

BRITISH COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL

Business at Vancouver.

Vancouver, Oct. 16.—The advance in iron goods is still the remarkable feature in the business world here. On Friday last a 10 per cent advance in stoves and ranges went into effect. Wire nails are quoted at \$1.50. The rapid advance in metal building material has seriously affected some contractors who figured on a lower rate in tendering than they can purchase the metal for now that the buildings are under construction. There is also a scarcity of building sand, bricklayers and brick, necessitating serious delays on some of the big blocks going up in the province. Nelson has a bricklayers famine and offers \$6 a day for work at once.

In the produce market butter is still advancing in price and fresh eggs are a moot out of the question. Strictly fresh local, retail, at 60 cents. Fresh meat has an upward tendency still and much game is being purchased in consequence. Ducks are being sold from 20 to 40 cents a brace and are very plentiful.

The lumber business is flourishing. The Chemalvus mills on Vancouver island are doubling their capacity to 200,000 feet per day.

The rush of freight north has stopped, owing to the closing of the waterways, but the passenger traffic still continues brisk.

British Columbia Markets.

(All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reductions on large quantities, and to cash discounts.)

PRICES AT VANCOUVER.

By wire to The Commercial, Vancouver, Oct. 21.

Butter is steady and firm. Owing to poor quality of stock held, eastern eggs are 1c lower. Ashcroft potatoes, which are considered superior to those from other sections, are now offering. Mill feed is \$1 per ton lower.

BUTTER—Manitoba creamery, 25c; Manitoba dairy, 20c.

EGGS—Fresh local, 40 to 50c per dozen, as to quality; eastern eggs, 21c.

CHEESE—15c.

GREEN FRUIT—Oranges, \$4.75 to \$5 per box; California lemons, \$4.00 to \$4.25; peaches, 95c; plums, \$1.25 box; apples, \$1.60 to \$1.75 box; prunes, \$1.25 box; pears, \$2.00; bananas, \$2.55 bunch. These prices are for imported. British Columbia fruits are quoted as follows: Plums, 50 to 75c per box; green gages, 50c per box; apples, \$1 to \$1.50 box.

MEAL—Rolled oats, 90 lb. sack, \$2.50; two 45 lb. sacks, \$2.60; four 22 1/2 lb. sacks, \$2.80; ten 7 lb. sacks, \$2.50; oatmeal, in 10 lb. sacks, per 100 lbs. \$3.25. In 50 lb. sacks, \$3 per 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Delivered B.O. points—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$4.70; strong bakers, \$4.50; Oregon, \$4.50 per barrel.

GRAIN—Oats, new, \$20 per ton; wheat, \$22 for new.

CURED MEATS—Hams, 14 1/2 to 15c; breakfast bacon, 13 1/2 to 14c; backs, 12 1/2 to 13c; long clear, 10c; short rolls 12 to 12 1/2c; smoked sides, 11c.

LARD—Tins, 10c per lb; in pails and tubs, 9 1/2c.

FISH—Flounders 3c; smelts 5c; sea bass 4c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked salmon 10c; fresh halibut 6c; salmon 7c; bloater 7c; cod 6c per lb.

VEGETABLES—New potatoes, \$16 ton; Ashcroft potatoes, \$18 to \$19 per ton; cabbage 1 1/2c per lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$12 ton; red onions, 1c per lb; silverskins, 2c; tomatoes, \$2 per box; cucumbers, \$2 per box.

FEED—National mills chop, \$25 per ton; shorts, \$23 ton; bran, \$21; oil cake meal \$35 ton; f.o.b. Vancouver including duty paid on imported stuff.

HAY—New hay, \$14; old, \$10 per ton. **DRESSED MEATS**—Beef, 7 to 8c; mutton, 11c; pork, 9 to 1 1/2c; veal, 12 1/2c lb.

LIVE STOCK—Steers, \$4 per 100 lbs.; cows, \$3.50; sheep, \$5.50 per 100 lbs.; hogs, 7 to 7 1/2c per lb.

POULTRY—Chickens, \$6 per dozen. **EVAPORATED FRUITS**—Apricots 10 to 17c per lb; peaches 10 to 12c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 5 to 7 1/2c per lb; loose muscatel raisins 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes 6 to 8 1/2c lb.

NUTS—Almonds 18c; filberts 12 1/2c; peanuts 10c; Brazil 12 1/4c; walnuts 18c lb.

SUGARS—Powdered, icing and bar, 6 3/4c; Paris lump 6 1/4c; granulated 5 1/4c; extra O. 4 5/8c; fancy yellows 4 1/2c; yellow 4 3/8c lb.

SYRUPS—30 gallon barrels, 2 1/4c lb; 10 gallon kegs 2 3/4c; 5 gallon tins \$1.75 each; 1 gal. tins \$4.50 case of 10; 1-2 gal. tins \$5.25 case of 20.

