

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—Wheat has been steadier this week than last, and has averaged about 1c lower than last week. The situation has not materially changed and we do not see any more reason to take a bearish view of the outlook now than a few weeks ago. Of course when wheat was moving up fast many got excited and predicted all sorts of absurd things about higher prices. Some of these same persons are the first to predict a big tumble, now that there has been some decline in prices. We regard the outlook as favorable for good prices, and while we do not advise holding for any "boom" figures, we believe values will be well maintained. If the Argentine and Indian crops equal recent favorable reports, prices may be easier later on, but these countries will have to produce very heavy crops to place wheat in a bearish position statistically.

The local market has been fairly steady. Wheat has been moving heavily, in Manitoba country markets about 250,000 bushels being marketed daily by farmers. A good deal of this has been going into store on account of the farmers. From 200 to 250 cars have been loaded daily at country points for shipment, and fully 3,000,000 bushels are now in store in country elevators. Prices paid to farmers, of course, vary considerably at different points. From 75 to 76c was the general average paid to farmers for No. 1 hard most of the week. At points in the Menonite reserve district, Southern Manitoba, the wheat is nearly all No. 2 hard, which is the reason for the lower prices quoted at those points. There is some talk of scarcity of cars, but with the heavy movement setting in so early, it could hardly be expected that cars could be supplied as fast as wanted at all points. Wheat has ranged mostly between 92 and 93c in the Winnipeg market for No. 1 hard to about Fort William. On Monday 93 1/2-2c was quoted, but on Tuesday the range was 1c lower at 92 to 92 1/2-2c. Yesterday 92 1/2-2c was made and it was reported that one sale touched 92 3/4-4c. No. 2 hard quoted 3c under No. 1 and No. 3 hard 4 to 5c under No. 2.

FLOUR—A good export demand is reported from Montreal for Manitoba flour, and several sales of 1000 to 2000 sacks for export are reported this week. Prices of Manitoba grades were cut in Montreal and also in this market. Here there was a drop of 10c on some brands, while other brands were quoted 20c lower. We quote prices as follows. Patent \$2.45 to \$2.55, strong bakers' \$2.25 to \$2.35, second bakers' \$1.80 to \$1.90, XXXX \$1.40 to \$1.50. These are local quotations in broken lots, with 5c off net prices.

MILLFEED—Bran is quoted at \$8 per ton and shorts at \$10 per ton. Small lots about \$1 per ton more.

BARLEY—A few loads of new barley have sold at 30c per bushel of 48 pounds. Very little offered yet.

OATS—Just at the present time sales are uncertain. There is scarcely anything doing in new oats, and there are very few old oats offering. There is no shipping trade in any class. Buyers are offering 15c to 17c to farmers in the country markets, but they do not seem disposed to sell at these prices. The outlook is favorable for good prices, as the crop is light, being not any larger than a year ago, and stocks of old oats carried over are exceedingly light while a year ago

there were considerable stocks of old oats carried over from the previous year. The quality of the new crop is decidedly better than last year, but not as good as the fine crop of 1895, which year produced an elegant sample. In fact, the oatmeal mills for the past year have been running to a considerable extent on 1895 oats, the 1896 crop being very poor quality. Prices are nominal. A few farmers' loads have been marketed here and brought 25c to 28c, but dealers generally do not offer more than 25c per bushel of 34 pounds. We quote cars of old nominal at about 28c for No. 2 mixed.

GROUND FEED—Ground feed is held at \$16 to \$18 per ton, as to quality.

OATMEAL—The market is firm and \$1.70 is asked in lots to retail dealers for rolled. The future outlook is uncertain and depends on the turn oats may take. New oats are hardly fit to grind yet, and old oats are very scarce.

BUTTER—Creamery—The local butter market has been very firm, and there has been active buying to pick up the few remaining lots held by factories. Most of the creameries will likely be closed by the end of the month. The output of the factories now operating is small. From 19 to 20c has been paid to factories for fresh goods.

BUTTER—Dairy—Prices are about the same as last week, good round lots bringing 12 to 14c, as to quality. Some lots are still held in the country.

CHEESE—The market is very firm and high prices have been paid to factories to secure the balance of the season's makes. We quote 9 to 9 1/2-2c to factories.

EGGS—The local market keeps firm. We quote 14c net this week. Eggs are being shipped through from Eastern Canada to supply the British Columbia markets.

POULTRY—Prices are the same. Old fowl bring 45c per pair, and spring chicken 30 to 40c. Ducks are offering freely at 50 to 60c per pair. Turkeys nominal at 9 to 10c per lb. live weight.

GAME—Dealers have paid 15 to 30c per pair for them, as to quality.

LARD—Prices are. Pure, \$1.70 for 20 lb. pails, and \$4.15 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard, in 3, 5 and 10 lb. tins, quoted at \$5.75 per case of 60 pounds; tins 7 3/4-4c per lb.

