

TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,

Tuesday Morning, Nov. 13.

VICTORIA.

Trade is generally steady, but volume is comparatively small, at the first of this month. The holiday trade will commence toward the end of the month, and a much better business is looked forward to than last year. The weak market ruling for staple goods causes dealers to confine their purchases to as small quantities as possible. A fear of further reduction in prices is ascribed as a cause of this conservatism. When the market shows signs of advancing, active buying will be the rule among traders all through the country.

The bark Ladstock, 816 tons, arrived, Nov. 9th, from Liverpool with supplies of staple and general merchandise for Victoria and Westminster merchants. Advances have been received that the City of Florence, now loading at Liverpool, is coming to Victoria and not to Vancouver, as formerly reported. The steamship Miowera, from Australia and Honolulu, had a small cargo for Victoria, and fair fruit shipments for the Sound, for this season.

Money seems a little tighter. The usual annual drain for civic taxes at the end of October is, in a measure, the cause, but this will gradually get into circulation again through the regular channels.

The Vancouver News-Advertiser says: "An average trade is being done at the present time though there is no special activity in any line. Money is still very tight, and many merchants are only selling for cash, and are thus enabled to cut prices very close. In the lumber industry there is a slight improvement to note, one vessel having arrived to load, while two new charters have been reported. In wholesale, a steady trade is being done, though merchants report that it is not quite as heavy as in previous years. Quotations show but little change."

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The only feature of the market is the fresh supplies of Hawaiian bananas received by the steamship Miowera on Monday, which comprised 152 bunches and 64 crates for this port. There were only three crates of pineapples, and no Australian oranges or lemons. The bunches of bananas are quoted at \$1.50 and crates at \$2.50 each. Last steamer, bunches were \$2.50 and crates \$3.25. The low prices this time are said to be owing to the keen competition of local houses for the banana trade. Only one of the houses received bananas, by last steamer, and, this time, both have a sup-

ply. It is whispered, that bananas are unprofitable stock this month. Potatoes are also a factor at present. A local wholesale firm is putting 100 tons of Kamloops and Chilliwack potatoes into warehouse, to await a better market. Dungeness potatoes are being freely imported, and are said to be of first quality. They are quoted at \$16 in ton lots at warehouse, and \$16.50 delivered in cellar.

Jobbers' quotations for fruits are as follows:

Oranges—Australian.....	0 00 @ 0 00
Lemons—California (Johnson's)	6 25 @ 6 75
Australian	3 00 @ 0 00
Apples—California	1 15 @ 1 50
Oregon	1 25 @ 1 50
Cocoanuts	per 100 8 00 @ 9 00
Peaches	1 00 @ 1 10
Pears	1 25 @ 1 50
Grapes	1 25 @ 1 35
Deleware	1 00 @ 0 00
Bananas—bunches.....	1 50 @ 0 00
crates	2 50 @ 0 00

Vegetables are quoted:

Onions—Silverskins	per lb 11 @ 13
Cabbage	per lb 2 @
Potatoes.....	per ton 16 50 @ 20 00
Tomatoes	75 @
Sweet potatoes	per lb 2 @

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Hams and bacon are quoted lower by jobbers as intimated two weeks ago. The arrival of the Ladstock has a tendency to ease prices for English staples. Liverpool coarse salt is quoted \$1 lower per ton, and Liverpool fine salt \$2 per ton. White mottled soap 25c per cwt. Malt vinegar has been quite high recently because of short supplies but has fallen again to the old price, although octaves are quoted 50c lower than former list prices. California block matches are reduced 10c, making current price \$1.20 per tin. New seasons dried fruits are shortly expected. Stocks are at present low, in fact there is hardly any turn now. A San Francisco report says of canned fruits that never before in the history of the industry have supplies from first hands been so well cleaned up, practically nothing remains outside of odds and ends. Quotations are essentially unchanged. The dried fruit market is weak for all varieties and there is a larger stock in first hands than usual at this season of the year, but the stocks carried by dealers both wholesale and retail are lighter. The higher grades of raisins are scarce and strong while the others are in liberal offering at weak unsettled prices. The steamship Miowera brought besides fruit 80 bags of coffee from Honolulu and a few packages syrup from Queensland.

