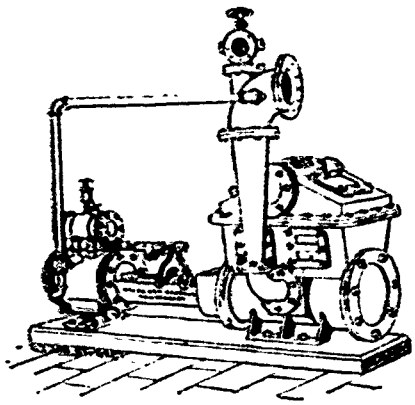

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TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, July 4.

VICTORIA.

Business in wholesale circles has ruled quiet. At present jobbers do not act as if they care to press sales, preferring to keep the goods than to sell freely with the money market and general business in so unsatisfactory a condition. The lower rates of freight from the east may make it possible for new price lists of this falls' goods to be made at slight concessions. The only activity in jobbing circles is in fruits for which there is a brisk demand. Local small fruits will shortly be on the market. Collections continue slow.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Eastern creamery has almost completely taken the place of California roll, except with a few retail dealers who import a few cases for their own trade. Quotations remain steady. Manitoba creamery in tins is quoted at 28½c. Sugar prices have not changed during the week. American packers have reduced their prices of canned meats about 20c per doz all round. Armour's quotations for White Label pure lard are down 1c per lb., and for Gold band meats, ½c.

American canned meats, staples, are quoted to the jobbers in bond as follows. Roast corned and lunch beef, 1's per doz., $1.00; do. 2's per doz., $1.75; lunch tongues, 1's per doz. $3.25; 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, 17½c per lb; heavy hams, 17c; choice breakfast bacon, 18c; short clear sides 15¾c. and dry salt clear sides, 14½c. Armour's white label pure lard, 10 lb. pails, 17½c 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, 19½c, breakfast bacon, 21½c.

The Toronto *Empire* says: "The local butter market has been firm all week, owing to the light arrivals. To-day, store packed tubs were offered principally, the bulk of them selling at 13½c to 14c. The weather was almost too hot to handle rolls, but anything which came in sold readily at about 14c for choice grades. Good dairy tub butter was scarce and wanted at 15c. The cheese market is firmer; local commission men have purchased a good deal of new cheese lately at 9c outside, or equal to 9½c here. They are asking 10c generally. There is still some autumn cheese on the market, but it sells slowly at 10½c to 11c."

The London *Grocer* to 10th inst., says: "Stocks of last year's English cheese are now practically exhausted, and those of old Cheshire are quite cleared out, such lots as remain on hand being merely of second rate quality, for which full rates are obtainable. A few of new season's make are dropping in, and these find purchasers at fair prices, say for Derbys, 56s to 60s, and Wiltshire loaf, 62s to 64s; but supplies more worthy the name will soon be coming forward. A single parcel fancy old white Canadian cheese has again brought 60s, with really choice at 58s, and finest colored has at the same time fetched 56s to 58s. There are qualities being disposed of at 50s to 51s, but not much of them are left now, and the 1892 93 season for States as well as Canadian cheese may be said to be fast drawing to a close. Finest new cheese from the same quarter has been dealt in at 50s to 51s, which is, if anything, a trifle cheaper, but medium to good at 40s to 48s are wanted, and quickly disappear thereat. Poorer grades, however, have been procurable at 30s to 36s, or even less when the outturn is faulty, and skims have been offering at 20s to 25s per cwt."

The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* says: "Butter receipts during the past week were 2,276 pkgs., against 3,045 pkgs. Several lots of creamery have been taken for English account, one lot of about 100 pkgs. June make selling at 19c, and a smaller lot was sold at the same figure. Since these sales were effected, however, two Montreal firms sent their representatives around to the creameries and bid 19c for the June product, which is equal to 19½c here. A lot of choice May creamery was offered at 19c, but 18c was the best bid. The lot of 1,000 pkgs finest creamery sold on the Call Board on Monday last at 19c provoked a pretty broad smile from several bystanders, more especially as no month was specified. In Eastern Townships dairy several good sized lots have changed hands at 17½c. Buyers all said to be paying a fraction more money in the Townships, 16c being the lowest figure at which fine goods can be secured. Western is quoted at 13½c to 15c. A buyer for Newfoundland states that he bought a lot of the finest Western obtainable on this market, costing him 15½c laid down in St. John's, Newfoundland. We quote prices here as follows: Creamery 18½ to 19½c; Eastern Townships 17 to 17½c. Cheese receipts during the past week were 55,906 boxes, against 58,155 boxes for the week previous. The market holds remarkably steady, and if farmers do not sell up closely at present good prices, it certainly would appear that they are tampering with their best interests. Advices from different sections of the country, East and West, state that the make at present is enormous, being fully 25 per cent. larger than at this time last year, so that the exports within the next two or three weeks will doubtlessly overlap those of the corresponding period last year. Regarding prices, 9½c was bid for a lot of 500 boxes of finest colored on the Call Board, when a seller offered that quantity at 9½c, and the buyer than bid 9¾c, which however, resulted in no trade. Actual transactions, however, have been made for this week's shipment at 9½c for the finest Western colored, and at 9c to 9½c for finest white, about 5,000 boxes being reported so'd at the above figures. At Belleville, this week, 3,050 boxes were sold at 9c to 9½c for white, and 9½c to 9 3-16c for colored. At Campbellford, about 600 boxes sold at 9 1-16c for white and 9½c for colored. At Peterboro, 5,863 boxes were boarded, and mostly all sold at 9c for white and 9½c for colored."

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs	25	@ 26
Manitoba creamery	29	@ 00
Cheese—Canadian, lb	12	@ 14
California	16	@ 00
Eggs, case, per doz	17	@

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams	15	@ 18
Breakfast bacon	17	@ 18
Short rolls	14	@ 15
Long rolls	15	@
Dry Salt, long clear	13	@ 14
Pure Lard, 50lbs	16	@ 17
" " 20lbs	17	@ 17½
Lard Compound	14½	@ 15

Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ¼c higher:

Dry Granulated	6¼
Extra C	5¾
Fancy Yellow	5½
Yellow	5⅜
Golden C	5¼
Dry Granulated (China)	6
Syrups, per lb	3
" 1 gal. tins, American	6 50
" " "	6 00
" 1 " Vancouver	5 50
" 1½ " "	7 00

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The receipts of fruit and vegetables from San Francisco, by the ss. Umatilla, July 2, were larger than by the previous steamer. Watermelons were brought up for the first time. Very few naval oranges were received and the supply is nearly over. Local strawberries are greatly reduced in price and supplies are moving freely. Cherries in local orchards are ripe and supplies wil be on the market shortly. Jobbers prices show many changes this week. Apples are $1.00 a box cheaper. Cherries and plums are higher, while apricots and peaches are