

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Feb. 6.

The weather is very mild again. The cold snap only lasted about a week, and reports from the range country are satisfactory, as cattle did not suffer, as there was very little snow on the ground and they were able to get their feed easily. Cattle are said to be in good condition, and they have recovered from the effects of the severe weather which lasted for some time during November.

Business in wholesale trade is dull. A large number of merchants were in town this week attending the business men's convention, but they were not buying much, as it is not a buying season in most lines. Railway passenger traffic is increasing, and the immigration season is drawing near. The 4th of February is a heavy day at the banks and the result has been about as was expected. Collections have not been very good of late, owing to the stoppage of the grain movement and the holding of grain by farmers. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week were a trifle less than the like week of last year, but very much larger than the week two years ago.

There were 58 failures in Canada this week compared with 60 in the corresponding week last year, and 52 two years ago.

At New York yesterday money on call was easy at $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3 to 5 per cent. Bar silver 61 $\frac{1}{2}$, Mexican dollars, 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Feb. 6.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

CORDWOOD—The Prices are about the same, and mild weather makes the demand quiet. Pine is held about \$3.50 for cars on track here; tamarac, \$1.25 per cord on track, and poplar at \$2.50 to \$2.75. Prices delivered to consumers about 75c advance on these quotations.

COAL—The cold weather did not last long and this week has been very mild again, and the demand has consequently been quiet. Prices are the same. Prices here are as follows: Pennsylvania anthracite \$10.00; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton. Souris coal \$1.50 ton; Lethbridge \$3.50. These prices are delivered to consumers in Winnipeg. Car lots on track of Souris coal are held at \$3.85 to 3.90 per ton here, or \$1.50 per ton on cars at the mines.

FISH—Prices are as follows: — Finnan Haddies, 7c per lb.; Whitefish, 5 to 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Pickerel, 4c; salmon, 12c halibut, 12c; Cod, 8c; Haddock, 8c per lb.; smelts 10c; herrings 25c per dozen; Oysters, \$1.60 per gallon for standards, \$1.30 for selects, and \$2 to \$2.25 for extra selects and counts; shell oysters, \$8 per barrel; smoked salmon, 15c lb.; bloaters, 1.25 to \$1.40 box; red herrings, 20c box; pickled trout, \$7.50 per barrel of 100 lbs.; pickled whitefish, \$6 per barrel, salt herrings \$3.50 per half barrel; boneless fish, 5c lb.

GREEN FRUITS—Business has not been very brisk, though the weather has been mild. Stocks of apples have been considerably reduced and are not now large, some favorite varieties being scarce. Malaga grapes have advanced 50c per keg. Prices are as follows: Apples, \$2.25 to \$2.50

per barrel as to quality. Mexican oranges, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box; California navel, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per box; California seedling oranges \$3.75 to \$1.00 per box; Messina lemons, \$5 to \$5.25 per box; California lemons, \$1.50 box; Cape Cod cranberries, frozen, \$5 to \$5.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, \$9.90 per keg; bananas, \$2.75 to \$3.50 per bunch; sweet potatoes, \$1.50 to \$5 per barrel; dates, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7c lb.; figs, 13 to 15c lb. for layers.

NUTS—Tarragona almonds, 16c; Sicily filberts, large, 15c. filberts ordinary, 12c. peanuts, roasted, 12c; peanuts, green, 9c. Ontario hickory nuts 9c; Ontario Walnuts 6c; hickory nuts, 10; Grenoble walnuts, 15c; French walnuts, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

DRUGS—Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 5 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c. copperas 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$3.50 to \$7.00; cream tartar, per pound, 30 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; opson salts, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00, insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, peppermint, \$4.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon as to brand; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c, potash iodide, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rochelle 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$4.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.88; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.80. Staminal—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do. 4oz. \$5.10.

HARDWARE—There is no further change this week. Prices are as follows:

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb. 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C. charcoal, 20 by 23, 112 sheets to box, \$9.00 to 9.25; I. X., per box, 20 by 23, 112 sheets to box, \$11.00 to 11.20.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 23, \$9.00 to 9.25.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.35 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs.; \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb., 9 to 11c; Russian sheet, per lb. 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blain, \$3.10

GALVANIZED IRON.—American, 20 gauge, \$4.00; 22 and 24 gauge, \$4.25; 26 gauge \$4.50; 28 gauge, \$4.75 per 100 lbs.

IRON PIPE.—50 to 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

SHEET ZINC—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.00.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar) per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, not list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 guage, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ base; cotton, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.00 to 9.00.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$2.88 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 3 to 6 inch, \$3.20 per keg; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, \$3.33, with usual extras for smaller sizes.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—White leads are very firm, owing to the recent advance in the east. Orders can still be placed here at the old figures, but the tendency is higher. Linseed oil has declined 3c, to 52 and 55c for raw and boiled, which are bottom prices.

WHITE LEAD—Pure, \$6.00 per 100 lbs.

PREPARED PAINTS.—Pure liquid colors per gallon, \$1.15 to \$1.25.

DRY COLORS.—White lead, per lb., 7c; red lead, kegs 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, yellow ochre in barrel lots, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than barrels, 3c; golden ochre, barrels, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than barrels 4c; Venetian, red, barrels, 3c; less than barrels, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; American vermilion, 15c; English vermilion, \$1 per lb., Paris green, 18 to 19c; Canadian metallic oxides, barrel lots 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than barrel lots, 3c; English purple oxides, 100 lb. kegs, 4c; less, than kegs, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ lb.

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35; pale oak, \$1.50; elastic oak, \$1.50 to \$1.75; No. 1 carriage, \$1.50 to \$1.75; hard oil finish, 1.50 to \$2; brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50; No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 15 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$1.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; benzene and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$4.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.10; plasterer's hair, P.P. 90c per bale putty, in bladders, barrel lots 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., for less than barrels per lb., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

WINDOW GLASS.—1st break is quoted at \$1.75 per box of 50 feet and \$2 for second break.

LINSEED OIL.—Raw, per gal., 52c; boiled, per gal., 55c in barrels; less than barrels 5c per gallon extra, with additional charges for cans.

TURPENTINE.—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 55c; less than barrels, per gallon, 58c. An additional charge for packages for small quantities.

OILS.—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 30c per gallon; clear machine oils, \$3 to 40c; cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb.; lard oil, 70c per gal.;