TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, June 1st, 1905.

Chemicals, Drugs, Etc.—The market is locally very fair, while travellers in the country speak hopefully of prospects. Quinine is very easy, since the last decline. Opium is steady, but is not quite so strong as it was. Carbolic and citric acids are firm, especially the former. In New York the market is described as dull.

Dry Goods.—Greater activity has been the experience of the wholesale dry goods houses for the past week or two, due, it is to be presumed, to the warmer and more seasonable weather. For most lines of dress goods there is good demand. Prices for staples continue quite firm, both for cottons and woolens. Sorting trade is a little better than it was a week or two ago. There is no particularly new feature to report.

Flour and Grain.—Little change has taken place apparently in the flour trade since last report. Ninety per cent. patents sell around $4.40, in buyers' sacks, Eastern or Western freights, while extra choice grades fetch a little more. Bran and shorts are becoming easier by degrees, with the growingly good pastures throughout the country districts. Oatmeal is dull. Wheat is also dull at present, and little actual business is passing. In rye and barley there is little demand. Canadian corn continues nominally the same price as last week. In peas and buckwheat there is no change.

Fruit.—The wholesale fruit market is in about a normal condition for this season of the year. Strawberries from the South are fairly plentiful and so are pineapples. Oranges are not in great abundance and they sell at firm prices.

Groceries.—No change has occurred in sugars, and the movement is slow. The chances are that not much activity will be felt in that commodity until the fruit-preserving season. Considerable quietness still prevails in general lines, and some difficulty is experienced in accounting for it. Payments also are on the slow side, though at the same time industries throughout the country are booming. It must not be thought, however, that any anxiety is felt at this state of things; it is deemed merely a temporary reaction. Teas are selling at an average rate and coffees rather particularly well. Dried fruits are meeting an ordinary demand, and currants are on the firm side.

Hides and Leather.—Dullness prevails in both these branches, but prices continue unchanged. Not much actual business is being done in leather, though dealers believe it will improve before long.

Live Stock.—Prices at the cattle market for exporters this week remained stationary, though trading dragged quite noticeably, and hogs declined 10 cents. There was a rather large supply of exporters. but the demand was sufficient to keep up values. For extra good grades, there was no difficulty in doing this, but many of the offerings were poor and common. Stockers and feeders were in moderately active demand. Sheep were not plentiful, but in spite of their scarcity they, as well as lambs, showed a material decline. Poor calves were not in request.

Provisions.—The receipts of butter are not more than large enough to keep up with the demand. Cheese prices are steady, but the market is quiet. Eggs are firm. Smoked meats and lard are in fairly good demand at unchanged prices.

Wool.—The market is unchanged. New clip is beginning to arrive in larger volume, but nominally prices keep as they were.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 31st, 1905.

Ashes.—The market is a quiet one, there not being the demand usual at the season, but as supplies continue light values rule pretty steady at the level which has prevailed for several months past. We quote first quality pots at about $5.50; second pots, $4.95 to $5; pearls, nominally, $7 to $7.25 per cental.

Dairy Products.—The shipments of cheese last week were 33,245 boxes, as against 32,502 boxes for the same period of last year, and the total shipments for the season to date are 101 930 boxes, as against 102,741 boxes at this date a year ago. Of butter the exports were comparatively large, reaching 7,415 packages, as compared with 2,448 packages for the same week of 1904. Cheese values have gone off about ¼c. since last writing, the extreme figure for fine Ontario makes being now 9⅝c., with fine Eastern ranging from 9¼ to 9⅝c. There has been an active demand for butter with firmer values prevailing, and fine new grass creamery is quoted at 20 to 20¼c., and good to fine grade at from 19 to 20c.

Dry Goods.—An unseasonable chilliness is still to be felt in the atmosphere, and retailers complain that sales of wash goods, ginghams, and other light summer fabrics are not as liberal as they should be for the end of May. In wholesale circles trade rules quiet. Remittances on the whole may be called fair. In fabrics of domestic production no changes of price are reported, and European markets are reported steady to firm. Repeat orders for crepalines have been subjected to an advance of a penny a yard.

Groceries.—Trade, which has been somewhat slow, shows a little freer movement this week, but collections are reported as not more than fair. In price there have been no recent changes of note. Teas show easiness and the demand in this particular line continues almost inexplicably slow. The raw sugar market has been a little "off" the past day or so, but refiners' quotations remain at $5.25 for standard granulated, with yellows ranging down to $4.75 The first cargo order for new Barbados molasses for this market, about 800 puncheons, was placed a few days ago at a figure equal to about 34½ to 35c. per gallon, laid down cost. It would look as if the importations of this article would be very light this season; so far only a consigned lot of 400 puncheons, via Quebec, has been reported. Canned goods are firm, and some fair orders for new pack of corn and tomatoes are reported as being already placed at open prices. It is reported that some five or six new independent canneries of vegetables will be in operation this season at Napanee, Bloomfield, Meaford, and elsewhere.