

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, Saturday, July 22.

The usual holiday dullness has not yet set in and there is every promise that the summer will be one of unusual activity in trade circles. The very active manner in which building operations, public improvements, etc., are being pushed is partly responsible for this.

The strength in prices for all staple commodities continues, and readers of our market pages will have noticed the steady and persistent manner in which prices of manufactured goods are marching upwards. The hardware list furnishes, perhaps, the most notable example of this tendency. The prospects are that these prices will continue to advance for an indefinite period.

There is every promise of an active fall and winter trade. The building schemes already on foot will necessitate a larger amount of work being done in that line next winter than ever before, and trade will naturally result from that. Other indications are now wanting that the fall and winter business will be large.

The crop outlook continues bright, although some experts fear that the effects of the hot weather of the last week will be detrimental to the wheat to some extent.

The report of the Winnipeg clearing house for the week ending Thursday was as usual highly satisfactory and compared with a year ago, the volume of business done has increased largely.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Saturday, July 22.

(All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.)

### BINDER TWINE.

The local market for binder twine remains very strong. Some misconceptions regarding this market appear to have arisen as a result of the publication in last week's Commercial of a review of the Chicago market in which some reduced quotations on twine were given. The article quoted expanded itself to careful readers and should not have created any uneasiness. There have been no reductions whatever in the price of twine here, and the dealers are all holding very firm at their published quotations. As a matter of fact no more orders for pure Manila twine can be taken at the mills as they are entirely sold out and have been for some weeks. It is generally believed that the Canadian mill will close down at the end of this month for the annual clear-up. The following from the Minneapolis correspondence of the Farm Implement News gives the tone of the market at that point which is decidedly firm: "The last fortnight appears to have added strength to the twine market here. Quotations are as they were at last report, and have been for months, namely 9 1/2 to 11 cents. The

added strength lies in the fact that whereas a fortnight ago the leading jobbers were holding to prices as quoted, hoping conditions would necessitate no change, now they believe they have none too much twine to take care of the demand. A heavy straw is promised in every county in the three spring wheat States. This means, considering the large acreage now growing, a call for more than the average volume of twine, while up to this time not more than a good average volume has been added. No pure Manila is to be found in this market. It was practically sold long ago. Standard and 600 foot Manila are the chief items offered. Winnipeg prices are firm all the dealers having been interviewed this week and expressed themselves to that effect. Pure Manila twine, 650 feet, is worth 11 1/2 to 11 1/2 cents here, and Manila 10 3/4 to 11 cents. These prices are for carlots. For less quantities 1-4 cent more is asked.

### ROOTS AND SHOES.

The shipping of fall goods is now occupying the attention of kernel houses. Otherwise there is nothing to report. The seasons orders have been very large.

### CURED MEATS.

There is a very strong feeling in the market for hams. Stocks on hand are light. Quotations advanced 1-2 cents in the city on Friday morning and another advance of a like amount is talked of to-day. The markets for cured meats in both Canada and the United States are strong and higher and so also is the English market.

### DRUGS.

Business is active and local houses are kept busy handling their large local and western trade. As regards prices the principal features this week are, a stronger feeling in castor oil, which has resulted in slightly higher quotations, a reduction of 2 to 4 cents on extract of logwood in bulk and of 1 cent on oil extract in boxes and a reduction on soda bicarb.

### DRY GOODS.

The orders which accumulated during exhibition week have engaged the attention of the wholesale houses this week and the arrearages of work are now pretty well caught up. The sorting trade in summer goods is now pretty well over. The demand for choice, up-to-date lines of fall goods promises to exceed all previous seasons. As indicating the strong position of the markets for staple dry goods the experience of a local dry goods man, who has just returned from a buying trip to the old country, may be cited. He reports the advance in wages and raw materials there so great that prices are advancing steadily on all lines. In fact prices have ceased to be considered first in buying goods, delivery is now the main consideration, and it has become a most difficult thing to get goods delivered seasonably.

