

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Aug. 21.

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.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The shoe trade is fairly active, as the busy fall season is now coming on. Prices are firm. Leather is much the same, prices holding steady.

DRY GOODS.—Advices from the east indicate that very little headway has been made in the movement to shorten credits. Dating ahead on long terms are said to be quite common on fall business. Just now is a very critical time for the crops, but a couple of weeks of good weather will see a great deal of the crop safely in stack, and then fall business will go ahead with confidence. The general situation in dry goods is in favor of firm prices, and advances in some lines are of weekly occurrence. The sharpest recent advances are in bright, lustrous fabrics, which are having a tremendous sale in the United States for next spring, and it is said that British factories are fairly swamped with orders for this class of goods, including lustrous, silosias, etc. Domestic tweeds are said to show improved quality this season.

GROCERIES.—The government has extended the season for taking salmon in British Columbia, and this, with the unexpectedly heavy run of fish in the Fraser river, will increase the pack to much greater proportions than has been counted upon, consequently an easier feeling in canned salmon may be looked for. In other domestic canned goods there is nothing eventful. New peas have arrived in the local market. In sugars a decline was reported at the Eastern refineries, 4c having been accepted for large orders of granulated and 4½c for smaller lots. Yellows at the refineries were quoted at 8 1-6 to 8½c. This decline is attributed to the small demand, and not to any general weakness in the sugar situation, prices abroad being fairly firm. New walnuts and almonds are likely to be higher, owing to poor crops.

HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.—The most important feature in the hardware trade is the big advance in cut nails in the east. An advance was expected, but nothing like such a big jump all at once was thought of. The manufacturers, however, met and decided on an advance of 40c per keg, advancing the base price from \$2.10 to \$2.50. Wire nails have also been advanced by a reduction of the discount from 75 and 5 per cent to 75 per cent straight. Canada and tin plates are firm. An advance of 1c in the south on turpentine has been reported.

GREEN FRUITS.—Blueberries are still having a large sale, but the season is now well advanced, and a great many now being received here, especially those coming in bark packages and large boxes, are unfit for re-shipment, and have to be sold at low prices, ranging sometimes under 4c. The demand for plums, peaches, etc., for preserving has been in excess of the supply, but receipts are now on the increase. California and Oregon plums are coming forward, and a straight car of British Columbia plums will be received here on Monday by Rublee, Riddell & Co. The arrival of this car of fruit is looked forward to with interest, as it is the first straight car of plums ever forwarded to this market from British Columbia, and is the beginning of what is expected to become an important trade in time. This car is shipped from Mission, British Columbia. Oregon peaches and pears are also coming forward. California grapes continue to arrive in poor condition and have sold at low prices, not being fit to re-ship. Dealers will likely stop importing these grapes for a few days, hoping they will improve in quality later. Apples are in good supply. Some choice late Valencia oranges are in the market. Ontario toma-

atoes are coming in. Prices are: California oranges, Mediterranean sweet and late Valencia \$1 to \$1.25 per box as to size; Messina lemons, \$0.50 to \$7 per box; bananas, \$2.25 to \$3 per bunch as to size; California peaches \$1.20 to \$1.40 per box; California, Oregon and British Columbia plums, \$1.40 to \$1.60 per box; California and Oregon pears, \$2.25 to \$3.00 per box; southern apples, \$3.75 to \$1.25 per barrel; southern concord grapes, 65c per 8 lb basket; California grapes, tokays \$3.00 to \$3.25 per crate; do. muscats, \$3.00 to \$3.25; tomatoes, \$2.50 per bushel basket and \$1.25 per 20 lb. basket; Watermelons, \$3.50 to \$1.00 per dozen; Blueberries, 1 to 5c per lb. as to quality, the lower price for barks and large, rough packages. Layer figs, 10 lb boxes, 15c per pound, do., 14 ounce boxes, \$1.50 per dozen. Dates, 7 to 7½c a lb. Maple sugar, 8 to 10c lb; maple syrup, 90c to \$1.10 per gallon. Some native fruits are offering on the street market, mostly wild varieties of currants, raspberries, plums, cranberries, blueberries, etc.

WHEAT.—The wheat markets have been in a very unsatisfactory state this week. United States markets declined heavily the first four days of the week, influenced by lack of export demand, foreign selling and more favorable domestic crop reports. The heavy spring wheat crop in the Northwest is the principal load to carry at present, though the early marketings of new spring wheat show poor quality. The visible supply continues to decrease each week, showing nearly a million bushels decrease last week. There are not a few authorities who discredit the big crop estimates of the three Northwestern States, and put the total crop thirty to forty million bushels less than popular estimates.

