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TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE.
Tuesday Morning, July 25.
VICTORIA.

Business is quiet, but not any more so than is usual at this season of the year. There is more hopefulness manifested among business men and a general feeling of confidence that the near future will see business throughout the province more prosperous. The low freight rates ruling from the east are in favor of jobbers and importers.

The German bark Guttenberg is on berth at Glasgow, loading for Victoria and Vancouver. Four lumber charters have been reported during the week and the outlook is very favorable for foreign lumber trade during the remainder of the year. The strengthening position of the freight market is a good index that trade generally along the Pacific Coast is brightening up. Competition is keen among jobbers for business, and the margin of profit has been reduced to the lowest percentage for prompt dealers, but slow customers do not receive such consideration.

The establishment of a new line of trans-Pacific steamers between Seattle and the Orient in connection with the Great Northern Railway, will give this city the choice of three competing lines to the Orient, as the steamers will stop at Victoria both ways. The first steamer of the new line is expected by September. There is no improvement in collections.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

There are no changes in quotations from

last week and the market is about featureless. The jobbing houses report a steady demand for goods.

American canned meats, staples, are quoted to the jobbers in bond as follows: Roast corned and lunch beef, 1's per doz., \$1.00; do. 2's per doz., \$1.75; lunch tongues, 1's per doz \$3.10; do. 2's, \$6.00. Armour's white label conserved soups in 2 lb. tins are quoted at \$3 per doz.

Commission agents quote American meats f. o. b. Victoria, duty paid, as follows: Medium hams, 10½¢ per lb; heavy hams, 16¢; choice breakfast bacon, 17¢; short clear sides 14½¢, and dry salt clear sides, 13½¢. Armour's white label pure lard, 10 lb. pails, 10½¢ per lb.

Armour's Gold Band meats, which are the finest quality on the American market, being a special grade for choice family trade, are quoted, (duty paid, Victoria), hams, 19¢, breakfast bacon, 21¢.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "Butter receipts during the past week were 11,584 pkgs., against 6,100 pkgs., for the week previous. The market holds steady for creamery, and sales have been made of certain factories at 21¢ in the country. This has been rather a surprise, considering shippers stated that they could not pay over 20½¢ for the finest creamery. Shippers are said to be offering 20½¢ pretty freely, but without getting the butter. As regards Eastern Townships dairy, there have been sales at 19¢ for export. Western dairy has been placed at 17¢, that price having been paid for a round lot of choice. Holders ideas of prices west of Toronto are very exalted as they are asking 16¢ to 17¢ f. o. b., as to position. There has been a good demand for export, owing to the improvement in the English market. The shipments from this port last week were 2,493 pkgs., against 1,716 pkgs., for the corresponding period last year. The total shipments up to the close of last week were 4,491 pkgs., against 5,975 pkgs., for the corresponding period last year. Creamery, 20½¢ to 21½¢; Eastern Townships, 18¢ to 20¢. Receipts of cheese during the past week were 81,211 boxes, against 69,359 boxes for the week previous. A fairly good demand has been experienced for cheese, and shipments by this week's steamers cost 9½¢ for finest Western colored 9¢ to 9½¢ for finest Western white, 8½¢ to 9½¢ for finest French and 9¢ for finest Eastern Townships. Under grades have sold all the way from 8½¢ to 8½¢, a lot of porous French selling at the inside figure. The week's business is over, and an easy feeling prevails, although, judging from the way country markets have gone, there is no appearance of weakness, Napanee going at 9½¢ to 9½¢, and the few sales reported at Woodstock being at 8 3/16¢ to 9½¢. A shipper, however, referring to these prices, said, to day, that he would buy all the cheese he wanted next week at 9¢ for finest Western. He may be right and he may not. The shipments this week will be large. Last week's exports from this port were 35,000 boxes, against 82,000 boxes for the same week last year. The total exports of the season up to the close of last week were 326,000 boxes, against 392,000 boxes for the same period last year, showing a decrease of 66,000 boxes."

Dairy produce is quoted:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|---|----|
| Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs..... | 27 | @ | 26 |
| Manitoba creamery, 5-lb tins | 23 | @ | 00 |
| " dairy..... | 13 | @ | 20 |
| " choice..... | 21 | @ | 00 |
| Cheese—Canadian, lb..... | 12 | @ | 11 |
| California..... | 16 | @ | 00 |
| Eggs, case, per doz..... | 17 | @ | 18 |

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|---|--------|
| Hams..... | 15 | @ | 18 |
| Breakfast bacon..... | 17 | @ | 18 |
| Short rolls..... | 11 | @ | 15 |
| Long rolls..... | 15 | @ | 00 |
| Dry Salt, long clear..... | 13 | @ | 11 |
| Pure Lard, 50lbs..... | 16 | @ | 17 |
| " " 20lbs..... | 17 | @ | 17 1/2 |
| Lard Compound..... | 14 1/2 | @ | 15 |

Sugar—Jobber's prices 4-barrels and kegs in each case being 4¢ higher:

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| Dry Granulated..... | 63 |
| Extra C..... | 62 |
| Fancy Yellow..... | 57 |
| Yellow..... | 53 |
| Golden C..... | 54 |
| Dry Granulated (China)..... | 61 |
| Syrups, per lb..... | 5 |
| " 1 gal. tins, American..... | 6 50 |
| " " " "..... | 6 00 |
| " 1 " Vancouver..... | 5 50 |
| " 1 1/2 " "..... | 7 00 |

FLOUR AND FEED.

Jobbers have reduced their prices of Manitoba Hungarian flour, 10¢ a bbl., in sympathy with the recent decline in mill quotations. Wheat and oats are somewhat firmer. All the cheap grades of grain are out of stock and the market is being supplied with superior grades of Manitoba grain which cost more than local. New wheat and oats will probably be offered on the market in about a month's time. Quotations for shorts and bran are weaker while imported chop feed is stronger.

The Portland Commercial Review says: "The flour movement last week was considerably below the average; both foreign and domestic shipments showing a decided falling off. The China trade has been interfered with by tying up of the connecting British Columbia steamer, and domestic shipments have been less than usual. The mills are evidently running quite close, rail receipts at this port for the week being less than 4,000 bbls. Standard brands, roller, are quoted at \$3.40 per bbl., with concessions frequent on cash transactions."

The Ogilvie Milling Co. quote their celebrated brands of Manitoba flours in car lots, laid down at Victoria, as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|
| Ogilvie's Hungarian..... | \$1 10 |
| " Strong Bakers..... | 4 10 |
| The Columbia Flouring Mills quote | |
| Enderby flour in carload lots laid down at | |
| Victoria: | |
| Premier..... | \$1 55 |
| XXX..... | 4 15 |
| Strong Bakers or XX..... | 1 05 |
| Superfine..... | 3 55 |

Jobbers' quotations to the trade are:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Delta, Victoria mills..... | \$ 1 50 @ 0 00 |
| Lion..... | 4 50 @ 0 00 |
| Premier, Enderby mills..... | 1 90 @ 0 00 |
| XXX..... | 4 80 @ 0 00 |
| XX..... | 4 10 @ 0 00 |
| Superfine..... | 3 90 @ 4 25 |
| Ogilvie's Hungarian..... | 4 80 @ 0 00 |
| " Strong Bakers..... | 4 70 @ 0 00 |
| H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian..... | 4 80 @ 0 00 |
| " " Strong Bakers..... | 1 70 @ 0 00 |
| Oak Lake Patent Hungarian..... | 4 80 @ 0 00 |
| " " Strong Bakers..... | 0 00 @ 0 00 |
| Regina Hungarian..... | 4 80 @ 0 00 |
| " " Strong Bakers..... | 0 00 @ 0 00 |