

BRITISH COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL

Business in British Columbia.

Vancouver, March 19.

British Columbia has enjoyed a week of mild, warm weather, which has had its effect on the dairy market. Local eggs and butter are in plentiful supply. California butter is also handled in large quantities. Owing to the plentiful supply of fresh local eggs and good case eggs from Portland, eastern case eggs are a glut on the market and are selling freely at 10 cents. Cured meats of not extra good quality have arrived in large quantities from the east lately and have depressed the market. The bank clearings show a big increase over corresponding periods last year, but wholesalers claim that business for March has been very dull and money tight. The northern orders are not contributing a great deal to wholesale trade, as Klondike parties are going in light over the ice and buying their provisions in the well stocked stores in the north.

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, March 24.

BUTTER—Local creamery, 31c. California is selling at 29 to 30c.
EGGS—Fresh local, 20c; eastern case eggs, 19 to 15c, as to quality. Oregon eggs, 21c per doz.

CHEESE—15c.
GREEN FRUIT—Oranges, navel, \$2.75 to \$3.00; seedlings, \$2.00; California lemons, \$3.50 to \$4.00; bananas, \$2.85.

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, \$3.00 per 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Delivered B. C. points—Manitoba, patent, per barrel, \$1.60; strong bakers', \$1.30; Oregon, \$1.50 per barrel.

GRAIN—Oats, \$24 to \$25 per ton; wheat, \$25.

CURED MEATS—Hams, 14 to 14 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13 1/2c; backs, 12 1/2c; long clear, 10c; 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 loach, 4c; whiting, 5c; soles, 8c; halibut, 6c; salmon, 9c; bloater, 7c; cod, 6c per lb.; crabs, 60c per dozen.

GAME—Mallards, 70c; pintail, 40c teal, 25c; wildgeon, 40c per pair.

POULTRY—Turkeys, 14c; geese, 12c.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes, Fraser river stock \$15 to \$18 per ton; Ashcroft potatoes, \$20 per ton; cabbage, 2 1/2c per lb.; carrots, turnips and beets, \$12 per ton; red onions, 1 1/2c per lb., silver-skins 2 1/2c.

FEED—National mills chop, \$25 per ton, bran, \$20; shorts, \$22; oil cake meal, \$35 ton, f.o.b. Vancouver, including duty paid on imported stuff.

HAY—Per ton, \$16.

BRESSED MEATS—Beef, 8 1/2 to 9c; mutton, 11c; pork, 8 1/2 to 9c; veal, 10 1/2 to 11c per lb.

LIVE STOCK—Steers, \$1.75 to \$4.00 per 100 lbs.; cows, \$3.25; sheep, \$5.60 per 100 lbs.; hogs, 5c per lb.

DRIED FRUITS—Apricots, 17c; peaches, 10 to 12c; pitted plums, 12c; prunes, French 5 to 7 1/2c lb.; London layer raisins, \$2.00 to \$2.25 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 8 1/2c lb.; Muscatel raisins, 2 crown 8c, 3 crown \$1.2c, 4 crown 9c; dates, 9c; black figs, 8c; white figs, 9 1/2c; layer figs, 10 lb. box, \$1.45; silver prunes, 9 1/2c; quartered pears, 11 1/2c; half pears, 12 1/2c; nectarines, 14c; Valencia raisins, 7 1/2c; sultanas,

11 to 14c; blackberries, 16c; raspberries, 25c; seeded raisins, 9 1/2c.

NUTS—Almonds, 16c; filberts, 12 1/2c; peanuts, 9c; Brazil 12 1/2c; walnuts, 12c lb.

SUGARS—Powdered, icing and bar, 6 3/4c; Paris lump, 6 1/4c; granulated, 5 1/4c; extra C, 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 gallon tins, \$1.60 case of 10; 1/2 gallon tins, \$5.25 case of 20.

TEAS—Congo, Fair, 11 1/2c; good, 18c; choice, 29c; Ceylon and India; fair, 20c.

HARDWARE—Bar iron — Base, \$3.50. Horse shoe nails, discount, 40 per cent; horse shoes, keg, \$5.00. Wire nails — Base price, \$4.50; cut, \$3.75. Rope, Manila, 10c. Bottled oil, 75c. White lead, \$7.50. Putty, \$3.50. Barbed wire, \$4.75 per 100 lbs.

British Columbia Notes.

Allen & Cory are reopening their hotel at Vevey.

H. Steffens, general merchant, Lytton, has assigned.

W. Wainmsley has purchased the Filbert hotel, Sandon.

Rahy Bros., dry goods, Victoria, have dissolved partnership.

