

Grain and Milling.

The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways announce an increase in the rate of freight on grain from Ontario points to Montreal for export. The increase goes into effect on November 14, and is as follows: From Toronto and east to Montreal, 12½ cents per 100 lbs.; west of Toronto to London, St. Thomas, etc., 14 cents; western and northern Ontario, 16 cents. These charges are exclusive of Montreal terminals.

The following notice from H. H. Swinford, of the Northern Pacific, has been posted up in the Winnipeg grain exchange rooms: "Will you please advise the grain trade that our company has completed arrangements with the Grand Trunk railway for the handling of east-bound grain, so that now cars can be held at Point Edward for orders and moved to final destination on instruction from shippers without any overcharges and shippers can now consign to Sarnia, Montreal or any way they may see fit. I trust that these arrangements will be satisfactory to the trade."

The Canadian Pacific Railway company desire a grain elevator at St. John, New Brunswick, and offered to erect one provided the city gave a grant of \$10,000. The St. John board of trade has unanimously passed a resolution asking the council to make the grant for the elevator. The council meet on Thursday to consider the matter.

Visible Wheat Supplies.

Operators in grain carefully watch the changes in the official visible supply of grain, as compiled by the Chicago Board of Trade and the New York Produce Exchange, and these in a measure influence the course of prices and the feeling in the market. A candid view of the situation should convince dealers that there is actually no increase in the aggregate stocks of the grain in the country—that the increase in the visible supply only exhibits the changes of grain from first to second hands. Actually, the supplies are steadily decreasing through the avenues of exportation and consumption. Of course, the liberal supplies in the large markets make the load a little burdensome for operators and warehousemen to carry, and lock up considerable money temporarily, which in a measure has a depressing effect on markets generally. When the official supplies remain stationary, or exhibit a decrease, it generally will be found that the ready available stocks are centered in strong hands, who will control the markets, outside of any other ordinary influence.—*Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin.*

Toronto Grocery Market

The state of trade owes little to this week, as scarcely a shadow of change has passed over it since our last report was written. Business is quiet all along the street and nobody claims that it is more than moderately good. Canned goods, which for the last two or three years have been depended on to flush in a strong volume of orders in October, have not benefited trade much this year. Dried fruits particularly Valencia raisins, receive their wonted attention, which is always limited to present wants until a little later in the fall. Tea is rather active but not remarkably so. Sugar is dull and quiet. Retailers are not favored with any unusual demand from agricultural quarters. The farmers are not selling their grain as fast as they might; consequently they are not buying freely, nor are they paying their accounts as retailers would like to see them doing. The wholesalers note this backwardness in the payment of store accounts, and complain that it prevents money getting to them when it should. Renewals are grudgingly given at this time of year, but they have to be conceded now and then.

COFFEE.

The market has lost little if any of its strength. The stocks in hands of holders here

were bought when prices were high and will likely be held at current figures until they are run off, no matter how the outside markets act. Another shipment of Rio is on the way. The price here continues at 19½ to 21c. Java is firm at 30 to 40c, the highest price being specially choice stock. Mocha quote from 28c upwards.

DRIED FRUITS.

Valencia raisins despite the stronger tone of the market last week and the continuance of the new strength then imparted, are still quoted at from 5c up for off-stalk fruit. The demand is reported good, some houses having been quite busy upon orders for Valentinas. The lower grades are in chief request. Selected off-stalk Valentinas are 6½c upwards. Layers are 7½ to 8c. The latest advices from Denia report the market there to be very favorable to sellers. The Malaga crop, according to letters received this week, shows a greater shortage than was expected. The scarcity is most marked in the finer classes of fruit. The bulk of the shipments for this market are aboard the Escalona, which will soon arrive at Montreal. The limited stock in store here is quoted at \$2.85 to \$3.25 for London layers, \$4.25 to \$4.50 for black baskets, connoisseur clusters \$4 to \$4.50, extra deserts \$5 to \$5.25. Saltanas are 7½ to 11c, but have advanced outside, chiefly on account of higher freight. Currants are not in free demand. The quality of some grades appears to be open to exception, though when good prices are paid good fruit is obtained. Patras and Provincials in barrels are 5½c, in half-barrels 5¼c, Filialas 6c in barrels, 6¼c in half-barrels, Voltizos in cases 7½c. Figs are unchanged and in fairly good demand at 11c for 14 oz. and 10 lb boxes, and 15 to 16c for 30 lb boxes of 7-Crown. Caudied peel quotes at 15 to 16c for lemon, 16 to 18c for orange and 27 to 30c for citron. None of the October shipments of figs have yet come to hand. A cable advising a considerable advance in the Sphinx brand is the latest news on this market. Old crop fruit is quoted at 5½c upwards.

