

## TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, January 8th, 1903.

Chemicals, Drugs, Etc.—Prices remain just about as before. Trade is about normal, a little dull as usual after the Christmas holidays. The British chemical markets, according to last reports, have been quiet. Sulphate of copper is very firm, however. Ammonia car-



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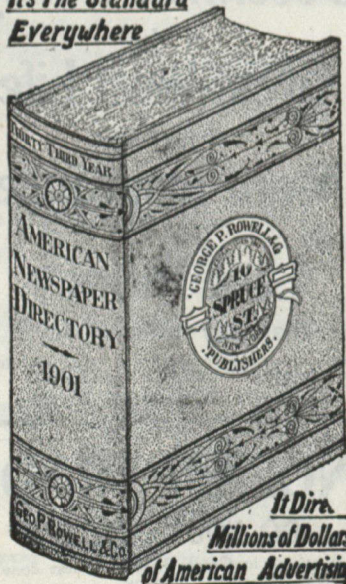
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bonate has fallen a little. Buyers as a general rule have contented themselves with immediate requirements. Baltimore advices speak of an increased activity latterly for fertilizer chemicals and raw materials.

**Dry Goods.**—Travellers in practically all parts speak of good trade conditions and orders are coming in in very fair quantities. Every indication goes to show that the prosperous state of trade which has been enjoyed so long will continue. Woolen goods are in very good demand, and those of Canadian manufacture are becoming less and less neglected. Prices in both cottons and woollens are held very strongly.

**Groceries.**—Under this heading there is little to say this week. Sugars remain as before, and there is comparatively little movement. Teas are still quite active, under the conditions previously reported, and prices, especially for Ceylons, continue quite high.

**Hides and Skins.**—The quality of the hides coming forward now is so poor that the demand is suffering as buyers feel inclined to await developments. For lambskins the enquiry the last week has been a little brisker. The market is at present fairly strong. Calfskins are steady. A weaker market exists for tallow.

**Fruit.**—The past-Christmas lull is visible in this business, and things around the wholesale fruit warehouses are a little dull, though plenty of oranges, etc., are coming forward, which sell at fair prices. We quote: Oranges, Mexican, \$2.50 per box; Florida, \$3 to \$4; Valencias, \$4.50 to \$5. California navels, \$3.75 to \$4.25; Jamaica, \$5.50; California lemons, \$4 to \$4.50; Messina, \$3.50; bananas, \$1.25 to \$2.50 per bunch; cocoanuts, \$3.50 per sack; cranberries, \$9.50 per bbl.; winter apples, \$2.25 to \$2.50; Almeria grapes, \$5 to \$6 per bbl.; Lima beans, 7c. per lb.; onions, 65c. per keg; Spanish, 70c. per case.

**Fuel.**—The state of the coal market is still very unsettled, and it only needs a real cold snap to show how unsatisfactory it actually is, though citizens have to a large extent calmed down. Latterly the arrivals of anthracite have fallen off and many merchants have practically none in hand. Prices are confusing, anything from \$7 to \$9 apparently being asked and given.

**Provisions.**—Dairy butter is coming in in fair quantities, but the quality of much of it leaves something to be desired. For extra choice qualities, the demand is very brisk. The market for cheese is firm at 13 to 13½c. For eggs there is a good demand, and prices keep up. Poultry is not coming in very plentifully, but the demand has fallen off a little the last few days, and prices are easier. Hops are very firm without appreciable change in price. Prices for hog products are steady, but not a great deal of business is passing.

**Wool.**—Prices for wool are firm, and stocks are light. Pulled wools are in good demand, and the market is firm.

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