

BRITISH COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL

Business in British Columbia.

Vancouver, Dec. 26.—The feature of Christmas week was the disaster in turkeys and geese. Thousands of dollars worth were sent from Ontario to be in time for Christmas dinner. British Columbians were informed that there would be enough for everybody, as Ontario was surpassing herself in the extent of her annual shipment. The turkeys arrived—several carloads of them. There were enough to go around, but the wise bought them not, and the foolish had them sent home. With the exception of a few cases the Ontario turkeys were tainted and the supply of good turkeys was extremely limited. The consignment had thawed out during transit and on arrival were discolored and soft and before they could be disposed of were unfit to eat. Otherwise Christmas trade was very good. Merchants are satisfied and many announce that it has been with them better than the best previous years.

British Columbia Markets.

(All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reductions on large quantities, and to cash discounts.)

PRICES AT VANCOUVER.

By wire to The Commercial.
Vancouver, Dec. 30.

Choice creamery butter is very scarce and selling at 26 to 27c. Cured meats have an upward tendency. Pork is 1-2c lower. Other prices remain unchanged. Quotations are:

BUTTER—Local creamery, 30c; Australian fresh grass butter, 28 1-2c; Manitoba creamery, 26 to 27c; Manitoba dairy, 19c.

EGGS—Fresh local, 50 to 60c per dozen, as to quality; eastern case eggs, 18 1-2c.

CHEESE—15c.

GREEN FRUIT—Oranges, navel \$3.75; seedlings, \$3.25; California lemons, \$4 to \$4.25; bananas, \$2.85. Local apples, 90c to \$1.25 per box; grapes, \$1.75. Japan oranges, 50c per box. Eastern apples, \$5.50 per barrel. Local cranberries, \$7 per bushel.

MEAL—Rolled oats, 90 lb. sack, \$2.50; two 45 lb. sacks, \$2.60; four 22 1-2 lb. sacks, \$2.50; ten 7 lb. sacks, \$2.50; oatmeal, in 10 lb. sacks, per 100 lbs. \$3.25. In 50 lb. sacks, \$3 per 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Delivered B.O. points—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$4.60; strong bakers, \$4.30; Oregon, \$4.60 per barrel.

GRAIN—Oats, \$24 to \$25 per ton; wheat, \$25.

CURED MEATS—Hams 14c break fast bacon 13 to 13 1-2c. backs, 12 1-2c; long clear, 10c; short rolls, 12 to 12 1-2c; smoked sides, 11c.

LARD—Tins, 10c per lb.; in pails and tubs, 9 1-2c.

FISH—Flounders, 3c; smelts, 5c; sea bass, 4c; whiting, 5c; soles, 6c; smoked 10c; fresh halibut 6c; salmon 6c; blonkers 8 1-2c; cod 6c per lb.; crabs, 60c dozen.

GAME—Nallards, 60c; pintail 40c; teal 25c; wildgeon 40c per pair; venison 7c; bear 6c lb.

POULTRY—Turkeys, 14c; geese, 12c.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes, \$16 per ton; Ashcroft potatoes, \$19 to \$20 ton; cabbage, 11-12c per lb.; carrots, turnips and beets, \$12 per ton; red onions, 1c per lb.; allvarskins, 2c; tomatoes, \$2 per box; cucumbers, \$2 per box.

FEED—National mills chop, \$25 per ton; shorts, \$23 ton; bran, \$21; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; f.o.b. Vancouver, including duty paid on imported stuff,

HAY—Per ton, \$16.

DRESSED MEATS—Beef, 8 to 8 1-2c; mutton, 10 to 11c; pork, 9 to 9 1-2c; veal, 10 1-2 to 11c lb.

LIVE STOCK—Steers, \$3.50 to \$3.75 per 100 lbs.; cows, \$3.25; sheep, \$5.50 per 100 lbs.; hogs, 6c per lb.

DRIED FRUITS—Apricots, 17c; peaches 10 to 12c; pitted plums, 12c; prunes, French 5 to 7 1-2c per lb.; London layer raisins, \$2 box; Italian prunes, 8 to 8 1-2c lb.; Muscatel raisins, 2 crown 8c; crown 8 1-2c, 4 crown 9c; dates 9c; black figs, 6c; white figs, 9 1-2c; layer figs, 10 lb. box \$1.45; silver prunes, 9 1-2c; quartered pears, 11 1-2c; half pears, 12 1-2c; nectarines, 15 1-2c; Valencia raisins, 7 1-2c; sultanas, 11 to 14c; blackberries, 16c; raspberries, 25c; seed-cd raisins, 9 1-2c.

NUTS—Almonds, 16c; filberts, 12 1-2c; peanuts, 9c; Brazil, 12 1-2c; walnuts, 13c lb.

SUGARS—Powdered, icing and bar, 6 3-4c; Paris lump 6 1-4c; granulated 5 1-4c; extra C, 4 5-8c; fancy yellows 4 1-2c; yellow 4 3-8c lb.

