

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, Sept. 10.
VICTORIA.

The general feeling is of a healthier character, from the fact that the state of the financial situation in the United States has greatly improved of late. New York securities show an average advance of 15 per cent. from the lowest prices touched in the late crisis. Stocks in Montreal have also made a healthy gain, and appearances certainly favor the belief that the worst of the late depression is over.

The tightness of the money market has compelled dealers in all lines to be more particular in their credits and strictly conservative in their buying. The jobbers are also keeping stocks well in hand. The importers and manufacturers are compelled to carry the stocks for the retailers to draw from. This is a healthy state of affairs, and will in time work to the advantage of all in the trade.

A number of sealing schooners returned to port during the week with fair catches. Their return puts considerable money into circulation, of which all lines of business feel the benefit.

The Vancouver News Advertiser says: "Business during the past week has continued steady in all lines. Collections on the whole show a slight improvement. There have been a couple of small financial difficulties during the week in this city, but neither was of much consequence."

The shipping trade of this port has been heavier during the past week than during any previous one. The need of increase wharfage is greatly felt, and becomes daily more apparent. The shipments both by rail and water have been heavy. Large quantities of salmon are now being shipped and a solid train load of salmon will leave for the East in a few days. Both the Empress of China and Warrimoo will have full cargoes on the outward trip, so that altogether business has been brisk along the water front during the past week. Wholesale business is steady, and but little change is to be noted.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

On the whole, prices are but slightly changed. California oranges are scarce and high. Bananas are a glut on the market, and are being sold at all prices. First-class shipping fruit is, however, quoted at \$1.25 a bunch, and prime ripe bunches are sold from 75c to \$1.00, according to quality. Over ripe bunches are sold at any price. Apples are quoted a little firmer. The season for California pears is about over, recent shipments having been received in an over ripe condition.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as follows:—

Oranges—Australian.....	2 50 @	3 00
California seedlings ...	3 75 @	0 00
Lemons—California.....	4 50 @	6 50
Australian.....	2 50 @	0 00
Bananas.....	1 00 @	1 25
Apples.....	bxs 1 15 @	1 40
Plums.....	75 @	85
Peaches.....	1 05 @	1 20
Pears.....	1 25 @	1 40
Grapes.....	1 20 @	1 40
Cocoanuts.....	per 100 8 00 @	9 00

Watermelons.....	per doz 3 00 @	0 00
Nutmeg melons.....	crate 1 25 @	0 00
Cantaloupes.....	per crate 3 50 @	4 00
Pineapples—sugar.....	per doz 4 50 @	5 00
Hawaiian.....	per doz 2 00 @	0 00

Vegetables are quoted:

Potatoes—Local.....	per lb	1 @	11
Onions—Silverskins		11 @	
Cabbago.....		13 @	2
Tomatoes.....	per box 75 @	0 00	
large.....	per box 1 50 @	0 00	
Cucumbers.....	per box 1 25 @	1 75	

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Butter is reported stronger, and jobbers' prices are somewhat stiffer. Other quotations remain practically unchanged. Cured meats are steady. The following prices were quoted by a Canadian packing house on Sept. 13, f. o. b. Ontario points: Hams, 12½c; breakfast bacon, 14c; rolls, 10½c; lard compound, 20 lb. pails, 8½c.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "Butter receipts during the past week were 4,257 pkgs. against 2,130 pkgs. for the week previous. Although the market is called quiet and easy, a fair amount of business is passing at 20½c to 20 5-8c for July make, with 21½c paid for a lot of August f. o. b. in the country, but very little can be bought at that figure. The sale of 100 tubs of July creamery was made at 20½c and 160 tubs do at 20 5-8c delivered here. A lot over 100 tubs of August was sold at 21½c at the factory. Holders, however, generally are asking more money, and we hear that 21½c to 21⅞ has been paid. There is a demand for fine fall Eastern Townships, and buyers are paying 19c in the country for choice fall ends. The excuse which buyers give for paying such prices is that this class of goods is as good as creamery. In Western dairy butter there is not much of a movement, but prices are steady. Altogether the market seems to be improving, as shippers as well as dealers are buying. Receipts of cheese during the past week were 36,329 boxes against 41,361 boxes for the week previous. This market is in quite a mixed condition, August goods having been sold for less money than July's can be bought for. Quebec goods, August make, have been sold at 9½c to 9½c for finest, while the same grade of Western July's could not be touched under 9½c or 9½c. English buyers have reduced their limits all round, their ideas being about 9c. A cable order was received for a good sized lot of cheese from a Liverpool firm on Saturday last at 45s 9d, and this week it cancelled the order. This is not the only order that has been cancelled within the past few days. The cheese in the Belleville district has been pretty well all contracted at 9½c August and 10c to 10½c September and October. In some instances August, Sept. and Oct. have been contracted at 10c. The position is simply a fight between the factorymen on this side and buyers in England, and it is simply a question as to which will be compelled to give in first. The Liverpool public cable is steady at last week's rates."

