

Grain and Milling.

60¢. for No. 1 hard was the opening price for the season at Brandon.

The first elevator on the N. P. & M. line is in course of erection at Portage la Prairie.

The M. & N. W. Ry. expect to handle a million bushels of No. 1 hard this season from along their line.

The harvest on the farms of Sir John Lester Kaye is now over, and the yield will be at least 120,000 bushels.

The first wheat bought at Portage la Prairie this season was by the Portage Milling Co. and amounted to 3,000 bushels.

It is stated Portage la Prairie farmers are shipping their wheat over the N. P. & M. to Duluth, on the advice of an agent sent out by a company. There were fifty-three teams hauling grain to the N. P. cars one day.

There has been considerable talk among prominent members of the New York Produce Exchange regarding the advisability of sending experts to England to examine the grain received from Russia and India. They claim to be able to sell wheat as cheaply as any other dealers in the world, but say they are laboring under a great disadvantage because the precise quality of wheat received from Russia and India is not known. The samples received here are too small to make a useful estimate of its quality possible, and the object of appointing a committee is to send it where there will be a quantity of it open to inspection. The home crop last year amounted to 425,000,000 bushels, of which a large amount remains unsold. The wheat crops of France and England were a failure, but on the other hand those of Russia and India were good. The home supply this year is expected to reach 485,000,000 bushels, to which must be added last year's surplus, making a total of over 500,000,000 bushels. This year's crops in France and England are good, while those in Russia and India are poor.

—Trade Review.

Lumber Cuttings.

Logs are being towed out of Lake Superior to the Bay City, Mich., mills. One raft of 6,000,000 passed Sault Ste. Marie last week.

A Victoria, B.C., man is said to have discovered a process by which lumber can be rendered fire proof at a cost of \$1 per thousand.

The Crystal City mill is expected to be in operation by the middle of October. On account of the moulders strike and the cancellation of orders by Goldie & McCullough, of Galt, they were unable to get their engine completed and have purchased one now on exhibition in Toronto, which has received the highest commendation.

Hillman's saw mill situated on the Ottawa River four miles from the city was destroyed by fire on the 12th ult. Besides the loss of the mill 150,000,000 feet of lumber in the pile was consumed. The loss will be almost \$200,000. The mill was valued at \$22,000; insured for \$8,000. The lumber was owned by Rathburn & Co. of Desoronto and was valued at \$175,900.

The Standard Oil company is to make West Superior its distributing point for the North-

west and is putting in a large plant to enable it to do so. It is to build next season a saw mill to cut staves and barrel stock. It is proposed to manufacture the barrels, which will be used at Superior, although the saw mill will be located near the Soo, in a belt of hardwood timber.—Mississippi Lumberman.

It has been finally decided that the E. B. Eddy company will in future send no more men into the woods, throwing 500 men out of employment, but will close down the mills when the logs at present on hand are cut. Negotiations for the purchase of the mills and limits are in hand, but unless they are speedily concluded some 500 mill hands will be thrown out of work. The firm are concentrating all their energies on the new pulp mill.—Review.

Barnes & Co., of Ottawa, are suspending the manufacture of box shooks, owing to the action of the United States authorities in increasing the valuation of shooks. The firms contract with the Standard Oil company for the supply of an immense number of boxes, which were prepared there all ready for putting together and nailing, and so shipped will thus have to be carried on in future at their Rouse's Point factory. Ordinary duty was levied on their arrival, and a rebate allowed on the boxes being exported. The United States Government has decided that the mere nailing together of the boxes does not constitute manufacturing, within the meaning of the law, and that the rebate must cease.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "The prospects for the farmers in Manitoba and the Northwest are much better than the gloomy reports prematurely circulated early in the season, by those who endeavored to make the worst impression of the wheat crop of Manitoba it was possible to conceive of, under the false insinuation that every favorable report emanating from Manitoba was a lie. Where now is that great Manitoba wheat crop exterminator, trotted out by an evening contemporary, who wanted to bet there would not be more than 5 to 6 bushels to the acre owing to drought and the devastation of his great gopher brigade? Is he living, or is he stone dead?"

Arrangements has been completed for the erection of a steam grist mill at St. Albert by Messrs. Geo. Hutton and D. Maloney to be completed by February 1st, 1890. The mill is to start with two run of stones, to be replaced by rollers when required. A bonus of \$1,500 is to be received from the Indian department, and a further bonus of \$2,000 from the St. Albert and Sturgeon river settlers. The mill will be located on the west side of the Sturgeon, a little north of the bridge, a grant of five acres of land for the purpose having been made by the St. Albert mission authorities. Mr. Maloney went east on Tuesday to purchase the necessary machinery, and work on the buildings will commence at once. Edmonton Bulletin.

The American Consul at Ottawa has brought to notice of the Customs Department the fact that a duty is imposed on railways ties, poles and round posts coming into Canada, while the statute defines, under section 725 of the Customs Act, that all logs and round unmanufactured timber shall be admitted free of duty, and which are admitted into the United States from

Canada on the free list. The Customs officials hold that whenever the logs have labor performed on them, as in the case of railroad ties, fence posts, and telegraph poles with the bark taken off, are subject to duty. The Consul now says that all these articles will be affected by the bill which will be pressed before the next congress in connection with the log exporting duty question. The third section reads that all articles on shipment into the United States, whether embraced on the free list of the United States or otherwise, shall pay no less a rate of duty than is or may be imposed by the laws of the country of export on like articles imported into the said country from the United States.—Canadian Lumberman.

Insurance Notes.

Over-insurance does not always lead to incendiarism. A farmer was about to burn the barn of a neighbor. When he heard that it was insured for more than its value, he changed his mind. His object was not to help, but to injure.

The Cincinnati Price Current says: "It does seem that there is no system of swindling, no matter how transparent, that will not catch dupes. A fellow has recently been going about this city getting insurance and collecting premiums before delivering policies. He gives receipts for the money in the name of some company that does not even know of his existence. It is strange, indeed, that such a fellow should meet with any success in a place like this city, where insurance agents and solicitors, able to identify themselves and show their authority to act for responsible companies, are as plenty as candidates for the public offices to be filled at our next election.

And this is not the only kind of swindling by so-called insurance agents. There is no business under the sun that gives so many sharpers and shysters an opportunity to fleece unsuspecting dupes. Unless the agent is known to be a responsible party by the party solicited we would say "be careful."

General Notes.

At Ottawa, in August, according to Custom House returns, the value of foreign exports was \$584,243, as compared with \$365,892 in August last year. The total imports were \$175,550 in value; less than half were dutiable goods.

A nickel mine is said to have been discovered upon land near Sudbury station, and the Copper Company, now operating in the neighborhood, has offered to sink a shaft to test the quality of the ore on condition that it has the option of purchase.

The following decisions were arrived at by the Board of Customs during June, July and August: Paper stucco, for decorated ceilings, 35 per cent; Paper flour sacks, illustrated and printed, 15 cents per lb. and 25 per cent ad valorem; Barrel head linings, 25 per cent; Sweet spirits of nitre, \$2 per gallon and 30 per cent; Hay rakes made of wood, 35 per cent; "Ridges Food," 30 per cent; Broken rice, 1 1/2 cents per lb; Silk circulars, lined with fur, 10 cents per lb and 25 per cent. Fur jackets, etc., lined with satin, 25 per cent; Felt slippers, 10 cents per lb and 25 per cent,