

## WINNIPEG MARKETS.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are whole sale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, May 20.

Business has improved some in hardware and building supplies. The saw mills are now in operation, or at least a number of them. The movement to consolidate the pine interest will include the closing for the season of two or three of the mills, as the total milling capacity is in excess of the required output. Railway construction work has begun on the Canadian Pacific's southern through route—the "Soo" extension. This is the only railway work yet started east of the mountains, except the widening of the gauge of the railway to Lethbridge, and other improvement work. The weather has been stormy, a wind storm raging the last three days, which has interfered with incomplete seeding operations. Of course it is now too late to sow wheat, but farmers are still sowing oats and barley.

**GREEN FRUITS**—Apples are scarce and the best obtainable are not always thoroughly sound. Held at \$5.50 per barrel for best quality. Oranges, California seedlings, \$3.25 to 3.75 per box; navel oranges, \$1.25 to 4.50 per box; Messina blood oranges, in ½ boxes, \$4 to 4.50; lemons, \$3 to 5.50; bananas, \$2.75 to 3.50; strawberries \$5.50 per crate of 24 boxes; pineapples, \$3.50 to 3.75 per dozen. Onions, 4 to 5½¢ per lb; new cabbage, 5¢ lb; tomatoes \$3.50 to 6 per crate. A few California cherries have been received.

## GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

**WHEAT**—Wheat has been weaker this week and irregular. On Monday United States markets were fractionally lower, under continued financial disturbances and irregular cables. The visible supply statement showed a decrease of 1,079,000 bushels. Total supply now is 72,682,900 bushels, and a year ago was 35,111,000 bushels. Duluth stocks decreased 1,661,000 for the week, owing to shipments via water. On Tuesday United States markets were firmer and closed fractionally higher. English cables were lower. On Wednesday United States markets were weak and 1 to 2¢ lower, financial troubles having more or less to do with the declining tendency, aided by lower cables. On Thursday cables continued lower, and United States markets declined ½ to 1¢. The only reason given, besides heaviness of the markets, was the financial situation. On Friday unfavorable crop reports led to some advance in United States markets, which closed fractionally higher.

Wheat exports flour included from both coasts including Montreal, aggregated 3,835,120 bushels this week, nearly 1,200,000 bushels more than last week, 282,000 bushels more than in the third week of May last year, 1,300,000 bushels more than in that week of 1891, and 512,000 bushels more than in 1896, the heaviest week's total with one exception this year.

Locally the situation is very dull. Dealers are anxiously waiting the opening of navigation at Thunder Bay, Lake Superior, in order to move stocks at Fort William and Port Arthur. It is expected that the storm prevailing yesterday and to-day, will break up the ice which holds that portion of the lake, if it extends as far east as the lake. Stocks in store at Fort William and Port Arthur on May 14 were 3,320,855 bushels, being an increase of 35,490 bushels for the week. An effort is being made to induce the Canadian Pacific (owner of the elevator) to extend winter storage to June 15, on account of the late date of the opening of navigation.

Wheat seeding in Manitoba is now finished,

some seeding having been done this week, though the date is late for wheat. The wheat area will be less in some districts, where the soil is heavy and the land wet, but there will be an increase in the area in other sections. A terrific gale has prevailed and is still raging, this being the third day. Fears are expressed that on light soil, damage may be done from blowing the loose earth. There was some rain here last night, which, if general, will prevent much injury.

**FLOUR**—There is still no change in flour to note. Prices in broken lots, to the local trade as follows: Patents, \$1.95 strong bakers' \$1.75; XXXX 75 to 95¢; superfine 60 to 70¢. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10¢ under these prices, even in small lots.

**MILLSTUFFS**—As the season advances, the usual tendency to ease is noticeable, and prices this week have declined \$1 per ton on bran and shorts, making the price in broken lots at \$11 for bran and \$13 for shorts, with the usual reduction for car lots.

**OATS**—The firmness in oats is maintained. In the east prices keep firm, with a good export demand. In Winnipeg car lots of good feed quality are held at 30¢ per bushel of 34 pounds, on the local freight rate, or equal to about 25¢ on-track Manitoba country points.

**BARLEY**—Held on local account at 28 to 30¢ per bushel, car lots.

**GROUND FEED**—The sharp advance in coarse grains has led to an advance in feed of \$1 per ton. Now held at \$15 to \$17 per ton, as to quantity and quality. Oil cake meal, sacked, held at \$26 per ton.

**OATMEAL, ETC.**—Prices are irregular, as some dealers have advanced prices, while other jobbers are selling at the old figure, but will soon have to advance, as the price of oats is up, and the mills must advance. Oatmeal held firm at \$1.95 to 2.20 per sack, according to brand, for rolled and granulated and standard meal, 5 to 10¢ lower, these being prices to retail traders. Cornmeal, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per 100 pound ls. Split peas \$2.60 to 2.65 per 100 lbs. Beans, \$2.00 to \$2.10 per bushel. Pot barley, \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Pearl barley, \$4.00.

**CURED MEATS**—We quote: Dry salt long clear bacon, 11 to 1½¢; smoked long clear, 12 to 12½¢; spiced rolls 11 to 1½¢; breakfast bacon 14 to 14½¢; smoked hams, 13 to 14¢; the lower price for heavy hams; boneless ham, 13 to 13½¢; mess pork, \$20.00 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 9¢; bologna sausage, 9¢; German sausage, 9¢; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9¢ per half lb. packet.

