

Conditions in the West

By E. CORA HIND.

On Sunday, the 21st, the weather turned suddenly cold, with a biting wind from the north and slight flurries of snow on Sunday night. The cold wind continued Monday and part of Tuesday, and it was feared for a time that the trees just coming into leaf would be injured, but apparently no trouble of this kind has arisen. There has been some loss from drifting of soil, which will necessitate a small amount of re-seeding, but with weather conditions such as they have been, it is safe to assume that in the southern parts of the three provinces 65 to 75 per cent. of all the wheat is seeded, and in the north, probably about 30 to 35 per cent., while a great deal of the land has been prepared for the seeding of coarse grains.

The labor supply for actual work on farms, seems to be panning out fairly well, but the supply of women to help in farm houses is no better, and apparently the Government is making no real effort to remedy this condition, in spite of the many appeals that have been made for assistance along these lines.

BUTTER.

The dairy season has opened very considerably earlier than last year, and already the creameries are reporting an increased make of butter. The pasturage is coming on well, and the outlook is for a very favorable season. The only drawback is that a considerable number of butter makers come within Class B.2, and the Dairy Commissioner reports that if these men are taken, it will be almost impossible to fill their places. There would certainly be an opportunity in Western Canada for women who are professional butter makers, but we have practically none of this class in the West. While a certain amount of dairy instruction has been given along home dairy lines to women attending the agricultural colleges for classes in Home Economics, no effort has been made to interest them in taking up creamery work. The cheese factories will suffer less than the creameries, as the majority of the cheese factories are in the hands of French-Canadians, and a good many of them are outside of the class now being called, being practically all married men.

RYE FLOUR.

A rye flour mill with a capacity of 100 barrels a day, which was established in Winnipeg last November, has been running night and day since, and is turning out an excellent quality of rye flour, which is finding a ready market particularly in Eastern Canada; the West being somewhat slower to take hold of it, but with the increasing regulations with regard to substitutes for wheat flour, there has been a better demand for rye in the West, and the capac-

ity of the mill will be increased this summer. There is no question at all of the supply of rye. There was a material increase in the amount of winter rye seeded last August, and there has been a very great increase in the amount of spring rye seeded the beginning of last week or two. This is being mainly seeded along the southern townships of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, but particularly Manitoba, and the people in these districts have found that rye will stand the drouth better than wheat, and having begun to use it as a cleaning crop, they are now growing it as a staple crop and finding it much to their advantage. The price of rye has been as high as \$2.35, and the average yield per acre, is well up to 30 bushels.

COAL.

Great attention is being drawn to the probable shortage of coal all over Canada next winter, and people are being urged to secure their supplies early. It is sincerely to be hoped that some system will be devised that will prevent "coal hogs" doing what they did last winter. When the writer was in Ottawa last February, people of small means were unable to get more than a quarter of a ton of coal at a time, and not a few had to put their children to bed during the day to keep them warm, while houses on the same street were known to have ten to fifteen tons in the basements, the houses closed up and the owners in California. If the supply of hard coal is to be limited, there should be a limit on the quantity sold to individuals, and either a municipal or civic supply kept for the people who have neither the money nor the storage to lay it in at the present time. With regard to the West, there is an abundance of coal of a very excellent quality, but there will be very grave doubts in the minds of many westerners as to the ability of the present coal operators being able to meet the demands, especially in view of the transportation and labor conditions. The mines are almost entirely manned by foreigners, many of whom are actually alien enemies. They are irresponsible and unreasonable, and extremely difficult to control, and it is on this class of labor that the coal supply depends. Unlike Eastern Canada, Canadian farmers in the West use coal almost as much as do the city dwellers. On the great open plains of Saskatchewan and Alberta there is absolutely no wood to be had, and coal for heating and cooking, and for tractors, where steamers are used, has to be hauled very long distances. Heatless days might be possible in sections of the East, but heatless days in prairie farm homes, would mean death. The outlook is certainly not a cheerful one.

Further Restrictions as to Flour and Wheat

OTTAWA, April 27.

In order to prevent hoarding and further to reduce wheat consumption in this country, so that Canada may send more to the Allies, where the cereal shortage is increasingly grave, the Canada Food Board to-day announced additional restrictions on holdings and use of wheat and flour.

The order provides that no person, with the exception of manufacturers of flour, bakers, confectioners, wholesale or retail dealers, or persons living at a greater distance than two miles from a licensed dealer, shall hold, or have in his possession, or under his control, more flour, made or in part from wheat, than is sufficient for his ordinary requirements, for a period not exceeding fifteen days.

