

inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4c; calf, fine-haired veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

#### LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Several changes will be noted in the following quotation: Spanish sole, 28 to 31c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 75c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 31 to 34c for plump sk. k. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 23 to 25c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

#### RAW FURS.

It is yet early to take note of this line, but already the situation is being canvassed. It is thought that beaver and bear will hardly hold the high prices which they commanded last season. It is reported that an easy feeling prevails at Leipsic, where dealers are said to be selling at low price, with the belief that they will be able to replace stocks at very low prices. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says: "We again call the attention of trappers to the folly of killing fur-bearing animals out of season, as it does not pay for the trouble of skinning and preparing for market, unprime skins not being required as in former years. For instance a consignment of these early killed and almost worthless skins was received in this city from the Northwest not long since, and instead of realizing \$150, as it would have done if prime, it was not worth \$10, and consequently there is a debit balance against the shipper for freight and other expenses."

## THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG.

#### GENERAL WHEAT REVIEW.

There is no improvement to note in the general situation regarding wheat. Values in outside markets during the past week have not advanced and have hardly been maintained, the feeling being one of weakness, or at least indisposition to do business. The lack of speculative activity has a great deal to do with the depression. If once the big operators in wheat centres would take hold and buy a little, the smaller fry would follow suit. So long as there is no speculative activity, there can be little advance in prices, unless stocks were absolutely short for consumption. On account of the large quantity of wet and damaged wheat being marketed at Minneapolis and Duluth, old wheat holds at a good premium and stimulates prices for choice samples. It is now apparent that the sample of spring wheat in the north-west of the United States will be far below the quality of last year. Last year during September cash wheat at Chicago ranged from 72½ to 76½c; during September, 1885, the range was 76½ to 86½c; September, 1884, the range was 73½ to 79½c; September, 1883, the range was 93 to 99½c. The range this year during the present month has been from 67½ to 69½c. The prices are therefore considerably lower than for the past four years, and the very narrow range shows the general stagnation in speculation. The last United States official crop report est;

mates the wheat crop at 431,000,000 bushels, against 477,000,000 bushels last year. The *Mark Lane Express* says: "The samples of native wheat that have been delivered have shown a variable condition. The average price rapidly approaches the lowest quotation recorded. Perfect samples of red wheat, weighing over 66 pounds per bushel, have sold in London for 33s. In some provincial markets the full price recorded was 27s. per 480 pounds. Such prices are calamitous, but the trade must expect still lower." The Chicago visible supply statement showed an increase of 524,207 bushels for the week ended Sept. 10th. During the same week last year the visible supply increased about 2,000,000 bushels and the total was 44,570,796 bushels, or 13,660,000 bushels greater than this year.

#### WHEAT.

The rains came as usual at the commencement of last week, and were heavy and general pretty well all over the country. A heavy and cold wind followed, which would prevent any serious damage from bleaching. Still stacking would be further delayed for several days. The latter portion of the week was very favorable. At the commencement of last week there was still a great deal of grain in shock in some districts, amounting to about one-half the entire wheat crop in those sections where the harvest was late, rains having greatly delayed stacking. There is some fear that some grain may have been stacked on the damp side, or perhaps damaged by the rains after stacking or from careless stacking. Some damp grain has already been marketed, but it is thought that this had been threshed from the stock. There has not yet been enough grain marketed to decide as to whether or not any considerable quantity has been damaged by the rains. At Greta and Manitou a good deal of wheat was being marketed last week, but at other provincial points there was nothing of any account doing. A few loads of damp grain were turned away at those points. A few cars have gone through to Lake Superior ports, and the quality so far has been good. From all parts of the country where threshing is going on come reports of enormous yields. Forty bushels of wheat to the acre, for single fields, is of common report, whilst 50 to 60 bushels have been vouchered for in some instances. The average yield in districts has scarcely been placed under 30 bushels to the acre by the threshers. Fields of oats returning 100 bushels to the acre have been reported. Undoubtedly there are some very heavy crops in Manitoba this year, but the writer does not vouch for the correctness of these individual reports. As to prices there has been no change. At Winnipeg, the ruling prices for No. 1 hard, with 53 to 55c paid farmers at provincial points.

