

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, July 6.

The splendid weather this week for the crops has revived the feeling of confidence in the futuro, which last week was beginning to droop a little on account of the less favorable weather conditions then prevailing. The fine crop prospect, however, continues unabated, and the business outlook for the fall trade is very encouraging. Bank clearings at Winnipeg continue to show a large increase over the corresponding period of last year, the increase this week being about 12½ per cent. Cattle exports are increasing again, grass cattle now being in condition to export. The range cattle now going out are very fine for so early in the season. The make of butter and cheese in Manitoba this season is much greater than ever before, and it is unfortunate that the prices for dairy products are unusually low this year, but prices may come back again in another year, though it is very doubtful, with the large make of creamery butter, if farmers' dairy butter will come into as good demand as formerly. The better demand for farm lands, noted last week, continues. There appears to be little reason now to expect any important work in the line of railway construction this year. The expected construction of a portion of the proposed railway to Hudson Bay, has now been given up.

Mercantile reports continue favorable this week. In the United States, Bradstreet's reports that about 1,000,000 industrial employees have received an advance in wages averaging 10 per cent. Prices are higher for lumber, tin plates and print cloths. At Chicago, piece stuff advanced 50c per 1000 feet, and an advance at Seattle goes into effect to-day, this will help the British Columbia lumber trade. Cotton is firm. Imported wools are higher. London sales advanced 10 to 15 points on wools this week, leather, pig iron, bar iron, steel billets are also higher in the United States. Lower prices in the United States are reported for butter, corn, oats, wheat, pork and lard.

Total business failures in the Dominion of Canada number 25 this week, against 28 last week, 89 in the week one year ago, and 28 two years ago.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, July 6

[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.]

BOOTS AND SHOES—Leather continues unabated in its firm position, and when the fall buying begins even higher prices are looked for, unless in the meantime hides should decline, but this seems improbable at the moment. Buying in leather is light at this time of year, and this prevents an immediate advance. An exchange makes a comparison of hide and leather prices in 1895 with the price of 1894. In the 12 months there has been an average advance of 55 per cent on 21 descriptions of staple leathers. The rise in country hides and skins has been about 142 per cent on the average, as compared with 146½ per cent in the packer market. Some orders are being placed for fall boots and shoes, and prices are very

strong all around. Shoes of lighter colors are being worn more this summer than in any previous year, says the Shoe and Leather Reporter. There are show cases and windows of stores in New York that have nothing else in them but lemon and manilla colored shoes. Two years ago dark chocolate was the favorite tint: the shoes turned black in a few weeks. Last year medium shades were popular, but even then the shoes darkened before the summer was half over. This year consumers are determined that they will have a colored shoe that will be a colored shoe all through the season and this accounts to a great extent for the large demand for the extremely light colors.

CORDWOOD.—There is only a very moderate business doing. We quote the following prices for car lots on track here: Tamarac, \$9.75 to \$4 per cord; pine \$3.00 to \$3.25 per cord; spruce, \$3 and poplar, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per cord.

DRUGS.—Following prices are for small parcels, and will be shaded considerably for full package orders. Allam per pound, 3½ to 4½c, alcohol, \$1.75; bleaching powder, per pound, 6 to 8c; bluestone, 4½ to 5c, blue vitrol, 5 to 8c, borax, 11 to 18c, bromide, potash, 55 to 75c; camphor, 75 to 85c, camphor, ounces, 80 to 90c; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 28 to 35c, citric acid, 55 to 65c, copperas, 3½ to 4c, cocaine, per oz., \$7.00 to \$8.00, cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c, cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3½ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 30 to 40c, glycerine, per pound 20 to 25c, ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 40c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 35 to 45c; iodine, \$5.50 to \$6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to 2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to 5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, U.S. salad, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.25 to 2.75; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to 1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.25 to \$2.75 per gallon, oxalic acid, 18 to 16c; potash iodide, \$1.25 to \$1.50; paris green, 17 to 17c lb; saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3½ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg 8½ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$9.75 to \$1.25; sal soda, \$2.00 to \$3, tartaric acid, per lb, 15 to 5c.

