

against 33,872,000 bushels a year ago. The exports of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports for the same time were 82,900 bushels of wheat and 124,600 barrels of flour, against 663,400 bushels and 203,500 barrels, for the same week last year.

Locally, wheat prices appear to be working back into a more healthy state. Heretofore there has been a great deal of buying on a very irregular and almost reckless basis. Prices appear now to be becoming more regular, and on a sounder basis. The general tendency was of course to a lower range of values, and country buyers were instructed by dealers to drop prices. The usual range of prices paid to farmers at provincial points was from 85 to 90c for No. 1 hard. Receipts have not been very heavy yet, but a good deal of threshing remains to be done, and since plowing stopped, farmers have been threshing extensively.

FLOUR.

With the uncertainty about wheat, flour has not been in active demand at ruling prices, for export shipment. Prices to the local trade hold steady at last quotations, as follows: Patents, \$3.10; strong bakers, \$2.90; XXXX, \$2.25; superfine, \$1.90.

MILLSTUFFS

Prices still rule at the old figures of \$12 per ton for bran and \$14 for shorts. Ground feed \$23 per ton.

BARLEY.

The barley market remains in a flat and unsatisfactory state, owing to the mistrust with which Manitoba barley is being received, both in Eastern Canada and United States markets. Prices continue easy, and dealers who bought at figures ruling a short time ago, now find themselves unable to dispose of their grain at a profitable price. About 40c is now the top price which could be expected for car lots, on track for best samples, for shipment, and dealers are not anxious to take hold even at low figures. The recent developments in connection with frosted barley, has put this grain in bad shape for satisfactory handling.

OATS.

There is very little local demand for car lots, as receipts on the market from farmers are about sufficient for the local demand. About 28c was the figure paid for loads on the market, for ordinary feed oats, and as high as 30c for choice milling. Farmers are now taking more pains to clear up their oats and bring them in in good order. This is due to the higher prices paid at the oatmeal mill for good clean oats. For car lots about 26c is the top price which oats are worth on track, at outside points for shipment. Some car lots continue to be shipped eastward to north shore points and lumber camps in northwestern Ontario, but prices are too high here for shipment to Eastern Canada markets.

OATMEAL.

Prices steady and unchanged as follows: Standard, \$2.50; granulated, \$2.65; rolled, \$3.

CHEESE.

Better prices were expected a short time ago, but the figure of 10½c still seems to rule for jobbing lots. Prices have been kept down by the system of peddling cheese which prevails in this market to a considerable extent. In some instances patrons of cheese factories are allowed to take cheese in payment for milk, and this cheese is peddled about the city, with the effect of cutting prices. It would probably be better for the factories in the long run if they would dispose of their cheese to the trade only, as wholesale dealers would then feel more like paying top prices.

BUTTER.

There is a good demand from the city trade

for choice butter, and a really good article finds ready sale at high figures, 22c being readily paid for such. Inferior and medium qualities are slow sale, and will not be taken when choice can be had. Receipts appear to be on the increase, and prices are likely to rule lower, though a great deal of the stuff coming in is not saleable as good butter, and will not bring good prices. Should the receipts continue mostly of inferior quality, there will be a glut of medium and poor grades, whilst choice will bring fair prices.

EGGS.

Steady at 23c in case lots for lined, and 25c for fresh, when the latter are obtainable.

LARD.

Unchanged at \$2.60 in 20 lb. pails.

CURED MEATS.

In provisions, trade was rather quiet and prices easy. Dry salt bacon, quoted at 12 to 12½c; breakfast, 15 to 15½c, spiced rolls, 14 to 15c, and hams at 15½ to 16c.

POULTRY.

Chickens are coming in more freely and are worth from 10 to 11 per pound, as to quality. Ducks and geese quoted at 12 to 13c, and turkeys at 14c.

DRESSED MEATS.

