

CLOTHING.

Travellers now on the road with fall samples are only meeting with a moderate amount of trade and some complain of a falling off. They find country storekeepers pretty well stocked with goods held from last season and not inclined to buy very freely. While this course may cause some disappointment to wholesale people at the moment it is no doubt good safe policy for the retailer. Summer lines are moving out fairly well both in clothing and furnishings.

IMPLEMENTS.

Dealers report trade good. Spring business is practically over and summer and fall trade is now engaging attention. Prices hold firm.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—The past week in the wheat markets has been one of stagnation and there was no special change to record in prices until yesterday, when a heavy decline set in on the American markets which carried prices down 11-12c per bushel for the day and 13-14c on the week. European markets for some days past have been decidedly weak and it has been remarked that the American markets held up well in face of that. Recently the weather in the States has been reported as likely to affect the crops unfavorably, as there has been too much rain in the west and southwest where not needed, and too little in the other parts where very badly needed. On Thursday the U. S. government report for May was issued and gave the condition of winter wheat at \$8.9 on an acreage of 26,585,000 acres, compared to a condition of \$2.1 on April 1 on an acreage of 30,150,000 acres. The difference in acreage represents the area of wheat ploughed up and planted to other crops up to May 1. This condition is said to suggest a prospective yield of 370,000,000 bushels as compared to a suggested prospective yield on April 1 of 397,000,000 bushels. The final government estimate of yield of winter wheat in the States for 1899 was 296,574,000 bushels. While the prospective yield of winter wheat in the States seems large the crop is not secured yet, and it is scarcely likely to improve between now and harvest. The spring wheat crop is altogether undetermined yet. In South Dakota and Southern Minnesota the stand is favorable, but in North Dakota and Manitoba rain is badly needed, the weather being exceptionally hot and dry for the time of year, and should wet weather not come soon crops will be very short. Statistics are not quite so bearish as previously. The most bearish feature last week was the large world's shipments, 9,161,000 bu. for the week. But the American visible decreased 2,617,000 bushels compared to a decrease previous week of 2,342,000 bushels and a decrease same week a year ago of 687,000 bushels, thus showing a decrease of about 5,000,000 bushels in two weeks. The world's visible, according to Bradstreet's, decreased the large quantity of 6,700,000 bushels compared to decrease previous week of 2,418,000 bushels and an increase for same week last year of 1,486,000 bushels. The crop outlook in Europe is said to show some improvement recently and it is possible that these crops may recover in fine weather a good deal of their backwardness and ill favor.

The local market has been firm for the most part, although it has broken

badly at the end of the week under the influence of outside markets. The price of 1 hard spot Fort William has remained almost stationary until yesterday, the figure being 68 1/2c, but dropping yesterday to 67 1/4c. There has been a fair demand, but trading has not been on a large scale as holders have not been free sellers. With the decline buyers are scarcely to be found and there will be little done until the market steadies again, and buyers can make offers with confidence. The demand during the past week has been altogether for spot wheat, and shippers would not offer more than spot price for May or June delivery. Three hard and 1 northern 2 1/4c under 1 hard and 3 hard 4 1/2c under 1 hard. There is very little wheat of the lower grades and prices are irregular.

FLOUR—The Ogilvie company dropped its price on patent and bakers' flour 10c per bag this week to \$1.85, and \$1.65. The market is fairly active. We quote: Ogilvie's Hungarian patent, \$1.85; Glenora patent, \$1.65; Manitoba Strong Bakers, \$1.45; XXXX, \$1.10. Lake of the Woods' Five Roses, \$1.85; Strong Bakers, \$1.65; Medora, \$1.40; XXXX, \$1.10 per sack of 98 pounds delivered in Winnipeg.

MILLFEED—Prices are: Bran, \$3.50 per ton; shorts, \$16.50.

GROUND FEED—We quote now: Oat chop, \$23 per ton; barley chop, \$17; mixed feed of barley and oats, \$20; corn chop, \$19; oil cake, \$27.

OATS—The market is quiet and there is not much demand for feed of any kind. Prices are firmer at 31 to 32c per bushel for No. 2 white oats, and 30 to 31c for No. 2 mixed on track here.

BARLEY—There is very little movement. Prices are higher at 36 to 38c for best grades on track here.

CORN—The market is weaker. No. 3 corn is quoted at 47 1/2c per bushel in carlots on track.

WHEAT—The wheat market in the country is very quiet. Buyers quote from 52 to 54c per bushel to farmers according to freight rate.

