

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The wheat market during the week has been a strong one, or, as some say, "a regular old-fashioned climber," in some respects resembling the good old bullish days. The rise, too, is not confined to wheat, but has affected every class of grain and meats handled on 'change. On Monday the bulls opened with a bold front, and met with determined opposition. When, however, the increase to visible was announced as only 490,000 bushels, the upward move set in, and a strong and advanced closing was the result. On Tuesday a little of this advance was lost, but later in the week everything started upwards again, and rumors of a probable European rupture added to the strength. Wednesday had a touch of the boomer about it and Thursday followed with a rising market. Corn advanced steadily, in sympathy with wheat, and even oats kept following up behind. Pork made rapid upward strides, only bulling a little on Wednesday to start upward again next day. Lard followed pork, although not with such a marked advance. Altogether it seemed as if values all round were bound to go up, and there was no sign of a desire to corner any particular month.

On Monday the tug was heavy in wheat until the visible supply figures were announced, when the bulls carried it away to a strong closing. Corn and oats were strong, while pork advanced steadily. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| Wheat | 76½ | 76½ |
| Corn | 46½ | 46½ |
| Oats | 23 | 23½ |
| Pork | 14.20 | 14.23½ |
| Lard | 7.02½ | 7.07½ |
| Short Ribs | | |

On Tuesday wheat weakened a little, while corn and oats were steady. Most of the interest was centred in pork, which jumped wildly for a time, reaching at one time \$14.90 for January. Some of this advance was lost although the closing was considerably above the figures of Monday. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| Wheat | 75½ | 76½ |
| Corn | 46½ | 46½ |
| Oats | 23½ | 23½ |
| Pork | 14.60 | 14.65 |
| Lard | 7.10 | 7.20 |
| Short Ribs | | |

On Wednesday wheat again showed an upward inclination and advanced steadily owing in some measure to unquiet rumors from Europe. Corn was in sympathy as were oats also. Pork took a rest after the jump of Tuesday, but was steady. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| Wheat | 76½ | 77½ |
| Corn | 46½ | 46½ |
| Oats | 23½ | 23½ |
| Pork | 14.60 | 14.62½ |
| Lard | 7.20 | 7.20 |
| Short Ribs | | |

On Thursday wheat was again on the rise followed closely by corn and with oats in sympathy. Pork started upward again and lard kept in sympathy. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| Wheat | 77½ | 78½ |
| Corn | 47½ | 48½ |
| Oats | 25½ | 25 |
| Pork | 14.80 | 14.85 |
| Lard | 7.40 | 7.45 |
| Short Ribs | | |

On Friday wheat opened easier, but about 1 o'clock a general advance began, and May touched 86c. At the afternoon session, however, it declined, as did also pork. Closing prices were:

| | Dec. | Jan. |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| Wheat | 78½ | 78½ |
| Corn | 49 | 49½ |
| Oats | | 30 |
| Pork | | 14.72½ |
| Lard | 7.37½ | 7.45 |
| Short Ribs | | 7.62½ |

On Saturday the market open at yesterday's closing and remained steady with tendency to advance.

MINNEAPOLIS.

Fluctuations in the local market, the past week, have been fractional only, but the close was at the highest point and the feeling is very firm, in sympathy with other markets. The movement continues large, and with but slight indications of an early falling off. Minneapolis has received during the three months ending to-day over 20,000,000 bus. of wheat, and there is every promise that the total for the crop year will exceed 40,000,000 bus. The stocks in store here are larger than a year ago, and the entire capacity of the city will undoubtedly be utilized on this crop.

The visible supply showed a very small increase last week, but rains in the winter wheat section offset to some extent the bullish effect of this announcement. The market is very firm, however, and higher prices may be expected during the month. Foreign markets respond slowly to advances here, but they are gradually moving upward and the general tone is healthy.

WHEAT.—The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending to day, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

| | Cash. | Dec. | On track. |
|----------------------|-------|------|-----------|
| No. 1 hard | 73 | 72½ | 74½ |
| No. 1 northern | 71 | 70½ | 71 |
| No. 2 " | 67 | 66 | 67 |

Futures have been very steady, with considerable trading. December 1 hard closed at 73c, January 74½c, and May at 80½. December 1 northern closed at 71c, January at 72½c, and May at 77c. December 2 northern closed at 67c, January at 68½c and May at 73c. Coarse grains were quiet, corn closing at 40 to 43c, oats at 24 to 26c, and barley at 44 to 46c, all by sample.

