

The Farmers' Market

Farmers' Market Letter

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, August 17, 1918.

WHEAT.—Winnipeg prices have not varied much for some time, last week included. There have been slight advances following strength in American corn markets, where crop reports point to heavy damage by the excessive heat of two weeks ago. Offerings in the local market are very light and are readily absorbed for the eastern domestic trade. The demand from western localities is so urgent that there is scarcely any oats being shipped to the lake front. The latter harvest this year will mean a delayed movement of new crop grain and therefore more demand on the old stocks.

BARLEY.—The market has been somewhat erratic. During the early part of the week there was very poor demand and with some light offerings prices went down 10 cents per bushel. The American prices are much lower now, as also Ontario prices for new crop. On Saturday there was a demand for a small quantity and the buyer advanced the prices five cents per bushel in order to secure his requirements promptly.

FLAX.—Prices have advanced steadily during the entire week. Each flax has been in good demand at ten cents over October delivery price until Saturday when buyers were out of the market.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

	Aug 13	15	17	19	21	23	25
Oct. 13	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	84	84 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2
Dec. 13	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2
Mar. 13	418	418 1/2	418 1/2	421 1/2	423	426	433 1/2
Nov. 13	413 1/2	413 1/2	413 1/2	415	419	426	433 1/2

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, August 14, was as follows:

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Winnipeg	Wheat	418	1,790	24,180
	Barley	4,311	61,842	129,952
	Flax	1,394	4,969	754
Manitoba	Wheat	—	—	6,109
	Barley	—	24,676	130,768
	Flax	—	5	104
Calgary	Wheat	—	—	3,429
	Barley	1,939	44,817	188,418
	Flax	487	4,275	15,628

THE CASH TRADE

Winnipeg, August 16, 1918.
CORN.—Firm, with a better demand for yellow, especially choice. No. 3 yellow closed at \$1.75 to \$1.80; No. 4 yellow at \$1.68 to \$1.75.

OATS.—Steady to a shade easier compared with futures. Good demand for No. 3 white at September price to 1c. under. No. 3 white closed at 64c. to 64 1/2c.; No. 4 white at 63 1/2c. to 64c.

RYE.—Two cents higher, with improved demand from millers. No. 2 rye closed at \$1.43 to \$1.45.

BARLEY.—Top grades in better demand at 1c. to 2c. advance. Prices closed at 85c. to \$1.63.

FLAXSEED.—Offerings small, prices higher for choice. No. 1 seed closed at \$4.37 1/2 to \$4.40 1/2 on spot and to arrive.

CROP SUMMARY

On August 14 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported the following:

	1'	2'	3'	4'	5'	6'	7'	8'	9'	10'	11'	12'
Fixed	221	218	215	208	196	187	215	212	207	—	—	—
ago	240 1/2	240	240	236	218	193	236	234	232	—	—	—

Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur, Aug. 13 to Aug. 19, inclusive

Date	Wheat	OATS	BARLEY	FLAX
Aug. 13	185	90	87	87
14	185	91 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
15	185	91 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
16	185	91 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
17	185	92	88 1/2	88 1/2
18	185	92 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2
19	185	93	90 1/2	90 1/2
Week	185	91 1/2	88	88 1/2
ago	172	82	80	80
Year	172	82	80	80
ago	172	82	80	80

