COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

Montreal, April 16th, 1908.

Butter.—Prices have advanced during the week to around 34c., some sales having taken place at as high as 35c. This is for very choicest new milk creamery. The quantity of old creamery remaining in store is not of any importance.

Cheese.—Holders continue to quote 13c. for choicest white and 13¾c. for colored, but it is doubtful if very much is being sold.

Eggs.—Receipts have shown considerable increase of late, the result being a decline in price. Choicest stock is now available at 17 to 18c. Everything now arriving is fresh laid, and there is a good demand for it.

Flour.—There is no export and the local trade is quite moderate. Manitoba Patents are selling at $6.10 per barrel, in bags; seconds being $5.50. Ontario Patents are $6.30; straight rollers being $4.75.

Seed.—All kinds of clover are very scarce. Demand is active with prices steady. Red Clover is quoted at $23.50 to $25 per 100 lbs.; alsike being $18 to $21; alfalfa being $21 to $22, and Timothy $6.25 to $7.50 per 100 lbs. Montreal.

Hides.—The quality of hides is poor and demand is not very active. Dealers are paying 5, 6 and 7c. per lb. respectively for No. 3, 2 and 1 calfskins, and 75 to 80c. for sheepskins. Horse hides are $1.25 each for No. 2, and $1.75 for No. 1.

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Toronto, April 17th, 1908.

Fish.—Very little fresh-caught fish is coming in, and prices are firm. White fish is selling at 13c., halibut at 9½c., and cod 8c.

Fruit.—Trade is being helped by the Easter business, which is active. Oranges are plentiful and selling at from $2.25 per box for Mexican to $3.25 for bronco navels. Tomatoes have advanced from 25c. to 30c. per case.

Hides.—There is no improvement in the market, and prices remain unchanged. As soon as good hides begin to arrive the market will revive. This will be about May 1st. But the market depends largely upon the ability of the tanners to sell leather. Their disability to do so is the cause of the whole trouble to-day. The wool market is in a very bad way, and prices have dropped severely. Native wool is fetching from 40 to 50 per cent. less than at this time last year.

Groceries.—Trade is fair and has revived somewhat from last week. The opening up of navigation will help matters. Sugar continues to climb up in price, the last advance being one of 10c. per 100 lb. Tea is firm; it is expected that prices will keep high for some time.

Provisions.—The butter and egg markets remain about the same. Butter is still very scarce. Deliveries of eggs just about meet the supply, and none are accumulating. We quote: Creamery prints, 32 to 33c.; dairy prints, 28 to 30c.; new laid eggs, 18c.; lard, tubs, 11¾c.; pails, 8¾c.