Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets

Week Ending April 25.

Receipts and Market Tops.

Dominion Department of Agriculture, Live Stock Branch, Markets Intelligence Division

CATTLE

	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 25	Receipts Same Week 1917	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 18	Top Price Good Steers (1,000–1,200) Week Ending Apr. 25	Top Price Good Steers (1,000–1,200) Same Week 1917	Top Price Good Steers (1,000–1,200) Week Ending Apr. 18
Toronto (Union Stock Yards)	4,801	4,991	5,769	$14.50	$12.00	$13.25
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles)	733	706	788	13.00	11.35	13.25
Montreal (East End)	509	459	477	13.00	11.35	13.25
Winnipeg	1,784	2,047	1,406	15.00	11.20	14.00
Calgary	1,304	1,286	1,153	13.00	9.50	12.45
Edmonton	421	——	267	13.00	——	11.45

CALVES

	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 25	Receipts Same Week 1917	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 18	Top Price Good Calves Week Ending Apr. 25	Top Price Good Calves Same Week 1917	Top Price Good Calves Week Ending Apr. 18
Toronto (Union Stock Yards)	2,730	2,184	2,158	$16.00	$15.00	$16.50
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles)	2,313	2,960	3,083	12.50	11.50	12.00
Montreal (East End)	2,680	2,391	2,484	12.50	11.50	12.00
Winnipeg	63	65	63	16.00	13.50	15.00
Calgary	——	——	——	——	——	——
Edmonton	——	——	——	——	——	——

HOGS

	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 25	Receipts Same Week 1917	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 18	Top Price Selects Week Ending Apr. 25	Top Price Selects Same Week 1917	Top Price Selects Week Ending Apr. 18
Toronto (Union Stock Yards)	6,751	13,774	5,597	$20.25	$16.75	$20.50
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles)	998	1,495	1,274	21.00	17.35	21.00
Montreal (East End)	678	1,019	777	21.00	17.35	21.00
Winnipeg	3,888	3,924	4,406	19.50	16.50	19.75
Calgary	1,754	2,883	2,286	19.00	14.75	*21.10
Edmonton	305	——	642	19.35	——	*20.50

SHEEP

	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 25	Receipts Same Week 1917	Receipts Week Ending Apr. 18	Top Price Good Lambs Week Ending Apr. 25	Top Price Good Lambs Same Week 1917	Top Price Good Lambs Week Ending Apr. 18
Toronto (Union Stock Yards)	78	291	76	$21.50	$15.25	$21.00
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles)	15	48	28	17.00	15.25	†14.00
Montreal (East End)	29	65	25	17.00	15.25	†14.00
Winnipeg	8	6	8	18.00	——	——
Calgary	——	270	100	——	13.50	——
Edmonton	——	——	——	——	——	——

NOTE.—The total of the graded stock at each stock yard will vary from 1% to 5% of the actual receipts offered for sale. Any variations from this will be noted.

†Each.

*Off car weights.

Market Comments.

Toronto (Union Stock Yards).

