

provement over last week. The amount of transactions foots up well, and the prospects for the future look brighter every day. The opening of spring will cause an active demand for staples in the grocery line. Collections show a slight improvement, but there is still considerable to be desired in this respect. Canned meats hold at old prices, and are likely to remain where they are. Sugars are quoted: Raw, 9 to 9½c; yellow, 10 to 10½c; granulated, 11½c; Paris lumps, 12½c. Coffee, Rio, 16 to 22c; Java, 22 to 31c. Dried apples are still scarce and held at 12½c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Business has not shown any more activity during the week, but this is only as was expected. Building operations are virtually at a standstill, and this has a direct effect on the trade. With the revival of building operations in the spring there will be a consequent briskness in business. Collections are about as they were, no worse and no better. There is no change in prices to note. For metals they are: Tin plate, 14x20, \$7.75 to \$8.00; 20x28, \$15 to \$15.25; bar iron, \$3 75 to \$4.00; sheet iron, 5½ to 7c; iron piping, 26 per cent off price list; ingot tin, 32 to 35c; pig lead, 6½ to 7c; galvanized iron, No. 28, 8½ to 9c, according to brand.

LUMBER.

Scarcely anything doing at present beyond the ordinary run of custom trade. Dealers are all busily engaged in the woods getting out logs for next season's manufacture. The output promises to be larger than that of any previous year. Prices are: Sheeting, \$28; common, dimensions, \$30 to \$33; fencing, \$28 to \$34; stock, \$33 to \$40; flooring, \$35 to \$45; graded clear, \$50 to \$70; shingles, \$4.50 to \$6; laths, \$5.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Orders have been light for the past week, but not more so than was expected at this time of the year. Collections are reported good, and the prospects for spring trade excellent.

WINE AND SPIRITS.

Trade quiet. Good men are buying very carefully, and the dealers are very cautious as to whom they sell outside of that class. Collections have not been very satisfactory of late.

FUEL.

The receipts of coal of late have been heavy, and with the supply now on hand there is no danger of a dearth in that useful article. Prices are unchanged. Wood is a little cheaper. Quotations are: Egg stone and nut by the car load on track, \$14; soft coal, according to quality \$10 to \$12. Poplar wood rates from \$5 to \$6 per cord, and ash, oak and tamarac from \$7 to \$8.

THE MARKET.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been but little movement in grain during the past week. The cold weather and the blizzard season that followed has been the means of preventing many of the farmers' bins being emptied. The temporary excitement which agitated the market in Chicago and other points East, has not had any influence here.

That was caused by reports of damage done to the crops in Britain by flood and frost.

WHEAT.

The receipts by rail this week have been light, and the street offerings amounted to very little. Considerable quantities are being stored at outside points which will be brought in when urgency demands. The mills have a supply on hand sufficient to keep them running steadily for some time. Prices are unchanged from last week. The ruling figures have been from 76 to 78c. A choice sample of No. 1 hard would command 80c.

OATS.

Receipts have been on the light side, both by rail and off the street. From 38 to 41c has been paid, according to sample, the majority selling at about 40c. For extra lots a cent or two higher was obtainable. Prices are likely to hold firm at these quotations, as the spring immigration and the recommencing of construction on the C. P. R. will be sure to create a demand.

BARLEY.

There is scarcely any barley offering in the market. Quotations are nominal at from 40 to 47c per bushel.

FLOUR.

Mills have been running full time, and there is a steady run of shipment east. The local demand, although not heavy, has been steady, and corresponds with the record of the past few weeks. Prices have not changed. Quotations are: Patents, \$3.10 to \$3.20; xxxx or strong baker's, \$2.50 to \$2.60, baker's, \$2.00 to \$2.10; trader's or xx, \$1.50.

BRAN.

The supply is fully equal to the demand, and prices remain without any change from those of last week. Quotations, \$12 per ton on track, and \$13 delivered.

SHORTS.

Remain at the old figure of \$1.5 per ton on track, and \$14 delivered.

