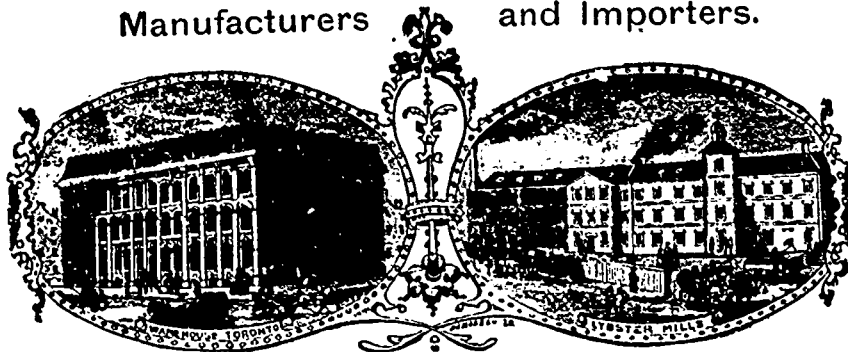


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TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, Oct. 27.

VICTORIA.

Trade is exhibiting signs of improvement in every direction. Money is perceptibly easier, and merchants express themselves as being satisfied with the volume of trade.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

There is little worth noting in the general lines. Butter is keeping stiff. A late advice from Montreal says, "Creamery is going to rule very high and would not be surprised to see it 26c here by Christmas, as exports have been very heavy and stocks in Canada are very light." Another correspondent writes, "we consider that we have seen the bottom of the butter market, and indications point to a hardening of the price. September make of creamery is quoted at 25c and August make at 24c f. o. b. Montreal." Joly (Manitoba) creamery is quoted at 30c; Eastern creamery, 28c; Eastern Townships, 24c; and Manitoba dairy, 20c.

The local jobbers are now carrying full stocks of all the different kinds of jams put up in glass jars by Okel & Morris at the Victoria Preserving Factory, which include apricot, peach, plum, pear, apricot marmalade, etc. Quotations are 1½ lb. size, \$3 per dozen; 3 lb. size, \$5 per doz.

The last of this season's teas are now coming in. The market in China and Japan has been entirely cleared out of the higher grades, and the Empress of Japan will probably bring the last shipments for this season. The first car of the new season's dried fruits is expected to arrive in a couple of days for one of the local wholesale houses. Mediterranean dried fruits are quoted by local jobbers as follows: Currants in bbls. 8½c, in half-bbls. 8½c; valencias, 8½c; sultanas, 16c. London layers, \$2.50 a box; dates, 9c; prunes, 9c to 12½c. California evaporated fruits in 25 lb. boxes are quoted as follows. Peaches, 12½c; apricots, 14c; nectarines, 14c; apples, 12½c; pitted plums, 11c. About the same grade of fruits in cotton sacks are quoted from 1c to 2c per lb. less.

The San Francisco Grocer says, "There

is very little doing in the large way of trade though considerable consignments are going forward all the time from terminal points. The crop is being moved but there is very little actual business transpiring in dried fruits. Apricots next to peaches are in best demand locally as well as in eastern markets, but there is no very favorable market for any description. The demand for any description of canned fruits is for moderate quantities at less than moderate prices. There is nothing doing in the wholesale way of trading comparatively speaking. Where last year the packers could hardly meet the demand this year they can find no quick disposition of their packs.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Bartlett pears are out of the market, their place being taken by winter pears. It is believed that the last shipment of plums for this season has been received. They are quoted at 25c a box higher than last week. California lemons have declined; they have also improved considerably from what they were a short time ago. The only import of any extent is grapes, which on account of the recent rains in California are in the very best condition.

Quotations are: Peaches, \$1.25; pears, (winter), \$1.40; plums, \$1.25; grapes—muscat, in bxs, \$1.25, in crates, \$1.50 to \$1.65; Rose of Peru, in bxs, \$1.35, in crates, \$1.40 to \$1.65; Tokays, in bxs, \$1.50, in crates, \$1.65. Apples, (greenings) \$1.00; Baldwin, bellflower, rose and blue pearmain, \$1.10 Santa Barbara oranges, \$5.25 to \$5.50; California Messina lemons, \$1.75; silverskin onions, 1½c. per lb.; potatoes, \$18 per ton, island apples, \$1.25 per box. tomatoes, \$1 to \$1.25; sweet potatoes, 2½c. per lb.

FLOUR AND FEED.

The flour market during the past week lowered considerably, as will be seen by quotations, and is still reported weak, although there is much activity with the late reductions. The Enderby mills have lowered their two best grades 15c per bbl Oregon brands have also dropped 15c since last week. Ogilvie's flour, however, has advanced 10c a barrel. The National Mills are now quoting oatmeal at \$3.50 a gunny. Oats are holding at \$35, but are expected to be lower, as a few car lots are

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on the way from Winnipeg. A consignment of 800 bales of choice timothy arrived from the Fraser River Saturday night for a local jobber and is finding a ready sale at \$19@20 per ton. California oatmeal and rolled oats have weakened considerably. Cracked corn has also dropped. Oil cake meal has lowered to \$25 a ton. The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour for carload lots, Premier, \$5.00; XXX., \$5.30; Strong Bakers or XX., \$5.00; Superfine, \$4.00. Quotations are:

Delta, Victoria mills	\$5.50 @ 0.00
Lion, "	5.50 @ 0.00
Premier, Enderby mills	5.65 @ 0.00
XXX., "	5.85 @ 0.00
XX., "	5.25 @ 5.50
Superfine, "	4.25 @ 4.50
Ogilvie's Hungarian	6.10 @ 0.00
" Strong Bakers	5.75 @ 0.00
Snowflake	6.10 @ 0.00
Portland Roller	6.10 @ 0.00
Royal	6.00 @ 0.00
Oregon Superfine	4.25 @ 0.00
Wheat, per ton	\$10.00 @ 15.00
Oats	35.00 @ 0.00
Oil cake meal	32.50 @ 35.00
Chop feed	33.00 @ 35.00
Shorts	23.00 @ 30.00
Bran	26.00 @ 27.50
National Mills oatmeal	3.50 @ 0.00
California oatmeal	3.87 @ 0.00
California rolled oats	3.75 @ 0.00
Corameal	3.00 @ 3.25
Cracked corn	43.00 @ 45.00
Hay, per ton	18.00 @ 20.00
Straw, per bale	1.00 @ 1.25

LUMBER.

During the past week there were three vessels added to the tonnage loading lumber at Burrard Inlet—barkentine Willie R. Bume, 632 tons, for Callao at 50s, the ship Ben Sewell, 1301 tons, for Valparaiso at 45s, and the schooner Olga, 478 tons, for Sydney at 44s. Quotations are as follows for cargo lots for foreign shipment, being the prices of the Pacific Pine Lumber Association: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet, inclusive, \$9 per M feet; rough deck plank, average length 35 feet, \$19; dressed flooring, \$17, pickets, \$9; laths, 4 feet, \$2.

For local trade, the Rock Bay Saw Mill quotes:

Rough lumber, per M	\$10.00
Best quality dressed lumber, per M	00.00
Second "	00.00
Laths, per M	2.50
Shingles, "	2.25