

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

General wholesale trade, as is usually the case at this season of the year, is at a low ebb. The dull season of the year is now being passed through, and in about all branches there is next to nothing doing in the line of new business. In some lines it will not be until signs of spring are clearly marked, that a resurrection of business will be looked for. Stock-taking is quietly proceeding in many warehouses, undisturbed by the demands of purchasers. In textile lines, travellers are going out on the road again for spring orders. The general situation as to prices is firm in textiles, especially in imported woollens. The situation financially is, of course, not improving. A good many renewals are being asked for, and there is considerable uncertainty, if not mistrust, as to what the next few months may develop.

DRUGS.

Prices in this branch are as follows: Howard's quinine, 60 to 75c; German quinine, 50 to 60c; morphia, \$2.25 to \$2.50; iodide of potassium, \$4.25 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 50 to 55c; English camphor, 55 to 60c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 65 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$7 to \$9; bicarb soda, \$4.00 to \$4.50; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5; coppers, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5; sulphur roll, \$4.50 to \$5; American blue vitriol, 8 to 10c.

DRIED FRUITS.

Valencia raisins hold strong in outside markets. Quotations here are as follows: California London layer raisins, \$3.25 per box, do, $\frac{1}{2}$ boxes, \$1.00; Valencia raisins, \$2.25 box; new currants, 6½c pound; dried apples 6½c to 7½c per pound, evaporated apples, 12½c; Figs in 10 lb. boxes, per lb., 15c to 16c; choice new season figs 18c lb; Fancy Elmer layer figs, 28 lb boxes, 25c lb; figs in 1 lb. cartoons, per doz., \$1.75; Golden dates, in 50 lb. boxes, per lb., 9c; California evaporated fruit—apricots, per lb., 18c to 20c; fancy peeled peaches, per lb., 24c to 27c; pitted plums, 12½c; raspberries, 32½c; French prunes, 12½c per lb; Nectarines, 18c.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

The market is fairly stocked with varieties of fresh fish. Quotations are oysters: \$2.25 per gallon for standards and \$2.50 for selects, for good stock. Cans are quoted at 35c for standard, 40c for selects, and 45c for extras. Finnen haddies are offering at 10c per pound. Yarmouth bloaters, smoked, per box of 100 fish, \$2.25. Fresh smelts, 12c per pound. Fresh lake fish are quoted: Whitefish, 6c; pickerel, 2½ to 3c; jackfish, 2c per pound.

GREEN FRUITS AND NUTS.

There is nothing new in the market, and since the holiday demand business has been very dull. The Toronto Empire has the following to say of apples: "There cannot be noted any greater movement in apples to consumers, and the local market appears to be decidedly quiet. Wholesalers report a slow sale for all apples, although they still hold prices firm. Very little Michigan fruit now remains in the city. It was found that the Michigan apples were not keeping well, so dealers disposed of them as rapidly as possible, in some cases at prices below market quotations. Choice apples may be quoted from \$3.50 to \$3.75 per bbl, and medium fruit from \$3 to \$3.25, with inferior

stock going down to \$2.75 per bbl." Here prices are steady as follows: Lemons, Messina, 300 count, \$6.50; 360 count, \$7 per box, do, Malaga, \$6.50 per box; Jamaica oranges, \$6.00; box, Florida oranges, \$5.50 to \$6.00; southern apples, \$4.00 to \$4.25, choice eastern Canada apples, \$4.50 per barrel; California pears, \$4.00 per box; Almeria grapes, \$8 to \$8.50 per keg; choice Cape Cod cranberries, \$10.25 to \$10.50 per barrel; Bell & Cherry cranberries, \$10.25 per barrel; Jersey cranberries, per box of one-third barrel, \$2.60; onions—Southern, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; Spanish onions, \$1.25 crate; Cider, per gal., 35c; comb honey, in 14 lb. boxes, 25c per pound. Nuts—S. S. Taragona almonds, 20c per lb; Grenoble walnuts, 18c; Sicilian, filberts, extra large, 16c; peanuts, white Virginia, green, 15c; roasted, 17c; cocoanuts, per hundred \$9.00.

GROCERIES.

