

British Columbia Markets.

Wholesale prices are given for quantities 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, April 8, 1897.

Oats and hay have advanced \$1 per ton each. These are the only changes this week.
Butter.—Local creamery, 28c; California butter, 24½c; Manitoba cheese, 11c; local cheese, 11c lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12½ cents; breakfast bacon 12½, backs 9½c, long, clear, 7½ to 8c; short rolls 9½ to 10c; smoked sides 9c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per pound; in pails and tubs 9c lb.

Game.—Mallards, 25c; widgeon, 25c; teal, 20c; grouse, 85c to \$1; geese, 75c to \$1.25; Venison, 4c; sand snipe, 35c.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 3c; smelt 3c; sea bass 4c; black cod 5c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 5c; herring 4c; spring salmon 3c; steelhead, 7c; whiting 5c; soles 6c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; smoked salmon, 10c; finnan haddie, 10c; kippered herring, 12c; Columbia river oolichans, 7c.

Vegetables.—Local potatoes, \$23.00 to \$25.00 per ton; onions 8c; cabbage, 1½c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Oregon eggs, 18½c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches. Trade measurement, and contain from 250 to 300 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, from 12 to 1500 small oranges. California oranges, seedling, \$1.50 to \$2.00; navel oranges \$3.50 to \$3.75; Eastern apples \$5.50 barrel.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb., peaches 9c, plums 9 to 10c, prunes, French, 8 to 7½c, loose Muscatel raisins, 6c. London layer raisins \$1.00 box; Italian prunes, 8 to 8½c lb.

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

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ lb sacks, \$3.20; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 0 lbs, \$2.70.

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

Grain.—Local wheat, \$30 to \$35. Oats, \$5 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$23 to \$1 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$10 ton; bran \$19.00; oil cake meal, \$35. F O B Vancouver, including duty on import staff.

Hay.—\$17.00 per ton.

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

Live Stock.—Steers, \$4.50 to \$4.75 per 100 lb; sheep, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per 100 lbs; pigs, \$5.50 per 100 lbs.

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

Spices.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4½c; yellow 4c; yellow 3½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound, 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.75 a tin, 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10, ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Tea.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c; choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c, good 30c, choice 35c per lb.

British Columbia Business Notes.

J. B. Atkinson, hotel, Blaine, is succeeded by Atkinson & Kyle.

Frank Sero, hotel, Colwood, is succeeded by H. M. Bechtel.

J. W. Powell has sold his interest in the business of Rendell & Co., to J. J. Caulfield.

Lazenby Bros. general store, Hatzie, are succeeded by V. Ross.

Orr & Rendell, boots & shoes, Nanaimo, have sold out to A. B. Erskine.

The stock of A. W. Fraser & Co., clothing, etc., Rossland, has been sold to Houghton & Bannett.

Tanner & Reynolds, hotel, Trail, have dissolved, Mrs. R. Reynolds, continues.

H J Bray, fish, etc., Vancouver, has been closed out by creditors.

The English Bay Canning Co., Vancouver, has dissolved.

The Vancouver Hardware Co., Vancouver, has been incorporated.

The sheriff is in possession of the premises of G. S. McConnell, commission dealer, etc., Vancouver.

John Leahy, brewer, Victoria, is offering his interest in the Excelsior brewery for sale.

J. W. Mellor, paints, etc., Victoria, is opening a branch at Rossland.

Monthly Trade Returns.

The following is the statement showing the value of goods exported and entered for consumption with duty collected thereon at the port of Winnipeg during the month of March, 1897, as compared with the same month in 1896.

Description	Value 1896	Value 1897
Exported	\$ 45,081 00	\$411,118 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable....	207,021 00	189,493 00
Entered for consumption, free	57,397 00	57,435 00
Total for consumption	264,418 00	246,928 00
Duty collected	\$61,759 79	\$55,637 88

The transactions of the local branch of the Dominion Savings bank, for the month of March, show an excess of deposits over withdrawals, the amounts being: Deposits, \$18,030, withdrawals, \$17,152.81; deposits in excess of withdrawals, \$876.19.

Inland revenue collections at Winnipeg for March show a large increase, owing to the large quantity of goods taken out of bond for fear of an advance in the tax on liquors, etc. The amounts collected on the several items during the past month of March were:

Spirits	\$34,416 28
Malt	19,784 50
Tobacco	11,919 06
Cigars	2,184 81
Methylated spirit....	157 13
Petroleum inspection fees	126 23
Total	\$68,588 01
Collections March, 1896.....	30,161 47
Increase	\$38,426 54

Alberta Cattle;

The Calgary Herald Says: Mr Pat Burns, of West Kootenay has spent about six days in Alberta during which time he bought over five thousand head of cattle from ranchers. "Buying" cattle in this way does not involve much immediate outlay. The cattle owner simply enters into a little contract with Mr. Burns to deliver so many head at such and such a price, any time between now and next winter. A dollar or so is paid over to seal the bargain. The prices at which Mr. Burns has bought are, \$10 for good steers, \$27 for dry cows, \$2 50 for spayed cows, and \$20 for stags. Mr. Burns is now killing about seven hundred head of cattle a month, six hundred hogs and fifteen hundred sheep. For hogs he is paying four and a half cents a pound live weight and has bought practically all there are in Northern Alberta. He pays out monthly for meat over \$50,000. What he takes in is of course his own secret, but it is well known in Kootenay that his immense business, which is practically a monopoly, is paying handsome profits and it is about as good a proposition as any gold or silver mine in the country.

Feeding Cattle in Manitoba.

Rocky Mountain Husbandman—The first winter feeding of steers for beef in Montana of any considerable note, occurred in the winter of 1893-94. Necessity being the mother of invention, this was attempted as a means of putting our stock industry on its feet and the success attending the effort has led to an increase of the number of stock fed each winter since that date. Good results having been chronicled every year in this line, there is but one conclusion to be arrived at and that is that it will pay to make hay feed beef. Has grown on the low priced lands of Montana is a cheaper feed than corn grown on the high priced lands of Iowa, Missouri, and other corn growing states, and this being true why should not Montana remain permanently in the business. The beef feeders of the past winter have done well. Stock have fed easily and the market is promising and we are proud to know that our state will have a nice harvest this spring from her fatted stock.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Cables received from Sicily quote an advance of 3 to 4 in the prices of filberts.

Opening prices on 1897 pack of Clover Leaf Columbia River salmon have been made as follows: Flat tins, plain, \$1.80; with key, \$1.55. Talls, plain, \$1.15; with key, \$1.20. It is expected that other packers will put out prices in a day or two which, it is understood, will be considerably less than the opening figures last year. —New York Commercial Bulletin.

A Toronto report says there is a stronger feeling in the local provision market, and packers have advanced prices 50c per barrel for mess pork. For pure lard some holders are asking as high as 7c, while others state they are selling round lots at 6c and small at 5½c. In smoked meats a fair trade continues to be done, and orders for future delivery are coming forward more freely. Some dealers are asking as high as 12c for extra small hams and 11c for breakfast bacon.

Thomas Duncan, blacksmith, Morden, is succeeded by B. Chubb.

The Davidson Company, general store-keepers, Neopawa, is opening branches at Wabigoon and Rat Portage.