TRAPE AND COMMERCE.

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VICTORIA.

The general rise in the market values is gradually strengthening public confidence, and will lead to increased purchases in all of the various lines of staple merchandise. Tariff changes went into ferco last Saturday, the principal of which are an increase of 12½c per proof gallon on spirits, ½c per pound on raw sugar and an additional Le per pound on sugars at present dutiable. A second advance of 20c on Ogilvies' Hungarian flour was made last Thursday. The grain markets are also reported to have advanced.

The placing of a third steamer on the West Coast Trade and the expected development of the steamer service among the Gulf Islands are considered favorable signs for increasing the development of that desirable trade.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the Dominion Government will see the advisability of assisting the immediate extension of the E. & N. Railway to Comox, as there can be no question that it would largely aid in the development of the natural wealth of the Island and the settlement of the vacant lands of the Province and thus be a work for the benefit of the entire Dominion.

The close season for pelatgic sealing has begun and for three months the schooners which, it is understood, have had but short catches, will be idle. Sealers which have returned to port announce exceptionally hard luck, and those from which advices have been received from the north as well as the Japan coast have had no better news to give. In consequence this important industry appears to be in worse case than ever and what the outcome will be it is hard to say.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The California market is well supplied with all seasonable fruits. The supply of oranges is heavy. A few cherries have been received and sold at \$2.25 per case. Strawberries have also made their appearance but are of inferior quality.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as

ollows:	
	3 50
" Common 2 25 🧒	2 50
" " Seedlings 2 00 @	2 50
Bananas, per bunch 3 00 @	0 00
Lemons-California (Johnson's) 3 00 (6	3 50
California selected 2 50 @	3 00
	1 50
^	1 50
	3 00
Cherries, per case 2 25 @	00
ocoanuts per 100 8 00 @	9 00
Vegetables are quoted:	
Onions-Silverskinsper lb 2 &	23
Cabbageper lb 21 @	

Potate	peqper ton 11 00	æ	17	00
Aspar	agus, per box 1 85	$(\hat{\alpha})$	2	00
Peas	" 2 75	0		00
	GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.			

The imposition of he per pound duty on sugar, both raws and refined, was a surprise to the local wholesale trade who, it is said, were caught napping and did not anticipate any change in the tariff, not a sack was sold on speculation. The advance they say, was looked for by the Refinery Co. Quotations have been advanced le all round with the probability of a further rise to meet the increased duties. The demand shows signs of considerable improvement.

All beef products have advanced and are likely to go higher. American canned meats are very strong. Roast and corned beef are advanced 35c per dozother lines proportionately. For the first three months of this year the cattle returns show a falling off in receipts against 1894 in Chicago market of 17 per cent. Omaha market 32 per cent. -Kansas City 13 per cent. The shor age is ing Company's brands per ab.: supposed to be due to the extreme drought of last season and the shortage of the corn crop.

Orders for two cars of canned meats were placed by local jobbers last week in view of the advancing condition of the

Lard remains unchanged and so do hams and bacon. The market is strong in both of these lines and an advance is looked for in the near future. California evaporated apricots and peaches have advanced &c with a strong market as stocks are geiting well cleated particularly so in the fancy grades.

California butter is firm with a slight tendency upwards in the better grades. Fancy creamery squares are now quoted 13kc at San Francisco, while tubs rule &c higher, fancy dairy roll 111c. Eastern creamery to clear up stocks has been reduced by jobbers to same price as California. Coal oil has dropped to \$3.00 per case.

The Canadian Canneries Association has made a reduction on the prices of canned vegetables, last year's goods. Stocks are not moving fast enough to suit the canneries.

Sugar-Jobbers' prices, ordinary terms 60 days.

Dry Granulated (China)	. 100-sack	4 50
" "B. A. Coarse"	. **	1 50
Extra C, China	"	4 25
Dry Granulated (B. C. Refinery)		13
Extra C		44
Fancy Yellow		42
Yellow	• • • • • • • • • •	- 13
Golden C		
Cubes		61
Powdered		62
Syrups, per to	· · · · · · · · · · ·	2}
" 1 gal. tins, American (1	0)	5 50
	6)	
" 1 " Vancouver		
" 1 " "	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	5 50
Dairy produce is quoted:		

Butter-Eastern Creamery, tubs	20	@ 22
Manitoba dairy	15	@ 20
" creamery in this	27	@ 28
" in tubs	26	@ 00
Australian	223	ve 00
California Roll-Fancy	19	ac 21
Fancy, Tubs	20	w 22
Cheese-Canadian, lb		
Canadian Stilton		
Californian	123	or 13
Eggs-Canadian per doz	10	ce 15
Smoked meats and lard are que	oted	l :

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Han	18							11	((¢	15
Brea	kfast l	bacon.						11	(त)	15
Shor	t rolls	 .						10}	(i)	113
Dry	Salt, k	ng cle	ar					เด้	ά¢	165
		•••							60	13
		per bl				-				
		Beef, 1								
Lard	Comp	ound,	20 lbs					163	(10	11
**	•	•	10 lbs					Įu)	(3)	11
**	•	•	5 164					10}	uţ	11
**			3 lbs					101	10	111
Whi	to Lab	ol pure	leaf l	ard,	tierce	٠.			0	12
	**	**	•		50-lb	tin	S		. 0	123
	**	**	**		20.16	**			. 0	121
	••	**	**		10-lb	**			. 0	12:
	**	**	••		5:1b	**		• • • •	. 0	123
	••	**	**		3-lb	••			. 0	123
								_	_	_

Jobbers' quotations for Armour Pack-

191		[
Helmet bran	d sugar cu	red hams.	medium	0 11
**	44	**	heavy .	
••	**	breakf	ast bacon	0.11
Fancy Gold	Band hams	' 		0 15
	break	dast bace	m	0.15
Roast and co	orned beef,	2s per de	0%	3 00
	**	18 "		1 73
Lunch tongu	es, 2s por	doz		7 00
••	is '	•		3 75
Deviled han	1,] lbs '	•		1 60
White label	501105, 3550	rted ats	per doz	2 75

The British Columbia Sugar Refinery quotes prices as follows, for lots of one barrel and upwards, delivered into warehouse at Vancouver or Victoria, payment by net spot cash:

, •				
Granulated, in bbls. or 100-lb bags		 • •	•	11
Extra C	٠.	٠.		45
Fancy Yellow				1
Yellow	٠.			33
Golden C	٠.	٠.		
Paris lumps in bbls, or 100-lb bags				34
Powdered Icing and bar, in bbls				Ğ

Above prices are for barrels or bags, 100 lb. keg &c. higher; half bbls. &c and boxes &c.

FLOUR AND FEED.

Flour has again advanced. The Ogilvie Milling Co. advanced their quotations 20c per bbl. on last Thursday and jobbers prices are higher in sympathy. There is, however, some stock on hand which was purchased before the rise which is being offered at the old rate. Ogilvie's Hungarian is quoted by jobbers all the way from \$4.90 to \$5.25 per bbl. The Puget Sound Flour market has advanced in sympathy with wheat values and the brands of Tacoma Mills are reported 15c to 20c per bbl. higher. Olympic flour now cost \$3.15 at Tacoma and \$4.04 landed here, jobbers quote it at \$4.25. Wheat at the advance costs \$17.00 on the Sound and Oats \$20.00 to \$21.00 per ton.

Oregon flours are still unchanged, but millers are talking of an advance and are not so anxious to push goods at ruling