

## Prices at Montreal.

Last week there was an inclination to talk prices down, owing to the break in wheat, but since the wheat market has subsequently shown greater strength holders have become more confident and consequently last week's prices are maintained. City strong bakers' have been sold at \$8 in broken lots and car lots have been placed at 10 to 15c less money, although some refuse to sell car lots at under \$6, as they say prices will be higher still shortly. In straight rollers there have been sales of car lots at \$5.40, and in broken lots at 5 to 10c more money. We quote prices as follows: Patent, winter, \$6 to \$6.25; patent, spring, \$5.85 to \$6.30; straight roller, \$5.40 to \$5.50; extra, \$5.10 to \$5.20; superfine, \$4.70 to \$5.00; fine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; city strong bakers' \$5.35 to \$6.00; Manitoba bakers', \$5.60 to \$5.85; Ontario, bags, extra, \$2.40 to \$2.50.

**Oatmeal**—The market continues in a weak and unsettled condition, and what sales have been made were on a lower basis of prices. We quote \$6.15 to \$6.25 for car lots of standard and granulated, and at 10 to 15c more for jobbing lots. It is said, however, these prices have been shaded. Rolled oats are quoted the same as granulated.

**Feed**—The easier feeling in bran has been emphasized by a further decline, sales being reported at \$17 to \$18 per ton in car lots. Shorts are still said to be scarce and are quoted at \$20 to \$21. Moullie has sold at \$26 to \$28 per ton as to quality.

**Wheat**—The market is more or less unsettled. No. 2 hard being quoted at \$1.17 to \$1.18 probably \$1.17 representing fair value. No. 2 white and red winter wheat is quoted here at \$1.15 to \$1.16 nominally.

**Oats**—Market decidedly weak and lower, No. 2 Ontario oats having been reported at 54 to 55c per 34 pounds. Manitoba mixed oats were offered at 51c per 34 pounds, but buyers are not willing to go above 50c.

**Barley**—Market has further receded, feed descriptions being quoted at 58 to 60c per bushel. Malting grades are quoted at 68 to 70c as to quality.

**Provisions**—Canada short cut, \$17.50 to \$18 per barrel in jobbing parcels, a lot of 70 barrels being reported sold at \$17. Chicago heavy clear mess steady at \$17 to \$18 per barrel as to quantity. Chicago new mess pork is quoted at \$16 to \$16.50, and old do. at \$14 to \$14.50 per barrel; hams, 11c; breakfast bacon, 10c, and pic-nic hams, 9c. Lard is held at \$1.60 to \$1.65 per pail.

**Butter**—Creamery butter is selling to the local jobbing trade at 23c for the May make. In dairy butter there is no accumulation of supplies, and all choice western is picked up on arrival at 20 to 22c. Western rolls are now about over for the season, but the few lots that have been received have gone off at 16 to 18c; a few small packages of Morrisburg rolls bringing 19 to 20c.

**Cheese**—A few sales have taken place at 10½ to 10¾c. It is expected the supply for next week's steamers will run short as factory men are not free sellers. Last year at this time sales were made on this market at 11 to 11½c per pound.

**Eggs**—There is a little easier feeling in the market, and we still quote 11½ to 12c for jobbing lots. A round lot sold at 11c. It is believed that the large western packers are about

through with their pickling. Further consignments of eggs are going forward by this week's steamers to England.

**Maple products**—Sales are difficult to effect. A lot of about 20 kegs of rather thin syrup was offered at 4½c per pound, and the very best can be had at 5c, but even at this figure it does not sell readily. Syrup in cans is quoted at 60 to 65c, one lot selling at 55c. In sugar the demand is also slow, a few moderate sized lots being placed at 7 to 7½c per pound, dark sugar in large and ungainly shapes selling at 6 to 6½c per pound.

**Hides**—Easier. We learn of one or two sales at 6½c for No. 1 to Quebec tanners, which is a concession of ½c per pound, former transactions being at 6½c. Dealers are still paying 6c, 5c and 4c for Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and tanners prices are 6½ to 6¾c for No. 1, 5½ to 5¾c for No. 2 and 4½ to 4¾c for No. 3.

**Leather**—The market continues very dull, sales of manufacturers' sole have been made at 15½ to 16½c for No. 2 and at 17 to 19c for No. 1. Choice plump selected B.A. is quoted at 20 to 21c for No. 1. A lot of 100,000 pounds of sole leather is being shipped from this port to England this week. In black a few sales of waxed upper have transpired at from 23 to 24c for common, and at 25 to 27½c for the best qualities. A round lot of Quebec splits was sold at 12½c. In other lines there is no particular change.