FLAXSEED—No business doing.

OATMEAL—Manitoba millers are selling to the retail trade at \$1.65 per sack of 60 pounds.

HAY—The market is very dull. Fresh baled hay is worth \$5 to \$5.50 per ton; loose hay on the street, \$3 to \$4.

BUTTER—Creamery—Commission houses are paying 20c per pound net for choice creamery butter laid down here, or 19c at the factories. Several lots have been bought on this basis this week.

BUTTER—Dairy—Best dairy butter has been selling at 1c per pound under last week's prices, and we quote now 15 to 17c per pound for this commission basis. Finest butter is very scarce. Second grades are plentiful and not wanted. Quoted at 10 to 14c per pound less freight and commission. This are given the preference now by dealers, as rolls and prints do not keep so well.

CHEESE—New cheese is scarce and in good demand at 11c per pound laid down here.

EGGS—Supplies are quite liberal and prices steady at 10 1/2c per dozen net here.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes are scarcer. Farmers' loads now bring 40c per bushel regularly and car lots on track 35 to 40c. Farmers' deliveries are becoming very light. Beets are out of the market. Green onions are 5c

lower, and asparagus 10c lower. Rhubarb, imported, is worth 5c per pound. We quote: Potatoes, 40c per bushel; turnips, 30c; carrots, 75 to 90c; parsnips, 11-12c per pound; onions, 5c per pound; radish, 25 to 30c; California cabbage, 6c per pound; lettuce, 25c per dozen; parsley, 30c; green onions, 15c per dozen; asparagus, 90c per dozen; rhubarb, 5c per pound.

DRESSED MEATS—Beef is 1-4c per pound easier at 6 to 63-4c owing to plentiful supply. Hogs are ruling about the same as last week and are very firm. Spring lamb is quite plentiful at \$4 to \$5 a carcass. We quote: Choice beef, 6 to 63-4c per pound; veal, 8 to 9 1/2c; fresh killed mutton, 10 to 11c; frozen mutton, 8 to 9c; hogs, 6 1/2 to 7c according to weight and quality; spring lambs, \$4 to \$5 each.

POULTRY—Best Smith's Falls turkeys wholesale at 13c per pound; ducks sell at 10c; geese, 9c; chickens, 12c. Dealers pay 50 to 60c each for wild geese. Live chickens are worth 75c per pair.

HIDES—Receipts of hides are light and the market quiet. Dealers are paying 1-4c per pound more for best hides than we quoted last week. Prices now are quoted: No. 1 inspected hides, 71-4c; No. 2, 61-4c; No. 3, 51-4c; branded hides grade No. 2, and bulls, No. 3, kip, 7c; calf, 8 to 8 1/2c; deakin skins, 25 to 35c each; sheep skins, 40 to 50c each; horsehides, 50 to 75c each.

WOOL—Manitoba wool is worth about 8 to 9c per pound delivered at Winnipeg.

SENECA—No new root has yet offered. Dealers in Minneapolis are still quoting 40c per pound for choice Manitoba delivered there.

TALLOW—Prices are firming up and we quote now 33-4 to 4c for good clean, well rendered tallow at country points.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—The market for beef cattle is quiet. Beyond what are being taken for local and British Columbia account there is nothing doing. Exporting is out of the question with ocean freight rates ruling around 70c. Shipments of stockers have been quite heavy this week, mostly to the western ranges. The cattle on the ranges have wintered well and stockmen are consequently feeling pretty good and are willing to speculate a little in stockers, which accounts for the good demand for these. Choice beef cattle are worth 38-4c off cars here. Second grades 3 to 3 1/2c and common stock 21-2 to 3c. Yearling stockers are worth: from \$15 to \$18 each and two-year-olds from \$22 to \$26.

SHEEP—Buyers offer 43-4c to 5c per pound for choice stock weighed off cars here.

HOGS—The market is steady, and receipts moderate. We quote: Choice hogs 5c per pound and second grades 4 to 4 1/2c.

MILK COWS—Cows are in good demand and readily bring from \$30 to \$40 each.

HORSES—Good work horses weighing about 1,300 pounds are worth here from \$150 to \$175 each, roadsters from \$150 to \$200 each and extra heavy teams from \$150 upwards. Western horses of lighter weight run from \$40 to \$140 each, when halter broken.

The Standard Oil Company has declared a quarterly dividend of 10 per cent., payable June 15.