

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION

Winnipeg, Saturday, May 6.

A prolonged general rain this week further delayed the already backward seeding operations, and it seems probable that the expected wheat area will be considerably curtailed in some districts, where the land is flat and heavy. On this account it is doubtful if the large increase in the wheat area, confidently expected this year, will materialize. There will doubtless be a considerable increase in the area of other grains, which can be sown with safety at a later date than wheat. Business with the country has been quiet, owing to the bad state of the roads. The grain trade is waiting for the opening of navigation. Lake Superior harbors are expected to be free of ice almost any day. Jobbers have large lines of goods to come in as soon as navigation opens. The carpenters' strike in the city has caused much annoyance to those who were anxious to get ahead with their buildings, but the real busy season has not set in yet in the building trade, and the strike is not felt as badly now as it would be a little later on.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS

Winnipeg, Saturday, May 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.)

### DRUGS.

Locally there is but little to note. Business is good and prices steady. Opium is said to be a little excited east, but this has not affected Winnipeg. Quinine is easier in primary markets, but has not been changed here. The Norwegian fisheries have been making favorable returns, consequently cod liver oil is lower.

### FUEL.

The quotation given last week for anthracite coal at lake ports seems to be only a temporary one applying to May business. The circular specifically announces that, and it remains to be seen whether the rates given will be continued. Broken is quoted at \$4.75 per ton, and egg, stove and nut sizes at \$5.00 per ton. Local quotations for coal and wood will be found on our "prices current" page.

### FISH.

No fresh fish have appeared in the market this week and things are quiet in consequence. Whitefish are confidently looked for next week, and trout will probably be in also.

### GREEN FRUITS.

Oranges continue firm and prices are unchanged. A few spy apples are yet obtainable and Washington apples in boxes are also to be had in limited quantities. The quality of these latter is said to be excellent and the spies are also of good quality. Strawberries are becoming more plentiful and prices are lower at \$6.00 to \$6.50 per case of 24 quarts. Bananas are coming in freely. Cherries are now on the market at \$2.75 per box. We quote prices as follows.

Navel oranges, \$1.00 to \$1.50; seedlings \$3.25 to \$3.75, as to quality, per box; Mediterranean sweets, \$3.75 per case; bloods, \$5 per box; bananas per bunch \$2 to \$2.25, as to size and quality; Messina lemons, \$3.75 to \$4.00; California lemons, \$4 a box; grape fruit, per case, \$1.50 to \$5.00; apples, spies, \$6.50 per barrel; Washington box apples, \$2 box of 50 pounds; strawberries, per case, twenty-four one quart boxes, \$6.00 to \$6.50; cherries, \$2.75 per box; cranberries, \$3 per barrel; sweet potatoes, per barrel, \$5.50; coconuts in sacks of 100, \$5; Sicily filberts, large, 12c per lb.; Grenoble walnuts, 14c; new shelled walnuts, 25c; Tarragona almonds, 15c; peanuts, green, 9 to 11 2c; roasted, 12c; pecan nuts, 12c per lb.; comb honey, \$2 per dozen sections; strained honey, 8 1-2 to 9c per pound; orange marmalade in 7 lb. pails, 60c; maple sugar, 11c; maple syrup in cans of 1-2 gallon, 60c; in gallon cans, \$1; apple cider, 35c per gallon in barrels and half barrels; fruit cider, put up in 10, 20 and 30 gallon kegs, per gallon, 40c; California figs, in boxes of ten bricks, \$1.90 per box; in 1 pound glove boxes, \$2.40 per dozen; dates 7c per pound; native lettuce, radish, water cress, etc., per dozen bunches, 35c; California cabbage, 7c per pound; pieplant in 50 pound boxes, \$2.25 to \$2.40, onions, 3 1-2c per pound.

### GROCERIES.

Canadian refineries have again advanced prices for sugar. Advice to this effect reached Winnipeg on Wednesday and local quotations are now on the basis of increased prices at refineries. Instead of sugars taking a drop on the opening of navigation they are higher and predictions are freely made that they will be higher still. The advance of this week amounts to 1c on standard granulated at Winnipeg. Bright yellow sugar is also 1-2c higher at a range of 4 1-2c to 4 3-4c. Dried apples are slightly higher here, the inside quotation being now 7 3-4c as against 7 1-2c last week. Nectarines are almost out of the market. For quotations see market page. A big cut in laundry soap is one of the features of the week, to meet the cut first made by the Sunlight soap people.

### HARDWARE AND PAINTS.

The only change to note in prices is an advance of 1-2c on sisal and manila rope, these being now quoted at 11 and 12c respectively. The opening of navigation will bring heavy shipments of hardware west. The situation in paints, oils and glass is one of great strength. Latest advices indicate that several lines are developing such strength that further advances here must result. White lead will in all probability go up another 1-4c. Linseed oil is very strong and may advance. Turpentine has advanced 2c in southern and eastern markets. Advices on this change last week were contradictory, some reports giving it as a decline. The change is really an upward one of 2c. Window glass maintains its phenomenal strength and further advances of fully 25 per cent have been made in England since the first of the year. This makes a total advance within fifteen months of 65 per cent. Winnipeg prices for glass will be seen to compare most favorably with other wholesale centres as full advantage has not been taken of these changes. St. Paul prices for glass are fully 25 per cent higher proportionately than

Winnipeg. The price list here remains unchanged as given on another page.

### SCRAP MARKET.

We quote prices f. o. b. Winnipeg as follows: No. 1 cast iron, free from wrought and malleable, \$10 per ton; No. 2, do., \$1 per ton. wrought iron scrap, \$1 per ton; No. 1 stove plate, \$1 per ton; copper bottoms, 8c per pound; new copper wire 9c per pound; red brass, 8c per pound, yellow brass 6c per pound; light brass 4 1-2c per pound; lead pipe or tea lead, 2 1-2c per pound; zinc scrap, 1-2c per pound; rags, country mixed, 50c to 60c per cwt.; clean, dry bones, 30c per cwt; rubber, boots and shoes free from articles and rivets, 3c per pound.

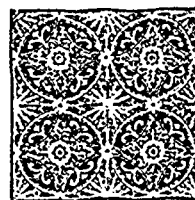
### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Wheat—The wheat markets have this week gradually subsided into a quieter attitude, and at the close values in the leading centres show a decline on the week of 1c per bushel. Crop damage reports have almost disappeared, and the consumptive demand for wheat and flour continues generally so inactive that there is a very evident want of something to stimulate speculative enterprise. In the absence of speculative buying, and on the other hand the presence of ample supplies seen on passage for European markets, which supplies are daily being replenished by the exporting countries, the trade in actual wheat keeps dull, and continues altogether on a hand to month basis. There seems little prospect of any advance in value in the near future, unless the "something unexpected" happens, which would decide the mind of the trade to generally espouse the buying side. It is frequent matter of remark, that it was never more difficult than at the present time to decide what line of action a dealer should follow on the wheat market. The crop damage reports, and the lateness and continued backwardness of the season, have without doubt been the cause which has kept the prices up to present and recent

## They're Beautiful, Economical Fire-Proof and Sanitary

THAT'S WHY OUR

Sample Plate



**Metallic  
Ceilings  
and Walls**

ARE IN POPULAR DEMAND

You can't find—finer, more durable finish, and we make countless designs suitable for any room, of any building.

Write for full information, and if you'd like an estimate, mail an outline showing the shape and measurements of your walls and ceilings.

**Metallic Roofing Company, Ltd.**

1195 King Street W., Toronto.

THOS. BLACK, AGENT, WINNIPEG, MAN.