RICE, SPICES, ETC.

The quiet trade in rice that is now done by wholesalers is unvaried by any new features. Common grades are 3½ to 4c, Japan is 5 to 5½c. Spices continue in good request at quotations in price current.

SUGAR.

The sugar trade is more easily handled this week than it was even last. Of course so important a staple at so low a price cannot fail to be a large factor in trade at any time, but by comparison with the sales made during late fruit preserving, current business looks very small. Granulated is quoted at 4½ to 4¾c. Yellows are 3½c upwards. The Canadian sugar market is dull. Our refiners are able to do but little business now with United States jobbers, as the latter have prices at home that will hardly pay Canadian shippers. And the refiners in this country have a productive capacity that could supply several times the demand that the Canadian trade now yields. They seem to have the raw material bought at favorable prices too. The wholesalers whose sugar was contracted for early in the summer or in spring are now pretty well to the end of deliveries. The features of the Canadian market are nearly altogether of a negative character. Business is not active, prices are not weak, merchants are not heavily stocked. Prices look as if they were in a state of equilibrium that might not be disturbed for a long time. If the equilibrium should be disturbed the balance would tilt to the side of lower prices. Barbados raw sugar is 3½c in barrels.

SYRUP AND MOLASSES.

Canadian syrups are plentiful only in the brighter grades. The price begins at about 2½c. The low grade stock on the market is all United States syrup and quotes from 1½c. There is not much disposition among jobbers to increase their stock of dark syrups by importing, as some who bought United States syrups would rather they had not.

Molasses has a little better chance to figure

in trade at this time of year than it had in summer, but the demand is of insignificant strength here at the best. New Orleans in barrels is 32c upwards, and there is a grade of West Indian in barrels quoted as low as 30c.—*Grocer.*

Brandon Farmers' Market.

Wheat—Considerable has been coming in although there is a disposition on the part of farmers to hold back for higher prices. These higher prices unfortunately seem a long way off. The rush of wheat to the larger markets of the United States and England keeping the price below what the situation would otherwise warrant. Buyers for the past week have been paying only 50 cents a bushel for the best samples and even that is paid grudgingly as some of them claim there is no money in it for them that price.

Oats—Not much coming in as farmers do not wish to part with them at the low price of 10 and 17c a bushel, which is all that is being offered for them at the present time.

Barley—The few loads brought in have been at sold at 20c a bushel.

Cattle—A great many are offered for sale but real good animals are scarce. Some of the butchers are talking of going to outside points for the main part of their winter's supply. Good steers and heifers are selling at 2½c a lb. while inferior animals can only be quoted at 2 to 2½c.

Sheep and Lambs—Are enquired for as dealers are now anxious to secure their winter's supply. From 4 to 4½c a pound are the ruling prices.

Hogs—Live are making from 4½ to 4¾c a lb while dressed are making from 6c for inferior carcasses to 6½c a lb for well fattened light ones suitable for the retail trade.

Poultry—Has been in much better supply and consequently prices are easier. Chickens are now selling at 10c a lb. Turkeys, geese and ducks at 12½c.

Butter—Still continues scarce and is about the only commodity the farmers have got to offer that keeps on steadily increasing in value. As high as 22c a pound was quoted to us as what one of the principal merchants was willing to pay for good rolls. This however was exceptional, for most dealers are only paying 20c a lb for the best offered.

Eggs—Fresh are selling at 18c a doz, but few of them are coming in and merchants are depending on packed stock for their supply for customers.

Potatoes—Are a drug and some loads have been sold during the week for the low price of 18c a bushel.

Hay—Has been in full supply and has been selling at from \$3 to \$7.50 a ton.

California Freights.

Canned goods and fruits comprise the largest amount of tonnage, by rail, from California cities, as flour and grain do from Minnesota cities. By a monthly statement of the tonnage of the Southern Pacific railroad company for the month of October, this year, a little more than 20 per cent of freight forwarded from San Francisco was of canned goods, against 5 per cent of general merchandise, and about 18 per cent of fruit, making some 38 per cent of the tonnage, canned goods and fruit, green and dried. From Oakland 33 per cent of the tonnage was canned goods and 30 per cent fruit, or of the total tonnage forwarded from that city 63 per cent was of these two items. San Jose forwarded 6,279 tons of the two articles mentioned, against 209 tons of all other articles. Stockton sent out above 4,000 tons of fruit and canned goods, against 1,500 tons of all other freight. Sacramento and east forwarded 8,500 tons of these two classes of freight, against 4,200 of all other, and from Marysville 13,000 tons; of the 15,000 altogether, were of them.