

## Vancouver Business Review.

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er before a decline. Merchants are anticipating being obliged to import from the United States. The name of the White Valley post office has been changed to Lumby. The Nelson Tribune states that for every car load of ore shipped out of the Slocan mines a car load of hay or grain is imported. The export is worth \$125 per ton, the import \$30. The capital stock of the Enterprise Mining Co., Ltd., of Vancouver, has been increased from \$25,000 to \$250,000.

### B. C. Market Quotations.

**FISH**—Prices are—salmon 10c; flounders, 4c; smelt, 5c; sea bass, 5c; cod, 8c; halibut, 8c; smoked salmon, 10c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered herring, 12½c; bloaters, 10c; kippered cod, 10c.

**VEGETABLES**—Potatoes, \$25 per ton, scarce; inferior grade, \$20, in rather larger quantities; onions, 3c; cabbage, 1½ to 2c; carrots, turnips and beets, 2½ to 2½c.

**POULTRY**—Geese, 14c; turkeys, 16c; chickens, 15c; duck, 14c, all scarce.

**FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, ETC.**—The Ogilvie Milling Co. and Keswatin Milling Co. quote standard brands of Manitoba flour, in car lots only, at Victoria, Vancouver and Westminster as follows: Patent, per bbl., \$4.40; strong bakers, \$4.10. The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots at Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster: Premier, \$4.50; XXX, \$4.00; strong bakers, or XX, \$3.80; superfine, \$3.50. Quotations split peas \$3.50; pearl barley \$5.00. Rice—The Victoria rice mills quote wholesale Japan rice small lots are: Flour, Manitoba patents, \$4.50; strong bakers, \$4.00; ladies choice, \$4.25; prairie lily, \$4.00; Oregon, \$4.50. Enderby mills—three star, \$4.30; two star, \$3.90; oatmeal eastern \$3.00; California granulated in gunnies, \$4.25; National mills, Victoria, \$3.00; rolled oats eastern \$3.00 to \$3.25; California, \$4.00; National mills \$3.00 per sack; Westminster Mills, 4c per lb., cornmeal \$2.75; per ton, \$77.50; best China rice, do., \$100; China rice, do., \$70; rice flour, do., \$70; chit rice, do., \$25; rice meal do., \$17.50; chopped feed \$30 per ton; bran, \$23; shorts \$25; Manitoba oats, \$34.00; wheat \$23; oil cake, \$40; hay, \$16. Feed wheat, \$26 to 28 per ton; oats \$21; chop barley, \$30. California malting barley, \$26 to \$27 r.o.b. in San Francisco. California chop, \$32 to \$33. Oak Lake patent Hungarian \$4.25; Oak Lake strong bakers, \$3.95. Shorts, \$23; bran, \$21; barley chop, \$26; Brandon Mills, Hungarian, \$4.60; strong bakers, \$4.40.

**DRESSED MEAT, LIVE STOCK, ETC.**—Live steers are 4c firm; cows 3c; beef, 6 to 7c; —sheep, 4c; mutton, 8 to 9c; hogs, 5½ to 6c; pork, 8 to 10c.

**SUGARS**—Unchanged and steady. Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated 4½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellow, 4½c; yellow, 4½c; golden C, 4c.

**DAIRY**—Eastern creamery is quoted at 30c, scarce; dairy, 24 to 25c, scarce; cheese, 13½c, very scarce; California butter, 26 to 30c.

**STOARS**—There has been a decline in prices, owing to the keen competition between the importers of Asiatic sugar and the British Columbia Sugar Refinery. Quotations are as follows:—Dry granulated (China), 4½c; extra C, China, 4½c; Australian granulated, 4½c; dry granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellow, 4½c; yill w, 4½c; golden C, 4c; cubes, 5½c, powdered, 6½c. Syrups, per lb 3c—1 gal. tin, United States (10), \$5.50; ½ gal. tins, United States (16), \$5.35—1 gal. tins, Vancouver, \$5.50; ½ gal. tin, Vancouver, \$7.00.

**CURED MEATS**—Hams 14c; breakfast bacon, 14½ to 15c; backs 14c; long clear, 11c; short ribs, 11½c; Lard is held at the following figures: In tins, 14c per pound; in pails, 13c; in tubs, 13; mess pork, \$20; short cut, \$24.

**FRUITS**—Lemons, Cal., \$4.00 to 4.50; B.C. apples, scarce, 80c to \$1.25; Oregon apples, \$1.25; oranges, navals, \$2.75 to \$3; seedlings, \$2.50 to 3.75; Japanese, 50c.

**EGGS**—Eastern case eggs, 18 to 19c; fresh, local eggs offered at 30c.

### Brief Business Notes.

Price's Salmon Cannery & Preserving Co., Ltd., Gardiner's Inlet, advertise business for sale.

A. W. Harding, drugg, Kamloops, assigned in trust to A. E. Edgar.

Hugh Madden, hotel, Nakuap, sold out to Robert Madden.

Robert Thorburn, merchant, Vancouver, sold out to Thomas H. Herrett.

Woodland and Edwards, butchers, Vancouver, dissolved partnership.

Wier & Bremner, wholesale commission, fruit, etc., Victoria, have given up this business.

