BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL

BUSINESS AT VANCOUVER.

Variouver, April 20,
The great scarcky of money: the
unusual number of bad debts, particularly among the retail grocers, and
the determination of the wholesalers
to shorten credit and shut down on
very bad customers, coupled with unfavorable reports of the mining, lumthe determination of the wholesalers to shorten credit and shut down on very bad customers, coupled with unfavorable reports of the mining, lumber and canning industries causes a great deal of nervousness in all lines of trade in British Columbia. If the expressions of opinion by business men were chronicled it would be an unfair record of the state of trade and future trade prospects. It certainly can be said, however, in the direction of prophesying that still duller times will be experienced on the Canadian Pacific coast in the next twelve months than at present, so it behooves wholesale houses on the outside to exercise due caution. There has been no period in the history of British Columbia where more paper has been renewed. The scheme to build a railroad from the coast to the Kootenay appears to have been indefinitely postponed. The big sales of coast mines are hanging five and unfavorable reports come Rossian those tany. It is strike is imminent mine owners are not displeased at the prospect. Mine owners want to pay less money than at present, and mine workers threaten to strike for more, so that the idea of shutting down the mines and getting a new gang of cheaper miners would meet with the approval of the owners. In the Shocan country it is impossible for mine owners of dispose of their ore. The lumber industry is crippled by high freights, lack of ships and rulnous competition from Puget Sound, while the salmon canners claim that unless they can regulate the price of fish themselves, in stead of the labor unions, they cannot compete with the Vankee traps and will have to close up the cannotics. Thus the only really prosperous industry at present seems to be the halbout fleet, and those engaged in the manufacture of shingles and lumber, the canning of salmon, and to some extent also in mining. The province has, however, enormously rich resources and no doubt proper measures will eventually be adopted, which will have the effect of remedying existing evils.

British Columbia Market PRICES AT VANCOUVER.

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hun, 124c.
BUTTER— Local creamery, fresh, 30c;
kuniteda creamery, 25c; California, 25c.
kune-Fresh local, 22c; Northwest eggs.

THE CONTROL OF THE CO

hallbut, 10c; smoked herring, 9c; shrimps, 50c.
GREEN FRUITE—Culifornia navel orninger, \$2.75; lemons, \$2.00; humans, \$2.75;
grape fruit, \$8.00 case; Okansgan apples,
\$2.25; cherrics, \$1.75] per box; sariaw\$2.25; cherrics, \$1.75] per box; sariaw\$1.25; cherrics, \$1.75] per box; sariaw\$1.25; cherrics, \$1.75] per box; sariaw\$1.25; cherrics, \$1.75] per box;
\$1.25; cherrics, \$1.25; ch

British Columbia Notes.

Jas. D. Warren, agent, Victoria, has

J. J. Stubbs has opened a bakery and restaurant at Kelowna.

Parsons & Co., clothing, men's furnishings, etc., of Chilliwack, have assigned

The Ingram-Muir Co. are opening a as wholesale grocers at Columbia and Grand Fories.

Kirkpatrick & Wilson, grocers, Nelson, have s McCammon.

Sidney A. Kelly has purchased the business of the Kootenay Cigar Manu-facturing Co., Nelson.

Rutherford & McCelland have succeeded Golding in the management of the Queen's hotel, Victoria.

A movement is on foot at Nelson to have the stores closed every Thursday afternoon during the summer months.

Rendell & Co., dry goods merchants, have sold their stock at Boundary Ralls to Xeith & Co., who are moving it to Rendell, on the west fork of Ket-

The Pacific hotel and two dwelling houses were destroyed by fire in Port Moody last week; loss about \$2,000. The only insurance was \$700 on the hotel and furniture.

The Revelstoke Navigation Company has been incorporated with a good of \$25,000 for the purpose of operating a steamer on the Columbia river between Revelstoke and the Big

A. V. Stewart, J. F. Haeris and J. E. Harris, doing business as the Revelstoke Cigar Manufacturing Co., have dissolved partnership. Harris Bros. continuing the business.

The firm of G. B. McDermot & Co., general merchants, Golden, is being turned into a joint stock company, to be known as the Golden and East Kootenay Trading Co., with a capital of \$75,000.

Smith Bros. have been awarded the Smith Bros. have been awarded the contract for erecting the new buildings for the Granby smelter at Grand Forks. These will require from a million to a million and a half feet of lumber and will be almost an exact duplicate of the present buildings. This will double the output of the reduction works.

