

## TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, July 6th, 1905.

Chemicals, Drugs, etc.—Since last week's reports, there has been but little change in the situation of either of the staple drugs, opium and quinine. The same remarks apply with more or less force to other branches of the drug trade. Locally, business is fully up to expectations, and prices keep at a steady level. New York advices speak of dullness in the trade. Referring to chemicals in the British market, recent advices say the expectations of a quiet month have been fully realized, especially in the home trade, and with Whitsuntide so late this year, and the end of the half-year so closely following, it is not surprising that transactions have not been numerous or large. This state of things is expected to continue for some weeks at least, but values are well maintained, and the general tone is hopeful. In the heavy alkali branch there is nothing specially noteworthy. Bleaching powder continues quiet, consumers being slow in taking large quantities, and some parcels are rather pressed for sale. Caustic soda is unchanged. Ammonia alkali has a steady demand, and is firm. Chlorates of potash and soda are quite steady, though enquiries are not plentiful just now. Exports of bleaching materials show a further increase in weight and value during May, and soda compounds show a further increase in value but again a decrease in weight. In general chemicals there is steadiness as to values, but no large weight of business.

Dry Goods.—The demand for dress goods, and in fact, for all lines of seasonable articles in dry goods lines is quite active, and in fact has shown material improvement since the really warm weather started. Staple goods are held at firm prices, and in this respect there is little change to note since the conditions of a month ago. Payments are fully up to the average expectations, though a little on the slow side in the West.

Flour and Grain.—The tendency in flour is towards lower prices, and in several cases as low as \$4.15 has been accepted for ninety per cent. patents in buyers' bags, eastern or western freights. Shorts is firm, while bran is quite dull. Prices for Manitoba wheat show a sharp advance, owing to reports of wet weather in the north-western States, and to fears of rust from the same cause in Manitoba. Oats are firm under apparent scarcity. Corn (Canadian) is also firm. Peas are scarce with a fair demand. Barley is experiencing quite a stiff market, and reports of scarcity are extant.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Heavy lots of strawberries have been coming into the local market. But the demand continues brisk, so prices keep up well. Cherries are in good demand, those of good quality, but many offerings are not so. A feature in the market for

tropical fruits is the scarcity of lemons, which have again advanced. There is a good and growing demand, as is also the case with oranges. We quote: Strawberries, 7 to 10c.; cherries, sweet, per basket, 50c. to \$1.25; California peaches, per case, \$1.50 to \$1.75; California plums, \$1.50 to \$2.50; California apricots, \$1.50 to \$1.75; cantaloupes, per crate, \$2.25 to \$5; watermelons, each, 30 to 35c.; bananas, per bunch, \$1.25 to \$2; bananas, red, \$2.50; lemons, per crate, \$4.50 to \$5; oranges, per crate, \$4.50 to \$5.50; pineapples, per crate, \$3.25 to \$3.75; tomatoes, per crate, 75c. to \$1.25; cucumbers, hamper, \$1 to \$1.25; Canadian cucumbers, per dozen, 75c.; peas, per basket, 25c.; potatoes, per barrel, \$2.50 to \$2.75; onions, Bermudas, \$1.15 to \$1.25; beans, per basket, 50c.; squash, hamper, \$1; cabbage, per case, \$1.75.

Groceries.—Considerable improvement

has set in in the general groceries trade, and now it may be described as quite active. The demand for sugars for preserving purposes is in full swing, and the movement in that commodity now leaves nothing to grumble at. Prices now may be considered to be on a normal basis. In dried fruits not much business is now passing, but this is nothing new for this period of the year. Payments are fairly good.

Hardware.—Ever since navigation opened in the spring, wholesalers have been doing a rushing business in practically all the season's lines. Prices keep just about as they were, and there is hardly any feature at the present moment peculiar to the trade. It is expected that the present activity will keep up to the standard. In metals, the movement is good. Pig-iron is in normally active demand. Reports from Great Britain say that after the heavy



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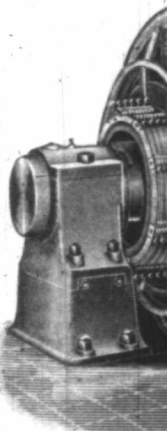


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