

WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

WHEAT

The general condition in wheat was again weak, and prices averaged considerably lower for the week, at Duluth, Chicago and other leading markets, than during the previous week. Thursday was the only day which showed much strength, and this was due to reports of damage from rain storms in the central western states. Severe rainstorms were experienced in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and other parts. To what extent damage has been done to the crops is uncertain, but it must be considerable in parts where the winter wheat crop is being harvested. The visible supply decreased 841,000 bu, against a decrease of 479,000 bu a year ago. The total stock now is only 14,657,000 bu, and a year ago was 21,097,000 bu. Wheat on passage decreased 1,520,000 bushels. *Bradstreet's* reported a decrease of 1,616,000 bu east and an increase of 387,000 bu west of the Rocky Mountains. Exports of wheat (and flour as wheat) both coasts of the United States, for 52 weeks, as reported by *Bradstreet's*, equal 98,253,070 bushels.

In Manitoba the weather was very favorable, and may be briefly described as warm and showery. The temperature was equitable, and warm without excessive heat. Local showers, varying from light to brisk rains, were frequent, and occurred in some parts of the country about every day of the week, nearly all sections receiving one or more showers during the week, the rains becoming heavier and more general at the close of the week. Light hail fell in a few localities, touching limited areas, but no damage to speak of has been reported. The outlook is very hopeful, but remembering our experience of last year, when the outlook was splendid up to harvest, but seriously injured by rains during harvest, it will not do to be too sanguine now. There is this advantage over last year, that the crop is very early.

FLOUR.

The flour market may be generally reported as dull and easy, in sympathy with wheat. Local quotations in this market are cut considerably by offerings from outside country mills. These outside flours are placed on this market at 10c per hundred and even more under regular quotations of the large mills. Quotations per one hundred pounds to the local trade are: Patents, \$2.70; strong bakers', \$2.50; Second bakers', \$2 to \$2.10; XXXX, \$1.60; superfine, \$1.20.

MILLSTUFFS.

Hold at the decline reported last week. Bran \$9 and shorts \$11 per ton.

GROUND FEED.

Prices hold at \$25 per ton for best quality of feed.

MEALS, OIL CAKE, ETC.

Oatmeal has a firmer tone again here and in the east. Quotations are:— Oil cake, in bags \$21 a ton; oil cake meal in ton lots, sacked, \$26. in bulk \$25; Oa' meal, standard \$2.90; granulated, \$3.00 per 100 pounds; rolled oats, \$3.00 per sack of 80 pounds; cornmeal is held at \$2 to 100 lbs. Pot barley, \$3.00 per 100 pounds. Pearl barley, \$3.25; fine, do., in 50 pounds sacks, \$3 per sack.

OATS.

City dealers are selling job lots from store at 45 to 48c. Offerings by farmers in the city are taken at from 40 to 45c per 34 pounds, the higher prices being paid by consumers. Some dealers will not bid over 40c. Nothing doing in car lots here.

BUTTER.

Dull, and quotable at 12 to 14c per pound for average dairy qualities. There is little or no jobbing demand in a small way.

EGGS.

Some talked about prices being firmer, but prices were not higher. Small job lots were held at 13½c, with 14c sometimes asked for one or two case lots. We quote 13 to 14c per dozen.

CURED MEATS.

A good deal of eastern cured stuff is offered, which keeps prices down in competition with home packed goods. Some dealers are selling hams straight at 13c, though others claim to be getting more. Prices are:—Dry salt bacon, 9 to 9½c; smoked long clear, 10½c; spiced rolls, 11c; breakfast bacon, 12 to 12½c; smoked hams, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$17 per barrel. Sausage are quoted: Fresh pork sausage, 10c per lb.; Bologna, do., 8c per pound; German, do., 9c per pound.

LARD.

Pure lard was somewhat scarce. Higher prices are being talked on compound lard, but though up to \$2 per pail was quoted for small lots, sales were made as low as \$1.90 per pail.

POULTRY.

Chickens bring about 55 to 65c per pair. Turkeys, dull at 10 per pound live weight, and some were bought at 9c.

HIDES.

Hides are dull and easy at the decline previously reported. We quote No. 1 cows 4½c, No. 1 heavy steer, 5½c, calf, No. 1, 5c, No. 2, 4c, sheepskins, shearlings, 10 to 15c each. Tallow, 4½ to 5c for rendered.

WOOL.

