

## THE GROCERY TRADE.

## THE APPLE MARKET.

The market for winter varieties is firm but not active, says the Montreal Bulletin, holders asking \$3.50 to \$4.00 f.o.b. at country points. It is said that Montreal firms hold between 30,000 and 40,000 barrels in Nova Scotia fruit. The sale is reported of 3 cases of Nova Scotia prime stock at \$4.00 f.o.b. cars, and and seconds are quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.50. The great trouble is that the percentage of choice No. 1 is not large, as the bulk, it is said, will not impact No. 1. The high prices are inducing growers to utilize everything in the shape of apples, good, bad and indifferent. Advice from Ontario report the sale of 2 cases of prime winter fruit at 10c f.o.b. cars, which is equal to about \$4.00 per barrel. In this market sales of prime Fameuse at \$4.25 to \$4.50 in good sized lots with higher prices ruling for smaller quantities. Good seconds \$3.00 to \$3.50; inferior, \$2.00 to \$2.50. Several orders for apples from Eastern points have been cancelled, the parties refusing to pay the higher prices.

## GROCERY TRADE NOTES.

Canned tomatoes still hold firm and higher prices may be looked for.

Recent Patras adnotes report an advance of 6d per cwt. on currants.

A conservative estimate places this season's California prune crop at 98,000,000 lbs.

Some dealers now consider the apple situation as more serious than at first anticipated and say that an apple famine is assured.

A cable from Smyrna quoted the market there on Sultana raisins 5s per cwt. higher on better grades than at last advices.

Late advices from Denia in regard to Valencia raisins, report that the declines in prices, amounting to 2s, have been recovered.

The foreign market for raw beet sugar has experienced a further decline of 3/4d for October option and the impression is that prices have not touched bottom yet.

The exportation of salted dog salmon from the Fraser river to Japan has

become a profitable industry and many Japanese firms in British Columbia are now engaged in this business.

In sympathy with the reduction of 15c per 100 pounds made by United States sugar refineries the St. Lawrence and Redpath sugar refining companies made a cut on the 2nd inst. of 10c per 100 pounds in the price of sugars of all grades.

Mail advices from Japan state that the available stock of tea is small and will soon be worth more for home consumption than for export. It is estimated that there will be a shortage of export tea this year of about 1,750,000 pounds.

Reports from California note that the first carload of this season's oranges was shipped to New York two weeks ago today. This was the earliest carload shipment on record. The point of shipment was Porterville, Tulare county. Shippers say that their fruit is well colored. Grape fruit shipments began on October 11.

In previous years the salmon have come to the Fraser river spawning grounds in regular order, first the sockeye, then cohoes, humpbacks and dog salmon, but although these have all come this season the sockeye are still running. The canning has been stopped for some time but some shipments of fresh salmon to the east are being made.

## Hardware Trade Notes.

Eastern screen door and window manufacturers have issued a price list for 1902 which shows slight declines in prices.

Supplies of tinplate in America markets are now plentiful. It will be remembered that there was great scarcity throughout the summer.

Basic pig iron advanced about \$1 per ton at Pittsburgh last week owing to the scramble for supplies by consuming factories. Sales have been made at \$15.75 to \$16.00 per ton and one sale was made at \$18.15 Pittsburgh.

The activity of iron and steel markets on this continent continues unabated. Production and consumption seem to be racing to see which will make the most rapid headway. The increase in both this year has been

very large. Prices hold steady to firm for most lines.

There is trouble between the billion dollar trust of the United States and the American Can Company owing to the refusal of the trust to buy out the plants of this latter company at a big valuation. The can people threaten to enter into the tin plate business themselves unless their requests are complied with which would deprive the steel trust of a large portion of its present tin plate business.

## Implement Trade Notes.

The eighth annual convention of the National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers of the United States was held in Kansas City last week.

Manila hemp is very firm in London and New York and the price has been moving upward recently. London quotations are equal to about 10 1/2c per pound, while New York quotes 10 1/2c to 11c.

W. Hilborn, of Ayr, Ont., manufacturer of plows, was in Winnipeg this week, and intended going on to Brandon. Mr. Hilborn has been making occasional trips to Manitoba for many years.

Wm. Deering, head of the great harvest machinery concern which bears his name, has been passing through a very severe spell of sickness lately and for a time his life was despaired of. At date of last mail advices he was showing signs of improvement and his recovery seemed probable.

Interest is beginning to attach to the twine situation for 1902 and at factories there have already been many enquiries as to the possibilities in regard to prices for next year. Stocks are said to be uncommonly low at present and there is no disposition on the part of manufacturers to name prices. One trade paper says that the market will open at least 2c above prices of last season. The trade seems now to be running largely to sisal twine and the planters in Yucatan are taking advantage of this larger demand to insist on higher prices.

## Lumber Trade Notes.

The main building of the Pigeon River Lumber company's mill at Port Ar-

thur, Ont., is nearly completed, and a considerable portion of the machinery has arrived.

Shingles are firmer in price at Minneapolis, especially Pacific coast stock and an advance is not unexpected. The reason is short stock and inability of the railway companies to bring shipments forward rapidly enough.

By the spring the capacity of the Rat Portage Lumber company's mill on the Rat River will be doubled, giving a capacity of 150,000 feet of lumber per day. This will not interfere with the cut of the Rat Portage mills, and will only increase the output, as the two mills will supply distinct portions of the western country.

## Dairy Trade Notes.

The output of the Minnedosa, Man., creamery this season was 65,534 lbs. of butter.

The egg market improved at Montreal last week on stronger cables from the old country.

Lower prices stimulated the demand for cheese at Montreal last week, and a fairly good week's trade was accomplished.

The butter makers of Denmark are said to be getting alarmed at the increase in demand for their British made by Canadian butter. They have dropped their prices in order to recapture the trade if possible.

The recent activity in butter in Montreal is said to have materially improved the situation there by clearing out a great deal of the stock of held goods. The September and October makes of butter were quite large in the eastern provinces, which tended to depress the market, but now a good part of this stock is out of the way and there is a much healthier feeling.

Australian opossum has become a more expensive fur this year and prices in London are now higher than they have ever been before.

G. W. Ray, of Neudale, Man., says there is good money in raising hogs. He is reported to have cleared \$5,000 last year on sales of porkers. Most Manitoba farmers could raise more hogs to advantage.



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