CHOPPED FEED.

There is a steady demand for feed at \$30 per ton. There is little being done in shipment, and the demand is almost altogether for local supply.

POTATOES.

The supply from the street during the week has been good, and prices dropped accordingly. Dealers still hold their stocks at from \$1 to \$1.10, but prices on the street have not exceeded the former figure, and some lots sold as low as 75c per bushel. A large quantity is still held in the farmer's pits. If the mild weather continues and the roads do not become blocked the supply from this source will be large between now and spring, and a corresponding decline in prices may be anticipated.

BUTTER.

There is no change in prices to note, and the supply is fair. Quotations are: Choice dairy, 25 to 27c; Ontario creamery, 30 to 31c; low grades, 19 to 22c.

EGGS.

Continue very scarce, and unless new stocks are received shortly they will be out of the market. Prices have advanced until now they cannot be had at less than 50c per dozen. There is said to be scarcely any stock available in Ontario, all offering being wanted to supply the local demand.

BACON.

Firm and prices unchanged indicates the state of the market. Dry salt is quoted at 16 to 16½c; rolls, 16½ to 18c; breakfast bacon, 17½ to 18c.

MESS PORK.

The excitement in Eastern markets last week has not exerted any influence on prices here, quotations remaining at \$25.50 to \$26.

CORNER BEEF.

Prices have for some time been fixed at \$18

and seem likely to remain so. There is but little changing hands, but a more active movement is expected towards spring.

CHEESE.

Is in fair demand and firm at 10c.

CRANBERRIES.

Are entirely out of the market, and there seems but a poor prospect of an immediate supply. If they could be had they would sell at \$25 per barrel.

HONEY.

Considerable is held by dealers, but sales are slow at 35c for comb and 20 to 25c for strained.

ONIONS.

Fair stocks on hand at 3 to 3½c per pound.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The week opened with prices strong and with an advancing tendency over those of the week previous. A slight increase was perceptible about the middle of the week, but not sufficient to cause any drop in prices. Receipts were fair throughout the week. On Tuesday the markets were firm. The following quotations represent the day's business:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to \$1.15; No. 1, \$1.05 to \$1.11; No. 2 hard, \$1.05 to 1.11; No. 2, \$1.07.

CORN, No. 2 49c to 50c; samples nominal at from 45 to 48c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 39 to 40c; No. 2 mix'd, 38 to 39c; Rejected, 36 to 38c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$7.00; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.50; clears, \$5.25 to \$5.55.

On Wednesday there was a slightly weaker feeling in wheat, but prices remained the same for No. 1 hard. Lower grades fell slightly. Corn was also easier. Quotations representing the day's business were:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to \$1.15; No. 1, \$1.05 to \$1.10; No. 2 hard \$1.05 to 1.10.

CORN, No. 2 49 to 49½c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 40 to 41c; No. 2, 39 to 40c; rejected, 35 to 39c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$7.00; straight, \$5.50 to \$6.50; clears, \$5.25 to \$5.55.

CHICAGO.

The markets for the week have fluctuated considerably, but still the general tendency has been to advance. Once or twice there was a drop during the day, but prices generally pulled up again before the close of the day. Unfavorable reports as to the state of crops in Britain and in the Continent was the principal cause of the firmness which prevailed. Tuesday the markets were very active and stronger than the preceding day. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.09½	March, \$1.10½
Corn, "	57½	" 57½
Oats, "	39½	" 38½
Pork, "	18.25	" 18.30
Lard, "	11.50	" 11.55

On Wednesday the markets were less active. A large amount of trading was done, but a feeling of weakness prevailed. Wheat declined about two cents in sympathy with a fall in the British market. Corn and oats also suffered a decline. Provisions were active, with a tendency downward. Nearer the close quotations were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.07½	March, \$1.08½
Corn, "	56	" 56½
Oats, "	39½	" 39½
Pork, "	18.10	" 18.12½
Lard, "	11.45	" 11.47½