

Wheat Supplies.

Total available stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada both coasts amounted to 71,000,000 bushels on February 1, 1895, a decrease of almost one-third as compared with like supplies one year ago. Contrasted with February 1 two years ago, stocks showed a falling off of almost 40,000,000 bushels. As contrasted with the corresponding date three years ago present wheat stocks are found to be 89,000,000 smaller, a decrease of more than one-third, and when compared with supplies on February 1, 1893, the decrease is about 43,000,000 bushels, nearly 34 per cent. Wheat supplies in the United States and Canada both coasts are also found to be 1,195,000 bushels smaller on February 1 than five years before, so that existing supplies are the smallest at like dates for the period named.

The total quantity of wheat available for immediate distribution in the United States and Canada, both coasts, plus the quantity afloat for Europe from all exporting countries, on February 1, added to available stocks in Europe, as reported to Bradstreet's is as follows:

(000 omitted)

	East of Rockies.	Pacific coast.	Europe and Grand float.	Grand total.
1897	68,089	3,005	57,536	128,629
1896	97,592	5,839	56,911	160,425
1895	1,661,917	13,118	61,381	181,419
1894	99,596	9,859	74,472	183,927
1893	107,255	6,457	61,376	178,088
1892	66,541	6,043	82,720	155,308
1891	44,258	10,693	50,136	105,087
1890	49,691	6,144	49,728	105,538
1889	47,411	4,413	67,632	119,459

A most bullish feature of the statistical position of wheat is shown in the January decrease of available supplies east and west of the Rocky mountains, 6,339,000 bushels, as compared with 1,391,000 bushels in January, 1895. The corresponding decrease in 1895 was somewhat larger than last month but in the like month of 1894 and in 1893 the increases were respectively only 898,000 and 321,000 bushels.

Even more significant than the foregoing is the total net increase during seven months of the cereal year, east and west of the Rocky mountains, amounting to only 7,912,000 bushels, compared with 16,061,000 bushels increase in the corresponding seven months of 1893-94, 60,425,000 bushels in the seven months of the preceding cereal year, 31,903,000 bushels in the like seven months the year before that, and as contrasted with a total net increase of 78,700,000 bushels in the corresponding period of 1892-93.

A study of the statistics of the world's wheat stocks, month by month for a series of years, frequently renders it possible to in part forecast the probable movement of that cereal. Thus, while in February 1890, 1891, 1892, there was an average decline of about 8,000,000 bushels in supplies of wheat available in the United States and Canada, afloat for and in Europe those stocks were practically at a standstill in February 1893 and 1894. With the late decline in world's annual production, the month of February began to show large decreases in world's stocks on hand that for February, 1895, being 11,000,000 bushels and in 1896 nearly 7,000,000. It requires no special faculty to foresee a continued decrease in world's supplies of wheat during the current month and should the grand totals of supplies continue to decrease as customary, month by month, until July 1, to an extent equaling only the average falling off during corresponding months of 1893 and 1895, the outlook is for a grand total of wheat supplies, United States and Canada,

afloat for and in Europe, on July 1 next, of only about 75,000,000 bushels, compared with 105,000,000 bushels on July 1, 1895, 181,000,000 bushels on July 1, 1895, and very much larger totals on dates in preceding years, until on July 1, 1890, when the corresponding aggregate was only 69,135,000 bushels.

Sheep and Swine Breeders.

The Sheep and Swine Breeders' association of Manitoba and the Territories met in Winnipeg recently. Interesting addresses and reports were made by the officers and representatives. The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, W. W. Fraser, Emerson, first vice, R. M. Lang, Oak Lake, second vice, Dr. Thompson, Carberry, secretary-treasurer, G. H. Greig, Winnipeg.

Directors were chosen as follows: Sheep, Wm. Wallace, Niverville, Jas. Riddell, M. P. P., Rosebank, Edward Vance, Emerson; Swine K. McLeod, Dugald, F. W. Brown, Portage; Andrew Graham, Pomeroy, and W. Kittson, Buraside.

The literary programme was opened with an address on the economical cookery of foods, by Miss B. Livingstone, of the school of domestic science.

Dr. S. J. Thompson, provincial veterinarian, then gave an address on "Diseases of Hogs."

The question box was opened, with Hugh McKellar in charge, and a number of interesting questions were answered by experienced members present.