CURED MEATS—Prices are very firm and stocks are well cleared up. The prices are as follows: Smoked meats, hams, assorted sizes, 12 1/2 to 13c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 12 to 12 1/2-2c; do., backs, 10-1-2 to 11c; short spiced rolls, 9 to 9 1/2-2c; shoulders, 8 1/2 to 9c; smoked long clear, 9 1/2 to 10c; dry salt meats are quoted; long clear bacon, 8 1/2-2c; boneless shoulders, 8 to 8 1/2-2c; 8 1/2-2c; boneless shoulders, 8 to 8 1/2-2c; backs 9 to 9 1/2-4c; barrelled pork clear mess, \$13 to \$13.50; short cut, \$15.50 to \$16; rolls \$14.50 to \$15 per barrel. Pork sundries, Bologna sausage, 6 1/2-2c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 3c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage castings, 20 to 25c; nor m. Pickled pigs feet, \$1.50 per pail.

DRESSED MEATS—Beef is selling at 4c to 5c as to quality. Mutton ranges from 5 to 6c as to quality. Dressed hogs are firm at 6 1/2-2c; veal, 5 to 7c; lambs, 7 to 8c as to quality.

HIDES—Hides have been weaker in the States and prices are off about 1-2c at Chicago. At Minneapolis 8 1/4-2c was quoted, being 1-2c decline, which is equal to about 6 3/4-4c here,

allowing for freight and duty for No. 1 hides. Prices here, however, are about the same. Green city hides are quoted at 6 1/2-2 to 7c for No. 1; country hides 5 1/2-2c to 6c in the country, flat rates for all grades; calfskins, 8 to 15 pound skins, 70 to 80c per pound; desks 100 to 200c each; kips 5c to 7c; sheepskins, fresh take off, 20c to 30c lambskins, 20c to 25c. We heard of 50c being paid for one lot of lambskins. Horseshoes 75c to \$1.25.

SENECA ROOT—Slow at about 16c per lb here.

WOOL—Some small lots are coming in. The market is steady. We quote 6 to 9 1/2 here for unwashed fleeces.

TALLOW—Quiet and easy at 3 1/2-2c for No. 1 and 2 to 2 1/2-2c for other grades, as to quality.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes are selling at 25c per bushel for loads on the street. Tomatoes are abundant and lower, the offerings of local tomatoes being very large. Beets, turnips, rhubarb, lettuce, radishes and onions in bunches, 5c to 8c per dozen bunches; cauliflower 1 1/2-4c per lb.; cabbage 20 to 25c per dozen; celery 15 to 20c per dozen bunches; onions per lb., 1 to 1 1/4-4c; cucumbers, 10c to 12 1/2-2c per dozen; green corn 6 to 8c per dozen ears; tomatoes 1 to 1 1/2-2c per lb.; green tomatoes 30c per bushel; citrons 1 1/2-2c to 2c per lb.; squash 1 1/2-2c per lb., pumpkins 1c lb.

HAY—Loose hay on the street market sells at \$4.00 per ton and shippers are asking \$4.50 to \$5 for baled in the country, equal to \$5.50 to \$6 here.

WOOD—Tamarac, \$4.25 to \$4.50; pine, \$4 to \$4.25; poplar, \$3 to \$3.25 for car lots on track here, per cord.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Butchers' cattle range from 2c for rough common, up to 2 1/2-2 for the ordinary run of cattle, and 2 3/4-4c for choice. Exporters, 3 to 3 1/4-4c. Exporters are shipping freely, and there is also a demand for stockers for the United States, but the country is well cleaned up of this class of stock.

SHEEP—Recent sales have been made at 2 3/4-4c off cars here. Lambs are scarce and sales this week have been at 4c per lb. here.

HOGS—Prices steady. We quote Choice bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 pounds, \$4.75 per 100 lbs.; 250 to 300 lbs., \$4.25; heavy hogs over 300 lbs., \$3.50 to \$3.75, as to quality, off cars here.

HORSES—Horses are arriving in car lots occasionally from Ontario, and western range horses are also being sold here more or less all the time. A fair team can be had for about \$200, for ordinary, undersized farm horses.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.

Special to The Commercial.
Montreal, Sept. 25.
There was no material change in prices compared with a week ago. Export cattle are rather easier, as also were export sheep.

Prices are as follows:
Cattle—Export, 4 to 4 1/4-4c; choice shippers, 4 1/2-2c; cattle, butchers, 3 to 4c.

Sheep—2 3/4-4 to 3 1/4-4c.
Hogs—1 3/4-4c to 5 1/2-2c.

Exports this week were as follows.
Cattle 2,773; sheep, 3,284. Total exports for the season to date: Cattle, \$9,000; sheep, 42,500.

VISIBLE SUPPLY.

New York, Sept. 20.—Visible supply of wheat, 17,130,000; increased, 1,374,000.