

Grain and Milling.

F. W. Thompson, manager of the Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, has contributed \$250 toward the expenses of sending a Winnipeg crew to Huxley to compete in the rowing events there.

Gen. V. Hastings, manager at Winnipeg for the Lake of the Woods Milling Co., has returned from an eastern trip.

A man named Hatch, of Killarney, Man., who skipped out a year ago for alleged crooked work in connection with grain trade matters, was arrested last week at Wadena, Minnesota, and will be brought back for trial.

The Montreal Gazette of January 15, says: "The feature of the flour market to-day was the demand for Manitoba grades for export account, and probably the largest sale in the history of the flour trade was made, it being two complete cargoes, and although the quantity was not mentioned it was probably in the neighborhood of 20,000 to 30,000 barrels. Ontario grades were quoted 5 to 10c lower. We quote:—Winter wheat patents at \$4.65 to \$4.85; straight rollers, at \$4.25 to \$4.40, and in bags, at \$2.10 to \$2.15. Manitoba spring wheat patents at \$5.10 to \$5.80; and strong bakers, at \$1.50 to \$5."

The Montreal Gazette says: "The feature of the feed market to-day was the sale of ten carloads of Manitoba bran on export account, and millers stated that the price realized was much better than could be obtained here. This is a new departure in the feed business, and Manitoba millers in some cases state that if the above demand continues they will not offer any more bran here until the market gets into better shape. Locally business is quiet at \$9.50 to \$10 per ton for Manitoba, including bags; and at \$9 to \$9.25 for Ontario in bulk."

A. McKinnon, of Portage la Prairie, a practical oatmeal miller, is making arrangements to build an oatmeal mill on the Balkwell water power at Rarid City, Man., says the Reporter. The building will be of solid stone four stories high, with a warehouse or elevator, dry kiln and dwelling house. It is Mr. McKinnon's intention to get everything ready and to commence building operations at the first opening of spring. Of course the chief attraction is the water power and the wonder is that some one has not snapped up this splendid water power long ago.

A New Use for Tamarac.

Tamarac, which is a species of larch, or Larix Occidentalis, has not become a commercial wood, to any great extent, in the sense that it is not manufactured into lumber and put into the market. In certain sections where tamarac prevails it has been used locally, and occasionally some tamarac lumber has been made and consumed. But our norway pine answers every purpose of tamarac, generally speaking, and for what purposes norway pine will not answer hemlock will, and at a less cost. During the last few years, more attention has been paid to hemlock in Wisconsin, and a large amount of hemlock lumber is annually put on the market. The hemlock trade began to develop several years ago, and had it not been for the decline in the consumptive demand for lumber of all kinds, there is no doubt but that hemlock would have found greater favor as a building wood, and its manufacture would have been encouraged and increased.

Tamarac has been used for building purposes, but, according to a reliable authority its use is being extended in another direction. It is as a furniture wood, that tamarac is now being used, and a number of the smaller Wisconsin saw mills, especially, that make hemlock lumber have disposed of considerable tamarac lumber the past season to furni-

ture factories of Wisconsin and Michigan. Out of this wood, bedroom suites and other furniture is made and when it is finished not one purchaser out of a hundred would know but that it was oak. Tamarac bedroom suits are, the latest thing, and while they are sold for oak, the users of the furniture do not know the difference.—Lumberman.

Sealskins Off.

The low price obtained for sealskins at the London sales on January 18 has made the season a very unprofitable one for the British Columbia sealers. At the Hudson's Bay Co's. sale on Monday last, prices were 12½ per cent lower than at Lamson's sale a month previous. The average price being about £1 10s. 4d. per skin. This is said to be far below the actual cost of obtaining skins. Victoria sealers, it is said, will lose \$100,000 in last season's operations, and it is believed many of the schooners will not go to the hunt this year at all. A Victoria report says:

"For the past two years the industry has been endangered by international restrictions and low prices, but it never received such a blow as the unprecedentedly low prices give it. There were upwards of 40,000 skins secured by Victoria schooners in the sale, and on each there is a direct loss of not less than \$2.50, and in some instances the loss is upwards of \$5 per skin. The average price of £1 10s. 4d. will not net more than \$6.50, which will not more than pay Indians \$1 per skin and the "Poulach" and bounty which they also received in addition to regular prices. Nearly all the skins which were secured last season cost the owners upward of \$9, so those vessels which had the biggest catches will suffer the most. The prices have made the owners determined to take up their schooners rather than pay Indians \$4 per skin, and as the Indians appear obdurate it is not improbable that the majority of the schooners will not leave port."