The attorney-general has introduced a bill providing for regulations of the fisheries, including licensing, and leasing and the close season. Commissioners are to be appointed and the lines generally are those indicated by a memorial from the salmon canners. The question of Dominion and provincial jurisdiction will likely arise

PRICES IN THE KOOTENAY.

special to The Commercial.

Nelson, May 4.

Prices are unchanged this week, but
wing to warm weather business has
hown a marked improvement.

Butter—Fresh Ontario creamery, 24

to Mc: dairy, choice, 22c. Eggs-16c. Millfeed-Bran, \$20; shorts, \$22 per

ton.
Flour-Manitoba Patent, \$5.30.
Hay-Per ton, \$18.
Potatoes-Per ton, \$34.

Last Monday H. E. Waller, of Car-berry, shipped 1,100 head of young cat-tle to the ranches in the west.

TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE. TORONTO WILL Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, May 4

TORONTO WHOLESALE TRADE. Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, May 4.

Dry Goods—Trade has been fairly good in the surting line. In dreas goods for the surting line. In dreas goods for the surting line. In dreas goods for separate skirts. Broad cloth and same of the surting the color, or separate skirts. Broad cloth and may, and black figured goods for separate skirts. Broad cloth and amanon cloth, cashmeres in plain color, or grandles and printed organdles are in good demand. One eastern mill is jobbing some prints. One line which has sold at 10c has just been disposed of at 10c. Travellers are getting good fall orders. Fancy worsteds will be more popular than tweeds, browns being favored. Rough fabrics for overcoats will be worn. Hardware—Trade is not so heavy as last week, but is still quite brisk and prices for the most part are steady. American barn door tracks have advanced 10e per hundred feet to local jobbers. Assestos goods have advanced 10e per cent high-en. Price lists of sleigh bells have been issued showing the same prices as last year. Sheet sinc is 10 shillings dearer in the primary markets.

Groceries—There is a fairly good distributive demand for shaple lines. The feature to-day is that sugar has advanced five cents; granulated being now quoted at \$4.73 to \$4.78, and yellow at \$3.93 to \$4.58. Tess are more active and firm. Canned vegetables are in better demand and prices are sheady.

TORONTO GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

TORONTO GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, May 4.

Grain deliveriés have been small as farmers are busy seeding. Ontario winter wheat is in better demand for milling than for export. Buyers offer 68½ to Gle for red and white on low freights to New York. Manitoba steady. Flour is firmer and Ontario patents in buyers begs are 5c higher. Oats are firm-and Ic dearer. Barley is 1c dearer. Dairy butter rolls are weak and buyers are only meeting imwedsate requirements. Creamery is in

weak and buyers are only meeting immediate requirements. Creamery is in active demand and steady. Eggs are casy on large offerings?

Flour — Manitoba Patent, \$4.25;
Manitoba bakers, \$3.36 for carlots at Toronto; Ontario patent, \$2.55 per harrel for 90 per cest patents, middle from the control of the contr

Wheat—Ontario red and white wheat 67c, middle freights; Ontario spring; 68c; No. 1 hard, 50½c; No. 2 hard, 50c, No. 3 hard, 50c, grinding in transit. Oats—No. 1 white, 32c east; 2 white, 31c, middle freights.

Barley—43c for No. 3 extra at country points west.

Millfeed—Shorta, \$14.50 per ton for cars west; bran, \$13.

Oatmeal—\$3.35 for cars of bags, and \$3.45 in wood for carlots, Toronto.

Hay—Carlots on track, \$9.75 to \$11 per ton.

TES-10% to 11c for fresh, in case

Butter—Large and pound rolls, 12½ to 13½c; low grades, 10 to 12c; creamery packages, 18 to 19c; prints, 19 to 20c. -9½ to 9½c for choice lots of

Chesse—W 10 19gc for choice rous or fail chesse.

Hides—W 10 for No. 1 cows: No. 1 steers, 7c; country hides. 4gc under these prices; calfakins, 8c for No. 1, and 7c for No. 2; sheepskins, 96c 40 \$1.00 sach; tashow, 5 to 54gc.

Wool—Washed fleece, 13 to 14c; un-mahas 2 ch 2 gc.

90c to \$1.00 each; tailow 5 to 5%c. Wool-Washed fleece, 13 to 14c; unwashed, \$c to \$0.00 to \$1.70 per bushed for handpeksed, job lots.
Drised Apples—3% to 4%c for round lots: evaporated, 5%c.
Honey—9% to 10%c per pound.
Maple \$7xup—New is quoted here at \$10 to \$1.15 per imperial gallon, in bulk or gallon time.
Poutry—Checkens, 60 to 90c per pair; turkers, 11 to 12c per pound.
Potatoce—20 to 30c per bushel for carlots.

