

Montreal Markets.

Flour.—A fair volume of business is being done on local account, a disposition being manifested on the part of buyers to stock up as they are beginning to believe that prices will not go much if any lower, and they also feel that at present unprecedentedly low rates an upward turn might set in at any time. During the week sales have been made of Ontario straight rollers at \$3.65 to \$3.85, the inside figure having been shaded for large quantities. Extra is still dull at \$3.20 to \$3.25 in car lots. In spring wheat brands, a good business is reported on local account, choice city strong bakers having been sold at \$1.00 delivered. Further business has been done on Newfoundland account at about former rates. A considerable quantity of flour is going through from the mills in the west to the maritime provinces, some of the millers having contracted their make a month ahead. This also indicates that buyers do not look for much lower prices. Quebec has also been buying more freely in the west, whereas formerly she bought everything in this market.

Oatmeal.—There is not much change in oatmeal, rolled oats being offered at \$3.75 to \$3.80 in car lots and granulated at \$3.55 on track here. We quote jobbing lots as follows:—Rolled and granulated, \$4 to \$4.10; standard, \$3.90 to \$4. In bags granulated \$2 to \$2.05 and standard \$1.90 to \$1.95.

Mill Feed.—There is no change of any consequence to note in this market, sales of car lots being reported on track at \$13.50 to \$14.00, and shorts at \$15.00, to \$16.00, moulins is reported at \$17.00 to \$20.00.

Wheat.—The local market is quiet and prices are nominal at 83 to 85c for No. 2 hard. A lot of 10,000 bushels of No. 2 hard was offered at 73c afloat at Fort William, but the shipper here could not work it. No. 3 hard was quoted at 72 to 73c. At points west of Toronto millers are paying 65 to 67½c for winter wheat.

Oats.—The market is about steady, the sale of a round quantity of No. 2 being reported at 34½c afloat, and we quote 31c in store for No. 2 and 33½c for No. 3.

Barley.—Brewers' ideas of prices for malting barley are away below what farmers are willing to accept. There have been a few sales, however, on pt., but prices are believed to range from 50 to 55c, although it is said the best could not be laid down here under 60c.

Butter.—The quiet feeling noticed last week has been maintained, although there has been some business on export account, the sale being reported of 400 tubs of Western at 19c, holders now asking 20c. Kamouraska has changed hands at 18c, 500 tubs being reported sold at that figure. Creamery is held at too high figures to admit of much business, holders asking 24 to 25c, for their Sept. and Oct. makes. In Eastern Townships dairy there have been sales in the country at 21 to 22c for choice fall dairies. We quote:—Creamery choice fall, 23½ to 24c; do, good to fine, 22 to 23c; Eastern Townships dairy, choice fall, 21 to 22c; do, good to fine, 19 to 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 19 to 21c; Western, 17 to 19c; add 1c to 2c per lb for selected single packages.

Cheese.—The market is firm with a fair export enquiry, sales of finest Western September having transpired at 10½c. The Liverpool private cable has advanced another 1s. to 51c. for September, which, considering the remarkably heavy shipments during the past three weeks amounting to about 240,000 boxes, was unexpected. Considerable sales have been made of underpriced goods at 9½c to 10½c. It is stated as we go to press that 10½c would have to be paid for finest Western. The shipments this week were 32,955 boxes against 42,877 boxes for the week previous.

Eggs.—The market continues firm at 17 to 18c for choice fresh gathered stock, and at 15½ to 16c for round lots of the ordinary run of stock.

Pork, Lard, &c.—The market for Canada mess pork is firm with sales of now at \$16.50 to \$17.00 per bbl. In lard, a very fair business is in progress at \$1.40 to \$1.45 for compound in a jobbing way, with sales of round quantities at \$1.35 to \$1.37½. Canada leaf lard is in good demand with sales at \$1.70 to \$1.75 per pail. In smoked meats there is a good volume of business passing, sales of fresh cured hams being reported at 11c to 12c as to quantity and quality. New breakfast bacon also finds ready sale at 11 to 12c as to lot.

Dressed hogs are finding their way to this market in gradually increasing quantities, but up to the present, they have come chiefly from nearby points, and in bunches of from two to twenty head. Sales have taken place at \$6.50 per 100 lbs up to \$6.75 for single carcasses.

Hides, etc.—Business in hides and skins shows very little worth reporting, prices being unchanged and supply and demand keeping good. We quote:—No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; No. 3, 3c; tanners are paying 3c more; lambskins, 70c; calfskins, 5c.

Wool.—Local stocks of imported goods are being worked down, and the demand for the Northwest and B.C. produce is not very active. The "Eugenic" has not yet been reported, although expected during the week. The London wool sales closed with a very firm feeling. Some Greasy Cape of poor quality has been sold as low as 13½c during the week. We quote:—Greasy Cape, 14 to 16c; B.A. scoured, 20 to 30c; Northwest, 15 to 16c; British Columbia, 15 to 16c.

Apples.—The market is very quiet, and prices are easy, several lots that were on the way to England having been stopped and offered for sale here. Fall fruit is quoted \$1.25 to \$2 as to quality, and winter varieties at \$2.25 to \$2.75. Advices from England are discouraging.

