

large increase for one week. The increase in the world's visible supply was 5,090,000 bushels. Growing winter wheat crops maintain their fine promise, except in some small portions of Central Europe, where the weather has been too dry. Some complaints also come from California of damage to the young plants by heavy, drying winds. Otherwise, both in Europe and America, the prospect for the growing crops is eminently satisfactory.

Trade in the local market has been slow, and of small compass. No pressure to sell has been shown, and little disposition to buy. Prices have followed the lead of United States markets, and have gradually gained about 2c per bushel on the week. Yesterday's prices for 1 hard in store Fort William, spot, or December delivery, ranged from 65 1-2c to 66c; 2 hard and 1 northern 31-2c and 3 hard, 2 northern and 1 spring 7c less than 1 hard. A large proportion of the cars now passing through the inspector's hands at Winnipeg and Fort William are inspecting "no grade," being tough, damp or wet. The Canadian Pacific railway drying plant at Fort Arthur was started working a few days ago, and from samples that have been shown on the grain exchange here, it is evident that damp or wet wheat can be brought into perfect keeping condition, so that it may be stored with the utmost confidence. The grain standards board will probably meet about the first week in January to fix standards for dried wheat. If satisfactory samples can be obtained by that time to allow of a proper selection.

FLOUR—Prices are unchanged this week. The market is rather firmer. A fair demand is reported. Prices here to retail dealers are as follows: \$1.35 for patent, \$1.75 for strong bakers; Glenora, \$1.75; Manitoba bakers, \$1.45, Algoma, \$1.30; Imperial XXXX, \$1.15, XXXX, \$1.05 per sack of 98 pounds. Discount of 5c per sack for cash.

MILLFEED—Prices hold firm. There is a good demand, which continues to absorb the supply. Bran is quoted at \$10 and shorts at \$12 per ton, with large lots at \$1 per ton less.

GROUND FEED—The variety and quality of feed now being offered varies so widely that prices are only a rough guide to the market. Prices vary all the way from \$8 to \$19 a ton as to quality. Oat chop is quoted at \$17 to \$19 per ton, mixed barley and oats, \$15 to \$16, and wheat mixtures at \$8 to \$12 per ton as to quality; oil cake, \$23 per ton.

oATMEAL—Rolled oatmeal is quoted at \$1.90 to retail dealers.

OATS—Prices quoted last week have been fairly well maintained. Deliveries in this market by farmers have been larger, and as the average quality is very poor the tendency has been easier for common stuff. Good oats, fit for milling, however, have held firm. Prices paid to farmers here have ranged all the way from 23 to 28c, which is a wide range. For ordinary feed quality 23 to 24c per bushel of 34 lbs. has been the general price, and sometimes 25c has been obtained. Good qualities have brought 26c for milling and up to 28c for choice, but few have been good enough to bring over 26c. Car lots are generally held at 25c on track here for ordinary feed quality, and we quote 24 to 25c for cars of feed and 26c

for a good No. 2 white of full weight per bushel. Oatmeal millers are bidding good prices to farmers in country markets for the best samples, prices ranging higher at some country markets than relative value for car lots here.

BARLEY—The market is weaker, owing to more liberal offerings. The local consumptive demand for barley is limited, and as there is no shipping demand, it does not take a very large quantity to make an over supply. Farmers have been offering quite a quantity of feed barley here, and prices for such are 2 to 3c lower this week, prices having dropped to 25c and later only 24c per bushel of 48 lbs was being offered by some layers. Maltng barley is also easier, 30c being the usual price offered.

WHEAT—Local street market—The mills were paying 35c here yesterday for No. 1 hard, delivered at the mills by farmers, which shows an advance of 3c from last week. No. 2 hard 2c less. There is considerable damp wheat offering, which brings 30 to 35c per bushel of 60 lbs. as to quality.

FLAX SEED—In Manitoba country markets 65c per bushel is being paid to farmers.

CORN—A little corn is coming in from the States. Car lots on track here would cost laid down about 42c per bushel of 56 lbs.

BUTTER—Creamery—The market is steady, at about the same prices as quoted last week. Jobbers are quoting 22 to 23c as to quantity and quality. Stocks are light here and there is practically no business doing on spot, the local demand being almost entirely for dairy grades.

Butter—Dairy—The market is steady. Buyers are offering 13 1-2c to 14 1-2c here for lots, as to quality, and 15c is paid for choice round lots.

CHEESE—The market is quoted the same as last week. Jobbers quote 9 1-2c for large and 10c for small sizes.

