

the last moment and then all want twine at once, there is always sure to be some points where there will be a temporary scarcity. The farmers should provide against this by ordering a little ahead. As there is practically no profit in twine, dealers at country points cannot be expected to carry any more than they are sure to sell, and they would be foolish to do otherwise and have to carry the stuff over to another year. This year there has been more competition in twine than ever before, some five or six factories being represented, and there is no shortage beyond a temporary scarcity at a few points such as will occur every season. Supplies, however, have been quickly sent forward wherever needed, when asked for by responsible parties. A party arrived in Winnipeg from the Dominion Government factory at the Kingston penitentiary this week, with several cars of twine which he will try and sell in Manitoba. This person worked a first-class free advertisement out of one of the Winnipeg daily papers, by stuffing a reporter with a yarn to the effect that the government had learned there was a great shortage of twine in Manitoba, and out of philanthropic motives of course, he had been quickly sent west with the twine, to relieve the distress of the farmers. One would have thought from reading the interview, that the twine was to be distributed free gratis to the farmers, it smacked so much of philanthropy on the part of the government for the farmers of Manitoba; but such is not the case. The interview wound up with the intimation that the twine was for sale, at the same prices of course as the other twines in the market, the party in charge magnanimously stating that he would see to it that the price to the farmers was not unduly enhanced owing to the "apparent scarcity."

## GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

**WHEAT**—Wheat has varied a good deal with corn this week. The advance in corn has reached a stage that has caused nervousness, as after such a sharp advance there is always danger of a reapse, or fear that the top will not be maintained. Some very bad reports have continued to come in about the corn crop, however, and crop estimates have been further reduced. Corn sold higher than even the choicest grades of wheat, per bushel, while the price has ranged 5 to 10c higher per bushel for corn at Chicago than was obtained in that market for the lower grades of wheat. With 56 pounds of corn selling as high and even higher than 60 pounds of the choicest wheat, and 34 pounds of oats selling at 30 to 34c in the same market, it will be observed that wheat is about the cheapest grain on the list. If the price of other grains can be maintained, the wheat markets should be held firm to say the least.

United States markets opened easier this week, prices declining about  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1c on Monday. Corn started the decline, and liberal receipts, lower cables and good crop news from Russia helped it on. Chicago got 908 cars, and the report showed an increase of 1,682,000 bushels in stocks at that place, making the total over 20,000,000 bushels. The visible supply statement on Monday showed an increase of 2,320,000 bushels, making total stocks at principal points in Canada and the United States, east of the mountains, amount to 62,000,000 bushels, against 58,869,000 bushels a year ago. There was rain in the corn belt, but it was considered doubtful if it would be any benefit now. On Tuesday United States markets were firmer, about recovering the loss of Monday. Cables were higher. Corn recovered and helped the advance in wheat, on poor crop reports from Iowa state, predicting one third of a crop. The India shipments for the week were reported at 445,000 bushels, and from the Baltic and sundry ports 2,560,000 bushels, a total of 3,005,000 bushels. The American shipments were 3,417,000 bushels, making the total European supplies for the week 6,425,000 bushels, against estimated

requirements of 6,500,000 bushels, a deficiency of only 75,000 bushels. On Wednesday United States markets were a little lower again. Cables were higher, but receipts of new wheat continue large. Quantities of low grade wheat were sold at Chicago, alleged to be for feeding purposes. Crop bulletins continue very poor for corn, stating that the rains had come too late to be of much benefit in the corn states. On Thursday United States markets were about  $\frac{1}{2}$ c lower. There was nothing new except lower cables. Prices continued downward on Friday, influenced by large receipts of new wheat, lower cables and heavy selling.

Exports of wheat (flour included) from the United States and Canada, both coasts, amounted to 2,979,924 bushels, against 3,417,200 bushels last week, 2,977,937 the week before, and as compared with 6,129,700 bushels in the week a year ago, 3,750,174 bushels two years ago, 5,761,187 bushels three years ago, and 3,439,000 bushels four years ago.

Locally wheat has been very quiet and very little business has been done. Buyers are in different and their bids are lower than the views of holders. Holders offer at 60 to 61c per bushel for No. 1 hard, basis all-at, and some hold even higher, but buyers range between 59 and 60c per bushel, at the close 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 60c would be about the limit for business. A single car of No. 2 hard was reported sold at 57c which would be equal to 59 for No. 1. Stocks in store at Fort William on August 13 were 1,090,604 bushels. Receipts for the week were 60,334 bushels and wheat 164,959 bushels. A year ago stocks were 1,336,154 bushels, a decrease of 193,721 for that week.

The official Manitoba crop report issued this week with information to date of August 5th, places the estimated average of wheat at 15.6 bushels per acre, making a total crop of 15,761,568 bushels. The August estimate a year ago was 19.2 bushels per acre, but this was reduced in the final official estimate to 15.56 bushels, making a total crop of 15,615,923 bushels. The crop last year was seriously damaged by hot winds just as harvest was starting.

