

and they all seem anxious to get furs, consequently high prices are paid. The custom here is to sell all furs on bid by tender. Wholesale merchants who are constantly receiving furs from their customers do not charge any commission for handling them, and with active competition among so many buyers and the good prices paid, Winnipeg may be considered the best primary fur market on the continent. The following quotations give the range of prices here. The prices cover the range from small to large skins, size, color and condition being considered though skins are sometimes offered which are not worth the minimum quotations, on account of being killed out of season.

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| Badger | \$0 15 to \$0 60 |
| Bear, black or brown | 5 00 to 26 00 |
| Bear, yearlings | 2 00 to 8 00 |
| Bear, grizzly | 5 00 to 25 00 |
| Beaver, large | 5 50 to 7 50 |
| " medium | 3 00 to 4 50 |
| " small | 50 to 2 50 |
| " cubs | 25 to 60 |
| " castors, per lb | 2 50 to 5 50 |
| Fisher | 3 00 to 8 00 |
| Fox, cross | 2 00 to 15 00 |
| " kitt | 10 to 40 |
| " red | 25 to 1 50 |
| " silver | 20 00 to 75 00 |
| Lynx, large | 1 50 to 2 50 |
| " medium | 1 00 to 2 00 |
| " small | 75 to 1 25 |
| Marten dark | 1 00 to 4 50 |
| " Pale or Brown | 1 00 to 3 50 |
| " Light pale | 75 to 1 75 |
| Mink | 50 to 1 50 |
| Musquash, winter | 03 to 07 |
| Otter | 2 00 to 9 00 |
| Skunk | 25 to 80 |
| Wolf, timber | 1 00 to 2 75 |
| " prairie | 25 to 75 |
| Wolverine | 1 00 to 4 00 |

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—GENERAL SITUATION.—A strong market has been the feature this week. At the leading United States wheat centres prices had recovered nearly the whole of the recent decline up to the close last night. The features have been firmer cables, foreign buying, bad reports from Argentina as to the great damage done there during harvest, larger decrease in stocks, good export buying, and a cold wave in the west, the time being now at hand when freezing and thawing weather gets in its bad work in the winter wheat states. Exports of wheat, flour included, from both coasts of the United States this week show a falling off from the total one week ago, which was 3,149,000 bushels. One year ago the week's exports amounted to 2,659,000 bushels and two years ago it was 2,972,000 bushels. In 1893 the correspondence total was 3,261,000 bushels, and in 1892 it was 2,908,000 bushels. The near future of wheat will depend very much upon the crop outlook in the winter wheat states.

WHEAT.—LOCAL SITUATION.—The time is now here when Manitoba farmers generally market wheat more freely, the desire being to market the grain before the beginning of spring work. Five or six days of very mild weather caused a break-up in the roads this week, but it is more wintry again, and we may have a spell of good weather yet for marketing grain, before the final break-up, though more snow is needed in some districts. Threshing, which was stopped last December has been resumed again, and as quite a quantity of grain has been held in stack over winter in some districts, fine weather for threshing is desirable, as well as good roads for marketing. There has been a considerable movement of rail wheat eastward. Montreal is now about filled up with Manitoba wheat, or space not filled is engaged, and shipments of Manitoba wheat are now being made via Prescott and New York all rail. Receipts at

Fort William for the week ended Feb. 22 were 100,142 bushels, shipments 133,704 bushels, in store 3,195,108 bushels. Stocks in store a year ago were 892,491 and two years ago 2,071,000 bushels. Stocks of Manitoba wheat at lake ports and interior points here aggregate well up to 700,000,000, as compared with about 300,000,000 bushels a year ago. This has been one of the dullest weeks of the winter in Manitoba country markets, owing to the bad roads. Prices have been irregular. On Thursday prices to farmers were advanced, principally by millers, to 5c per bushel for No. 1 hard, at 18c freight rate points to Fort William, but there is considerable irregularity in prices paid at different points. Not much business in round lots. No. 1 hard, cash. Fort William delivery, has ranged during the week at from 63 to 65c. No. 1 northern sold yesterday at 65, but this was an extreme price. A telegram to Mr. Harris yesterday, reported a sale at Toronto of 20,000 bushels No. 1 hard Fort William, May, at 67c.

FLOUR.—The flour situation is firm again in sympathy with the recovery in wheat but there has been no change in prices. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.85 to \$1.93 for patents and \$1.65 to \$1.70 for strong bakers per sack of 98 pounds, delivered to city retail dealers; second bakers \$1.35 to \$1.45; XXXX \$1.20 to \$1.25 delivered. Brands of country mills are offered at 5 to 10c under these quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—City mills are selling at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots.

