

Montreal Markets.

Flour—The market has developed into a weak and easier condition, sales of straight rollers being reported at a shade below \$5.25, one car in fact being reported at \$5.20. We quote prices as follows: Patent, winter, \$6 to \$6.25; patent, spring, \$5.85 to \$6.30; straight roller, \$5.25 to \$5.35; extra, \$5 to \$5.15; superfine, \$4.70 to \$4.90; Manitoba bakers, \$5.60 to \$5.85; Ontario bags, extra, \$2.10 to \$2.50.

Wheat—The market is nominal in the absence of business. Holders of No. 2 hard Manitoba wheat ask \$1.17 but buyers bid only \$1.14. Sales of No. 3 hard have transpired at \$1.04, Montreal freight.

Oatmeal—Prices are irregular and unsettled and we quote Standard, granulated and rolled at \$5.80 to \$5.90 per bbl, as to quantity.

Oats—The market is firmer at 50c for Manitoba mixed oats and 52c for Ontario white. These prices show an advance of 1 to 2c from bottom prices. Sales are reported of mixed at 49c and No. 2 Ontario at 51½ to 52c.

Barley—Feed barley 58 to 60c; malting 65 to 70c.

Butter—Receipts are overlapping the demand and prices appear to be gradually settling down to an export basis. Sales of single tubs of fine creamery are reported at 20c, and factorymen are in the city asking for bids on round lots. It is believed that at 18c, business could be done for export, but holders appear loth to take that price. Fine eastern townships dairy is selling at 18c in single tubs, and at 17c in lots of 5 to 10 tubs. A lot of 22 tubs of nice fresh western was sold at 15c and are quoted 15 to 16c, as to quantity and quality.

Cheese—The market this week has shown more animation on the basis of 9½c for finest colored and 9c for finest white here. The country between Toronto was pretty well sold up this week at 9 to 9 1/16c, the Belleville board being swept by one buyer, who took 3,312 boxes at 9 1/16c. The country is badly in need of rain, and some of the farmers in the Belleville district are turning their cows in the hay fields owing to scarcity of grass in the pastures.

Dried Apples—The market is quiet at 8 to 9c per lb. Evaporated apples are firm at 14 to 15c per lb.

Maple Products—Market quiet. Syrup in cans, 55 to 65c. Sugar, 7 to 7½c per lb; dark Quebec sugar, 6 to 6½c per lb.

Provisions Sales of Canada short cut have been made at \$17.50 in jobbing lots, round quantities being obtainable at \$17. In lard the sale of a lot of 750 pails is reported at \$1.57½, which clears out another holder of low priced goods. We quote: Hams, city cured, per lb, 10½ to 11½c; bacon, 10 to 11c; shoulders, 9½ to 10c.

Eggs—Sales have been made freely at 11½c. A meeting of buyers will be made at Morrisburg in order to make some arrangements whereby their recent actions in putting up prices on each other may be remedied. It is expected that a uniform price will be agreed upon. Further shipments are going forward to England which would indicate that shippers have not lost money on all their exports. Lower prices are expected.

Tea—Since our last report a lot of new Japan teas was sold from store at 37 to 46c, and sales of new Japan have also been made to arrive ex r.s. Parthia at 27 to 33c. A lot of 250 p'kgs

of old common Japans was placed at 14½c. About 100 p'kgs of pea leaf gunpowder was sold at 2½c. A lot of common gunpowder was also placed at 8 1/2 f.o.b. London at 3 months.

Canned Salmon—Sales of several cars of new pack salmon have been made to arrive at about \$1.40 net cash on delivery. Sales have also transpired of old pack at \$1.32 in round lots, to arrive, and yet we hear that western men are offering to sell single cases to firms here at \$1.30 to \$1.35 per dozen. It is said the Pacific syndicate has managed to keep up prices pretty well, but whether it will be able to maintain its present strong attitude remains to be seen.

Freights—Ocean freights are a trifle easier to Liverpool and Glasgow at 1s 9d, but to London the rate is 2s 6d and to Bristol 2s 9d to 3s per quarter. Flour 7s to 7s 6d to Liverpool, Glasgow and London. Provisions 10s; butter and cheese 20s; cattle 55 to 60s. Two weeks ago we stated that at 4½c per bushel, a large quantity of grain could have been engaged from Chicago to Montreal, but that shippers' limits would not admit of that figure being paid. Within the last few days, however, about 60,000 bushels have been chartered at ½c lower than the engagements reported by us last week from Chicago to Montreal. From Chicago to Buffalo the rate paid since our last was 1c per bushel. From Chicago to Kingston 2c to 2½c per bushel on grain, and from Kingston to Montreal 2½c on wheat and 2½c on corn.—*Trade Bulletin*, June 5th.

No More Cheap Bananas.

Bananas have been so cheap the country over the past few years, says a United States commercial paper, that people begin to look upon them as a fixture at that price. The low cost of this fruit very naturally encouraged heavy consumption in this country, and so accustomed did people become to eating bananas that they worked their way out of the list of luxuries almost into the list of necessities. Since 1885 imports of bananas to the United States have more than doubled in value, not considering the additional increase in volume given by the reduced price. So great has been the demand for this fruit the past six months that despite the large supply prices have been advanced, until now at the auction sales at New Orleans fancy bluefields bring fully double what they did a year ago. A New Orleans broker who is in position to know, asserts that he believes the day of cheap bananas is over. The large consumption at present, he says will keep the enormous crops cleaned up, and the people will be willing to pay higher prices.

JOHN HOWEY, of Brandon, Man, says the *Mail*, has returned from the east with two cars of live hogs which he re-shipped yesterday, one for Vancouver and the other for Victoria, B. C. The same paper says: R. J. Collins, whose shipment of Cattle to Montreal we mentioned some three weeks ago, returned on Friday evening's train. He reports sales dull and the Montreal market glutted while he was there. He had to ship thirty-six head of his herd to Glasgow to clear out the lot. Mr. Collins, however, is not of those who are easily discouraged and we expect to see him out in a short time trying to pick up another half dozen car loads.

Hall & Crawley have erected a building at Holland, Man, in which they intend to open a banking business.



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