

TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, May 22.

VICTORIA.

The local situation, while still quiet, is generally acknowledged to be better than last month. The severe rains during last month have caused much damage to crops planted in low ground.

Active preparations are in progress at all of the salmon canneries for the coming fishing season. Material and supplies are going forward. A great many of the canneries are busily engaged in the manufacture of tins for the season's pack.

The Vancouver News Advertiser says: "Both wholesale and retail merchants report that business is very quiet at the present time, and the volume of trade during the past week has been smaller than for some time past. Collections are slow and have not been up to the average of the past few weeks. It is encouraging, however, to note that several new lumber charters have been made within the last few weeks, and quite a fleet of vessels are now on their way to this port to load lumber. Several logging camps are being opened up, and this line gives indication of being fairly brisk this summer. Retailers continue to pursue a 'hand to mouth' policy, and thus business is somewhat slack with wholesalers. Orders from the country districts are also small."

DRY GOODS.

The Toronto Empire says: "Genial weather is producing good results in the dry goods trade. Both from country points and city retailers more numerous and more liberal orders are being received. In the country uninterrupted fine weather has enabled the farmers to get through with seeding earlier than usual, and as crops are looking unusually fine, a better feeling is promoted, and the buying sentiment has grown stronger. Leading city retailers report May trade up to the present as comparing favorably with that during the corresponding period last year. Through travellers and by house sales a good lot of sorting orders have been got in, and representatives of city retail houses have been picking up quite a number of clearing lines. The demand is running mostly on prints, sateens, dress goods, moire silks and ribbons, Japan and Swiss silks, braids and other dress trimmings, tablings, towellings and glass cloths, cretonnes, gents' furnishings, spring suitings, and smallwares, including hosiery, gloves, parasols, etc. The advent of the sporting season is creating an active demand for outing suitings, yachting serges, cricket flannels, etc. Travellers are now taking out an odd line of fall goods, but up to the present very few orders for autumn goods have been placed. Full lines will be put out about June 1. Prices are generally steady. Silks and laces are very firm, but cottons are easy, owing to dull foreign markets and the very low price to which raw cotton has fallen. In New York the cash price for middling uplands has fallen to 7½¢ per lb. During March the United Kingdom exported 55,000,000 yards of cotton goods less than during March, 1893, and the poor foreign enquiry has had

a very depressing effect in British markets. Payments are reported to be very fair during the first ten days of this month. The quantity of paper maturing on May 4 was not large, but the most of it has been taken up within the past few days. Instance of 75 to 80 per cent of total indebtedness having been discharged were reported, and the general tenor of opinion is, that money, considering the prevailing conditions, has come in very well."

FLOUR AND FEED.

The feature of this week is a drop of 10c per bbl. in Manitoba millers' prices for Hungarian and Strong Bakers flour. It is believed that the reduction is because of competition for business. Chop feed has advanced in San Francisco, and local jobbers' prices for the California product will be advanced after the arrival of the next steamer. Local bran is somewhat firmer.

The Portland Commercial Review says of flour: "Nothing of importance has transpired to bring about a change in the market. Trade in the main has continued quiet. The weakness has had much to do with the slow and cautious movement of buyers. The demand has been largely for local account; limited dealing for export has been confined largely to the China trade. Quote standard brands at \$2.55 per bbl., other grades 5c per bbl. less."

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

Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	\$1 10
" Strong Bakers	3 90
The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots on wharf in Victoria:	
Premier	\$3 90
XXX	3 75
Strong Bakers or XX.....	3 30
Superfine	3 05

The Victoria Roller Mills quote Victoria flour in 10-bbl. lots at the mills as follows:

Delta.....	\$4 00
Victoria XXX.....	4 00
Jobbers' quotations to the trade are:	
Delta, Victoria mills.....	\$ 4 25 @ 0 00
Lion, "	4 25 @ 0 00
XXX	4 25 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills.....	4 25 @ 0 00
XXX.. ..	4 10 @ 0 00
XX.. ..	3 65 @ 0 00
Superfine, ..	3 40 @ 0 00
Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	4 50 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers.....	4 35 @ 0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian ..	4 35 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers ..	4 35 @ 0 00
Oak Lake Patent Hungarian ..	4 50 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers ..	4 35 @ 0 00
Regina Hungarian.....	4 50 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers ..	4 35 @ 0 00

