

New York Wheat.

New York, Dec. 18.—Wheat, Dec. opened 73 1-4c, closed 73 5-8c. May opened 75 1-4c, closed 76 1-4c.

New York, Dec. 19.—Wheat, Dec. opened 73 1-4c, closed 72 5-8c. May opened 75 1 1/2 to 5-8c, closed 75 3-4c. July opened 75 5-8c, closed 75 1-2c.

New York, Dec. 20.—Wheat, Dec. opened 72 3-8c. May opened 75 5-8c, closed 74 3-4c. July opened 75 1-2c, closed 74 7-8c.

New York, Dec. 21.—Wheat, Dec. opened —. May opened 74 3-4, closed 75c. July opened 74 7-8c, closed 75 1-8c.

New York, Dec. 22.—Wheat—Receipts 92,500 bushels, exports 15,995 bushels, sales 1,250,000 bushels futures and 24,000 bushels export. Options opened about steady at 1-8c decline under bearish Argentine and Russian crop reports but rallied a little in the afternoon on covering and the steadiness of cables. Clearances and export demand were again insignificant. The market closed about steady at unchanged prices to 1-8c decline.

New York, Dec. 23.—Holiday.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Wheat, Dec. opened 66 3-4c, closed 67 1-4c. May opened 70 to 66 7-8c, closed 71 1-8c. July opened 70 5-8 to 1-2c, closed 71 6-8c. Corn, Dec. opened 31, closed 31 1-4c. Jan. opened 31 3-8, closed 31 5-8 to 1-2c. May opened 33 1-8 to 1-4c, closed 33 3-4c. Oats, Dec. opened 22 1-8c, closed 22 3-8c. May opened 21 1-8 to 1-4c, closed 21 1-4 to 3-8c. Pork, Dec. opened \$8.87 1/2, closed \$8.88. Jan. opened \$10.10, closed 10.02 1/2c. May opened \$10.37 1/2, closed \$10.32 1-2. Lard, Jan. opened \$5.42 1/2, closed at \$5.37 1/2. May opened \$5.65, closed at \$5.60. Ribs, Jan. opened \$5.37 1/2, closed \$5.30. May opened \$5.50, closed \$5.42 1/2. Flax cash \$1.49. Dec. \$1.48 1/2 b. May \$1.42 1-2.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Wheat, Dec. opened 66 3-4c, closed 66 1-2c. May opened 70 3-8 to 1-4c, closed 70 1-8 to 1-4c. July opened 70 7-8 to 3-4c, closed 70 5-8c. Corn, Dec. opened 30 3-4c, closed 30 1-2c. Jan. opened 31, closed 30 5-8 to 3-4c. May opened 33 1-8 to 3-8, closed 32 3-4 to 7-8c. Oats, Dec. opened 22 1-4c, closed 22 1-4c. May opened 24 1-4 to 1-8c, closed 24 to 1-8c. Pork, Dec. opened \$8.75, closed \$8.77 1/2. Jan. opened \$10.05, closed \$9.90. May opened \$10.27 1/2, closed \$10.25. Lard, Jan. opened \$5.32 1/2, closed at \$5.30. May opened \$5.55, closed \$5.55 1/2. Ribs Jan. opened \$5.25, closed \$5.22 1/2. May opened \$5.40, closed \$5.37 1-2. Flax, cash \$1.48 1/2 Dec. \$1.48 b. May \$1.43 1/2 b.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Wheat, Dec. opened 66 5-8c, closed 65 3-4c. May opened 70 3-8 to 1-4c, closed 69 3-8 to 1-2c. July opened 70 3-4c, closed 69 7-8c. Corn, Dec. opened 30 1-2c, closed 30 1-4c. Jan. opened 30 5-8 to 3-4c, closed 30 3-8 to 1-2c. May opened 32 7-8c, closed 32 5-8c. Oats, Dec. opened 22 1-4c, closed 22 1-8c. May opened 24 1-8c, closed 23 5-8 to 3-4c. Pork, Dec. opened \$8.50, closed \$8.75. Jan. opened \$9.97 1/2, closed \$9.90. May opened \$10.30, closed \$10.22 1-2. Lard, Jan. opened \$5.35, closed \$5.30. May opened \$5.55, closed \$5.55. Ribs, Jan. opened \$5.27 1/2, closed \$5.27 1-2. May opened \$5.40, closed \$5.37 1/2. Flax, cash \$1.48 1/2 Dec. \$1.48 b. May \$1.44

