

**COMMODITIES PRICES.**

A sharp break in flour prices, due to the setback in wheat, was one of the leading features of Dun's list of wholesale commodities prices last week. Another was that the advances and declines were not very far apart as to number, there being fifty of the former and thirty-eight of the latter, against sixty-six and twenty-seven, respectively, in the previous week. Several varieties of foodstuffs were lower in price.

The following list gives the minimum wholesale prices quoted on forty-two standard commodities last week in this city, unless otherwise specified. They are corrected to Dec. 15, and with them are given comparative prices for the previous week and the corresponding week last year:

	Last Week.	Prev. Week.	Last Year.
Beans, mar., choice, 100 lbs.	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$8.05
Coffee, No. 7 Rio, lb.	.09 $\frac{1}{4}$	.09 $\frac{1}{4}$	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coffee, Santos No. 4.	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$	.09
Stand. Brown Sheet, yd.	.12	.12	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$
Print cloths, 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ - in.			
4x60	.08	.08	.04 $\frac{1}{2}$
Butter, cream, ext., lb.	.39	.38 $\frac{1}{2}$	.36
Cheese, f. c., fresh, spec., lb.	.24 $\frac{3}{4}$	.24 $\frac{1}{2}$	.17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Eggs, West. 1sts, doz.	.45	.43	.36
Apples, evap., choice, lb.	.08 $\frac{3}{4}$	.08 $\frac{1}{2}$	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$
Prunes, 30-40 Cal., lb.	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$	.10 $\frac{1}{4}$	.11
Peaches, Cal., dried, lb.	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$	.04 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour, Spring pat., bbl.	8.65	9.20	5.95
Flour, Spring clear, bbl.	7.75	7.95	5.25
Wheat, No. 2 red, bush.	1.89 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.31 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn, No. 2 yellow, bu.	1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$	.81
Oats, No. 2 white, bush.	.58 $\frac{1}{2}$	.60 $\frac{1}{2}$	.48
Hay, pr., tim., 100 lbs.	1.15	1.15	1.35
Hides, Chl. pk., No. 1, lb.	.83 $\frac{3}{4}$	.83	.24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hides, Chl. cows, native, lb.	.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	.24
Leather, heml'k sole, lb.	.57	.57	.33
Leather, union backs, lb.	.85	.85	.52
Iron, pig F, No. 2 Phil., ton	29.50	28.50	18.50
Steel billets, Pitts., ton	55.00	55.00	30.00
Copper, Lake, N. Y., lb.	.35	.35	.19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Copper, Elec., N. Y., lb.	.35	.35	.19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lead, New York, lb.	.077	.078	.054
Tin, New York, lb.	.43	.43 $\frac{3}{4}$	.38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pet., ref., gal., in bbl.	.12	.12	.11
Beef, live, Chl., 100 lbs.	6.90	7.00	6.00
Hogs, live, Chl., 100 lbs.	9.50	9.45	6.20
Sheep, live, Chl., 100 lbs.	8.85	8.30	6.10
Lard, prime st., Chl., 100 lbs.	16.75	16.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.70
Short ribs, loose, 100 lbs.	13.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	13.45	10.00
Mess pork, Chl., bbl.	29.50	29.50	18.00
Rice, fancy head, lb.	.05 $\frac{1}{4}$	.05 $\frac{1}{4}$	.05
Rub., Up-River Para. lb.	.81	.79	.74 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sugar, fine gran., 100 lbs.	7.15	7.20	6.15
Tea, Formosa, fair, lb.	.16 $\frac{1}{2}$	.16 $\frac{1}{2}$	.16
Tea, Japan, low, lb.	.19	.19	.19
Potatoes, bbl.	4.50	4.50	2.75
Wool, avg. 100, Phila., lb.	.379	.379	.328

The week's reductions in foodstuff prices outnumbered the advances by two to one. The weakness in flour was especially marked. Winter patent and Spring clear each dropped 50 cents a barrel, while Spring patent declined 55 cents. A reduction of 20 cents a barrel in the price of Spring clear was also made. At Chicago live sheep and hogs continued to advance, but there was a break in the cost of live beef. Prime lard advanced, mess pork continued unchanged, and short ribs were lower. Both bacon and hams were off at this city.

While the best butter headed the list of dairy products with an advance, the tendency was the other way on some of the cheaper kinds. Fancy nearby eggs advanced 5 cents a dozen in spite of various boycott arrangements, and the best Western eggs moved up 2 cents a dozen. Both are again well above the 1915 level. The market for fresh and dried fruit was without much feature, but the break in vegetable prices, especially beans, was noticeable enough.

The basic grades of coffee were unchanged, but Hyson tea, firsts, went up. New Orleans molasses also advanced for the first time in a long while. The changes in spices were

confined to Singapore pepper, the black variety going up and the white down. Raw sugars resumed their declines, while fine granulated broke back to a price only a \$1 a hundred above last year's figure. All of the grain changes were downward. Wheat led, and was followed by corn, malt, oats, and rye. Brazilian crude rubber and turpentine both advanced.

In the metals markets, two of the four listed kinds of pig iron went up, one at Philadelphia and the other at Pittsburgh. Refined iron bars were also higher at the former city, while in the latter advances were recorded on wire rod billets and on No. 28 black and No. 28 galvanized sheets. Foundry coke was higher, as were antimony and tinplate. Spelter, lead, and tin declined. No. 1 Packer stock showed the only advance in the hide market, while declines were shown by No. 1 country steers, No. 1 heavy cows, and No. 1 buff hides. Glazed kid and No. 1 belt-ing butts were the only advances listed in the leathers.

Seventeen of the twenty-three changes in the combined market for drugs, chemicals, dyestuffs, and oils were upward. Features were lacking. Further advances in leaf tobacco were noted, and three items in the paint list went up also. The rise in all qualities of hemp was unbroken. The textile markets were seasonably inactive and dull in consequence.

**STATLER GETS HOTEL LEASE**

**Buffalo Man Will Operate Pennsylvania's 2,200-Room House.**

Plans for the Hotel Pennsylvania, now under construction by the Pennsylvania Railroad on the Seventh Avenue block front between Thirty-second and Thirty-third Streets, opposite the Pennsylvania Station, have been enlarged to provide for the addition of two wings. With this addition, the hotel, when completed, will have about 2,200 rooms, a larger number than any other hotel. The main structure will be twenty stories high.

Franklin J. Matchette, the lessee of the hotel, announced yesterday that a controlling interest in his lease had been purchased by E. M. Statler, President of the company which operates hotels in Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, and St. Louis. Mr. Matchette will retain a financial interest in the Hotel Pennsylvania.