

## GRAIN AND PROVISION MARKETS.

## WINNIPEG.

## WHEAT

The course of wheat in leading American markets was more irregular last week. Quite a strong movement developed on some days, but on Friday there was a drop in prices all around, amounting to almost a panic in Chicago, the immediate cause being the receipt of the official crop report of the United States Government. This last crop report of the Washington officials places the average yield of wheat for the United States at 12.8 per cent, thresher measurement. This makes a total crop of 495,000,000 bushels. The averages for the principal States are: 13.8 bushels in New York; in Pennsylvania 12.3; Ohio 14.6; Michigan 14.7; Indiana 14.7; Illinois 16; Wisconsin 11.2; Missouri 13; Kansas 18.4; Nebraska 11; Dakota 8.3; California 15. Winter wheat was injured in many districts during the harvest and in shock by heavy rains and is comparatively light, grading badly, thus reducing its weight and value. Its weight and quality will be a subject of further report after the test of the scales in marketing. The big deliveries in the northwestern states continued last week, being about 750,000 bushels per day for Minnesota and Dakota. There have been inquiries at Duluth and Minneapolis for wheat for export, but prices have ruled at above an export basis, so that export shipments to any extent have been impossible. It was claimed at Chicago on Monday that standard grades there were 4 to 5c above export values. The visible supply on October 5 was 18,849,095 bushels, thus showing an increase of slightly less than 1,000,000 bushels for the week. The visible supply a year ago was 31,537,436 bushels.

The local situation may be said to have ruled easier, though prices were not materially changed. At Manitoba country markets prices varied from 60 to 65c for No. 1 hard, or something in the neighborhood of that grade by sample. At some points prices were lowered a cent or two during the week. Dealers feel depressed at the course of prices, as they claim prices now being paid are too high to leave any margin for shipment. Deliveries are still light through the province, and this is the real cause of the stiff prices. With as many buyers as there are loads of grain offering, there must be considerable competition, and up go the prices. Millers, who were in need of a little wheat to grind, have also been forced to bid up for the grain to obtain it, owing to light deliveries. Another point to be remembered is that a good deal of the wheat bought from farmers at the top prices, will not grade No. 1 hard. Threshing appears to be pretty well in hand through the country, threshers in some districts having completed operations already. Shipments of wheat through Winnipeg amounted to about 40 to 50 cars per day. Out of fifty cars graded at this point for the week ended October 5, only 8 graded No. 1 hard; 22 No. 2 hard; 9 No. 2 Northern; rejected 9.

## FLOUR.

Local flour prices have not changed, but with the higher prices for wheat the tendency has

been stronger. In fact the advance in Manitoba country markets for wheat has been owing a good deal to the action of country millers, who, owing to light receipts, have been bidding up prices for wheat. There were no stocks of old wheat held, and the deliveries of new wheat have been so light that millers have exceeded real values to obtain supplies. Prices here are as follows per 100 pounds to the local trade: Patents, \$2.40; strong bakers, \$2.20; second bakers, \$1.80 to \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.40; superfine, \$1.10. Graham flour, \$2.20; middlings, \$2.40 per 100 pounds.

## MILLSTUFFS AND FEED.

There is a good local demand for millstuffs, owing to the high prices of oats. Bran is selling at \$12 per ton and shorts at \$14. Ground feed is very scarce and hardly obtainable at any price, owing to high prices of oats and feed barley. It can be quoted at \$26 to \$28 per ton as to quality. Crushed corn is being imported from the south for feed, shipment being on the way at the time of writing. It will sell about \$25 to \$26 per ton. A good business could be done in importing feed corn, if it were not for the duty.

## OATMEAL, POT BARLEY &amp;c

Oatmeal has been easier in price and is again quotable lower, owing to free imports from Ontario, which, with the high local prices for oats, renders the situation unsatisfactory to Manitoba oatmeal millers. Rolled oats are offered as low as \$2.75 in 90 pound sacks. Prices are now as follows: Standard per 100 lbs. \$2.50; granulated, \$2.60; rolled oats in 90 lb. sacks, \$2.75 to \$2.90; Cornmeal is held at \$1.65 per 100 pounds. Pot barley, \$2.75 and pearl barley, \$3.25 per 100 pounds.

## OATS

Further receipts of oats from Ontario have come to hand, and it was understood importations from the south were also on the way. Agents for Minnesota dealers were in the city last week offering oats for shipment to this market. Prices are considerably lower in Minnesota markets than in Ontario, but the duties on importations from the south would make them cost about the same here as they could be laid down from Ontario for. At Minneapolis mixed were quoted at 19 to 20c per bushel, and white at 20 to 22c. Offerings at country points in Ontario were at about 26c on track. In this market from 40 to 45c was paid for loads on the market, for the few offering. Cars could be laid down here at a cost of about 43c, in bags, imported, and sales were being made here at 45 to 48c, latter price for lots delivered in the city, in broken quantities.

