

TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE.
Tuesday Morning, Jan. 30.

VICTORIA.

General business is naturally quiet at the end of the month, and buying is reported light. The wholesale dry goods houses are receiving their stocks of spring goods, and travellers will be out on the road shortly with full lines. There is a confident feeling that this summer will be a fair one in nearly all lines. The export lumber trade, it is true, does not look very hopeful, on account of the bad state of the principal foreign markets and the keen competition by mills for business at rates so low that there is little or no profit. The merchants of the city have good reason to look forward to a busy summer. The work of construction on the Provincial Parliament buildings and the Imperial fortifications at Esquimalt will put a large amount of ready money into circulation. The prospects for the interior of the province are thus spoken of by the *Inland Sentinel*: "From every part of the interior comes the report that the weather has been most favorable for stock and another fortnight will remove all danger. All the indications point to the current year being one of prosperity for British Columbia."

A policy of caution has been pursued by the jobbing houses, and the trade throughout the Province may be said to be in fair shape. Collections are certainly slow, but people generally show that they are trying to meet their bills promptly, which should go far towards putting business on a firm foundation.

The *Vancouver News Advertiser* says: "Business is quiet just now, was the general answer of most merchants to a query as to state of trade. Collections, too, are still reported as very slow. The lumber trade still continues to be very dull. There is at the present time only one vessel in port, and that is nearly loaded, while no new charters have been reported. Nearly all the logging camps are now closed down, and thus a large number of loggers are out of employment. The eastern trade has been very fair, and should the United States tariff bill, as now proposed, go into effect, a good business in lumber can be done with the Eastern States. Wholesale merchants report business as rather quiet. The only feature of importance to note is the still further advance of creamery and scarcity of stocks in hand."

FLOUR AND FEED.

Quotations for both Manitoba Hungarian and Oregon flours are lower than last week. Ogilvie's carload quotations have fluctuated. During the latter part of the week there was an advance of 15c; on Monday they again declined 20c, leaving the car lot rate at \$1.00 for Hungarian. Jobbers are quoting in sympathy. Oregon flour is now generally quoted at \$3.85 for standard brands.

The *Portland Commercial Review* says of flour: "Business is still very quiet; a number of mills have started up since our last review, all grinding for local trade. In Portland, the bottom of the flour market has completely dropped out of

sight, and mills are offering their product at any price. We are sorry to see this; but they need money badly. Outside of the clearance of 10,500 bbls. for Galway, valued at \$12,000, there was not much reported for export. San Francisco is taking some Walla Walla brands, but the movement is not large. Quotations show no important changes from last week. Quote standard roller brands at \$2.75 per bbl."

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

Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	\$1 00
" Strong Bakers	3 80

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots on wharf in Victoria:

Premier	\$1 00
XXX	3 85
Strong Bakers or XX	3 45
Superfine	3 15

The Victoria Roller Mills quote Victoria flour in 10-bbl. lots at the mills as follows:

Delta	\$1 00
Victoria XXX	1 00

Jobbers' quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills	\$ 4 25 @ 0 00
Lion, "	4 25 @ 0 00
XXX	4 25 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills	4 35 @ 0 00
XXX., "	4 20 @ 0 00
XX., "	3 80 @ 0 00
Superfine, "	3 50 @ 0 00
Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	4 10 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers.....	4 25 @ 0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian ..	4 10 @ 0 00
" " Strong Bakers ..	4 25 @ 0 00
Oak Lake Patent Hungarian	4 10 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers.....	4 25 @ 0 00
Regina Hungarian	4 10 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers	4 25 @ 0 00
Benton County, Oregon.....	3 85 @ 0 00
Portland Roller.....	3 85 @ 0 00
Snowflake	3 85 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton	26 00 @ 30 00
Oats.....	30 00 @ 32 50
Oil cake meal.....	42 50 @ 00 00
Chop feed.....	25 00 @ 30 00
Shorts.....	21 50 @ 30 00
Bran.....	22 50 @ 25 00
National Mills oatmeal.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats	3 00 @ 0 00
" " split peas	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley.....	4 50 @ 0 00
" " Chop feed.....	23 00 @ 25 00
California oatmeal.....	3 75 @ 0 00
California rolled oats.....	3 75 @ 0 00
Corn, whole..... per ton	37 50 @ 40 00
Corameal.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Cornmeal-feed..... per ton	16 00 @ 00 00
Cracked corn	16 00 @ 00 00
Hay, per ton.....	18 90 @ 20 00
Straw, per bale.....	1 00 @ 0 00

RICE.

