

years, which has helped to keep stocks from accumulating. Prices have been easier, from 12 to 14c having been paid for good to choice. Mediums were slow at 10c. Choice tubs sold about the same as rolls.

CHEESE.

The market is now well supplied with new, which can be laid down here at 8c. Dealers sell small lots at 8½ to 9c.

PORK

Inactive and steady, at \$13.50 in small lots.

BACON.

Trade has been quiet and steady. Long Clear has sold at 7 to 7½c, and Cumberland at 6½c in small lots. Smoked Cumberland quiet at 7½ to 8c. Rolls 8½ to 8¾. Bellies 9½ to 10½c, the latter for boneless.

HAMS

Have been in good demand at 11 to 11½c, the latter in lots of less than 100. Prices are firm.

LARD.

There has been an active movement in small pails, at 9 to 9½c. American in tins brought the same.

HOGS.

Offerings have been light, and all are taken at \$6.50 to \$6.75.

The State of Trade.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* yesterday indicate that a sensible improvement has taken place in general trade at a number of the smaller interior distributing centers, as compared with last week. This is mainly due to a material improvement in the labor situation, to favoring staple crop prospects northwest and south, and to brighter weather. Evansville, Indianapolis, Peoria, Omaha, Duluth, New Orleans and San Francisco, are more prominent among those announcing more active demand. At Chicago general trade is of moderate proportions, not being equal to expectations. At St. Louis the movement of merchandise is reported steadier, but there is no special change within the week. Cincinnati is the most conspicuous example of those reporting an improved trade, in part owing to the practical cessation of strikes at that point. At Boston business is quite uneven, but in some lines is reported better, particularly in dry goods. Philadelphia reports trade sluggish, but a trifle more active in some lines. There is no gain at Baltimore. The prospects for good sugar and rice crops in Louisiana stimulate inquiry and sales at New Orleans, but at Kansas City, in spite of an improved wheat and corn outlook in tributary regions, the volume of business is less than last week. Investment securities are in good demand and firm, and the leading speculative issues generally advanced. Foreign exchange is dull but very firm. The industrial situation has improved. There are probably not over 50,000 employes on strike now against 125,000 ten days ago. The soft coal strike has failed. Special advices to *Bradstreet's* show that at twenty-three industrial centers north of the Ohio, east of and including St. Louis, the loss of wages through strikes since May 1 has aggregated \$3,000,000; of receipts by employers \$2,500,000, and of future contracts due to probability of labor troubles, \$24,800,000, of which \$20,400,000 alone refers to deferred or cancelled building contracts. Pressure to sell sugar in

Europe has caused lower prices. Raw is off ½c, and refined 1/16c at New Orleans. Increased consumptive demand for coffee has temporarily advanced quotations. Restricted demand depresses other grocery staples. The movement of dry goods from leading distributing centers has improved so far as jobbers are concerned. Prices of some makes of sheetings at the east have been advanced. Print cloths, however, are 1/16c lower on larger stocks, although the latter are less than one-third of those at a like date last year. Wool at the east continues low in price and dull. Texas advices report better prices than expected for new clip. Large imports of yarns discourage domestic worsted spinners. Telegraphic reports to *Bradstreet's* indicate that the outlook for the growing cotton plant is less favorable, owing to cool weather in Mississippi and Louisiana and lack of rain in Texas and Arkansas. Petroleum closes at 67½c, against 72½c last week on new well production. Iron and steel prices are not as strong as one month ago. Tobacco at all western markets is in good demand for desirable grades. Louisville receipts and sales have increased. Good grades of dark and burleys firm in price. Planting news favorable as regards soil, weather and abundance of plants. The week's failures in the United States, as reported to *Bradstreet's*, number 152, against 156 last week and 184 in the like week of 1885, 183 in 1884, 155 in 1883 and 116 in 1882. Canada had 12, against 30 last week and 26 last year. The total in the United States January 1 to date is 4,466, against 5,191 in a like portion of 1885, a decline this year of 725. Like totals in preceding years were: In 1884, 4,357; in 1884, 4,263, and in 1882, 2,997.—*Bradstreet's*.

The Territories.

Calgary has invested in a chemical fire engine.

Battleford wants a tinsmith and a shoemaker located in that town.

A raft, containing 50,000 feet of lumber, has arrived at Battleford from Edmonton.

Several new telegraph stations have been opened on the line west of Battleford.

The first regular meeting of the Canadian Northwest Territories Stock Association was held at Macleod recently, when the organization of the association was perfected.

An association of ex mounted policemen has been formed at Macleod. It will partake of both a social and benevolent nature. It is proposed to form a central association, with branches at points throughout the territories.

Thos. Macfarlane and H. A. Head are on their way to Battleford from Swift Current with a hundred head of two-year old grade heifers, a thoroughbred shorthorn bull, and about forty young brood mares, all bought in Ontario, and intended to stock up that district.

At a public meeting held at Pincher Creek, Alberta, resolutions were passed demanding the abolition of the permit system, and asking that a vote of the people of the territories be taken as to whether a system of license or total prohibition be substituted. A petition in accordance with the sentiment of the meeting will be sent to Ottawa.

British Columbia.

W. R. Lewis, blacksmith, Vancouver has sold out to John Reid.

C. S. Major, general storekeeper, New Westminster is giving up business.

The estate of Trapp Bros, general storekeepers, Vancouver, has been purchased by D. Drysdale & Co.

E. Legg, grocer, has formed a partnership with — Baigley and bought out the hotel business of L. Pither.

The spring salmon taken in the Fraser this year are of small size. One or two canneries are putting them up.

Work is going ahead rapidly on the New Westminster branch railway which is expected to be in working order before the Coal Harbor extension is completed.

A report from the Cowichan district says: Farmers are very backward with their work this spring; the continuous cold and wet weather renders it impossible for them to sow the seed or cultivate the land.

Merchants in the interior of the province are holding back their freight till the C.P.R., is opened up and till the road tolls are removed. Parties handling freight up country say that there is not a quarter going up now of what there was this time last year.

According to report from Port Townsend the Port Discovery mill has received from Japan an order for ties to the amount of 120,000,000 feet. An adequate conception of the size of this order can be formed when it is known that the mill has never cut more than 30,000,000 feet in one year. It would accordingly take four years of steady work to fill the Japanese order.

A Plea for Early Closing.

Now that the glorious weather of our western summer has set in, and the days have lengthened out till the glow over the mountain tops is apparent till nearly 10 o'clock, our town merchants should not forget that their faithful employees would enjoy and profit by a little recreation in the evenings. In other towns we notice that the early closing system has been adopted. Shops are shut at six o'clock, and the public are not inconvenienced thereby, while the employees are greatly benefitted. Ten hours are surely enough out of the 24 for people to do their shopping, and if the rule were made general no merchant's sales would be reduced on account of it. Let the store hands have a chance.—*Calgary Tribune*.

Canned Goods.

The J. K. Armsby Co., in their latest market review say: In canned goods the situation is about the same as last week. Tomatoes are firming up again. The salmon situation is about the same as last week. Three of the packers have sold their packs at high prices, have given in, and are paying 75 cents a fish; this means net cost to the packers of over \$1.05 per doz., to say nothing of his profit. We can see no possible chance for any cheap salmon from the Columbia this year. On the Sacramento, not a wheel has been turned in any cannery and the catch has not been large.