

readily at 14 to 15c. All offered has been wanted for local use, especially for best grades, and no shipping demand heard of.

CHEESE.

For local consumption small lots have sold at 8 to 8½c for choice and 7½c for medium. It is thought that the greater portion of the June make has been sold. One car changed hands at 7½c.

PORK

Moving moderately at the unchanged price of \$13 to \$13.50 in small lots. No sales reported of large lots.

BACON.

Has been in fairly good demand and at firm prices, quotations being about ½c higher all around. Long clear has sold in tons and cases at 7½ to 7¾c. One car of country cured was bid at 6¾c. Cumberland has sold at 7c, with light at 3c. Rolls have brought 8½ to 9c and bellies 10½ to 11c. Stocks are said to be running low and held firmer.

HAMS

Prices have advanced slightly, and now rule from 11½ to 12c according to quality.

LARD.

The demand has been principally for small pails, which have sold at a fractional advance, small lots bringing from 9½ to 9¾c.

HOGS.

All offered have been taken freely at \$7 to \$7.25, but very few moving.

Chewing Gum.

One of our druggists says it is remarkable how rapidly the demand for spruce chewing gum has increased "Up to two years ago we could not sell two pounds a year, now our annual sales exceed 300 pounds. We laid in a stock of 75 pounds the first of March, and, "taking up a tiny scopeful of the reddish brown, amorphous lumps, "you can see how little we have left." Contrary to popular notions the best gum is not now obtained from Main forests; the lighter colored, which is in demand, being procured from Northern New York and Canada, where the older trees only are leveled by the lumbermen, and the younger trees, which yield the choice gum are left standing. In this State the young growth has pretty much gone with the old. The price paid for the best gum is one dollar a pound. The highest our informant said he ever paid was \$1.25 per pound for a lot of 40 pounds, the choicest he had ever seen, which was gathered in the vicinity of Sawyer river. New Hampshire, when that region was first opened up for lumbering operations. It is claimed that the habit of chewing spruce gum is beneficial to the dyspeptic, relieves thirst, etc., It is at least a great improvement over the tobacco habit, for which it has occasionally been substituted. The medical journals are engaged in a warm controversy in regard to the effect upon users.—*Portland Press.*

Their Luck May Change.

A Chicago commission man writes to *Daily Business* as follows. It has been truly said that the only sure thing about luck is that it is certain to change. The foreigners who have made a very large amount of money selling wheat in Chicago and New York from \$1.15 down during the past two or three years seem to forget that truism, for they are selling more heavily and more persistently now than they have been at

any time previously. This thing of selling short in the leading American markets is a new thing to them. They have not been at it more than three years, and the programme of short selling has been a winning one with them ever since they started in. With blind confidence in their luck, and in the infallibility of a system that has been a source of an unfailling profit from the moment they began trading, they continue to sell the farmers' grain long before it has been harvested, and in many cases months before it is even planted. They sell wheat more recklessly at 73c than they did twelve months ago at \$1.05. It is another's property they have sold, and if the owner should decline to deliver they would be in a fix. Wheat has not been so cheap in the shipping months for thirty years as it is now and has been since navigation opened. In that time corn has sold at 28c, oats at 15c, and provisions away under present prices. Wheat is relatively the cheapest article on the whole speculative list. It is within the range of possibilities that the chronic short sellers of Britain and the continent will be taught an expensive lesson during the next twelve months, and that their cousins on this side of the water will be forced to assist in paying attention to the same master.

Rapacious Western Railways.

The costs of transportation and the unlawful aggressions of railway corporations are subjects of most vital concern to the great grain-producing centers of the west. As the price for grain falls away in the great trading marts the rates of transportation are increased, placing the producer between two ravenous forces, to escape from which he is compelled to sacrifice one-half his crop in order to get the other half to market; and even then he does not escape this unwarranted, un-American thralldom, for the process must be repeated annually. This state of affairs is chargeable, almost wholly, to rapacious railway management, which tramples under foot and defies the law, rates being fixed on the principle of charging "all that the traffic will bear" instead of charging a rate which will yield a reasonable net profit. By these means dividends are declared on stock, no matter how much water has been injected; the greater the amount of water the heavier the tax on the grain producer. The burden is becoming too great to be carried patiently; yet, notwithstanding vehement protests and unmistakable indications of a storm which will try the very life of their enterprises, railway magnates continue to add to the load which is crushing the agriculture of the West. Exorbitant charges, enforced by unlawful pools, are the order of the day, competition is being choked, and oppression is running rampant.—*St. Louis Miller.*

A REPORT from Ottawa says the contract for the construction of the Northwest Central has been let to Manning, McDonald & Co.

A MAN from Medicine Hat, was in the city last week, endeavoring to dispose of a car of new potatoes. He asked 2½c per pound for them, which was considered to high in view of the cost of potatoes laid down here from Chicago.

Analysis of Cheese.

The following of interest to cheese manufacturers is from the report of H. S. Evans, chief analyst for the Dominion: Closely allied to milk and butter is cheese—a commodity which hitherto has not received from the analysts the attention it deserves; and pending the report of Prof. Saunders and Mr. Best, only nineteen samples have been called for. No adulteration of this limited number of samples examined has been reported, a satisfactory circumstance in view of the very low prices which have ruled for this product of the farm, and the fact that across the border oleomargarine and lard cheeses are by no means uncommon; skim milk, enriched by those fats, being employed in their manufacture.

The methods of analysis employed in the case of butter are applicable here. Although adulteration has not been reported, there are however, sources of deterioration manifest, namely, the hurried mode of manufacture, and imperfect maturation of the cheese before placing it on the market. Perfect pressure to exclude as much as possible of the whey, is as essential in the production of sound cheese, but this seems to be disregarded by the manufacturers; and the second fermentation, technically known as "ripening," is impossible, from the short time which is allowed to elapse between the cheeses entering the press and their being offered on the market. Decay, rather than maturity, must be the issue of the rough handling such green cheeses invariably receive in transit. For the credit and welfare of this vast industry and source of wealth to the country, conditions should be laid down whereby a better, more wholesome and more valuable and profitable product may be secured, and it is to be hoped the investigation now in hand will result in establishing standards by which such a result may accrue, to the pecuniary benefit and credit of the country.

OVENS & Co., dealers in groceries and liquors, Winnipeg, have given up the liquor department.

H. A. PERLEY of Carberry has leased the C.P.R. dining room at Broadview, which he will operate in addition to his Carberry hotel. This will be a great boon to the travelling public, as Mr. Perley is one of the most competent and painstaking caterers in the Northwest.

THE customs returns for the month of June, for the port of Winnipeg, as compared with the same month last year, are as follows:

	Values 1885.	Values 1886.
Goods imported dutiable..	\$100,132	\$132,840
do do free.....	34,652	13,558
Total imported....	134,784	146,407
Goods entered for consumption dutiable and free	140,990	149,485
Duty collected	34,740	45,447
Goods exported	44,853	20,563
The Inland Revenue receipts for the same month were:		
Shirts	\$3,054.91	
Tobacco and cigars	2,616.80	
Malt	1,256.66	
Miscellaneous.....	113.20	
		7,971.57