#### FLOUR.

Flour generally holds firm for old, which is now getting scarce, with new coming on the market. Manitoba flour from old wheat has sold at an advance at Montreal on the same account. Mills are now commencing to grind on new wheat, and some shipments eastward of new wheat flour have already been made. Prices to the local trade here are: Patents, \$2.15; strong bakers', \$1.89 to \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.35 to \$1.40; superfine, scarce at \$1.15 to \$1.25.

#### MILLSTUFFS

Steady, at \$10 for bran and \$12 for shorts, per ton; Ground feed, \$25 to \$30 per ton.

#### OATS.

Oats have been selling on the market at 27 to 30c. Little doing in car lots, but prices would be about the same on track here. Some new oats have been shipped westward to Territorial points from provincial points.

#### BARLEY

Inquiries have been received from Eastern Canada for samples of Manitoba barley, and

some dealers expect to make shipments in that direction. There have been but few offerings yet, and prices not established.

#### OATMEAL.

Manitoba millers will likely export both to Eastern Canada and British Columbia this season. Quotations have been asked for from the East. Prices to local dealers are: \$2.55 for granulated and \$2.40 for standard.

#### POTATOES.

Quite an extensive business is being done in shipping to Eastern Canadian markets. The usual price paid by dealers is 25c per bushel.

#### EGGS.

Steady at 15c in case lots, with receipts light, and quality not always good.

#### BUTTER.

Our remarks of last week will apply to the present situation, and may be read over to advantage by many. The supply here is still light, and choice qualities bring good prices. The trouble seems to be, however, that shippers of butter to this market often entertain a higher opinion of their product than will the purchaser here. Butter which may have been first-class when put into the cellars of country stores, comes out a very different article a short time after. It is well known that butter is one of the most sensitive of substances, and readily becomes tainted from the air of a cellar, or from any article, vegetable or otherwise, which may be in the same apartment. Careful buyers are very ready to detect any such taint, and will not purchase except at a lower price. Ordinary qualities of butter have been selling at from 12 to 14c, with choice qualities ranging as high as 15 to 17c. In small quantities to the city trade a No. 1 sample might occasionally bring even a higher price, but a higher figure cannot be safely quoted. A car lot costing from 7 to 15c was shipped to Montreal on Wednesday. It is reported that shippers from Manitoba to eastern markets have not properly discriminated in packing their butter, and the value has been greatly lessened by mixing colors. This is one of the most damaging features in packing butter for shipment. Packers should see that butter is carefully assorted, as regards both color and quality.

#### CHEESE.

Some lots have been received, reported to have cost 11c at the factory, at about which price it is said offered to sell are being made.

#### LARD.

Unchanged at \$2.25 to \$2.30 per 20-pound pail.

#### PROVISIONS.

Local packers are almost out of stocks, owing to the short supply of hogs. Prices are advancing. The lowest quotations for the home cured product are as follows: Long clear 11c; smoked breakfast bacon, 14c; rolls, 12½c; hams, 15c. Prices for the plain product, and canvassed subject to an advance of ½c. Eastern Canada provisions are quoted in this market at 15 to 15½c for hams; plain roll, 12½c; long clear, 11c. Chicago hams, 15½ to 16½c etc.

#### DRESSED MEAT.

Beef steady at 4 to 5½c for sides. Pork very scarce and strong at 9½c. This price will not long be maintained it is thought, and may be reduced this week. Mutton quoted at 10c and veal at 7c.

#### LIVE STOCK.

There is no change in the situation as regards cattle, and plenty are to be had, at 2½c for choice, and 2 to 2½c for medium to good. Hogs are very scarce. Packers have been obliged to almost suspend operations, and butchers can hardly keep up their stock of fresh pork. Only one small lot was reported in the market by rail up to Saturday. Prices are firm, and from 5½ to 6c could be obtained at the yards here. Packers are even figuring on importing from Montreal, whence hogs could be laid down here at less than present ruling values.