

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

[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.]

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, April 22.

The weather is the most distressing feature. Snow and rain has fallen during the week, and the wind-up is cold and bleak again. There is still no prospect of seeding in this district. Where the soil is light and rolling, a few days of fine weather would soon put the land in condition for seeding, but on heavy, flat soil, it will take some time, with favorable weather, to put land in condition to seed. Some are beginning to express alarm over the crop outlook, on account of the exceptionally backward spring, but there is still time to put in a full crop. Some alarm is being expressed that the water will be so high as to delay trade and traffic, on account of the high water in the Red river at Grand Forks and Fargo. The flood which is coming down the river has not reached Winnipeg in full force yet, but the river is rising steadily. Railway traffic has been interrupted by the high water at points south in Dakota and Minnesota, but it is not at all certain that any serious inconvenience will be felt here. Some of the best authorities as to the rise and fall of the rivers, think there is no danger. There was no interruption to railway traffic here in the spring of 1882, when the water reached a higher point than in the previous thirty years, though in 1882 the railways south in Minnesota, near the boundary, were flooded for miles. Water will have to go considerably higher than in 1882 before any damage will be done here. The snow storm of Wednesday extended as far south as Chicago and points in Iowa and Illinois. 500 miles south of Winnipeg the fall of snow was heavier than here, being about 3 inches here, while some points south reported 6 to 10 inches of snow. A damaging hurricane accompanied the snow in Iowa and south, while the weather was calm here. There is snow on the prairie here as far west as Regina, but beyond that the country is bare.

In general wholesale trade the backward spring retards business greatly. In the lumber and building line there is no new feature. It was reported that the combination of all the Lake of the Woods mills had been completed, but to day it was rumored that the combination had fallen through, owing to the withdrawal of the Keewatin Lumber Co. The feature of the hardware trade is the barb wire war, reported last week. The small-pox scare, which was at one time likely to prove injurious to the trade of the city, has subsided. The scare, as stated last week, arose from the discovery of a single case of the disease among a party of immigrants passing through. The case was isolated and the whole party quarantined, but owing to the suppression of these facts by the press, the wildest rumors were set afloat and the cases of the disease were multiplied by the dozen, in imagination. Finally the error of attempting to suppress the facts was recognized, and as soon as a full statement of particulars was published, the alarm subsided, but not before numerous false reports were circulated abroad, which would not have gone out if the simple facts had been published at once. In the interest of the city's trade, it is to be hoped that the same mistake will not occur again.

DRIED FRUITS—Evaporated apples continue very scarce, and prices will likely be higher. Dried unchanged. Valencia raisins are easier. Currants are also offered a fraction lower. Prunes continue firm. California evaporated fruits are firm. We quote:—Dried apples 7 to 7½c; evaporated, 10; figs, layers, 10 to 18c; dates, 6½ to 9c. Valencia raisins, \$1.65 to \$1.70; London layers, \$2.70 to \$2.80 box; Sultanias 9½ to 10c lb. Currants, 6 to 6½c; prunes, 7½ to 9c. Evaporated fruits are quoted: Apricots, 19 to 20c; peeled peaches, 25 to 28c; unpeeled peaches, 17 to 18c; pit-

ted plums, 15 to 16c; cherries, 19 to 20c; pears, 14 to 16c.

DRUGS—Bluestone has had a heavy run as usual in the spring, owing to the large demand for agricultural purposes. Parties outside of the drug trade have cut prices as low as 4½c per pound, but drug dealers claim the quality is not pure. Others assert it is. Strychnine has been selling for the spring crusade against gophers or ground squirrels, at 99c to \$1.10 per ounce. Bleaching powder is higher, also an advance in camphor. Pure ginger is strong and higher. Quinine firmer. Canada balsam is very high, costing 50 to 60c. Opium preparations, which have been easier, have taken a firm tone. U. S. salad oil is again down in price. See quotations on another page, in "wholesale prices current."

FISH—The only fresh caught fish coming forward now are R. C. salmon and Lake Superior trout. Salmon is costing high, on account of high prices at the coast. Other varieties of fresh fish in the market are refrigerator kept frozen stock. Oysters are still offering at the same range of prices. Prices generally are higher. Prices for fresh fish are:—Pick-erel, 5c; whitefish, 6½c; trout, 9c; Cod 10c; B. C. salmon, 17 to 18c. Cured fish are quoted: smoked herrings, 20 to 25c box; Yarmouth bloaters \$1.50 per box; Labrador herrings, \$4.50 to \$4.75 per half barrel; boneless codfish 7½ to 8c pound; boneless fish, 6c lb; salt salmon, 7 to 8c lb; smoked white, 9 to 10c lb; oysters \$1.90 per gallon for standards and \$2.00 for selects; can oysters 50c each for standards and 55c selects

GREEN FRUITS—A few cars of Ontario apples have arrived, old stocks being about cleaned out. Fancy spies bring \$5.50 per barrel, but fair to good apples of other varieties can be had at \$4 to 5 per barrel as to quality, and damaged fruit from \$2 up. California oranges are arriving freely and have been selling 25 to 50c lower. Florida oranges are also lower, but are going out of season. Lemons are scarce, stocks are about used up, and dealers have been bringing in supplies in small quantities from the south to supply customers, until they can renew stocks from direct shipments which are expected at Montreal as soon as that port is open. A direct ship is now in the St. Lawrence, with fruit, but cannot get in for ice. Lemon prices will be higher until new direct stocks arrive. Southern pie-plant is offering at \$3.50 per 50-pound box. Some alleged new maple syrup has been offered, but not believed to be really new. Prices are: Apples, \$4.00 to \$5.50 per barrel. California seedling oranges, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per box, Navels, \$4.75 to \$5.50. Florida oranges held at \$4.00 to \$4.50; lemons, Mexicanas, \$5.50 to \$6.00; bananas, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per bunch.