### GREEN FRUITS.

With the exception of a few late Valencia oranges are practically out of the market. Lemons hold firm at previous quotations. Some consignments of currants, red and black, from British Columbia have appeared in the market and sold at 1.50 in 4 box crates. Strawberries, cherries and apricots are done. Watermelons are selling at 50c per dozen. Plums now in the market are Burbank, Tragally and Ogon plums at 2.00 per case, and Abundance plums at 1.75.

California apples in barrels and boxes are now offering. We quote prices as follows: Bananas, per bunch, 1.25 to 2.50, as to size and quality; Mexican lemons, fancy November cuts, long-keeping stock, 50 cents per case; California lemons, 55.25; 5-cent lots 25c less; currants, red or black, 4 box crates, 1.50; pears, per case, 1.00; pineapples, 2.00 per dozen according to size; raspberries, 2.00 to 3.00 per case; California peaches, 1.50 per case; plums, 1.50 to 2.00; prunes, 1.50 to 2.00; watermelons, 3.50 to 4.00 per dozen; coconuts, in sacks of 100, 1.50; Sicily filberts, large, 12c per lb.; Grenoble walnuts, 14c; new shell-c, walnuts, 25c; Tarragona almonds, 15c; peanuts, green, 9 to 9 1/2-2c; roast-c, 12c; pecan nuts, 12c per lb.; comb honey, 22 per dozen sections; strained honey, 8 1/2-2c per lb.; maple sugar, 11 to 13c; maple syrup in gallon cans, 1.25; apple cider, 35c per gallon in barrels and half barrels; fruit, elder, put up in 10, 20 and 30 gallon kegs, per gallon, 50c; California figs, fancy Smyrna, glove boxes per dozen, 2.50; dates, 7c per lb.; native lettuce, Russian, water cress, etc., per dozen bunches, 25c; Minnesota cabbage, 3c per lb.; pieplant, per lb., 1c; onions, 3c per lb.; cucumbers, 50c per dozen; tomatoes, 4-basket crates, 1.25; celery, 35c per dozen bunches.

### GROCERIES.

There is no change in the local situation. Prices remain as quoted last week. The heavy demand for sugar for preserving purposes continues. For prices see market page.

### IMPLEMENTS.

Local dealers are all busy getting out hay and harvesting machinery. There is a large movement of mowers and rakes at present. The vehicle trade is slackening a little as the season is now pretty well advanced.

### HARDWARE AND PAINTS.

Coil chain has made another gain in price here and is now quoted 50c above last week's figures. Wire nails have also advanced this week, to the extent of 10c per pound on all sizes. Other quotations are the same as last week. Business is moving steadily and the volume is quite large. The building trades continue to take hardware freely.

### SCRAP.

Dealers prices for scrap, Winnipeg, are now as follows: No. 1 cast iron, free from wrought and malleable, \$10 per ton; No. 2 do., \$4 per ton; wrought iron scrap, \$3.50 to \$4 per ton; No. 1 stove plate, \$1.50 to \$4 per ton; heavy copper, 8 to 8 1/2-2c per pound; copper bottoms, 7c per pound; red brass, 8 to 8 1/2-2c per pound; yellow brass, heavy, 7c per pound; light brass, 4 1/2 to 5c per pound; lead pipe or tea lead, 2c per pound; zinc scrap, 1-2c per pound; rags, country mixed, 50c per cwt.; clean, dry bones, 30c per cwt.; rubber boots and shoes free from acetates and rivets, 4c per pound. Good quart beer bottles are worth 25 to 30c per dozen; pints 10c per dozen; square glass bottles, 30 to 35c per dozen.

### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—Another week of favorable summer weather for the growing wheat crops, accompanied by a continuance of the unprecedentedly large receipts of wheat for the time of year at primary points in the States, which have been characteristic of several weeks past, together with lack of demand either for milling or export, and also lack of activity