

## Leather and Shoe Trade Prospects.

All kinds of black leather and sole are in active demand at the advanced figures. A large lot of waxed upper was sold in this city last week at thirty-five cents. Attention is invited to our correspondence column this month as to present prices in relation to the increased cost of production. Tanners are not as a rule getting the advance called for by the increased cost of hides. In some cases they are getting a little more but everyone knows that tanners have been losing money for years at the business. It is about time they throw aside modesty and made a little headway. Leather is to-day at normal values, being about where it was five or six years ago. Twenty-five cents for splits and forty cents for grain are not exorbitant figures. Trade will be more healthy.

The great squirm has been in the shoe business. There are some men in the trade who seem to be afraid of their own shadows, and as a consequence prices have advanced very gingerly in shoes. The trade realize pretty well now that they have to toe the mark and are putting a proper advance on their lines. The average has not yet been anything like equal to the advance in leather and we are afraid some concerns will come out at the small end of the horn at the end of the present season. In long boots the hange necessitated is so great that it requires considerable nerve, manufacturers claim, to insist on a proper advance. Thirty to forty cents in split stogas and fifty to sixty cents on grain boots is a stiff advance, but it is necessary under the circumstances. Most of the trade have been caught asleep by the advance. A story is told of a western manufacturer who five or six weeks ago was offered splits at thirteen cents in Montreal, and the day following sixteen cents in Quebec. When he returned west he could not get any for less than twenty cents. It is said he went to the magistrate when he got home and asked him to give him thirty days for not buying at first.—Canadian Shoe and Leather Journal.

## Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending May 30 were \$831,908, balances, \$161,256. For the previous week clearings were \$952,733. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$765,532. For the month ending April 30, clearings were \$3,093,079, as compared with \$2,958,886 for April of last year.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Clearings.	
	May 9.	May 16.
Montreal..	\$12,060,006	\$12,208,813
Toronto...	6,810,147	5,881,553
Halifax...	1,366,972	1,080,193
Winnipeg.	1,018,212	830,921
Hamilton.	677,277	576,247
Total	\$21,462,612	\$20,610,757

## Financial and Insurance Notes.

There has been a falling off in the demand for time money and the New York loan market shows the effect of it by an increase in the offerings of funds and a slack tone in rates. The transactions on behalf of the government bond syndicate have apparently had no effect. Business in time loans is on a very limited scale at 2 to 2½ per cent. for thirty to 90 days and 2½ to 3 per cent. for longer time. It is understood that on extra choice collateral even these figures are shaded. As regards commercial paper the situation is unchanged, there being a limited amount of offerings, while the demand for all kinds of buyers is very good. Call money is 1½ per cent. and steady at that.—Bradstreet's, May 25.

## Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—There were few sales being made owing to the high prices asked for Ontario red and white wheat, nearly all the holders west asking \$1. Manitoba wheat is firmer, with sellers asking \$1.08 for No. 1 hard, Toronto and west, and \$1.10 Montreal freights, lake and rail.

Flour.—Straight roller is now quoted at \$1.50 to \$1.60, Toronto freights, and patents \$1.75. Manitoba grades were advanced 25c per barrel to-day, and holders are now asking \$5.25 for patents and \$5 for strong bakers'.

Millfeed.—The city mills are asking more money for bran at \$15, and shorts are quoted at \$17. Shorts are quoted at \$16 to \$17 west, and bran at \$18 to \$14.

Barley.—Cars of feed are firmer at 50c outside. Malting barley is nominal at 52c east for No. 1.

Oats.—Are in good demand and firm at 38c for cars of white north and west, and 39c middle freights west. Cars on the track here are quoted at 42c.

Cured Meats.—Heavy mess \$15.75; shoulders \$18.50; clear shoulder mess, \$18.75 to \$14.25; short out \$16 to \$16.25. Dry salted meats—long clear bacon, cars 7½c; ton and case lots, 8 to 8½c, backs 9 to 9½c. Smoked meats—hams 11c; breakfast bacon 11c; backs 10½c and rolls 8½c, picnic hams 8c. Lard—tierces 9c; tubs 9½c; pails 9½c; compound 7 to 7½c.

Butter.—The receipts are fair, there is a moderate demand and the market is steady at 12 to 12½c for large rolls and 12c for fresh-made dairy tubs, and 4 to 6c for low grade. Creamery is slow and easy at 18c for rolls and 16 to 17c for tubs.

Cheese.—Is dull and easy. Job lots are quoted here at 7½ to 8c. The Liverpool cable was 1s lower to-day at 43s for colored and 42s for white.

