

Conditions in the West

Weather Helping the Crops. Grain Market Erratic on United States Report. Flour Trade Dull. Freight Rate Adjustment in Sight

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Winnipeg, June 9th.—For the past week the weather, which at this season is the most important consideration with regard to the growing crop, has been very satisfactory. There has been an abundant moisture and now for the last three days there has been hot sun and clear skies, with the temperature gradually rising all over the west. There is no disguising the fact that the crop is late, that is, it is very short for the season of the year, but with a continuance of the present weather for even another week it is quite probable that a large proportion of the lost ground will be regained, as the crop is sturdy. There are some reports coming in of "spotted" sections, where germination has been uneven. There are also a few reports of ravages by cutworms, but on the whole, conditions are distinctly favorable.

Markets.

The markets for the week have been a series of ups and downs, but the feature has been the United States Government report for June, which was issued on Thursday, and which was certainly bullish in the extreme, the condition of the winter wheat being 72.2 as against 82.4 on May 1st, 85.8 on June 1st, 1915, and 82.3 on a ten year average. On June 1st the condition of the spring wheat crop was given as 88.2. On June 1st, 1915, the condition of the spring wheat was 94.9. The estimated yield of winter wheat is 469,000,000 bushels. This is a decrease of 206,500,000 bushels from the June estimate of 1915. The estimate for spring wheat is 246,000,000 bushels, a decrease of 25,510,000 from the estimated yield of June 1st, 1915, but the final figures of 1915 were higher than the June estimates indicated, and the decrease in the present outlook from the actual returns of 1915 is 356,460,000. There is, of course, plenty of time for recovery and improvement in the spring wheat, but with winter wheat it is generally assumed that the condition on June 1st largely fixes the crop. It can go back much from that, but it is not likely to greatly improve. Evidently this was the interpretation put on the report, as to Winnipeg market, and indeed the markets of the United States also opened strongly bullish on Friday morning, and the day showed a gain of from 2 to 2 3-8 cents for the three big markets, Winnipeg, Minneapolis and Chicago.

Perhaps the most interesting result of the report was the immediate response from the United Kingdom, not from the agents of the Allied Governments, but from individual firms. At the close of the market on Friday it was estimated that from 1 3-4 to two million bushels had been purchased on account of such firms as Parker, Shipley, et al.

Following the bullish report on winter wheat conditions by the Government, the experts, such as Inglis, LeCount and the Modern Miller, issued quite glowing statements of the condition of the crop, particularly in Oklahoma and Kansas. Apparently these did not have any effect whatever on the market.

There has been a very great deal of spreading done in the past few days between Winnipeg and Chicago, and between Winnipeg July and December.

It was noticeable that the Old Country orders were all for deferred futures, particularly October and December. There was practically no cash buying.

Ocean Freights.

It was understood on Thursday that the decrease in ocean freights was due to lack of demand, rather than to increased tonnage, but the attitude of the shipping agents on Friday rather contradicted this. The Scottish Co-operative Society received cables that their Head Office had made charters on the other side, Montreal to Leith, as low as 24 cents a bushel. On Thursday chartering had been fairly liberal at 36 cents. The highest price paid during the season, Montreal to Liverpool, was 51 cents per bushel, New York to Liverpool 51 1-2 cents.

Flour.

The flour trade continues to be abnormally dull, and millers state that they see little hope of revival until towards the end of July, when there must be a fresh demand for domestic use, and they also hope by that time an improved export demand.

There has been a good deal of feeling among Canadian millers at the enormous purchase by Paul Robson in New York of American flour for the Allied

Governments, and it is understood that a very strong representation was made by Canadian millers and others interested, to Paul Robson at New York, within the last ten days. He is leaving New York for Great Britain almost immediately, and it is understood that on his arrival he will lay the representation of the millers of Canada before his superiors for consideration. The millers claim that while the American flour is cheaper on the actual price, that the same number of loaves of bread cannot be made from a barrel of American flour as can be made from a barrel of Canadian, and that while their loaf is possibly a little higher and more attractive in appearance, it is remarkably lower in food value.

Live Stock.

Cattle prices in the West have made new high records during the week, one bunch of twenty steers selling for \$9.75 per cwt., on the hoof. These had been fed at one of the Experimental Farms in Manitoba, and had been purchased at the Union Stockyards last fall for this purpose. The increase in weight and the increase in price per pound made the total value received for the twenty steers more than double the amount paid for them in October last year. While this was the only shipment sold at \$9.75, prices have been running round \$9.50 and \$9.60 for some days, and the supplies are by no means liberal. Hogs are a little weaker, but bring \$10 to \$10.15 per cwt., quite easily.

Railway Commission.