## BARLEY.

There is practically nothing offering, but anything would bring a good price for feed, probably from 40 to 45c.

## BUTTER.

The local market has been steady, and with receipts light, prices have been fairly firm. Still there is a good deal held in stock here. There is considerable demand for choice qualities, and select packages of choice will readily bring outside quotations, and even a little higher. Dairy may be quoted at 16c to 18c, as to quality, and an occasional picked package or two, for the city trade, sells up to as high as 20c. This latter price cannot be obtained for any considerable quantity, and must not be taken as a possible quotation, except as stated. At Toronto creamery was held at 20c to 23c per pound, and dairy at 16c to 18c, with store tubs at 12c to 15c. A good deal of the latter is described as poor quality, and choice was scarce. Montreal quotations were at 21c to 22c for creamery, and 14c to 20c for dairy, as to quality.

## CHEESE.

There is a firm tone in this market, in sympathy with prices east. It is also believed that the output of Manitoba factories this year will be very considerably less than last year. Some factories have not been operated this year, and the make of a good many others is known to be very light, as last season was not satisfactory to

the patrons of some factories, and the number of patrons of several factories has been greatly curtailed. Manitoba factory men have advanced their views and are holding at from 10c to 10½c per pound, which would appear to be a reasonable view of the value of good cheese. Jobbing prices are also stiffer, and some dealers are now asking 11c, though sales have been heard of last week at as low as 10c per pound. This would be for cheese bought earlier, but said to be of good quality. The eastern situation in cheese was described as more unsettled last week. Sellers were holding for as high as 11c at Montreal, but this was ½c to ¾c above the views of buyers for finest September. Montreal quotations ranged from 9½c to 10½c, as to quality. Liverpool cables were steady at 51 shillings.

## EGGS.

The warm weather of last week had the effect of somewhat increasing supplies of fresh eggs, and prices are easier in tendency. Holders of stocks of limed in the city, however, would not sell under 20c per dozen, and this was the invariable quotation for limed when fresh were not obtainable. Fresh were worth about the same, though some few lots were reported at a little under this price. Eggs were higher at Toronto last week, and advanced to 20c per dozen for fresh, with limed offered at 17c.

## LARD.

Held at \$2 to \$2.10 per pair in 20 pound pails CURED MEATS.

Home packers are now doing considerable work. Quotations are as follows: Dry salt, 9½c; spiced rolls, 11 to 12c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13½c; hams, 14 to 14½c per pound; bologna sausage, 7c per pound; fresh pork sausage, 8c per pound.

## DRESSED MEATS.

Dressed hogs were firmer again last week. Offerings were not long obtainable at 6c per pound, and wholesale butchers were again holding for 7c. In fact, the cut price was only of temporary duration, and was not met by all holders. Farmers were bringing in a few hogs, which were readily taken by butchers and packers at 6c to 6½c. In fact, all good would bring the higher figure without difficulty, as packers are now open for a considerable quantity. Beef is easy in tone; and good is offered freely at 5c, with fair obtainable down to 4½c. Mutton holds at 8c per pound, and lamb easier at 9c. Veal easier at 5½c to 6c.

## DRESSED POULTRY AND GAME.

Spring chicken bring 30 to 40c per pair, or about 12½c per pound dressed. Old chicken are not as ready sale, but bring about 10c a pound, or 40 to 50c per pair. Turkeys are worth about 12 to 12½c pound live, or 15c dressed and drawn. Wild ducks are dull and slow sale at 25 to 30c a pair.

## LIVE STOCK.

Live hogs are hardly offering and it is thought that very few more will be received, as farmers will now hold to dress. Nominal values here would be from 4½ to 5c. A good many cattle have been offering by farmers, and are purchased by the head, at a price which would make them cost from 2 to 2½c per pound, live weight, and up to 2½c for choice animals. Cattle are still being purchased freely through the country for shipment east. Another train load of sixteen cars of Manitoba cattle started for Montreal last week. It is a hard matter to make farmers through the country believe that a good heavy animal is worth more than a two year old, for export, per pound live weight, and a good many cattle continued to be offered that are too young. A good three or four year old animal is always worth more, especially for eastern shipment, per pound, than young animals, and for export to Britain. The ocean freight comes as high for a light as for a heavy animal, so that the extra weight of a heavy animal is carried free, as compared with a light animal. At Liverpool early last week, fine steers were quoted 12 to 12½c, good to choice at 11½ to 12c, medium at 10½ to 11c, and poor and bulls at 9½ to 10c. A good many poor