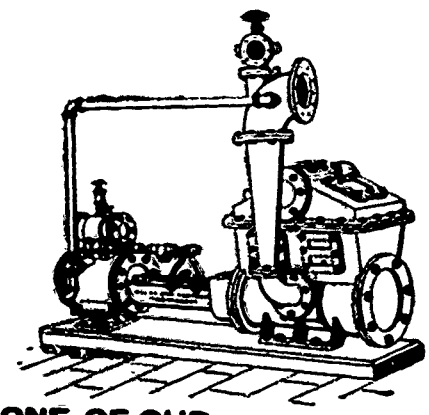

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FOR PARTICULARS.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, May 30.

VICTORIA.

The past week has been a quiet one for trade generally. The whole city was given up to holiday making, and the Queen's Birthday celebration occupied considerable attention from all classes in the community. There were a large number of visitors in town who spent considerable money and proved a benefit to numerous retail traders. The principal feature of the week was the receipt by the Collector of Customs of instructions to pay the sealers' indemnity claims amounting to $75,000. The owners and masters who reside here have already been paid their claims, but captains and hunters now at sea will be paid when they return from the season's cruise.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The following are the receipts of California fruits and vegetables from San Francisco by steamship City of Puebla, May 23, for Victoria: 105 scks onions, 28 crts cabbage, 5 cs cucumbers, 6 bxs pines, 221 scks potatoes, 96 crts bananas, 242 bxs oranges, 19 cs lemons, 1 cs artichokes, 33 cs asparagus, 16 cs peas, 4 cs beans, 30 pkgs containing 97 bxs strawberries, 175 bxs cherries, 12s pkgs containing 498 bxs cherries. Receipts by steamship Walla Walla, May 28, as follows: 11 crts cabbage, 117 scks onions, 278 cs oranges, 221 scks potatoes, 12 crts bananas, 4 bxs cucumbers, 19 cs asparagus, 14 cs peas, 3 cs beans, 19 cs lemons, 9 pkgs containing 30 cs strawberries, 49 bxs cherries, 129 pkgs containing 478 bxs cherries. The last cherries received are in prime condition, fully ripe and delicious fruit. Some of the consignments of strawberries received by the last steamer were shipped too ripe, and when received were unfit for sale, consequently prices were strong at $1.10 a box, on account of scarceness of stock. Cherries are much lower in price and range from $1.35 to $1.75 per box. New California potatoes are coming in pleatifully, and are reduced in price $2.75 per 100 lbs., in the current quotation. Red California onions are coming in freely and quoted at 2c per lb. Asparagus is also lower this week. Consignments of Manitoba potatoes are said to be on the way, and as the market is entirely bare of old potatoes they will meet a ready sale.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as follows:—

Oranges—Navels, common to good	3 00	@	3 50
" fancy	4 00	@	4 25
Riverside Seedlings	2 00	@	2 25
" " fancy	2 35	@	2 75
Los Angelos	1 90	@	2 00
Lemons—California	4 00	@	5 00
Sicily	5 50	@	6 00
Bananas	3 50	@	3 75
Strawberries per box	1 00	@	
Cherries	1 35	@	1 75

Vegetables are quoted:

Potatoes per ton	35 00	@	40 00
New California per lb	2¼	@	
Onions—Red California	2	@	0
Oregon Yellow Danvers	0	@	0
Cabbage	2	@	2¼
Asparagus per lb	6	@	7
Cauliflower, per doz	1 20	@	

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The following are the receipts of California butter from San Francisco, by ss. City of Puebla, May 23, for Victoria: 9 cs 1,020 lbs; 21 hf cs, 1,175 lbs; 110 tubs, 7,500 lbs; Total 9,695 lbs. Receipts by ss. Walla Walla, May 28th, 11 cs, 1,300 lbs; 21 hf cs. 1,180 lbs; 42 tubs, 1,200 lbs; Total 3,710 lbs. Receipts May 18, 24,575 lbs. May 13, 6,440lbs; May 8,6,310 lbs; May 3, 11,330 lbs. April 28, 7,715 lbs.

Quotations are steady, California creamery in small tubs is quoted at 27½ and in large tubs at 26½. Sugar quotations remain steady. The British Columbia Refinery have issued a circular letter to the trade seeking to effect combination prices. The refinery, it is reported have nominally advanced their quotations ¼c per lb., to the wholesale trade on which they offer a rebate of ¼c payable Jah. 1st, provided the purchaser will not handle any outside sugar in the meantime. It is believed that the wholesale houses will ignore the circular and leave themselves free to buy in the open market.

American canned meats, staples, are quoted to the jobbers in bond as follows. Roast corned and lunch beef, 1's per doz., $1.20; do. 2's per doz., $1.95; lunch tongues, 1's per doz. $3.40; do. 2's, $6.25. 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, 18½c per lb; heavy hams, 18c; choice breakfast bacon, 18½c; short clear sides, 15c, and dry salt clear sides, 14½c. Armour's white label pure lard, 1C lb. pails, 18½c 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, 19½c, breakfast bacon, 19½c.

California evaporated fruits are quoted as follows:—Apples, evaporated, 50 lb. boxes, 14c per lb., 25 lb. boxes 13½c; apricots, 25 lb. boxes, 20c; prunes, 25 lb. boxes, 14c; plums, 25 lb. boxes, 14½c to 14½c; peaches, 50 lb. boxes, 16c, 25 lb. boxes 17c. Canadian evaporated apples, 50 lb boxes, 8½ to 9½c.

The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* says "Butter receipts during the past week were 2,321 pkgs., against 1,350 pkgs., for the week previous. The receipts of both dairy and creamery are increasing, and values are gradually easing off to a summer basis. The sale of a lot of old Kamouraska is reported at about 18c, and there is still some old lots offering. It was thought, however, that stocks of old butter had been cleaned up long ago; but it is wonderful how lots here and there keep cropping up that might have been sold long ago. New creamery meets with good enquiry at 22c to 23c, a few single tubs of fancy having fetched 24c, but 23c is about all that can be relied upon for a top average. New Eastern Townships also sell well at 20c to 21½c with a few extra quality tubs selling at 22c. Western rolls are coming in more liberally, and sales have been made in half bbls., at 16c to 18c with the latter difficult to make. We quote:—Creamery 22s to 23c; Eastern Townships, 20c to 21½c. Cheese receipts during the past week were 5,348 boxes against 3,990 boxes for the week previous. Although sales of Western cheese have been made for shipment by this week's steamers at 10½c for finest, white and colored, 1,200 boxes being sold at that figure, there seems to be a tendency towards lower prices. Other sales were reported at 9⅞c to 10c, a sale at the latter figure being made on 'Change at the beginning of the week, but the quality was not understood to be finest."

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs	27	@	00
Manitoba Dairy choice	00	@	00
California rolls, extra choice	26	@	00
" fancy	27	@	00
" squares, "	28	@	00
" tub "	26½	@	27½
Cheese—Canadian, lb	12	@	14½
California	16	@	00
Eggs, case, per doz	18	@	20

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams	15	@	18
Breakfast bacon	17	@	18
Short rolls	14	@	15
Long rolls	15	@	
Dry Salt, long clear	13	@	14
Pure Lard, 50lbs	16	@	17
" " 20lbs	17	@	17½
Lard Compound	14½	@	15

Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ¼c higher:

Dry Granulated	¼
Extra C	6
Fancy Yellow	5¾
Yellow	5¾
Golden C	5¾
Syrups, per lb	3
" 1 gal. tins, American	6 50
" " "	6 00
" 1 " Vancouver	5 5
" 1½ " "	7 00