

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, May 31.
VICTORIA.

As is usual, a lull followed the celebration, but business will pick up again at the first of the month. It is said that the dry goods trade has been quiet with the wholesaler, for May. April was a good month, and with fair weather June should bring up the average for the spring trade. There is an advance of 10 per cent advised on shirtings, gingham and other colored cotton goods caused by the combination of the cotton mills of Eastern Canada. Collections are reported fair and some houses believe that money is circulating more freely. Dealers are buying light, and the wholesale trade are not disposed to push goods on their customers. Travellers returning from the interior report business very fair there and orders quite satisfactory. The establishment of a new steamship line from the Orient to Tacoma in connection with the Northern Pacific Railway, is an important event for Victoria as this city is made the first and last port of call for their steamers which will dock at the outer wharf.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The following are the receipts of fruit and vegetables from San Francisco by ss. Umatilla, May 26. For Victoria—236 cs oranges, 22 cts bananas, 4 bx lemons, 17 cs strawberries containing 34 drawers, 140 pkgs cherries, containing 134 boxes, 15 bx apricots, 53 sacks onions, 26 cts cabbage, 1 bx artichokes, 108 sks potatoes, 2 cts cauliflower, 1 cs asparagus, 13 cs tomatoes, 4 bx cucumbers, 19 bx peas, 1 bx beans, 1 cs squash, 4 cs vegetables—total 607 pkgs. For Vancouver—29cs oranges, 16 bx apricots, 60 pkgs cherries, containing 219 bxs, 56 cts cabbages, 49 sks onions, 64 sks potatoes, 7 bxs tomatoes, 2 crates cauliflower, 4 bxs peas, 6 bxs beans, 5 bxs asparagus—total, 298 pkgs; grand total—965 packages.

The first apricots for the season arrived by last steamer, and are quoted at \$2.25 @ \$2.50 per box. Oranges are higher in price. The demand in San Francisco is good for choice fruit, and the market is firm. Riverside seedlings are quoted at \$3 by some dealers, and by others at \$1 to \$1.25. Navels have gone up about 50c. Mediterranean sweets and Californian Highland oranges \$1 to \$1.25. A carload of Messina lemons, 300 boxes, was received from Montreal last week, and are offered at \$5 a box. The cherries received by last steamer arrived in very good condition. The white sold at \$1.25 and black at \$1.75 per box, although some slightly damaged were offered at \$1.25. The price of cherries will probably be lower when the next steamer arrives. The cherries that were received on the 22nd were badly damaged, and sales at 10c to 40c per box were made freely. What good fruit arrived sold at \$2. It is estimated that the wholesale fruit dealers lost \$600 on cherries received by the Walla Walla on 22nd inst. A few native strawberries were on the market last week, and were quickly picked up at high figures. Supplies will soon come in freely. Nectarines and peaches will probably be on the market in a couple of

weeks, but the lateness of the season may delay them for a month. Fruit generally is in good demand. Quotations are: Oranges—Riverside seedlings, \$3 to \$1.25; navels, \$5.50 to \$6; Mediterranean sweets, \$1.00; California Highland oranges, \$1; California lemons, \$3.50 to \$1.75; Sicily lemons, \$5.00; bananas, \$3.50 to \$3.75; cabbage, 2c per lb.; potatoes, \$17 to \$18 per ton; cranberries, \$3.75 @ 1 per box; new potatoes, 1½c per lb; strawberries, \$1.00 a drawer; cherries—white \$1.25 per box, black \$1.75 per box; red California onions, 1½c per lb.; pineapples, \$6 a doz.; coconuts, 90c. a doz.; peas, 5c per lb; beans, 20c; apricots, \$2.25.

FLOUR AND FEED.

There has been a drop in quotations of Oregon flour since last week. The H. B. Co. have reduced Benton County Oregon 25c per bbl. Portland Roller has also dropped 25c and Royal 10c. There is a steady consumptive demand and no special features in the trade. The *Portland Commercial Review* says: On the 20th inst., there was another reduction of 20c per bbl. on standard brands of flour. Since that date, no further decline is noted, although there is no firmness to the market, the demand being entirely for local and San Francisco trade. Local quotations are, standard brands \$4.10 per bbl.; lower qualities, \$3 @ \$3.75 per bbl.