DRY GOODS.—Reports from Eastern Canada say that domestic woollens are firmer. The mills are asking higher prices and orders at the old figures are not freely accepted. A good many United States prints have been sold in this market this year, says a Toronto report. They are very attractive goods and met with a good sale. Now United States manufacturers are asking Canadian houses an advance of ½c on the goods. It is reported that the Montgomery Cotton Co. will withdraw from the combine and offer its grey cottons independent of the association.

GREEN FRUITS. Lemons are very firm and in good demand, with the warm weather. Cheap lemons are now about exhausted. In oranges small sizes are still very scarce. Everyone seems to be wanting small sizes and as only a certain portion in every car are small sizes, it is simply impossible to supply all small sizes. The season for strawberries is about winding up. There were very few in the market this week, including a few native berries. California cherries are done and they are now coming from Oregon. California apricots are also drawing to a close, the season being about over. California fruits were rather scarce this week, owing to the big demand in the United States for the 4th of July holiday there. Watermelons are the only new line in this week. The first full car of these arrived yesterday. Quotations here are as follows: California oranges, California Mediterranean sweet \$3.25 to \$4 per box as to size, Messina

lemons, \$1. to \$2.50 per box, bananas, \$2.25 to \$3.00 per bunch as to size, strawberries \$4 to \$1.75 per crate, 24 boxes, Oregon cherries \$2 to \$2.25 per box. California peaches \$2. to \$2.25 per box; California apricots, \$2. to \$2.25 per box; tomatoes, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per crate of 4 baskets; Watermelons, \$5.50 to \$3; onions, 4 to 5c per pound. Layer figs, 10 lb boxes, 15c per pound. Dates, 7 to 7½c a lb. Maple sugar, 1 to 1½c lb, maplesyrup, 70c to \$1.10 per gallon.

GROCERIES.—The trade has been uneventful. There is no change in sugars which are quoted here at 5c granulated and 4½ to 4½c for yellows. At the refineries granulated is still quoted at 4½c and 3½ to 3½c for yellows. Canned salmon is firm. The burning of two canneries in British Columbia made the market firmer, and this week three more canneries on the Fraser river were burned, so that a further advance is probable. With five canneries destroyed just at the beginning of the packing season, the effect will be felt in the market. There is still lots of talk about high prices for Eastern Canada canned goods, owing to the damage to the crops in Ontario, particularly for tomatoes and peas, canners are holding the best brands of old tomatoes at 85c now, with less favorable known brands offered by canners at 80c east. Regarding canned goods it may be added that some canners have not yet given their agents here any quotations for the new pack. They are perhaps waiting for other pickers to make prices first, though the reason is the alleged light pack. A car lot of new Baltimore canned strawberries arrived yesterday. This was the car mentioned a couple of weeks ago as having been placed here. Further orders were forwarded from here for these goods, but they could not be filled. Butter tubs are very scarce, the demand being in excess of the supply.

RAW FURS.—The fur trade has dropped off a good deal this week, indicating that the busy season is drawing to a close. The following quotations give the range of prices paid in Winnipeg. The prices cover the range from small to large skins, size, color and condition being considered, though skins are sometimes offered which are not worth the minimum quotations, on account of being killed out of season.

Badger	\$0 15 to \$0 80
Bear, black or brown	1 00 to 20 00
Bear, grizzly	1 00 to 25 00
Beaver, large	5 50 to 7 75
" medium	3 00 to 5 00
" small	1 50 to 2 50
" castors, per lb	2 50 to 5 50
Fisher	8 00 to 9 00
Fox, cross	8 50 to 12 00
" kitt	10 to 40
" red	25 to 1 50
" silver	20 00 to 75 00
Lynx, large	1 00 to 2 50
" medium	1 00 to 1 75
" small	75 to 1 25
Marten	1 00 to 5 00
Mink	50 to 1 50
Musquash	02 to 09
Otter	2 00 to 9 00
Skunk	25 to 70
Wolf timber	1 00 to 2 25
" prairie	25 to 65
Wolverine	1 00 to 5 00

HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.—A further advance in wire is the principal feature this week. The advance covers galvanized, annealed and annealed and oiled wires, and varies from 5c on some numbers up to 50 cents. Steel enamelled ware of home manufacture is now taking the place of imported ware, two factories having been established in Canada in time for the spring trade this year, and a third factory is to be established at Toronto, so that the importation of this class of goods will soon be unnecessary. Nails, both cut and wire are firm, with an advance looked