The British Columbia Sugar Refinery quotes prices as follows, payment by spot cash:

Granulated, in bbls. or 100-lb bags	4 1/2
Yellow, according to quality	1 to 12
Paris lumps, in bbls. or 100-lb bags.....	5 1/2
Powdered, icing and bars, in bbls.....	6 1/2

Jobbers quote:

Valencia raisins.....per lb	\$ 7 @ \$ 0
Malaga raisins.....per box	3 00 @ 3 25
Currants (barrels).....per lb	4 1/2 @
" half bbls.....per lb	5 @ 5 1/2
" (cases).....per lb	5 1/2 @ 7 1/2
Sultana raisins.....per lb	8 @ 10
Taragona almonds.....per lb	11 @ 18
Grenoble walnuts.....per lb	11 @ 18
Filberts.....per lb	11 1/2 @ 11

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.....	25 @ 26
Manitoba dairy	18 @ 19
" creamery .. in tins 27 1/2 @ 29	
" " " in tubs 26 @ 26	

Cheese—Canadian, lb.....	13 @ 11
Canadian Stilton.....	17 @ 18
Eggs—Canadian .. per doz	20 @ 21

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams	11 1/2 @ 15
Breakfast bacon	11 1/2 @ 15
Short rolls	11 @ 12
Dry Salt, long clear.....	11 @ 11 1/2
Bacon	13 1/2 @ 13 1/2
White Label pure leaf lard, tierces.....	0 12 1/2
" " " 50-lb (tins).....	0 12 1/2
" " " 20-lb "	0 13
" " " 10-lb "	0 13 1/2
" " " 5-lb "	0 13 1/2
" " " 3-lb "	0 13
Lard Compound, 10 lbs.....	10 1/2 @ 00
" " 20 lbs.....	10 1/2 @ 00
" " 5 lbs.....	10 1/2 @ 00
" " 3 lbs.....	10 1/2 @ 00

Sugar—Jobbers' prices half-barrels and kegs in each case being 1/2c higher:

Dry Granulated (China)	100-sack 1 65
Extra C, China	" 1 37 1/2
China, yellow	" 1 12 1/2
Dry Granulated (B. C. Refinery).....	1 7 to 1 13
Extra C.....	12
Fancy Yellow	13
Yellow	12
Golden C.....	3 1/2
Cubes.....	6 1/2
Powdered.....	6 1/2
Syrups, per lb	3
" 1 gal. tins, American (16).....	5 50
" 1/2 " " " (16)	5 50
" 1 " " Vancouver	5 50
" 1 1/2 " "	7 00

Jobbers' quotations for Armour Packing Company's brands per lb.:

Helmet brand sugar cured hams, medium	0 16
" " " heavy ..	0 15 1/2
" " " breakfast bacon	0 15 1/2
Fancy Gold Band hams.....	0 15
" " " breakfast bacon.....	0 15 1/2

Jobbers quote as follows:

Liverpool salt, coarse, in 100-lb bags, per ton.....	11 00
Liverpool salt, fine, in 50-lb bags, per ton	16 00
Portland cement, White's (best) per bbl.	3 00
White mottled soap, English, in 112-lb bxs	8 50
" " " quarter boxes	
28 lbs, per cwt	8 75
Malt vinegar, English, 25 gal. bbls.	11 25
" " " octaves.....	6 00
" " " cases of 3 doz., per cwt ..	5 50
Matches, block, in tins, Victoria.....	1 25
" " " California	1 20
Macaroni, No. 1, 10-lb bxs.....	80 @ 90
Vernicelli, 10-lb bxs.....	80
Coal oil, per case	2 80
Nails, per keg—10, \$3.30; 6d, \$3.10; 8d, \$2.95; 10d, \$2.90; 12d, \$2.85; 20d and 30d, \$2.85; 40d and 50d, \$2.75; 60d, \$2.70.	

FLOUR AND FEED.

Wheat has advanced 2c and millers are threatening an advance on flour in sympathy, so far no change has taken place. A good demand from China for Oregon and Washington flour is reported. It is said that the Em-