OATS.—Prices were locally a little firmer, owing to the break up in the roads, but were easier again with the colder weather toward the close of the week. Earlier in the week 17c was generally paid for farmers' offerings here. Car lot prices are about the same. At Manitoba country points, for shipment east, cars are worth from 12 to 15c, as to quality and freight rate. In the Winnipeg market dealers are paying 16 to 17c for farmers' loads, per bushel of 51 pounds.

BARLEY.—Barley keeps very dull, there is hardly any sale for this grain. Car lots at Manitoba country points quoted at 14 to 16c, as to quality and freight rates for from feed grade up to No. 3, Winnipeg street market at about 17c to 18c for feed barley, per bushel of 48 pounds.

WHEAT.—Local farmers' market.—The price paid at the city mills for farmers' loads is 50c per bushel of 60 pounds for best quality.

GROUND FEED. Prices range from \$11 to \$13 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is selling at about \$1 25 per sack of 81 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers.

FLAX SEED.—Prices to farmers in Manitoba country markets are about 60c per bushel.

OIL CAKE.—Oil cake holds at \$16 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

BUTTER.—No change in butter but the feeling is rather easier. Dealers are not accumulating very large stocks however. We quote good to choice dairy tubs at 12 to 14c per lb. and lower grades at 8 to 11c. Good rolls 9 to 11c, fancy boxes of small rolls or bricks of uniform size, color and quality, nicely handled, 12 to 14c. Ordinary rolls very slow.

CHEESE.—Cheese is jobbing here in small lots at 9½ to 10c for large and 10½ to 11c for small sizes.

EGGS.—This line is decidedly weaker, and though 18c has been paid this week, a sharp decline is considered quite certain, as prices are lower in eastern and southern markets. In fact some eggs were brought in here from St. Paul, Minnesota, at a cost of 16c laid down

here, including 8c duty and 2c freight charges. Looking up The Commercial files of a year ago we see that eggs declined heavily during March from 18c at the opening of the month to 7½ by the 25th. While this may not be repeated this year, as the number of fowl in the country appears to be less than a year ago still much lower prices are expected.

LARD.—Prices are Pure, \$1.80 for 20 pound pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8½c pound.

CURED MEATS.—Hog products are firm. Smoked meats are quoted Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11½; do., backs, 10½; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7½c long rolls, 7½c; shoulders, 6½c smoked long clear, 9c; smoked jowls, 5½c. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½c per lb; shoulders, 5½c; backs, 8½c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$18.00; clear mess \$18.00; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel, pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; German sausage, 7c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2½c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 80c lb.

POULTRY.—This line keeps very scarce both locally and in the east. A small supply of Ontario poultry has been selling here at the following prices: Turkeys 19c; ducks 12c; geese 12c; chickens 13c. Really fine local poultry would bring these prices, less commission, but most local stock is not as good in quality.

DRESSED MEATS.—Dressed hogs are firm, and mutton keeps firm. Up to 5½c has been paid by butchers for a few fancy hogs, and we quote \$5 to \$5.50 per 100 lbs. We quote country beef at 8½ to 1½c as to quality, good frozen beef will bring 4½c. Fresh, unfrozen, city dressed beef, 5 to 6c, as to quality. Mutton steady, and we quote 6 to 6½c for good mutton, and 7c for choice lambs. The soft weather this week did not materially affect the price of meats, as no very large stocks are held in any line.

GAME.—Rabbits, 6c each; jack rabbits, 50c each.

VEGETABLES.—Following are prices on the street market: Potatoes, 20c per bushel, cabbage 40 to 75c per dozen, as to size; celery 25 to 40c per dozen bunches; onions 40 to 50c per bushel; turnips 10 to 15c per bushel; parsnips, 40 to 50c bushel; carrots 30 to 40c; beets 25c bushel.

HIDES.—The range of prices is about the same as last week. We quote prices here as follows: Green frozen hides, 4½ to 5c, 5 lbs taro off. Calf, 8 to 15 lb skins, 5 to 6c per lb; deacons, 15 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 4½c; sheep and lambskins recent kill, 50 to 60c. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

HAY.—Baled prairie is quoted at about \$5.00 \$5.50 on cars here. Loose hay on the street market, \$3.50 to \$1.50 per ton.

LIVE STOCK.—We do not hear of anything being done by exporters yet. Range stock are reported in fine condition, and if the balance of the winter is favorable, the export of range cattle will begin earlier than usual, and probably fully as early as last year, which was much earlier than in most previous years. When the cattle come through the winter in good shape, they very soon pick up and get into condition for exporting. We quote good butcher's cattle nominal at 3 to 3½c here. Fat cows, 2½ to 2¾c. Sheep nominal at about 3½ to 3¾c. Hogs are steady at 4c off cars here.

James Beer, grocer, New Westminster, has assigned.

A Port Arthur and Fort William delegation were at Ottawa last week to urge a bonus for the extension of the Port Arthur and Duluth railway into the iron and gold regions.