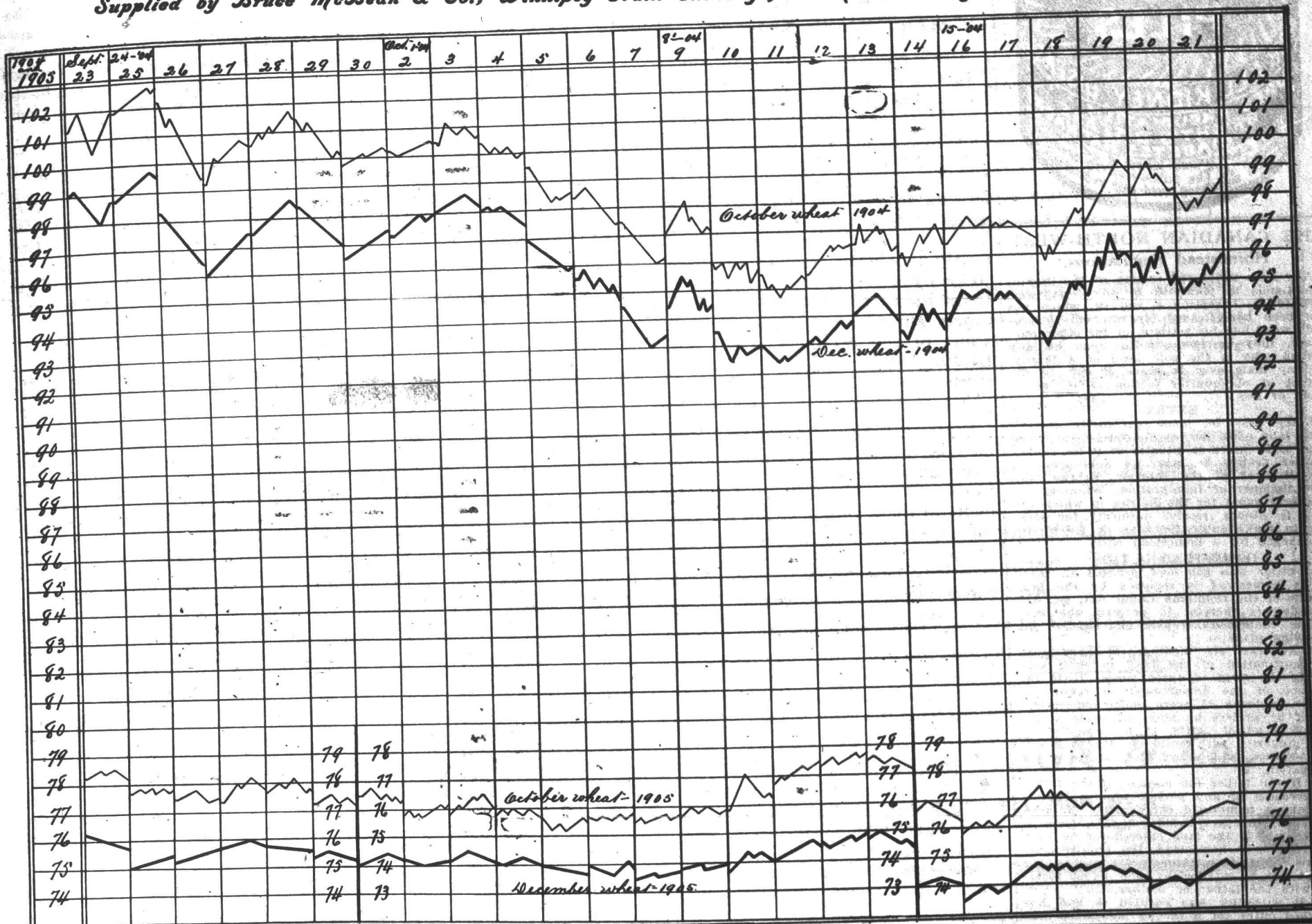


Comparative Chart of Manitoba Wheat Prices

Supplied by Bruce McBean & Co., Winnipeg Grain Exchange, for Month ending October 21st, 1905.



WHEAT NOTES.

Current Comment Gathered from many Sources.

