

some improvement is noticeable in the demand, and the distribution is gradually becoming more general. A full report of the budget speech has not yet come to hand here, but it would appear from a summary of the same that there will be no changes in the duties to materially affect prices, which are steady and unchanged here. Collections are rather slow. Quotations are as follows: Sugar raw, 6½c, yellow 6½ to 7c; granulated 8½c; lump 9½ to 9c. Coffees, Rios, 13 to 15c; Government Java 23 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 20 to 30c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c.

HIDES.

Prices rule steady and unchanged as follows: Steers, Winnipeg inspection, No. 1 7c; No. 2, 6c; cows, No. 1, 6c. No. 2, 5c; bulls, 5c. calf, fine haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10; No. 2, 8c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Tallow 3½c per lb.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been a decided improvement in the demand for general shelf hardware, and during the week a good delivery was made. In heavy hardware and metals there has also been some indication of an early opening up of spring trade. Advance of 1½c in the duties on wire fencing has been announced, which will probably advance prices to that extent. Prices continue rather firmer, though quotations are unchanged for the week. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75c. I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per lb., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The improvement continues, the call coming principally from the country. Prices are as follows: Spanish sole, 30 to 32c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, \$5 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 65c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock; American oak sole, 55 to 60.

LUMBER.

There has been at last some indications of returning life in this trade, though the actual movement has not yet assumed any decided proportion. The improvement noted has been principally in inquiries, which goes to show that contractors are now on the alert and making their calculations for the coming season's work. Dealers expect a fair trade to set in soon and with the steadier and firmer prices now ruling, together with the reduction in the supply, a more prosperous season may be looked for.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLOES.

There is some improvement in the demand as the weather becomes more springlike. Prices are unchanged and as follows: turpentine 85c;

linseed oil, raw 75c per gal., boiled 78c; seal oil steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; lard No 1, \$1.00 per gal; olive, \$1.00 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, head-light, 26c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine, 7.50; No 1 \$7.00; No 2, \$6.50 and window glass first break, \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESSES.

There has been considerable activity in this branch, and a fair number of orders for leather, saddlery hardware, etc., have been received from country manufacturers.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

There has not been any very active movement of late, but a fairly satisfactory business is doing. Collections are slow.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There has been a falling off in the demand and the activity of the previous week has given place to a quieter feeling. Retailers have loaded up in expectation of an advance in the duties, but it would appear that there will be no general changes in the duties. Prices are: Gooderman & Wors's 5 year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port wine, \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been no change in the general situation in the grain markets during the past week. Deliveries at provincial points have gone on gradually decreasing as the season advances, and quiet and disinterested feeling is settling down over the markets. At many points deliveries are now so light that a market may hardly be said to exist. Prices have not materially changed, and outside influences seem to have no weight in this market. Mill-stuffs have been fairly active and firmer, with increased exportation. Provisions have been in better demand, and the movement in immigration has induced a wider distribution. Hog products continue to rule low since the break in prices at Chicago.

WHEAT.

The wheat market has continued on quietly in the same course as for the past few weeks, and altogether without disturbing influences. Outside changes in prices have had no effect upon values here, and the same high range of prices has been maintained, in spite of breaks in other wheat centres. Very little wheat has been delivered at provincial points during the week, with the exception of some activity at stations recently opened on the Southwestern railways, and the general feeling is that the busy season is now over. Farmers will soon be busy with their spring operations, and in fact some seeding has already been done in the more favored portions of the province. There is still considerable wheat in elevators and store-houses throughout the province, but the quan-

tity is being steadily reduced by exportation, and deliveries by farmers are not sufficiently large to replace shipments to any extent. There is still considerable difficulty experienced in obtaining cars for exporting purposes, and had the supply of these been anything like adequate, there would now be little surplus wheat in the country. The feeling is probably slightly easier in regard to prices, though quotations have not changed, and holders still ask outside prices. In the city as high as 80c was paid for choice No. 1 hard, both on the track and from farmers. Damaged lots have been quieter and in less request, and where badly damaged have not been wanted at all. Regular quotations on track here by grade may be considered the same as last week, as follows: No. 1 hard 80c; No. 2 75c; No. 1 northern 75c; No. 2 70c; No. 3, 60c. Frosted lots are worth from 55 to 60c for best samples, and possibly as high as 70c for a really choice sample. Badly damaged lots from 25 to 40c. On the farmers' market hard wheat is now quoted at from 72 to 80c, and northern grades at 65 to 72c. At provincial points prices range from 60 to 70c for hard wheat, and probably as high as 75c at some points.

FLOUR.

There has been no change to note in prices. Production is going on steadily at about the usual rate, and the export movement continues up to the average. The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* reports a fair demand at that place for Manitoba strong bakers', with sales at from \$4.65 to \$4.80. Prices here are as follows: patents, 2.45; strong bakers, \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The local demand continues good, and the exportation of considerable quantities to eastern markets, where higher prices have been realized, has had the effect of advancing prices here \$1. Bran is now quoted at \$9.25 and shorts \$10.25.

OATMEAL.

There has been some export movement and a fair local demand. Quotations are given at \$2.35 for standard and \$2.65 for granulated.

POTATOES.

Remain quiet and unchanged, with very little movement as yet. The quotation is about 40c.

EGGS.

Supplies have been coming in very freely from provincial points, and these, together with quantities previously imported, have overstocked the market. Prices have taken another drop, and fresh can now be had at 11 to 12c.

CHEESE.

Continues in the usual moderate demand, at unchanged prices. Prime is quoted at the unchanged price of 10½ to 11c, and medium at 9½ to 10c. Ontario manufacture now in the market is worth 11c.

BUTTER.

There is still no change to note in prices, and the demand and supply continue about as usual. Choice has been scarce and firm, with a good demand, at from 22 to 23c. There has also been some demand for medium grades, but the feeling is easier. For such prices range from 12 to 18c.

OATS.

In street deliveries by farmers, there has been practically nothing doing, and the few loads on the market have gone off at from 27 to 28c. The demand has been light and stocks held up by dealers and others in the city are quite large enough to supply all anticipated demands. Prices are now getting down to an export basis. Car lots on track here are quoted at from 24 to 26c, and perhaps 27c would be paid for choice white. At outside points the average price paid is about 18c.