Literary Notes.

The Weekly Sun, of Toronto, is a fearless and independent journal, with a refreshing, radical ring about many of its articles. The farmers of Ontario who are the principal readers of the Sun, should have their ideas greatly broadened by reading such a journal.

Professor Robertson, Dominion dairy commissioner, will leave for the Territories on the 28th inst., to confer with farmers at the different points where creameries are to be established, to be managed by the government for a term of years. His first meeting will be at Indian Head, on Monday, February 1. The next meeting will be at Calgary, on Wednesday, February 3. He will then go up the Calgary & Edmonton railway. Other places to be visited will be announced later. It is expected that the government will take charge of about fifteen creameries in the Territories, manufacturing butter for the farmers, and export it direct to Great Britain.

Patrons and the Tariff.

The Patrons of Industry of Manitoba assembled in annual convention at Brandon last week.

A resolution was passed appointing a tariff committee to wait on the tariff commission when in Winnipeg. This committee consists of the officers of the grand lodge together with Messrs. Crosby and Sirrett.

A resolution condemning the proposed subsidy to fast Atlantic steam ship line was also introduced. In the opinion of the convention, this would be of much more benefit to the promoters than to the people at large.

The following resolution regarding the tariff question was passed. "Resolved that in the matter of tariff reform the Patrons of Industry of Manitoba unhesitatingly and without reserve condemn the principle, protection and call upon the government to redeem its election pledges at the forthcoming session of parliament."

The committee on legislation and freight rates introduced a resolution as follows: "Your committee believe it to be the duty of our representative in the local house to urge upon the local government the absolute necessity of their at once taking steps to secure by every available means relief from the excessive freights which now cripple our industry and retard our progress."

Toronto Grain and Produce Trade.

Wheat—A number of exporters who were formerly in the market have dropped out owing to the uncertainty of obtaining ocean freights. White wheat f.o.b. middle freights is offered at 82c and red at 81c. In Manitoba holders ask 95c for No. 1 hard Toronto and west. Quotations are: No. 1 hard, 90c; No. 2, 94c, and No. 3, 90c North Bay.

Flour—Straight rollers middle freights are quoted at \$1.

Milled—Car lots of bran, middle freights, are quoted at \$8, and shorts at \$3 to \$10, according to quantity.

Barley—No. 8 extra is selling at 25c middle freights. No. 1 is quoted at 31c to 33c outside. No. 1 extra, 35c to 36c. No. 2 at 27c to 28c. Feed stuff, 20c to 24c.

Oats—Mixed are quoted west at 19c G. T. R. or C.P.R. east.

Butter—Jobbing prices are: Large dairy rolls, 11c to 12c; dairy pound rolls, 12c to 13c; dairy tubs, 9c to 12c; creamery rolls, 19c to 20c; creamery tubs, 18c to 18½c.

Cheese—Local jobbing prices, 10½c to 11c.

Eggs—Lined, 14c, 15c to 16c for cold stored and fresh gathered, and 19c to 20c for strictly new laid.

Poultry—Chickens, 20c to 50c; ducks, 40c to 65c pair; geese, 6c to 7c, and turkeys, 7c to 8c.

Dressed hogs—Hogs are offering freely in rail lots here, and prices continue about the same, packers paying \$5 for light and \$1.50 for heavy hogs.—Globe, January 20.

Grocery Trade Notes.

There has been developed of late a decidedly firmer tone in the market for American sardines. The demoralization of prices due to excessive supplies of what has been generally denominated "trash" and the anxiety of holders to get rid of it have disappeared under the quiet but steady demands of consumption. For, in spite of the poor quality of a large part of the stock heretofore offered, the low prices have proved attractive to a certain class of buyers, with the result, it is reported, that the inferior goods have been absorbed. The pack last season was short, the output of oils, according to reports from reliable sources, falling about 25 per cent. short of that of the preceding year, while of mustards the pack was, it is stated, fully 33½ per cent lighter than that of 1895. This reduction was due to several causes, chief among which, it is claimed, was the discouragement to producers resulting from the unprofitable prices that have prevailed in distributing markets for several seasons past.

The Record Printing Company of Rat Portage, Ont., is applying for incorporation.

The Canadian Fire Insurance Co. will hold its annual meeting at the head office in Winnipeg on Feb. 2.