

## Grocery Trade Notes.

The California Fruit Grower says "The stock of prunes remaining on hand is limited to about 80 cars, and these are fast going into consumption, but at low prices. The general market is weak in tone and we learn of sales at less than a 8 cent basis for the four sizes. As to the growing crop, conditions are at present favorable for a larger crop than last season. This may all change before the month of June has passed. In the great San Joaquin Valley, where the crop was a failure last year, this season promises a good crop. The Santa Clara Valley promises a larger crop than last season, while some sections in the north are short. Indications point to more than 60,000,000 pounds cured prunes for crop of 1896. Oregon prunes are largely a failure this season. Europe reports the promise of a good crop."

A New York report says of the molasses market: "The Porto Rico crop is practically finished. Owing to the poor quality of Barbadoes molasses this year, very little if any has been shipped to the United States. Prices have declined owing to the lack of demand for such poor quality as has come to hand. As a result of this prices in Barbadoes have declined about 50 per cent. from the figures ruling at the opening of the season, when they were at the highest point. Advices from Porto Rico May 23 estimate that the value of the crop is very much short and is not above 1,500 hhds, and since that date about one-third of this supply has been contracted for."

The supply of loose California raisins on the coast available for f.o.b. shipments was, at last mail advices, said to be between ten and fifteen cars. The vines have been making good growth since the frosts and indications point to a good crop.

A letter received from California under date of June 12 confirms previous reports that the prune crop will be larger than that of last year. A lot of twenty cars sold at San Jose on June 11 to go to Philadelphia at the rate of 2½ c. f.o.b. for the four sizes.

## Hides, Wool etc.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin of June 19 says: "Business is very quiet in the wool trade this week. Some of the mills have already closed down and their proprietors are electioneering for all they are worth, while other mills are doing very little. Some old stock Texas wool has been offering in this market as low as 7½ c to 10c, but even at these low figures, buyers could not be found. Prices are unchanged and we quote:—Greasy Cape 14c to 16c; Natal 15c to 17c; Washed Canadian fleece 19½ c to 20c, Buenos Ayres scoured 27 to 35."

The Toronto market is quiet, all offerings are being taken by local tanners. Butchers' No. 1 are quoted at 5½ c, No. 2 at 4c and No. 2 at 8c. Lambskins, quiet at 30c and pelts at 15c. Horsehides, \$1.50 to \$1.75 each. Tallow, 3½ c to 3½ c—Globe, June 19.

The Toronto Globe of June 19 says: "The receipts of wool are liberal but the purchases are purely speculative. So far as Canada is concerned clothing wools are neglected by the manufacturers. A good deal has been carried over from last year. Local buyers advise caution and say that the country dealers should be careful not to pay more than the present situation warrants, and that wools bought should be free from chaff, seeds and burrs. There is no inquiry for export, the market is dull. The following prices are being paid to farmers,—From 17 to 18c for unwashed merchantable fleece, 14 to 15c for rejections, 17c for tub washed and 10c to 11c for unwashed. Northwest wools are being sold to manufacturers—short fine at 9c to 10c, medium fine 10c to 11c and coarse wools from 11c to 12c."

## Grain and Milling Notes.

The E. D. Moore elevator at Rosebank, Man., has been destroyed by fire with 8,000 bushels of wheat. Covered by insurance.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co. report the sale of 22,400 bushels of No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat for shipment via Vancouver. This is the fourth sale of this kind made this season.

On looking over the list of mills in Montevideo, says the Northwestern Miller's special correspondent, I was somewhat surprised to find 18, and some of them are of fairly large size, the Molino Italiano of Gianelli, for instance, being able to turn out 1,200 sacks of 140 lbs. each in 24 hours. The mills of Montevideo form a fairly large percentage of all the mills in Uruguay, there being some 62 in the country outside of the city.

The Northern elevator at Neche, North Dakota, just across from Grotna, Man., was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire on Sunday last.

The flour market, says the Montreal Gazette of June 13, is somewhat demoralized at present and a further cut of 15c to 25c has been made in the price for Manitoba grades, recent sales of strong baker's have been made at \$3.80 to \$3.50, and spring patent at \$3.75 to \$3.85, while there has also been a decline of 5c to 10c in prices for Ontario grades. Straight roller has changed hands in car lots at \$3.60, and winter patent at \$3.80 to \$4.

Bran and shorts declined 50c per ton at Montreal on June 13, to \$10.50 to \$11 for bran and \$11.50 to \$12 for shorts.

## Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Bradstreet's of June 20, says of the situation in the United States: "The market continues quiet, with business confined to clearing up lots at low prices. Cotton fabrics are dull and depressed, and in order to attract buyers very low figures have to be named. Fancy prints have been opened in dark styles for fall at 5c., but few have been bought as yet. Gingham are dull and only appear to sell through the aid of drives. The Lancaster and Amoskeag companies have advanced their price to 5c. Dress woollens are dull, with business very slow and unsatisfactory. There is more activity in flannels, which are being taken for fall at low prices."