Fish.—Pickled Labrador herring are very scarce this year, and are quoted at \$3.25 to \$5.50 per bbl. A cargo of herring is now being offered here at \$5. Cape Breton are quoted at \$5.50. Green cod is quoted at \$4.25 to \$4.50 and dry cod \$4.25 to \$4.50. Smoked Fish—Kipper herring are quiet at \$2.50 to \$3 per box of 100. Bloaters \$1.25 to \$2.50 per box as to quality. Finnan haddies 7½ to 8½c p.r lb. Bonuss cod 5½ to 7½c, and do fish 3½ to 4½c. Scaled herring are quoted at 14 to 16c for new and 8 to 10c for old. Fresh Fish—Fresh had-dock continues scarce, and prices at 3 to 3½c. British Columbia salmon 14 to 15c.—*Trade Bulletin*, Oct. 21.

The Growth of Cities.

The following figures from the census of 1890 show the growth in population of American cities during the past twenty years:—

	1870.	1880.	1890.	Ratio of Increase 20 years.
New York.....	1,513,501	1,200,209	945,292	62.6
Chicago.....	1,038,676	603,183	293,087	28.4
Philadelphia.....	1,044,804	847,170	674,022	55.9
Brooklyn.....	806,313	560,063	390,099	103.5
St. Louis.....	450,215	350,518	310,864	44.8
Boston.....	440,507	362,873	250,520	73.2
Baltimore.....	434,151	332,313	267,354	62.4
San Francisco.....	297,090	233,959	149,473	99.4
Cincinnati.....	210,300	235,189	216,231	37.0
Cleveland.....	201,546	169,146	92,227	181.7
Buffalo.....	254,487	155,134	117,714	116.1
New Orleans.....	241,935	216,090	191,418	78.4
Pittsburgh.....	238,473	156,389	86,076	177.0
Washington.....	229,796	147,223	109,199	110.4
Detroit.....	205,069	116,340	79,577	158.4
Milwaukee.....	203,979	118,587	74,410	185.5
Newark.....	181,518	130,668	105,039	72.7
Memphis.....	164,738	46,857	13,036	1,100.8
Jersey City.....	163,987	120,722	82,516	98.5
Louisville.....	161,066	123,758	100,753	58.8
Omaha.....	132,526	50,518	16,083	267.6
Rochester.....	158,337	89,360	62,385	121.7
St. Paul.....	133,156	41,473	29,031	364.7
Kansas City.....	132,416	55,786	32,200	313.5
Providence.....	132,043	104,557	68,904	91.6
Indianapolis.....	107,442	78,056	48,214	122.7
Denver.....	106,670	35,029	4,759	2,141.4
Allegany.....	104,907	78,682	53,180	97.4

The ratio of increase of population for ten years to 1890 is 24.86 per cent., but in assessed valuation 43.46 per cent.

Value of Ready Money, as Taught by a Grocer.

An enterprising grocer in the town of Santa Clara, Cal., has adopted an original method of trade. Each side of the store is fitted up for business on its own account.

In the general arrangement each side is a duplicate of the other, the difference being that one side is for cash and the other for credit.

When a customer comes in, the first question asked is, "Do you wish to buy for cash or on credit?"

If it is a cash customer the goods on the cash side are shown, but if it is one who wants credit he is shown to the other side, and for the first time in his life perhaps made to realize the value of ready money.

Leaking Cars.

To one who often crosses the tracks of railroads entering Chicago the fact is known that a large amount of grain leaks out of the cars through the floors. It is seldom that the tracks are free from grain so located as to show conclusively that it leaked from a car as it passed along.

In a measure shippers are responsible for this. They should refuse to accept old, worn-out cars and see that new and strong ones are well coopered. Some shippers are so careless and thoughtless that they accept any sent to them. Cars so old and weak as to almost fall to pieces from their own weight, frequently arrive, at terminals swaying and creaking under a heavy load of grain. The acceptance of such cars is rank foolishness, even in time of our worst car famines. If you feel that you must throw your grain away, throw it to the needy at your station; it will never do anyone any good scattered along the track of our railroad. The car borers cause some of this trouble, but here the carriers are again to blame for giving them an opportunity to bore holes in the car floors. The yards where these loaded cars are allowed to stand are not guarded near as well as they would be if shippers would do more kicking.—*Chicago Elevator and Grain Trade*.

The New York Life Insurance Co. have opened a general agency in Victoria with Arthur H. Scaife as manager for the province.

An unmistakable depression, says the *British Trade Journal* of October 1st, hangs over many British industries, or it would perhaps be more correct to say over all industries. Speaking of trade prospects generally, we find business men everywhere expressing grave fears as to the coming winter. Of course, such a season as the present is not without precedent. We have had quiet times before and they have been followed quickly by prosperity. It is, however, happily not a common experience for so many of our great industries to be depressed at the same time. The rule is that when one staple trade is quiet another is busy, and thus something like an average balance is maintained. But we are now experiencing an exception, and all alike appear to be under an evil spell.

The Toronto Commercial Travellers' Association held their second annual meeting on the 23rd Sept., at which a large number of members were present. The report of the directors for the year showed satisfactory progress. The election of officers for the ensuing year was the principal business of the evening, and resulted as follows: F. Gallow, president; Jas. Owen, 1st vice-president; H. N. Corrie, 2nd vice-president; S. H. Moore, secretary; A. A. Graham, treasurer; J. Smyth, chaplain; C. F. B. Spencer, marshal; R. Y. Douglas, guard. Directors: L. J. Barwick, W. Soper, J. Smyth, J. R. Mesacar, S. G. Martin, W. M. Grant, J. S. Crofton, R. A. Fletcher, J. McGunnie, J. Mortimer, R. Y. Douglas, R. H. Martin, M. C. Lynde, the retiring president, was made the recipient of a handsome dinner service.