

Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets

Week Ending March 4.

Receipts and Market Tops.

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

CATTLE							CALVES						
Receipts			Top Price Good Steers (1,000-1,200)				Receipts			Top Price Good Calves			
Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending		Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	
Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26		Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	
Toronto (U.S.Y.)	5,658	7,349	7,206	\$14.50	\$15.75	\$14.50	921	883	1,030	\$24.00	\$19.25	\$24.00	
Montreal (Pt. St. Chas.)	344	602	365	13.50		13.50	582	1,062	418	20.00	15.00	20.00	
Montreal (East End)	628	616	541	13.50		13.50	557	440	673	20.00	15.00	20.00	
Winnipeg	880	1,544	857	12.75	15.50	12.50	71	39	35	16.00	12.50	16.00	
Calgary	1,568	1,492	1,357	12.50	14.92	11.50	123		160	10.00	10.00	10.50	
Edmonton	635	530	547	12.00	13.50	12.00	57	43	52	12.00	11.00	12.00	

HOGS							SHEEP						
Receipts			Top Price Selects				Receipts			Top Price Good Lambs			
Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending		Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	Week Ending	Same Week	Week Ending	
Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26		Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	Mar. 4	1919	Feb. 26	
Toronto (U.S.Y.)	6,056	4,493	10,130	\$19.00	\$18.50	\$19.50	719	1,113	730	\$23.00	\$18.25	\$24.00	
Montreal (Pt. St. Chas.)	805	1,135	1,990	19.75	18.00	20.25	104	108	104	18.00	15.00	17.00	
Montreal (East End)	555	688	825	19.75	18.00	20.25	48	107	156	18.00	15.00	17.00	
Winnipeg	1,856	4,238	2,360	19.25	17.25	18.75	191	133	256	16.00		15.50	
Calgary	513	1,710	692	19.75	17.15	19.75	449	61	1,383	13.50	17.00		
Edmonton	863	585	710	19.00	16.75	18.65	109	194	11	10.00	15.00		

Market Comments.

Toronto (Union Stock Yards).

Barely ten hundred cattle were on sale on the Monday market, and under keen competitive bidding prices advanced 75 cents, and in some instances \$1, above the values prevailing during the previous week, all classes participating in the advance. On Tuesday the market was quiet but values were fairly well maintained. Trading was, however, easier on Wednesday when late arrivals brought the receipts up to twenty-six hundred head, and most of the sales were made at a shade easier prices. On Thursday, there were eight hundred cattle on sale, and buyers were indifferent, and refused to bid except at a substantial decline in values; and the market closed with a weak undertone at values 50 cents to 75 cents below Monday's quotations. Owing to the weak condition of the dressed meat trade, any large volume of cattle would have a tendency to send prices to lower levels. The week's offering included a few loads of heavy cattle which were readily absorbed at satisfactory prices, anything with weight and quality being taken at prices from \$13.50 to \$14.50, one steer of fourteen hundred and ten pounds selling at \$14.50 per hundred. A load averaging twelve hundred and fifty pounds moved at \$14.25 per hundred on Monday, while a better load of thirteen hundred pounds average sold on Wednesday at \$14.10, and another load of twelve hundred pounds at \$14. Most of the good quality steers in the ten-hundred to twelve-hundred-pound class sold from \$13 to \$13.75. Eight head averaging eleven hundred and fifty pounds sold at \$14, while twenty-five head of equal weight sold at \$13.40; medium quality went to the scales from \$11.75 to \$12.50. The handy-weight butcher class included a few baby beef steers and heifers, and these commanded a premium, \$15 per hundred being paid for six head that weighed from seven hundred to nine hundred pounds; other sales in this class included a load averaging nine hundred pounds at \$13, a load of eighteen head, of medium quality from \$9 to \$10.50, and common from \$7 to \$9. Cows and bulls moved in sympathy with other classes; extra good cows suitable for the Koshier trade were taken from \$11 to \$12, one cow of twelve hundred and forty pounds realizing the latter price. Most of the good cows moved from \$8 to \$10.75, and medium quality from \$10 to \$9.50. Best bulls sold from \$10 to \$11, and common from \$7 to \$9. The milch cow trade was featureless; few choice milkers were available with only an occasional sale up to \$165 per head, most of the transactions occurring at \$100 to \$135. The calf market was fairly active and prices more or less stationary all week; one or two extra choice calves sold at \$24, with good veal calves from \$20 to \$23, medium from \$15 to \$17.50, and common calves from \$11 to \$15.00.

With less than seven hundred sheep and lambs on sale, trading in this department was active and values firm. A pair of spring lambs of Dorset breeding and weighing sixty pounds each sold at \$24 per hundred; best yearling sold from \$20 to \$23.50, good sheep from \$10 to \$13.50, with a few sales at \$14 to \$15 per hundred.

