

made against the study of agriculture in the schools. It is certainly vastly more practical and useful, and should be very much more interesting to pupils than are many of the studies which have long occupied a place on the school curriculum. In a country so largely devoted to agriculture as is Manitoba, there are special reasons why the study of agriculture should form an important part in the training of the rising generation. Much useful knowledge could be imparted in this way, which should prove valuable to the pupils in later years. The study of agriculture should also draw increased attention to agricultural pursuits, and engender a love for an agricultural life, thus assisting to check the tendency of the age to desert the farm for the cities. The study of agriculture should prove interesting even to those who entertain no intention of following a rural life. When so many subjects of doubtful practical value to the average pupil are taught in the schools, such an important subject as agriculture cannot be objected to.

The tariff bill made good progress at Washington this week, a large number of items having been passed, and there is now some hope that the bill will get through within the year. If the hot spell, which is reported to prevail at Washington, will only hold out, the bill may go through even within a few weeks, as the windy senators have become so exhausted with the heat, that they seem inclined to "let her slide." Some important changes were adopted by the senate this week, the most important of which to Canada is the placing of dressed as well as rough lumber on the free list. Formerly it was proposed to place only rough lumber on the free list. Cedar and cabinet woods are excepted. Another important decision is the adoption of the clause placing wool on the free list. This was accomplished after a stiff resistance. Salt also goes on the free list.

It is now stated that the reports sent abroad of the destruction by floods in British Columbia have been overdrawn by local correspondents of outside papers. The misery and loss caused by the overflow of the rivers is no doubt very great, but it is some satisfaction to learn that the situation is not as bad as has been reported. By the way, this matter of misrepresenting matters, by local correspondents of outside papers, is very common in some parts of Canada, and British Columbia evidently has a few of these press liars, who are ready to distort every occurrence, and some even go the length of sending out entirely false reports, invented for the purpose by correspondents. During the disasters in British Columbia, one entirely false report was sent out to the effect that an excursion train had been destroyed, with a loss of forty lives. The party who concocted this bit of "sensational news," has been arrested, and it is to be hoped he will be made an example of. There surely should be some way of shutting down upon these press correspondent liars. A man who will concoct and send out a report of this nature deserves severe punishment. The publication of false and damaging reports has got to be such a common thing, that some special effort should be made to suppress the nuisance.

Winnipeg has frequently been misrepresented abroad by damaging reports, manufactured and sent out by local correspondents of papers published in other cities, consequently the community here would be glad to hear of the punishment of the Vancouver press liar, as we know from experience the nefarious work these men are capable of doing.

### Wheat Prices in England

The London Miller, of June 4, reviews the course of British wheat markets during the month of May as follows:—

The month's trade began on the 1st of May with 22s taken for arrived cargoes of Argentine wheat, and 25s asked for Californian. These were London "Baltic" terms. At Liverpool 5s per cental was paid for Californian, and 4s 10d for red winter wheat. On the 2nd, 6d decline at Glasgow and Edinburgh argued little confidence in the situation on the part of some of our canniest merchants. On the third, 21s 6d was taken for a cargo arrived from La Plata, and on the 4th, 21s 9d was accepted for Californian at the "Baltic." At Liverpool on the 4th, 4s 9d was taken for a cental of red winter wheat, but Californian was steady. On the 5th, Edglish wheat was 6d cheaper at Reading, but the majority of country markets were without change. The London market of the 7th ult. was 6d lower for foreign wheat, and the sales were disappointing. At Liverpool on the 8th, 4s 8d was taken for red winter per cental, but the bad corn reports from California caused that and Oregon to be the best held sorts at the port. On the 10th, Birmingham, Bristol and Manchester were all against the wheat holder, a retrogression of Northern, Midland, and Western opinion which reacted unfavorably on London just before the Whitsun holidays. On the 15th, trade began again with a feeble Liverpool market, 4s 10d being taken for a cental of Californian wheat, and 4s 7d for red winter. On the 16th, at Mark Lane, Calcutta wheat fell from 23s 3d to 22s 9d per quarter. On the 17th, Bristol, Birmingham, and Manchester were all rather lower from before the Whitsun holidays. On the 18th, Mark Lane fell to 22s 3d for Calcutta wheat, and Liverpool accepted 4s 8d per cental for Californian, and 4s 5d for red winter. The country markets of the 19th were 6d cheaper on the fortnight, but there were too little English wheat on offer for depression to bear the serious character it was beginning already to assume at the chief ports. On the 21st, at Mark Lane, the top price of flour was reduced to 26s, while Calcutta wheat fell to 22s, Ghirka to the same price, and Argentine to a guinea. Oregon flour fetched but 21s, and Californian 20s 6d per sack. On the 22nd a cargo of Australian was sold as low as 22s 3d off coast, and another cargo—No. 2 red winter—for a guinea, this being by far the lowest price ever taken for a shipload of American No. 2 grade arrived in the Thames. On the 23rd, Glasgow and Edinburgh were 6d down, and on the 25th Liverpool accepted 4s 4d per cental for red winter wheat. The country markets of the 26th were 6d cheaper for wheat, despite the small supplies. On the 28th, at Mark Lane, 24s was accepted for Californian wheat, 21s for Ghirka, and 19s for Bussorah, common, but clean, serviceable wheat from the Persian Gulf. At Liverpool, on the 29th, 4s 7d per cental was taken for No. 1 Californian, and 4s 3d for No. 2 red winter. No further change marked the last two days of the month.

