

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, June 22, 1896.

In all lines last week business was unusually good among the wholesalers owing to the necessary summer supply for camps throughout the interior and along the coast. Collections are rather better and ready money much freer. The lull in the lumber trade still continues though there is still some activity in shipping circles. The salmon run on the Fraser river is rapidly improving and from indications in the North a very large mass of sockeyes are heading eastward. The big strike on the Skeena river is off a compromise having been made between the canners and fishermen by which the canners agree to pay 35 cents for sockeyes and 75 cents for spring salmon. This is an advance of ten cents and one cent on the old wages. Many people have been expressing the fear of late that numerous canneries starting up along the rivers of British Columbia would thin out the salmon and ruin the trade. In this connection it might be mentioned that Mr. Begg in his history of British Columbia mentions the fact that 103 years ago Alexander McKenzie in describing his trip across the continent to the Pacific said that he noticed in the Fraser river (then supposed to be the Columbia river) that the fish were so thick that they seemed to entirely cover the surface of the water with their fins. So that the big run has lasted at all events for 103 years with apparently no diminution in size. Latterly British Columbia fishermen have been setting traps for salmon in American waters and selling their fish in British Columbia. The conservative candidate Mr. B. McBride at Westminster district notified Sir Charles Tupper of the state of affairs at a particularly opportune time and Sir Charles Tupper wired back "I am in favor of protecting British Columbia fishermen."

## British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, June 27, 1896.

There is a very heavy supply of Manitoba butter here and prices are easy.

Butter.—Man. Dairy butter, 14 to 16c; Manitoba creamery, 19 to 20c; Manitoba cheese, new, 11c.

Cured Meats.—Hams 11½c to 12c; breakfast bacon 11½ to 12c; backs 11½ to 12c; long, clear 8c; short rolls 9½c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per pound; in pails and tubs 9½c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$16.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smolt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 7c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel heads, 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 10c; bloater 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; salt oolachan, 25 and 50 lb. kets 5c; smoked salmon 12½c.

Vegetables.—New potatoes, \$1.85 per 100 pounds; onions silver skins, 1½c lb.; California onions, 2c.; sweet potatoes \$2.25 per 100 lbs.; cabbage, 1½c lb.; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Ranch, 20c. Manitoba, 14c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 360 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. Standard Australian boxes for apples, etc., are smaller and contain from 125 to 150 apples in a box. Mediterranean sweets, \$3; St. Michaels, \$3.75; blood oranges, \$3.75; California lemons, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Australian apples \$2.25 to \$2.50 per box; Bluefield bananas, \$3 per bunch; bananas \$1.75 bunch;

\$3.50 crate (2 bunches) \$3.50; Cherries, (10 lb box), \$1.40; Peaches, 20 lb boxes \$1.50; Plums 20 lb boxes \$1.75; Apricots 20 lb boxes \$1.40; Tomatoes, \$3.50.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$2.60; 0.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25, -50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 15's \$2.35.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$1.40; strong bakers, \$1.10; Oregon, \$1.20; Oak Lake patent \$1.30; do. strong bakers \$1.00.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$30.00 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats \$16.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$21 to \$23 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$16.00 ton; bran \$15.00; oil cake meal, \$26 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—Nominal at \$8 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 6 to 7c; mutton, 6½ to 7½c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7c.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$3.00 to \$3.50; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$3.10 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50 to \$5.75 per 100 lbs; lamb \$2.75 to \$3 per head.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$5.50; ducks, \$5 per dozen.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 6½c; granulated, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow 4½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c. choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

## British Columbia Mining News.

A new coal company has been formed in Nanaimo, British Columbia to develop coal mines, the capital is mentioned as \$3,000,000.

The California Gold Mining company has been incorporated in Spokane, capital \$2,000,000.

The Mountain View Gold Mining Co., has been incorporated in Spokane, capital \$1,000,000.

The Ivanhoe No. 1 Mine Co., has been incorporated in British Columbia. Capital \$1,000,000.

Slocan miners are indignant because 25 men were brought in by the owners of the Wellington group of mines, Slocan, from Ottawa to work under contract at \$2 a day thus for the first time cheap labor has been imported although there are 2,000 men looking for work in the Kootenies.

## British Columbia Business Notes.

Topping & Hanna, Hotel, Trail, have dissolved, E. S. Topping continues.

The Stock of Henry Gribble, toys, &c., Victoria, is advertised for sale.

Wm. Hooper, harness and saddlery, Arm-Strong, is succeeded by Chas. Addison.

Mrs. E. B. O. Schotky, men's furnishings, New Westminster, is advertising stock for sale.

The last number of the British Columbia Mining Record, published by Alex. Bagg, at Vancouver, contains an extensive write up of the Cariboo country, with illustrations.

The National Ore & Reduction Co., of St. Louis, Mo., have closed a contract with Mac-

Farlane & Co., of Vancouver, for the exclusive sale of their furnaces in British Columbia. These furnaces are spoken very highly of by mining men.

## Binder Twine in the United States.

"Binder twine stiffens up. The demand unprecedented. Probabilities that prices will go higher as a shortage in supply is imminent." This is the heading to an article on binder twine from the Minneapolis Journal of June 20. The Journal goes on to speak as follows:

"Owing to the promise of another heavy crop of small grains there is an almost unprecedented demand for binder twine; this summer, and the various factories throughout the country are finding it hard work to supply the trade. The binder twine department of the state prison at Stillwater is over-run with orders. Already 1,000,000 pounds of twine have been shipped from that point, and orders for a like amount are still unfilled.

There is always more or less uncertainty or irregularity in the twine market. The prices now have an upward tendency and the supply in very apt to run short before the season closes.

The straw production this year averages much higher than it has for several years past, and in consequence more twine will be needed. Orders came in very slowly, and the manufacturers fell behind in their output. Since then sisal and hemp have been cornered by eastern firms, which tends to raise the price of twine considerably. The price of manito fibre remains about the same.

On the whole there will be no over supply of twine, unless considerable damage should be suffered by crops before harvest time.

## Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending June 25, were \$335,190; balances, \$190,804. For the previous week clearings were \$955,903. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$859,860 and for the week two years ago, \$791,097. For the month of May clearings were \$1,246,210 as compared with \$1,156,282 for April, 1895, and \$3,455,639 or May, 1894. Clearances for all Canadian cities this week were as follows:

Montreal.....	\$ 8,918,810
Toronto.....	5,979,408
Halifax.....	921,740
Winnipeg.....	835,190
Hamilton.....	675,305
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	\$17,330,453

## Minneapolis Flour Market.

The Market Record of June 18 reports flour very dull for export trade. Prices are as follows in barrels, f. o. b.: First patents, \$3.15 to \$3.40; Second patents, \$3.00 to \$3.10; First clears, \$2.45 to \$2.50; second clear, \$2; Export baker's, \$2.45; second export baker's \$2 to \$2.10; Red Dog, per ton 140 lbs. jute, \$10.50 to \$10.75. These prices are 10c lower than two weeks ago for patents.

Milstuffs.—Bran in bulk \$1.75 to \$5.00. Bran in sacks, 200 lbs, \$5.50 to \$6.00 Bran in sacks, 100 lbs, \$6.00 to \$6.50; Shorts, \$5.00; Middlings, fine, \$7.25 to \$7.75.

Prof. Fletcher, etomologist and botonist at the experimental farm, Ottawa, arrived in Winnipeg last week. He will address meetings throughout the country on noxious weeds.

A detailed and illustrated programme of attractions and sports of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association will shortly be issued and can be obtained free on application to the manager, F. W. Heubach, box 1848, Winnipeg.