

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale 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, June 10.

The weather, though perhaps not as warm as the previous week, has been very favorable to the crops, and the outlook is very encouraging. Notwithstanding the late spring, the crops are generally understood to be in a more advanced state than at this date last year, as there have been no set-backs from frost or drought this season since vegetation started. The situation is therefore decidedly more hopeful than it was early in the season.

No further railway work has been undertaken, except a short local line of railway from Calgary to the coal mines north. The season will not likely show much new railway construction in the prairie country. The Manitoba Northwestern has passed into the hands of a receiver; the Canadian Pacific railway will not do anything further this year in the prairie section beyond completing the "Soo" extension, though the company is pushing some projects in the mountains; the Northern Pacific has evidently no intention of extending its Manitoba branches this year. There is some talk about the Great Northern building an independent line into Winnipeg. The fishing industry on Lake Winnipeg has commenced for the season.

Flour, millstuffs and wheat are lower; dairy products declining and live stock generally easier. A few cars of hogs have been shipped east to Montreal. Cattle are low in price, and the outlook not encouraging for exporting, while the supply is in excess of local requirements.

FISH—There was very little in the line of fresh fish, and on some days the market was almost entirely bare of stock. British Columbia salmon and halibut jobbing at 14 to 15. Pick-erel, 4c; white 6c. Cured fish are quoted: smoked herrings, 20 to 25c per box; Labrador herrings, \$1.50 to \$1.75; boneless codfish, 5c per pound; boneless fish, 6c; smoked white, 9 to 10c.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples are out of the market. Messina lemons of the cheaper qualities are getting sold out of stock, and prices are firmer. Lemons are held at 4.25 to \$6 per box as to quality, lower priced stock being suitable for immediate use, but not for holding for summer trade. There is a large sale of California oranges, at \$3.50 to 3.75 for seedlings, \$4.25 to 4.50 for Navels, \$4.50 for Riverside Mediterranean sweets, and \$4.75 for fancy Ross-Moyno stock. Oranges are rather firmer. Navels are becoming scarcer for choice quality. Some California paper rind St. Michael's, and blood oranges are in stock and bring \$6 per box. Bananas are in brisk demand, at \$2.75 to \$3.50 per bunch as to size. Strawberries \$5 to \$6 per crate of 24 boxes; strawberries have been very scarce this week, few being obtainable fit for shipment to this market. Later a better quality is expected, when the Minnesota crop is ready. Pineapples, scarce and when obtainable are held at \$3.50 to 3.75 per dozen. California cherries are now arriving at \$2.75 to \$3 per box.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT—Wheat has again broken the record for low prices. It looks as though the markets were bottomless, and on Thursday the lowest prices so far on this crop were touched, but there was a sharp recovery the following day. The way prices have been going from bad to worse, it is not safe to predict that the bottom has yet been touched. At Duluth cash wheat sold as low as 53½c per bushel on Thursday for No. 1 northern, in store and on track. The same day No. 1 northern at Minneapolis closed at 56½c per bushel on track. These are what may be called low prices. On Monday United States markets declined sharply, though some cables were higher, financial troubles being the

weakest feature. There was an increase of 1,085,000 bushels in the visible supply, which was another blow to the market. The visible supply at principal points in the United States and Canada now stands at 70,367,000 bushels, while a year ago it was 27,910,000 bushels. Prices recovered some in United States markets on Tuesday, apparently due to a return of some confidence in the financial outlook. Cables were all lower. On Wednesday further declines were recorded in United States markets, owing to further financial troubles, including the troubles of the Minneapolis elevator companies. The government crop report stated that harvesting would begin in southern Kansas this week. Cables were improved. On Thursday the markets were very discouraging for holders and the lowest prices on record were recorded. In the year 1862 wheat sold as low as 65c at Chicago, but to-day it sold down to 63c for spot, thus establishing a record for low prices never before made on the Chicago board. On Friday there was a sharp recovery, perhaps due to the conviction that the decline had been carried too far.

The depression in wheat in outside markets is reflected in the local situation, though the full decline has not been experienced here. Manitoba wheat was quoted about 70c per bushel, afloat Fort William, for No. 2 hard, which is the basis on which sales are made. This quotation is above a parity with the average price at Duluth, quality considered, by a few cents per bushel, our No. 2 hard being considered as worth about 5c more than Minnesota No. 1 northern, in intrinsic value. There has been a considerable movement of wheat forward to Fort William, but this has consisted largely of loaded cars which had accumulated on track before the opening of navigation, as the elevators were full and unable to receive more wheat. The shipments from elevators since the opening of navigation, is making room for this stuff.

FLOUR—After a long spell of unchanged quotations, flour in this market has at last made a move, and that to a lower basis, quotations having been marked down this week 5c per 100 pounds. There is still considerable cutting, and in quantities of 50 bags or so, the prices below are discounted liberally. Prices in small lots to the local trade are quoted: Patents, \$1.90; strong bakers' \$1.70; XXXX 80 to 95c; superfine 60 to 70c. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10c under these prices, even in small lots.

