

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

Winnipeg, Saturday, June 19.
The favorable weather for the crops this week has made an easy and satisfactory feeling in business circles. Rain and the growing weather have been general all over Manitoba and the Territories, and the crop outlook is regarded as very satisfactory. Very heavy rains fell in some parts of the territories, even to the extent of doing damage in some sections. The prospect of the early construction of the Crow's Nest railway and the reductions announced in freight rates have produced a further very satisfactory feeling. Jobbing trade in hardware, paints, building material, etc., is good. Textile lines, groceries, etc., are quiet. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show a considerable increase over the two previous years, as the figures elsewhere will show.

**WINNIPEG MARKETS.
DRY GOODS.**

Sorting trade is still reported quiet in dry goods and the clothing trade. In clothing the bulk of the fall orders have been booked. The continued cool weather until lately is supposed to account for the backward sorting trade, though it is said the business is working more into spring and fall orders, and less sorting business.

FISH.

Whitefish are jobbing 1-2c lower than last year. Prices for shipment are low, and at present the outlook is not favorable for the Manitoba lake fisheries. Jobbing prices here are as follows: White 5 1-2c, pickerel 4c, trout 9c, haddock 8c, salmon 12 1-2 to 15c lb, kippered goldeyes, 30c doz. Oysters are quoted at 70c for selects in cans.

GROCERIES.

Winnipeg retailers are still selling tobaccos and cigarettes at the same prices as before the duty was advanced. An effort was made to advance prices, but as some refused to fall in the move was not successful. As the manufacturers are reducing the size of the standard plugs, retailers will be enabled to sell plugs at the same prices as formerly, but the consumer will not get as much tobacco for his money. At the same time the profit of the retailer will not be increased. Butter tubs are in good demand and some dealers are about out of stocks.

GREEN FRUITS.

Apples are now about done. A few cold storage apples are coming in from the south in small lots. Seddling oranges are about cleaned up. Only one dealer had a few boxes yesterday. A few apricots have come in. Some very fine pine apples have arrived this week from Hawaii, via the Australian line of steamers to Vancouver. Prices are: Apples, \$6 to \$7 per barrel; California seedling oranges, \$3.50 per box; Mediterranean sweets, \$4.50 per box; St. Michaels, \$5.25 per box; Messina lemons, \$4.25 to \$4.50; California lemons, \$2.25 per box; bananas, \$2 to \$2.75 per bunch; pineapples \$3.00 to \$3.25 per dozen; pie plants, 2 cents per dozen; strawberries, \$3.50 to \$3.75 per case of 24 baskets; tomatoes, \$3.25 to \$2.50 per crate of 6 baskets; California cherries, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per case; onions, \$4 per 100 lbs; new cabbage, \$4 per 100 lbs. Dates 6 1-2 to 8 lb. layer figs 12 1-2 to 15c lb.

Asparagus, local, 50c doz; cucumbers \$1 dozen.

HARDWARE.

Business is good in this branch. The higher cost of barb wire at factories, as noted last week, has not led to an advance here yet. The inside price on sisal and manilla rope has advanced 1-4c. The base price on out nails has been reduced to \$2.50 and wire nails to \$2.75, see quotations in another column.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.

The large spring importations of glass are now mostly in. Business is good in this branch. See quotations in another column.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Wheat—The local market has been quiet and prices easy. There has not been much range in quotations, 70 to 70 1-2c for No. 1 hard, a lot or in store Fort William covering about the range. Quotations yesterday were as follows: No. 1 hard 70c, No. 2 hard 67c, No. 3 hard 63c.

Flour—Prices in the local market are unchanged. Prices are as follows: Patent, \$2; bakers', \$1.80; second bakers', \$1.40; XXXX, 90c per sack of 98 pounds, to the local trade, delivered in the city.

Millfeed—Millers are still quoting \$6 for bran and \$8 for shorts per ton in small lots, with large lots shaded about 50c. Shorts are scarce.

Barley—Normal at 23 to 24c for feed grade and 25 to 26c for malting samples.

Oats—Held rather firmer. We quote cars on track at Winnipeg at 21c for No. 2 mixed, and No. 2 white at 22 to 22 1-2c. A car of choice No. 1 white sold at 24c per bushel of 34 pounds. Light feed 18 to 20c. Cars on track country points, 13 to 15c. Prices of oats advanced at Montreal early in the week, being quoted as high as 26 3-4c in store on Tuesday, but our wire to-day quotes 26 1-2c for No. 2 white in store.

