

Grocery Trade Notes.

Barbadoes molasses declined 1c per gallon at the island last week.

The American Sugar Refining Company has declared a quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent.

The prospects are that this year's apple crop in Ontario will be a large one according to some advices.

The war between United States and sugar refiners is supposed to be ended which accounts for the advance in prices.

The outbreak of bubonic plague in Brazil has affected the coffee market in North America and prices are now stiffer.

The advance in sugars of last week influenced the market for syrup to some extent, and prices at factories are now firmer.

Latest cables from Japan indicate that the market for teas is hardening and prices are now 10 per cent higher than two weeks ago.

Ontario strawberries were expected to be in the markets of that province this week. The crop is said to be a good one notwithstanding reports of damage by frost.

Stocks of dried currants at primary points are now running low and the spot market is firmer in consequence. On the other hand there is every prospect of an abundant crop this year.

Several leading wholesale grocery firms in Toronto are reported to be going into the business of canning fruit and vegetables owing to dissatisfaction with the way the business is at present handled.

Some jobbers believe that if sugar prices go any higher they will be able to import European sugar and sell it at a profit. For some time past there has been very little German sugar handled in Canada as the American refiners were underselling it.

John, Marrin & Co., wholesale grocers, Winnipeg, are offering a wide range of salt for household and dairy use. Salt put up specially for butter and cheese makers is a comparatively new line here, and that which is being sold this year by this and other firms is giving good satisfaction. It is put up in double lined, 50-pound packages, and in 280 pound paper-lined barrels.

Advices from the east this week confirm the advance of 5 to 10c per dozen on Canadian canned meats. Some canners have been asking the advance for some time, but a leading Montreal firm has been holding back with the result that the market has not been uniform. This difficulty has now been remedied by the dissenting firm falling into line with the others.

The Montreal canned goods market is reported as follows in the Gazette: "Business in canned goods has been quite of late, and the market, in consequence is almost featureless. Stocks in second hands of certain brands of corn and tomatoes are almost exhausted, and the feeling is very firm. Corn in a jobbing way is selling at \$1.10 to \$1.12½ per dozen, and tomatoes at 90c to 95c per dozen. Some brands of peas are also becoming scarce, and values are firmly held at 55c to 90c per dozen. Beans are quiet and steady at 85c. Since the late advance in pack salmon was established the demand has fallen off to some extent, and sales have been rather slow. Clover Leaf is quoted at \$5.10 for tails, and at \$5.60 for flats, f. o. b., coast, and Fraser River firsts at \$5, and seconds at \$4.50."

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Flannel will be very fashionable again this summer for men's wear.

Cheek goods are greatly in favor for travelling suits and dresses this year.

Ontario jobbing houses are finding a good demand for all kinds of summer lines of dry goods, and an active sorting trade is being done.

Montreal dry goods houses report their sales for the first five months of this year greatly in excess of the same period of 1889. They have also been able to realize better prices.

Eastern jobbers are endeavoring to boom khaki for both ladies and gentlemen's wear this season, and they are showing some fine lines of goods in this color. In the west the fad for it is already beginning to wear off and there is really very little of it worn. The fact that khaki does not become any but certain kinds of complexions which are not very common in this country, has operated against it.

Hardware Trade Notes.

Pig iron has suffered a further decline in prices in the United States. The decline amounts to from 50c to \$1.00 per ton and steel bars 10c per ton.

Canadian iron prices hold much steadier than those of United States mills. Hamilton pig, f.o.b., furnace is worth \$23 per ton for No. 1 and \$22.50 for No. 2.

Swedish iron for fall delivery in Canada is higher in price this year than it has been for some time. At present the quotation is 11s 10d at primary points as against 9s 10d a year ago.

Common glass stand lamps and glass founts for fall trade will be dearer this year owing to higher cost of raw material and labor. The advance is a substantial one, making the price about 50 per cent higher than a year ago.

Quite an advance in the price of wood taps or faucets has been announced. Common cork-lined are now quoted by makers in Canada at 35 per cent discount, an advance of about 50 per cent, compared with the prices ruling last year.

Makers of sad irons dropped their prices another 5c last week. The price of No. 55 polished is now 85c per set, and that of No. 50 nickel-plated 90c per set, with the usual rebate on 12 to 50-case lots. The decline is due to increased competition.

United States producers of iron are beginning to realize that the only cure for the present weakness in the market, which is really due to overstocking, is to cut down production, and this is being done. Already a number of furnaces have been put out and others are to follow.

Canadian manufacturers of chisels and draw knives have arranged to have a uniform scale of prices for these. On chisels the discount on the different makes is now 70 per cent off the list, while on coach and wagon draw knives the discount is 50 and 10 per cent, and on carpenters' draw knives it is 70 per cent.

THE IMPLEMENT TRADE**THE TWINE SITUATION.**

The binder twine market has never been a greater puzzle to both buyers and sellers than during the past six weeks or so. In the face of the most bullish advices imaginable not only as regards the actual amount of twine available and the probable demand for it but also from the brokers

who handle at ocean ports the sisal and manilla hemp from which it is made, from England where a great deal of hemp is handled and from the primary markets in Central America and the Philippine Islands, buyers have this year held back from buying twine. Prices have been unusually high and everybody in the trade believed that next season would see a substantial decline but with the increased area to be reaped this year in the western parts of both the United States and Canada and the diminished supply of fibre with which the manufacturing season has been marked it was not believed possible that honest twine could be sold for even a fraction less than the prices which have all along been quoted. Advices to hand this week from the south seem to indicate however that most of the leading twine houses have clipped a half cent off their quotations for both sisal and manilla twine and it looks as if the decline had become general. The southern harvests are now on and the slight over twine prices has been very keen with the result apparently that buyers here succeeded in securing this much of a concession. The fact that buyers have placed many orders at the ½c decline, shows, however, that the market is not very weak. With southern consumers getting their twine at this much of a reduction those further north have grown dissatisfied and the factories have been obliged to yield to their demands and make the cut more general. If this had not been done it is believed that cancellations would have been numerous. As it is many buyers have still not placed their orders. At Chicago prevailing quotations now are reported to be as follows: Sisal, 11c, standard, 11c; Manilla (600 foot) 13c; pure Manilla, 14c, with the usual reductions for large quantities and carlots. At Minneapolis prices are firmer than at Chicago and all the factories have not followed the decline, while some others have only partially done so. One prominent firm quotes the following prices at Minneapolis and these seem to be about a medium range: Sisal (600 foot) 11c; standard 12c, Manilla (600 foot), 13½c; pure Manilla, (650 foot), 14c; usual reductions for large quantities and carlots.

New York Wool Market.

A New York report says: The market, while showing no appreciable increase in the number of transactions, seems to possess a little more hopeful tone, produced in part by a slight increase in the number of inquiries. A dealer who has just returned from a trip through the mills said yesterday that conditions were decidedly different from the status of affairs two or three months ago. Then manufacturers would not so much as look at samples; now they are willing to examine and will go so far as to discuss prices. To-day it is largely a question of price. Manufacturers are watching the market very carefully and any decided break would probable result in sizable transactions. There is no doubt in the minds of dealers that the majority of manufacturers are allowing their stocks of wool to run lower than usual. There has been practically no buying since the first of the year, and the wool that was bought before that time is, in the minds of the members of the trade, insufficient to carry mills through an entire season. The condition of the goods market has been unsatisfactory and, according to all reports, a large number of orders have been cancelled.