

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, September 12, 1896.

The weather has been rather unfavorable for the crop, owing to the cool, cloudy weather, with showers, consequently threshing has been delayed and the movement of new wheat is retarded. Labor is well employed. All the farm hands brought in from the East were wanted, and in some districts farm hands are scarce. More men have been brought in to work on the Dauphin railway, and some have been brought in for the western coal mines, where work is being pushed more actively to prepare for the increased demand for coal, which will soon be felt. General wholesale trade is quiet. Bank clearings at Winnipeg show an increase of about 3 per cent. as compared with the like week of 1895, and an increase of about 30 per cent. as compared with the like week of 1894. Business failures in Canada this week number 41, against 30 last week, 22 in the week a year ago, 38 two years ago against 36 three years ago, as reported by Bradstreets.

In the United States there has been larger buying of hides, wool, leather, pig iron and some other staples, and the outlook is considered improved. Prices of all staples are very low, and corn and cats are unprofitable at present prices. The stock market at New York was firmer yesterday. Money on call was easier at 3 to 6 per cent. Best mercantile paper, 7 to 9 per cent. Bar silver, 65½c. Mexican dollars, 50½c. Money in England is dearer.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Sept. 12

[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.]

COAL.—The recent advance in the States of 25c per ton on anthracite, has not affected this market, though local dealers say that they should obtain the advance to be on a parity with prices elsewhere. The total advance on Pennsylvania anthracite in the States now amounts to \$1.85 per ton, while the advance here has been \$1.50 per ton. The quotations ruling in the Buffalo market are as follows: For anthracite coal per 2,210 lbs., delivered free on board vessels at Buffalo, \$5.05 for grates and \$5.30 for egg, stove and chestnut. The native Souris coal will sell here \$1.50, which is an advance of 25c over last winter's prices. Lethbridge coal will probably be held at \$7 per ton, which is an advance of 50c. Pennsylvania anthracite is quoted at \$10, and western anthracite at \$9.50 per ton. These prices are delivered to consumers, in Winnipeg. The force of men at the western mines is being increased to prepare for the winter rush.

DRUGS.—The only feature noted is a decline abroad in cream of tartar of 1s 6d to 2s per ton. Prices here for parcel lots are as follows, with liberal reductions for large orders: Alum per pound, 3½ to 4½c; alcohol, \$5.25 gallon; bleaching powder per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 5 to 7c; borax 11 to 13 cents; bromide potash, 65 to 75c; camphor, 85 to 95c; camphor, ounces 90 to 1.00; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; copperas 3½ to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$6.50 to \$7.00; cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; opium salts, 3½ to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 19c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 40 to 50c; glycerine, per pound, 30 to 35c; ginger, Jamaica, 30 to 35c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine,

per ounce, 45 to 55c; iodine, \$5.50 to 6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.75 to 3.25; oil, poppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.50 to \$1 per gallon as to brand; oxalic acid, 18 to 16c; potassium iodide, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 18 to 20c lb; saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rochella, 30 to 35c; shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 8½ to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 8½ to 5c; soda bicarb., per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$1.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c; strychnine, pure crystals 80c to \$1.00 per oz.

DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.—Grenoble Walnuts, 14c; Tarragona almonds, 15c; princess paper shell almonds, 2½c; Sicily filberts, large, 12c; Brazil nuts, 14c; peanuts, roasted, 13c; peanuts greens, 11c; Ontario black walnuts, 8c; butternuts, 9c; hickory nuts, 10c per pound; coconuts, \$1.00 per dozen; figs, new, 9 lb. boxes, 14c; figs, superior, 35 lb. boxes, 19c; figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb; dates, new, 6 and 7c per lb., apricots, 13½ to 14c; dried apples, 5½ to 6c; evaporated apples 6 to 7c per lb.

FISH.—It is stated that there has been a great loss of fish at the Lake Winnipeg fisheries this season, owing to rough weather, which made it impossible for the fishermen to lift their nets in time, and many fish were spoiled in the gill nets. The extension of the open season for one month, which has been granted by the government, will enable the fishing companies to make up some for the losses earlier, if the weather is favorable. Fresh cod and haddock are arriving in small lots and oysters are being received regularly. Prices of fresh fish are: Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Pickerel, 4c; Sturgeon, 8c; salmon, 14c; halibut, 12½c; Cod, 10c; Haddock, 10c per lb; Oysters, \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.50 for selects; smoked goldeyes, 30c dozen; smoked salmon, 15c lb.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$1.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminol—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz. \$5.10.

GREEN FRUITS.—Lemons are not in active demand owing to cool weather. Ontario apples of fine quality are arriving and selling at low prices. Very large receipts of crab apples have come in and prices are very low, any off quality have sold at \$1.75 to \$2 per barrel, and a good many have been somewhat heated in transit. Ontario tomatoes are offering but have been scarce. Ontario plums have been mostly out of condition on arrival here, and have been sold for whatever they would bring. A car of Ontario Concord grapes is in, and other varieties are also offering. In Pacific coast fruit peaches have continued scarce and the few arriving have been taken as fast as they came in. A car of peaches is reported on the way, but large receipts are not expected. Washington plums are offering freely. A few good bananas are coming. The first car of the season of British Columbia fruit came in and was sold at auction yesterday, composed of plums and a few pears, all in 20 pound baskets. There were a few very fine plums, but the bulk of the car was about ruined, the fruit having been too ripe, or either very badly heated in transit, and a great deal of it was entirely spoiled, making a heavy loss to the shippers. The plums had evidently been very fine fruit, but the condition they were in made them unfit for sale. It is a pity that British Columbia packers will not adopt the style of packing followed in the Pacific coast states, as the fruit from those states usually reaches here in fine order, and there would seem to be no reason why the

British Columbia fruit should not come in as good condition, if packed the same and shipped before it is too ripe. Watermelons are slow sale and the season is about over for them. Prices are: Lemons California \$5.50 to \$6.00 per box, as to quality; bananas, \$1.50 to \$3.00 per bunch as to size and quality; good shipping stock, \$2.00 to \$3.00 per bunch; Washington peaches, \$1.35 per box; Washington plums \$1.25 to \$1.35 per box as to quality and variety; Oregon pears 2.00 per box; Ontario apples \$2.50 to \$3.00 per barrel as to quality; watermelons, \$4.00 to \$1.50 per dozen; tomatoes, 40 to 50c per basket of 20 lbs; crabs, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per barrel for sound fruit; Ontario pears, 50 to 80c per basket; Concord grapes, 5lb baskets, 20c; 10 lbs, 40c; 15 pounds 60c per basket; California grapes \$2.50 to \$3 per crate; apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 30 gallon barrels; maple sugar 12s 12s per lb; maple syrup, \$1.10 per wine gallon, in gallon tins; cucumbers, 35c per dozen; celery, 30c per dozen bunches; cabbage, 40c per dozen. Cauliflower 75c per dozen.

HARDWARE.—Prices are as follows:

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb, 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.00 to 8.50.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.85 to 3.00; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs., \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.00 to 3.10.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 4½c; 26 gauge, per lb., 4½c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Fig, per lb., 4½c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 6.25.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar) per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 40 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5½c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barbed wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.25 per 100 lbs. Closer prices have been made for large lots.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7½ to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9½ to 10½c base; cotton, ½ to ¾ inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.21 for 60 d, with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.35 per keg; 3 to 4 inch, \$4.17 keg; 2½ inch, \$1.50 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.58 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Advices from abroad report a further advance on glass, equal to 8 to 10c per box of 50 feet. This makes the