Any one living at a distance greater than two miles and less than five miles from a licensed dealer, may hold or control flour made wholly or in part from wheat, up to an amount sufficient for his ordinary requirements for a period not exceeding 30 days.

Any one living at more than five and less than ten miles from a licensed dealer may have sufficient for his ordinary requirements up to 60 days, while a person living more than 10 miles from such dealer, may have sufficient for his ordinary requirements for a period up to 120 days.

REGULATIONS FOR DEALERS.

Any wholesale or any retail dealer licensed by the Canada Food Board may not hold flour made wholly or in part from wheat in excess of a quantity sufficient for his ordinary trade requirements for a period not exceeding 60 days.

On and after May 1st, it will be illegal to fodder feed or to permit of milling wheat or any product thereof except bran and shorts for livestock, or poultry, or to permit such feeding.

It will be illegal, moreover, knowingly to sell the same to be used for such prohibited purposes. It is provided, however, that where wheat has been grown together with other grain, and cannot be shipped from it for milling purposes without undue cost, such mixture, provided it does not contain more than 25 per cent. of wheat may be purchased or sold or used for the feeding of poultry.

The order provides further that no person shall grind any milling wheat or mixture of milling wheat with other grain, for the purpose of making feed for live stock.

MUST RETURN EXCESS.

Any person holding or having under his control, flour made wholly or in part from wheat, in quantities greater than are provided in the order, must forthwith return such flour to the miller or dealer from whom it was purchased and such miller or dealer must accept it, if it is in good condition, and pay for it at the purchase price or the market price on April 20th, 1918, whichever be the lower.

All millers or dealers failing to purchase such flour when its return is offered, are required to report the facts and circumstances to the Canada Food Board at once.

Every dealer in wheat flour must report forthwith to the Millers' Committee, 178 Queen street, Ottawa, the quantity of flour held in excess of his requirements for sixty days, and must give the name of the miller manufacturing such flour, the brand, date of purchase, person from whom purchased, price paid, and the dealer's requirements for the months of May, June and July.

Upon receipt of this information the Millers' Committee is required to notify the miller who manufactured such product, and the latter shall then be required to purchase such flour at the price paid by the dealer or the market price on April 20, 1918, f.o.b. the dealer's station, whichever price be the lower, or to dispose of it in such a manner as the Canada Food Board may direct. Violation of any of the provisions of the order, makes the offender liable to a fine of from \$100 to \$1,000 or imprisonment for a period of about three months, or both fine and imprisonment. Where proceedings are instituted by any municipality the fine will be paid into the municipality treasury.

WEEK'S RECORD OF ACTIVE MONTREAL STOCKS.

Sales.	Stock.	Open.	High.	Low.	Last sale.	Net chge.	Year	
							High.	Low.
475	Abtibi	48	48	48	48	unch	48	48
204	Ames Holden	15	17	15	17	+2	17	15
1,142	Do. pfd.	47	57	47	56	+9	57	47
1,115	Brompton	50	52	49½	51	+1½	52	41½
120	Brazilian	34½	34½	34	34	-1¼	40	52
411	Can. Car	31	31	29½	30½	+½	31	18½
635	Do. pfd.	72	76	72	76	+4	76	49½
235	Can. Cement	60½	60½	60	60½	unch	61	*57
150	Can. Loco.	58	58	58	58	unch	59½	58
440	Can. Steamship	40½	40½	39½	39½	-2¼	43¼	39½
124	Do. pfd.	76	76	76	76	unch	78½	76
193	Dom. Cannery	24	26	24	26	+2	26	23½
415	Dom. Steel	60½	60½	59	59	-1¼	62	*53
1,029	Dom. Textile	87	89	87	88½	+2	89	80½
115	Laurentide	163½	164	163½	163½	+1¼	164	152
568	Lyall	74	76¼	74	76	+2	76¼	*62
301	Montreal Power	79	79	78½	78½	-¾	80½	68½
104	Ogilvie Milling	170	170	170	170	+5	170	146
275	Penmans	75	76	75	75½	+1½	76	65
310	Riordon	117½	118½	117½	118	+¼	122	117½
231	Shawinigan	112½	112½	112	112	-¾	116¼	*107
830	Steel of Canada	*59½	*59½	*58	*58½	-1	61	*49½
—BONDS—								
\$57,900	Can. Loan (1931)	92¼	92½	92¼	92½	+¼	93½	92¼
12,500	Do. (1937)	92	92½	92	92¼	+¼	92½	91½
—UNLISTED SHARES—								
340	Dom. Class	35	37	35	35½	unch	37	26

*Ex-dividend.