

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, Feb. 23.

VICTORIA.

There is still a certain amount of complaint of the inactivity in jobbing lines generally, but the situation is not totally devoid of encouraging features. It is now getting along towards the spring season when the general replenishing orders in every line of trade are expected. The present order of trade may, however, be expected to continue for perhaps another month, but after that time it is believed that something like the usual volume of demand will have developed. The dry goods houses are preparing for the spring opening. New goods are arriving and the tables are being stocked with choice lines just imported from foreign markets together with domestic staple lines.

There is a certain amount of complaint about the "wild cat" real estate schemes that are being put on the market, anticipating a spring harvest. These will undoubtedly later on show the depressing influence they exercise in the regular channels of trade. There is one consolation, however, that people are beginning to realize the bad effect these schemes have on legitimate business, and it is only those who care not for the future of the city that have anything whatever to do with them. Several exposures in this connection are talked of.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

In American meats, both canned and smoked prices are unchanged, and have been quoted the same by the packers for the last ten days. An understanding has been arrived at between Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., (Id) and the British Columbia Refinery whereby the former agree not to import any more Hong Kong sugar into this market and the refinery will make their prices satisfactory to importers. Granulated sugar is quoted by jobbers at 5½c, and yellows at 4½c to 4¾c.

Quotations are: Eastern creamery, 28½c per lb. for large and 20½c for small; Manitoba creamery, 30c; dairy, 23c. Eastern Townships, first quality, 26c.

Mediterranean dried fruits are quoted by local jobbers as follows: Currants in bbls. 8½c, in half-bbls. 8½c; valencias, 8½c; sultanas, 1½c; London layers, \$2.25 a box; California sultanas, \$2.25 a box; dates, 9c; prunes, 9c to 12½c. California evaporated fruits in 25 lb. boxes are quoted as follows: Peaches, 12½c; apricots, 1½c; nectarines, 1½c; pitted plums, 1½c. About the same grade of fruits in cotton sacks are quoted from 1c to 2c per lb. less. New Canadian evaporated apples are quoted at 1½c per lb.

The local jobbers are now carrying full stocks of all the different kinds of jams put up in glass jars by Okel & Morris at the Victoria Preserving Factory, which include apricot, peach, plum, pear, apricot marmalade, etc. Quotations are 1½ lb. size, \$3 per dozen; 3 lb. size, \$5 per doz.

Falconer's Victoria Vinegar Works' goods are now carried by the leading wholesale grocers, comprising pure malt vinegar, tomato catsup, Worcestershire sauce, mushroom catsup, apple and quince

cider, lemon and vanilla extracts and fruit syrups—of home manufacture.

FLOUR AND FEED.

A drop of 10c. a barrel in Ogilvie's Hungarian flour was quoted last Thursday, and accordingly the jobbers dropped in sympathy with the manufacturers' quotations. At the present price of wheat, there is nothing in flour for millers at existing rates. A number of Oregon mills have shut down, as there is more profit in shipping wheat than milling. It is believed by well informed persons that the cutting that has been going on for some time between Manitoba millers is about at an end, and that prices will shortly be advanced. This idea was considerably strengthened toward the end of last week by the report that the representative of the Ogilvie Milling Co., then in the city, had received instructions to proceed at once to Winnipeg, the headquarters of the company. The National Mills turned out their first sample of rolled wheat last week.

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote: For Enderby flour in carload lots, Premier, \$5.50; XXX., \$5.30; Strong Bakers or XX., \$5.00; Superfine, \$1.00. Quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills.....	\$5 50 @ 0 00
Lion, " ".....	5 50 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills.....	5 80 @ 0 00
XXX., " ".....	5 55 @ 0 00
XX., " ".....	5 25 @ 5 50
Superfine, " ".....	4 25 @ 4 50
Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	5 75 @ 0 00
Strong Bakers.....	5 75 @ 0 00
Snowflake.....	6 25 @ 0 00
Portland Roller.....	6 10 @ 0 00
Royal.....	6 00 @ 0 00
Oregon Superfine.....	4 25 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton.....	\$10 00 @ 45 00
Oats.....	32 50 @ 35 00
Oil cake meal.....	32 50 @ 35 00
Chop feed.....	33 00 @ 35 00
Shorts.....	23 00 @ 30 00
Bran.....	26 00 @ 27 50
National Mills oatmeal.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats.....	3 25 @ 0 00
" " split peas.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley.....	1 50 @ 0 00
California oatmeal.....	1 35 @ 0 00
California rolled oats.....	3 90 @ 4 00
Cornmeal.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Cracked corn.....	15 00 @ 50 00
Hay, per ton.....	18 00 @ 20 00
Straw, per bale.....	1 25 @ 0 00

RICE.