Some buyers have been showing a tendency to higher prices at the close of the season. We quote 10½ to 11c for ordinary unwashed, with 1 to 2c higher for better qualities, such as mixed down wool, of which there is little or nothing offered in this market, though some better qualities are obtainable west. Buyers from the city are out along the railways picking up lots. Washed wool is quoted at 15 to 16½c for ordinary quality.

DRESSED MEATS.

There is something of an easier tendency in dressed meats, though prices have held up well for the season. Mutton is lower at 12½c for city dressed, and a little country dressed has been taken at about 11c per pound. Beef is offering freely, and 7c per pound may be considered the top for best quality. Mostly western grass beef offering of fair to good quality. Medium quality 6 to 6½c, and country dressed, 5 to 6c. Veal is more plentiful and lower, and quoted at 7 to 8c; pork, 7 to 7½c, about 7c being the top for country dressed. Lambs, \$3.50 to \$5 per carcass.

SENACA ROOT.

Considerable root is coming in, and fair to choice dry root brings 25 to 27c per pound. Very little good enough to bring the top price, but a good deal of poor, half dry root is offering, which is not worth the lowest quotation. Dealers say green root will shrink fully 55 to 60 per cent., and green or partly dried root is only worth 10 to 15c per pound.

HAY.

Hay is not offering in a very plentiful way, and is higher. Baled is quoted at \$9 to \$10 per ton, and loose, \$8 to \$10.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle are quotable at 3 to 4c live weight here, 4c being a good figure for a bunch lot, and they would have to be good to bring it. Picked animals might bring up to 4½c, but there are not likely to be any bunch lots offered which would bring this price.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes have been scarcer, the country around the city being apparently pretty well

cleaned up. Lots, however, could be secured at country points for shipment by rail to this market, if required. Offerings here sold at 35 to 45c per bushel, 40c being the general price. New potatoes, from the south, \$2.25 to \$2.35 per bushel. New California onions, 5c lb, Bermuda onions, 8c lb. New cabbage, 5½ to 6c lb, tomatoes, \$3 per crate of 24 lb. Green stuff in bunches is plentiful, at 25 to 30c per dozen bunches for onions, 20 to 25c for radishes, 25 to 30c for lettuce, 20c for rhubarb or pie plant, and 75 to \$1.00 per dozen for asparagus.

A Wheat Blockade on the Coast.

The *American Elevator and Grain Trade Journal*, of Chicago, gives an engraving of the grain blockade on the Pacific coast last winter. The following article is published in connection with the cut:—

"The wheat crop of the Pacific coast states of Oregon and Washington was so surprisingly large last year and producers marketed it so fast that the railroads were unequal to the task of hauling it away as soon as desired, so a wheat blockade occurred at many stations, and scenes like the one given herewith were common along the railway lines. Especially was this the case at stations in eastern and south-eastern part of Washington.

The sacked grain was piled up near the buyers' elevator, and in most cases the pile was inclosed with a light frame structure to protect it from storms. Since the last crop was harvested a number of elevators have been erected and the railroad companies have increased their carrying capacity, yet it is predicted (and the prospects are that the prediction will come true) that a greater wheat blockade than ever will occur.

Yields of wheat are obtained in this district, reports of which the eastern farmer will not believe. Farmers frequently have a yield of over 100 bushels to the acre, and 50 to 100 bushels is quite common. Recent reports from one county in the Pelouse country state that prospects are good for a crop of over 15,000,000 bushels in that county alone."

Cost of Irrigation.

Of the information gathered under the recent United States census, not the least interesting, says an exchange, is that regarding the cost of irrigation in the arid regions. In New Mexico there are more than 3,000 farms wholly or in part under irrigation, for which the cost of water is \$5.53 per acre. Where water is purchased of irrigating companies the average cost is \$1.45 per acre per annum. Lands in this territory that have been taken up under the land laws, reclaimed and made productive by irrigation, have cost on an average \$12.95 per acre. In Arizona the average cost of building ditches was \$7.67 per acre; average annual cost of water per acre \$1.55, and average first cost of preparation for cultivation \$3.60. Bulletins on the same subject for Wyoming, Colorado and other states will be issued. It is believed the cost per acre for irrigation in these states will be less than in the districts already mentioned.

In the House of Commons on June 25, Hon. Mr. Dewdney proposed a resolution for a subsidy of eighty thousand dollars per annum for twenty years to the Winnipeg & Hudson Bay railway for the carriage of mails and supplies between Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan river. The resolution was adopted.