

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, Saturday, July 9.

Business with the wholesale houses has been rather quieter this week. Next week business will be brisk, as a large number of country merchants will be in to attend the summer fair. Building work is going on actively and building material is in good demand. A strike is threatened of carpenters, who are demanding an increase in wages. The weather has continued favorable for the crops, which have made excellent progress since the recent rains. The prospect is for a fairly early harvest and a good average crop. Coarse grains promise much better than last year. Some districts where the drouth was most severely felt, have not fully recovered, but the average condition is good. Hall was reported at Manitou, southern Manitoba, this week, doing some damage. The marked improvement in the demand for Manitoba farm lands is still apparent. Canadian Pacific railway land sales are more than treble that of last year, a recent report showing sales of 164,308 acres, compared with 53,420 acres for the same period of last year, and sales last year were in excess of previous years. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week were \$1,609,839, compared with \$1,377,304 last year and \$1,146,884 two years ago.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS

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BINDER TWINE.

Prices here are again quoted higher, though quotations are nominal, as there is no buying at present. When present stocks in the hands of retailers are exhausted, however, the advance will have to be paid. Prices here now are quoted at 12 1-2c for sisal, 13 1-2c for Manila, and 14 1-2c for pure Manila. There is also a firmer tendency on twine in the country. Retail dealers are realizing they will have to pay big prices when their present stocks are exhausted and consequently they are holding firmer. It is understood that the Patrons are now sold out of twine, and this also has the effect of advancing prices to consumers. There would appear to be no good reason why retail dealers should not make good money on their twine bought before the recent advance. Why should they sell out the twine in small lots for 8c to 5c per lb. less than they can buy it for in car lots? The twine is worth its market value and the dealer should take advantage of the market and secure the profit. No one would sell wheat for \$75c after it had advanced to \$1, and why sell twine at 8c to 10c when it is worth 14c to 15c.

## GROCERIES.

In new canned goods the strawberries spoken of last week as in transit, have arrived. Low quotations have been made on early varieties of new canned fruits, at the factories east. Raspberries have been sold here freely at 90c per dozen at the factory,

and some large orders have been taken for round lots at this price. Raspberries and cherries will arrive in a few weeks. New strawberries have sold at 15 to 20c per dozen less than round lot prices last year, quotations running as low as \$1.15 per dozen upward as to label. New peas are offering for shipment at 65c. Owing to the lower prices of domestic fruits, it is expected they will have an increased sale at the expense of California dried fruits, though the large demand for the latter cannot be very greatly curtailed. Apricots, however, are likely to rule high and the consumption will be curtailed. The quality is also expected to average poor. Advice from California this week on apricots are very firm. One report says there will not be over a 1-4 crop, and shippers are looking for an 8 1-2c market, equal to 11 3-4c laid down here. Another California advice says that in a region which produced 400 cars last year, there will only be 25 cars this year, and the quality is poor. The report concludes with the statement that the crop is almost a total failure. The California crop of prunes, peaches and plums, however, is said to be quite large and reasonable prices are expected on these lines. New canned salmon has been offered here at \$3.50 f.o.b. coast for talls, \$4 for flats and \$5.50 per case for 1-2 lb. flats, the latter 8 dozen to the case. The pack, however, has not commenced yet and some brokers are not quoting their brands. New Japan teas are expected here shortly, possibly next week. Advice are that prices are very firm and 10 to 20 per cent. higher than last year. There has been a little stir in the sugar market. Some liberal importations of German sugar have come in. Samples of Scotch sugar have also been shown here, and it is expected that under the British preferential tariff, British sugars will have some sale in this country. It is understood they are being quoted at prices which would admit of their sale in this market.

## GREEN FRUITS.

The market was low in several lines of fruit this week, but liberal supplies will be in at once as sales will be large next week, owing to the summer fair. Strawberries are practically done. A few were received this week. Bananas have also held rather scarce. Prices are: Oranges: California Mediterranean sweets, \$3.25 to \$3.75 a box; late Valencia, \$4 to \$4.50 box; St. Michael oranges, \$3.75 to \$4; blood oranges \$3.50 to \$4 a box; bananas a bunch, \$2 to \$2.50 as to size; Messina lemons, \$4.75 to \$5 per box as to quality; pineapples small, \$2.50 to \$3 per dozen; pie plant, \$1 per 100 lbs.; strawberries, \$3.50 per case of twenty-four quarts; tomatoes, \$1.50 per crate of four baskets; Oregon cherries, \$1.50 per ten pound gross box; apricots, \$2.00 to \$2.25 per box; California peaches, \$1.75 per box; California plums, \$2 to \$2.25 box, as to quality and variety; watermelons, \$5.50 to \$6 per dozen; coconuts, \$1 per dozen; Sicily filberts, large, 11c to 12c per pound; Grenoble walnuts 14c; figs, eleme 14 lb. boxes \$1.50; 20 lb. boxes \$2.50; 1 lb. boxes per doz. \$1.75; dates 6c per lb.; Tarragona almonds 12 1-2 to 13c; peanuts, green, 9c; peanuts, roasted, 12c; pecans, 14 to 15c; strained honey, 7 1-2 to 10c per lb.; maple sugar 11 to 12c; syrup per dozen 1-2 gallon tins, \$6.50; apple cider 35c per gal. in barrels and half barrels; Egyptian onions 3c per lb.

## HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.

Business is fairly active and prices are steady in most lines. Crucible steel has been reduced 1-2c to 4 1-2c. Plaster is 25c per barrel lower at \$3, and plasterers' hair 5c lower at 85c per bale. Other prices are the same as last quoted.

## LEATHER AND HARNESS.

Business is good and prices are firm. The recent advances in hides have not led to changes in leather yet, but the market is firm. A report from Toronto says stocks of leather are light and the market is firm.

## LUMBER.

There is now no further difficulty about securing logs. The late heavy rains have left abundance of water in the streams. Most of the logs are now at the mills, and the balance will easily be flooded to their destination. The water, it is said, rose six feet on the Rainy river.

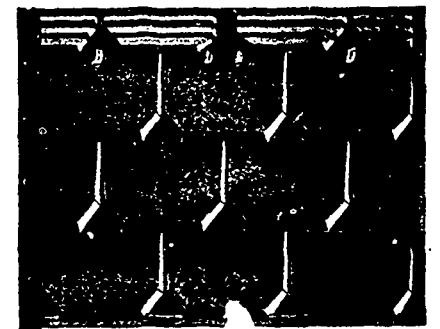
## GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—During the past week the wheat markets of the world have been quiet and steady, with if anything a more hopeful tone as to value. In the United States markets wheat for cash and July delivery has improved about 2c per bushel, although the more distant futures close to-day about 1c per bushel under this day week. Receipts at primary points in the United States are now very small, and the new wheat is slow to move. Harvest in some of the winter wheat sections has been delayed by wet weather, which also hinders threshing; fine and dry weather being required to bring the grain into condition again. At several points where threshing has been done the yield is disappointing. In part of the spring wheat section the crop will be lighter than previously expected, owing to drought. These developments have been causing some revision of the earlier high estimates of aggregate

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