GROCERIES—Further advances have been made in sugars in this market to bring the price to correspond with advances earlier in the east. Granulated is now held by jobbers at 5½c. Syrups are about as last quoted. Local sugar prices are as follows:—Yellow at 4½ to 5c; granulated at 5½ to 6c. Lumps, 6½c; icing, 7c sugar syrups, 2½ to 3½c; maple sugar, 10 to 12c a lb.

NUTS—Prices range as follows: Almonds per pound, 16 to 18c; walnuts, per pound, 12 to 14c; pecans, 15c to 16c; filberts, 12 to 14c; Brazils 12 to 14c; peanuts, 14 to 15c; cocoanuts, \$9 to \$10 per 100.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—White leads are selling lower, some lines of guaranteed are selling as low as \$6. English vermilion is quoted 5c lower. Linseed oil is 1 to 2c lower than last quotations, and turpentine 2c lower. Barring oils are unchanged, though cutting is reported by refiners in Canadian oils east. No change is likely here until after navigation opens. Alabastine is having a large sale, the manufacturers being unable to keep up with orders. The price is 25c lower this spring than last seasons quotations. Trade from the far west is good, but from Manitoba points business is

backward, owing to the late season and cold weather.

RAW FURS—Some lots are coming in for competition. We quote the following as a fair range of prices, in the Winnipeg market, covering very poor to prime No. 1 skins:—

Badger, per skin	\$ 05 to \$ 80
Bear, black	50 to 30.00
Bear, brown	50 to 30.00
Bear, grizzly	1.00 to 20.00
Beaver	2.00 to 7.00
Beaver castors, per pound	2.50 to 4.00
Ermians, per skin	01 to 02
Fisher	50 to 7.00
Fox, cross	75 to 6.00
Fox, kit	10 to 45
Fox, red	25 to 1.70
Fox, silver	5.00 to 80.00
Lynx	25 to 4.00
Marten	75 to 2.50
Mink	25 to 1.75
Musquash	02 to 10
Otter	1.50 to 10.00
Raccoon	50 to 85
Skunk	05 to 80
Timber wolf	25 to 3.50
Prairie wolf, large	25 to 1.00
" " small	25 to 65
Wolverine	50 to 3.50

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—United States markets have been weak this week, declining more or less almost each day. The Chicago market has quieted down considerably, and was not subject to the violent fluctuations of the previous week. Rain throughout the winter wheat region has improved the crop outlook, and depressed prices. Exports of wheat from both coasts of the United States for six days ending with April 20, aggregate 3,036,000 bushels (flour included), a total slightly in excess of that for the preceding week, but about equal to the quantity sent abroad in the like week a year ago. Enormous stocks of wheat at home and in Europe, and allot for Europe, says *Bradstreet's*, cause traders to be very conservative and constitute the deadweight on prices.

In Manitoba all attention is turned to the weather. With the close of the third week in April, no seeding has been done yet, and the weather is cold and backward, with the prospect of considerable delay yet before farmers will be able to get on to the heavier lands in flat sections. If the unfavorable weather continues a short time longer, it is likely that considerable land intended for wheat will be sown to oats and barley.

FLOUR—There is no change in flour locally. Reports from the east the first of last week were rather firmer, in sympathy with the better tone in wheat, but which has since again weakened. Prices are as follows to the local trade, in small lots: Patents, \$1.95; strong bakers' \$1.75; XXXX 75 to 95c; super-fine 60 to 70c. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10c under these prices, even in small lots.

MILLSTUFFS—Bran and shorts hold firm. Bran quoted at \$12, and shorts at \$14 per ton. Bran is scarce, the closing of the Ogilvie Co's. mill for repairs has cut off a large source of supply, and country mills that are running are not turning out more as a rule than will meet the local demand, which is large at present.

OATS—No farmers' deliveries, as roads are in bad shape. Cars on track, Winnipeg, are quoted at 23 to 25c per bushel, and held at 18 to 20c on track at country points. The higher price at Winnipeg is due to the local freight rates from country points.

BARLEY—Some demand locally at 25 to 28c per bushel. On track, country points, 19 to 22c.

GROUND FEED—Held at \$14 to 16 per ton, as to quantity and quantity. Oil cake meal, sacked, held at \$20 per ton, and oil cake at \$23.

MEALS, ETC.—No change in oatmeal to report, but inclined to be firmer. Rolled and granulated