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TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,
Tuesday Morning, Oct. 17.

VICTORIA.

Trade continues steady with a continued hopeful feeling among merchants. There have been but few failures during the past month. Business is picking up and although money is still tight there is an easier feeling. Dealers have learned to be conservative in their buying and are getting into better shape with the strengthening influence of the financial situation. The markets are getting firmer and an authority says: "Unquestionably the movement in prices all along the line is slowly but surely upward, and the merchant who is so situated as to take advantage of the market will be a winner."

The Vancouver *News-Advertiser* says business generally is reported as fair, but collections are unsatisfactory and hard to make. Two failures occurred at the end of last week, but none happily have been reported during the last few days. Wholesale business continues very fair, and were collections only a little more prompt, merchants state they would have no cause for complaint.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

There are no special features, but the general tendency of the markets are upwards. Case eggs are scarce and prices are quoted a little higher. The market is reported entirely bare of breakfast bacon, but stocks are expected shortly. The American meat market is reported firm and steady there have been no changes in quotations during the week. The sugar situation remains steady.

The Toronto *Empire* of Oct. 9, says: Retailers are purchasing Valencia raisins more freely now. Sales to arrive are numerous, traders seeming to have come to the conclusion that prices would be no lower. Off stock is selling at 4½ to 5c, and selects at 6 to 6½c. New currants are expected daily. Stocks of old goods are low. New prunes are in fair demand at 5 to 5½c. Green Rio coffee is scarce and firm. The statistical position is strong and present conditions favor higher prices. The Denia market for Valencia raisins is cabled strong at 15s to 16s cost and freight for layers. The Peconic, with first consignment of new currants, has just arrived at New York. Prices there are 2⅜c for barrels, and 2⅝c for cases. Sales to arrive are made at rather lower prices.

The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* says: "Butter receipts during the past week were 15,823 pkgs., against 4,553 pkgs., for the week previous. The market is somewhat quieter this week, although none the less firm when buyers find it necessary to replenish stocks. The great demand is, of course, for Sept. creamery, which is held at too high prices for buyers to stock up with. Certain factories, however, have sold their Sept. make at 23c, and 23½c in the country, but not much has been sold at these figures. A lot of August creamery was offered to-day at 21½c delivered here. Eastern Townships dairy is scarce, and sales have been made at 20c to 20½c for lots of 20 to 40 tubs. Western is also firm with sales at 18c to 18½c for selections, some holders demanding more money. As we before stated there has never yet been a fall in which 23c was paid for creamery that buyers did not lose money on it. We quote prices as follows: Creamery, September, 22½c to 23c per lb., creamery, August, 21½c to 22c. Receipts of cheese during the past week were 62,956 boxes, against 61,238 boxes for the week previous. The market, although as firm as ever, is quieter, for the reason that offerings have become considerably less, as stocks are pretty well concentrated in the hands of exporters and agents for English houses. On Monday, finest French cheese sold at the boat at 10⅜c, about 4,000 boxes changing hands at 10½c to 10⅝c. It appears that 10½c was paid at Peterboro, for September goods this week, which is equal to 10⅝c here, and we quote 10⅝c to 11c for finest. Western Septembers with the inside figure actually paid, but holders refuse to sell any more at that figure. There is no doubt that the make will turn out shorter than that of last year, and this, together with the short make in England, should have its effect later on, unless it is counteracted by the depression in trade in England, caused by the miners' strikes."

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs	27	@ 27½
Manitoba creamery, 5-lb tins	27	@ 28
" dairy	17	@ 20
Cheese—Canadian, lb	12½	@ 14
California	16	@ 00
Eggs, case, per doz	00	@ 22½

Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams	16	@ 18
Breakfast bacon	17	@ 18
Short rolls	14½	@ 15
Dry Salt, long clear	14	@ 00
Pure Lard, 50lbs	15½	@ 00
" " 20lbs	15⅝	@ 00
" " 10lbs	15½	@ 00
Lard Compound, 10 lbs	13	@ 13½

Sugar—Jobber's prices ½-barrels and kegs in each case being ⅛c higher:

Dry Granulated	6⅞
Extra C	5⅞
Fancy Yellow	5⅞
Yellow	5⅝
Golden C	5⅛
Dry Granulated (China)	6⅜
Syrups, per lb	3
" 1 gal. tins, American	6 50
" ½ " " "	5 75
" 1 " Vancouver	5 50
" 1½ " "	7 00

FLOUR AND FEED.

A steady consumptive demand is reported by the jobbers. The Oregon Millers are pushing for business here. The Portland *Commercial Review* quotes standard roller brands at $3.00, and possibly something less for good stock not so well known. Local agents for Oregon Milling Co's., quote standard brands at $2.90 at Oregon points which enables importers to lay stock down at $4.00 to $4.10. The leading importers state openly that the Oregon Mills will sell below their regular quotations for it is one of the few places where their drafts are honored promptly. There was a rumor last week that Manitoba Hungarian Flour had advanced 10c a bbl., The rumor was sufficient to induce considerable sales both of Manitoba Hungarian and British Columbia flours. Inquiry of some of the best informed dealers does not reveal any grounds for an advance. On the contrary, it is said that the present state of the wheat market will not warrant any advance in the present price of flour. The Ogilvie Milling Co., report that they are constantly receiving new inquiries for prices and samples of their standard brands. Since the Winnipeg Mill was remodeled Ogilvie's Hungarian has met with increased favor from all classes, and is one of the most popular brands on the market.

The Ogilvie Milling Co. quote their celebrated brands of Manitoba flours in car lots, on wharf in Victoria, as follows:

Ogilvie's Hungarian	$4 40
" Strong Bakers	4 10

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots in warehouse in Victoria:

Premier	$4 40
XXX	4 10
Strong Bakers or XX	3 75
Superfine	3 40

Jobbers' quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills	$ 4 50	@	0 00
Lion, " "	4 50	@	0 00
Premier, Enderby mills	4 50	@	0 00
XXX., " "	4 35	@	0 00
XX., " "	4 00	@	0 00
Superfine, " "	3 65	@	0 00
Ogilvie's Hungarian	4 75	@	0 00
" Strong Bakers	4 50	@	0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian	4 65	@	0 00
" " Strong Bakers	4 50	@	0 00
Oak Lake Patent Hungarian	4 65	@	0 00
" Strong Bakers	4 50	@	0 00
Regina Hungarian	4 65	@	0 00
" Strong Bakers	4 50	@	0 00
Benton County, Oregon	4 35	@	0 00
Portland Roller	4 35	@	0 00
Snowflake	4 35	@	0 00
Royal	4 35	@	0 00
Wheat, per ton	30 00	@	35 00
Oats	30 00	@	32 50
Oil cake meal	45 00	@	00 00
Chop feed	28 00	@	30 00
Shorts	28 00	@	30 00
Bran	25 00	@	27 50
National Mills oatmeal	3 50	@	0 00
" " rolled oats	3 50	@	0 00
" " split peas	3 50	@	0 00
" " pearl barley	4 50	@	0 00
" " Chop feed	25 00	@	28 00
California oatmeal	4 25	@	0 00
California rolled oats	4 00	@	5 00
Corn, whole per ton	37 50	@	40 00
Cornmeal	2 75	@	3 00
Cornmeal-feed per ton	40 00	@	00 00
Cracked corn	40 00	@	00 00
Hay, per ton,	18 00	@	20 00
Straw, per bale	1 00	@	0 00