HOGE AND HOG PRODUCTS.

HOGS AND HOG PRODUCTS.
Special to The Commercial.
Toronto, May 4.
Hog products are in good demand, especially smoked meats, owing to light stocks. Hoders are firm. Lard is scarce and strong. Dressed hogs at the farmers' market here are 10c higher at 98.50 to 30.00
Pork—Canada short cut, \$20 to 20.00
Pork—Canada short cut, \$20 to 20.00
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Pork—Canada short cut, \$20 to 50.00
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Pork—Canada short cut, \$20 to 80.00
Pork—Canada short cut, \$20 to 50.00
Pork—Canada short

green mests out of pickle are quo'ed at Ic less than smoked. Lard—Tierces 10½c, tubs, 10½c, and pails 10%c.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK MARK | T.

TORONTO LIVE STOUR MARK! I. Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, May !

Receipts at the stock yards yesterday were 74 carloads, including 1 (8) cattle, 136 sheep and lambs, and (21) hours.

Accespts at the succe yarus yearus day were 74 carloads, including 100 cattle, 130 sheep and lambs, and 121 logs.

Export Cattle—Receipts large on buying heavy. Buyers were nun rous, and many of them wanted cattle to fill up steamer space for which toey had contracted. Prices ruled site of the fill up steamer space for which toey had contracted. Prices ruled site of the fill up steamer space for which toey had contracted. Prices ruled site of the fill up steamer space for which toey had contracted. Prices ruled site of \$1.2\frac{1}{2}, and there were numerous transactions at from \$4.90 to \$5.12\frac{1}{2}, and there were numerous transactions at from \$4.90 to \$5.12\frac{1}{2}, while medium, including 1 km weights, sell at \$4.35 to \$4.75.

Butchers' Cattle — Bidding was spirited, and the supply of good satile small. There was an active to log small. There was an active finded and prices for the best were traded at \$1.00 to \$5.00 per owt. Choice cattle control of \$3.55 to \$3.75 medium; \$3 to \$3.75 to \$5.00 to \$5.00

for grain-red, and es to exite for harn-yard stock. Hogs-Steady and unchanged at &c. to per cwt. for selects of 100 to 200 pounds, natural weight, and \$6.25 for lights and fats.

FRIDAY'S MARKETS.

FRIDAY'S MARKETS.

Toronto, May 4.

Receipts at the semi-weekly markets yesterday were 78 cars, including 160 sheep and lambs, and 1,400 hogs.

Export cattle in good demand for choice, with light offerings. Best sold at 10c and 20c advance. Others not onsidered worth prices paid for best. Keen demand for choice. Export bulk the process of the consideration of the Keen demand for choice. Export bulk more active at same price. Short-keep feeders in good demand at \$4 to \$4.50. Sheep and lambs firm on small offerings, and all sold quickly. Ewes. \$3.50 to \$4.50: bucks, \$3 to \$3.50 to \$6 per cwt. Barn-yard lambs, \$4.50 to \$5.60. Spring kambs, \$2.50 to \$5.60.

MONTREAL GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

MONTREAL GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.
Special to The Commercial.
Sugar is fairly active and strong and prices 5c higher, making granulated \$4.60; and yellows, \$3.75 to \$4.60.
Molasses is quiet; round lots being quoted, new, 28c; old, 27c; jobbing lots, 28c to 30c. Raleins and currants are featureless. New pack of Fraser iver saimon, ordinary brands offering at \$4.60; Horsesthoe and Maple Leaf, \$4.75, fo.b., const. Teas quiet. New crop of Japan season is now open. Quality is better, but offerings are small and prices same as a year sgo. Ceylon tess are strong et advance. Hams, bacon and lard are in good demand. Pork is moving in small lots and prices are firm. Hogs are stronger at \$9.50 to \$9.75.

MONTREAL GRAIN & PRODUCE. Special to The Commercial.

Special to The Commercial, May 4. Montreal, May 4. There is a fair trade doing in wheat and priose are firmer. Oats are active and strong at ½c higher. Barrey is fairly stotive and ½c bugher. Barrey is fairly stotive and ½c bugher. Barrey is fairly stotive and ½c up. Flour is firm with a fair trade. Large sales of one made for export. Rolled oats are firm. Foed is quiet and weak. Hay 5c higher. Cheese is in good demand. Old stock of colored cheeses is cleaned up. Butter is steader with one of the color of t Montreal, May 4.