SYRUPS—30 gallon barrels, 2 1-4c lb.; 10 gallon kegs 2 3-4c; 5 gallon tins \$1.75 each; 1 gallon tins \$4.50 case of 10; 1-2 gallon tins \$5.25 case of 20.

TEAS—Congo: Fair, 11 1-2c; good, 15c; choice, 20c; Ceylon and India: fair 20c.

HARDWARE—Bar iron—Base, \$3.50. Horse shoe nails, discount, 40 per cent; horse shoes, keg, \$5. Wire nails—Base price, \$4.50; cut, \$3.75. Rope, Manila, 16c. Boiled oil 76c. White lead, \$7.50. Putty, \$3.60. Barbed wire, \$4.75 per 100 lbs. Glass, 1st break, \$5.

British Columbia Notes.

D. A. McKinnon, cigars, Greenwood, has sold out.

F. F. Raitt, feed and produce, Victoria, is dead.

Remick & Bell are opening a general store at Princeton.

J. L. Chase, butcher, Elholt, has sold out to P. Burns & Co.

A. C. Fry, grocer, Rossland, has assigned to John Jackson.

E. C. Smith, publisher, Grand Forks, and Phoenix, has sold the Phoenix Pioneer to W. B. Wilcox.

Merry & Logan, lumber dealers, Rossland, have dissolved partnership. E. Logan will continue the business.

The Corticelli Silk Company have opened a branch at Vancouver under the management of H. M. Burritt.

The partnership between A. Conolly and C. H. Barrett, as the British Columbia Liquor Co., of Vancouver, has been dissolved.

The following items are reported from Rossland: Club stables, livery, sold to Montana Livery Co. J. Ashby, hotel; opening music hall; style now Ashley & Brygraup. A. C. Fry estate; meeting of creditors called for January 10. Keefe & Co., hotel; damaged by fire, loss about \$100. Ed. Watson, hotel, re-opening January 1.

The following companies have been incorporated: The Western Mercantile Co., of Nelson, capital \$50,000; the Gold-Copper Mines, of Cranbrook, capital \$500,000; the Mountain View Copper Co., of Greenwood, capital \$500,000; Hillside Silver Mines Co., of Kaslo, capital \$150,000; People's Trading Stamp Co., of Vancouver, capital \$60,000; Greenwood Electric Company, of Greenwood, capital \$75,000; Caldwell Mines, Limited, of Rossland, capital \$100,000.

Hugginson & McLellan, hardware and tinware, Brandon, have dissolved. McLellan has been succeeded by Albert Trench. Style, Trench & Hugginson.

Changes in C. P. R. Service.

The winter schedule of the C. P. R. goes into effect next week. The hours of arrival and departure of the Atlantic and Pacific express will not be altered, the only change of any importance being in the Pacific express. Beginning with next week there will only be six trains a week running into and from Winnipeg. There will be no train from Winnipeg to the east on Friday and no train from Montreal and Toronto on Tuesday. This will cause some delay in the mails, as since the establishment of an every day service a large quantity of Saturday's mail reached Winnipeg on Tuesday instead of a day later.

The daily train on the Glenboro branch to Souris which was inaugurated last summer will be continued, provided business keeps up during the winter months to warrant the daily service. This will also be the case on the Deloraine branch. The trains on these branches will leave and arrive at the same hours as at present. The M. & N. W. train will leave on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Saturdays at 11.15 instead of 8.30 a. m. It will arrive in Winnipeg on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 20.45 instead of 13.15. The company have corrected their local time tables and copies should be obtained at the city ticket office or at the depot office.

Western Business Items.

G. W. Davis, drugs, Napinka, is dead. F. Huckell, publisher, Carberry, Man., is dead.

Reeves & Co., general store, Treherne, Man., reported selling out.

Cochrane Trading Co., Cochrane, Alberta, has been incorporated.

G. R. Kerr, harness, Alexander, Man., advertises his business for sale.

A. DesBrisay has reopened in the general store business at Regina.

The Calgary Milling Company, Calgary, Alberta, has been incorporated.

Cardston Implement Co., Cardston, Alberta, is applying for incorporation.

Howard & Large, steam laundry, Rat Portage, are succeeded by D. B. E-own.

Emily Poyntz, Cypress River, and J. H. Skinkle, Balmoral, Man., have been refused liquor licenses.

The stock of the estate of Timing & Gilroy, general store Regina, was sold at 65 cents on the dollar.

Manning & Duncan, proprietors of the Roland News, Roland, Man., have dissolved partnership. Manning continues.

The North American Life Assurance Company has mailed this week to all its policy holders handy pocket diaries for 1900.

H. Waller, of Carberry, shipped five cars of stocker cattle to the United States last week via the Northern Pacific Railway from Brandon.

Galloway Bros., general merchants, of Gladstone, Man., presented each one of their clerks with a Christmas box in the shape of a \$20 cheque.

Fire broke out in Schooley & Co.'s general store at Holland, Man., on Dec. 28, damaging the stock and the building to the extent of about \$4,000.

A store has been erected at Oakville, Man., on the Northern Pacific Portage branch, by Mr. Daniel, late of High Bluff. He is also taking up lumber and farm machinery.