TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE, Tuesday Morning, Dec. 4.

VICTORIA.

Conservative buying continues the order, and is generally expected will be so until there is more confidence in general business and money circulates more freely. The decline in sealskin values has a depressing effect on those engaged in that industry and others indirectly connected therewith. Some the sealers are preparing to start on their voyage to the coast of Japan and a number of schooners will probably be away before the end of the year. All lines are preparing for the holiday trade. The principal industries of the country are depressed in common with other business centres and not till there is a general revival of trade can good times be expected.

The Vancouver News-Advertiser says: "On all sides preparations for the Christmas trade are now apparent. Windows are being dressed with extra care, and merchants generally are making arrangements for the holiday trade. Business, however, is reported dull in the upper country and in this city it is not very brisk at present. Nanaimo on the other hand is a pleasing exception, as trade there is picking up as the result of an improvement in the coal trade. Money is still tight here and collections suffer accordingly. Merchants are, however, holding their own surprisingly, well, and obligations are met with very creditable promptness. Notices have been issued by the local banks, that on and after the 1st of January next, the interest on Savings Bank deposits will be reduced to three per cent. All mining operations in the interior are now being shut down for the winter and a large number of men who have been employed there during the summer have returned to town. Everything points to great activity in mining next season, and the employment of a large number of hands. In wholesale a fair trade is being done, about equal in volume to that of previous years. Quotations do not show much change."

FLOUR AND FEED.

The advance recently noted has been maintained and prices continue s'eady.

The Portland Commercial Review says of flour: "The mills are all busy and turning out fair quantities of stock. Immediately after our issue of last week was out flour advanced 10: per barrel for standard brands. The market is rather firm and the majority of mills are all working on orders. Large quantities of stock are going to San

Francisco and eastern points. The British Bark Silverhow finished loading and took 20,581 barrels of flour to Europe this week. Quote standard brands \$2.40 per barrel, inferior grades 10c per bbl. less."

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots on wharf in Victoria:

Jobbers' quotations to the trade are : Delta, Victoria mills...........\$ 3 50 @ 0 00

 Victoria XXX
 3 50 @ 0 00

 Superfine
 3 25 @ 0 00

 Premier, Enderby mills
 4 25 @ 0 00

 XXX
 4 10 @ 0 00

 XXX
 3 55 @ 0 00

 XXX
 3 10 @ 00

 Ogilvie's Hungarian
 1 35 @ 0 00

 Yerong Bakers
 1 15 @ 0 00

 H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian
 1 35 @ 0 00

Strong Bakers 1 15 @ 0.00 Oak Lake Patent Hungarian. . . 1 35 @ 0.00 Strong Bakers...... 1 15 ec 0.00 Regina Hungarian..... 1 35 00 0.00 . 1 15 હ Strong Bakers 0.00Benton County, Oregon..... 3 75 @ 0.00 Portland Roller 3 85 @ 0.00 Vashon, Washington 3 90 @ 0.00 Snowtlake 3 75 @ Gold Drop . 365 @ 000 Onts..... 27 00 @ 30 00

 Oil cake meal
 35 00 @ 50 00

 Chop feed—California
 27 54 @ 00 00

 " Washington
 22 50 @ 00 00

 Shorts
 20 00 @ 25 00

 Bran
 17 00 @ 20 00

 National Mills oatmeal
 3 50 @ 0 00

 " rolledoats (30-hsks)
 3 50 @ 0 00

 " 10 7s, baled
 3 00 @ 0 00

 " split peas
 3 50 @ 0 00

 " pearl barley
 4 75 @ 0 00

" pearl barley 475 & 0 00
" Chop feed 20 00 @ 25 00
California oatmeal 385 @ 0 00
California rolled oats 15 @ 0 00
Corn, whole per ton 35 00 @ 00 00
Peas, field per ton 10 00 @ 00 00
Cornmeal 2 10 @ 2 75
Cornmeal-feed per ton 10 00 @ 00 00
Cracked corn 37 00 @ 00 00
Hay, per ton 15 00 @ 18 00

RICE.
The Victoria Rico Mills quote wholeale:

Straw, per bale...... 1 00 @ 0 00

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

are all working on orders. Large A carload of Valencia raisins and quantities of stock are going to San other Mediterranean fruits have arrived

The and the quality is said to be poor, ading Several carloads are expected early this week and importers are anxious to see how they turn out. The quotations on dried fruits, nuts, have only been slightly changed.

The British Columbia Sugar Refinery quotes prices as follows, payment by spot cash:

Valencia raisins......per lb \$ 6 @ \$ Valencia Layers.....per lb Malaga raisins......per box 3 00 @ 3 25 Currants (barrels).....per lb half bbls.....per lb 0 60 (cases).....per 1b 51 @ Sultana raisins..... per 1b 8 6 10 Taragona almonds.....per lb 17 C 18 11 65 Grenoble walnuts.....per lb 18 Brazil Nutsper lb 16 0 Shelled Almondsper lb 324 0 Smyrna Flgsper 1b 16 @ " " H-ozbox each 12} er Filbertsper lb

Dairy produce is quoted:
Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.... 25 @ 26

 Manitoba dairy
 18
 @ 19

 " creamery
 in tins 27½
 @ 29

 " in tubs 26
 @ 60

 Cheese—Canadian
 13
 @ 11

 Canadian
 17
 @ 18

 Eggs—Canadian
 per doz 21
 @ 22

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

 Hams.
 15 @ 151

 Breakfast bacon
 15 @ 152

 Short rolls
 12 @ 123

 Dry Salt, long clear
 11 @ 113

 Backs
 134 @ 132

 White Label pure leaf lard, tierces
 0 123

 " " 50-lb tins
 0 123

 " " 20-lb " 0 134

 " " 10-lb " 0 134

 " " 5-lb " 0 131

 " " 3-lb " 0 13

Sugar—Jobbers' prices half-barrels and kegs in each case being ic higher:

Jobbers' quotations for Armour Packing Company's brands per ib.:

Jobbers quote as follows: