MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

Friday, July 11th, 1913.

Reports from the West continue very satisfactory as to the condition of the crops and the general financial situation which is having the desired effect on the wholesale business in the East. Hardware houses report that orders are coming in in a very satisfactory manner and good reports as to collections are being received. The dry goods markets report that business is somewhat quiet and buyers still operate conservatively for all future requirements. Recent advices from several of the cotton companies are to the effect that the mills are exceedingly busy and away behind in deliveries. The knitting mills continue very busy and report a few cancellations but feel that this condition will not become general. The trade in leather is very quiet with prices high. An advance in lumber prices took place last week owing to the shortage of supply. There is good local and country demand for flour with no change in prices. There is little doing in the export grain trade, the prices bid being out of line with prices here. Hay prices advanced $1.50 per ton due to the reports of poor crop conditions. The trade in cattle is fairly active at steady prices. The supply is fair with a fairly good demand from packers and butchers. General trade is in satisfactory volume and an encouraging feature is that retailers are buying with greater confidence.

COUNTRY PRODUCE WHOLESALE.—Receipts of butter last week were 21,850 pks. which shows a decrease of 3,027 pks. as compared with the previous week and of 2,415 pks. with the corresponding week last year. Receipts of Thursday evening this week were 10,845 pks. The total quantity received since May 1 is still in excess of last year. The condition of the local market continues easier with prices ¼c. to ½c. lower. The Western demand is limited and the domestic demand only fair. We quote:—Finest creamery, 25½c. to 25¾c.; fine creamery, 25c. to 25¼c.; second grades, 24¼c. to 24½c.; dairy butter, 22½c. to 23½c.

Receipts of cheese for last week were 42,198 boxes, a decrease of 19,461 as compared with the corresponding week last year. Receipts up to Thursday evening this week were 48,195 boxes. Bidding is weaker than a week ago and prices show a decline of 3-16c. to 5-16c. for white and 5-16c. per lb. for colored. The demand from over the cable has fallen considerably this week and buyers are not disposed to operate at the present prices, which probably accounts for the lower prices being bid here and in some sections of the country. We quote:—Finest Western white, 13⅛c. to 13¼c.; finest Western colored, 13¼c. to 13⅜c.; finest eastern white 12¾c. to 13c.; finest eastern colored, 12¾c. to 13c.

Receipts of eggs up to Thursday evening this week were 5,676 cases. The demand continues fairly good for small lots and as the supplies coming forward are smaller than a year ago at this period the tone of the market remains firm with no change in prices to note. Selected stock selling at 25c. to 26c.; No. 1, candled stock at 23c. to 24c.

The demand for old crop potatoes is small and the tone of the market is easy. New crop potatoes are becoming more plentiful and the demand is good. Prices are more reasonable. We quote: Green mountains, in car lots, 70c. to 75c. and Quebec varieties at 60c. to 65c. per bag, ex track, while the former are selling in a jobbing way ex store at 95c. to $1.00 and the latter at 75c. to 84c. per bag.

DRY GOODS.—Reassorting orders for seasonable dry goods and other staples are in fair volume. Buyers still operate conservatively for all future requirements, but consumption is well maintained and the slackening of distribution is a natural development at this period. Jobbers and converters confine their business within low average requirements. In woolens and worsteds retailers have about completed their initial fall purchases and most jobbers are only re-ordering on a few staple lines. Remittances from the West continue to improve and a fairly satisfactory condition prevails in the Eastern trade. The mills are all very busy and many, especially the cotton mills, are away behind on deliveries.

FLOUR.—A good local and country trade is being worked in spring wheat grades, there being a good demand for car lots. A limited supply of wheat, wheat flour gives a strong feeling to this market. Prices show no change. We quote as follows:—Spring patents, first, $5.60 per bbl. in bags. Spring patents, second, $5.10 per bbls. in bags. Winter patants, choice, $5.50 pper bbl. in wood; Winter patents, straight rollers, $5.10 per bbl. in wood.