Benton County, Oregon.....	3 85 @ 0 00
Portland Roller.....	3 85 @ 0 00
Snowflake	3 85 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton.....	27 50 @ 30 00
Oats.....	30 00 @ 32 50
Oil cake meal.....	35 00 @ 50 00
Chop feed - California.....	30 00 @ 00 00
Shorts.....	25 00 @ 30 00
Bran.....	23 00 @ 27 50

National Mills oatmeal.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats	3 00 @ 0 00
" " split peas	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley	4 50 @ 0 00
" " Chop feed	25 00 @ 27 00
California oatmeal.....	3 75 @ 0 00
California rolled oats.....	3 75 @ 0 00
Corn, whole	per ton 37 50 @ 40 00
Pras. feed	per ton 50 01 @ 60 00
Coramuel.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Coramuel feed	per ton 40 00 @ 00 01
Cracked corn.....	40 00 @ 00 00
Hay, per ton.....	15 00 @ 18 00
Straw, per bale.....	1 00 @ 0 00

RICE.

The Victoria Rice Mills quote wholesale:

Japan rice, per ton.....	\$ 75 00 @ 80 00
Best China rice "	80 00 @ 100 00
China rice No. 1 "	68 00 @ 70 00
Rice flour "	70 00
Broken rice "	30 00
Rice Meal "	17 50

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Beyond a few slight variations in quotations there are no particular features to note. The retail trade are well stocked with fruit in anticipation of a good demand during the celebration.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as follows:—

Oranges - California navel	3 50 @ 1 50
" " seedlings.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Lemons - California	3 25 @ 1 25
Bananas - New Orleans	2 75 @ 0 00
" " Honolulu crates	3 00 @ 0 00
" " bunches	2 00 @ 2 50
Cherries	1 50 @ 1 75
Apples,	bxs 1 50 @ 1 75
Cocoanuts	per 100 8 00 @ 9 00
Strawberries, per case of 15	0 00 @ 3 15

Vegetables are quoted:

Potatoes	per ton 20 00 @ 25 00
Onions Red	per lb 1 ½ @
Cabbage	per lb 2 @ 2 ½
Asparagus	per box 1 75 @ 2 00
Peas	per box 2 00 @ 0 00
New potatoes.....	per lb 02 @ 2 ½

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The American packers have advanced the prices of canned meats on account of the shortness of stocks and a big demand from the European markets. All staple products are unchanged in price.

Jobbers quote:

Valencia raisins	per lb \$ 7 @ \$ 0
Malaga raisins	per box 3 00 @ 3 25
Currants (barrels)	per lb 5 @ 5 ½
" half bbls.....	per lb 5 @ 6
" (cases)	per lb 5 ½ @ 7 ½
Sultana raisins	per lb 3 @ 10
Taragona almonds	per lb 14 @ 18
Grenoble walnuts.....	per lb 14 @ 18
Filberts.....	per lb 11 ½ @ 11

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.....	
Manitoba dairy.....	00 @ 00
California creamery	27 @ 28
California rolls.....	@ 27
Cheese—Canadian, lb.....	14 @ 15
California.....	15 @ 16
Eggs, pick'ed, case, per doz	10 @ 00
Oregon eggs, per doz.....	15 @ 00

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams.....	13 ½ @ 14 ½
Breakfast bacon	14 ½ @ 15
Short rolls.....	11 @ 12
Dry Salt, long clear.....	10 ½ @ 11
Backs.....	13 ½ @ 13 ½
Pure Lard, 20lbs, pails	11 @ 14 ½
" " 10lbs, tins	14 ½ @ 14 ½
" " 5lbs "	14 ½ @ 15
" " 3lbs "	14 ½ @ 15
Lard Compound, 10lbs	11 @ 00
" " 20lbs.....	11 @ 00
" " 5lbs.....	11 ½ @ 00
" " 3lbs.....	11 ½ @ 00

Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ½¢ higher:

Dry Granulated (China).....	4 ½
Extra C, China	4 ½
Dry Granulated (B. C. Refinery).....	5
Extra C	4 ½
Fancy Yellow	4 ½
Yellow	4 ½
Golden C	4 ½
Cubes.....	6 ½
Powdered.....	6 ½