

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In this trade there is no material change noticed this week excepting perhaps that light hardwares have been quieter if anything, and heavy metals have been moving along in a quiet way. Collections have continued quite satisfactory. Prices are unchanged, the following being dealers' quotations: cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I.C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I.C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.00 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron-pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot-tin, 25 to 30c per lb.; galvanized iron, 26 gauge, 7 to 7½c per lb., according to quality; bar-iron, \$2.50 to \$3. per 100 lb.; shot, 6 to 6½c a lb.; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

In this branch business during the week has remained rather quiet owing to a falling off in the demand. Collections are stated to have been very good. Quotations being as follows: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.10; French kip, \$1 to 1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 60c.

LUMBER.

In this branch of trade business during the past week has not shown any material change or improvement since our last report. There appears to be still a few orders coming in now and again, the larger number of these being from the country, apparently only to fill immediate wants which have arisen in different parts of the province. The aggregate of sales taking it all through have been less this week than before, and are seemingly falling off and not much activity is expected before spring trading sets in.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

In this trade business on the whole has been very good during the past week owing to an active demand in the city, especially for glass and such other articles as have been brought into demand by the cold weather which has set in. Collections were fairly good and prices have remained unchanged, quotations being as follows: Linseed oil, raw 75c per gal, boiled 78c; sea oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1 \$1.25 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine, \$7.75; No. 1 \$6.75; No. 2, \$6.25 and window glass, first break, \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

In this branch of trade some improvement is also reported owing to the better demand which sprung up in the event of the cold weather we are having of late, while collections are reported as satisfactory on the whole.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

This business is reported to have continued very good during the last week, the lively demand of the previous two or three weeks having kept up, this being also exhilarated by the de-

mand for holiday goods. Collections were also very good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

In this trade business on the whole was fairly good last week, although the demand was rather quiet in the city, the principal orders received having been from the country. Collections are reported as having been rather slow. Quotations are as follows: Gooderham & Worts, 5 year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old r. v., \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50 Bisquet, Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port Wine \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jarraica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The past week has shown a decided falling off in the grain movement all over the province, and a corresponding falling off in the receipts to and passing this point. The principal cause for this has been the scarcity of cars on the C. P.R. caused by the heavy all through by rail shipment to the east. Other causes have been at work, and among those the direct one of a decrease in receipts at most of the leading points along the main line and branches of the C.P.R. The local mills too have been stocking up in flour, most of them being likely to close down for a considerable time for repairs after the holidays. In this way flour shipments to the east have also been light, and will continue to be so during the balance of this year. In provisions the business done has been rather above an average, and prices have been well maintained. Dairy products have been slightly upward in their tendency, while meats have been steady. Altogether the provision business of the week has been satisfactory and much more active than that of grain.

WHEAT.

During the latter part of the week east-bound receipts were increasing, but they were mostly of damaged lots, while the receipts of higher grades were very light. Prices are practically unchanged and in car lots range as follows: No. 1 hard 50c, No. 2 75c, No. 1 northern 75c, No. 2 65c, No. 3 60c, No. 1 regular 70c, No. 2 65c. No. 3 was received. Frozen lots ranged from 30 to 60c and as high as 65c for those only slightly touched.

OATS.

Receipts have been moderate and buyers not too keen. As yet there is no chance of shipping to eastern markets, owing to prices. The local demand is therefore the only one yet, and that has not been over active during the week. Car lots range from 25 to 28c, the latter figure being paid only for choice.

BARLEY.

As yet we have heard of none being shipped east, and it would not pay to do so at present prices. In the city some small lots of discolored went at 30 to 35c, while 45c was offered for bright samples.

FLOUR.

The shipments to eastern points have fallen off very materially during the week, and millers are adding as rapidly as possible to their stocks in the city, as the largest mill will shut down for several weeks for repairs commencing with the holidays, and it is probable that others will follow a similar course although not for so long a period. A stock to last through the time of silence is therefore being piled up. The local demand still holds out good, and eastern markets are still safe to ship to were the stock available. There has been slight drop in prices of the two highest grades, and quotations are now as follows: patents, \$2.45; strong bakers \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The demand has been quite active all week, and although millers have been anxious to increase stocks in view of shutting down they have not been able to make any material increase. Sales of car lots have been principally for local points and have been made at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts.

POTATOES.

Cold weather has caused receipts to fall off considerably, but the stock in the city is large and prices have not been affected by the falling off. The demand locally holds good, but no car lots can be shipped during the present weather. Small lots have sold at 10c, but car lots can be had at 35c.

EGGS.

The local supply of fresh is now so light that wholesalers get none of it, and only imported lots are offered. Good fresh lots are quoted at 26 to 29c, but ordinary packed can be had at 26c. It is altogether likely that good fresh will bring over 30c before the current week reaches a close.

CHEESE.

The demand has continued rather light during the week, and as a rule only prime lots were asked for. The local supply has been quite liberal, but quite a large share of it still goes direct to the retailers, especially that brought to town by small makers. Medium lots still sell at 9½ to 10c and prime at 10½ to 11c. Some extra fine Ontario lots have been held at 12 to 12½c.

BUTTER.

In this product there has been very little change since our last report, only the easier feeling noted then has given away to one of firmness, and an advance in price of higher grades might take place, were not the supply available so liberal. Some importations from the east have filled the market, and although there is nothing approaching a glut, the supply on hand is heavy. Luckily the stock of medium and low grades is not so heavy, as the demand for them is anything but active. The following are the quotations of dealers: Gilt edge 22c, prime dairy 20 to 21c, mediums 13 to 16, low grades 8 to 10c.

BACON.

There has been a fairly active demand during the week, especially for the finer qualities, but stocks are heavy and that of local cured is on the increase, and car load lots can be filled on call. Prices have been steady and have ranged from 7½ to 9 for dry salt, according to size of lots; smoked 9 to 10c; rolls 11½ to 12½c, breakfast bacon 11½ to 12½c.

HAM.

The demand has been fairly active all week, only smoked being called for. Local cured have been selling steadily at 13c, while eastern have been quoted at 13½c. The gap between the two is gradually closing up.

MESS POPE.

Sales have been few and light during the week, and no improvement is looked for during the balance of this month. The stock in the