

Conditions in the West

By E. CORA HIND.

Winnipeg, Oct. 24.

The grain standards board met this week and set the standard for the commercial grades of wheat, namely, 4, 5 and 6. At the same time they passed a strong resolution on substitutes which they forwarded to Premier Borden, Hon. T. A. Crerar, and the Canada Food Board. The following is a copy of the resolution:

SUBSTITUTES FOR WHEAT.

Whereas, the grain crop of the prairie provinces is being moved slowly, because of labor and other transportation conditions, and whereas, large areas in Alberta and Saskatchewan are short of oats, and it is difficult to secure oats either for seed or for milling purposes, or for food and much more for substitutes, except at a very high price, and the same applies to barley; and whereas it is not economical either as regards transportation facilities or financial cost to import into the prairie provinces food stuffs either from the United States or from eastern Canada. It is therefore hereby resolved by the western Grain standards board, that while it is desirable as far as practicable for the people of the western provinces to support the Allied policy of the common loaf, yet under the actual conditions now existing in the prairie provinces any attempt at enforcing this will cause, and indeed has already caused, much inconvenience and loss to the people of these provinces in general, will cause loss and inconvenience to milling and distributing industries, will tend to increase the tax upon the heavily burdened transportation facilities that are available; and at the same time will not really, to any appreciable degree, promote the conservation of food, and the Canada Food Board is hereby requested to take into consideration the advisability of an alternative procedure for the western provinces, viz., the non-importation of substitutes for wheat into the western provinces, and the promotion of wheat conservation by an increased flour extraction.

Western Canada has been doing itself proud at the Soil Products exhibition at Kansas City, Manitoba brought home eight silver cups and 33 first prizes, beside many second and third awards.

Among the prizes was first for Provincial collection of vegetables; first for the most artistic display and second for collection of small grains. In county classes Kildonan Agricultural Society took first for collection of vegetables. S. Larcombe, of Birtle, Manitoba, won the sweepstakes for wheat in the dry farming section, while R. Dickerson, of the same district, won the sweepstakes for white oats.

Saskatchewan, in the person of Seager Wheeler, secured the world championship for the best half bushel of hard spring wheat, and the \$500 silver cup offered by the C. P. R. This is the third time the world championship has gone to Mr. Wheeler. The grand sweepstakes for barley went to Nick Taitinger, of Claresholm, Alberta.

Business in the west is considerably interfered with on account of the "Flu" though Winnipeg and Manitoba generally are escaping remarkably well, due to the prompt action of the authorities in closing all public meetings.

All the October sales of sheep and swine in the west have had to be postponed, and this has occasioned considerable hardship and loss, but is being taken very cheerfully.

After a week of most exceptionally fine weather there was a slight snowfall over Manitoba, and part of Saskatchewan, on the night of the 3rd. The snow, which was not more than a half inch deep anywhere, melted immediately, and provided there is not too hard a frost following, will improve ploughing conditions materially. Threshing made greater

progress during the fine weather, and is getting pretty well cleared up.

Receipts of wheat have been liberal, and the grade high, since last report, but oats are coming very slowly, and there was the decided threatening of a serious corner in the October option. The council of the Grain Exchange held a meeting and decided to prohibit the buying of October oats except for the filling of contracts already made. No limitations were put on the selling of October oats except that the price was fixed at 85½. There has been considerable cavelling at this decision on the part of the exchange, but it is understood that it was decided on because the members feared that a runaway market with exorbitant prices might lead to the future market in coarse grains being cut out altogether, as it has already been in wheat.

The western grain standards board held the annual meeting this week, and in addition to setting the standards for the commercial grades of 4, 5 and 6 wheat, passed the following strong resolution and wired the same to Premier Borden, Hon. T. A. Crerar and the Canada Food Board.

LAST WEEK'S RECORD OF ACTIVE MONTREAL STOCKS.

Sales.		Open.	High.	Low.	Last sale.	Net ch'ge.	—YEAR—	
							High.	Low.
175	Ames Holden, pfd.	69½	69½	69½	69½	— ¼	72½	47
225	Asbestos, pfd.	59	59	59	59	unch.	61½	45
680	Brazilian	50½	51	49½	49½	—1½	51½	32
1,380	Brompton	60½	62	60	62	+2	63½	41½
270	Can. Cement	65	65½	65	65	unch.	69½	*57
339	Do., pfd.	95	95½	95	95½	+ ¾	95½	90
130	Can. Loco.	63	64	63	64	+ ½	69	58
901	Can. Steamship	47½	47½	46½	46½	— ¾	48½	39½
179	Do., pfd.	76½	76½	76½	76½	— ½	78½	76
106	Con. Smelting	25	25	25	25	unch.	26	25
15,752	Dom. Steel	60	64½	59½	63½	+4	65	*53
468	Dom. Textile	96½	96½	96½	96½	+1½	99	80½
620	Laurentide	182	182½	181½	181½	— ¼	*184½	152
224	Macdonald	23	23	22	22	— ½	23	13½
439	Mont. Power	85	85	84½	85	unch.	88½	68½
100	Ogilvie pfd.	106	106	106	106	+6	106	100
325	Penmans	83	83½	83	83½	+ ½	83½	65
780	Quebec Ry.	21½	21½	20	20	—1	22½	15
2,080	Steel of Canada	*65	*66½	*64½	*66½	+1½	74½	*49½
—BANKS—								
61	Royal	208	208	208	208	unch.	208	208
—BONDS—								
\$35,700	Can. Loan (1931)	96½	96½	96½	96½	+ ¾	96½	92½
129,600	Can. Loan (1937)	94½	94½	94½	94½	unch.	94½	91½
—UNLISTED SHARES.								
860	Laurentide Power	59½	60	59½	60	+1	60	50
2,550	N. A. Pulp	3½	3½	3½	3½	unch.	4½	3

*Ex-dividend.

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