

steady. For wheat, not very much business is passing, though the home demand for milling purposes is fair. Practically no export demand exists. Corn is a little firmer.

Fruit.—Receipts of fruit, more particularly strawberries, have been large this week. Most of the offerings sell at 5c. to 7c., or 8c., but poor stock goes as low as 3c. The demand for preserving purposes has set in. Cherries and gooseberries from the Southern States are arriving, also tomatoes in considerable quantities. Pineapples are offering in about average quantities. We quote: Apples, per barrel, \$2 to \$3.50; bananas, \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bunch; oranges, California navel, per box, \$3.50 to \$4.25; Valencia, \$6 per box for ordinaries, \$7 for large 420's; lemons, Messina, \$3 to \$3.50; Sorrento, \$3.25 to \$4.25; cocoanuts, per sack, \$3.75; tomatoes, \$3 per case; strawberries, 5 to 8c.; pineapples, \$2.50 to \$3.50 per crate; cherries, \$1 per basket; beans, \$1.75 to \$2.25 per basket.

Groceries.—The demand for sugar has improved, owing to it being required for

fruit preserving, and prices keep firm; though no chance has so far taken place. The position in New York is reported firmer. In dried fruits, little is doing. The canned goods situation is fairly strong, and advances are looked for in Salmon. French sardines are still very scarce. In teas, the strength which developed some few weeks ago has continued.

Hardware.—A very active trade is being carried on under this heading, and the demand for practically all seasonable goods may be described as never better. Difficulty is still found in getting deliveries made to time. Fairly good conditions prevail in the heavy metals trade, though the position in Britain and the States is a little clouded.

Hides and Leather.—A firm market exists for hides of good quality. Lambskins are steady, as also are calfskins. In tallow, no change has taken place, and the market is somewhat easy. In leather, but little is doing just now, but prices keep firm.

Live Stock.—Somewhat brisker, buying prevailed for export cattle at the local market this week. Some of the offerings being of distinctly better grade than usual of late. Butchers' cattle, however, showed an easier tendency, a condition often noticeable at this time of the year. Prices dropped on the average some 10c. per cwt., though higher grades retained their position. Milch cows sold pretty well at old prices. Calves were in light supply, and all sold quickly.

Provisions.—The quality of the butter coming into this market during the last few days has shown marked improvement, owing to the seasonable rains. Choice qualities are in good demand. Cheese is firmer, in sympathy with advices from England, and with quotations in the country. Eggs are a little higher in price, owing to comparative scarcity, perhaps due to the rainy weather. Prices are firmly held in the provision trade; the demand for bacon and hog products generally being enhanced by the warmer weather.

Wool.—Offerings of wool are somewhat greater, but still by no means plentiful. The market for new clip is a fairly steady one. Holders of fleeces are not satisfied with the prices offered.



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