Harvesting has progressed this week, and in some early districts most of the farmers are through cutting wheat. There were showers in some districts, which would do more good than harm. Reports this week are rather more favorable and indicate the crop is rather better than earlier expectations. Most reports indicate a crop fully as good if not some better than last year. The government bulletin this week agrees with general estimates much closer than in previous years.

**FLOUR**—We have learned of nothing farther in flour, and the situation remains about the same as last week. While some brands are quoted 5 to 10c higher, as stated last week, other well known brands are still selling at the old prices. It is therefore uncertain if a general advance will be established. We will, therefore allow quotations to stand, in the meantime. Quotations in broken lots to the local trade, delivered in the city are as follows: — Patents \$1.55; strong bakers, \$1.45. Low grades, 75c to \$1.00 as to quality. Prices per sack of 98 pounds.

**MILLSTUFFS**—Millstuffs as stated last week are in about the same position as flour. Some millers are asking 50c to \$1 higher on both bran and shorts. Others are quoting old prices, but have little or nothing on hand to dispose of. While an advance is reported by some mills, we quote at old prices in the meantime, with the possibility that the reported advance may be fully established soon. The price to local dealers is \$11 for bran and \$13 for shorts, and \$1 per ton higher for small quantities.

**OTATNEAL, ETC.**—There is no change. Rolled oatmeal is quoted at \$2.25 for 50 pound sacks; standard, in 98 pound sacks, \$2.40 and granulated, \$2.40. The feeling is firm. There is a little eastern rolled oats in the market, held at \$2.40, but very little east-

ern meal has been sold for some time, as the eastern article cannot compete at present prices with the Manitoba mills.

**GROUND FEED**—Prices still range from \$20 to \$22 per ton as to quality for pure oat and barley feed.

**OATS**—There is very little doing in oats but the market appears to be firm, notwithstanding the new crop now at hand. In fact, it looks as though the market will be well maintained, and at any rate it is not expected that the advent of the new crop will cause much of a decline. Three cars of ordinary feed oats were said to have sold this week at 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per bushel of 34 pounds. At least, this was the price given out for the sale, but if such a figure was obtained, it is considered above the market value, 31 to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ c being the idea of buyers, though good milling oats would bring 32 to 34c per bushel. The Manitoba Government crop report this week places the total crop of oats at 12,197,000 bushels. The area in oats this year in Manitoba is 413,686 acres, which makes the crop a shade over 29 bushels per acre. Last year the area was 388,529 acres and the yield about 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre, making a total crop of 9,223,935 bushels. Drought this year and hot weather last year has made this crop a poor one for two years in succession. Though the aggregate crop this year is expected to be a couple of million bushels larger than last year, it is still doubtful if there will be any surplus for shipment eastward to speak of, as the very poor crop in portions of the territories will necessitate shipping in from Manitoba to meet local requirements in those districts. There was very little surplus in Manitoba from last year's crop. The burning of 46,000 bushels of oats in Bawlf's elevator in Winnipeg last night will make the market some firmer temporarily, as stocks of old oats are light, and it will be a little while before new will be offering in any quantity.

**BARLEY**—No sales of barley reported and there is none in the country. Prices nominal at 40 to 45c per bushel here. The crop is officially estimated at 2,182,520 bushels, as compared with 2,547,653 bushels last year. There will be no surplus in the country above feeding and malting requirements.

**BUTTER**—The butter market is still dull. About 14c per lb is about the best price commission dealers can get even for small selected lots. We quote 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 15c for good to choice dairy, in small lots, and round lots of good average quality at 11c. Poor to medium, 9 to 10c. Shipments are being made freely from country points direct to coast markets, from the territories as well as Manitoba. Shipments have been made to the coast from points north of Calgary, on the Edmonton branch, one car lot having gone to Vancouver lately from Red Deer district.

**CHEESE**—Cheese is firmer. Holders ask 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 9c, according to quality, and jobbers are selling at 10c.

**EGGS**—The quotation is 12c for candled stock. Dealers are offering 10c per dozen for round lots, but there is a heavy shrinkage in candling over receipts.

**CURED MEATS**—Prices are steady and unchanged. Hams, 10c for heavy, and 11c to 12c for ordinary sizes; breakfast bacon, backs, 12c; bellies, 13c; dry salt long clear bacon, 8c; smoked long clear, 9c; small smoked sides, 9c; dry salt shoulders, 8c; dry salt backs, 9c; spiced rolls, 9c; boneless hams 12c; mess pork, \$15.00, selected mess, \$17.00 per barrel. Sausage is quoted: Fresh pork sausage, 8c; bologna sausage 7c per pound; German sausage, 7c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per half lb. packet. Pickled hogs tongues, 5c lb. Pickled pigs feet, \$1.40 per pair; pickled hocks, 3c lb; smoked jowls, 6c.

**LARD**—No change. Pure, \$2 for 20-lb pails, and \$5.00 in 50-lb. pails; compound at \$1.70 per 20-lb pail; compound in 3, and 5 pound tins, \$6.00 per case of 60 lb. Pure lard lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$7.00 per case of 60 pounds.