**Groceries**—Mostly all the common Japan teas have been picked up, although it is surprising how cheap they can be had when a buyer who means business puts in an appearance. It is stated that nothing in Japan can now be had under 16c by dealers and yet a lot was offered at 15c this week without finding a buyer. Sales, however, have been reported at 16 to 18c for common to medium qualities and at 17½ to 19c for good medium. Fine to finest are quoted at 20 to 2½c and choicest 26 to 30c. The coffee market continues very firm for most kinds, especially for Rio, Java and Jamaica. A lot of 50 bags of Jamaica was sold on pt. supposed to be very close to 20½c, and we quote 20½ to 22c; Java, 25 to 30c; Mocha, 26 to 30c. There is no change from the dull tone in sugars, refiners selling very little out of stock. This is not to be wondered at considering that consumers are getting cheaper sugars from across the border in spite of the extra vigilance of the customs authorities in trying to put a stop to the extensive smuggling that has been going on. Prices here are unchanged at 6½c for granulated, and 5 to 5½c for yellows, less the usual cash discounts. There has been a further decline in New York, refiners there having been compelled to adopt that course in order to compete with the Scotch sugars now coming into American markets. The demand for syrups has been quiet, but prices are firm in sympathy with molasses, and we quote 3½ to 4c in wood as to quality. In molasses the strong feeling has been maintained, the market in Barbadoes having advanced ½c on the week to 22½c f.o.b. which is equal to about 37c here, and we quote 37c to 39c for Barbadoes as to quantity. In canned goods, buyers of salmon are anxiously awaiting offers from agents of British Columbia packers. Prices from store in this market are quoted at \$1.35 to \$1.40 per dozen. Canned lobsters are steady at \$7.30 to \$7.40 per case, and mackerel at \$4.24 per case. Tomatoes continue firm at \$1.40 to \$1.45. A strong market continues for currants which

have sold at 5½ to 6c for Provincials in barrels. The market for Valencia raisins is demoralized, owing to the large quantities of inferior fruit offering from New York. Twenty three samples of these raisins were seen in Quebec a few days ago, costing 2½ to 3c in New York, and all of them were pronounced sour. It is stated that as soon as the hot weather sets in these goods will be worthless and then the good brands will be called for. Sales of common fruit have transpired at 5½ to 5¾c, but choice brands are still held at 5½c.

**Money**—Locally shows signs of hardening. Call loans have been made at 4½ and Time loans (3 months) at 5 per cent. Commercial paper at 6 to 7 per cent.

**Ocean Freights**—Ocean grain freights are dull and lower, engagements having been made at 1s 6d per quarter to Liverpool and Glasgow, London and Bristol being quoted at 1s 9d to 2s. It is reported that as low as 1s 3d has been taken for Liverpool.—*Trade Bulletin*, May 15.

## Toronto Cattle Market

About 20 loads were offered for sale and among them were a few loads of export cattle and stockers. All the cattle fit for export were rapidly taken up at prices ranging from 4½ to 5½c per pound but mostly at about 5½c, only a few head of rather inferior stuff, touching the lower quotation. Local butchers were good buyers, and by noon nearly all the stock offered found a market. Prices were well maintained ranging from \$4.75 to \$5.12 per cwt. for good to choice cattle, and from \$4.25 to \$4.75 for fair to good. Very few head of inferior cattle were to be seen on the market, and they were sold in bunches and car lots so that quotations of that class of stock could not be given.—*Empire*, May 18.

The Trans Continental Railway Association has decided to increase second-class passenger rates from the Pacific coast to points in the east \$5, and also to increase round trip tickets from the coast \$10. This will affect tickets to Winnipeg. The increase went into effect on the 18th instant.

The paint manufacturers of Canada, says a report from Toronto, are organizing a combine. The firms already agreeing to the terms include several of Toronto and Montreal, and one or Halifax. The conditions of the combine are said to be three factories, one each in Toronto, Montreal and Halifax.

The publishers of *The Dominion Illustrated* offer the sum of \$130 in four prizes for short stories from Canadian writers: 1st prize, \$60; 2nd, \$40; 3rd, \$20; 4th, \$10. On the following conditions: 1st. All stories must be delivered at the office of *The Dominion Illustrated* not later than 1st June next. 2nd. Each story to contain not less than 5,000 words, and not to exceed 8,000 words. 3rd. All MS. sent in for this competition to become the property of *The Dominion Illustrated*. 4th. Each story must contain a motto on top of first page, and be accompanied by a sealed envelope, inside of which is stated the name and address of the writer. The outside of envelope to bear motto used on story. 5th. MS. to be written in ink, and on one side of paper only. 6th. Stories on Canadian subjects are preferred. The Sabiston Litho. & Pub. Co., Publishers "The Dominion Illustrated," Montreal.