The Railway Commission is to hold a sitting here on Monday, to hear the very just complaints of the live stock men, with regard to a number of new tariffs which the railway are trying to impose upon them. One of the tariffs which is especially objectionable is that of 11-2 cents per mile, return fare, for men who travel in with loads of cattle. The railways insisted on having in the live stock shippers' contract a clause compelling the shipper to have someone accompany his carload to market, and up to the 1st of June of the present year whoever travelled with the stock got returned fare free, although within the past few months some of the railroads have only given second class fare, instead of first, as has been the custom. Now the railways are seeking to charge 11-2 cents per mile for return fare. The cattle men resent this very strongly, claiming that it is a case of getting both ways.

They are also protesting strongly against the 75 cents charge per car for cleaning and disinfecting. The law requires that the railways should do this, and they did it for several years without a charge, but within the past year this charge has been made, but has been sanctioned by the railway commission.

The third complaint is the increase in the freight on hogs, which amounts to practically \$20 per car.

It is likely that the meeting in Winnipeg will be of interest, and the Commission will hear evidence on the same subject, both in Regina, Calgary and possibly Edmonton.

CANADA'S TRADE IN MAY.

The financial statement of the Dominion for May shows a gratifying increase of revenue, with expenditures, apart from war, remaining about stationary.

Revenue for the month totalled \$18,497,707, an increase of a little over six millions as compared with May of last year. For the first two months of the present fiscal year the revenue has been \$33,172,754 or twelve millions more than for the corresponding period of last year.

Increased importations and increased customs revenue account for the jump in revenue. During May customs revenue increased by a little over five millions and for the two months the increase has been nearly ten millions. Post office and excise revenues also show small increases.

War expenditure for May totalled \$9,309,424, although this amount represents only the items which were entered for the month. The actual monthly expenditure is now averaging about twenty million dollars. The net national debt at the end of May was \$577,896,690, as compared with \$432,317,630 at the end of May last year.

SMART WOODS
LIMITED CANADA

Manufacturers of

**Jute and Cotton
Bags, Tents,
Clothing, Etc.**

FACTORIES IN

**MONTREAL, TORONTO,
OTTAWA, WINNIPEG**

GRAIN AT THE HEAD OF LAKES.

Fort William, June 10, 1916.

Statement of stocks in store in terminal elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur on June 9th, 1916, with receipts and shipments during the week.

Elevator.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Flax.
C.P.R. . . .	1,916,249	501,214	90,648
Emp. and				
Th. Bay . . .	1,145,793	304,185	46,275	191,627
Consol. . . .	847,309	166,153	38,842	154,596
Ogilvie . . .	1,179,476	101,876	33,752
Western . . .	947,843	186,612	14,848	226,219
Grain				
Growers' . .	1,545,192	369,940	40,988
Eastern . . .	583,424	195,545	30,317
Ft. William	407,665	272,411	52,626	26,211
G. T. P. . . .	1,714,541	439,157	48,973	133,768
Can. Nor. . .	1,832,817	500,160	166,814	153,382
Horns	160,462	41,989	23,610	203,169
Can. Govt. .	1,550,410	451,599	57,790	92,018
Total	13,831,186	3,530,847	645,488	1,180,993
A year ago	3,087,070	1,438,297	194,050	1,467,296
Receipts . . .	6,574,073	2,441,278	116,170	147,989
Ship. Lake	5,848,123	2,709,950	9,872	150,490
Ship. Rail	77,658	29,674	2,740	946

Stocks by Grade.

Wheat.	Oats.
No. 1 Hard	17,815
No. 1 Nor.	6,266,167
No. 2 Nor.	1,871,355
No. 3 Nor.	1,484,162
No. 4	1,216,500
Others	2,975,285
Total	13,831,186
Barley.	Flax.
No. 3 C.W.	264,904
No. 4 C.W.	235,150
Rejected	79,664
Feed	32,981
Others	32,787
Total	645,486
No. 1 C. W.	55,300
No. 2 C.W.	1,754,970
No. 3 C.W.	793,789
Ex. 1 Feed	230,477
Others	696,309
Total	3,530,847
No. 1 N.W.C. . . .	1,005,002
No. 2 C.W.	122,652
No. 3 C.W.	29,662
Others	23,676
Total	1,180,993

NEW COMPANIES.

The following companies have obtained Federal Charters as listed in this week's official Gazette: Blackwell and Landry Agencies, Limited, Montreal, \$30,000. Agents and brokers.

The Oka Gold and Lead Mining Co., Limited, Montreal, \$1,000,000. Incorporators: Thomas Scott, J. J. Trickey, J. E. Moranville, J. A. Aubut, and O. J. Klein, all of Montreal.

Produce, Limited, Toronto, \$49,000. Dairy and farm produce.

Italo Canadian Trading Company, Limited, Montreal, \$49,000. Wholesale and retail merchants.

C. P. Sekyer, Limited, St. Hubert, Que., \$20,000. To manufacture chemicals, fertilizers, etc.

Murray-Kay Building Company, Limited, Toronto, \$2,000,000.

St. John Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, Limited, St. John, N.B., \$1,000,000.