

prices are unchanged. Oats are easier in feeling, but with no quotable decline. The movement in peas, rye, and corn is merely nominal. Buckwheat is scarce, while the demand is good for both local and export trade; it is now quoted at 50 to 51c. per bushel.

**GROCERIES.**—The retail men are complaining of difficulties in collection, but the wholesale men find the situation as good if not better than last year, at this time. Sugars are steady and unchanged; retail men are buying only for immediate needs. Teas are firm, with the demand best for medium grades. As it is not safe to hold stocks of fruits at this season of the year, the wholesale firms are selling some articles at lower prices. We quote: Raisins, London layers, \$2 to \$2.25; black baskets, \$3 to \$3.25; molasses is in active demand, and the feeling is slightly firmer. There is a fair trade doing in pickles. The movement in canned goods has been very active of late, and especially in tomatoes is the feeling very firm. During the last few weeks there have been shipments made to both Great Britain and United States; as the season advances these will likely be increased. The brisk trade in canned fish which has been done during the Lenten season is falling off somewhat.

**HARDWARE.**—During the last week a very fair business has been done. Trade in the country has been more active, if anything, than in the city, but several wholesalers find that the city trade has been the better in regard to payments. From the North-West many renewals have been asked for; the retail men say that collections are difficult to make. Prices on the whole have been steady, but we note that bar tin is higher at 25 to 26c.; ingot higher at 24 to 25c. per lb. The discounts off annealed and galvanized wires have been increased and are now as follows: Annealed, 20%; annealed and oiled, 20%; galvanized, 20%; coppered, steel and spring, 15%; bright, 15%. We are told that the spring rates will probably take effect on the 3rd of next month.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—There has been no change in the price of hides; they sell readily at quotations: cows, green, 4½c.; steers, 5c.; cured, 5½c. per lb.; calfskins are coming in freely and find a ready sale at quotations: green, 5 to 7c.; cured, 7 to 8c. per lb. The supply of sheepskins is falling off somewhat, while the demand also is easier. Tallow is much easier in Chicago; No. 1 is quoted at 6½c.; dealers here are paying 6½ to 7c., and selling at 7½ to 7¾c. per lb.

**PROVISIONS.**—The supply of butter is increasing and the market is easier; we quote fresh from 18 to 20c., baker's 15 to 16c. per lb. In cheese a quiet trade is doing. Dried and evaporated apples are moving in small lots; during the week there has been enquiry for car lots of evaporated, but we doubt if they are held here. A local trade to the brewers is

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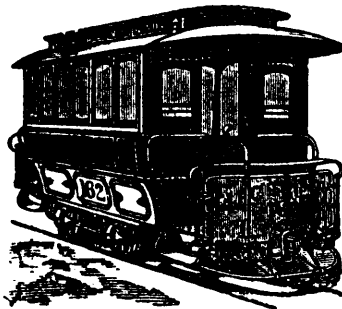
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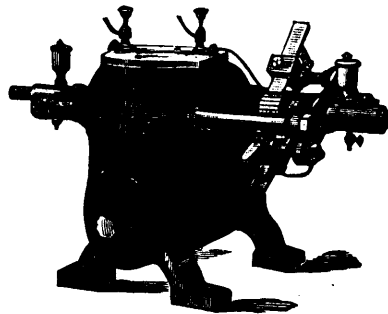


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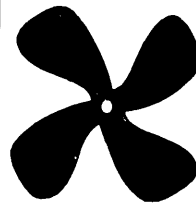
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