. Feeling very strong, farmers are holding any left at last crop."

## Weir's Perfect Trouser Cabinet—(Partly Opened.)

The cabinet opens from the narrow end, by means of a spring glass door, which slides into the bottom of the fixture out of the way, exposing to view the stock hung across a light wooden ladder or gridiron, which, being fitted with ball-bearings, may be easily thrown out to its full extent, and then with slight effort elevated to an erect position. By which means every pair of trousers is shown, one below the other, and it is easy work for the customer or salesman to see size or examine quality, etc.

assets of a bank are always of such a nature that their value can be accurately determined. Industrial concerns have plant and material that cannot be valued with any degree of accuracy, and the value of which may change sufficiently to account for wide fluctuations in the price of securities. A mining corporation may discover an unexpected store of wealth sufficient to make the price of its shares advance with a bound. But the assets of a bank are always recorded in money, and the question of valuation

## Weir's Perfect Trouser Cabinet—(Fully Opened.)

Too much cannot be said for its advantages over the old style, where trousers are kept in piles on stools or tables, exposed to dust and dirt, and in many cases getting so discolored and soiled that they are a direct loss to the merchant. To say nothing about the dragging from these piles of the patterns required and the straightening the same after the sale entailed an amount of labor, to save

cannot affect its securities on the market.

The advances recorded in the shares of some of the leading Canadian banks show an enlarged opportunity for profitable business. The volume of business and the rates of interest determine the earning power of capital invested in banking business, and it is only as these increase and hold out prospects of future improvement that