The Removal of the Crop.

The very excellent transportation facilities afforded by the C. P. R. and C. N. R. to grain growers for the removal of the crop to the head of navigation is worthy of passing notice.

The immensity of such an undertaking is somewhat beyond the comprehension of the average mind. Let us do a little figuring for the purpose of better understanding what accommodation in the way of cars and railroad trains is necessary for the removal of a crop like we have this year. A conservative estimate places the wheat crop of Western Canada this year at 87 million bushels. Say that a carload of wheat will average 1000 bushels and we will suppose that forty cars will make up a wheat train. Figuring in this way it would take 2175 trains of forty cars; each car holding 1000 bushels to remove the wheat crop grown in this Western Country this year.

When one stops to consider the length of the haul and to consider also that the railroads have to keep other freight moving as well at the same time, it is then that we begin to realize the magnitude of the undertaking.

The Elimination of Rust Spores.

The Government of the United States as well as the governments in other countries where wheat is

grown have of late been giving a good deal of attention to rust spores, the causes for them and how they can be coped with successfully. American Consul-General Guenther, of Frankford, reports to the department of state that, according to German authorities the most important work, with reference to the rust of cereals, has been done by Erikson within the last few years, but also in the United States important investigations have been made. Formerly the capability of the summer spores of wheat rust for propagating the disease had been considered as slight. This view must be changed, because these spores are not as short-lived as had been supposed. Bolley, of the London college, in North Dakota, has established the fact that the red summer spores of many-colored rust fungi, keep even over winter. They even resist the dryness and the sunshine of mid-summer, as well as the cold of winter, in the tissues of the wheat plant.

This makes it possible that the spores are carried for miles by wind and accounts for the rapidity with which rust infection spreads over large areas. Bolley investigated the vitality of spores from week to week, and from month to month, in different modes of keeping wheat and other straw affected with rust, and has found proof that even dry fall winds and the severest winter frost do not kill the red spores. They even retain their vitality upon dead leaves, dead straw, and the partially dead leaves of living cereal plants or grasses. This fact, insists Mr. Bolley, will be one of the greatest importance with reference to further investigations of the wheat rust. It may be that the going over of the rust to the barberry plant will be considered as heretofore as a physiological necessity for the preservation of the fungi, but it cannot any more be deemed as the exclusive

means of propagation, which would have to be repeated annually before the rust could again attack the cereals.

The wheat rust is a subject to which the scientists of the U. S. department of agriculture have given considerable attention. The results of their work will be of general interest to the wheat growers in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

The causes for rust and how to combat its ravages successfully is a matter that should be given special attention by the governments of the various provinces and by the Federal authorities as well. The Grain Growers Association and other such representative bodies would do well to impress on the proper authority the wisdom and necessity of dealing with the rust question.

Winter Wheat.

There was a time in the west when little interest was manifested in the growth of fall wheat. Since quite a number of our farmers in Alberta have gone into the growing of winter wheat the following will be of some interest. Modern Miller says: Over a considerable area of the hard winter territory of Kansas and Oklahoma, the rain fall has been insufficient and is entirely lacking in some localities. A full acreage was seeded but the growth of the plant was retarded and some evidences of deficient germination is reported. Many Texas farmers have their own wheat for seed and this grain is so inferior in quality that poor results are feared. In most of the winter wheat territory the crop is in excellent condition.

ESTIMATE OF THE CROP

A circular was issued today by Frank O. Fowler, secretary of the Northwest Grain Dealers' Association. It estimates the crop of Manitoba and the Territories as follows:

	Bushels.
Wheat.....4,019,000 acres at 21.6 bushels per acre.....	86,810,400
Oats.....1,423,000 acres at 46.6 bushels per acre.....	66,311,800
Barley.....433,800 acres at 31. bushels per acre.....	13,447,800
Flax.....34,900 acres at 13.7 bushels per acre.....	478,130

Wheat Marketed.

There had been wheat marketed on October 21st of this crop, as follows:	
	Bushels.
Inspected to date.....	15,515,000
In store at country points.....	10,719,000
In transit, not inspected.....	1,000,000
Total.....	27,234,000