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Wheat, Dec. opened 65 1-2c, closed 66 1-8c. May opened 69 1-2c, closed 69 3-4 to 7-8c. July opened 70 to 69 7-8c, closed 70 1-4c. Corn, Dec. opened 30 1-4c, closed 30 5-8c. Jan. opened 30 3-8 to 1-2c, closed 30 7-8c. May opened 32 5-8c, closed 33c. Oats, Dec. opened 22c, closed 22 1-8c. May opened 23 5-8 to 3-4c, closed 24c. Pork, Dec. opened \$8.75, closed \$8.80. Jan. opened \$9.90, closed \$9.95 b. May opened \$10.27 1/2, closed \$10.25. Lard, Jan. opened \$5.32 1/2, closed \$5.45. May opened \$5.55, closed \$5.65. Ribs, Jan. opened \$5.25, closed \$5.27 1-2. May op-

ened \$5.40, closed \$5.42 1-2. Flax, cash \$1.48 1-4 a. Dec. \$1.41 a. May \$1.44 a.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Wheat, Dec. opened 65 5-8c, closed 66 1-8c. May opened 69 5-8 to 1-2c, closed 69 5-8 to 1-2c. July 69 7-8 to 7c, closed 70 1-8c. Corn, Dec. opened 30 3-8c, closed 30 1-2c. Jan. opened 30 5-8c, closed 30 3-4c. May opened 32 7-8c, closed 33c. Oats, Dec. opened 22 to 1-8c, closed 22 to 1-8c. May opened 23 7-8c, closed 24c. Pork, Dec. opened \$8.80, closed \$8.90. Jan. opened \$9.92 1-2 b, closed \$10.05. May opened \$10.25, closed \$10.40. Lard Jan. opened \$5.42 1-2, closed \$5.50 to \$5.52 1-2. May opened \$5.62 1-2, closed \$5.72 1-2. Ribs, Jan. opened \$5.27 1-2 to \$5.30, closed \$5.30 b. May opened \$5.42 1-2, closed \$5.50 b. Flax, cash \$1.48 1-2. Dec. \$1.48 b. May \$1.44 a.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—May wheat opened at 69 1-2c and ranged from 69 3-8c to 69 5-8c. Closing prices were as follows:

Wheat—Dec. 65 1-2c, May 69 1-2c.

Corn—Dec. 30 3-8c, May 32 7-8c.

Oats—Dec. 22c, May 23 7-8c.

Pork—Jan. \$10.00.

Lard—Jan. \$5.45.

Ribs—Jan. \$5.25.

A week ago December option closed at 65 7-8c. A year ago December wheat closed at 63 5-8c; two years ago at 64 1-4c; three years ago at 81 7-8c, four years ago at 58 5-8c; five years ago at 57 5-8c.

CHICAGO FLAX MARKET.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The market for flax seed closed to-day as follows. Cash \$1.4 1-2 May \$1.44.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

No 1 northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—Dec., 65 7-8c; May 69 5-8c.

Tuesday—Dec. 64 3-4c; May, 68 3-4c.

Wednesday—Dec. 64 1-4c; May, 68 1-8c.

Thursday—Dec., 64 3-8c, May, 68 3-8c.

Friday—Dec., 64 5-8c, May, 68 1-4c.

Saturday—Holiday.

A week ago December wheat closed at 64 3-8c. A year ago December wheat closed at 64 7-8c, two years ago at 92 1-2c; three years ago at 81 1-4c; four years ago at 56 3-4c; five years ago at 62, and six years ago at 63 7-8c.

WINNIPEG CLOSING WHEAT.

Market closed very quiet and about 1-1/2 to 2-2c lower with some small business at 64 1-2c, for No. 1 hard, in store Fort William.