TORONTO					MONTREAL (Pt. St. Charles)				
CLASSIFICATION	No.	Avg. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price	No.	Avg. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price	
heavy finished	184	\$14.00	\$13.00-\$14.25	\$14.50					
STEERS									
1,000-1,200 good	773	12.88	12.25-13.50	14.00	27	\$13.10	\$13.00-\$13.50	\$13.50	
common	6	10.75		12.50					
STEERS									
700-1,000 good	1,601	12.27	11.25-13.00	13.25	24	12.75	12.50-13.00	13.00	
common	426	9.93	8.50-10.50	11.00	51	11.50	10.50-12.00	12.00	
HEIFERS									
good	987	12.38	11.25-13.00	13.50	2				
fair	263	10.07	9.00-11.00	12.25	11	10.50	9.50-11.00	11.00	
common	13	8.25	7.50-9.00	11.00	44	8.75	8.00-9.25	9.25	
COWS									
good	146	10.20	9.50-11.00	11.50	23	11.00	10.50-11.50	11.50	
common	592	7.91	7.00-9.00	9.00	58	8.75	7.00-9.50	9.50	
BULLS									
good	69	9.85	9.50-10.50	11.00	3	11.00		12.00	
common	49	8.34	7.75-9.00	9.75	23	9.00	8.00-10.00	10.00	
CANNERS & CUTTERS	157	5.76	5.25-6.50	6.50	30	6.25	5.50-6.50	6.50	
OXEN									
CALVES									
veal	879	19.58	18.00-22.50	24.00	14	11.50	11.50-	11.50	
grass	42	10.00	9.00-11.00	11.00	550	17.75	17.00-18.00	20.00	
STOCKERS					32	8.50	8.50-	9.00	
450-800 good	234	9.65	9.00-10.00	10.00					
fair	34	8.71	8.00-9.50	9.50					
FEEDERS									
800-1,100 good	119	10.91	10.50-11.50	11.50					
fair									
HOGS									
(fed and watered)									
selects	5,440	18.93	18.50-19.00	19.00	634	19.40	19.25-	19.75	
lights	474	16.89	16.50-17.00	17.00	5				
sows	135	14.92	13.50-16.00	16.00	161	19.25	19.25-	19.75	
stags	7	13.33	11.50-15.00	15.00	3	15.40		15.75	
LAMBS									
good	445	21.61	19.00-23.00	23.50	3	17.75		18.00	
common	36	16.72	15.00-18.00	18.00	48	16.50		17.00	
SHEEP									
heavy	215	12.85	11.00-15.00	15.00	21	12.25	12.00-	13.00	
light	23	6.05	5.00-7.50	8.00	32	11.50	11.00-12.00	12.00	

Hog receipts were comparatively light and quotations were advanced. A few hogs sold on Monday as low as \$18.50 and \$18.75, fed and watered, but as this was out of line with the prices being paid for f.o.b. hogs for direct shipment, the fed and watered prices were subsequently advanced to \$19.00, and remained at this level for the balance of the week, while f.o.b. prices were \$18, with a carload or two at \$18.10. Light hogs were quoted at \$17, and sows from \$14 to \$16.

Of the disposition from the Yards for the week ending February 26, Canadian packing houses purchased 284 calves, 5,840 butcher cattle, 566 hogs and 462 lambs. Local butchers purchased 300 calves, 440 butcher cattle, 632 hogs and 200 lambs. Canadian shipments were made up of 13 calves, 104 milch cows, 8 bulls, 252 stockers and 147 feeders. Shipments to United States points consisted of 233 calves, 177 butcher cattle and 82 lambs.

The total receipts from January 1 to February 26, inclusive, were 43,904 cattle, 5,987 calves, 59,333 hogs and 12,843 sheep; compared with 55,033 cattle, 4,790 calves, 62,490 hogs and 21,988 sheep received during the corresponding period of 1919.

Montreal.

The total number of cattle for sale on the two markets during the week was

slightly over seven hundred head. One hundred of these were bulls that had been stall-fed at one of the markets by a local dealer, while two loads of steers came from the Winnipeg market. The bulls were sold at prices averaging about \$11 per hundred, and the best of the Winnipeg steers brought \$13. The highest price paid on the market throughout the week was \$13.50 for a pair of steers averaging eleven hundred and eighty pounds. On Saturday twenty-four cattle averaging nine hundred and ninety pounds were sold for \$13. A dozen head of young thin steers, averaging six hundred pounds, were sold for \$8.75, and the balance of the steers offered brought between \$10.50 and \$12.50 per hundred. Numbers of butcher cattle were weighed up in mixed lots containing bulls, cows, steers and heifers; the best of these lots brought \$11.25 and \$11.75 per hundred. There were no choice heifers. One fat heifer of dairy breeding, weighing nine hundred and twenty pounds brought \$12 and a few fat heifers were included in lots at \$11.25 and \$11.75, as were also the best bulls and cows offered. Medium heifers were sold up to \$11, and fair cows up to \$9.50. Canners were \$5.50, and everything better than a canner brought \$6.50 or more. The lowest price for bulls was about \$8. The market was most generally conceded to be 50 cents or better above that of the previous week. Among

the receipts at packers' sidings were eleven loads of cattle bought on the Toronto market, and one hundred and thirty-eight steers bought by one of the firms, in the county of Dundas; one hundred of these latter steers were bought at \$14.25 f.o.b., and the balance at \$13.25 f.o.b. There was a good demand for veal calves of quality. The percentage of young calves offered, made some lots hard to sell, as these calves cannot be killed in packing plants that are under Government inspection. During the war this regulation was not very rigidly enforced, but at present calves must be at least three weeks old and in fair condition. The young calves are being culled out and slaughtered at places other than packers. The Quebec laws, forbidding the slaughter of calves under three weeks old is being enforced, and it is becoming extremely difficult and unprofitable to handle calves under three weeks old, or thin, unhealthy calves of any age. Light calves were sold during the week for \$13 per hundred, fair calves from \$16 to \$17, and good milk-fed calves from \$18 to \$20. The most general price being around \$18.

There were one hundred and sixty-five sheep and lambs offered. The best lambs were weighed out at \$18, and odd sheep at \$12.50 and \$13. The general prices were \$11 to \$12 for sheep, and \$17 to \$18 for lambs.

Hogs totalled eleven hundred and