There has been a further decline in the price of sugars at eastern refineries, white having been reduced 3-16c, making in all ½c reduction; refiners' prices for granulated being 7½c to 7¾c. Willett & Hamlen, New York, in their weekly report, say: "Raws declined ½c. Refined declined ¾c. In the absence of business quotations must be considered entirely nominal. Receipts to refiners have been remarkably light, but they have not been obliged to call upon importers for further supplies, as the demand for their product has continued to be very small. Under present conditions, even with their small stock, the refiners are tempted to keep out of the market for the time being, with the hope of securing further supplies a little later on at reduced cost. A sale of 98° Cuba centrifugals, afloat, has been made at 3½c cost and freight, and it is rumored that another cargo has since been sold at 3½c on the same basis. Meltings for the week were only 10,017 tons. The total stock in all hands has been reduced to 26,654 tons. Total stock in principal countries at latest uneven dates, is 647,553 tons, against 529,749 tons at same time last year." Coffees are reported firm. Quotations were: Sugars, yellow, 6½ to 7½c, as to quality; granulated, 8½c; lumps, 10c. Coffees—Rios, from 22 to 25c; Java, 25 to 30c; Old Government 33 to 34c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas, Japan 23 to 46c; Congous, 22 to 59c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 26 to 50c. T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 47½c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 56c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c. McAlpine Tobacco Co's plug tobacco: Old Crow, 47c; Woodcock, 52c; Beaver, 63c; Jubilee, 60c; Anchor, 59c; cut tobacco: Silver Ash, 65c; Cut Cavendish, 70c; Senator 50c; Standard Kentucky, light, 85c; do dark, 80c. Special brands of cigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40, Terrier, \$30 per 1000. Lion "L" brand mixed pickles, in kegs, are quoted: Three gallons, \$2.50; do. five gallons, \$3.50; do. 10 gallon kegs, \$6.50.

HIDES.

Not much doing in hides, and mostly country offering. On the market here 3½ to 4c was paid for frozen country hides, which is a high valuation in view of the dullness and low prices east, and is as much as could be obtained in the markets of Toronto or Montreal. By grade prices here are quoted as follows: Hides, Winnipeg inspected No. 1, 3½ to 4c; No.

2, 2½ to 3c; No. 3, 2 to 2½c per lb. Calf skins are quoted at 5c. for No. 1 and 4c. for No. 2 and kip are taken at 4 to 5c per pound. Sheep and lambskins are worth about 50 to 65c each for fresh killed skins. Tallow quoted: Rough, 2½ to 3c. rendered 4½ to 5c.

HARDWARE.

In this market business is now very quiet and prices are largely nominal. The feeling, however, is very firm, and it is felt certain that there will be a strong upward tone in prices as soon as the spring movement begins. Dealers cannot replace stocks to sell at ruling prices, and in some lines goods will cost more laid down here in bulk than they could have been bought for here a short time ago. Knowing that stocks cannot be replaced except at much higher prices, the feeling in the trade is very strong, and as soon as an active movement sets in prices are sure to tend upward. A cable from Glasgow, Scotland, dated January 3, says: "The iron market is again greatly excited. Pig iron has advanced to £3 6s per ton, the highest price touched since the recent boom in that commodity was inaugurated." Local prices are nominally unchanged as follows: Cut nails, 10d, and upwards, \$3.40; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6.50 as to grade; I. C. tin plates double, \$11.50 to \$12.00; Canada plates, \$1.15 to \$4.25; sheet iron, \$4.00 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, net pieces. 1 inch, 10½c; 1½ inch, 13½c; 2 inch, 17c; 2 inch, 26c per foot; ingot tin, 32c per lb.; bar tin, 33c per pound; sheet zinc, 8c per lb.; galvanized iron, 28 gauge, 8½ to 9c lb; bar iron, \$3.60 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½ to 6¾; per lb.; tarred felt \$2.40 to \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½c nett.

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.

Business in this branch is now very dull, and quotations nominal as follows: Turpentine in barrels, inscribed gages, 85c per gallon; turpentine, in barrels, guaranteed measurement, or in 5 gallon cans, 90c gallon; linseed oil in barrels, raw 72c; boiled 75c; benzine and gasoline, 50c; pure oxide paints, in barrels, 90c per gallon; coal tar \$6 a barrel; Portland cement, \$4.75 a barrel; Michigan plaster, \$3.40 a barrel, putty, in bladders, 3½c a pound, bulk in barrels, 3c; whiting in barrels, \$1.50 a cwt; Crown pure white lead, \$7.50; Royal Charter, \$7.00; Railroad, \$6.50; Alabastine, \$7.50 per case of 20 packages. Window Glass, first break, \$2.20 to 2.25.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Quotations are as follows: Spanish sole, 26 to 30c; slaughter sole, 26 to 3½c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 75c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 70c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1, wax upper, 40 to 45c; grain upper, 50c; harness leather, 26 to 29c for plump stock. English oak butts, 50c; buffe, 17 to 21c a foot; cordovan, 17 to 21c; pebble, 21c; colored linings, 12c; shoe uppers, from \$1.25 to \$2.75.

RAW FURS.

Owing to the high prices which have ruled for furs, it is again necessary to caution country dealers against paying top figures for any but the choicest pelts. It is known that the present winter's trade in manufactured furs has not been up to expectations, both in Europe and America. The very mild weather has been against the sale of fur goods, and the higher prices has no doubt also curtailed purchases of