The Victoria Rice Mills quote wholesale:

Japan rice, per ton.....	\$ 75 00 @ 80 00
Best China rice	80 00 @ 100 00
Chinarice No. 1	68 00 @ 70 00
Rice flour	70 00
Broken rice	30 00
Rice Meal	17 50

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The important feature of the week is the decline of 1c in the price of sugar. Eastern creamery butter continues firm and there is no cheap creamery offered by the jobbers. California creamery made its appearance on the market last week, and is quoted in tubs at 28½c, and in rolls at 28½c to 30c. There is quite a movement among the dairymen of the Fraser

Valley toward the establishment of creameries at suitable points, and in all probability the make of some of these local factories will be on the market this fall. An effort is being made to establish a large factory at New Westminster, with a capacity of more than 1,500 gallons of milk per day. Swift steam launches will carry the milk from up and down river points.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says: "Butter receipts during the past were 1,857 pkgs., against 3,204 pkgs., for the week previous. The market keeps very firm under gradually diminishing supplies and steadily advancing prices, creamery being quoted at 23½c to 25c, while higher prices are paid for jobbing lots. Finest Eastern Townships dairy has sold at 23c in jobbing lots, and choice Western dairy at 21c. A Newfoundland shipper stated a few days since that it was difficult to come across a round lot of 100 to 200 tubs, and when it is found that the holder does not care to sell as it is worth more to job it out than shippers can pay. It now begins to appear that stocks are even higher than was estimated recently. We quote prices as follows: Creamery, early made, 23c to 23½c, per lb., Creamery, late made, 21c to 25c. For single tubs of selected 1c per lb. may be added to the above. Receipts of roll butter have been more liberal during the past week, and under a good enquiry prices have been maintained with sales at 19c to 20½c and 21c, the latter figure for extra. Receipts of cheese during the past week were 1,751 boxes against 397 boxes for the week previous. Quite a lot of cheese has been worked off in a quiet way during the past week, and sales have been made over the cable at equal to 11½c to 11¾c here, and some holders confidently look for 12c cheese before long. The British markets are steady, and prices are gradually strengthening on the other side. This is usually a quiet time, but by the end of the month, probably, business may begin to pick up."

Valencia raisins	per lb \$ 6 @ \$ 7
Malaga raisins.....	per box 3 00 @ 3 25
Currants (barrels).....	per lb 5 @ 5 1
" half bbls.....	per lb 5 @ 6
" (cases).....	per lb 5½ @ 7½
Sultana raisins.....	per lb 8 @ 10
Taragona almonds.....	per lb 14 @ 18
Grenoble walnuts.....	per lb 14 @ 18
Filberts.....	per lb 11½ @ 11

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.....	29 @ 00
Manitoba dairy.....	00 @ 00
Cheese—Canadian, lb.....	13 @ 14
California.....	16 @ 18
Eggs, case, per doz.....	00 @ 23

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams.....	14½ @ 17
Breakfast bacon.....	15 @ 16
Short rolls.....	12½ @ 13½
Dry Salt, long clear.....	12½ @ 13
Pure Lard, 20lbs, pails.....	11 @ 14½
" " 10lbs, tins.....	11½ @ 14½
" " 5lbs ".....	14½ @ 15
" " 3lbs ".....	14½ @ 15
Lard Compound, 10lbs.....	11½ @ 00
" " 20lbs.....	11 @ 00
" " 5lbs.....	11½ @ 00
" " 3lbs.....	11½ @ 00

Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ½c higher: