

## Market Review and Forecast

### The Trend of Markets—Supply and Demand—The Outlook

Toronto, May 27th, 1904.

A fair volume of business is reported in general trade. Wholesale houses report remittances as being a little slow. Money is more plentiful at about 5 per cent. on call. Discounts are steady at 6 to 7 per cent., the ruling rate being about 6 per cent.

#### WHEAT

The wheat situation has improved since last writing and prices are about 5c. per bushel higher. The speculative element has had something to do with the advance, though unfavorable crop reports and a shrinkage in the visible supply in the United States and Canada have had something to do with it. Owing to the advance on this side there is very little wheat being exported, and yet Toronto seems to be getting all the wheat she requires for present needs. Manitoba market rules firm and higher. There is a scarcity of winter wheats here and the decline at outside points does not materially affect the market for winter grains in Ontario. Red and white is quoted here at 95 to 96c.; goose at 85c., and spring at 90c. at present.

#### COARSE GRAINS

There is little to report about coarse grains. The market for oats, barley and peas rule steady at quotations. Corn is steady at 45 to 46c. for Canadian West, and 60 to 62c. for American in car lots, Toronto.

#### EGGS AND POULTRY

The egg market rules quiet with prices at quotation points fully 3 cents per dozen higher than at this time last year. The outlook for pickling is not very bright as prices are too high. Under good local demand the stocks are not accumulating. From 15 to 15½c. are the ruling prices both here and in Montreal for case lots.

There is a demand in the Maritime Provinces for turkeys. In Ontario there is little doing in poultry excepting in a local way.

#### POTATOES AND BEANS

The potato market is easier and plenty of supplies are coming forward. Quotations here are lower at 90 to 95c. for car lots on track.

The bean market is inactive.

#### HAY AND STRAW

Hay prices have kept up wonderfully well considering last year's big crop. The late spring and cold winter have had considerable to do with this. There is quite a good export demand and dealers' stocks are large supplies among the farmers in Quebec, but this is doubtful. Quotations here for baled hay are \$9 for car lots on track, and \$5.50 per ton for baled straw.

#### WOOL

There is little activity in wool as yet. Owing to the backward season very little new clip is coming forward. Receipts of unwashed are fair with prices steady at 9½ to 10½c. Washed is quoted at about 11c.

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS

The cheese market has taken quite a sharp turn upwards since last writing and from 8½ to 8½c. are the ruling prices on the local markets this week. The market, generally speaking, shows a firmer tone. The better quality of goods being made and the smallness of the make have had something to do with the advance.

Butter has also assumed a better tone and a steadier feeling prevails

though prices have not advanced. The English market is reported dull, though prices are reported to have touched bottom and are not likely to go any lower. 15½ to 15½c. Montreal quotations, is a pretty low figure for grass creamery butter. Quotations here are 17 to 18c. for creamery prints, and 15 to 16c. for solids. Choice dairy rolls sell at 11 to 13c. in a jobbing way.

#### LIVE STOCK

Business at the Toronto cattle market this week has been brisk. The run of live stock has been heavy. Cattle were in active demand for export owing to shipping from Canadian ports. The best cattle are wanted, some of the choice ones selling at \$5.20 per cwt., with quotations at \$4.90 to \$5.20 for choice, and \$3.75 to \$4.25 for medium to good. Butchers' cattle rule steady at \$4.65 to \$4.75 for best, \$4.30 to \$4.60 for good ones, and \$4 to \$4.25 per cwt. for medium quality. Short kept feeders in good condition sell readily at \$4.50 to \$4.80, and lighter weights at \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt. Good stockers sell at \$3.35 to \$3.75, and common ones at \$2.50 to \$3.25 per cwt. Milch cows sell at \$30 to \$60 each, as to quality. Calves have ruled weaker owing to extra supply. Quotations are \$2 to \$10 each and \$5.50 to \$4.50 per cwt.

The offerings of sheep and lambs are not heavy, and with an active demand everything sells readily. Export ewes sell at \$4 to \$4.50; grain-fed yearlings at \$5.50 to \$5.75 per cwt., and spring lamb at \$2.50 to \$5.50 each.