D. Spencer, dry goods, Victoria, is opening a branch at Vancouver.

A Ross & Co. have opened in the dry goods business at Vancouver.

Carmichael & Dickle have opened in the grocery business at Vancouver.

J. E. W. Macfarlane will establish a fish oil and fertilizer factory at Vancouver.

S. F. W. Gainer has made arrangements to open a watchmaker's shop at Ferguson.

A joint stock company is being formed to take over the Grand Forks sash and door factory.

C. J. Kelly & Co., of Victoria, commission merchants, have assigned to Beaumont Boggs.

F. Richardson, formerly a commercial traveller, has opened a general store at White Horse.

John Temple, formerly of Napuka, Man., D. McMillan and Wm. Bonthron, are building a \$10,000 hotel at Rossland.

Williams & Barker, brewers, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership. Do-ring & Marstrand taking over the interest of Barker.

Sherlock & Bremner, Cranbrook and Lethbridge, have dissolved. Bremner takes over the Cranbrook business and Sherlock the Lethbridge branch.

Wauchope is the name of the new town on the Fire Valley trail and head waters of the Kettle river, and named in honor of General Wauchope, who lost his life at Magersfontein, South Africa.

Cunningham & Sons are building a store and warehouse at Essington, in connection with their canuery business there. They will also build a number of cottages for the use of employees and a hotel.

S Hansen has bought the Kauffman House, Morje City, from Chas. Kauffman. Hansen has given a lease of the house to N. A. MacKenzie and Fred Pullman, who will run it under the name Manhattan House.

D. V. Mott has sold his interest in the Fernie Lumber Co., Fernie, to Mc Dougall & Proctor, and hereafter the concern will be known as the Fernie Lumber Co., Ltd. It having been incorporated as a joint stock company.

The following new companies have been incorporated under British Columbia laws: E. S. Fether Co., of Van-

couver; capital \$25,000; Galena Creek Mining Co., of Lardau, of Rossland, capital \$150,000; Summit Water & Power Co., of Grand Forks, capital \$75,000; Golden Placer & Quartz Mining Co., of Golden, capital \$1,500,000; Lost Horse Copper Mines, of Vancouver, capital \$15,000; Spicer Shingle Mill Co., of Vancouver, capital \$25,000.

Vancouver Board of Trade.

The annual meeting of the Vancouver board of trade was held on Tuesday March 13. The election of officers resulted as follows. President, F. Buscombe, unopposed, vice-president, F. F. Burns, secretary, W. T. Stein. Council—W. Godfrey, W. H. Malkin, C. E. Tisdall, A. H. Alexander, W. H. Ker, F. Cockburn, H. T. Lockyer, W. F. Salisbury, W. Murray, A. O. Campbell, C. Gardiner-Johnson, Campbell Sweeney, W. Skene, W. Brald, W. Pellev Harvey. The first twelve members on the list of councillors are to constitute the board of arbitration.

The board has now 200 members and a substantial cash balance.

London Fur Sales.

The regular March fur sales of the Hudson's Bay Company and C. M. Lampson & Company have been held in London, England, this week. The Hudson's Bay Company sales opened on Monday and closed on Thursday; Lampson & Co.'s opened on Monday and will be continued into next week. Cable advices so far show the following results:

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY SALES.

Otter, 30 per cent. higher than last March.

Cross fox, 30 per cent. higher than last March.

Silver fox, 400 per cent. higher than last March.

Fisher, 5 per cent. lower than last March.

Marten, 20 per cent. higher than last March.

Red fox, 80 per cent. higher than last March.

Mink, 15 per cent. lower than last March.

Lynx, 140 per cent. higher than last March.

Wolf, 150 per cent. higher than last March.

Black bear, unchanged.

Brown bear, 10 per cent. higher than last March.

Grizzly bear, 15 per cent. lower than last March.

C. M. LAMPSON & CO.'S SALES.

Cross fox, 35 per cent. higher than last March.

Beaver, 10 per cent. higher than last January.

Otter, 10 per cent. higher than last March.

Lynx, 140 per cent. higher than last March.

The Stuart Arbutnot Machinery Company are now comfortably settled in the new offices and warehouses on north Main street, Winnipeg. They are close to the Canadian Pacific railroad track, and in a good location for business. A description of this building will appear in an early issue of this journal.

J. M. Perkins, seed merchant, Winnipeg, has had several large orders for brome grass seed this week from distant places. One for 2,500 pounds was for shipment to British Columbia, another for St. Paul, and one for La Crosse, Wisconsin. Manitoba grown seed is apparently preferred wherever it is obtainable.