

Grain and Milling Notes.

A proposal has been made to build an oatmeal mill at Foxwarren, Man., on the line of the Manitoba and Northwestern railway.

Dow & Curry, Pilot Mound, Man., oatmeal mills, are preparing to place in their mill machinery for the manufacture of pot and pearl barley.

The New York Commercial Bulletin says: Reclamations have been made on New York shippers from the other side for shipments of wheat made from Boston, in which it is said Nos. 1 hard Duluth and Manitoba and No. 1 frosted ditto were all mixed together and shipped as No. 1 Northern by a certain elevator in that city; and an investigation of the matter is being made to fix the responsibility as said elevator is operating in connection with a certain railroad over which, it is said, the trade is now refusing to do business on this account while discriminating against Boston generally.

The feature of the grain market at Montreal on March 30 was the demand for Manitoba wheat for milling purposes, and a sale of 15,000 bushels of No. 1 hard was made at 65c afloat Fort William, May shipment. There was also a sale of 5,000 bushels of No. 1 Northern made at 61c afloat Fort William, May shipment.

The Montreal Gazette of April 3 says: The continued slow demand for Ontario grades of flour has been the means of causing a weaker feeling in the market, and it is reported that straight rollers are offering in carload lots at \$3.85 to \$3.90. Winter wheat patents are also offering at \$4.25 to \$4.30. In Manitoba grades the feeling is steady.

The feature of the grain market at Montreal on April 2 was the demand for Manitoba wheat, and a sale of 10,000 bushels of No. 8 hard was made at 59½c afloat Fort William, May shipment. The above figure shows an advance of ½c over the previous sale. There was a better feeling in the market for oats, and sales of No. 2 white were made at 29 to 29½c.

On April 4 fire broke out in the dry kiln adjoining the barrel factory of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, at Keewatin, caused by a spark from the boiler. The fire was got under control and the cooper shop saved, but with considerable damage. The kiln, which was full of heading, was completely destroyed. The damage is estimated at about two thousand dollars.

A deputation recently interviewed Supt. Whyte, of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Moosomin, when the latter gentleman was on a trip west. One of the deputation addressed Mr. Whyte with reference to the Moosomin wheat market, stating that the town was sandwiched in between two small places where flat warehouses were used by small buyers who could buy the lower grades of wheat, which the Moosomin elevator buyers did not buy. There was also a large difference in favor of the smaller places in the price paid. He asked for the privilege for the town of erecting a flat warehouse. "What you ask cannot be granted," said Mr. Whyte, "as it is against the rules of our company, but if you can give us proof of lower prices paid here than at any point of the same freight rate we will notify the buyers here that if the matter is not remedied we will throw the market open." Mr. Whyte stated that the company had been forced to apply this remedy at another point.

Hides, Wool, Furs, etc.

Jas. McMillan & Co., Minneapolis, in their last circular say:

Sheep Pelts.—The market is quiet on account of the slow sale of wool, but we do not look for any lower prices. The skins from Murrain Pelts are of no value, and the

labor of pulling and putting up the wool has all to be added to the cost of the wool; unlike good butcher skins, whose slats pay for the pulling.

Hides.—The market is weak at the reduced prices for all classes of hides and skins, either green, salted or dry. Tanners admit that hides are low enough, but their business and collections are so slow that they have not money or courage to place orders. Winter hides are long-haired and poor quality. Hides are commanding high prices compared with those ruling previous to a year ago.

Furs.—The March sale is by far the largest and most important one of the year, as then the Hudson's Bay Co. offer their entire collection (except beaver and muskrat, which they sell in January). The June and October sales generally show heavy declines from March, and now March has gone so badly what can be expected of the next two sales? Exporters will not buy furs and hold them until next year, except at low prices. Spring furs grow poor in quality as the season advances; although the water animals, viz., beaver, muskrat and otter, are the best in the spring until the ice melts. Mink grow pale or red early, and later some furs come in rubbed or shedding. Skunk shed before any other animal. Shedding furs grade No. 2 or 3, and when badly shedding, No. 4. They can be detected by holding them up and looking through them toward the light from the fur side. When bear first come out of their dens before warm weather, they grade well.