## Financial and Insurance Items

E. H. Hayward, secretary of the Manitoba board of underwriters, has written the Winnipeg board of works, urging that immediate action be taken to improve the streets of the city.

At a recent meeting of the finance committee of the Winnipeg city council, the tenders for the purchase of city of Winnipeg debentures amounting to \$46,500 were opened. This amount is divided up between Winnipeg Industrial exhibition and the construction of the Osborne street bridge, \$30,000 going to the former and \$16,500 to the latter. The following tenders were received: W. H. Cooper, \$101.50; Yorkshire Guarantee and Securities Corporation, \$98.56; James Mel-drum, \$101.55; Hanson Bros., \$102.06; O. H. Nanton, \$100.55. Three other firms tendered in lump sums, viz.: H. O'Hara, \$46,616; A. E. Ames & Co., \$47,151; G. A. Stinson & Co., \$47,806. These debentures run for a term of 35 years and bear 4 per cent. interest, payable half yearly at Winnipeg. The tender of Hanson Bros., of Montreal, was accepted.

Two more incendiary fires were started in Winnipeg on Wednesday morning last, like the others being vacant residences. One owned by Gerald F. Brophy, valued at \$6,000,

was burned; insured. The other was not seriously damaged.

## Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended June 20, 1896, shows a decrease of 667,000 bushels, against a decrease of 1,764,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 543,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 497,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
Jan. 2...	88,881,000	80,223,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,376,000	79,883,000	81,392,000	43,181,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	75,569,000	79,083,000	41,556,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,654,000	41,038,000
May 6...	68,196,000	65,166,000	73,069,000	38,190,000
June 3...	62,229,000	59,394,000	71,030,000	27,910,000
July 1...	44,561,000	44,657,000	62,316,000	24,262,000
Aug. 8...	38,617,000	60,001,000	59,424,000	23,078,000
Sept. 7...	36,764,000	69,168,000	56,140,000	33,769,000
Oct. 7...	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,276,000	51,256,000
Nov. 4...	52,990,000	80,047,000	71,396,000	64,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,903,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,680,000

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	57,836,000	79,963,000	81,788,000
" 11...	63,645,000	55,015,000	80,433,000	82,680,000
" 18...	67,968,000	55,286,000	80,832,000	82,227,000
" 25...	67,623,000	54,665,000	80,234,000	81,487,000
Feb. 1...	66,734,000	53,376,000	79,883,000	81,392,000
" 8...	65,126,000	52,822,000	79,680,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,926,000	50,733,000	78,667,000	80,214,000
" 22...	65,011,000	49,476,000	77,257,000	79,453,000
March 1...	64,089,000	48,761,000	75,569,000	78,083,000
" 7...	62,646,000	47,717,000	74,607,000	79,103,000
" 14...	62,123,000	46,873,000	73,559,000	79,020,000
" 21...	61,348,000	46,773,000	72,163,000	78,208,000
" 28...	61,018,000	46,308,000	71,458,000	77,654,000
April 4...	60,322,000	45,703,000	70,762,000	77,293,000
" 11...	59,380,000	45,057,000	69,217,000	76,088,000
" 18...	58,483,000	44,626,000	68,426,000	74,363,000
" 25...	57,946,000	44,076,000	68,633,000	73,027,000
May 2...	56,619,000	43,190,000	65,156,000	73,069,000
" 9...	54,000,000	42,623,000	63,612,000	72,680,000
" 16...	53,146,000	42,444,000	62,044,000	71,526,000
" 23...	51,298,000	41,244,000	61,319,000	70,159,000
" 30...	50,540,000	40,229,000	59,394,000	70,367,000
June 6...	50,147,000	40,759,000	58,211,000	68,664,000
" 13...	49,486,000	40,717,000	57,106,000	66,375,000
" 20...	48,819,000	40,225,000	55,852,000	63,031,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on June 13 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	456,000
Toronto.....	98,000
Kingston.....	25,000
Winnipeg.....	150,000
Manitoba interior elevators.....	750,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	2,074,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on June 13 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	65,180,000
Pacific Coast.....	2,556,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	58,474,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,445,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended June 20, shows a decrease of 1,723,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 63,453,000 bushels on the latter date.

Worlds stocks of wheat on June 1, 1896, (United States, Canada, in Europe and Africa for Europe) were 117,969,000 bushels, as compared with 141,476,000 bushels on June 1, 1895, 160,892,000 bushels on June 1, 1894, 167,183,000 bushels on that date in 1893, and as contrasted with 120,170,000 bushels on June 1, 1892, and with smaller totals on June 1 in preceding years.