

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The visible supply increase of 1,236,000 bushels, announced on Monday, made a heavy load for the market. The total visible now stands at 43,240,000 bushels. Prices sold down $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ c, but recovered and closed at the opening prices, as follows:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Wheat | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn | 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats | — | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork | — | 15.05 |
| Lard | 7.82 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7.85 |
| Short Ribs | — | 7.75 |

On Tuesday wheat was strong, on heavy buying from New York, attributed to the war scare. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wheat | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats | — | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork | — | 14.50 |
| Lard | — | 7.80 |
| Short Ribs | — | 7.70 |

On Wednesday wheat was generally strong, with a good demand from the seaboard. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Wheat | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats | — | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork | — | 14.97 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Lard | — | 7.80 |
| Short Ribs | — | 7.70 |

Wheat opened on Thursday at Wednesday's closing prices, and advanced steadily, closing $\frac{3}{4}$ c higher, when prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wheat | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats | — | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork | — | 14.95 |
| Lard | — | 7.77 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Short Ribs | — | 7.67 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

There was scarcely a variation in prices of wheat on Friday, though Liverpool advices noted a good inquiry. Provisions are easier. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wheat | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Corn | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Oats | — | — |
| Pork | — | 14.50 |
| Lard | — | 7.72 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Short Ribs | — | 7.62 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

Up to date Duluth has received 12,000,000 bushels of wheat, since the commencement of the crop year on Sept. 1st last. It is estimated that for the next eight months receipts will average 1,000,000 per month, making a total for the crop year of 20,000,000 bushels. The following closing quotations for No. 1 hard on each day of the week, will show the state of the market:

| | Cash | Dec. | Jan. | May. |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Monday | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 82 |
| Tuesday | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 82 |
| Wednesday | 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 83 |
| Thursday | 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 | 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Friday | 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Prices generally unchanged with the exception of cheese, which was easier. Manitoba No. 1 hard wheat was quoted at 86 to 87c. Oats, 37 to 38c, per 32 pounds. Barley, 65 to 70c. Flour, quiet and unchanged. Butter, 15 to 18c for western dairy; townships, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; creamery, 20 to 22c; cheese from 9c for poor to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for finest September make. Dressed hogs, \$6 40 to \$6 50 in car lots.

MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.

The following quotations on Friday, Dec. 23, as compared with prices on the same day of the previous week, will indicate the course of the stock market:

| | Dec. 16. | | Dec. 23. | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Offered. | Bid. | Offered. | Bid. |
| Montreal | 267 | 204 | 212 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 211 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Ontario | 111 | 108 | 113 | 110 |
| Toronto | 159 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 158 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 196 | 190 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Merchants | 120 | 118 | 121 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 120 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Dominion | — | — | — | — |
| Commercial | 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 109 | 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1.11 |
| Imperial | — | — | — | — |
| Federal | — | — | — | — |
| Molson's | 140 | 130 | 140 | — |
| Union, ex. div. | 95 | — | 94 | 89 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| N. W. Land Co. | 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — |
| C. P. R. | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 61 | 62 | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

General Notes.

W. N. Role, Q.C., Westminster, has opened a branch law office at Kamloops, B.C.

The creditors of John Green & Co., wholesale dry goods, London, Ont., have accepted a compromise at 50 cents on the dollar.

Wm. Garrett, blacksmith, Morden, is erecting a building adjoining his premises, which he intends to use as a small foundry, enlarging as necessity requires.

Woodley, Neumeyer & Pares brewers, Brandon, have dissolved partnership. Woodley retires, and Neumeyer & Pares will continue the business.

The farmers north of Morden lately held a meeting recently to consider the question of building an elevator at Morden. It was decided to make an effort to carry out the idea.

J. J. Robertson, of Robertson & Roberts, barristers, Winnipeg, died very suddenly from an affection of the heart on Thursday last. He was a brother of the late Judge Robertson, of Victoria, B.C.

The Council of the Vancouver, B.C. board of trade has fixed from 12 to 1 each day as the time when members can meet at the rooms and discuss matters of interest or lay anything before the council.

Three steel steamers of 3,000 tons burden have been contracted for by the Canadian Pacific railway company. The steamers will be built at the Fairfield yard on the Clyde, and are to be used in the Canadian Pacific company's Asiatic service.

Wilson & Robinson, hotelkeepers, Griffin Lake, B.C. were burned out recently. The building was a two storey frame and was insured for \$2,000. The total loss is estimated at \$5,000. It is expected that the proprietors will rebuild in the spring.

Wm. Harkins, contractor, Vancouver, B.C., is missing, and the opinion is that he has taken

an unceremonious departure for the U.S. He received \$3,000 from the city on a contract, just previous to his disappearance. Several contracts are unfinished, and the men are not paid wages for the last month. Several creditors are also anxious to interview the missing man.

The Charlottetown, P. E. I., Board of Trade has adopted a resolution favoring "reciprocal free trade with the United States on the broadest possible basis including the abolition of the restriction on the coasting trade and the transfer of vessel property, and embracing the concessions to the Americans of the common right with our fishermen to use our fisheries." A resolution in favor of commercial union was negated.

For the week ending Wednesday 50,900 bushels of wheat were marketed at Brandon, according to the *Times* the largest deliveries for any week this season. Total wheat marketed to date, 531,339 bushels. For No. 1 hard 51c was paid. Good oats were in demand and sold freely at 22c. No barley. Cattle 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ c; dressed quarters, from farmers 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; dressed hogs 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Poultry has dropped, owing to arrivals from Ontario. Prices, turkeys 10 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c and same for ducks and geese; chickens 7 to 8c.

In speaking of the custom sometimes adopted by Western banks of discounting United States money, the *Canadian Manufacturer*, of Toronto, says: Toronto banks charge a premium for American money when requested to exchange current Canadian money for it. Receiving American currency in Manitoba only at a discount of two or five per cent. is an outrage on those who are compelled to submit to the transaction. It would cost no more to move American currency from Manitoba to Chicago, where it could be redeemed at face value in gold coin, than it would to move Canadian currency from there to Toronto or Montreal. It is all well to invite our Yankee friends to come over and spend their money in Canada, but it is unfair to charge them an extortionate discount. The tendency is to drive trade away.

The meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers Association, held at Montreal recently, was very largely attended, over eleven hundred votes being cast. The financial report showed that the capital of the association aggregated \$57,776, an increase of \$9,860 over that of last year after paying all claims. This favorable showing is due to the steady increase in membership and to the small number of death claims, which amounted only to \$6,400, or \$3,600 less than in 1896. The total income of the year amounted to \$21,989, a net gain of \$2,346 over that of the preceding twelve months, and the memberships reached 1,372, an advance of 178 in number over that of last year. The elections excited considerable interest, the contest resulting in the election of the following gentlemen: President, Mr. Fred Birks, of the firm of Belding, Paul & Co.; vice-president, Mr. William Percival, representing Crathern & Caverhill; directors, Messrs. Joseph Armstrong, Chas. Hutchison, James Croil, Wm. Russell and Geo. Browne.