Tallow and Grease.—The market continues to decline. During warm weather tallow and grease must be put up in tight two-headed oil barrels to avoid shrinkage by leakage.

Wool.—The wool manufacturing business in this country is in a deplorable condition. They either use the best imported wools at high prices, or a large proportion of shoddy and waste in low-priced fabrics. Stay by your sheep and increase your flocks. Wool can not be any lower, and if the sheep in this country continue to decrease mutton will come and high prices.

Live Stock Trade.

A car load of fat sheep for the Winnipeg market was shipped from Minnedosa recently.

H. A. Mullins will make a shipment of export cattle about April 22, mostly from the Moosomin district.

A cable from Glasgow on Tuesday, reported the market a shade better for cattle, the best price being 10½ to 11c.

A car of live hogs was shipped from here to Winnipeg last week, says the Brandon Times of April 9, for which from 8 to 8½ cents was paid.

At Liverpool, on April 6 the trade was of a holiday character, and the markets were very quiet at unchanged prices. Transactions at London were the same. Best States cattle, 10c; Argentine, 9c; sheep, 12c. At London, best States cattle, 10c; Argentines, 8, and sheep, 10½c.

At Montreal, on April 6, says the Gazette, there were no new features in live stock. There has been nothing done in ocean freight for May shipment, and the indications are that little contracting will be done this season on account of the ruinous prices abroad for cattle. There has also been little, if any, buying of cattle in the country for shipment in May and June, and on the whole the prospects for the cattle trade this season, at the present time are very poor.

At the East End Abattoir, Montreal, on April 6, trade was dull, owing to the fact that butchers had ample supplies on hand after the active buying of last week. The demand was slow, and only a few sales were made, at prices ranging from 2c to 3½c per lb., live weight.

At Toronto on April 7, the market was a poor one, and the quality of the cattle offered was also poor. Cattle ranged at 2½c to 8c for good, and a few picked went at about 8½c. Some sold as low as 2½c. Sheep dull at 2½ to 8c. Good yearlings sold at 4½c. Hogs were firmer owing to the light offerings. Best lots sold at 8½ to 8¾c. Light and heavy fats, 8½c, stores 8½ to 8¾c.

An English correspondent of the Montreal Gazette, writing on March 28, says: "Bad trade this week is reported from Glasgow, and Deptford and Woodside and Wallasey, are not any better. For the best States beef sellers are quite prepared to take 8½c (24 8d per stone), and heaps of good useful bodies have been sold at 6c. Sheep have also suffered a further depression, but as I said in my last advice, not quite so severely as cattle. Up to yesterday mutton—States and Argentine—made from 9 to 9½, but I hear clearance sale of pretty nearly all there was in the sheds came off at 8½c. This is not so bad as sales reported from London, where on Wednesday, a lot of middling Argentine bullocks (Deptford killed), were sold (in sides) at 8d per stone—2c per lb. Other sales were effected at 10d, 1s 2d and 1s 4d per stone (8 lbs)—prices altogether unheard of before. The amount of money lost by the shippers is enormous, and how they can stand it passes comprehension. For next week we have here 5,700 cattle, and as there must be about 1,200 head still alive, the total figures out 6,900. The extra demand usually experienced before Easter is all we have to reckon on, and if the weather should turn out wet things are going to be worse than ever."

We have received a new price list from Jas. McMillan & Co., Minneapolis, Minn., and Winnipeg, hide and fur dealers. Copies of the circular can be had on application.

The grand board of the Patrons of Industry of Ontario, has passed a resolution expressing approval of Mr. Chamberlain's Zollverein idea.

One of the prettiest little pictures which has reached The Commercial office for some time, comes as an advertisement for the Ogilvie Milling Co., of Winnipeg. It is a photo, handsomely mounted, representing a chubby little youngster dressed in a flour sack, bearing the well-known brand of Ogilvie's Patent Hungarian.

The Chester Seed Co.

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ALL FRESH STOCK

MAIL ORDERS FILLED

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PURE
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