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## TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, April 30th, 1903.

Chemicals, Drugs etc.—Trade is about normally active, and prices for most line of ordinary goods remain steady.

Cod liver oil is offered, and still less bought at the phenomenally high price asked. Ball naphthaline is scarce and prices a little higher. Morphine also is a little stronger, and prices have advanced slightly.

Cement.—A continuance of the insufficiency in supplies of Portland cement is to be noted, and prices remain very firm. The mill-price per barrel ranges around \$2.25.

Dry Goods.—One point a good deal discussed just now in dry goods circles, is the probable effect upon the market of the newly imposed surtax on goods coming from Germany. Cashmeres and Berlin wools have in the past been quite

largely imported from that country, as also have been certain kinds of linings for tailors' use. Higher prices are looked for in these goods. With respect to some others, such as trimmings, hosiery, ladies' cheap tweeds, etc., they will probably after a time be obtained from new sources of supply, from which indeed they used to come before German manufacturers to some extent wrested from them the trade. A very fair demand has existed locally during the last week or two for suitings, dress goods etc., though the chilly weather until this week has no doubt served to postpone many purchases. A good seasons' trade is looked for, however.

Flour and Grain.—A quiet market for flour prevails. While a little higher is asked for extra choice grades, 90 per cent. patents fetch from \$2.65 to \$2.67½ in buyers' bags, middle freights. Manitoba flour is steady. In millfeed no noteworthy change has taken place and prices remain about stationary. Of oatmeal, the same may be said. In wheat no change in prices has taken place during the past week. Ontario wheat is steady and in good demand, both for export and for milling. Manitoba is steady and unchanged. Barley is nominal, the season being about over. Oats are firm. Peas and buckwheat are dull. Corn is unchanged. Practically no receipts are coming forward, farmers being busy, but they will probably be through with seeding operations by the end of the week.

Fruit.—The continued good weather has brought about rather more than the usual activity in the fruit trade. Values remain pretty steady at the following: Strawberries, quarts, 18c.; North Carolina, large quarts, 18 to 20c.; apples, per barrel, 75c. to \$2, per bushel, 10 to 20c.; bananas, \$1.50 to 2.50 per bunch; oranges, Jamaica, per barrel, \$5 to 5.50, per box, \$2.50 to 3; do. California navel, per box, \$3 to 3.75; Valencia, \$4.75 to 5 per box for ordinaries, \$5.75 to \$6 for large 420s, and \$6 per box for 714s; lemons, Messina, \$2.75 to 3.25; California, per box, \$3.50 to \$4; sweet potatoes, per barrel, kiln dried, \$5.50; cocoanuts, per sack, \$3.75; pineapples, 24's and 30's, \$3.50 to \$3.75 per case; 36's, \$3 to \$3.25 per case; Florida tomatoes, \$4.50 to \$5 per crate; asparagus, \$1.75 to \$2 per dozen bundles.

Hardware.—Seldom have the wholesale hardware merchants experienced a more active opening season than just now. For all seasonable goods the demand is brisk, and shipments are being rushed out with all despatch possible. In metals a brisk movement is going on, and prices keep up well.

Groceries.—While business conditions are fairly good, and a normally active demand is experienced for staple goods, yet there is an absence of features worthy of special mention. Sugars are moving out fairly well now the conditions seem to be a little more settled. In teas the feeling is one of considerable strength.

Live Stock.—Offerings at the Toronto

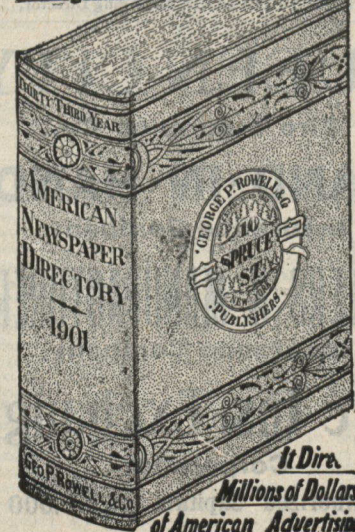
cattle market this week were large, but there was also a good demand, so that they were pretty well cleaned up at no sagging in prices. For export cattle the enquiry was brisk, as they were of rather better than average quality. An outside price of \$5.15 per cwt. was realized for a few loads of extra high grades. Butchers' cattle, too, were firm, though prices made no advance on \$4.40 to \$4.60, with about \$4 for ordinary poor specimens. For milch cows of choice quality good prices would be given, but the majority of those offered were not of this description. Sheep sold a little easier.

Provisions.—Receipts of butter this week have been larger and prices somewhat easier. Cheese is also a little on the easy side, the ruling quotation being 13½c. In hog products a good trade is passing and the feeling is rather firmer. Advances have taken place in long clear and rolls. Eggs are firmer again, and bring 12½c. in the jobbing trade. In the country they are costing 11 to 11½c. to local packers, which advance is causing a certain amount of apprehension in view of the losses last spring.

Seeds.—The bulk of this season's heavy work on the part of the seed dealers is now about over. In clover a good jobbing trade is still being done. In timothy, Hungarian grass and ensilage corn, a fairly good trade also is being done. Prices here for seeds, recleaned, ex-warehouse, in usual quantities, are: Red clover, per bushel, \$5.70 to \$6 for undergrade, and \$7.20 to \$7.50 for good to choice; alsike, per bushel, \$4.80 to \$8.25; timothy, per bushel, \$1.80 to \$2.75.

Wool.—But little change has taken place in local conditions in the wool trade. Dullness prevails both for fleece and pulled, a state which is expected to continue for a while.

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