LIVERPOOL PRICES.

Liverpool, Dec. 22.—Closing: Wheat—Spot No. 2 red western winter steady at 5s 9d; No. 1 northern spring firm at 6s 11-12d; No. 1 California 6s 2 1-2d to 6s 3d. Futures quiet March and May 5s 11d.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL

Business in British Columbia.

Vancouver, Dec. 18.—The feature of the week in the British Columbia market has been the most sensational advance of hay. Coiville Valley has been heretofore supplying the Kootenays with hay, but recent demands upon them to supply army hay for the Philippines compelled the Coiville ranchers to discontinue sending hay to Kootenay. The Kootenays then turned to the coast dealers for their supplies, and found that those dealers were short and unable to meet the demand. The coast dealers in some alarm then turned to the Fraser valley farmers, and they in turn have been met with the astonishing statements that the hay blight caused by

prolonged wet weather is more widespread and disastrous than at first thought, and that in the early season numerous farmers who raised hay crops, thought that buying cattle would be more profitable than hanging on to hay. They sold their hay cheap and bought cattle, only retaining enough hay to feed the cattle through the winter, so that there is a great shortage of hay in the province. It is said the farmers who are more fortunate in having a supply on hand, are asking \$15, while dealers in Vancouver believe that hay will go to \$20 before the season is over.

The dairy market is buoyant. Butter is higher and eggs are selling retail at 65 cents, and extremely hard to get at that. Merchants report that the general trade continues active. The Christmas trade is promising.

British Columbia Items.

N. C. McKen, groceries, Nanaimo, sold out to John Rowan.

G. B. Mathew, tobacco, Ymir, has sold out to C. E. Walford.

W. B. MacLean has purchased the drug business of R. C. Ward, at Fernie.

Bretton & Ovington, brokers of Rossland, have dissolved partnership.

W. M. Sprott, jeweller, Greenwood, is succeeded by Sprott & McPherson.

The partnership existing between Merenhouse & Griffin, in the Canada Powder Co., Nelson, has been dissolved.

The business will be carried on as usual by Mr. C. G. Griffin.

British Columbia Markets.

(All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reductions on large quantities, and to cash discounts.)

PRICES AT VANCOUVER.

By wire to The Commercial,

Nanaimo, Dec. 23.

Butter is firmer this week, creamery is 1-2c higher. Hay is up \$1 per ton. Cuts are easier. Potatoes are firmer. Cured meats are easier.

BUTTER—Local creamery, 30 to 35c; Australian fresh grass butter, 28 1/2c. Manitoba creamery, 26 1/2c; Manitoba dairy, 19 to 20c.

EGGS—Fresh local, 50 to 60c per dozen, as to quality; eastern case eggs, 18 1/2c.

CHEESE—15c.

GREEN FRUIT—Oranges, navel, \$4 to \$4.25, seedlings, \$3.50 to \$3.75; California lemons, \$4 to \$4.25; bananas, \$2.50. Local apples, 90c to \$1.25 per box; grapes, \$1.75; Japan oranges, 65c per box. Eastern apples, \$6.25 per barrel. Local cranberries, \$7 per bushel.

MEAL—Rolled oats, 90 lb. sack, \$2.50; two 45 lb. sacks, \$2.60; four 22 1-2 lb. sacks, \$2.80; ton 7 lb. sacks, \$2.50; oatmeal in 10 lb. sacks, per 100 lbs. \$3.25. in 50 lb. sacks, \$3 per 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Delivered B.O. points—Manitoba patent, per barrel, \$4.60; strong bakers, \$4.30. Oregon, \$4.50 per barrel.

GRAIN—Oats, \$24 to \$25 per ton; wheat, \$25.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

The Commercial joins in this general good feeling and thankfulness for temporal mercies so prevalent in the west at this time and wishes its readers one and all a very Merry Christmas.

WANTED—SEVE AL PERSONS FOR District Office Managers in this state to represent me in their own and surrounding counties. Willing to pay yearly \$500, payable weekly. Desirable employment with unusual opportunities. Refer-nces exchanged. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. S. A. Park, 320 Caxton Building, Chicago.