FLOUR.—While heavy buyers are noticeable by their absence from this market, there is a steady, healthy, movement, with great firmness in values. The foreigners are slowly meeting the views of our millers and have been taking some flour. Large sales could be made at slight concessions from present quotations, but millers are very firm and a steady consumptive demand is all that can be claimed for the market.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots were: Patents, \$1.25 to \$1.40; straights, \$3.70 to \$4; first bakers', \$3.65 to \$3.80; second bakers' \$2.90 to \$3.10; best low grades, \$1.80 to \$2.00 in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.70 in bags.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

Closing prices for No. 1 Hard on each day of the week were:

| | Cash. | Dec. | May. |
|-----------------|-------|------|------|
| Monday | 74½ | 74½ | 81½ |
| Tuesday | 74 | 74½ | 81½ |
| Wednesday | 75½ | 74½ | 81½ |
| Thursday | 75½ | 75½ | 83 |
| Friday | 76½ | 76½ | 83½ |

On Saturday at 11 o'clock prices were: Cash, — December, 84½c, and May, 76½.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

GRAIN.

There has been very little change since our last report, and with river and gulf navigation closed there has been little to cause any movement. Prices have been rather steady, with a fair local business doing. No. 1 Manitoba hard ranged between 85 and 86c; with No. 2 hard and 1 northern at 83 to 84c; red and white winter sold from 85 to 87c, and Canada spring from 83 to 84c.

FLOUR.

The demand for Manitoba strong bakers has eased off a little and prices were a shade weaker from \$4.30 to \$4.50 was the range of quotations. No car lots of Patents were called for, and quotations were nominal. Other grades were equally quiet.

BUTTER.

There are no new features to report, and the

movement has been rather slow. Prices have been steady, almost to monotony. Creamery ranged 20 to 22½c; Eastern Townships, 17 to 20½c; Western, 15 to 18c.

CHEESE

Estimates of the stock held in Quebec and Ontario have been made by different parties and vary from 220,000 to 250,000 boxes. All admit that it is large enough, although some consider it not large enough to cause any serious break of present prices. Quotations ranged: Finest September, 11½ to 11¾c; mediums, 9 to 9½c.

The Far North.

A glimpse of the hardships and perils of the fur trade is given in this account of a trip in the Edmonton *Bulletin*, Alberta, May 19th. Mr. Chas. Stewart left with a large trading outfit for Great Slave Lake, leaving Athabaska Landing June 3rd with two large boats holding 15,000 pounds each and total crews of eighteen men. They reached Grand Rapids on the 6th. There the loads had to be taken out of the boats and packed on men's backs along a most difficult path from head to foot of the rapids, 1½ mile. Two boats were let down with some heavy pieces in them, but were damaged on rocks and had to be altogether unloaded and repaired. The other two boats were altogether unloaded and taken past the worst part of the rapid on an island which lies in the centre of the river. The boats of the Roman Catholic missions in the north were coming up at the same time and the crews united, making a force of forty men at work. Below Grand Rapids come a succession of rapids for about 50 miles, which were passed without accident or serious difficulty but not without trouble, danger and delay. Ft. McMurray at foot of rapids was reached June 23rd. Mr. Corvie was the H. B. officer in charge at McMurray and was very kind to the party. They reached Ft. Chipewyan —on Lake Athabaska 350 miles north and 100 east of Edmonton—on July 2nd, six weeks and two days out. Mr. Stewart and party left for the head of Slave River Rapids on July 6th and arrived there on the 7th, a distance of about 100 miles down stream, remained there awhile and sent one boat on past the rapids to Ft. Smith, a distance of about 10 miles by land, reaching Smith on July 14th. While at the head of the rapids the steamers Graham from the south and the Wrigley from the north came to either end of the portage and Commissioner Wrigley took passage on the Graham on his way to Winnipeg.

The rapids of the Slave River occur where the river makes a great irregular horse-shoe bend and compel goods in passing to be portaged four times and the boats themselves three times. The portages are short but one of them is across a rock over 100 feet high. Eighteen men and a double block and tackle are required to take a boat with 100 pieces, 10,000 pounds over or past these rapids. The Hudson Bay Co. have oxen and carts on a direct portage which haul goods between the steamboat landings at the head and foot of the rapids. The road is very good. Mr. Stewart and W. McBeth left Ft. Smith in one boat on July 15th and reached Ft. Resolution at the entrance of Great Slave River into Great Slave Lake on the 19th. Distance from Ft. Smith about 150 miles, a