

Grocery and Produce Trade Notes.

The market for Barbadoes' molasses at the island has been stronger and private cable advices received at Montreal noted an advance of 1c per gallon, the first cost price now being 12c, as against 11c last week.

The duty on refined and raw sugar took our refiners wholly by surprise, or they would not have allowed the splendid chance to slip by of providing themselves with a much larger supply of raw sugar. As it was, however, they not only missed the chance of making considerable money by laying in larger quantities of Cuban sugar. But they sold heavily ahead at the old figures, clearly showing that they had not the slightest idea that the government intended putting a duty on sugar. This unexpected action of the government caused the price of refined sugar to advance 15-16c to 1c per lb., granulated being quoted at 4½c and yellows at 3½ to 3¾c. Beet has advanced since our last report to 10s 1½d on spot, and both refined and raw have made a further rise in New York, granulated having gone up to 4.35c.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

Montreal Trade Bulletin, May 10: The sale of a lot of 400 tubs of old held creamery butter was made a day or two ago at the unprecedentedly low price of 7c and sales of old western dairy have taken place at 5c to 6½c, the present hot spell having induced holders to push the stale stuff off at whatever price it will fetch. It is estimated that the loss on the above lot of 400 tubs of creamery is about 12c to 13c per lb., or about \$8 per tub of 70 lbs.

It is questionable if it is a wise policy for country merchants to go into the egg pickling business. Last winter and spring a good many country pickled eggs were sent into this market, and sometimes they were mixed with fresh eggs. This latter plan of trying to work off pickled stock is not strictly honorable, and it is an injury to the trade as well. The mixing of old with fresh stock depresses prices and reduces prices for sound stock. It would be better for those who have fresh eggs to sell to have the pickled stock in as few hands as possible, and therefore the promiscuous pickling of eggs is an injury to the trade.

Situation of Shoe Manufacturers.

For the past few years manufacturers have been favored by a falling market. Samples were figured on the basis of prices as they stood at time, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred leather was bought cheaper when orders were filled than when the costs were estimated. Under some circumstances there was every chance for some margin in the season's trade, even when prices were figured down to the lowest notch. To-day manufacturers are putting figures on their samples that will simply bewilder when they come to make up the goods. This fact should enter into the calculations of those who expect to come out at the right end of the horn at the close of the season. The market is certainly a most untoward one for the manufacturer, and the outlook discouraging indeed. Even with an advance of 12½ per cent, to-day on orders he may be losing money in filling them a month or two hence. Orders should be taken with the stipulation "subject to any advance over present prices in the leather market at the time of shipment."—Shoe and Leather Journal.

Pork Packing in Canada.

The enlarging tendency of pork packing operations in Canada has been maintained the past year, the returns showing an increase over any previous year in both summer and winter work. The total indicated for the entire year is 510,655 hogs, an increase

of 21 per cent compared with the preceding year. The total for the summer season was 209,010, and for the winter 301,640.

The Cincinnati Price Current's twentieth annual report of pork packing in Canada shows the following details for the winter season:

	1891-95.	1893-91.
Brantford.....	2,000	2,200
Chatham.....	1,600	2,500
Collingwood.....	17,786	5,200
Exeter.....	610	910
Hamilton.....	21,498	21,000
Ingersoll.....	31,671	20,195
Lindsay.....	2,000	*.....
London.....	15,000	*.....
Nowmarket.....	2,687	2,410
Orillia.....	1,700	1,700
Ottawa.....	20,000	*.....
Owen Sound.....	1,000	1,225
Peterboro.....	30,000	*.....
Port Hope.....	400	500
St. Catharines.....	2,000	3,000
St. Thomas.....	3,210	3,200
Toronto.....	71,655	81,980
Woodstock.....	1,700	640
Other places.....	10,000	56,000
Montreal.....	50,000	65,000
Quebec.....	2,100	3,400
Winnipeg.....	8,000	5,500

Total number, winter... 301,640 279,920
Summer season, total... 209,010 142,550

Twelve months..... 510,650 422,470

* Included with total for "other places."

YEARLY COMPARISONS.

	Summer pack.	Winter pack.	Total.
1891-95.....	209,010	301,640	510,650
1893-91.....	142,550	279,920	422,470
1892-98.....	128,611	227,409	356,020
1891-92.....	99,466	251,088	350,554
1890-91.....	91,910	284,970	326,880
1889-90.....	69,486	169,278	238,769
1888-89.....	35,315	143,137	178,480
1887-88.....	70,510	115,674	216,214
1886-87.....	81,811	171,671	256,485
1885-86.....	65,280	126,640	191,870
1884-85.....	55,578	154,575	210,148
1883-84.....	37,681	99,914	137,628
1882-83.....	28,715	140,814	169,529
1881-82.....	57,016	129,971	186,987
1880-81.....	37,857	156,768	191,620
1879-80.....	37,447	157,932	195,379
1878-79.....	8,579	115,775	124,354
1877-78.....	12,957	151,781	164,738
1876-77.....	58,514	181,198	244,712
1875-76.....	25,000	119,989	144,989

Montreal Grain and Produce Markets.

