

Freight Rates.

The Minneapolis *Northwestern Miller* says: "It seems to be quite an open secret that there are several lines taking export flour out of Minneapolis on the basis of an inland rate of 27½c Minneapolis to New York or Boston. In fact there is good reason to believe that even 26c is being made on some of the business. And it is strongly hinted that the seaboard rates on domestic shipments are being shaded in some quarters. Ocean rates are higher and much stronger this week. It is understood that large quantities of oats are being exported, three boats having been chartered within the past few days for this cereal alone. A considerable quantity of London and Liverpool flour is reported to have been booked recently, for shipment during December, at rates that, from the present outlook are very favorable for shippers. The lowest rates obtainable Wednesday were: To London and Liverpool, 43½c; Glasgow, 47.10c. This is per 100 lbs. through from Minneapolis. The rate on flour and millstuffs from Minneapolis to Chicago or Milwaukee, destined for points east of Pittsburg and Buffalo, is 10c per 100 lbs, but where shipments are for Chicago or local points, a rate of 12½c applies."

Chicago *Trade Bulletin*, October 26: "A fairly active demand prevailed for freights during the past week, and more steadiness prevailed. The movement by rail was fair, and rates were well maintained on the basis of 25c flour and grain, and 30c provisions to New York. Lake and rail freights were in better request, and rates were well maintained at 20c. flour, 7½c wheat, 7c corn, and 5½c oats to New York. 18c flour, 7½c wheat, and 6½c corn to Philadelphia, 7½c wheat and 6½c corn to Baltimore, 7½c wheat, 7½c corn, and 6½c oats to Boston. Rates to New England were quotable at 10c corn and 7c oats. Lake and canal freights were in moderate demand, and rates quotable at 7 to 7½c wheat, and 6½ to 6¾c through to New York. Through freights to Liverpool were in fair demand and rates were higher, due to a scarcity of steamer room. Rates were quotable at 40 to 42½c flour, 33½ to 34c grain, and 53½ to 63½c provisions. Oats to London quotable at 16½ to 17c per bushel. Lake freights were in rather good request, with a fair supply of vessels offering. Rates were stronger and higher, closing at 2½c wheat, 2c corn, rye and flax seed, and 1½ to 1¾c oats to Buffalo. Rates to Georgian Bay quotable at 2c corn, and 1¾c oats."

The Inter-State Commerce commission of the United States announces its decision of the case of Daniel Buchanan against the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. It states that the rate on wheat and barley of 50 and 56 per hundred weight respectively charged by the defendant from Ritzville, Wash., to St Paul, Minn., a distance of 1,176 miles, in view of the circumstances and conditions surrounding the traffic are not unreasonable.

The new joint all rail grain traffic which goes into effect November 1st on the Canadian Pacific, Western and Pacific divisions and branches and connections to New York, over the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg and West Shore railways, shows a rate of 54 cents per hundred pounds from Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, 55 cents from Brandon, 54c. from Emerson and Gretna, 56c. from Deloraine, 66c. from Prince Albert and Edmonton, 61c. from Yorkton, 55c.

from Nesbitt and Souris, 56c. from Melita, and 61c. from Oxbow. The same rate applies to Boston. The above named United States railways have secured additional elevator accommodation at New York, and are fully able to handle all export grain business offered them.

Toronto Markets.

Flour—Quiet and easier. Sales of 90 per cent. patents were reported at \$5.10, delivered. Halifax freights, and of straight rollers at \$4.30, Toronto freights, but there were many sellers at \$4.25 for the latter and equal to \$4.90 for the former. Extras offered at \$4.

Wheat—Was firmer, with more enquiry and a more active market. Sales of winter wheat were made at 90 to 91c for standard north and west, and one sale of straight at 91c west. Ontario spring was 1c higher, and an active demand for Midland; about 30 cars sold east at 93c. Goose was enquired for at 82c. Manitoba wheat was quiet. No. 2 hard sold west at \$1.06 and east at \$1.07. No. 3 was not enquired for, and was nominal at 99c. On call No. 1 regular offered at 92c North Bay without bids.

Barley—Was firm, with a good demand and a fairly active market. No. 3 extra sold outside at 41 and 42c. A five car lot of cut No. 2 sold at 42c. No. 3 was enquired for at 33c with sellers at 40c.

Oats—Were firm and in demand, with sales on track at 32 to 33c, but chiefly 33c, and to arrive at 33c. Outside white and mixed sold west at 30c, and one sale east was made at 29c.

Grain and flour—Car prices are: Flour (Toronto freights)—Manitoba patents, \$5.40 to \$5.50; Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Ontario patents, \$4.35 to \$4.40; straight roller, \$4.15 to \$4.20; extra, \$3.95 to \$4; low grades, \$2 to \$3.75. Bran—\$12 to \$12.25. Shorts—\$14 to \$15. Wheat—White, 95 to 96c; spring, 94 to 95c; red winter, 95 to 96c; goose, 92 to 93c; No. 1 hard, \$1.08; No. 2 hard, \$1.05 to \$1.07; No. 3 hard, 98 to 99c; No. 2 northern, \$1.01 to \$1.02. Peas—No. 62 to 63c. Barley—No. 1, 52 to 53c; No. 2, 50 to 51c; No. 3 extra, 44 to 46c. Corn—70 to 71c. Buckwheat—46 to 47c. Rye—83 to 85c. Oats—32 to 33c.