Cattle receipts for the week totalled forty-nine hundred head. The quality was not as good as was in evidence in the run of the previous week, only a small number of heavy cattle being on sale, and the offering of exceptionally choice butcher cattle rather small. Prices, however, were the highest on record at the local yards, the demand being very keen throughout the week. Outside packers were operating, and several hundred cattle were bought for shipment to Montreal and Hamilton abattoirs, while five loads were shipped to the United States; two of these loads were for the butcher trade, and three were for feeding purposes. While feeding cattle went into the stables at high prices last autumn, the prices that have been paid during the past two weeks, should allow the farmer to dispose of his butcher cattle at a fair margin of profit, notwithstanding the high cost of feed during the winter months. The market opened on Monday under a very keen demand, and quotations ruled fully 25 cents per hundred higher than at the close of the previous week. By one o'clock, the thirty hundred head of cattle offered had nearly all gone over the scales. On Tuesday, prices were steady, with most of the good cattle being held for Wednesday's market, on which day demand was again very keen, and a further advance of 25 cents was noted, buyers taking the cattle at the drover's own prices. The market closed with a steady undertone on Thursday. Of the heavy cattle on sale, one load, of which the quality was only fairly good, sold at $14.25 per hundred, while a lot consisting of thirteen head sold at $14. Some exceptionally good sales of steers weighing from ten hundred to twelve hundred pounds were made on Wednesday, when four averaging eleven hundred and sixty pounds from Meaford Ontario, sold at $15 per hundred; fifteen head of about equal weight at $14.50; two or more loads at $14, while most of the sales, totalling several hundred head, were made from $12.75 to $13.75. Of steers and heifers weighing from seven hundred to one thousand pounds, five head averaging slightly under one thousand pounds, sold at $14, nine head at $13.75, and a straight load at $13.25; most of the offerings within these weights brought from $12 to $12.75, while medium butchers were weighed up from $10.50 to $11.50 per hundred. While steers and heifers are now selling from $1.50 to $2 per hundred higher than was the case six weeks ago, this advance does not apply to cows and bulls, in which classes the advances have been less marked, probably due, to some extent, to the decline in the price of hides. During the week, one choice cow sold at $12.25 per hundred; at $11.50; several at $11.25, while quite a number of sales were made from $10.50 to $11. Cows of medium quality brought from $8.50 to $9.50 per hundred. Bulls sold as high as $11.50 per hundred, while the range for choice bulls was from $10.50 to $11.25. Stockers and feeders did not move to the country as freely as during the previous week, the abattoirs absorbing everything of fair condition for the butcher trade, while farmers were a trifle uncertain as to the wisdom of putting cattle on the grass at present prices. Calf receipts were again heavy, and prices held fairly steady. Only choice veal calves of beef breeds sold above $16. The tops in the dairy breeds reached $15.25, while most of the good calves sold from $13 to $14.25, and common calves from $9 to $11.

Sheep and lambs totalled seventy head. Little change occurred in price since the previous week, when choice lambs sold up to $21, and choice light sheep at $15.50.

Hog prices held fairly steady at $20 per hundred for selects, fed and watered. On Monday and Tuesday, a few decks sold at $20.25, and, while buyers endeavored to reduce prices on Wednesday, the market remained fairly stationary at $20, and closed at this level on Thursday.

Of the disposition from the Yards for the week ending April 18, Canadian packing houses bought 917 calves, 93 bulls, 170 heavy steers, 4,053 butcher cattle, 5,484 hogs and 57 sheep. Local butchers purchased 866 calves, 369 butcher cattle, 345 hogs and 21 sheep. Canadian shipments were made up of 82 calves, 65 milch cows, 575 stockers, 187 feeders and 1 hog. Shipments to United States points consisted of 294 calves, 95 cattle and 22 feeders.

The total receipts from January 1 to April 18, inclusive, were 74,731 cattle, 15,542 calves, 120,876 hogs and 10,515 sheep; compared to 68,659 cattle, 15,156 calves, 161,893 hogs and 11,197 sheep received during the corresponding period of 1917.

Montreal.

