

## The Crops.

## NORTHERN PACIFIC REPORT.

Northern Pacific railway crop reports from branch lines in Manitoba for the week ending Thursday night the 26th, show a highly satisfactory condition of affairs. Harvesting is progressing rapidly and wheat cutting will soon be completed in some districts. Following are reports received:

**Brandon**—Weather favorable for harvesting. Wheat will all be cut this week in the immediate vicinity of Brandon.

**Rounthwaite**—Wheat is about two-thirds cut and in stock. Threshing will commence the first of next week. Oats ripening rapidly and some fit to cut.

Harvesting operations are somewhat delayed by rough weather and frequent rains. No damage from frost or other source yet reported, and crop promises to be up to expectation.

**Wawanesa**—Weather very favorable for harvesting during the past week. About 50 per cent cut in this vicinity. The yield will be as large as expected. No damage by hail or frost.

**Hilton**—Crop report for period ending Aug. 25th, is encouraging. The weather has been very good for harvesting and in consequence a large part of the wheat is cut. The wheat straw taken as a whole is rather short, but is long enough to bind up all right. Now the wheat is cut the farmers say that it is better than they were expecting.

**Belmont**—Weather has been favorable the past week for the harvest which every one is at. Wheat is very good quality and a good average yield will be the result; this week will find most of wheat cut. No frost as yet.

**Baldur**—Farmers are all very busy cutting. Weather continues very favorable; no frost. One light shower on the 21st, chiefly cloudy with light west to south-west winds.

**Somersat**—Grain cutting is general all through this district, and by the end of the week all wheat will be cut, and should show about twenty bushels to the acre. Barley cutting is also in full swing, and the yield will be about the average. Oats will be light. The weather has been good for the past week.

**Miami**—Weather continues favorable for harvest. Eighty per cent of wheat now in stock; by the end of this week all wheat will be cut.

**Rosebank**—Although wet weather delayed harvest considerably, wheat cutting is now half done. Wheat is fully as good as expected, oats are also doing well. No frost in this district yet. Threshing will commence next week.

**Roland**—Favorable weather for harvesting has prevailed during the past week. All barley and about 75 per cent of the wheat crop is cut. Stocking will commence about the latter part of this week and threshing some time during the next ten days.

**Morris**—Cutting is now in full swing and the majority will be through this week. Wheat will turn out good sample. Had very heavy rain storm last Sunday evening. No damage reported.

**St. Jean**—It rained hard last Sunday night, August 22nd. Some farmers are at work cutting, and others will be soon.

**Lefebvre**—A great many of the farmers in this vicinity have finished cutting wheat and a few days more will see it all done. Threshing will commence the first of the week. As a whole the weather during the past

week has been favorable for harvesting. We have had but one shower of rain and no hail or frost to do any damage. Prospects seem good for saving the crop and harvesting it in good condition.

**Emerson**—Harvesting about half done. Weather favorable. Threshing will be general by next week.

**Portage la Prairie**—There are so far no unfavorable circumstances to report in connection with harvest operations. Fully 60 per cent of wheat has been cut, and with favorable weather it will probably all be cut within a week. I have not heard of any threshing yet, but threshers are busy making preparations for this branch of the work. Very little stacking has been done yet.

## OTHER POINTS.

**Indian Head, Assa., Aug. 25.**—Our farmers are busily engaged in cutting down the golden grain which is of superior quality. One half of it is already cut. Mr. A. M. Lane, manager of the Brassy and Sunbeam farms, has fourteen binders at work both early and late, the wheat being rank and free from weeds.

**Foxwarren, Aug. 24.**—Harvesting throughout this locality is general. Prospects are splendid for a good crop if the frost keeps off. Farmers are well satisfied with the outlook. The yield will be a trifle smaller than last year with a larger acreage.

**Gladstone, Aug. 23.**—A large acreage of wheat was cut last week and by the end of this week there will be very little left standing. The sample is very good and will nearly all go No. 1 hard. On Saturday 88c was bid for No. 1 hard. This is an excellent price, but unfortunately very few farmers have any to sell. One farmer said: "I have a few hundred bushels, but I would not stop my cutting to haul it out." It is possible the prices will continue to be good during the fall.

**Ravens Glen, Aug. 21.**—Wheat cutting started here on the 17th, but will not be general until the 23rd. Fields of barley are already in the stock and oats are fast ripening. Although there is not the amount of grain as of a good quality and will be an average crop. Haying is almost finished; most of our farmers have had no trouble in securing a sufficient supply.

**Elphinstone, Aug. 23.**—Harvesting will be general by the end of the week. Considerable amount of grain has already been cut and the yield is very promising. Haying is well advanced and the crop being got up in excellent form.

**Strathclair, Aug. 24.**—Harvesting will be general this week and the yield and quality of the grain will be good. Quite a number of our farmers have already cut early wheat. Cattle are eagerly being bought up now by the local buyers. Some fine animals are to be had. Shipments are expected to begin this week.

**Sidney, Aug. 24.**—A few days more of fine weather and the wheat will be all cut.

**Wapella, Assa., Aug. 21.**—Haying is about over, the crop not being as heavy as usual. Wheat harvesting is general and a large acreage being already cut. It is not anticipated the yield will be heavy, but the sample will be good. The acreage under crop is larger than ever.

## ON BRANDON FARM.

Supt. Bedford, writing of the crops on the Brandon experimental farm, says: "On the experimental farm some

of the cross bred wheats have been harvested, also two or three varieties of oats, the earliest variety of oats this year being Excelsior, cut on August 8th. This is a new variety which promises to be extremely early. The first barley to be harvested was Success, a beardless variety. This was cut on the 10th inst., closely followed by Excelsior and Champion, also beardless. These beardless varieties have an unusual appearance and are also very early, but the grain is light in weight and seldom cures a bright color. Percy wheat, beardless cross-bred variety, was the first to ripen this year. The wheat so far matured is plump and of a good color and has every appearance of yielding well to the straw. Many complaints have been sent to the farm of dead plants appearing in wheat fields. Although very close examination has been made of a number of injured plants we have failed to detect the cause of injury, and are therefore unable to suggest a remedy. We feel very thankful that Thursday's storm did very little damage to the crops on the Experimental Farm, but our sympathies go out to those farmers who have lost their crop when it was so near maturity and at a date when it is hopeless to expect a second growth from the injured plants."

## Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the Board of Trade was held on Friday afternoon, when matters referring to mail service between Winnipeg and Port Arthur and intermediate points, dredging at Port William on the Kaministiquia river, in which action was taken by the executive, were reported to the council and approved. Some correspondence from Edmonton relating to the exploration of a route to the Yukon gold district was considered by the council. It was decided to telegraph Hon. Mr. Sifton asking as to what was being done to have a government exploring party go over this ground before next spring, and urging that any such exploration party sent should be accompanied by experienced residents of Edmonton; also that the merchants in Edmonton who have received contributions from wholesalers in Winnipeg for outfitting a party there now should place this or another similar party under government control so that its report will carry government endorsement.

It was decided to wire Edmonton board of trade that the government had been communicated with and urged to explore the route advocated by them, and that any answer received from Ottawa would be forwarded by wire.

A letter was read from the commissioner of inland revenue asking the board to take charge of the collection of grain samples in advance of the standards board meeting. The grain examiners of the board are now arranging for such collection and have advised the department that the meeting should be arranged to be held between the 15th of September and the 15th of October, and that the chairman of the standards be authorized to name the particular date. The grain examiners consented to take charge of the samples as a matter of courtesy to the department, but desired that it should be clearly understood that they in no way endorse the present system of selection of grain standards of Manitoba wheat.