Packers are now offering 5c for dressed hogs, which are easier in price. Receipts are light yet, but packers cannot afford to pay higher figures, in view of the lower prices prevailing in outside markets. Local packers are obliged to compete with Chicago and Ontario packers, and if the easier feeling continues in outside markets, prices will have to be reduced here, or packers will have to shut up. One packer predicted that prices would drop to 7½ soon, as a great deal of Chicago stuff is coming in, and prices for such have declined considerably of late. Dressed hogs were quoted at 7 to 7½c in Toronto last week, and about the same at Montreal, so it will be seen that packers here are at a disadvantage. At Chicago live hogs were quoted at 5½ to 5¾c. Local butchers have been paying 8 to 8½c for dressed hogs, but as soon as receipts increase, which is expected soon, it is not likely that butchers will pay above prices offered by packer. In beef, a good deal of country dressed is now offering, which brings about 5c for good average sides, with choice and city dressed at about 5½c. Mutton 10c.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes usually bring from 25 to 30c in quantities, though higher prices are sometimes obtained.

MEDICINAL ROOTS.

Seneca, or snake root, is in demand, as dealers are closing up their shipments for the season. Parties holding should therefore market at once, as dealers do not care to purchase after stocks have been sent out. About 20 to 30c is being paid for good, dry root.

Trade at Vancouver.

The splendid weather of the week has had a beneficial effect all around. Business is moving well for the advanced stage of the season. Shipping, real estate, produce and commission business, fishing, etc., all feel the effect of it. Real estate has been looking up and enjoyed several little flutters. No large sales are reported.

Produce—The importations in the line of farmers' supplies from the east have been heavy, and the market is pretty well supplied. Potatoes and vegetables have been received in large quantities and are almost a drug. Prices for flour are a little easier. Demand for Manitoba and British Columbia grades is in excess of the supply. The following are the principal quotations, at Jobbing prices:—

Flour, Manitoba patents, \$7.50 per bbl.; Manitoba bakers', \$7; Columbia Milling Co's patent, \$6.25, straight grade, \$5.75; strong bakers', \$5.25; Oregon flour's are selling at about \$6.25; oatmeal, standard, 100 lb. sacks, \$3.25; granulated, \$3.50.

Potatoes, \$15 to \$18 per ton; cabbage, \$20; carrots, \$20; parsnips, \$20; onions, \$25.

Feed Bran, \$25 a ton; shorts, \$27; chopped stuff, \$33; oil cake meal, \$40; oats, \$26 a ton; wheat, \$35.

Dairy, etc.—Butter creamery, 29 to 30c per lb.; dairy, 25c; cooking, 18c; eggs, pickled, 30c; fresh, 33c.

There are two ships loading in London berths which will bring out large cargoes of British goods, the effect generally of which will be to cheapen a number of lines. In her last trip the S.S. Abyssinian brought over a full supply of fine teas, Japan, Olong, Young Hyson, Pekoe, etc.

Fish—The fishing season being over, the supply is uncertain and the prices equally so. The general price is 5c per lb. all round.—Vancouver, B. C., *News*.

Montreal Fur Trade.

The late prolonged wet and mild weather has thrown a damper upon trade, but with the advent of winter a good business is expected. Manufacturers have been busy working in orders, but as yet deliveries have been small, but the first cold spell will cause considerable activity. In raw furs, the new crop is not coming in to any extent yet. A few lots of skunk have arrived and sold at 85 to 90c, but the skins were not prime. Coon has sold at 75c, and a few mink have been placed at below our quotations, owing to their poor quality. Beaver, per lb. \$3; bear, large, per skin, \$12 to \$15, do medium do, \$10 to \$12, do small, do \$8 to \$10; Otter, \$8 to \$10; martin, 50c to 75c; fisher, \$4; fox, red, \$1; mink, 65c; muskrat, 10c.

Seal Skins Advancing.

At the sale of Alaska seal skins in London, England, on November 6th, the whole year's collection, amounting to 100,000 skins, were offered and promptly sold in the salt at prices ranging from 64s for small skins up to 118s for large prime. These prices show an advance of 42½ per cent. over last November sales, so that the manufactured skins next season must inevitably rule much dearer than at present. To the above figures considerable should be added for cost of dressing, unhairing and dyeing. The skins in use this season were those sold in the salt last November so that the full advance in raw skins above noted will not be felt in the manufactured article until next season, when seal furs will be considerably enhanced in value.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin*.

The Lake Superior Country.

The Northern hotel, Port Arthur, closed for the winter season on the 20th inst.

Vigars Bros. have secured a large contract at Port Arthur for getting out timber for the addition to the breakwater and will shortly send into the woods a large gang of lumbermen.