MARKETS AND MARKET NOTES

INFORMATION FOR BUYERS.

If any reader wishes to know where any article can be purchased in Canada or abroad, a letter to the Editor will probably place him in communication with the seller.

ONTARIO MARKETS.

Toronto, October 10, 1901.

GROCERIES.

THE week has not been noted for any strikingly new features. Business is fair. Very little attention is being paid to canned vegetables, all the buying being of a small sorting up character, with prices ruling steady. The firmness in teas noted last week has been maintained, but business is only moderate. Coffees are quiet and fairly steady. Currants are meeting with a fair demand and prices rule firm. Very little is being done in Valencia raisins. The new Califoinian prunes that are on the market are so far receiving little or no attention. Sugars are quiet and unchanged at last week's decline. The demand for syrups has improved a little, but the demand is still light. Rice and topioca are in moderate request.

CANNED GOODS.

No particular feature has developed in regard to canned goods during the week. The rather firm feeling previously noted in regard to canned tomatoes has been maintained, but there is very little business being done, purchases being of a sorting-up nature. The idea as to price to the retail trade for tomatoes is 80 to 82½c. for old stock, and 85 to 90c. for new. Corn is quoted at from 80c. up, and peas at from 82½c. up. The demand for canned fruits is picking up and the sale seems to be, if anything, rather larger than is usual at this time of the year. The demand is principally for raspberries and strawberries. The trade is looking for a good demand for peaches, and already there have been some sales to arrive at $1.70 to $1.80 for 2's, and $2.60 to $2.80 for 3's. Canned meats are quiet. There is a small sorting-up business being done in canned salmon, and prices rule as before. In another column we publish a table showing the pack on the Fraser river, the different kinds put up, and the quantity packed by each company. Quotations are: Fraser River sockeyes, $1 42½ for 5-case lots and over, and $1.45 for less quantities for the well known brands and $1.35 for brands not so well know; Northern sockeye, $1.25 to $1.30; pink salmon, 95c. to $1; cohoes, $1.05 to $1.10.

COFFEE.

The outside markets have ruled steady during the past week, but very little business has been done. Much the same is to be said in regard to the local market. We still quote green Rios as follows: No. 7, 7½c. per lb.; No. 6, 8c.; No. 5, 8½c.; No. 4, 9½c.

SYRUPS AND MOLASSES.

The representatives of the refineries have been offering all grades of sugar syrups during the past week, but they report there is no demand. Local wholesalers, on the other hand, report that, while trade is still quiet in syrups, there is a slight improvement on retail account. There is also a slightly better demand from retailers for molasses, which remains steady in price.

See pages 31 and 32 for Toronto, Montreal, and St. John prices current.

SPICES.

There is just a steady demand locally, and advices from the outside markets report that the visible supply of pepper, mace, pimento, cassia and ginger are steadily decreasing. Higher prices within the next few weeks are expected in some lines of spices.

RICE AND TAPIOCA.

In both rice and tapioca there is the usual steady trade being done at unchanged prices. B rice is quoted at 3¼ to 3½c. per lb. and Japan at 5½ to 6c. Tapioca rules at 4¼ to 4½c. per lb.

SUGAR.

The wholesale trade, as a rule, is only doing a moderate business, while the representatives of the refineries report trade almost nil. Raw sugars have shown a slightly higher tendency, there being more buyers than sellers. Recipts at the four United States Atlantic ports last week were only 18,000 tons, while the meltings were 31,000 tons, making a decrease of 13,000 tons for the week. Receipts for the months of November and December at the four ports in question are expected to be light, as shipments from Java at the present time show a considerable falling off, as compared with last year. Mr. Licht's estimate for the approaching crop of beet sugar varies all the way from 6,185,000 to 6,715,000. He favors the mean of these figures and expresses the opinion that the crop will be about 6,450,000, or an increase of 381,000 tons compared with the production of last year. Prices, locally, are unchanged at last week's decline.

TEAS.

The situation in teas continues favorable as far as prices are concerned. Advices from Japan note increased firmness. A cable received in Toronto on Monday asked ½c. per lb. advance on medium grades of Japan teas and 1c. on good teas. Low-grade teas, on the other hand, are considered to be rather lower. The wholesale houses report that they have been doing quite a little in Japan teas during the past week on retail account. In Indian and Ceylon teas, good flavory descriptions at about 8d. are being looked for by importers, but very few of them are to be had, especially under 8d. There are quite a few low-grade teas on the local market, but they are apparently getting reduced. Very little is being done in China greens. Mail advices from London, England, under date of September 27, say that with rather smaller auctions and a revival of trade in the Provinces the market for Indian teas was again strong, resulting in a very steady market for all descriptions. Common whole leaf teas were, if anything, slightly dearer. In regard to Ceylon teas the advices state that with a comparatively light auction and a continuance of the improved quality competition was strong, and prices showed an advance varying from ¼d. to ½d. per lb.

FOREIGN DRIED FRUITS.

CURRANTS—The few new currants that are on the local market are meeting with a good demand. The ruling quotations for good, clean fruit are as follows: Filiatras, 7½ to 8c.; Patras, 8 to 8½c., and Vostizzas, 8½ to 9½c., according to quality. Uncleaned fruit is quoted at ½c. less. For November delivery, wholesalers are quoting clean fruit as follows: Fine Filiatras, 6c.; Patras, 6½, and Vostizzas, 8½c., for fine goods. Should the firmness in the primary market be maintained, it is quite possible that prices for futures may be held rather firmer.