

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are whole-sale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, February 25,

Business is quiet in a general way. We are now at a season of the year when trade is expected to be slow. It is too soon to look for the spring revival in trade, though already some branches show signs of awakening to the realization that winter is drawing toward a close. The grain and country produce trade is quiet, owing to some extent to the heavy quantity of snow on the ground, which make the roads bad for loads.

DRY FRUITS.—We quote. Dried apples 6 to 6½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c; figs, layers, 10 to 13c; dates, 6½ to 9c. Valencia raisins, \$1.70 to \$1.90; London layers, \$2.70 to \$2.80 box; Sultanias 9½ to 10c lb. Currants, 6½ to 7c; prunes, 7½ to 9c. Evaporated fruits are quoted: Apricots, 19 to 20c; peeled peaches, 17½ to 18c; unpeeled peaches, 12 to 12½c; pitted plums, 11 to 11½c; cherries, 13 to 13½c; pears, 12½ to 13c.

FISH.—Dealers are having their lenten harvest. Prices for fresh fish are: Jackfish, 3c pickered, 4c; whitefish 5½ to 6½c; trout, 9c; Cod 8c; haddock, 12½c; halibut, 14c; B.C. salmon, 16c; tommy cods, 8c; herring, 40c dozen; smelts, 12½c. Cured fish are quoted: smoked herrings, 20 to 25c box; smoked haddies 3 to 3½c; Yarmouth bloaters \$1.50 per box; Labrador herrings, \$4.50 to \$4.75 per half barrel; boneless codfish 7½ to 8c pound; boneless fish, 6c lb; salmon, 10c lb; oysters \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.25 for selects; can oysters 50c each for standards and 55c selects.

Green Fruits.—Apples are being held higher fancy stock, selected varieties, selling at \$4.50 per barrel, and other varieties \$3.25 to \$4 as to quality. Florida oranges of good quality, held at \$5.00 to 5.50; Lemons, new Messina, good, at \$3.50 to 6.00. Malaga grapes, \$10 to 11 per keg as to size of package; cranberries, \$10.50 barrel; do boxes, about one-third of a barrel, \$4; California winter pears \$4.50 per box; Apple cider, 35c per gal.

NUTS.—Prices range as follows: Almonds per pound, 16 to 18c; walnuts, per pound, 12 to 17c; pecans, 15c to 16c; filberts, 11 to 14c; Brazils 10 to 13c; peanuts, 14 to 15c; chestnuts, 14 to 15c; coconuts, \$9 to \$10 per 100.

Paints and oils.—This branch, which has had a long dull spell, is beginning to waken up a bit. Manitoba business has not shown any signs of life, but orders are coming in from far western points quite freely. The reduction in the coal oil duty has not yet had any effect upon prices here. The most important feature of the paint and oil trade is the great strength in linseed oil and turpentine. Prices on these products have made several sharp advances of late, here and in the east, and a further advance in oil is expected next week.

SUGARS.—Sugars are quoted in the Winnipeg market: Yellow at 4½ to 4¾c; granulated at 5½ to 5¾c, the inside price is for barrels, and ¼c higher for bags. Lumps, 6c; icing, 6½ to 7c; sugar syrups, 2½ to 3¾c; maple sugar, 9 to 12c a lb.

GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION.—There has been nothing very interesting in wheat this week, and prices have not changed much. On Monday Chicago was some stronger, and closed a trifle higher, but some other markets were lower. Cables were lower and reported dull markets. The visible supply report showed a decrease of 739,000 bushels, making total stocks at the points in the United States and Canada, included in the report, amount to 80,214,000 bushels, as compared with 41,473,000 bushels. This week a year ago the visible decreased 327,000 bushels. Argentine wheat shipments for two weeks were reported to be 2,200,000 bushels, making the largest on record for that

country. On Tuesday United States markets were uninteresting and cables were again lower. Wheat and flour on ocean passage increased equal to 1,440,000 bushels for the week. Duluth receipts were 28 cars and Minneapolis 253 cars, Chicago 318 cars. Wednesday was a holiday in the United States and markets were closed. There were no features of interest to note. On Thursday United States markets were somewhat firmer, most points closing fractionally higher. Cables were a little more favorable to holders, and this, with crop damage reports and the probable collapse of the anti-option bill, had a strengthening influence upon the markets. On Friday wheat was quiet and uninteresting, and without much change in prices, closing slightly lower.

LOCAL WHEAT.—Locally wheat continues dull. There is no change in prices, which rule at 50 to 54c per bushel to farmers in Manitoba country markets for best samples of hard wheat. There is more snow than usual throughout the country and roads are heavy, making it difficult for farmers to bring out loads. The movement is consequently very light. The rail movement is light, as there is very little wheat going forward for storage, Lake Superior elevators being practically filled up. A few cars are still going forward, however, billed for Fort William, though it was supposed that space there was about all taken up some little time ago. With the light movement, the shortage in space is not likely to cause much inconvenience this year, but it points out the urgent need of more elevator space at points of accommodation in time for next crop. On Feb. 11, there were 2,869,598 bushels of wheat in store at Fort William, being an increase of 137,452 for the week. For the week ended Feb. 18 there was an increase of 176,392 bushels, making the total 3,045,990 bushels, as compared with 1,601,658 bushels a year ago. Lake Superior and interior stocks now approximate 6,300,000.