The fall on wheat during May has been only 6d on the imperial average, which has receded from 24s 10d to 24s 4d per qr. But on Calcutta wheat there has been 1s 6d decline, from 23s 6d to 22s. On Californian wheat at Liverpool the decline, from 5s to 4s 7d per cental, amounts to 2s 1d on the Liverpool qr of 500 lbs. On red winter wheat the fall is from 4s 10d to 4s 3d, or no less than 7d per cental, not much less than 3s per qr. The demand

for wheat has not been greatly increased even by these ruinous concessions, for several big merchants are known to have lost heavily through following up a declining market since February, and buying freely on each fresh decline. We doubt if the falling off in the promise of English and Californian wheat fields is not more than balanced by the admitted improvement in America, France and Russia. If this be so, then the wistfully May has failed to aid the trade in wheat, whatever it may have done with respect to spring corn. France and Italy will scarcely buy as freely in June as they have done between Easter and the Fete Dieu.

There is, consequently, some fear that as low as prices are now, June may see them even lower. The wholesale discouragement of foreign wheat growers, and the refusal of holders at foreign ports to make fresh shipments, would not effect value in this country until the 4,000,000 quarters now on passage had been disposed of. The one direct gain to the sellers' side of the question is that harvest is only a fortnight nearer to us on the 1st June than on the 1st May. The season has lost all its forwardness, and May has gone out without producing a wheat ear from British cornfields, whereas in 1893 wheat ears gathered in the Weald of Surrey on 20th May were shown at Mark Lane on the following day. When value rises from its present level, the forward movement will probably be vigorous, but millers are not to be advised to play at speculation and buy in advance of such a rise. It may be postponed for week after week by large arrivals; indeed, the balance of probability is that during the month on which we have just entered it will be so postponed.

### Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin, of June 15 says: Ocean grain freights continue dull and depressed, with business at 6d to 9d to Liverpool and Glasgow and 9d to 1s to London. Sack flour has been taken 7s to 10s to Liverpool and London. A good enquiry has been experienced for cheese freight, with engagements at 15s. Provisions have been taken to Liverpool at 7s 6d. Deals 32s 6d to 35s. Hay 27s 6d to 30s. Cattle has been taken at 45s to London, 40s to Liverpool and 30s to 35s to Glasgow. In lake freights corn is quoted at 2½c from Chicago to Kingston and 2½c from Kingston to Montreal. From Chicago to Buffalo the rate on corn is 1½c and from Buffalo to New York 2½, or 4½c from Chicago to New York against 4½c from Chicago to Montreal.

The Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin in its review for the week ended June 15 says:—There was no improvement in the railroad situation export rates on provisions were said to be cut 3c. The regular tariff to New York is 20c per 100 lbs for flour and grain, and 30c for provisions. Through business to Liverpool was slow, but rates steadier at 19½c per 100 lbs for flour, 9c for wheat and 8 35 per bushel for corn, and 3½ to 4½c per 100 lbs for provisions. Glasgow and Antwerp were about 1c over Liverpool rates. Through rates to New York were steady at 6½c for wheat and 6½c for corn. The rate on flour via lake and rail advanced 2½c to 15c per 100 lbs. New England rates were steady at 8½c per bushel for corn and 5½c for oats. There was no demand for wheat room to Buffalo, but a fair business was done in corn and oats and rates declined to 1c.

The Duluth Market Report of June 15 says: The vessel situation is at present at low ebb. Tonnage is being turned away fairly. The nominal rate for wheat is 2½c per bushel to Buffalo and 3½c to Kingston. There is no demand whatever for tonnage to carry wheat. This has thrown a surplus of tonnage on the ore market and as a consequence the rate on ore has dropped to 75c per ton. There is no movement in lumber and rates are weak at \$1.75 per 1,000. Lake and rail rates on flour mill products are steady on a basis of 17½c per 100 lbs to New York.