

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Jobbers are very busy just now shipping out holiday goods, on orders taken earlier, as well as numerous small orders which are now coming in. Large quantities of paper and other heavy goods are also coming to hand, to be placed in stock before the close of navigation.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—The week has been one of decided depression in wheat prices, and values have closed lower than the previous day on each succeeding day of the week, from Monday to Friday inclusive. For instance the Duluth market, which may be taken as something of a guide for Manitoba wheat, lost 11-8c on Monday, 1-8c on Tuesday, 1c on Wednesday, 1c on Thursday, and 5-8c on Friday, based on the December option, or a total decline in the five days to last night of 37-8c. The large increase in the visible supply, as shown by Monday's statement, of 2,345,000 bushels was a weakening feature but this should not be considered as remarkable at this season, with the usual large receipts.

The local market has been weak and heavy, particularly toward the close, and yesterday it was very dull here and no one inclined to operate. On Monday as high as 93 1-2 was made for No. 1 hard in this market, about Fort William, in the morning, but as the weakness developed in other markets prices declined here and at the close 94 1-2c was quoted. The local market was dull on Tuesday, owing to the holiday at New York, as there were no quotations from that market. Sales were made at 94c here. On Wednesday 93 1-2 was quoted, with buyers and sellers apart, holders asking 94c in some cases, and bids at 93 to 93 1-2c. On Thursday sales were made at 93c in the morning, with 92 1-2c bid at the close. The wide fluctuations in the Chicago market on that day had a very unsettling effect. Chicago opened at 95 1-4 to 95 1-2c for December option, sold down to 92c, up again to 95c, down to 94c, up to 95c once more and settled down to 94c at the close. On Friday, the Winnipeg market was very dull and with scarcely any inclination to do business. No. 1 hard was quoted 92 1-2c. In Manitoba country markets prices held up well, ranging from 77 to 80c to farmers, at most points, with prices touching a few cents higher at some points. Over 5,350,000 bushels of wheat were shipped to Fort William during September and October. About 5,000,000 bushels are held in store at interior points, besides what has been turned into flour, etc., making about 12,000,000 bushels in all of the present crop marketed to date.

Flour—Prices are more uniform this week, the advance noted on some brands last week having since gone into effect on other brands. We quote Ogilvie's Hungarian patents \$2.55, and Glenora at \$2.35 per sack of 48 lbs. Lake of the Woods quoted patent, \$2.25, strong bakers' \$2.35, second bakers' \$1.80 and XXXX \$1.40, prices to local dealers here less 5c for net cash.

MILLFEED—Prices are stronger and \$9 for bran and \$11 for shorts per ton was quoted, with large lots \$1 per ton less.

GROUND FEED—Prices very firm. We quote \$17 to \$20 per ton for ground oats and barley feed. Ground corn, \$15 to \$16 per ton; oil cake, \$17 per ton.

OATMEAL—The market is in the same position as reported last week. We quote rolled oats in lots to retail dealers, at \$1.80 per sack car lots \$1.60.

OATS—Oats continue very scarce and prices asked are about 2c higher this week, 33 to 34c being quoted for car lots on track here, and even higher is demanded. The marketings of oats are very light and high prices are being paid at some points in the country, to farmers, 25c per bushel being freely paid at many provincial points, to farmers. Here 30 to 33c was paid to farmers on the street. The scarcity of oats is taken to indicate an insufficient supply for home requirements. However, a year ago at this date no new oats were marketing, but last year there was a considerable quantity of old stocks on hand while this year stocks of old oats were sold out very closely by the time new began to move.

BARLEY—Nominal at about 30c per bushel in this market. Scarcely anything offering, either in car lots or by farmers on the street.

FLAX SEED—Buyers are paying 60c per bushel to farmers in country markets, and 60 to 65c is quoted in the Winnipeg market, but this price is nominal. The linseed oil mills have considerable stocks of old seed on hand, otherwise prices would be higher than they now are.

Butter—Creamery—Quiet and easy. The depression at Montreal is unfavorable to firm prices here. We quote nominal at 20c for fresh creamery.

BUTTER—Dairy—The situation is much the same as noted last week, and the situation is not favorable owing to the depression in eastern markets. Very little roll butter is coming in. We quote dairy tubs at 14 to 16c and fresh rolls at 15c to 18c.

CHEESE—Latest transactions have been reported at 10c to 10 5-8c. The market is depressed in consequence of the demoralized state of eastern markets.