Flour.—Prices appear to have been worked up in the east to a better basis for choice Manitoba brands. But while prices east and west are higher, the Winnipeg market remains as it was. Prices here are quoted as follows to the local trade in small lots per 100 pounds: Patents, \$1.95; strong bakers' \$1.75; XXXX 75 to 95c; superfine 69 to 70c. Some brands nominally quoted 5c higher. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10c under these prices, even in small lots. Round lots at a discount under quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—No change to note in prices. We quote bran selling to local dealers at \$8 to 9 per ton, as to quantity, and shorts \$10 to 11 per ton.

Oats.—Owing to bad roads, on account of much snow, the deliveries in the local and country markets are light. Farmer's deliveries in this market have not been nearly equal to the local demand, and dealers are bringing supplies in car lots from country points, which makes them cost higher on account of freight. On the street market prices range from 24 to 26c per bushel, and car lots laid down here will cost about the same. Car lots on track, country points quoted at 17 to 19c.

Barley.—Prices little more than nominal. Cars on track held at about 19c at country points for feed quality.

GROUND FEED.—There is the usual wide range in prices according to quality. Clear oat and barley feed brings \$14 to 15 per ton, as to quantity and quality. Mixed mill feed at \$10 per ton upward.

MEALS, ETC.—Rolled and granulated oatmeal held at \$1.80 to 1.90 per sack, according to brand, and standard meal 5c lower, these being prices to retail traders. Cornmeal \$1.65 to 1.70 per 100 lbs. Split peas \$2.60 to 2.65 per 100 lbs. Beans, \$1.75 to 1.90 per bushel. Pot barley, \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Pearl barley, \$4.00.

CORNER MEATS.—Prices continued firm. Local prices are Dry salt long clear, bacon, 11½ to 11¾c; smoked long clear, 12½ to 12¾c;

spiced rolls, 12c, breakfast bacon, 14½ to 14¾c; smoked hams, 13½ to 14c; boneless ham, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$21 to 22 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 9c; boogon sausage, 9c; German sausage, 9c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per half lb. picket.

DRESSED MEATS.—Dressed hogs are the most interesting feature. Prices here ranged from 8 to 9c per pound, and the bulk have been taken at 8½c or better, and some sold for a fraction over 9c on the street market. Packers are now feeling that prices have gone too high, and with a reactive tendency in eastern markets, where top prices have not been maintained, there is an easier feeling here. The feeling at the close of the week was that prices should be reduced to about 8c, or a fraction higher for choice hogs. Frozen beef has been offering freely on the market, and has sold at 3 to 5c. Wholesale butchers are holding as high as 6c for fresh beef. Mutton is reduced in stocks and firmer at 8 to 9c.

BUTTER.—From 18 to 19c is the highest price obtained by dealers for selected dairy, selling to the local trade in very small quantities. Larger lots of good dairy have sold at 18c, and very fair lots at 17 to 18c. Round lots as they are received from the country would have to be extra good to bring 16c.

CHEESE.—Slow and almost nominal at 10 to 11c per lb.

EGGS.—Fresh held at fancy prices. Lined at 20 to 22c as to quality and quantity.

VEGETABLES.—Prices are almost nominal. Potatoes 40c per bushel; turnips 25c bushel; cabbage 40 to 75c dozen; celery 30 to 50c dozen. Onions 20 to 20½c per lb. Carrots 3 to 4c a bushel; beets, 39 to 40c bushel; parsnips, 1½ to 2c lb. Spanish onions, \$1.50 per crate.

POULTRY.—Prices are firm or desirable stock, offerings of fresh stock being next to nothing. Chicken, 13 to 14c; ducks, 12 to 13c; geese, 11 to 12c; turkeys, 13 to 14c.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—Country frozen hides bring 3 to 3½c, unskipped as they run. We quote: No 1 cows, 3½c; No 2, 2½c; No 3, 2c; No. 1 heavy steers, 5c; No. 2 steers, 4c; No. 3, 3c lb. Real veal 8 to 13 lb skins, 4 to 5c per pound, or about 40c per skin. Kids about same as hides. Sheepskins worth 75 to 90c for full wool skins. A few very large full wool have sold up to \$1, but this was only for a very few extra fine skins. Tallow, 4½c rendered; 2½c rough.

WOOL.—Prices here range from 9 to 10c for unwashed Manitoba fleece, as to quality.

HAY.—Loose hay sells at \$4 to \$5 per ton. Baled held at \$4.50 to \$5 at point of shipment.

Minneapolis Markets.

Following were closing quotations for wheat on Thursday, Feb. 23:—

Grades,	Feb.	May.	July.	On trk
No. 1 hard.....				67
No. 1 northern.....	61½	67½	70	65½
No. 2 northern.....				62 to 61

FLOUR.—A steady domestic flour trade existed all through. If the foreign markets were not loaded too heavily with flour, that is hardly saleable, on account of its poor quality, so that a fair proportion of the flour made might be sent that way the trade would be in good condition, in spite of the late decline in wheat. Receipts of wheat are satisfactory with the offerings keeping up with the demand, but the drooping tendency holds back all disposition to buy flour faster than it is wanted for use. There is considerable competition for trade now by sellers of flour. Quoted at \$3.70 to 4.15 for first patents; \$3.50 to 3.70 for second patents; \$2.35 to 2.50 for fancy and export bakers; \$1.15 to 1.45 for low grades in bags, including red dog.

BRAN AND SHORTS.—Among the millers making large quantities were some that asked \$10.55 for bran yesterday, that offered it at \$10.75 to day. Others held for the same to-day that they sold for a day or two ago—\$10.75. Shorts were held generally at \$11 to 11.75, and middling at \$11.75 to 12.50. The