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg	Calgary	Toledo	St. Paul	Chicago
	Aug 17	Aug 17	Aug 14	Aug 17	Aug 17
Cattle	13 00-15 00	12 50-15 00	12 50-15 00	12 50-15 00	12 50-15 00
Best Butcher steers	11 00-12 75	10 75-12 50	10 75-12 50	10 75-12 50	10 75-12 50
Fair to good butcher steers	9 00-11 00	8 75-10 50	8 75-10 50	8 75-10 50	8 75-10 50
Good to choice fat cows	8 50-9 75	8 25-9 50	8 25-9 50	8 25-9 50	8 25-9 50
Medium to good cows	7 00-8 25	6 50-7 50	6 50-7 50	6 50-7 50	6 50-7 50
Canvases	4 50-5 75	4 00-5 00	4 00-5 00	4 00-5 00	4 00-5 00
Good to choice heifers	10 00-11 00	9 50-10 50	9 50-10 50	9 50-10 50	9 50-10 50
Fair to good heifers	8 00-9 75	7 50-9 00	7 50-9 00	7 50-9 00	7 50-9 00
Best Cows	8 00-9 00	7 50-8 50	7 50-8 50	7 50-8 50	7 50-8 50
Best Butcher bulls	7 50-8 00	7 00-7 50	7 00-7 50	7 00-7 50	7 00-7 50
Common to butchery bulls	6 00-7 40	5 00-6 50	5 00-6 50	5 00-6 50	5 00-6 50
Fair to good feeder steers	9 50-11 00	9 00-10 50	9 00-10 50	9 00-10 50	9 00-10 50
Best milkers and springers	7 50-9 00	7 00-8 50	7 00-8 50	7 00-8 50	7 00-8 50
Each	\$85-\$110	\$75-\$100	\$80-\$105	\$100-\$120	\$75-\$100
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$60-\$85	\$50-\$75	\$55-\$80	\$75-\$100	\$50-\$75
Hogs	10 75-12 75	10 75-12 75	10 75-12 75	10 75-12 75	10 75-12 75
Choice hogs, fed and watered	17 00-18 00	16 00-17 00	16 00-17 00	16 00-17 00	16 00-17 00
Light hogs	15 00-16 00	14 00-15 00	14 00-15 00	14 00-15 00	14 00-15 00
Stags	11 00-12 00	10 00-11 00	10 00-11 00	10 00-11 00	10 00-11 00
Sheep and Lambs	14 00-17 00	12 00-15 00	14 00-17 00	14 00-17 00	14 00-17 00
Choice lambs	14 00-17 00	12 00-15 00	14 00-17 00	14 00-17 00	14 00-17 00
Best killing sheep	10 00-13 00	8 00-10 00	10 00-13 00	10 00-13 00	10 00-13 00

Statistics issued the following summary of crop conditions compiled from reports of correspondents made on July 31:

In the prairie provinces the drought remained unbroken until towards the end of July, and serious damage to wheat in the blossom stage was caused by heavy frosts which occurred from the 23rd to the 25th of the month. Conditions were improved by rains that fell during the last week of the month. For the whole of Canada the condition of crops on July 31 was worse than at the end of June. Spring wheat, measured against 100 as representing the average normal yield, is 77, compared with 85 on June 30 and 93 on July 31, 1917. Oats are 85 against 91 and 96, barley is 86 against 93 last month and 93 on July 31, 1917, and rye is 83 against 88 and 95. Peas and mixed grains are 101, or one above average. Beans are 95, buckwheat is 93, flax is 71, corn for husking is 86, potatoes are 95, turnips and mangolds are 96, corn for fodder is 85, sugar beets are 92 and pasture is 92. In the Prairie Provinces, spring wheat is in Manitoba 85 per cent. of the average, oats are 84, barley is 83 and rye is 84. In Saskatchewan the figures are spring wheat 75, oats 75, barley 74 and rye 73. In Alberta spring wheat is 65, oats are 64 and barley 70 per cent. of the normal average. Potatoes are for Canada 95 per cent. or five per cent. below average, as against 98 per cent. on July 31, 1917. In the Maritime provinces and in Quebec spring wheat is 101 in Prince Edward Island, 104 in Nova Scotia, 105 in New Brunswick and 106 in Quebec, conditions generally having improved during July. Other grain crops in these provinces are equally satisfactory. In Ontario, spring wheat sown to 158,000 acres is marked 118 per cent., as against 101 a month ago and 111 on July 31, 1917. The figures expressing condition for the whole of Canada indicate a total yield in 1918 for wheat of nearly 232,000,000 bushels as compared with 233,742,850 bushels in 1917 and for oats a total yield of about 416,000,000 bushels as compared with 403,000,000 bushels in 1917. For the three prairie provinces the yield indicated by condition is for wheat 216,488,000 bushels and for oats 354,930,000 bushels.