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote: For Enderby flour in carload lots, Premier, \$5.40; XXX., \$5.30; Strong Bakers or XX., \$5.00; Superfine, \$4.00. Quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills.....	\$ 5 25 @ 0 00
Lion, " ".....	5 25 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills.....	5 50 @ 0 00
XXX., " ".....	5 50 @ 0 00
XX., " ".....	5 25 @ 5 50
Superfine, " ".....	4 25 @ 4 50
Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	5 85 @ 0 00
" " Strong Bakers.....	5 50 @ 0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian ..	5 85 @ 0 00
Benton County, Oregon.....	5 50 @ 0 00
Snowflake.....	5 75 @ 0 00
Portland Roller.....	5 50 @ 0 00
Royal.....	5 35 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton.....	35 00 @ 40 00
Oats.....	30 00 @ 32 50
Oil cake meal.....	35 00 @ 00 00
Chop feed.....	30 00 @ 00 00
Shorts.....	28 00 @ 30 00
Bran.....	25 00 @ 27 50
National Mills oatmeal.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " split peas.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley.....	4 50 @ 0 00
" " Chop feed.....	30 0 @ 0 00
California oatmeal.....	4 35 @ 0 00
California rolled oats.....	3 85 @ 4 00
Corameal.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Cracked corn.....	45 00 @ 50 00
Hay, per ton.....	18 00 @ 20 00
Straw, per balc.....	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

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The following are the receipts of California butter by the SS. Umatilla from San Francisco May 26. For Victoria: 15 cs, 1,720 lbs; 90 kits, 2,800 lbs—total, 4,520 lbs. For Vancouver: 4 cs, 455 lbs; 50 tubs, 2,570 lbs—total, 3,025 lbs; grand total, 7,545 lbs.

The SS. Empire from San Francisco May

10, brought up 2,251 lbs butter for Nanaimo merchants. California fancy roll is quoted at 20c per lb and tubs 27c. A small quantity of Manitoba dairy has been received. It was of poor quality, and, being early make, off color. It was sold for 23c. The arrivals of butter from Manitoba will be fairly heavy in June. A consignment of Joly's Manitoba creamery is on the way to a local house. It will be the first eastern creamery to arrive this season. The market in San Francisco, on account of liberal receipts, is weak and a little lower. Canadian cheese is quoted at 14c, and new California cheese at 16c. Eggs are quoted from 18 to 20c.

Meats are unchanged in price by the wholesale trade, but the market is reported firmer than last month. A packing house agent quotes hams ½c and breakfast bacon ¾c per lb. higher, while backs and dry salt long clear side have declined ½c per lb.; lard unchanged. The first quality of hams sell at 15c and breakfast bacon 15½c per lb. by local jobbers.

Quotations are: Hams, 14c per lb.; breakfast bacon, 14c; backs, 13c; short roll, 11½c; long clear, 11c; pure kettle lard, 50 lbs, 13c; pure steam do., 12c; lard compound, 10½ @ 11½c; lard tins, 12½ @ 13½c.

Sugar quotations by jobbers are as follows: Granulated, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; yellow, 4½c; golden C, 4½c.

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.

SALMON.

Mail advices from London report an improvement in the market. Three weeks ago, there was a large clearance of the 1891 pack of British Columbia salmon which sold at from 20s 6d to 21s per case. This was quite a rise as the market had previously been at 18s. Since then, cable advices advise no further operations, the market being again depressed by the arrivals of large quantities of Alaska fish which is being offered at 17s. Preparations for this season's pack are progressing favorably, and everything will be in readiness at the canneries when the sockeye run commences. On account of the agreement among the canners limiting them to a half pack on the Fraser river, the preparations there are of necessity lighter than for the previous year.

Two charters have already been made for this season's pack. The Chili now on the way from London by Turner, Beeton & Co., and the River Ganges, from Rio Janeiro, by Findlay, Durham & Brodie. It is said that there will only be three charters for salmon this year.

LUMBER.

The Fritzoë has finished loading at Chemainus and cleared for Melbourne. There have been no arrivals during the week, but the Palawan from San Francisco, May 21, is about due at Vancouver, to load for Iquique. The Chilian ship Atacama, 1,235 tons, Capt. Cabbalero, sailed from Valparaiso, May 13, for Moodyville; and the Chilian bark Leonor, 801 tons, Capt. Hanken, sailed from Antofagasta about May 9, also for Moodyville,