T. Kitchon and A. E. Waterhouse, real estate agents, Nanaimo, have dissolved partnership; the former continuing.

John Watkins, manufacturers' agent, has opened at Vancouver as agent for the Auer Light.

Herbert Robertson, barrister and solicitor, has opened an office in Victoria, at 41 Langley street.

Mrs. H. F. Clayton has again opened a grocery and marine store at Esquimalt.

Price & Co.'s cannery and general store at Gardiner's Inlet, is advertised for sale.

Paul A. C. Armfelt, formerly of Nanaimo, contemplates opening in the book and stationery business in Victoria.

The British ship Geneva has arrived at Vancouver with 2 500 tons of sugar from Samorang for the British Columbia Sugar Refinery.

The barkentine Wrester, chartered by Robert Ward & Co., to load lumber at Sayward's mill, has arrived.

Kamloops Cattle Co., (co partnership,) butchers, Kamloops & Vancouver, dissolved.

R. J. Lukey, job printer, Nanaimo, successor to Keller & Lukey.

Morgan & Comerford, tailors, Nanaimo, contemplate dissolving partnership.

P. Bolton, sashes and doors, Salmon Arm, starting business.

Vancouver Enterprise Mining Co., Ltd., Vancouver, increased capital stock to \$250,000.

David Hart, tobacconist, Victoria, being sold out by mortgagee.

Shawnigan Lake Lumber Co., (not incorporated,) Victoria, dissolved, Ewen Morrison retires. Wm. Munroe and T. Eiford continue the business under the same name.

Thomas Tugwell, late Hotel, Victoria, has commenced business under style of "Victoria Feed and Produce Co.," with his wife (C. E. as proprietress.

Weir & Bremner, wholesale commission, fruit, etc., Victoria, have given up this business.

John Wilson, commission, etc., admitted Rufus B. Oxley as a partner, under firm name of John Wilson & Co.

The C.P.R. has decided to make a cut in rates on wheat and grain, flour, feed and mill-stuffs from interior British Columbia points to the coast. This will be welcome news to the farmers. Formerly, the rates per 100 pounds were: From Enderby 35c, Armstrong 40c, Larkin 41, Vernon 43, Oceanan Landing 45c. The new rates from any of these places is 25c. As soon as the steamer Aberdeen is able to resume any of her trips, which will probably be about March 1st, the rate of 28; from Kelowna will go into effect. The former rate from this was 55c.

J. W. Harrison, coal and metal broker, San Francisco, reports Feb. 3rd, as follows: "Dur-

ing the week there have been the following arrivals: From the coast mines, 31,098 tons; from foreign ports, 19,316 tons. The amount at hand this week aggregates 50,404 tons, the largest amount in one week for over a year. The Scotch, English and Australian were wanted, as the quantity of each of these here on hand was very light. There is no change to note in values; English and Welsh are held at such high figures at ports of shipment that sales have become almost prohibitory. Very free engagements are being made in Australia for future delivery at quotations a little below last week's asking prices. The Wilson bill advocating the placing of bituminous coal on the 'free list,' has passed the House by sixty-four majority. I regret to see that four of our California representatives have proved recreant to their trust by opposing it. When they loom up again (they invariably do) for re-election, they will be reminded very forcibly by their former constituents that our manufacturing interests were overlooked by them."

### Anti-Option.

New anti-option legislation will be before Congress at the present session, but it is safe to conclude that whatever changes may be made in the old measure they will be found to be inimical to business interests. An illustration of this is found in the new anti-option bill introduced in the House by Chairman Hatch of the agricultural committee this week. This bill, in addition to imposing special taxes on dealers in futures and options upon all grain and provisions sold and upon all bills of sale used in the transaction, requires all transfers and agreements relating to futures and options to be in writing and in duplicate showing the time of delivery of the articles, and whether the makers or agents are the owners or have therefore acquired by purchase or are entitled to the right of future possession of the articles, under contract previously made by the actual owner; provides that when the option or future is terminated by the delivery of the articles the contractor shall make a bill of sale showing the quantity and the custodian, and identifying the articles by freight bills or vouchers, and requires that when the contract is terminated otherwise than by the actual sale and delivery of the articles, or when the termination is delayed by agreement, the document shall be executed in writing.

The bill further requires dealers in options and futures to furnish to the revenue collectors full details as to membership of firms, places of business, etc., to annually execute a bond to faithfully comply with the law and pay all taxes, which bond is to be in the penal sum of \$10,000, and to enter in books, in the minutest detail all transactions involving options and futures, and to number each contract consecutively, and provides that all documents connected with the original contract are to bear a similar number to the original contract, and that the books are to be subject to the inspection of the internal revenue collectors, to whom sworn monthly returns are to be made. These provisions of the amended anti-option law are, as will be seen, in a high degree oppressive, and if enacted could have no other effect than to impede and harass legitimate trade. Naturally enough, though a summary of the measure has been given to the public only within the last few days, the protests of the business men against the enactment of the bill have already begun to make themselves heard. This is particularly true as regards the city of New York, where the current of business sentiment against this and all similar measures is as strong as it is constant.—*Bradstreet's*.

The annual general meeting of the Montreal Cotton Co. was held last week. Reports of the year's operations were presented and considered very satisfactory by the shareholders. A. F. Gault was re-elected president and D. F. Smith, secretary-treasurer.