The Livestock Market

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 17.—The United Grain Growers Limited Livestock Department reports receipts at the Union Stock yards, St. Boniface, for the week ending August 16, 1918, as follows: Cattle, 7,681;

calves, 310; sheep, 377; hogs, 3,886.

Weather conditions throughout the West during the week has been favorable for grass and feed but, notwithstanding these favorable conditions, too many unfinished cattle are shipped to market and prices have declined on this stuff. Good heavy butcher steers weighing from 1,100 pounds up are bringing good prices, but butcher cows and heifers are lower and are likely to remain lower for some time. Good feeders weighing from 600 pounds up to 1,000 pounds are selling strong as the demand is good, but stockers from 800 to 900 pounds are lower, selling from 4c. to 5c. per pound. All summer stuff is lower as well as all grades of oats. Thin lambs selling from 1c. to 1c. and the fat smooth ones from 8c. to 9c. Rough cutters from 1c. to 1c.

The hog market has been erratic, going up to \$20.50 and closing the end of the week at \$19.75 for select and a heavy cut on heavy and sows. Best lambs are worth from 17c. to 18c. and light ones below 65 pounds from 15c. up. Butcher stuff from 13c. to 15c. A large run of veal calves has caused the price to weaken and are selling two or three cents lower than two weeks ago. The best light veals around 10c. to 11c. and heavier two cents less. Fat-fed calves from 6c. to 7c.

In conclusion, would venture to say that all good heavy butcher steers will sell high during the season and would advise holding stock until they are well finished as they will always bring a satisfactory price. The following is a summary of prices during the week:

Butcher Cattle	Choice heavy steers	Medium to good steers	Fair to medium steers	Common to fair steers	Choice fat heifers	Fair to good heifers	Canner and cutter cows	Fair to medium cows	Good to choice cows	Best fat cows	Canner and cutter cows	Fat weighty bulls	Robusta bulls	Fat lambs	Sheep	Veal calves	Pail feds
	\$13.00 to \$15.00	\$11.00 to \$13.00	\$10.00 to \$11.00	\$9.00 to \$10.00	\$8.00 to \$9.00	\$7.00 to \$8.00	\$6.00 to \$7.00	\$5.00 to \$6.00	\$4.00 to \$5.00	\$3.00 to \$4.00	\$2.00 to \$3.00	\$1.00 to \$2.00	\$0.50 to \$1.00	\$0.25 to \$0.50	\$0.10 to \$0.25	\$0.05 to \$0.10	\$0.02 to \$0.05

Stockers and Feeders	Choice weighty good colored feeders	Common to good stockers and feeders	Best milkers and springers	Fair milkers and springers
	\$9.50 to \$11.00	\$8.00 to \$9.00	\$5.00 to \$6.00	\$4.00 to \$5.00

CALGARY

Calgary, Aug. 17.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited report this week's receipts as follows: Horses, 478; cattle, 5,494; hogs, 2,791; sheep, 1,969. Receipts for the corresponding week last year were: Horses, 153; cattle, 1,651; hogs, 1,381; sheep, 167. The receipts of cattle were heavy all week but up to Wednesday the market was fairly firm, with sales being made at a slight reduction from last week's close, but a weakness developed on Thursday and it was extremely difficult to dispose of any classes of beef except the choice steers and cows and these were turned over at fully \$1.00 lower. We quote choice heavy steers of 1,200 and up from \$12.50 to \$13.50, fairly good butcher steers \$11 to \$12.25 and common butcher steers \$10 to \$11 with practically no buyers for this class of stuff, and it is probable that this class of stuff will be sold to go back as short keep feeders. Cows, in spite of the government discrimination on this class of beef held up fairly well, and we turned over a number of fairly good cows at \$8.40 to \$8.60, medium fat cows showing weight sold from \$8.00 to \$8.25 and common cows were not wanted at all. Fat cows changed hands at 10 cents for the tops down to \$4.00 for the poorer canners, while bulls were in weak demand at \$5.25 to \$6.75 for the best. The stocker market showed strength and good broody two-year-olds from 900 up sold readily at from \$8.75 to \$9.50, lighter two-year-olds, 750 to 850 lbs., brought from \$8.00 to \$8.65 and yearling steers from \$7.00 to \$7.50, with yearling and two-year-old heifers from \$6.25 to \$7.00. Veal is weaker selling from \$6.00 to \$7.50 with stocker cows \$4.00 to \$6.50.

