

## British Columbia Business Review.

(Continued from page 454.)

To illustrate how readily a good thing is appreciated, it is only necessary to state that another short line of railway between Vancouver and Westminster is projected. It is announced that operations will commence three months from the date of the incorporation of the company now seeking corporate powers for that purpose.

Following the announcement that a pork packing establishment would be started in Vancouver, comes a similar announcement in regard to Westminster. Brown, Nelson & Co., Brantford, Ont., are said to be the parties undertaking the enterprise.

British Columbia is recognized as a great consuming province, and one can readily appreciate that fact from the car-loads of meat, flour, eggs, butter, etc., that roll west over the C. P. R. into British Columbia. It is sometimes overdone, however, with a loss to both buyers and sellers. By too rapid shipments of goods it is quite easy to glut the market. This is a point that eastern dealers should keep in mind, and no better way to avoid this can be suggested than keeping well posted in the columns of THE COMMERCIAL. A good many careless consignments have been made with, of course, loss to the consignee in some instances. If eastern dealers will follow three rules they will find British Columbia a profitable market: Ship only the best goods; deal with reliable commission men and don't crowd the market.

Coming now to trade proper, quotations all round are much the same, a slight depression being noticeable in some lines. Manitoba flour has struck rock bottom it is thought. The current price is \$5.45, but not selling even at that. A short time ago one or two dealers in Vancouver expecting a sharp rise in prices bought rather heavily and are now disposing of it below the market to unload. British Columbia and Oregon flours are steady at old prices. Enderby is quoted at jobbing rates as follows: Premier, \$6; XXX, \$5.70; XX, \$5.35. Oregon flour is quoted \$6.25. Manitoba good white feed oats (black oats not in demand) are \$27 to \$27½ a ton; chopped barley, \$28½; wheat, grading about No. 2, \$31; fair damaged wheat in demand at \$28. The above quoted in car lots at the depot. Beans, small white, are \$3.60 per cwt.; Bayous, \$3.25; oil meal cake, \$40; California rolled oats, \$3.90 a bag; Canadian rolled oats, \$3.50. Hay is \$15 and \$16 a ton.

Apples are the only fresh fruit in the market except oranges, etc. Oregon apples, \$1.10 to \$1.45 a box; British Columbia, 75c to \$1; eastern apples, all grades, \$5.50 per bbl. Some inferior lots have sold from \$3.25 to \$4.00. A few small orders for apples for points in the territories have been filled from British Columbia. California oranges sell at \$4 and \$3.00 for Riverside seedlings per box, and \$4.10 Navel. California lemons are \$5.25 and Sicilies, \$7.50. Japanese oranges are plentiful at 70 to 75c per box. The following are quotations for dried fruits: Evaporated apples and pears, 12c a lb; peaches, 10c; peeled peaches, 18c; pitted plums, 11c; apricots, 11c; prunes, 12c; raisins, (London layer), \$2.25 to \$2.75; muscatels, loose, \$2; seedless Sultanias, \$2.50; seedless, muscatels, \$2.50. Nuts—Almonds, 18c; walnuts, 15c; peanuts, 11c; filberts, 17c; pine nuts, 18c; Brazils, 16c; cocoanuts, \$1 a dozen. Honey, bottled, \$4.50; strained, 18c in five gallon tins; comb, 20c per lb in frames.

There is a glut in meats and all the dealers are carrying heavy stocks. Quotations are: Heavy hams, 12½c; breakfast, 12½c; short rolls, 11c. Prices have a downward tendency. Lard, 50lb tins, 12c; 20lb, 12½c; 10lb, 5lb, and 3lb, 13c. Fresh meats show no disposition to change for the present.

Prices in best creamery butter have stiffened somewhat and demand is good at 24 to 29c. There is very little inferior stock for sale. There is a fair stock of dairy which is steady at 22½c. B. C. fresh rancho butter is 35c.

Cheese is steady at 12½c; Stilton, 35c; Swiss, 45c. Lined eggs, 20c to 2½c; fresh eastern, 2½c; rancho eggs, 40c.

Vegetables are getting scarcer and prices are appreciating. Fraser river potatoes range from \$14 to \$20 and Ashcroft's \$20 to \$27 per ton; onions, Fraser Valley, 1½c; Ascroft's, 3c. Hops are quoted at 25c. Carrots and turnips, are 60c per cwt.

The B. C. sugar refinery will close down for several weeks, owing to the lack of raw sugar. One or two sugar ships are overdue some time, and their arrival is awaited to start up again. Quotations are given as follows: Paris lumps, 6½c; granulated, 5½c; yellow, 4½c; fancy do., 4½c; extra C., 5c. Maple syrup is quoted \$1.15 gal; Barbaodes molasses, 70c gal; maple syrup, 12c lb.

The current quotations for hides are as follows, bull, fresh, 2c per lb; ditto, salted, 3c; cow, fresh, 3c; ditto, salted, 4c; steer, fresh, 4c; ditto, salted, 5c. No. 1 heavy standard steer, 60 lbs or over, 6c per lb; dry, No. 1, 5 to 7c per lb.

