say little business is passing in chemicals. A fair business is being done, however, in alum. Arsenic is lower. From Manchester comes word that since the close of the half year there have been more enquiries from home consumers for chemicals generally, but considerable caution is manifested by some in purchasing. Many will only buy for spot or early delivery, while on the other hand well informed buyers consider present prices favorable for covering, and some contracts have been concluded for delivery well into next year. The high prices that ruled twelve or eighteen months ago, stimulated production unduly, but there is evidence that the supply and demand is becoming more equalized. Makers of alkalies are busily employed, mostly upon old contracts. Bleaching powder is, if anything, a shade easier, and more disposition is shown to meet buyers. Caustic soda and ammonia alkali continue steady.

Dry Goods.—The sorting trade is approaching its completion for this season. Trade in fall goods continues brisk in wholesale quarters. The retailers throughout the country are in many cases away on their holidays at this season, and travellers sometimes find difficulty in arranging their trips so as to cover the ground properly. Merchants generally have shown this year considerable caution in sending in orders, so that the sorting season has continued rather longer than usual.

Flour and Grain.—No change whatever has taken place in quotations since last week. Wheat is scarce and wanted at local mills at these quotations. Oats is in moderate demand. Peas and rye are dull, and no business is being done. Flour is about steady; 90 per cent. patents being quoted at $2.95, in buyers' bags, middle freights. Manitoba flour is firm. Shorts and bran, also oatmeal, remain the same.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Large quantities of fruits have been coming forward all this week, more than ever, indeed, but prices remain good. It may be said that the growers have lost money on only one or two occasions this year, when heat followed rain, and the fruit had to be disposed of at rush prices. Canadian tomatoes are coming forward now and are of improved quality. Canadian peaches have not been in brisk request so far. Lemons are too plentiful. We quote: Peaches, 60 to 90c. per basket. Gooseberries, basket, 50 to 60c.; do., large, 75 to 90c. Currants, red, per basket, 40 to 50c. Black currants, basket, 90c. to $1. Raspberries, red, boxes, 7 to 8c.; do., black, 6 to 7c. Huckleberries, 80 to 90c. Cherries, basket, $1 to $1.25. Bananas, $1.50 to $2. Oranges, Sorrento, box, $4 to $4.25; do., California Valencias, $5.75. Lemons, Messina, $2.50 to $3.50. California plums, case, $1 to $1.35. California peaches, $1 to $1.25. California pears, case, $3 to $3.50. Apples, basket, 20 to 30c. Cabbage, bbl., 60 to 80c. Peas, basket, 20 to 25c. Beans, 20c. Watermelons, each, 20 to 30c. Muskmelons, crate, $1.50 to $2.25. Potatoes, bushel, 40 to 50c. Canadian tomatoes, basket, 75c. to $1. Cucumbers, basket, 65 to 75c.

Hides, Skins and Leather.—A fair demand exists for hides, and there is no accumulation of stocks either here or in Great Britain. Prices, too, are higher in Chicago than has been the case for a long time. The market for calfskins is somewhat dull. Tallow is very firm. Prospects for the leather trade are very good, but prices, in comparison with cost of raw material, are too low.

Provisions.—The butter market is very dull, with much of that arriving of poor quality. Cheese is quiet and steady. In hog products, business is very good at unchanged prices. Packers expect the lumbermen soon in the market for large supplies. Eggs are unchanged at 15½ to 16c.

Hardware.—No special feature is worth recording under this heading. Prices both for shelf and metal hardware continue very firm, and a good business is being done. The British iron market has improved, but tin plates are very dull.

Wool.—Little business is being done, on account of the divergence of the views of buyers and holders. There would be no profit in transactions at the only prices offered. A little wool has passed to the United States recently, but it is doubtful if it will be repeated unless conditions change.