MILLSTUFFS—A further decline has taken place in bran and shorts. The price to the local trade, less than car lots, delivered is \$9 for bran and \$11 for shorts.

OATS—Prices are about as quoted a week ago. Cars on track, country points, quoted at 23 to 25c per bushel of 34 lbs, though at some country markets there is some local demand, which induces higher prices than can be paid for shipping. Cars on track, Winnipeg, about 30c per bushel for ordinary feed quality.

Barley—Nominal. Cars on track, Winnipeg, 25 to 30c per bushel, local freights.

GROUND FEED—Firm in sympathy with oats, and held at \$15 to \$17 per ton, as to quality. Oil cake meal, sacked, \$26 per ton.

OATMEAL, LTC.—There is still considerable variation in price, rolled oats being quoted as low as \$2 per sack, while some brands are quoted \$2.15. Granulated varies from \$1.95 to 2.15; standard \$1.90 to 1.95; cornmeal \$1.60 to 1.65; beans \$1.50 to 1.90 per bushel; peas, \$2.40 to 2.50; pot barley \$2.40 to 2.50; pearl barley \$4 per sack.

CURED MEATS—Products are firmer again, and some hold higher. Inside prices are not so often reached. We quote:—Dry salt long clear bacon, 11 to 11½c; smoked long clear, 12 to 12½c; spiced rolls 10½ to 11½c; breakfast bacon 14 to 14½c; smoked hams, 13 to 14c; the lower price for heavy hams; boneless ham, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$20.00 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 9c; bologna sausage,

9c lb; Gorman sausage, 9c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per half lb. packet.

LARD—Pure held at \$2.60, in 20-pound pails, per pail; compound, lower at \$2.20 per pail.

DRESSED MEATS—Pork is rather firmer. Beef easy at quotations. Mutton unchanged. The usual price for beef is about 6c, and extra quality brings up to 6½c, with the downward range to 5½c. Mutton steady at 14c. Pork 7 to 7½c. Veal, 7 to 9c.

EGGS—Held steady. Dealers are paying 12½c nett for receipts, and selling about at 13½c.

BUTTER—Butter is decidedly easier. Prices are down, and a further sharp decline in prices is thought to be quite possible any time, as receipts are now coming forward more freely. In this present situation it is not safe to expect over 18c per lb for dairy. Some dealers report 18c to be about the best they could make at the close of the week.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes are easier, the Winnipeg street market price being about 40c per bushel. There has been a considerable movement in car lots of potatoes for western shipment. Cars have been loaded at country points at 35c to 40 per bushel. Onions are scarce, imported selling at 4½ to 5½c per pound. Cabbage, new 4 to 5c pound, old, 3c per lb. Stocks of other old vegetables are about used up. Asparagus, 75c to \$1 per dozen bunches; onions, green, 25c per dozen; lettuce, radishes, 40c per dozen bunches; Rhubarb, \$2 to \$2.25 per box.

POULTRY—Chickens bring 75c to \$1 per pair, as to quality and size. Turkeys 10 to 12c per lb live weight.

HIDES—The outlook is very unsatisfactory, as prices are lower everywhere, while local dealers are still paying the old prices, which are too high to leave them a profitable margin. Jas. McMillan & Co., of Minneapolis, speak as follows of the situation in their last circular: "The decline continued during the month of May and we were compelled to issue two special circulars to shippers only during the month, advising of the same and reducing our quotations for a good many articles. While the uncertainty exists as regards finances and the tariff legislation we cannot encourage our customers to hope to receive anything but low prices, and we as conservative business men will not pay cash for goods under the present conditions unless we can buy them low. A good many firms in our line of business have stopped buying of their customers, but we thought it would be more satisfactory to our customers to continue in the market even at low prices. The receipts of sheep pelts have been large, and even at the reductions that we made during the month our prices are still too high for the depressed wool market. We may have to reduce our prices still more, therefore advise frequent shipments because nothing will be gained by holding. The aggregate receipts of hides have been large for all classes, both green and dry. There is scarcely any demand, and it is about the same with hides as with everything else—the lower the prices go the less the demand becomes. There is no prospect of any immediate improvement." We quote Winnipeg inspected here as follows: 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, 6 to 7c per pound. Kips about same as idea. Sheepskins worth 60c to \$1 for full wool skins, the top price for very large. Tallow, 4½ to 5c rendered; 2 to 3c rough.

WOOL—The extreme range of quotations is 8 to 11c, or graded at 8c for very coarse, 9 to 10c for ordinary Manitoba fleece, mixed quality, and 11c for straight pure downs. Not much offering yet. McMillan & Co. say of the wool market in the States: There is no demand for wool and prices are nominal. When there is any demand it will be at very low prices. We are buying our receipts at our quotations, but we may have to reduce our prices somewhat more without the demand improves. Wool