American canned meats, staples, are quoted to the jobbers in bond as follows: Roast, corned and lunch beef, 1's per doz., \$1.05c; do. 2's per doz., \$1.70; lunch tongues, 1's per doz. \$3.00; do. 2's, \$6.00. Armour's white label conserved soups in 2 lb. tins are quoted at \$3 per doz.

Commission agents quote American meats f. o. b. Victoria, duty paid, as follows: Medium hams, 15c per lb; heavy hams, 14½c; choice breakfast bacon, 19c; short clear sides, 14½c, and dry salt clear sides, 12½c. Armour's white label pure lard, 16 lb. pails, 13½c per lb.

Armour's Gold Band meats, which are the finest quality on the American market, being a special grade for choice family trade, are quoted, (duty paid, Victoria), hams, 18½c, breakfast bacon, 21½c.

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.....	27 @	23
Manitoba creamery, 5-lb tins.....	27 @	23
" dairy.....	17 @	13
Cheese—Canadian, B.....	12½ @	13½
California.....	16 @	00
Eggs, ca-c, per doz.....	18½ @	19

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams.....	16½ @	18
Breakfast bacon.....	17 @	13
Short rolls.....	14 @	15
Dry Salt, long clear.....	13 @	11
Pure Lard, 50lbs.....	14 @	14½
" " 20lbs.....	14½ @	15
" " 10lbs.....	15½ @	00
Lard Compound, 10lbs.....	13 @	13½
Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ½c higher:		
Dry Granulated.....		6½
Extra C.....		5½
Fancy Yellow.....		5½
Yellow.....		5½
Golden C.....		5½
Dry Granulated (China).....		0½
Syrups, per lb.....		3
" 1 gal. tins, American.....		6 50
" " " " " ".....		5 75
" 1 " " Vancouver.....		5 50
" 1½ " " " ".....		7 00

FLOUR AND FEED.

The Columbia Flouring Mills have reduced their prices for Enderby flour, and jobbers' prices are down in sympathy. Oregon flours are weak, and jobbers are very much disposed to lower ruling prices. It is a well known fact that Snowflake has been sold recently for considerably less than quoted price.

The Portland Commercial Review says, of flour: "There have been sales of very good brands at very low prices earlier in the week and much stock has been placed at \$3 and even under, but within the past few days the undertone has shown more firmness in sympathy with better wheat prices. It is, however, difficult to put up wheat values, and until wheat becomes much dearer or mill offal declines, we can hardly look for much change. Standard roller brands continue to be quoted at \$3.25 per bbl. There is a fair movement in a shipping way; exports to San Francisco are well up to the average and shipments to China are up to the full capacity of connecting steamers. Several hundred tons go to China by outgoing steamer Signal, and more could be forwarded if freight room provided."

The Ogilvie Milling Co. quote their celebrated brands of Manitoba flours in car lots, on wharf in Victoria, as follows:

Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	\$4 40
" Strong Bakers.....	4 10
The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots in warehouse in Victoria:	
Premier.....	\$1 25
XXX.....	4 10
Strong Bakers or XX.....	3 75
Superfine.....	3 40