

Monthly Wheat Statement.

Stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada during May fell off to a smaller extent than for many years past. East of the Rocky Mountains the supply available at the end of the month was 29,226,000 bushels, and on the Pacific coast there were 3,230,000 bushels, against a total on May 1st, of 34,000,000 bushels. The supply on June 1st in the United States and Canada for a series of years shows as follows, Bradstreet's statement:

June 1, 1898	32,462,000
June 1, 1897	30,196,000
June 1, 1896	71,320,000
June 1, 1895	72,820,000
June 1, 1894	72,820,000
June 1, 1893	80,520,000
June 1, 1892	93,760,000
June 1, 1891	32,674,000
June 1, 1890	30,454,000
June 1, 1889	133,794,000

It will be seen from the above table that stocks of wheat in this country and Canada on June 1 are nearly 7,000,000 bushels smaller than a year ago at this date, 30,000,000 bushels smaller than two years ago, and are only about one-third those held on June 1, 1893.

Among other unusual features during May might be mentioned the considerable gain in the European supply of wheat during the month. The stock held on May 1, 1898, in Europe and afloat therefor, was only 61,500,000 bushels, while the stock held on May 28 was 67,000,000 bushels, pointing to a gain of 5,500,000 bushels during that month; whereas, a year ago, the European stock fell off 400,000 bushels, and two years ago it decreased 1,000,000 bushels during May.

	1898.	1895.
Jan. 1...	132,434,000	205,509,000
Feb. 1...	127,723,000	204,135,000
March 1...	120,056,000	193,746,000
April 1...	114,267,000	181,442,000
May 1...	100,890,000	172,099,000
June 1...	99,462,000	158,320,000
July 1...	...	148,517,000
Aug. 1...	...	140,417,000
Sept. 1...	...	132,341,000
Oct. 1...	...	153,838,000
Nov. 1...	...	178,449,000
Dec. 1...	...	185,364,000

The stock of wheat available in the United States, Canada, Europe and afloat therefor on June 1. American 462,000 bushels, a decrease of 1,423,000 bushels from May 1. American and European supplies during the years 1897, 1896 and 1895 fell off from 13,000,000 bushels to 14,000,000 bushels in May. Total world's stocks of wheat held in the United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat therefor and in Australia and Argentina, on June 1 will not be far from 105,000,000 bushels, as against 102,514,000 bushels on May 1, 133,488,000 bushels on January 1, and 96,926,000 bushels on June 1 one year ago.

Notes.

Tenders are called for supplies for the Manitoba penitentiary, British Columbia penitentiary, Regina Jail and Prince Albert Jail for flour, meats, coal, feed, groceries, fuel, lumber, hardware, dry goods, etc.

R. A. Lister & Co., Ltd., have received by the South African mail, advice that at the trial of hand separators at the Midland Agricultural society's show at Graaff Reinet, South Africa, March 23 and 24, 1898, the first prize of £4 was awarded to Lister's "Alexandra" separator, the judges' chief objection to all other machines being, that they were too complicated.

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUESS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA.

Not only those who are competing in the 'Witness' Canadian Song Competition, but every one who remembers



the 'Witness' Canadian Song Competition, Lord Dufferin as Governor-General of Canada, and who has followed his brilliant career since then as Viceroy of India and Ambassador to the great capitals of Europe in most critical times, as well as the host of autograph collectors, will be interested in the following autograph letter. Any of our subscribers can enter the competition referred to, and both gold and glory await the successful competitors. Full particulars of the handsome money prizes offered by the 'Witness' for the best Canadian National Song, can, no doubt, be had by addressing Messrs. John Dougall & Son, Montreal. The competition closes on Aug. 1, instead of May 1, as previously announced, and we understand it is open to all without entrance fee.

The judges of this patriotic contest are Dr. S. E. Dawson, Queen's Printer; Professor Murray, McGill University, Montreal, and Prof. Clark, of Trinity University, Toronto, who are to select the best ten songs, from which Lord Dufferin will pronounce on the three best.

Candebrye.

Island

April 9. '98

Gentlemen

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March the 25th, and in reply to say that I shall be very happy to undertake the task with which you propose to entrust me, of acting as judge in the Canadian National Song competition. I trust that the pieces sent in will be worthy of the Dominion.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant
Dufferin and Ava

Messrs

John Dougall & Son

The 'Witness' Office

Montreal