EGGS—Held fresh, mostly Ontario stock, are selling at 15 to 20c as to quality, and lined at 16 to 17c. There are absolutely no fresh Manitoba eggs coming in. Fresh gathered are obtainable in a small way from producers at 35 to 40c per dozen.

POULTRY—A heavy trade has been done in poultry this week. Manitoba stock has been very scarce, but imported goods have supplied all the requirements. Owing to the cutting on the part of some small dealers, especially among the grocers, some of whom sold turkeys at cost in order to catch orders for other lines of goods, prices have been a little unsteady but large dealers have held out for firm prices and we note only 1-2c reduction from the top price for turkeys for the week. Prices are: (chickens, mixed lots, 8 to 9c per pound; straight lots spring chickens 1c more; turkeys, 10c to 12c, and ducks and geese, 8 to 10c.

GAME—Rabbits \$1-2c each. Vigcons 20c per pair. Wild ducks 25c per pair.

DRESSED MEATS—Christmas stocks of meats are now on view and most of the butchers have very fine displays. The beef shown is largely from western range stock, and it is in fine condition. The general price paid for this class of beef has been 6c, though some has cost retail butchers 6 1-2. Ordinary beef has sold at 5 to 5 1-2c, and frozen beef 4 to 5c as to quality. Mutton is firmer. Choice mutton for Christmas display has cost 1c higher at 8c, and we quote 7 to 8c

for good to choice mutton. Fancy lamb has sold at 9c, and we quote lamb at 8 to 9c. Dressed hogs continue to be brought in from Ontario by packers, and as they can be laid down here at \$5.50 to \$5.90 per 100 lbs., the tone of the local market is easier at about 15c per 100 lbs. lower. Packers will not pay over 6c for the best local hogs, when they can bring in car lots at less than that price from the east. Butchers have paid as high as \$5.10 per 100 lbs. for choice hogs for cutting up fresh for their retail trade. Veal 5 1-2 to 7c.

VEGETABLES—The mild weather has brought out a number of farmers with potatoes this week and offerings have been fairly liberal. In consequence of this prices eased off a little and 35c was the best that dealers would pay for good potatoes. Other lines are unchanged. We quote as follows: Potatoes, 35c per bushel; turnips, 20c per bushel; parsnips, 11-2c per lb.; carrots, 35 to 40c; beets, 35 to 40c per bushel; celery, 40c per dozen; cabbage, 1 to 1 1-2c per pound as to quality; onions, 9c to \$1 per bushel; Spanish onions, \$2 per crate; pumpkins, 1 1-2 to 2c per pound.

SENECA ROOT—Nominal at 21c.

HIDES—Hides are now very plentiful this winter. Dealers attribute the scarcity to the light kill and the fact that the country has been pretty well cleaned out of cattle. Some of the offerings are poor and contain a lot of offal. Frozen hides are quoted at 6c, but a shade more will be paid for No. 1 lots by some dealers. Bulls and oxen 1c less. Five pounds dockage is put upon these hides for offal. Inspected hides are as follows: No. 1, 6 1-2c; No. 2, 5 1-2c; No. 3, 4 1-2c. Branded hides grade No. 2, and bulls No. 3; kip, 6c to 6 1-2c; calf 8c; deacon, skins, 15c to 25c each, sheepskins and lambskins 40 to 55c; horsehides 75c to \$1.50 each.

HAY—Baled is quoted at \$8 to \$9.50 on track here and loose on the street market at \$8 to \$7.50 as to quality. Much of the loose hay offering is very poor quality. The final Manitoba government crop report, issued last week, says of hay: "Over 40 per cent of the reports received state that the amount of hay secured is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the coming winter. This means a general shortage throughout the province. In the majority of cases the reason given for the short hay crop is the excessive rainfall, which flooded the hay meadows and made it impossible to secure the usual supply." Some of the local dealers, however, disagree with this report and claim that there will be sufficient hay to go round.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—The market is practically nominal this week. Xmas cattle were all in last week, and as all the butchers are carrying large stocks of beef, very few cattle will be wanted for a few weeks. A good deal of the Xmas beef is western range stock. The custom of using frozen beef in the winter here has been on the wane for years, and this winter the bulk of the demand will be for fresh killed meat throughout the winter. Cattle are nominal at about 3c for good butchers' stock. Stockers nominal at 2c to 2 1-2c.

SHEEP—Stocks of frozen mutton held here are lighter than usual and fresh supplies of sheep will be wanted before long. There has been some talk of looking to Ontario for sheep for late winter or spring killing, as