

prices and terms than for some years past has existed, and a strong desire is noticeable to avoid dating ahead. The enquiry for braid and bead ornaments continues active, and the dress goods department receives a large share of attention with a promise of further briskness. Ribbons keep in good demand also, and there is an exceptionally marked run upon ladies' rubber circulars, especially for the good English makes of these. Payments have been improving. There is a more hopeful feeling than for a long time past, and some firms see an absence of that excessive and ruinous competition and feel that what goods they have they can sell and not throw away.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—There is a fairly active market for all grades of flour, but as farmers are not marketing their grain at all freely there is a scarcity of material. Prices, however, are well maintained, and judging from the excited state of the wheat market must go higher.

GRAIN.—The movement in new grain has hardly commenced yet, and prices for wheat are not established. They are "jumping" in Chicago however, and higher abroad. There is nothing doing in barley owing to the same excuse, but the crop is believed a good one. Oats are a little easier, say 35 to 36c., and odd car lots have changed hands on local account. Peas are steady at quotations. Bran is worth \$14 to 15 per ton.

GROCERIES.—Most houses speak in a cheerful strain as to general business. The firm attitude of the sugar market still attracts attention. Lowest yellows are now 6½c., medium 6¾ to 6½c., bright 7½ to 7¾c. For small lots of granulated 8½c. is the figure, and 8¾c. for 15 barrels. Coffees are firm. Fruits in good request. New Valencia raisins enquired for. New currants are just arriving, and the quality is said to be good. Prunes in cases are worth 5½ to 6½c. Syrups advanced ½c. on Monday, our quotations will still represent the range. Prices of low grade and medium teas are hardening and the demand is very fair. Canned goods are beginning to move. We quote tomatoes, \$1 to 1.10; corn, \$1.10 to 1.30; peas, \$1 to 1.25; beans, \$1.10; apples, 85c. to \$1.

HARDWARE.—Cable reports show a marked advance in zinc and pig lead, the latter about £2 per ton. If present prices continue quotations here will be much higher than those ruling to-day. Ingot tin is also dearer and none is to be had in this market under 26 cts. Copper still retains its firmness, but as stocks appear to be accumulating in England the prospects of a further rise are somewhat remote, although well-informed circles are fully satisfied that the combination is particularly solid. Iron and steel are in good request, and this in connection with increased rates of freight of 5s. per ton has stiffened the market here very materially. Makers of tin plates are full of orders and will not book better than 6d. to 9d. per box over recent mail prices. They also refuse to guarantee shipments before end of October. This applies more particularly to cokes. Canada plates have advanced 10s. per ton, which in conjunction with increased freights above referred to has affected this market to the extent of 15c. per box. Payments are improving.

HIDES AND SKINS.—This market is bare of hides. The demand is very active and with a strong upward tendency. Green are still as last quoted. Cured are reported sold at 6½c., and even higher; 6½ to 7c. for close selection is asked. Sheepskins are quoted at 55 to 60c., and an advance is expected at the end of the month. There have been no sales of calfskins reported, but the enquiry has improved, and the feeling is better. Tallow is very scarce. Soap men will not pay more than 6c., but dealers can get 6½ to 7c. for small lots refined for all offering.

PROVISIONS.—During the week there has been a fair business done. For butter of a choice quality the enquiry is active at 18 to 19c. Some sales of good medium are recorded at 15½c. Cheese continues very dull, and prices are nominally without change. Finest kinds are jobbing at 9½ to 10c., and common down to as low as 8c. A few barrels of new dried apples have changed hands at 5½c., and more are offered at the same figure. There is nothing doing in evaporated. Eggs are steady. Newly gathered stock brings 17c. The demand for hog products is good. Long clear quotes at 11½ to 11¾c.; breakfast bacon, 14c.; rolls, 13c.; lard, 12 to 12½c. as to package. Dressed hogs on farmer's market command \$8. The honey crop being a total failure, prices will rule high. There is now but last year's on the market here, which rules at about 15 to 20c.

SEEDS.—About the only trade doing just now is in timothy and fall rye. The former quotes from \$2.10 to 2.20 per bushel, and the latter at 75 to 80c. Flax is moving slowly at \$1.40. There is no clover seed coming to hand yet.

WOOL.—Business continues of a quiet character with no special features. There is more or less fleece changing hands on a basis of 20c. for selected, but there is not as yet any enquiry from the United States. The Canadian factories are doing but little, and sales to them, of pulled wool, are light.

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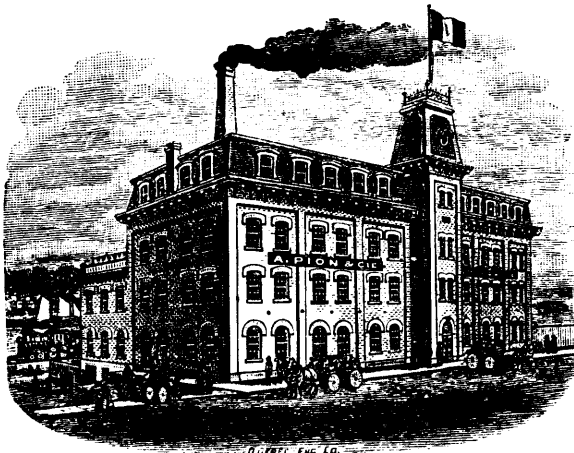
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