

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending Oct. 6th, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

WHEAT—	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Oct. 7, 1887.
No. 1 hard	72	70	71	89½
" 1 northern	70	68	69½	85
" 2 "	68	66	66½	80½

Futures were quite active and showed about the same fluctuations as the cash stuff, November 1 hard closing at 72½c, and December at 74c; November 1 northern at 69½c and December at 70½c. Coarse grains were easy, corn closing at 35c, oats at 25 to 27½c, barley at 45 to 53c, and rye at 42 to 45c, all by sample.

MILLS—Hus ruled quiet, with a steady feeling, bulk bran closing at \$6.75 to \$ and shorts at \$8 to \$8.50 per ton.

FLOUR—Extreme dullness continues to rule in the flour market, and despite a further reduction in prices, there is very little doing in either export or domestic trade.

Quotations at the mills for ear or round lots are: Patents, \$4.15 to \$4.25; straights, \$3.90 to \$4.10; first bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.55; second bakers', \$2.80 to \$3.00; low grades, \$1.70 to \$1.80, in bags; red dog, \$1.30 to \$1.40, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 25c per bbl for 250 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 98 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49 lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24½ lb cotton sacks. In half barrels, the extra charge is 30c per bbl.

--Northwest Miller.

The Qu'Appelle Valley.

A drive of about twenty miles in a northerly direction from Qu'Appelle Station, over a rather hilly country, dotted with numerous bluffs of poplar and bushes, will take the traveller to the town of Fort Qu'Appelle. In ordinary seasons this region is well supplied with water, and ponds and lakelets are numerous all along the trail. This year, however, not a drop of water is to be found over the entire distance. The ponds are perfectly dry and the earth cracked in their bottoms. This will give some idea of the exceptionally dry weather which has been experienced.

Fort Qu'Appelle has long been a familiar name to those acquainted with the Northwest, owing to the fact that it has for many years been one of the leading trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Co. Long before the railway started on its course westward from the Red River, the beauties of the Qu'Appelle had frequently been described by travellers who had penetrated thus far into the then Great Lone Land. From Winnipeg to Fort Qu'Appelle and back formed one of the most popular trips through the country. It was the great desideratum of travellers who wished to do the Northwest, and up to a very few years ago the person who had made this trip was looked upon as a Northwestern traveller of no second order. Now, it is a very small matter indeed; and the trip one way can be made between breakfast and bed-time.

The town of Fort Qu'Appelle is charmingly located in the Qu'Appelle River valley proper. The river here winds its way through a beautiful valley of over a mile in width. The descent into the valley from the prairie above is accomplished by following one of the numerous ra-

vines to the bottom, and once here the place has the appearance of being surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills. The ravines are filled with poplar, cherry and other trees, which add to the beauty of the scene. This year the river is very low, owing to the drought, and has therefore lost a great deal of its attractiveness. Usually it is a very pretty little stream, and the numerous lakes formed in its course furnish excellent fishing and boating. There are several of these lakes quite close to the town, both above and below the place. Since the opening up of the country for settlement the Fort has grown from an ordinary Hudson's Bay Co. fur trading post to a general business point of considerable importance, and now quite a number of business institutions of various kinds are located here, in addition to the H. B. Co.'s stores. One of the first institutions to meet the eye is the roller flour mill, operated by Messrs. Joyner & Rickard. This mill was put in operation as a roller mill in March last, and has a capacity of 75 barrels per day. The wheat used at the mill is grown in the vicinity, and this season will come principally from north of the river, where the crops are said to have turned out much better than to the south of the town. Indeed, between the Fort and the Station, the crops had resulted very unsatisfactory. On August 4th. the mill commenced to grind on new wheat to some extent.

Messrs. Cruthers, Tregent & Co. opened in the banking and insurance business during the year. The Qu'Appelle Valley Hotel, the leading hostelry of the place and a very comfortable house, has lately passed into the hands of Mr. A. W. B. Joyner. Among the other leading institutions of the place are the H. B. Co.'s stores, the general stores of Finnerty & Moore and J. Zinkan; and J. Nixon, harness manufacturer. The trade of the town is done mainly with the settlers in the vicinity and with the half-breed and white settlements to the north.

The next point of importance in the Qu'Appelle country is the town of Indian Head, situated on the railway, about eleven miles east of Qu'Appelle Station. Here is located the famous Bell Farm,—famous for its great extent, forming one of the largest institutions of that kind in the world. The Farm company have extensive buildings near the town, and also own an elevator and flour mill at the Station. They own a large hotel in the town, which at the present time is not occupied. Messrs. Crawford & Robertson, A. J. Osment, and Murray & Brooks, carry on business in the general store line. W. R. Boyd keeps the Indian Head Hotel.

Fifteen miles east of Indian Head, and located on the railway line, lies the town of Wolseley. Since the first settlement of the country, Wolseley has been one of the best known points in the Qu'Appelle district. Owing to the natural beauties of the surrounding country and the excellent appearance of the soil for agricultural pursuits, the region was soon well filled up with a good class of settlers. In the immediate vicinity of the town the settlers are mostly Canadians, with a good sprinkling of English. A little distance north across the Qu'Appelle River, the English Primitive Methodist Colony is located. The people were many of them well-to-do settlers, and £5 Bank

of England notes were quite common around Wolseley in the early days. Some very fine crops have been raised around Wolseley since farming was first commenced, but the crops this season have been rather light, owing to the same causes which have affected other parts of the region. However, the settlers have full confidence in the capabilities of the district as an agricultural country, and this view is taken by many new-comers, as is shown by the number who have come in and taken up land this season. Indeed, all over the Qu'Appelle valley settlers have been steadily coming in, and this fall the entries for homesteads are increasing every day. With the settlement of the country the town of Wolseley has kept pace, and it now numbers about fifteen business institutions. A roller flour mill is one of the probabilities of the near future.

Sixteen miles east of Wolseley, and also on the C. P. R'y, we come to the town of Grenfell. This is almost exclusively an English settlement, both town and surrounding country, of a well-to-do class of people. The town has a population of about seventy-five persons, and there are a dozen or more business institutions. The storekeepers of Grenfell generally have a reputation with the wholesale trade for prompt payment of obligations and good business habits.

Coming eastward, the next place of importance will be the town of Broadview, fifteen miles east of Grenfell. Broadview is a division town on the C. P. R'y, the second west of Winnipeg, from which it is distant 263 miles. This place we shall consider as bounding the Qu'Appelle country to the east, and it will therefore be the last place noticed in this letter. The town has a population of about 150 people, and about nine or ten business institutions all told. The small number of business places in proportion to the population of the town, when compared with other towns in the district, is accounted for from the fact that the country to the north is all taken up by Indian reserves. This has excluded settlers from coming in and taking up land over a large portion of the surrounding country, and the growth of the town has therefore been curtailed. A large portion of the population are employed in connection with the railway company's shops, round house, etc., located here. The country around Broadview is considered a first-class agricultural district, and it is to be hoped that the portion reserved for the Indians may soon be brought under cultivation. To the south and west of the town, settlement has made considerable progress. The third exhibition of the Broadview Agricultural Society, held on September 23rd, afforded ample proof of the steady progress made in the development of the agricultural resources of the district, the display of grains, vegetables and stock being very good. A. G. Thorburn and J. Clementson, carry on general stores. Palmer Bros., grocers, will add dry goods and boots and shoes to their business.

About 51c was the highest price paid for wheat at Virden last week.

A grain warehouse is in course of construction at Crystal City. It is expected that two or three buyers will be at that market this season.