Top prices on cattle a year ago, \$8.00. Hogs with a lighter run sold from \$20 to \$20.75 during the early portion of the week and \$20.40 on Friday. Top price on hogs a year ago, \$17.25. Choice wethers 11 cents, ewes \$9.00 to \$10.50 and lambs 10 cents. It looks as though we were up against a weaker beef market, especially on the light-weight cattle. One of the worst disappointments to the shippers is the returns on nice fat heifers weighing from 800 to 900 lbs. This class of cattle is practically unsaleable at anything over stocker price. We would advise all those who have good grass not to ship in steers weighing from 950 to \$1,050, even if they are good, as they will sell for stockers and would undoubtedly make money if held for a few weeks.

To Standardize Wages

T. W. Knowles, of Emerson, Man., chairman of the Manitoba Fair Wage Board, has addressed a circular letter to the Reeves of municipalities throughout the province, stating that a movement has been started in the four municipalities of Montclair, Morris, Franklin and Rhineland, to make a uniform standard wage for harvest and threshing men for the season of 1918. At a meeting of the Reeves and secretaries of these municipalities it was unanimously decided to make the wage for the season \$3.50 for harvesters and \$4.00 for threshers, this to be for good men; boys, old men and green hands to get less in proportion. The letter emphasizes the responsibility of the municipalities in the matter, and states that it is for them and not for the governments, Dominion or provincial, to take the initiative.

Grain Trade Questions

Separating Wheat from Oats

Q.—Is it a fact that the cleaners in the terminal elevators will not separate wheat and oats. I have been informed that this work cannot always be satisfactorily performed.

A.—There have been cases of mixtures of oats and wheat that it has been impossible to completely separate. Certain mixtures are composed of a type of grain that makes the perfect cleaning impossible. When the oats are short and plump no sieves used in the cleaners will remove the wheat without a certain proportion of oats following where about 800 bushels of oats have been taken out fairly clean, but the balance of the ear still left as mixed grain even after being put over the cleaners as many as four times. We know also of a case where about the same quantity of cleaned oats was removed from a carload and the balance loaded out with the expectation of getting a grade of Rejected No. 3 Northern wheat. It was No. 3 Northern wheat but it was considered that the oats which the cleaning process did not remove would cause it to grade Rejected. There was, however, more oats still in the grain than the grade of Rejected would stand and the inspector graded it as mixed grain. In this case also the mixture had gone over the cleaner several times in a hospital elevator at Port William.

The usual result of the cleaning process when the mixture is wheat and oats, is to produce Rejected, No. 2 Northern, or whatever grade the wheat may be and probably 3 C.W. or No. 2 Feed Oats. The wheat would grade Rejected on account of still containing some oats and the oats would be graded down on account of containing a sprinkling of wheat which it was impossible to remove.

It is seldom that a mixture can be so perfectly separated that both wheat and oats after cleaning would be straight grade stuff. Often even if it could be done the cost of continuing the cleaning process would make it prohibitive.

Pat was very down-hearted. He had just spent his savings to pay his passage over to this country from Ireland.

He was roaming idly about the docks on the river front in Montreal, when he chanced to see a diver climb up out of the water, take off his helmet, roll up his suit and walk away.

"Sure," said Pat, "if I had had sense enough I would have bought me a suit like that and walked over myself!"

An English, Irish and Scottish soldier were returning to camp after a stroll. They were footsore and tired, and a kindly farmer on his way home from market gave them a lift on the road.

The soldiers were very grateful and wished to reward the farmer for his kindness.

Said the Englishman: "Let's stand him a drink!"

"Sure," said Pat, "that is agin the law. Let's give him some baccy!"

"Hoot, ma laddies!" interjected the Scot. "Don't be extravagant. Let's shake hands with the mon and wish him good night."