

Montreal Paint and Oil Prices.

In this branch of the oil trade dealers and importers report business active and the movement quite up to the average for this season of the year. The demand for all lines is good, especially paints, and values generally are steady. The market for mineral oils is strong and prices have advanced all round. Benzine is also higher and small lots are now selling at 16 to 18c. The advance in the above article has had some effect on low grade varnishes and values are all higher. Cod oil is firm at 37½ to 40c, castor oil at 51 to 6½c, seal oil at 40c to 45c as to quality. The feeling in linsed oil is very firm, but no actual change in prices has taken place. We quote: Choice brands white lead Government standard, \$1.75; No. 1, \$1.50, No. 2, \$1.25; No. 3, \$1; No. 4, \$3.75, dry white lead, 1½c; red lead, pure, 3½ to 4c; do. No. 1, 4c; Zinc, white, pure, \$7.25; glass, \$1.15 to \$1.20 first break, \$1.25 to \$1.30 second break per 50 feet; \$2.70 to \$2.80 for third break per 100 feet; linsed oil, round lots, raw, 5½c to 57c; boiled, 59c to 60c; putty in bulk, \$1.85.

The feature in the petroleum market during the past week has been the weakness in United States oil, and prices show a decline of 1½c per gallon, recent sales having transpired at 20½c in car lots and 21½c in single barrels for some, and at 22c in car lots and 23c in single barrels for water white brand. In Canadian refined oil the feeling is firm and values are fully maintained. We quote Canadian refined at 16½c in shed, and 18c for smaller quantities, with a discount of 2 per cent for cash. American petroleum is quoted at 20½c in car lots and 21½c for smaller quantities.—(Gazette, April 6.

Toronto Live Stock Market.

Butchers' Cattle.—There was a slightly weaker feeling in cattle at the bi-weekly market on April 3, chiefly the result of heavy offerings. The best figure touched was \$1.30 per cwt, paid for a bunch of fancy steers and heifers. Prices were easier to the extent of about \$2 per head. Several of the best carloads of butchers' cattle were bought by exporters to fill space on shipboard, simply because they could not get enough shippers. About the lowest figure touched was 3c per lb, anything to poor to fetch that figure not being considered worth touching. The range was from 3 to 1½c per lb.

Export Cattle.—The best transaction of the day was a bunch of 18 cattle, 1350 lbs average, which sold for \$5.30 per cwt. One carload cattle, 1,200 lbs average, 5c per lb, 22 cattle, 1,300 lbs average, \$5.20 per cwt, 15 cattle, including some bulls, 1,350 lbs average, \$5.30 per cwt 1 carload cattle, 1,200 lbs average, \$1.00 per cwt, 10 cattle, 1,260 lbs average, 5c per lb.

Hogs.—There was a sharp decline to-day for everything but stores, and they hardly held their own. Good long lean hogs, weighed off the cars, sold to-day for from \$1.80 to \$1.90 per cwt. Thick fat hogs brought 4½c per lb; stores, 4½c to 5c per lb, the latter figure being very seldom paid.

Sheep and Lambs.—The feeling was slightly weaker for anything but really choice grain-fed yearlings. They sold at from 5c to 5½c per lb. Spring lambs were only quiet, selling at from \$3 to \$4 per head, according to weight and quality.—Globe, May 3.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—Is in good demand for milling and the market is firmer. Ontario wheat sold 1c higher to-day, five cars changing hands west at 8½c, and holders were asking 85 to 85c outside. Manitoba wheat is very firm. It is said that most of the grain in store at Fort William is sold, and already some of it is on

the way to the Midland elevator. There were sales to-day of car lots of No. 1 hard at 87½c and 88c, Ontario freights.

Flour.—Is in fair demand and firm. A car of 90 per cent patents sold, middle freights west, to-day at \$8.57; sellers are asking \$3.75 to \$3.80 for straight roller, Toronto freights. Manitoba flour is very firm.

Millfeed.—Cars of shorts are quoted at \$16.50 to \$17, Toronto freights, and bran at \$14.50 to \$15, same freights.

Barley.—Cars of feed outside are quoted at 44c to 45c; No. 1 is quoted east at 48c and No. 2 at 46c.

Oats.—Cars of white sold west to-day at 33½c, and 34c was asked for more. Cars on the track here sold at 37c.

Butter.—The market is very dull and prices are weak. Large rolls are quoted at 10c to 12c. Dairy tub is almost impossible to sell. Low grade is offering at 5 to 6c, and the best tubs at 10 to 11c.

Eggs.—Are in fair supply and the market is steady at 10c.

Hog Products.—A large lot of hams aggregating 120,000 pounds bought in this market by a leading firm in Hamilton at outside prices are to be repacked and shipped to Liverpool and Glasgow markets. This has materially reduced stocks here and the market is firmer for hams, with no medium offering now under 11c.—Globe, May 4.

Petroleum in Other Lands

The London Ironmonger says: "What the outside world has now to consider is whether supplies of burning oils are likely to be obtained in adequate quantities from sources other than the American ones. It is well known, of course, that there are large oil supplies in the Baku district of Russia, and it is to that locality that buyers will turn if they cannot get American oil on reasonable terms. The Russian oil is heavier than the American, but it may be capable of being more thoroughly refined, and, as it has already ousted the Pennsylvania oil from large areas of the East, it may become a good substitute in the West, if it is not barred out of our and other European markets under the agreement said to have been concluded recently between the Standard Company and the Russian refiners. The other sources of supply have yet to be developed on a large scale. There is oil in Bohemia, Galicia, Barmah, Sumatra, Peru, and possibly elsewhere. The Barmah deposits are being worked with moderate success, and the 'Langkat' oil of Sumatra has gained over one-third of the demand at Singapore, Penang, and elsewhere in the Straits Settlements. The oil of Peru is largely supplying the west coast of South and central America."

A New Way of Preparing Wheat.

A new way of preparing wheat for human food has been discovered by an ingenious Colorado man. He buys the best selected wheat, washes it by means of a rocker, similar to that employed in washing out gold from sand, which permits the perfect and heavy grains to sink to the bottom, while the chaff floats off. The grain is then thoroughly steamed, salt being added during this process. The grain comes from this process shed of its outer husk, but containing all the nutriment of the gelatinous covering.

The kernels are now fed through a hopper into a machine, by which they are longitudinally cut into long shreds or threads, the finished products reminding one somewhat of excelsior, used in stuffing cushions. The shredded wheat is now cut into small sections, slightly baked in a quick oven, and with or without milk or butter forms a most delicious diet. It contains every particle of the food

elements that are in the wheat grain, but in such a form as to be both palatable and digestible.

The other cereals can be treated by the same process. The proprietor has built up a large business at Pueblo and Denver, selling this stuff to families and also in his restaurant. It is now proposed to push the sales of these machines and their products throughout the cities of the country. It is certainly one of the most attractive forms in which entire cereals can be made available as an article of diet. This diet is cheap, healthful, and strengthening, containing much more actual food value than even Graham bread.—American Miller.

Grocery Trade Notes.

The market for new crop of Japan teas has opened. Last year it opened earlier than it will upon this year. It is calculated that delay and additional cost will attach to the handling of the Japan crop, but parties familiar with the country and the people express the opinion that upon a reduction of the armies a large number of the coolies will at once return to their labors, and probably at a sufficiently early date to prevent any serious loss in the ultimate outcome of the crop.

The first cargo of Barbadoes molasses for Montreal will arrive at Portland this week. The quality is turning out very poor this season, and importers are fetching in some choice Porto Rico, of which the first cargo will arrive here on May 15th. A private cable from the Island yesterday noted a decline of 1c, the price now being 11c first cost. Barbadoes molasses has been offered here at 21c cost and freight without meeting with a buyer. The market is easier and prices are lower.—Montreal Gazette.

A Dairy Inspector for Manitoba.

In order to encourage the rapidly growing dairy interest and give all the assistance possible to the dairying interest of the province, a special instructor has been appointed to take charge of the inspection of factories, and of the educational branch of the industry. Prof. Robertson of the Ottawa experimental farm had been requested by the Manitoba department of agriculture to look out a suitable man for the post, and in reply he recommended C. C. Macdonald, who was willing to take the place on trial, and was in all respects a thoroughly competent and well-informed man. By means of public lectures, meetings, and practical demonstration of the latest methods of butter and cheese making Mr. Macdonald will impart a store of valuable information to the farmers of the province during the coming summer.

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