Receipts of cattle and sheep were practically the same as during the previous week; there were four hundred less hogs and six hundred less calves. Nine hundred and fifty head, or about seventy-five per cent. of the cattle, were sold on Monday. Those sold during the balance of the week were principally common cows unfit for milkers. Prices were slightly higher on all grades of stock. The top price, $13.75 per hundred, was paid by a local butcher for two steers selected from a load. Six steers averaging twelve hundred and sixty pounds sold for $13.50 per hundred; another lot of fifteen head of the same weight, sold for $13, while eight head averaging two hundred pounds lighter or ten hundred and sixty each, also sold at $13. Twenty-four head, mixed steers and heifers, averaging nine hundred and thirty pounds, sold for $12.20 per hundred. Prices ranged from this down to $10.75, for common light steers. About sixty-five per cent. of the steers offered were of light weight, one thousand pounds or less, and not well finished; these sold from $11.25 to $11.75 per hundred. Cows were of fair quality on Monday, and sold from $10 to $12 per hundred for good fat cows. Those arriving later in the week were only of common quality, principally strippers, and sold from $7.75 to $9 per hundred. Good bulls sold about twenty-five cents per hundred higher than was the case during the previous two or three weeks, realizing $10.50 to $11. One young bull, showing good breeding, and fat, sold for $12 per hundred. Calves are falling off in numbers but are increasing in quality. One lot of fifty-two sold at $12.50 per hundred, while another lot of sixty-one from the same district, but very young and not fit to offer for sale, brought $10.50 per hundred. Straight carloads of one hundred and thirty to one hundred and forty calves per car, of good quality but of dairy breeds, sold for $11.50 to $11.75

Classification		TORONTO (Union Stock Yards) No.	Avge. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price	MONTREAL (Pt. St. Charles) No.	Avge. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price
Steers	heavy finished	69	$13.59	$13.00–$14.50	$15.00	——	——	——	——
Steers 1,000–1,200	good	468	12.94	12.25– 14.00	14.50	88	$12.85	$12.75–$13.00	$13.00
	common	29	11.25	10.75– 12.25	12.75	11	——	——	——
Steers 700–1,000	good	1,433	12.35	11.75– 13.00	13.75	86	11.90	11.70– 12.25	12.25
	common	346	10.68	10.00– 11.00	11.75	115	11.00	10.75– 11.25	11.50
Heifers	good	405	12.60	12.00– 13.50	14.25	18	12.00	11.50– 12.50	12.50
	fair	437	10.99	10.25– 11.50	11.50	37	10.50	10.25– 11.25	11.25
	common	4	9.56	9.50– 10.50	10.50	22	9.40	9.00– 10.00	10.00
Cows	good	178	10.24	9.75– 10.75	11.25	33	10.35	10.00– 11.50	11.50
	common	528	8.36	8.00– 9.00	9.50	178	8.30	8.00– 9.50	10.00
Bulls	good	65	10.06	9.75– 10.75	11.25	13	10.50	10.00– 12.00	12.00
	common	46	8.42	8.00– 9.00	10.25	46	8.50	7.50– 9.50	9.75
Canners & Cutters		132	6.76	6.25– 7.25	7.25	24	6.50	5.50– 7.00	7.00
Oxen		2	——	——	——	2	11.35	11.35–	11.35
Calves	veal	2,728	13.00	11.00– 14.00	16.00	2,315	11.25	11.00– 11.75	12.50
	grass	2	——	——	9.00	——	——	——	——
Stockers 450–800	good	188	10.13	9.50– 10.75	10.75	——	——	——	——
	fair	91	9.17	8.50– 9.50	10.00	——	——	——	——
Feeders 800–1,000	good	272	11.25	10.75– 11.50	11.50	——	——	——	——
	fair	108	10.33	10.00– 10.75	10.75	——	——	——	——
Hogs (fed and watered)	selects	6,458	20.03	19.75– 20.25	20.25	829	20.85	20.75– 21.00	21.00
	heavies	4	20.00	20.00–	20.00	——	——	——	——
	lights	74	18.50	18.00– 19.00	19.00	132	20.35	20.25– 20.50	20.50
	sows	206	18.50	18.00– 19.00	19.00	31	19.00	19.00–	19.00
	stags	9	16.00	16.00–	16.00	6	——	——	——
Lambs	good	33	20.72	19.50– 21.50	21.50	1	——	——	17.00
	common	——	——	——	——	5	——	——	——
Sheep	heavy	26	12.00	11.00– 13.00	13.00	——	——	——	——
	light	17	14.01	13.00– 15.50	15.50	9	12.75	12.00– 13.50	13.50
	common	2	——	——	9.00	——	——	——	——