Flour.—A fair business has been done since our last report both in spring and winter wheat flour at steady prices; but at the moment there is a quiet feeling, buyers having apparently satisfied their wants for the time being, and allayed their apprehensions of a further advance in prices. Now that United States wheat has commenced to go into Ontario. As regards the price of flour in this market, sales of straight rollers have been made in this market at \$3.90 to \$4.00 for cars on track, although some claim to have got better prices, sales of choice brands being reported at \$1.05 to \$1.15. There is some export demand as we learn of fresh ocean freight engagements of sack flour on through rates from the west. We quote: Patent, spring, to \$1.40; Winter Patent, \$1.05 to \$1.15; Straight roller, \$3.90 to \$4.00; Extra, \$3.35 to \$3.75; City Strong Bakers, \$1.25; Manitoba Bakers, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Ontario bags extra, \$1.60 to \$1.65; Straight Rollers, bags, \$1.95 to \$1.95.

Oatmeal.—Rolled and granulated \$1.05 to \$1.15, standard \$1.00 to \$1.05. In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$2.00 to

\$2.05 and standard at \$1.90 to \$1.95. Pat barley \$3.75 in bbls, and \$1.75 in bags, and split peas \$3.50 to \$3.60.

Bran, etc.—The market for bran is steady sales being reported at \$17 to \$17.50. Shorts are quoted \$18.00 to \$19.00 and moullie at \$21.00 to \$22.50 as to grade.

Wheat.—The local market is firm, with further business in No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat for shipment west at 86c.

Oats.—There is a better demand, and owing to limited supplies holders have been able to get more money, sales of 10 cars being reported at 11½ to 11¾c and one car sold at 12c.

Barley.—Malting grade reported at 50 to 59c and feed 52 to 53c.

Butter.—The market for old held over dairy butter is in a bad way, and holders are endeavoring to work it off at whatever prices they can get for it, ranging from 5½ to 8c, and old held creamery has sold at 10 to 11c. Regarding new butter, a lot of fresh creamery has sold to arrive at 15c, and we quote 15 to 16c for round lots. Smaller lots to the retail trade sell at 17 to 18c. It looks as though the coming season would be one of very low prices. The receipts of new butter are unusually large for this early season. New butter—Creamery 15 to 16c; Townships 14 to 15c; Morrisburg 14 to 15c; Western 10 to 13c. Old butter—Creamery 8 to 11c; Townships 7 to 9c; Western 5 to 7c.

Cheese.—The new season has opened at Ingersoll, with sales at 7 to 7½c, which prices are about 3c under the opening sales of last year. Shippers just returned from England state that they expect to buy full cream cheese during the coming season at 6c. One large shipper said we must of necessity buy at low figures to compete with the 1c to 3c Australian product.

Eggs.—A steady demand has continued throughout the week, with sales at 10 to 10½c.

Maple Products.—The demand for syrup has fallen off somewhat, although sales are reported in kegs at 4½ to 4¾c per lb., choice 5c. Tins 55c to 65c. Sugar 6 to 7c, and old 5c to 5½c.

Hides.—It is difficult to tell which is the most excited, the leather or the hide market. Another advance of ½c has been established in the price of hides since our last issue, with sales to dealers at 8c, one dealer having paid as high as 8½c, but 8c is said to be the ruling rate. Sales to tanners have been made at 9 to 9½c against 4c last fall, a rise of 125 per cent. In Buenos Ayres dry hides sales have been made at New York at 20c for Cordova, which some time ago were bought at 11c. We quote prices as follows: Light hides, 8c for No. 1, 7c for No. 2, and 6c for No. 3, to tanners 9c to 9½c for No. 1. Heavy hides 8c to 8½c, calfskins 8c, lambskins 11c, sheepskins 75c.

Wool.—There has been a fair amount of business doing in Greasy Cape, sales having been made on a basis of 13 to 15½c. Prices here remain firm as follows.—Greasy Cape 13c to 16c, Canadian fleeces 19 to 22c, Buenos Ayres, scoured, 25 to 31c. In Canada pulled wool 20 to 21½c is quoted for supers, extra 23 to 26c; Northwest wool 11 to 12c; British Columbia 9 to 11c.—Trade Bulletin, May 10.

"If You Wish"

To make a Daylight Journey from Minneapolis or St. Paul to Chicago you will find the Badger State Express via The North-Western Line, the Pleasantest Day Train you ever rode on in the North-west. Its Luxurious Parlor Car with everything conducive to rest and enjoyment, is the Easiest Riding and most Comfortable Day Car we ever had the pleasure of shaking hands with or rather riding 400 miles in.—The Union, Anoka, Minn.