Games is fairly plentiful, but poultry is scarce. Fresh fish is quoted, salmon, 10c; black cod, 8c; halibut, 10c; crabs, 35c a dozen. The supply for export is limited. Several ship loads of halibut are expected from the north in a few days, the bulk of which will be shipped east. Salt salmon is \$8 per bbl; salmon bellies, 10c, canned salmon, \$5.50 per case. Stocks of canned salmon are small.

The Victoria rice mills quote wholesale as follows: Japan rice, per ton, \$77.50; China rice, do, \$70; rice flour, do, \$70; chit rice, \$25; rice meal, \$17.50.

Lumber quotations for foreign export are: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet inclusive, \$9 per M feet; rough deck plank, average length 35 feet, \$19; dressed flooring, \$17; pickets, \$9; laths, 4 feet, \$2.

The reference in last issue to an extensive shipyard being established in Vancouver proves to be well founded. Arrangements are being made for the building of a 2,000 ton ship.

## Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

[Quotations below are per bushel for regular No. 2 wheat, which grade serves as a basis for speculative business. Corn and oats are per bushel for No. 2 grade; mess pork quoted per barrel, lard and short rib sides per 100 pounds.]

On Monday wheat sold ¼ to 1c higher than Saturday, but the closing prices were lower and about the same as Saturday. Corn and oats were a fraction higher, and hog products moved up sharply. Wheat receipts were 153 cars. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat .....	86½	—	91½
Corn .....	37½	39½	41½
Oats .....	29½	—	31½
Pork .....	11.67½	—	11.95
Lard .....	6.35	—	6.65
Short Ribs .....	5.72½	—	6.00

On Tuesday wheat developed considerable strength at times, but was irregular, and at the start ½c under Monday. The close was higher. Receipts were 238 cars. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat .....	87½	—	92½
Corn .....	38½	39½	41½
Oats .....	29½	—	31½
Pork .....	11.60	—	11.90
Lard .....	6.32½	—	6.62½
Short Ribs .....	5.70	—	5.97½

On Wednesday regular No. 2 wheat opened about 1c lower, fluctuated sharply and closed ½c higher than Tuesday. Receipts, 102 cars. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat .....	88	—	92½
Corn .....	38½	39½	41½
Oats .....	29½	—	31½
Pork .....	11.45	—	11.75
Lard .....	6.30	—	6.60
Short Ribs .....	5.62½	—	5.90

Wheat was firm on Thursday through speculative action, but late in the day grain came

out from all quarters and the market broke ¼c from the top, and closed ½c under the close of yesterday. Receipts, 73 cars.

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat .....	87½	87½	92
Corn .....	37½	38½	40½
Oats .....	29½	29½	31
Pork .....	11.30	—	11.65
Lard .....	6.30	—	6.7½
Short Ribs .....	5.57½	—	5.85

On Friday wheat held firm until the last half hour, when large offerings broke the market. The prices went down 1½c and closed ¾c lower than last night. Receipts, 108 cars. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat .....	87½	87½	91½
Corn .....	37½	37½	40½
Oats .....	—	—	3½
Pork .....	11.47½	—	11.80
Lard .....	6.37½	—	6.62½
Short Ribs .....	5.65	—	5.92½

## Duluth Wheat Market

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—Cash, —; January, 8½c; May, 8¾c.  
Tuesday—Cash, —; January, 8½c; May, 90½c.  
Wednesday—Cash, —; January, 86c; May, 91c.  
Thursday—Cash, —; January, 85½c; May, 90½c.  
Friday—Cash, —; January, 85c; May, 90c.  
Saturday—Cash, —; January, 85½c; May, 90½c.

A week ago January closed at 84½c and May at 89½c.

## Minneapolis Closing Price Wheat.

At Minneapolis, on Saturday, January 23, wheat prices closed as follows for No. 1 northern: Cash, 86c; Jan., 8½c; May, 87½c. A week ago January closed at 83½c and May at 86½c.

## New York Wheat Market.

Wheat at New York at noon on Saturday, Jan. 23 was quoted as follows: January delivery \$1.02½; May, \$1.02½. A week ago May was quoted at \$1.02½ and January at \$1.00½.

H. A. Seed purchased the stock of fruits and confectionery of W. C. Huff, Winnipeg, which was sold by auction yesterday.

Thos. Clerihue, well known in the West as traveller for the Ontario Glove Works, of Brockville, Ontario, is establishing a new manufactory in gloves, mits, moccasins, etc., at Brockville.

H. A. Mullens, a well-known live stock dealer of Toronto, has been visiting Manitoba. While in the prairie province he secured a lease of the Binscarth farm from the Scottish and Manitoba Land company. Mullens proposes stocking the farm with cattle and horses.

A convenient office desk calendar has been received from Cochrane, Cassils & Co., boots and shoes, of Montreal. A calendar for each month is printed on a separate slip, and these are placed in a heavy cardboard case. As the month expires, the top card is drawn out, and the next month is exposed.

The Canadian Pacific railway has granted to the members of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' association the privilege of carrying 300 lbs of commercial baggage free on the Prince Albert, and the Calgary and Edmonton branches. This will be a great concession to travellers covering these roads.

The United States bureau has issued a bulletin on irrigation in Montana. It is shown that in that state there are 3,706 farms that are irrigated out of a total of 5,664; The total area of land upon which crops were raised by irrigation in the census year ending May 31, 1890, was 350,852 acres in addition to which there were approximately 271,000 acres for grazing purposes.