

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, Sept. 27.
VICTORIA.

Retail business during the past week has not been up to the usual volume, which may be attributed to the wet weather. The sealers who are daily returning to port are spending considerable money with the clothing houses, which will bring the sales for the month well up to any month for the year.

In wholesale circles there are few complaints as to the amount of trade, but collections are slow. The prospects for a good trade during the remainder of the season are bright. It is expected that many country merchants will arrive during the week, and will combine business with pleasure, by taking in the exhibition and laying in their supplies for the winter.

In Vancouver, business continues fairly good, Vancouver merchants have a grievance, on account of the inferior quality of goods shipped them by Eastern houses. Recently, a representative of the *Nets Advertiser* was shown some butter, which was supposed to be extra choice creamery, but which was fit only for axle-grease. The same thing happens over and over again with eggs, cheese and meats, and it is to be hoped that eastern merchants will soon get this false notion out of their heads, as it causes trouble to both parties, and in the end wholesalers are the losers, as Vancouver merchants will not receive such goods.

New Westminster merchants reaped a rich harvest during exhibition week, although the weather was not at all favorable for a large number of visitors. But the excellence of the exhibitions given in Westminster, is always sure to attract a big crowd, rain or shine.

At Nanaimo, business has shown a slight increase latterly; the last pay list of the Vancouver Coal Co., was the largest for months past, and the next will be much larger. No extra exertions are being made at the mines, and there are still a large number of unemployed.

Bradstreets report that the large number of country visitors to the Montreal Exhibition has resulted in heavier sales by retailers and jobbers. The outlook is said to favor a good trade. Business is somewhat less active at Toronto than last week and collections are slow.

Bank clearings are slow. The bank clearings at the four leading Canadian cities aggregate \$18,367,000, a decrease of 5 per cent. during the week. There is no material change as compared with the total for the like week a year ago.

There were 27 business failures reported throughout the Dominion for the week. Last week the total was 18 and a year ago in this week 31.

FLOUR AND FEED.

Since the late decline in prices, the market may be said to be featureless. The rain during the past week has delayed the handling of grain and produce, and has also caused local trade to be somewhat slack. Local prices remain about the same as quoted last week.

The *Portland Commercial Review* says:

"During the week there was a decline of 5c per bbl. on Portland and Salem Roller and a 15 cent fall in Dayton and Cascadia. All the above are now uniform in price, viz., \$3.75 per bbl. The market weakened under lower prices for wheat and larger receipts than required to meet present slow demands. The late weakness in bran has disappeared and prices are now higher and steady at the advance. On the 17th the local mills advanced bran to \$10 per ton and although within the past few days sales were made by others at lower prices, a canvas to-day shows that all dealers are disposed to make a uniform quotation of \$ with indications of no further change as likely to be made within the near future. Shorts are listed at \$19 per ton, a dollar advance. The late rise seems to be due chiefly to the extremely low price of flour and to make milling profitable, higher prices for offal are decidedly necessary."

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots:

Premier	\$5 20
XXX	5 10
Strong Bakers or XX	4 80
Superfine	3 80

Jobbers' quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills	\$ 5 00 @ 0 00
Lion, " "	5 00 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills	5 15 @ 0 00
XXX, " "	5 35 @ 0 00
XX, " "	5 05 @ 0 00
Superfine, " "	4 05 @ 0 00
Ogilvie's Hungarian	5 55 @ 0 00
Strong Bakers	5 25 @ 0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian	5 55 @ 0 00
Benton County, Oregon	5 20 @ 0 00
Portland Roller	5 20 @ 0 00
Snowflake	5 30 @ 0 00
Royal	5 00 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton	30 00 @ 35 00
Oats	25 00 @ 30 00
Oil cake meal	40 00 @ 45 00
Chop feed	30 00 @ 00 00
Shorts	25 50 @ 28 00
Bran	23 50 @ 25 00
National Mills oatmeal	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats	3 50 @ 0 00
" " split peas	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley	4 50 @ 0 00
" " Chop feed	30 00 @ 0 00
California oatmeal	4 25 @ 0 00
California rolled oats	3 75 @ 3 85
Corn, whole per ton	35 50 @ 40 00
Corncmeal	2 75 @ 3 00
Corncmeal-feed per ton	40 00 @ 50 00
Cracked corn	40 00 @ 45 00
Hay, per ton	17 00 @ 18 00
Straw, per bale	80 @ 1 00

RICE.

