

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, September 5, 1896.

Business in wholesale trade is only moderately active. Collections are slow, and business men are now looking forward to the movement of the new crop to improve financial matters. The low price of all grains is the most unfortunate feature. With a moderate crop and present very low prices the outlook is not what it might be, and every feature which might be considered as indicating higher prices, is eagerly discussed. Harvesting is now well advanced. Cutting is about completed and stacking and threshing is now going on. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show an increase of about 18 per cent., as compared with the corresponding week of 1895, and an increase of 21 per cent. as compared with the like week of 1894.

There were 30 failures in Canada this week against 31 last week, 83 in the week a year ago, and 29 two years ago according to Bradstreet's.

Bradstreet says of the situation in the United States this week: The more encouraging features are higher prices for iron, and steel at Pittsburg and Chicago, with a gain in demand and a further appreciation in quotations for cotton, on renewed reports of damage to crop. Petroleum and leather are also higher. Print cloths, pork, and wheat flour are unchanged, while wool is steady after sales of considerable lots at cut prices. Lower quotations are reported for corn, oats, lard, sugar and coffee. At New York yesterday money was easier at 3 to 5 per cent. for call loans, and best mercantile paper at 7 to 9 per cent. Bar silver was quoted at 66½c, Mexican dollars 51½c.

## WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Sept. 5.

[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.]

**COAL.**—There is no further change in this market, but the recent advance in freight rates of 25c per ton from Pennsylvania points to the lake ports, has led to an advance of 25c at Duluth. Prices are firm here. Quotations delivered to consumers here are: Pennsylvania anthracite, \$10 per ton; Western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton; Souris lignite, \$1.50 per ton.

**DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.**—Grenoble Walnuts, 14c; Tarragona almonds, 15c; princess paper shell almonds, 20c; Sicily filberts, large, 12c, Brazil nuts, 14c; peanuts, roasted, 18c, peanuts greens, 11c, Ontario black walnuts, 8c; butternuts, 9c; hickory nuts, 10c per pound; cocoanuts, \$1.00 per dozen; figs, new, 9 lb. boxes, 14c; figs, superior, 35 lb. boxes, 19c, figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb.; dates, new, 6 and 7c per lb., apricots, 13½ to 14c; dried apples, 5½ to 6c; evaporated apples 6 to 7c per lb.

**DRUGS.**—Morphia sul is very strong, the price in England being very high. Glycerine is firm owing to further advance in the crude article. Carbolic acid continues firm. Prices here for parcel lots are at follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3½ to 4½c; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; blotting powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c, coppers 3½ to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00, cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c; cloves, 20 to

25c; epsom salts, 3½ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00, insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$1 per gallon as to brand; oxalico acid, 13 to 16c; potash iodide, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rochello, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3½ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3½ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$1.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

**DRY GOODS.**—Wholesalers are still busy sending out orders and retailers are beginning to make a considerable display of fall and winter goods, which the recent cool weather does not make appear unseasonable. There have been a few cancellations on account of poor crops in some districts, principally in sections where the crops were cut down by hail, but these have not been sufficient to affect the general situation materially. Collections are slow at present. The high price of raw cotton makes a firm tone for cotton goods, but it is difficult to work any advance.

**FLUID BEEF, ETC.**—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$1.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.63; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminale—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz, \$5.10.

**GREEN FRUITS.**—Lemons are not in as active demand, owing to the cool weather and prices are easy. Ontario apples now arriving are much better quality than earlier receipts, and some are very fine. Very large receipts of crab apples have come in, and prices are about the lowest ever reached. Ontario tomatoes of good quality are offering freely, but the plums which have come in from the east have been mostly out of condition on arrival here, and have been sold for whatever they would bring, in some cases, while some have been worthless. A straight car of Ontario concord grapes is in, and other varieties are also offering. In Pacific coast fruit peaches have been scarce and the few arriving have been taken as fast as they came in. Washington peaches and plums are held at \$1.35 to \$1.50 per box, and pears at \$2 per box. California grapes have only arrived in small lots and have been out of the market most of the time. Bananas are scarce, the few arriving being mostly in poor condition. Blueberries are about done for the season. Prices are. Lemons California \$5.50 to \$6.00 per box, as to quality; bananas, \$1.50 to \$3.00 per bunch as to size and quality; good shipping stock, \$2.00 to \$3.00 per bunch; Washington peaches, \$1.35 to \$1.50 box; Washington plums \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box as to quality and variety; Oregon pears 2.00 per box; Ontario apples \$2.75 to \$3.25 per barrel as to quality; watermelons, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per dozen; nutmeg melons, \$1.50 per crate of one doz.; tomatoes, 50c per basket of 20 lbs, crabs, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel as to quality; pears, 80 to 85c per basket; concord grapes, 40 to 50c per basket; California grapes \$2.50 to \$3 per crate; apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 30 gallon barrels, maple sugar 12½ to 13c per lb; maple syrup, \$1.10 per wine gallon, in gallon tins; cucumbers, 55c per dozen; celery, 30c per dozen bunches; cabbage, 40c per dozen. Cauliflower 75c per dozen.

**HARDWARE.**—Dealers report business fairly brisk in this branch. The only recent change in prices is in nails, which have been

reduced 5c by the Canadian association. Prices are as follows:

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb, 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$3.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$3.00 to 4.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.85 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs., \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50, CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.00 to 3.10.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 4½c; 26 gauge, per lb., 4½c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4½c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.25.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar) per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 10 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, not list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5½c, shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs. Closer prices have been made for large lots.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7½ to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9½ to 10½c base; cotton, ½ to ¾ inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.21 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.85 per keg; 3 to 4 inch, \$4.17 keg; 2½ inch, \$4.50 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.58 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Glass is firm, in consequence of the increased cost abroad, which has made recent importations cost higher, and some dealers are asking \$1.80 and \$2.00 for first and second break. Linseed oil has again declined 2c here at the mills, and jobbing prices have declined to the same extent. The low price of linseed oil is owing to the demoralization of the market in the United States, where prices are remarkably low. Jobbing prices of linseed oil here are irregular and the margin has been reduced very low, in some cases sales being at a margin of only 2c per barrel. On this basis sales have been made as fine as 48c and 51c for raw and boiled oil respectively, but usually 50 to 51c is asked for raw and 53 to 54c for boiled oil. Turpentine is easy. Refined petroleum has declined 3c per barrel, to 31c for Eocene and 27c for Sunlight per gallon, in barrels. Prices are as follows:

WHITE LEADS.—Pure, ground in oil, association guaranteed, 5.75 to \$6 per 100-lb; white lead, assorted 1 to 5-lb. tins, per lb., 9c.

PREPARED PAINTS.—Pure liquid colors, per gallon, \$1.15 to \$1.25.