Dried Apples.—Job lots here are quoted at 15½ to 15½c, and round lots outside at 5c; evaporated are quoted at 7c and round lots at 6c to 6½c.

Wool.—There is a fair amount of new fleece wool and the market is steady, with dealers paying 19c to 20c for lots of washed and 11c to 12c for unwashed. The stocks of Territories wools carried over from the last crop are so large that the outlook for our ranchmen for the coming clip is not very bright. These wools now have to compete with the wools from North and South Dakota, which are offering in Chicago at 5c to 7c for heavy, 7c to 8c for heavy fine, and 9c to 10c for fine choice. This makes the prospect for Territories wools less bright than formerly and prices are not likely to be as high as expected for these wools. The inquiry from the home manufacturers is slow and the market is dull and steady at 20c to 21c for supers and 22c to 23c for extras.

Hides.—There is a good demand for all the hides offering and the market is firm at 8c for cured and 7c for green. Sheepskins are in good demand and the offerings will likely be smaller now that the season for wool has opened. The market is firmer at \$1 to \$1.25 here and country skins are quoted at 75c to \$1. Calfskins are in fair demand and firmer at 8c for No. 1 and 7c for No. 2. Tallow is weak; local dealers are paying 5c to 5½c and asking 5½c to 6c.—Globe, May, 27.

The Toronto Globe says: "The damage to the fruit crop was not in some places as bad as at first reported and it is believed we shall yet have abundance of small fruit, which will, of course, make a better demand for sugars as the season gets on. Granulated is selling here at 4½ to 4¾c."

## Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York on May 21 and a year ago.

	May 24, 1895.	May 26, 1894
Flour, straight spring..	\$3.50 to \$4.20	\$3.00 to \$4.40
Flour, straight winter..	\$3.50 to \$4.00	\$2.45 to \$2.85
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	73½c	67½c
Coro, No. 2 mixed.....	67½c	43½c
Oats, No. 2.....	32½c	40½c
Rye, No. 2, Western ..	....	....
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee	....	....
Cotton, mid. upld. ....	7 6-10c	7½c
Print cloths, 64x64....	2½	2 11- 6c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X....	15 to 16½c	20½c
Wool, No. 1 comb.....	19 to 20c	23 to 25c
Pork, mess new.....	\$13.75 to 14.50	\$13.00 to 13 ¼
Lard, westn., stm.....	0.85c	7.40c
Butter, creamery.....	18c	17c
Cheese, ch. east ft.....	63c	1½c
Sugar, centrif., 90°.....	3½c	2 13-10c
Sugar, granulated.....	4 7-10c	4c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	10½c	10½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co. .	1.07½c	8½c
Petroleum, rid. gal., ..	8 6c	5.11c
Iron, No. 1 anth.....	\$12.00	\$12.50 to 13.25
*Iron, less. pg. ....	\$11.50	....
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$17.00	\$19.00
Ocean Steam Freight—	....	....
Grain, Liverpool .....	13d	7d
Cotton.....	5-6d	5-6d

## A Change Needed.

A radical change is needed in our criminal code. Men are permitted to breathe the air of freedom who are as consummate thieves as any who languish behind prison bars. It is possible to-day for a man in business to buy goods, dispose of them before payment matures, pocket the money, and coolly ask his creditors what they will take on the dollar. Case after case of this character has arisen, business men ask, is it possible that seeing the enormity of the evil no redress will be afforded by the government. There should be some provision making it penal for a man to dispose of his stock without notifying those holding unpaid claims against it. Another way to meet the difficulty would be to provide that the purchaser should be held responsible for at least thirty days after the transfer. In either case it would be impossible to fraudulently convey stock.—Shoe and Leather Journal.

## Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin of May 24 says "Very little business has been done in grain freights during the past week, the wild speculative advance in Chicago having prevented fresh engagements to any extent, the price of wheat in Chicago being about 10c higher than in Liverpool. We quote 1s to 1s 3d Liverpool, 1s 3d to 1s 6d London, 1s to 1s 8d Glasgow, and 1s 4½d Bristol. Quite a lot of sack flour is coming forward on old contracts, and going out at 6s Liverpool, 8s London, 7s Glasgow and 9s Bristol. To the Continent 2s to 2s 3d for heavy grain. Provisions 8s 6d to Liverpool, 12s 6d to London, 15s to Glasgow, and 15s Bristol. Cheese and butter 15s to Liverpool, 20s London, 25s Glasgow and 22s 6d to Bristol. Hay is quoted at 20s to 25s, and cattle 40s London and Liverpool, and 45s Glasgow and Bristol."

The Quebec government has decided to grant a bonus of one cent per pound on exported butter under the condition that a certain quality is to be shipped.

## "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.