Cereals—Rolled oatmeal, 80 lb sacks \$1.50 per sack; granulated, 98 lbs. \$1.75; standard, 98 lbs \$1.75. Rolled wheat, 80 lbs, \$1.75 sack; pot barley, 98 lbs, \$1.75; pearl barley, 98 lbs, \$3.25 sack.

Ground feed—Rolled oats are held at \$15 per ton, ordinary chop, \$12 to \$13 per ton, and mixed mill feed, \$11 per ton.

Butter—Creamery. The market is steady. The present basis for eastern business is about 14c at the factories here, and 14 to 14 1-2c has been paid. Eastern markets for butter and cheese are irregular, and quiet for butter.

Butter—Dairy: Dealers are buying to ship, and they offer 9c to 10c for fresh grass butter, as to quality. No jobbing demand.

Cheese—From 7 3-4 to 8c has been paid factories this week, but the feeling is easy.

Eggs—The jobbing price is held at 11c with sales sometimes at 10 1-2c.

Poultry—Chickens live, 50c pair, or 10c lb dressed. Turkeys, 9c lb, live weight, ducks, 50 to 60c pair. Chickens are firmer, but prices are unchanged.

Lard—Prices are: Pure \$1.70 to \$1.75 for 20 lb., pails, and \$4.25 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.00 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8 to 8 1-4c.

Cured meats—United States meats and lard have been offering here. Lard is very low in the States, in

consequence of which local packers have been obliged to shade prices on round lots considerably to keep out imported lard. Some lots of United States meats and lard have come in. Prices are steady. Prices are: Hams, assorted sizes, 10 1-2 to 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 10 1-2 to 11c; do., backs, 9 1-2 to 10c; short spiced rolls, 7 1-2 to 8c; shoulders 8 to 8 1-2c; smoked long clear, 8 1-2 to 9c; fancy clear, 8 to 8 1-2c; dry salt meats are quoted; long clear bacon, 7 to 7 1-2c per lb; shoulders, 5 1-4 to 5 3-4c; boneless shoulders, 6 1-2 to 7c; backs, 7 3-4 to 8 1-4c; extra charge of 1-2c for canvassed meats; barrel pork, clear mess, \$13.00 to \$13.50; short cut, \$15.50 to \$16; rolled shoulders, \$13 to \$13.50; per barrel. Pork sundries, fresh sausage, 7 1-2c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 7c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 25 to 30c lb. Pickled pigs feet, \$1.50 per pall.

Dressed meats—Beef continues very firm. We quote beef at 6 1-2c to 7 1-2c as to quality. Mutton is easier, and a further decline is expected, as range sheep are now in the market. We quote mutton at 8c to 8 1-2c. Pork at 5 1-2c to 6c, and 5c to 5 1-2c; lambs \$3.50 to \$4 for the carcase.

Hides—Dealers are paying 6 1-2c for No. 1 hides, and prices are steady. Hides quoted at 6 1-2 for No. 1, and 5 1-2c for No. 2; calf 8 to 15c lb., skins 6 to 8c per lb; deerskins 10 to 20c each; kins, 5 to 7c; sheepskins range from 75c each to 90c according to quality; clips 10c; lambskins, 10c; horsides 75c to \$1.25.

Seneca wool.—The prices generally quoted is 15c per lb., but up to 16c has been paid in some cases.

Wool—Though the talk has been steady about getting prices down, we still learn of high prices being paid, ranging up to 10c. It is said that up to 10c has been paid in the west for some of the range clips. A number of ranchers have sold their clips. While 7c is the usual quotation here for unwashed fleec, the market is irregular.

Vegetables and green stuff—Potatoes 40 to 45c on street. Parsnips 1c lb; turnips, 20c bushel, carrots and beets 30c bushel; lettuce, 20c dozen; green onions 15c to 20c doz.; asparagus 50c dozen bunches, Rhubarb 20c per dozen bunches; spinach, 3c lb.

Hay—The demand is very limited. We quote \$4.50 to \$5 per ton for cars on track as to quality.

Wood—Tamarac, \$4.50 to \$4.75; pine \$4; poplar, \$3.25 for car lots on track here per cord. Prices about nominal in the absence of business.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle—Good cattle are scarce, the surplus supply of grain fed cattle having been exported. Anything fair would bring 3 1-2c here for butchers' stock, and 3 3-4 to 4c has been paid for choice cattle for the local market and selected animals would bring a fraction higher.

Sheep—The first arrivals of range sheep for the season came to hand this week several cars having been offered. They are quoted at 3 1-2 to 4c with an easier tendency. None of the sheep have been offered in the shape of mutton yet, and it is not known how they will turn out.

Hogs—The feature of the market for hogs is the continued shipments of