TEAS—Congo; Fair, 11 1/2c; good 18c; choice 20c; Ceylon and India; fair 20c; **HARDWARE**—Bar iron—Base, \$3.50.

Horse shoe nails, discount, 40 per cent; horse shoes, keg, \$5. Wire nails—Base price, \$4.50; cut, \$3.75. Iron, Manila, 16c. Balled oil, 75c. White lead, \$7.50. Putty, \$3.50. Barbed wire, \$4.75 per 100 lbs. Glass, 1st break, \$5.

PRICES IN THE KOOTENAY.

Nelson, B. C., Oct. 21.

The butter market is firm and inclined to be held higher. Cheese is 1-2c higher at 15c. Eggs are 1c higher. Oats have dropped \$2 per ton and potatoes are \$1 lower.

Butter—Manitoba fresh creamery, 24c; choice dairy butter, 19c. Cheese—15c.

Eggs—Fresh eastern 22c per dozen. Oats—Per ton, \$31.

Flour—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.00. Potatoes—Per ton, \$19.

British Columbia Items.

W. J. Adcock, shoemaker, Stouan, has given up business.

R. G. Shier, hotel, Fort Steele, has sold out to R. D. Mather.

J. R. and D. Cameron, tailors, Sandon, have given this branch up.

W. E. Foran, hotel, Vancouver, is succeeded by Maywood & Prescott.

C. Mackie, books and stationery, Victoria, has sold out to G. N. Hodgson.

The Brackman & Ker Milling Company has been incorporated at Victoria with a capital of \$500,000.

The capital stock of the Kelowna Shippers' Union company has been increased from \$15,000 to \$50,000.

The stock of the estate of Game & Roy, wholesale liquor, etc., Cascade, has been sold at 42 1/2 cents on the dollar.

D. Donaldson and Thos. Mathews have formed a partnership to carry on a general trading and real estate business at Vancouver.

Johns Bros., groceries, Victoria, have bought out S. Schoen, and will continue this business as a branch under style of Pacific Grocery Co.

The returns for the Vancouver clearing house for the week ending October 11, were \$1,042,628; balances \$311,328. Victoria, \$743,656; balances, \$226,931.

The Kettle River Valley railway project will be presented to the Dominion house of parliament again next session. Application is again being made for a charter.

The Card Steamship and Trading Company has been incorporated at Victoria for the purpose of owning and operating the steamer John Card. The capital is \$10,000.

Emma D. Tutthill, F. R. Stewart and F. M. Black, all of Vancouver, have entered into co-partnership as R. R. Stewart & Co., to do business as wholesale produce merchants. The first named contributes \$20,000 to the capital stock of the partnership.

The following extra provincial companies have been registered in British Columbia. Philadelphia Mining Co., of Northport, Wash., capital \$100,000; local office, Rosslund; E. N. Ouimette, attorney. Ajax Fraction Development Syndicate, of London, Eng., capital £20,000, local office, Sandon. The following companies have been incorporated. The Montgomery & McDonald Co., of Nelson, capital \$20,000; Nelson Opera House Co., of Nelson, capital \$25,000; Ormide Gold-Copper mines, of Rosslund; capital \$125,000. Providence Mining & Development Co., of Vancouver, capital \$400,000, the Lardeau mines, of Rosslund capital \$100,000.

"The chief reason for the advance of meats, says P. Burns, the Kootenay meat king, is the scarcity of stock of all kinds, and especially of beef and pork. The wholesale butchers are paying 35 per cent more for live beef, pork and mutton than heretofore, and this advance has been going on since January. The wholesalers have not made a cent since then, but instead they have had heavy losses. In consequence of the advance in the cost of live stock the wholesalers have been compelled to raise the price of meats to the retailers and the latter have been compelled to do the same with the public. On the coast frozen mutton from Australia is taking the place of native meat, and the same conditions are prevailing through the province. The wholesalers have advanced the prices from 10 to 15 per cent, and the advance with retailers has been proportionate."

Western Business Items.

H. B. Moot, of Manitou, will open a harness shop at Snowflake, Man.

Moureau & Boudreau are opening a grocery and liquor store at Strathcona, Alberta.

B. Perskhini, confectionery, Winnipeg, has sold out his north end branch to Augustino Fabbri.

W. Cousins is opening a clothing and furnishing store at Medicine Hat, Assa, with G. W. H. Comer, lately of Calgary, in charge.

W. J. Marshall has sold out his fruit and confectionery business at Manitou, Man., to D. L. Paulin, who comes from Klagetown, Ont.

W. J. Smale and Harry Treavor have bought out the butcher business of A. E. Webb, at Carberry, Man. The business will be in charge of H. Treavor.

Howard Cox, formerly of the Carman Trading Co., and W. Wickson, of Winnipeg, have entered into partnership and purchased the stock of ready-made clothing, boots and shoes and gent's furnishings of the Carman Trading Co., of Carman. They are opening in the new brick store in the Toombs block.

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