The Hungarian minister of agriculture announces as a result of data obtained from consuls and specialists that the world's wheat crop for 1895 is as follows: The total production in countries which export wheat is estimated at 749,022,000 bushels. In countries which export, the total production is 1,651,701,000 bushels. The minister also amends the estimate of the crop of 1894 so as to make the total in that year 2,632,070,000 bushels, showing that the crop of 1895 is 232,000,000 bushels less than that of 1894.

Exports from both coasts of the United States and Montreal this week reported by Bradstreet's amount to 2,889,000 bushels, against 1,824,000 bushels last week, 8,182,000 bushels in the week a year ago; 4,960,000 bushels two years ago; 4,606,000 bushels in the like week of 1892, and 6,848,000 in 1891.

WHEAT LOCALLY.—Never in the history of the Manitoba grain trade have we seen the feeling so sluggish at the beginning of the movement of the new crop. New wheat is offering, but there are no buyers. The high price at which old wheat is held locally, together with the declining tendency of the world's markets, is no doubt accountable for this. The big milling concerns have quite a lot of old wheat and they are not hungry for the new crop, while the great weakness in foreign markets seems to have paralyzed exporters for the movement. No new wheat has been offered on spot here, but some samples have been shown and bids have been asked for, to ship from country points. The only bid we have heard of was 51c offered for 35,000 bushels, on track at a country point, rate 18c per 100 pounds to Fort William. The first actual shipment of new wheat was one car shipped from Gretna by the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, to their mill at Keewatin, grade No. 1 hard. This wheat was taken in without a price being named, which is equal to receiving for storage. A little new wheat has been marketed at several points this week, principally at Gretna and vicinity, and is all being received on store. Next

week receipts of new wheat are expected to be quite heavy at a few points in the early harvest districts. As we have stated, buying has not begun for new wheat. We state elsewhere in an editorial that wheat would be worth about 50c to the producer in Manitoba, but this was written early in the week, and prices have declined sharply since then, so that the outlook today is nearer 45c to the producer, on an export basis. We hear of no sales of old wheat. One party who has been offering two cars for two weeks, has not sold yet. If the weather keeps fine, and the new crop comes in hard and dry, old wheat will not bring but a very small premium over new wheat, and the latter is worth 61 to 63c afloat Fort William, present export basis.

FLOUR.—The flour market is weak and a decline in prices is predicted by some, owing to weak eastern markets and the very depressed condition of the wheat market this week. Prices have declined 15 to 80c per barrel in Eastern Canada markets, one report quoting a drop of 80c at Toronto in Manitoba flour, and this was before the decline in wheat in the United States, which will make the flour market still weaker. The local mills are running again, and have a good supply of old wheat to work on. Sales by millers here are made at \$2.05 for patents and \$1.85 for strong bakers per sack of 93 lbs. delivered to city retail dealers. Second bakers \$1.60 to \$1.65, XXXX about \$1.35 to \$1.40 per sack according to brand. These are net cash prices the nominal quotation being 5c higher.

MILLSTUFFS.—Millstuffs are still scarce, particularly for shorts, though there is a little to be obtained now, whereas there was no shorts in the city a week ago. Prices are relatively higher in the east for millstuffs than here, and millers have kept sold up close. The quotation to the local trade is \$11 for bran and \$18 for shorts per ton, with small quantities held at \$1 per ton more.

GROUND FEED.—Prices range from \$19 to \$21 per ton, as to quantity and quality, for ground oats and barley feed.

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is nominally unchanged, but the tendency is easier, in sympathy with the lower tendency in oats and declining eastern markets. We quote \$1.90 to \$2 per sack of 80 pounds, in broken lots to retail dealers, as to quality. Standard and granulated meal, \$2.15 in small lots, per sack of 100 lbs. for best grades. In the east oatmeal has declined 5 to 10c per barrel.

OATS.—Considerable interest is now being taken in new oats. Quite a number of samples have been shown here, and they appear to be of extra quality. The season has been favorable for the oat crop, in producing a fine heavy sample, and if the weather keeps dry for stacking and threshing, Manitoba will have the best crop of oats both in quantity and quality, ever produced in the province. A few loads have been marketed by farmers, and sold for 23 to 30c per bushel of 34 pounds. These prices will certainly be lower as supplies increase. We do not hear of any sales of car lots of new. Some were offered to ship here, but were not taken. No cars offered on spot yet. Prices of oats have continued to decline heavily in Eastern Canada at the rate of almost ½c per day, so that the outlook for an early shipping movement from here is not too good. Old oats are offering on track here at about 80c for feed grade.

BARLEY.—A good many samples of new barley have been shown some of which are very nice, bright samples. We hear of sales of three cars here of new crop at 80c per bushel of 48 pounds. Prices are, however, a little irregular yet. A few loads of new crop have been marketed by farmers.

FLAX SEED.—Dull at about \$1.50 per bushel in a retail way.