Charles Ellis, of Parkdale, gave an address on "The Feeding, Care and Management of the Brood Sow."

A great many items of miscellaneous business were brought up and referred to the directors, to take action upon them.

Montreal Grocery Market.

Regarding sugars all advices from primary points have continued strong in tone and the recent advance in refined and raws in the New York market has been fully sustained, granulated now being quoted at \$1.10 per 100 lbs. net, while sales of raw crystals have taken place at 8½¢, and further purchases of some large quantities have been made in Cuba for shipment at a slight advance over the above figures. A private cable from London today reported the market for cane quiet and beet steady with the offerings light at 93 1/2d for February and March. The Montreal market is firm in accordance with the above news, and refiners state that during the past week there has been considerable speculative enquiry for large lots from some of the leading wholesale grocery firms, but they are not disposed to make contracts for future delivery, consequently no large transactions have taken place. There is a slight improvement in the demand for immediate wants, but on the whole the turnover has been small, and prices are 1/4¢ higher at 4¢ to 5¢ for granulated and at 3½¢ to 3¼¢ for yellows as to quality at the factory. Business in syrups continues quiet, and the market is without any new feature of note, prices being steady at 1½¢ to 1¼¢ per lb., as to quality at the factory.

The demand for rice is limited, as is usual at this season of the year, and the market shows no change. We quote Crystal Japan, \$5.00 to \$5.25, standard B, \$3.50, Patna, \$1.50 to \$5.25, Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75, choice Bermuda, \$1, Java kinds, \$1.25.

The demand for molasses on spot continues slow, and the market is quiet, with no important change to note. In regard to the round lots of Barbadoes and Porto Rico stock offering at 26¢, as stated last week, buyers state that it is mixed. We quote:

Pure Barbadoes, 28½¢ to 29¢; Porto 27½¢, Antigua, 22½¢ to 23¢, and St. 23½¢ to 24¢.

There is no improvement in the volume of business in coffee to note, sale being and principally in small lots to fill wants. We quote Maracaibo, 17½¢ to Santos, 14½¢ to 16¢; Rio, 15¢ to 16 Mocha, 24¢ to 26¢.

A rather more active trade has been in teas during the past week, the demand being chiefly for Japans, and sales of 500 package lots have changed hands between houses at prices ranging from 17¢. The offerings of these grades, stated, are not large, as stocks in first have been reduced considerably of late in consequence of which the tone of the market is firm and values have a hardening tendency.—Gazette, Feb. 19.

Assessment Assurance

A telegram from Milwaukee, Wisconsin reports that the Wisconsin Oddfellows' Mutual Life Assurance company, which was organized in 1839, has made an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. It will probably be interesting to your readers to know, we press correspondent, that the record for association for the years 1887 to 1895 inclusive, shows the following figures:

For year ending December 31	Amount of insurance in force.
1887	\$7,810,500
1888	7,900,500
1889	7,939,500
1890	8,037,500
1891	7,812,500
1892	7,579,500
1893	7,495,000
1894	7,399,500
1895	6,342,000

The average age of the certificate holders was stated in 1894 to be fifty-one year, very large proportion will now be unable to obtain insurance, even if in a financial position to pay the rates at their present rates.

This shows the danger of depending on ordinary assessment insurance alone, particularly on the level assessment plan.

Manitoba Horse Breeders.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Horse Breeders' association was held in Winnipeg recently, President J. G. Ruth presiding.

W. L. Puxley, read his reports as secretary and treasurer, which were adopted.

The officers were then elected as follows: President, J. G. Rutherford, vice-president for Manitoba, S. J. Thompson, vice-president for the N.W.T., Ernest Becton, Kingston Manor; treasurer, C. V. Allen, executive, John Wishart, Parage la Pte. David Munroe, Neopawa, J. Swain, Wapagosa, J. W. Knittle, Boisassini, J. Moore, Swan Lake, Geo. A. Cam, J. W. Harris and W. J. Leonard, W. Pex, and Wm. Ryan, Ninga.

D. Munroe and J. S. Rutherford, papers, Mr. Munroe treating of shire horses. Both gentlemen put in a strong plea for breeding good horses instead of Mr. Rutherford claimed that he was raising the right kind of horses, that electric cars and bicycles had made it profitable to breed poor stock.

Dominion Parliament will meet in session on March 23.