GRAIN.—The foreign demand for wheat, oats and barley seems to be improving but prices bid are generally out of line. There is also a scarcity of ocean freight here for July-August shipment hence little business is being worked. The local trade in coarse grains remains quiet but firm. We quote as follows:—No. 1 Northern, 98⅜c.; No. 2 Northern, 95⅜c.; No. 3 Northern, 90⅜c.; No. 4, Northern, 85⅜c.; No. 5 Northern, 76⅜c. Oats, No. 2 C. W., 42c.; extra No. 1 feed, 41c. to 41½c.; No. 1 feed, 40c. to 40½c., in car lots. Barley, Manitoba No. 3, 56c.; Manitoba No. 4, 55c.; feed, 50c. to 51c.; Ontario choice malting, 62c. to 64c. Flax, (Winnipeg) No. 1, N. W. C., $1.20½; No. 2. C. W. ,$1.18,; No. 3 C. W., $1.06. Corn, American No. 3 yellow, 69c.; No. 3 mixed, 68c.; in car lots.

GREEN AND DRIED FRUITS.—A brisk trade is being worked in green fruits. Strawberries remain at a fairly high price due no doubt to the scarcity of Canadian berries. Raspberries will also be scarce due to unfavorable weather conditions. Reports indicate a good crop of gooseberries, currants and black raspberries. The crop of pears, plums, peaches and cherries in Western Ontario and other districts in Canada has suffered more or less from effects of frost. Plums give a poor promise of a large crop but the other lines promise as well as last year at least. The demand for dried fruits continues good. Reports of a good crop of raisins in California indicate a decrease of prices in this line. Currents continue firm. A fair trade continues in imported fruits. We quote as follows:—Oranges, Valencias, per box, $6.00; Jamaicas, extra fancy, per box $4.50 to $5.00; Lemons, extra fancy Verdillis, per box, $6.00. Grapefruit, per box, $6.00 to $8.00. Bananas, large bunches, $2.00 to $2.25, smaller, $1.25 to $1.50. Canteloupes, $5.00 per crate; imported California fruits, plums, per basket, $2.00 to $2.50; peaches, per box, $2.00; pears, Bartletts, $5.00 per box; raisins, Sultana, per lb. ,8c. to 10c.; Valencia, per lb., 7c. to 7½c.; Currants, Filiatras per lb., 6½c. to 7c.; dates, 5c. to 7½c. per lb.; Apricots, 14½c. to 15c. per lb.; Figs, 10¾c. to 15c.; Prunes, 6c. to 12c.

GROCERIES.—This market continues active, but without any outstanding feature. Conditions indicate an early advance in prices of sugar. Little business of importance is being done in canned goods. We quote as follows:—Maple sugar 9½c. to 10c., in bulk; 11c. to 12c. per single lb.; maple syrups in tins, 9c. to 10c.; in wood, 7c. to 8c. per lb. Granulated sugar, $4.30 in bags. Paris lumps, in 100 lb. boxes, $5.05,; extra ground in bbls., $4.70; powdered, in bbls., $4.50; yellow No. 3, $4.35; No. 2, $4.25; No. 1, $4.25. Teas, Japans, choicest, 40c. to 50c.; fine, 30c. to 35c.; medium, 25c. to 30c.; Ceylon, Pekoes, 20c. to 22c.; Coffee, Mocha, 28c. to 29c.; Javas, 30c. to 40c.; Allspice, 13c. to 18c.; Cinnamon, whole 18c. to 20c.; ground, 16c. to 20c.; Cream of tartar, 28c. to 32c. Rice, Rangoons, $3.35 to $3.60, Patna, imported, $5.37½ to $5.62½, polished $4.40; Tapioca, medium pearl, per lb., 5½c. to 6c.

HAY.—The continued reports of poor hay crops which are coming forward together with an increased demand have caused an increase in prices of $1.50 per ton. We quote as follows No. 1, $14.50 to $15.00; Extra No. 2, $13.50 to $14.00; No. 2, ordinary, $12.50 to $13.00 in car lots ex track.