

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

VANCOUVER'S WHOLESALE AND GENERAL DEALERS.

showed. Enterprising. Far-Seeing Business Men Recognize the Importance of Vancouver as a Commercial and Trade Distributing Centre.

As a Commercial Metropolis.

Vancouver's location adapts it specially as a wholesale centre. Behind it lies the mainland of the Province of British Columbia and the great American continent, to all points of which there is now direct, and all-rail communication. To the west and north-west, across the Gulf of Georgia, is Vancouver Island, on which is situated the cities of Victoria and Nanaimo; the former being distant some 80 miles and the latter 30. To and from these centres of trade and commerce there is daily communication by swift and modern built steamships, enabling the wholesale dealer in Vancouver to supply his customers in the cities named the day the order is mailed, and at very moderate transportation rates. To all points along the west coast of the mainland, and the east coast of the Island, steamers depart at regular stated periods, enabling the merchants of Vancouver to reach all points of interest, the logging camps and rising villages, with their wares and merchandise, for trade purposes. Vancouver being a common terminal point for transcontinental transportation and freight rates, enjoys an advantage of \$4 per ton over the Island cities to all interior points. The shrewd, economical, merchant will not be slow to notice the immense prestige this gives Vancouver as against her rivals. With a daily train service to and from all points east and south, direct steamship communication with all points on Puget Sound, the Gulf of Georgia and the Northwest Coast, Oregon and California, Japan and China, and shortly to be established a direct line to Australia and New Zealand, Vancouver's advantages as a locality in which to establish industrial plants, mercantile and shipping houses, must become obvious to everyone. Here are located three of the strongest chartered banks in the Dominion, possessing an aggregate capital of about thirty millions of dollars, besides a number of private banking concerns of large means; thus assuring all classes of the community the ample banking facilities.

EXPORTS.

Following are the exports of the port of Vancouver for the year ending December 31st, 1890

The Forest	\$35,577.50
The Mines	22,492.00
The Fisheries	23,798.00
Animals and their products	16,219.00
Manufactures	7,457.00
Agriculture	3,133.00
Miscellaneous	145.00
Total	\$99,721.50

Following are amongst those who, recognizing in Vancouver all the requisites for a coming great commercial and trade distributing centre, have located here and already are transacting business on a scale which is as surprising as it is truly gratifying.

Oppenheimer Bros.

This firm--Vancouver's leading and most prominent wholesale house--is known not only in British Columbia, but also all along the Pacific coast and eastern points. They are among the oldest merchants of British Columbia, having been engaged in business in the Province as early as 1858, and have, for over thirty years, been recognized as amongst the most energetic and successful merchants of the Pacific coast. Previous to coming to Vancouver, they were established in Victoria in a similar business, and perceiving that Vancouver, from its location and the favorable position that it would occupy as a distributing centre for all the interior of the Province, as well as for the neighboring cities of Nanaimo and Westminster and the large coast and shipping trade, was bound to become a large city, they transferred their business here early in 1887, commencing business in the brick block of which a representation is given in the illustrated edition. Their business has continued to increase in volume and extent, and the territory supplied by the firm extends to the utmost limits of the Province, besides supplying the local city trade and surrounding points. They are wholesalers exclusively, and carry a large and complete stock of fancy and staple groceries, cigars, tobaccos, teas and sundries, as can be found on the coast, buying their goods at first-hand, and in every case, where it is possible, importing their supplies direct from producers and manufacturers. In addition to a very long experience, being thoroughly familiar with the requirements of their customers, they are able to offer such terms as will induce customers to purchase from them. Another advantage in buying from them in preference to Victoria houses is the saving of freight from there, a saving at least amounting to \$4 per ton. In order to meet the requirements of their large trade, they will erect at an early date a warehouse which will give them ample room for the transaction of their already enormous business and the large stock of goods carried. This building will be one of the best in the city for business purposes and will be especially adapted for the requirements of their business. The individual members of the firm, David and Isaac Oppenheimer, are held in high esteem by the public, and are identified with every movement having for its object Vancouver's advancement. The senior member, Mr. David Oppenheimer, is at present Mayor of Vancouver, which office he holds for the fourth consecutive year.

Hudson's Bay Company.

This company is known from one end of the world to the other, through its historical relations with the Pacific Northwest, and its history would prove a very entertaining one. Our purpose, though, is not to undertake this voluminous task but to briefly mention the company's Vancouver business. The company has at present two stores on Cordova street and two on Granville street, in which is carried a complete stock of groceries, provisions, wines, spirits etc., as well as dry goods of every description of which they are direct importers. The company's new building, which will shortly be in course of construction, is to be situated on the corner of Georgia and Granville streets, and will be either three or four stories in height, occupying 100x50

feet of ground. It is to be most substantially built of stone, of a very imposing appearance, and no doubt will be one of the handsomest structures in the city. In addition to the line of goods they at present carry, will be added a number of others, among which may be mentioned everything in house furnishings, gentlemen's goods, a first-class dressmaking and millinery department, each to be under the charge of a competent person. The store is to be fitted up in a way that will surpass any business place in British Columbia, and in fact will be second to none in the Dominion. All the modern appliances and fittings to make the business complete will be introduced. Handsome elevators will be placed in the centre of the store, and a splendid cash railway system is to be operated. The company possesses the best facilities for purchasing from all the markets of the world, and will thus be enabled to keep on hand the very latest and best in all their lines. The business in Vancouver is under the able management of Mr. C. W. Robson, a gentleman who is thoroughly conversant with all its details as well as the demands of the company's trade.

Oriental Traders Co., (Ld).

The Oriental Traders' Company was incorporated in May, 1890. Its business is the exchange of products with the various oriental countries. Already it has established the very best of connections, the most remunerative of which at present are at Japan, China, Straits Settlements, Philippine Isles, Java and India. The goods it imports in the largest quantities are: raw sugars, (of which it lately made a sale to the B. C. Sugar Refinery of this city, amounting to \$200,000) coffers, teas, rice, brushes, floor matting, silks, spices, castor oil, manilla cigars, furs, tapinas, sago, straw braid, etc. It sells to the wholesale trade exclusively, and differs from most firms in a similar business in that it carries a sufficient stock of most all lines in its warehouses here to supply the wholesale demand of Western Canada. Flour, lumber and salmon will be its chief exports, for the handling of which arrangements have been completed with its oriental correspondents. It has a resident partner in the Philippine Isles who will shortly start from Manila for Vancouver, and en route call upon the company's correspondents, remaining with each sufficient time to make complete their already satisfactory arrangements. It has a representative traveling throughout Canada calling on the leading wholesale dealers and manufacturers in all the cities between Vancouver and Halifax. The capital stock of the company is now \$250,000, to which amount it was increased a few months since. Their trade is growing rapidly as a result of its ability, through a thorough established line of connections, to distance all competitors.

Vancouver Candy Company.

Among the new and important manufacturing establishments of Vancouver is the Vancouver Candy Company, established in 1890. It has proved a success from the start and supplies the trade of the city and surrounding points in the Province with all grades of candies and confections. The works are located on Keeler street, and are equipped with all the newest and necessary appliances for the successful conduct of the