Produce—Quotations: Beans, \$1.50 to \$1.70; potatoes, per bag, 40 to 45c on track, 50 to 60c out of store; onions, \$2 to \$2.25; hops, 12 to 15c; dried apples, 4½ to 5½c; evaporated do., 7 to 8c; eggs, fresh, 16 to 17c; hay, \$11.50 to \$12 for timothy, \$9 to \$10 for mixed; straw, \$6 to \$7; sheepskins, 75c; calfskins, 5 to 7c; hides, green, No. 1, 5 to 5½c; do. cured, 5½c; wool, 10 to 21c; chickens, 30 to 50c; ducks, 40 to 55c; turkeys, per lb, 10 to 12c; geese, per lb, 7 to 9c.

Dressed hogs and provisions—Demand for dressed hogs was larger to-day, and, though there were increased supplies, competition was greater, and \$6 to \$6.25 was paid for good packing weights. Quotations are: Mess pork, United States, \$14 to \$14.50; short cut, \$15.50 to \$17; bacon, long clear, per lb, 8½ to 9c; lard, Canada, tubs and pails, 10½ to 10¾c; compound do, 8½ to 9c; smoked meats—hams, per lb, now 11½ to 12c; old, 10½ to 11c; bellies, per lb, 10½ to 11c; rolls, per lb, 8½ to 9c; backs, per lb, 10½ to 11c; dressed hogs, 5½ to 6½c.

Butter—Demand good; receipts fair and prices steady on low grades to firm on choice

dairy for table use. Cheese was without feature. Quotations are: Butter, good to choice northern and western, 18 to 20c; dairy, medium to good, 15 to 17c; common, 10 to 14c; creamery, tubs, 24 to 26c; rolls, 25 to 27c. Cheese, 10 to 10½c.

Fruits—Prices are: Quinces, 30 to 40c per basket, peaches, 45 to 70c per basket; apples, per bbl, 75c to \$2.25; pears, common, 30 to 40c per basket; Duchess, per bbl, \$2.25 to \$3; Flemish beauties, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per bbl; cantaloupes, \$1 to \$1.25 per bbl; grapes, Niagaras, 2½ to 3c; Rogers, 1½ to 2c; Concordia, 1½ to 2c; Brightons, 2½ to 3c; sweet potatoes, per bbl, Baltimores, \$2.75 to \$3; Jerseys, \$3.25 to \$3.50; cranberries, \$8 to \$8.50 per barrel, \$3 to \$3.25 per box; Spanish onions, \$1.10 to \$1.25 per crate.

Season for Fires.

The season is now at hand when the greatest danger of fires exists. The winds are high, dry leaves from the trees and other easily ignited substances are being blown about, and are forming in little drifts in nooks and corners about buildings, where a spark from a chimney, or a lighted cigar stub, carelessly cast aside, may easily start a conflagration. The increased number of fires necessary to warm residences and stores, all add to the danger of an outbreak. The authorities of our towns and villages should therefore be on their guard, to prevent as far as possible the existence of unnecessary menaces. Private parties, and especially merchants, should also inspect their buildings and yards, to see that no fire-traps exist. Few of our Manitoba and Territorial towns have anything like adequate protection against fires. There are many towns which are large enough to keep a fire engine, where no provision whatever has been made. Small fire engines, suitable for small towns, are now obtainable, and an engine of this class, manufactured by the Waterloo Engine Works, is meeting with a large sale in the east. The company has one of these engines on exhibition in its warehouses in Winnipeg, but so far it has not met with any sale in Manitoba, though something of the kind is so badly needed here. This engine weighs 2,600 pounds, and is drawn by hand, thus saving the expense of horses. It can throw one, two or three streams, or 275 to 300 gallons a minute, and is very suitable for small towns, where a large engine is not thought necessary.

Eastern Cheese Markets.

At Brockville, Ontario, on October 22, the attendance at the cheese board was not so large as usual. There was very little competition among the buyers. The offerings were 2,310 white and 1,500 colored, a total of 3,810. The sales were white cheese 400 at 9½c and 375 at 9½c; colored cheese 485 at 9½c. On the open board three factories were contracted at 9½c and one at 9½c. The factorymen who have not contracted are generally holding for 10c. Buyers are in humor to meet their figures and it is expected that next week's meeting will close the business of the board for the season.

At Listowel, Ontario, on October 22, thirty-one factories boarded 22,635 boxes September and balance of season make of cheese. Market dull; buyers and salesmen apart; 410 boxes, including some August, sold at 9½c.