**LARD**—Lower. Pure held at \$2.60, in 20-pound pails, per pail; compound, \$2.35 per pail.

**DRESSED MEATS**—Dressed Beef is easy at 6 to 6½¢. Some has sold at under 6¢, but generally selling at 6¢ for city dressed, and up to 6½¢ for choicest. Pork quiet. Dressed hogs quoted at 7 to 7½¢. Mutton held at 13 to 14½¢. Veal, 7 to 9¢.

**EGGS**—Have been a little firmer, probably due to increased competition in buying, and dealers are paying 12½¢ net. Selling at 13 to 13½¢ in small lots.

**BUTTER**—Butter is in good demand locally, and is not coming forward very freely yet. Receipts are in rolls and a few new tubs. From 18 to 20¢ may be quoted as the usual range for good to choice dairy, though some ask more for selections.

**VEGETABLES**—Winnipeg street market prices are: Potatoes 30 to 40¢ per bushel turnips 25 to 30¢ bushel; cabbage, 6¢ to \$1.00 dozen; Onions 3½ to 4½¢ per lb. Carrots 50 to 60¢ a bushel; beets, 50 to 60¢ bushel; parsnips, 1½ to 2¢ lb.

**POULTRY**—Chickens bring 75¢ to \$1 per pair, as to quality and size. Turkeys 10 to 12¢ per lb live weight.

**HIDES**—Unchanged. We quote inspected: No. 1 cows, 3½¢; No. 2, 2½¢; No. 3, 2¢; No. 1 heavy steers, 6¢; No. 2 steers, 4¢; No. 3, 3¢ lb. Real veal 8 to 13-lb skins, 6 to 7¢ per pound. Kips

about same as sides. Sheepskins worth 60¢ to \$1 for full wool skins, the top price for very large. Tallow, 4½ to 5½ rendered; 2 to 3¢ rough.

**WOOL**—A little wool has arrived, but very few have sheared yet, and the clip will be late, owing to the late season. The extreme range of quotations is 8 to 11¢, or graded at 8¢ for very coarse, 9 to 10¢ for ordinary Manitoba fleeces, mixed quality, and 11¢ for straight pure downs.

**HAY**—Baled held at \$6.50 to \$7 on track at point of shipment, equal to \$7.50 to \$8 here.

## Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Duluth correspondent of the *Northwestern Miller*, writing on May 9, says: "Ocean rates are easy, with considerable tonnage offered and only a fair amount taken by our shippers. The recent activity in the demand for flour by foreigners is expected to cause ocean rates to become firmer, and possibly tend to create an advance. Rates obtainable this morning on flour for through shipment, via Montreal, were as follows in cents per 100 lbs.: Liverpool, 28.54; London, 30.63; Glasgow, 28.54; Leth, 33.90; Aberdeen, 33.90; Bristol, 31.21. Via New York: Amsterdam and Rotterdam, 33.50; Antwerp, 31.21. Navigation is open here for boats that are willing to buck about 15 miles of ice at this end of the lake. Vessel agents have had a week of idleness, not a charter having been made for over a week. There is no demand for tonnage. Nominal rates are 2½¢ to Buffalo and 4½¢ to Kingston on grain. Shippers have offered 2½¢ to Buffalo, but have secured no boats at that."

The following table shows the freight rates on flour from Duluth and Superior to various points in the country, lake and rail, and all rail, in cents per 100 pounds.

Duluth or Superior to—	Lake and rail.	All rail.
New York .....	22½	37½
Boston .....	24	39½
Philadelphia .....	24	35½
Buffalo .....	19½	27½
Baltimore .....	19½	34½
Montreal .....	20½	37½
Kingston .....	19½	36½
Pittsburg .....	19½	37½
Chicago .....	12½	12½

The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* of May 12 says: "Grain freights are very firm to Liverpool, engagements having been made at 16 9/1 and 2s, while Glasgow freight has been engaged at 1s 6d, and it is said 1s 3/1 might possibly be accepted. London is quoted at 2s to 2s 3/4, and Bristol about the same figure. To the Continent engagements are reported at 2s 3d. Sick flour has been taken at 7s 6/1 to Liverpool and Glasgow and at 9s 6/1 to London. Provisions are steady at 12s 6d to 15s, and cheese at 20s Liverpool, London and Glasgow. Hay has been engaged at 33s to Bristol, and at 25s Liverpool. Cattle space has been taken at 45s Liverpool, by regular steamers, and we quote 40s to 45s. Deals are steady at 35s to 37s 6d. Wheat at 5 to 5½¢ from Chicago to Montreal. The rate from Fort William is nominal at 7½¢."

## Manitoba

J. H. & E. Loez have purchased the butchering business of Jas. Lind, of Carmau.

L. Godbolt, representing J. & T. Bell, boots and shoes, Montreal, is out on a western trip.

The stock of M. Bowdler & Co., Carberry, will be sold at auction, at a rate on the dollar, on May 26, at Winnipeg. The stock of dry goods, clothing, etc., amounts to \$10,118; fixtures, \$331; book accounts, \$55.

S. L. Head has established a slaughtering and cold storage establishment at Rapid City, with the object of shipping dressed meats east, in refrigerator cars. A large quantity of ice has been stored for summer use. The first car lot of dressed meat—beef and pork—has been forwarded to Toronto.