

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, March 8.

There are but few changes to note in the market this week. Money is scarce and collections slow. Business continues about up to the average. There is a scarcity of fresh meat in the market which caused prices to advance. This week the Australian steamer *Miwera* arrived with a large cargo of frozen meat, but this did not appear to affect prices in the local market. The *Miwera* this time brought over frozen beef as well as frozen mutton. Flour breadstuffs, hay and feed are expected to advance in price shortly. Several large shipments of hay and feed have been made to the interior. Purchases for seed purposes are also large.

Ontario apples are still advancing and are becoming scarce owing to unloading for purchases for the lumber and mining camps.

Sugar has declined during the week.

A large consignment of new fruit has arrived from Australia but at this writing was not out of bond. Shipping is active, there being sixteen vessels loading this week, against fourteen last week. Lumbering is increasing steadily to great proportions. An order recently came to the Japanese consul here to arrange for the exportation to Japan of 5,000,000 feet of lumber from Vancouver, the Japanese preferring the B. C. lumber to the lumber they have been obtaining from the Sound.

British Columbia Mining News.

The feverish haste to register companies before the more stringent mining laws come into force still continues. In the past three weeks 120 companies have been registered with a capitalization of \$100,000,000, bringing up the total capitalization of companies to the present time to about \$600,000,000. The government in the meantime are making a nice rake-off in the way of mining fees, amounting to from \$6,000 to \$9,000 a week.

The rush for smelter bonuses is about over, the council after mature consideration having decided to adopt the recommendation of their specially appointed committee to accept the offer of the English syndicate represented by one of the Rothschilds, to build a smelter in Vancouver to cost 150,000 pounds and capable of treating 500 tons a day, for exemption from taxation and free water. The free water will represent an expenditure of \$50,000 for a new main. The site has been chosen and it is thought that the smelter will be running within eight months, as the people will be sure to carry the bill with a large majority.

British Columbia Business Notes.

D. B. Stevens, baker, Kamloops, is advertising to sell out.

McDonald Bros., grocers, New Westminster, are giving up this line and going into the cannery business.

E. H. S. McLean, druggist, Revelstoke, has sold out to F. T. Abey.

The Ferguson Co., general store, Rossland, has assigned.

British Columbia Automatic Lighting & Oil Co., Vancouver, is succeeded by the Vancouver Coal Oil Co.

The Hispano American Trading Co., Vancouver, has been incorporated.

C. B. Lockhart & Co., undertakers, Vancouver, are out of business.

C. C. H. Wetzel, boots and shoes, Vancouver, chattel mortgagee in possession.

R. B. Esnouf, second hand dealer, Victoria, is selling out and moving to Kootenay.

Humphreys & Pottinger provisions, Victoria, have dissolved. D. B. Pottinger continues.

British Columbia Market.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, March 18, 1897.

Manitoba butter and eggs are about out of the market, and these articles are now coming from the Pacific coast states. Potatoes have advanced \$1 per ton. Manitoba flour has declined 20c. Oregon flour unchanged.

Butter.—Manitoba Dairy butter, 17 to 18c; Manitoba creamery, 22c; small tubs, 22½c; eastern creamery, 22c; local creamery, 28c; California butter, 23½c; Manitoba cheese, 11c; local cheese, 11½lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12½ cents; breakfast bacon 12½; backs 9½c; long, clear, 7½ to 8c; shortrolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 9½c per pound; in pails and tubs 8½c lb.

Game.—Mallards, 25c; wildgeon, 25c; teal, 20c; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand snipe, 85c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 8c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; spring salmon 8c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon, 10c; finnan haddock, 10c; kippered herring 12c; Columbia river oolichans, 7c.

Vegetables.—Local potatoes, \$20.00 to \$21.00 per ton; onions 3½c; cabbage, 2c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$7.50 a ton.

Eggs.—Oregon eggs, 19c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless other wise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 360 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 navel oranges. California lemons, \$2.50; California oranges, seedling, \$1.85 to \$2.00; navel oranges \$3.00 to \$3.25; British Columbia apples, 50 lb. box, 75c to \$1; Eastern apples \$1.50 barrel.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 9c; plums 9 to 10c; prunes, French, 5c to 7½c; loose Muscatel raisins, 6c; London layer raisins \$1.90 box; Italian prunes, 6 to 8½c lb.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 12c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs. \$2.70.

Flour.—Delivered B.C. points.—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$5.40; strong bakers, \$5.10; Oregon, \$5.80.

Grain.—Local wheat, \$30 to \$35. Oats, \$25 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$23 to \$21 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$20.00 ton; bran \$18.00; oil cake meal, \$35 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—\$15.00 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 7½ to 8½c; mutton, 10c; pork, 6½ to 7½c; veal, 8 to 9c lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$5.00 per 100 lbs.; sheep, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.50 per 100 lbs.

Poultry.—Chickens, 10c lb., turkeys, 12c lb., ducks, 12c lb. geese, 11c lb.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellows 4c; yellow 8½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound, 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 7 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Tees.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c. choico 26c. Caylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choico 35c per lb.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—Cars of red wheat are quoted west at 78 to 79c, and white at 75c. Cars of No. 1 hard sold Midland to-day at 80c; No. 2 hard is quoted there at 87c.

Flour.—Cars of straight roller are quoted west at \$3.70 to \$3.75.

Millfeed.—Shorts are quoted west at \$3.50 to \$9, and bran at \$3.50 west.

Barley.—Is dull at 82c for No. 1 extra, 80c for No. 1, 27c for No. 2, 21c for No. 3 extra and 21½ to 22c for feed.

Oats.—Are steady at 19c for No. 1 white east and 17½c for No. 2 white west.

Peas.—Are in fair demand and steady at 38½c north and west.

Butter.—Jobbing prices are: Large rolls, choice, 12½ to 13½c; dairy tubs, 9 to 12c; dairy rolls, 13 to 14c; creamery tubs, 18 to 19c.

Eggs.—Supply of new laid large and prices of all kinds easy; new laid, 12 to 13c; limed, 8 to 10c; held, 5c.

Potatoes.—Car lots here, 20 to 22c; out of store, 32c.

Baled Hay.—No. 1, \$10.25 to \$10.50; other grades, \$8.50 upwards.

Dressed Hogs.—Choice weights sell up to \$6.25 on the street and to about \$6 on the track. Heavy are worth about \$1 less per 100 lbs.—Globe, March 10.

The Labor Market.

Farmers are beginning to engage men for the spring work, but the demand is not very brisk yet. There is, as usual, a scarcity of domestic servants, and agents say they could place a large number at once, if they could get hold of them.

Among the immigrants at the immigration hall in Winnipeg last week, were some Mennonites who left Manitoba a few years ago for the States, but who are now glad to get back again. They will again take up land here.

Returned From Europe.

Mr. Rogers, manager of the Parsons Produce Co., Winnipeg, has returned from a lengthy trip to Europe, whither he went on business and pleasure. Mr. Rogers spent some time at Liverpool, looking into the produce trade there. The firms there, he says, do business on a gigantic scale, and talk about cargoes as we would talk about car lots. The chief difficulty he found with Canadian creamery butter, is that it is held too long, and is consequently often not in really fine condition. In Great Britain they discriminate very closely and anything not fine is always reduced in price. If our butter will not come up to the quality of the fine Danish and other brands, it cannot bring the top price. They want strictly fresh goods. There is very little demand for dairy butter, except at very low prices.

Mr. Rogers spent some time in London, and visited France, Holland and Belgium.

E. A. Pifer, saddler, Oak Lake, is out of business and succeeded by A. Grasso.