The Victoria Rice Mills quote wholesale:

Japan rice, per ton	\$ 77 50
Best China rice "	100 00
China rice No. 1 "	70 00
Rice flour "	70 00
Chit rice "	25 00
Rice Meal "	17 50

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The receipts of California fruits and vegetables from San Francisco by steamship Umatilla, Sept. 21, comprised the following: For Victoria—138 cs pears, 292 cs peaches, 537 cs grapes, 165 cs apples, 36 cs lemons, 11 crts nutmeg melons, 5 crts water melons, 1 crt cantelopes, 20 cs tomatoes, 50 scks onions, 80 cs plums, 7 cs pep pers, 21 scks potatoes, 1 cs horse radish, 5 cs quinces; total, 1,279 packages. The receipts by previous steamers were as follows:—Sept. 19th, 1,191 packages; Sept. 14th, 1,110 packages; Sept. 9th, 1,250

packages; Sept. 4th, 1,018 packages; Aug. 30th, 1,492 packages. The fruit received by the last steamer was generally in poor condition. There are no more crab apples in the San Francisco market, and bananas are also out of the market for a time. Some will be received by next steamer. A shipment of 75 cases of unwrapped peaches was received from Yakama, Oregon, on Saturday. They are selling at \$1.15 a box. Quotations show very little change. Plums are about 25c higher, and California peaches are firm. First class grapes bring a little advance on quotations. California silverskin onions have advanced 3c per lb. Local potatoes have declined in price, and are now quoted at \$15 per ton.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as follows:—

Oranges—Santa Barbara	\$9 00 @ 0 00
Tahiti Seedlings	4 50 @ 4 75
Riverside Seedlings	0 00 @ 0 00
Lemons—California	8 00 @ 8 50
Sticly	0 00 @ 0 00
Australian	7 00 @ 0 00
Bananas, crate	2 50 @ 3 75
Plums, box	1 25 @ 0 00
Peaches	1 15 @ 1 65
Pears	1 75 @ 0 00
Quinces	1 50 @ 0 00
Apples Gravenstein	1 60 @ 1 75
" "	1 35 @ 0 00
Crap apples	1 25 @ 0 00
Grapes	1 35 @ 1 65
Pino Apples, doz	5 00 @ 0 00
Cocoanuts, doz	1 00 @ 0 00
Watermelons, crate	4 50 @ 0 00
Musk "	0 00 @ 3 50
Nutmeg "	1 60 @ 0 00

Vegetables are quoted:

Potatoes—California, sweet	2 1/2 @ 3
Local	per ton 15 00 @ 00 00
Onions—Red California	1 1/2 @
California Silverskins	1 1/2 @
Tomatoes, bx	1 00 @ 1 10

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The butter market shows no change from last week. Canadian cheese is reported very strong, but local quotations have not yet been advanced. Eggs are very scarce, and quotations are advancing. They are now quoted at 20c per doz. Local prices of cured meats and lard are unchanged. The American meat market weakened at the beginning of last week and hardened again toward the close. Hams are now easier, and there is still a scarcity of choice breakfast bacon.

The prices of American canned meats remain firm, although there is a tendency to cut on the part of some of the packing houses represented on this market. The prices of American meats show a slight decline.

Canadian are unchanged. Jobbers bought freely last week. Commission agents quote American meats f. o. b. Victoria, duty paid, as follows: Medium hams, 15 1/2c per lb; heavy hams, 15 1/2c; choice breakfast bacon, 14 1/2c; short clear sides, 13c, and dry salt clear sides, 12c. Armour's white label pure lard, 10 1/2c. pails, 13 1/2c per lb.

Canadian meats are quoted f. o. b. Victoria: Hams 14 1/2c, breakfast bacon 15c, long clear side 10 1/2c; spiced rolls, 12 1/2c; pure lard, tubs, 12 1/2c; do, 3 lb and 5 lb tins, 13 1/2c.

The sugar situation remains unchanged since last review. Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd., quote dry granulated in 100 lb sacks at 5 1/2c and yellow, at 4 1/2c to the trade. A shipment of 500 sacks was made to a Tacoma house last week.