The Victoria Rice Mills quote wholesale:

Japan rice, per ton.....	\$77 50
China rice ".....	70 00
Rice flour ".....	70 00
Chit rice ".....	25 00
Rice Meal ".....	17 50

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

A slight drop is noted in Riverside seedlings and a rise in navels. Los Angeles oranges have also declined a little. Potatoes are holding steady at \$16 to \$20 per ton, according to quality. Large shipments of potatoes from Dungeness and San Juan, Wash., have been received since last week. Quotations are:—Oranges—Riverside seedlings, \$2.50; navels, \$1.25 to \$5.25; Los Angeles, \$2.20; California lemons, Eureka, \$4; Sicily lemons, \$7; bananas, \$6.50; silverskin onions, 2c per lb.; Oregon yellow danver, 1½c; apples, \$1.50 to \$2 per box; potatoes, \$16 to \$18 per ton.

LUMBER.

The British bark Craigend, 2,218 tons,

Capt. Hamilton, now at Seattle, is reported chartered by the Hastings Mill Co. The Norwegian bark Agnes, 814 tons, Capt. Hofsgaard, sailed from Chemainus with a cargo of lumber, February 20, for Antofagasta. The Chilean bark India, 933 tons, Capt. Funke, has completed her cargo for Valparaiso at the Hastings Mills, consisting of 967,000 feet rough and clear lumber. The American bark Hesper, 664 tons, Capt. Sodergren, has also completed a cargo for Shanghai, consisting of 747,000 feet rough lumber. The American bark Colorado, 1,038 tons, Capt. Gibson, arrived at Esquimalt February 22. She was bought for the lumber trade, but it is said she will be laid up for the present at Chemainus. It is reported that the Chemainus Mills have received an order from Chile for 500,000 feet. The rate of the Glenbervie and British India has been announced at 37s 6d to Valparaiso, for orders. Quotations are as follows for cargo lots for foreign shipment, being the prices of the Pacific Pine Lumber Association: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet, inclusive, \$9 per M feet; rough deck plank, average length 35 feet, \$19; dressed flooring, \$17; pickets, \$9; laths, 1 foot, \$2.

For local trade, the Rock Bay Saw Mill quotes:

Rough lumber, per M.....	\$10 00
Best quality dressed lumber, per M.....	00 00
Second " ".....	00 00
Laths, per M.....	2 50
Shingles, ".....	2 25

FREIGHTS.

Lumber freights from British Columbia or Puget Sound are nominal at 32s 6d to Sydney; Melbourne, Adelaide or Port Pirie, 45s; West Coast of South America, 35s, with a downward tendency. The rates of the Glenbervie and British India, reported last week as chartered for Valparaiso for orders, are 37s 6d. Grain freights from San Francisco to the United Kingdom show a firmer tone. A charter has been made at 32s 6d to Cork, with usual options. From Tacoma and Portland quotations are nominal at 22s 6d.

Geo. Morrison, druggist, Victoria, is dead.

Building operations are already beginning at Nelson. The prospects for a heavy summer's work are very promising.

It is reported that the Rosenfeld's Sons have chartered the SS. Chas. W. Wetmore, Capt. J. O'Brien, and will employ her in the coast coal trade.

The plant for the Nelson electric light works is now en route from the east, and is expected to arrive shortly. It will have a capacity of 1,000 incandescent lights and 24 street lamps.

Application is to be made to the Legislature for the incorporation of the Nelson waterworks company. Provision is made in its charter that the town may acquire its works and franchise if it sees fit any time.

Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co. (L'd) have received information from the owners of the Lizzie Bell that the first mate was instructed to take command and proceed immediately to Victoria. She is expected in 60 days.