EGGS—Buyers are paying 16c net for receipts of fresh, being an advance this week of 1c.

POULTRY—Dressed chickens bring 8 to 9c per lb., and old fowl about 7c as to quality. Turkeys will bring 11c to 12c, and geese and ducks 9 to 10c per lb. dressed. The market is rather easier. There is some inquiry to ship, but prices are based on local demand.

GAME—Dealers have paid 20 to 30c per pair for wild ducks, as to quality. Wild geese, 40 to 50c each. Wares 25c each. Rabbits, 5 to 6c each.

LARD AND CURED MEATS—There is no change in these goods. See quotations on another page.

DRESSED MEATS—Prices are about the same. Dressed hogs are offering fairly freely, and are quoted, at 5 to 6c as to quality, fancy weights bringing the outside price, and 5 to 5 1-4c for rough heavy hogs. Beef is steady at 4 to 4 1-2 as to quality. Mutton easy at 5 to 6c, and lamb 6 to 7c. Veal 5 to 6c. Liberal supplies of mutton offering.

HIDES—There has been a little special competition this week, the city tannery having been buying from butchers at about 1-2c above the market, and it is said that 7 1-2c was paid in this way, but the demand at this rate will be limited. We quote No. 1 city hides, 7c; country hides, 6c; kip hides, 6 to 7c; calf, 7 to 8c; sheep and lambskins, 35 to 50c each; horse-hides 75c to \$1.25 each.

SENECA ROOT—Quoted at about 13 to 17c per lb. here. Nominal.

WOOL—We quote 8 to 9 1-2c here for unwashed fleece, about nominal.

TALLOW—Quoted steady at 31-2c for No. 1 and 2 to 27-2c for other grades as to quality.

VEGETABLES—About everything in the vegetable line is very firm and prices are high and likely to be higher before the winter is over. There are several causes for this. One is the crop has not turned out as good as was expected. Another cause is the destruction of much celery and other truck by the heavy fall frost some time ago, and a most important cause is the increased consumption, owing to the quantity of vegetables shipped to the mining districts, as well as to the quantity taken by packers here for pickling, which is a new feature in the trade. Potatoes are firm and higher at 30 to 35c on the street, and up to 30c has been paid for car lots to ship to Ontario mining districts. Onions are much higher, the local crop having turned out poor, and supplies have been brought in from the east by jobbers, who hold at 21-2 to 3c per lb, while local stock is held at about 2c. Celery has been brought in from the south, and is held at 60c, with local at 40c per dozen bunches. Carrots are very high, at 70c per bushel. Cabbage \$3 to \$4 per 100. Beets 30 to 40c bushel.

HAY—Held at \$6 to \$6.50 for cars on track here, of baled, or about \$5 per ton at point of shipment.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—The feature of the market is the large shipments of stocker cattle to the United States, and good prices are being paid for this class of stock notwithstanding the duty. Buyers from the States have been operating freely, for shipment to St. Paul and Minneapolis markets, and better prices have been paid for stocker cattle than can be realized here for butchers' stock, 23-4c having been paid here for stockers. Export cattle are still going forward, though the advices from British markets continue very discouraging for shippers, who must have lost money lately. We quote eastern cattle off cars here at 21-4 to 21-2c for the general run.

SHEEP—The market is stocked heavily with sheep, and local butchers are holding large numbers. Several loads of range sheep are in this week being delivered on earlier purchases, costing about 23-4c here. Recent sales have been made here at about 21-4c, and some have been shipped east, purchased at this price here. Lambs quoted at 23-4c to 3c.

HOGS—There has been no further change here, but prices are weak, in sympathy with the further drop in eastern markets. Deliveries have been liberal. We quote choice bacon hogs weighing 150 to 250 lbs. at \$4.50 per 100 lbs.; 250 to 300 lbs., \$4.00; heavy hogs, over 300 lbs., \$3 to \$3.50, as to quality, off cars here.

WINNIPEG CLEARING HOUSE.

Week ending	Clearings	Balances
1897	\$1,342,880	\$582,824
1898	2,408,968	467,755
1895	3,251,555	434,859
Month ending Octo-ber, 1897	1,329,879	
Month ending Octo-ber, 1896	7,585,472	
Month ending Octo-ber, 1895	7,911,958	

A third train per week has been added to the service of the railway between Edmonton and Calgary.