The run of hogs has been lighter and prices have advanced to \$5.15 for select bacon hogs and \$4.90 for lights and fats.

#### HORSES

The horse market continues active with a good demand for all kinds of serviceable horses. As Tuesday was a holiday, the usual sale at the Repository, Toronto, was not held. On Friday a big sale of hunters, drivers, and saddle horses was held, all of which sold at satisfactory prices.

## TORONTO JUNCTION

The run of live stock at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto Junction, has been large during the week. The run of export cattle offered has been good. Prices ranged from \$4.60 to \$5.20 with some very choice ones going a little higher. The bulk sold for \$4.80 to \$5.10. Butchers' cattle, 1,150 to 1,200 lbs. each, sold at \$4.50 to \$4.75 for the best, and \$4.40 to \$4.50 for good, with other quality lower.

## MARITIME MARKETS

Halifax, May 24th, 1904.

Market conditions are none too favorable at present for farming interests. There has been a very inactive market for cheese and butter, and for a time a deadlock was practically established between buyers and sellers. Dealers just now are conceding slightly better prices, and some business is being put through. Potatoes have declined, and while a cent a pound is not a bad price for tubers, some growers in the Cornwallis Valley, who a few weeks ago held their stocks for a dollar a bushel will regard the present turn as unsatisfactory. The egg market has strengthened, and this article is now jobbing at 15 cents in Halifax, there being some scarcity here owing to large quantities being absorbed by the picklers. Apples are now practically out of the market, there being nothing obtainable but a few nonpareils, which are selling at from \$3.50 to \$4. There has been an advance in evaporated apples, and this article is which now comes almost entirely from Ontario.

Hay has kept very steady throughout the season, the best quality selling at \$14 per ton. Corn is firm up a little but the island situation is understood to be unsteady as stocks are rather heavier than usual. Feeds are very firm but the demands in the Maritime Provinces must be light from now onward. The pork season has about ended, there being no demand for anything now excepting a few light hogs. Turkeys are much wanted, as high as 17c. per lb. being paid. All kinds of poultry are scarce at this season. Native rhubarb is on the market at 2½c. per lb. This and aspara-

### The Canadian Produce Markets at a Glance

The highest quotations of prevailing prices for standard grades of farm produce in the leading markets on the dates named. Poorer stuff lower.

Date	Toronto	Montreal	St. John	Halifax	Winnipeg
	27	26	25	25	25
Wheat, per bushel.....	\$ .96	\$ .98	\$ ....	\$ ....	\$ .85
Oats, per bushel.....	.33	.36	.43	.43	.32
Barley, per bushel.....	.50	.52	.52	.52	.35
Peas, per bushel.....	.63	.71	.75	.75	....
Corn, per bushel.....	.46	.54	.55	.56	....
Flour, per barrel.....	3.80	4.90	4.50	4.60	3.70
Brass, per bushel.....	50	19.00	23.00	23.50	15.00
Shorts, per ton.....	18.50	20.00	24.00	24.50	18.00
Potatoes, per bag.....	.95	.85	.60	.60	.65
Beans, per bushel.....	1.40	1.45	1.90	2.00	....
Hay, per ton.....	9.00	10.50	13.50	14.00	10.00
Straw, per ton.....	5.00	6.00	8.00	8.00	....
Eggs, per dozen.....	15	16	14	15	....
Chickens, per pound, d.w.....	12	13	....	....	....
Ducks, per pound, d.w.....	....	....	12	12	....
Turkeys, per pound, d.w.....	14	15	16	14	17
Geese, per pound, d.w.....	....	....	14	14	....
Apples, per barrel.....	3.00	4.25	4.00	4.00	4.50
Cheese, per pound.....	8½	8½	9	9½	10½
Butter, creamery, per pound.....	18	17	80	81	20
Butter, dairy, per pound.....	13	14	18	18	18
Cattle, per cwt.....	5.20	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00
Sheep, per cwt.....	4.50	4.50	6.50	6.50	4.00
Hogs, per cwt.....	5.15	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.25
Veal Calves, per cwt.....	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	....