

FISH AND OYSTERS.

Fish day last week was declared a great success. One local dealer reports 175 orders from 7 to 9 a.m., and such a flood of orders during the morning that no more could be handled after twelve. It is generally considered that more business was done on Feb. 29 than on any previous day in the history of Canadian fisheries. This goes to show the value of advertising.

Owing to bad weather on the coast, and the prevailing congestion on the railways, supplies have been scarce. The demand for frozen fish has been as much as the wholesale trade could take care of. Orders from the country are pouring in, and it is feared that before long some of the principal lines will be exhausted, notably frozen haddock, frozen codfish and frozen tommy cods, also all kinds of frozen lake fish except whitefish. Frozen smelts, herrings, halibut and salmon are still in very good supply, and likely to be ample for all requirements. In the smoked and prepared lines, haddock will certainly give out before long, but bloaters and kippered herring are still plentiful. In pickled and salt lines the turnover has been large in green cod and Labrador herring. Of the latter, the demand has been so large that stocks are materially reduced, and prices have gone up.

With prospects of better weather conditions, reports indicate good supplies of fresh fish from the Atlantic seaboard, including haddock, cod, soles, and sea herring. New varieties of Atlantic sea foods are gradually becoming more favoured, such as skate, a luxury in England, but abundant in our coast waters. Small fish, such as small haddock, of a pound or pound and a half in weight, are generally preferred by the housekeeper, instead of the larger varieties cut up into steaks. Bulk and shell oysters are quiet, and with no new feature.

Current wholesale prices are quoted as follows:

Fresh:	
Haddock, per lb.	0.07
Market Codfish, per lb.	0.06
Steak Codfish, per lb.	0.08
Carp, per lb.	0.12
Smelts, medium, per lb.	0.12
Lobsters, live, per lb.	0.40
Lobsters, boiled, per lb.	0.42
Frozen:	
Salmon, Gaspe, large, per lb.	0.13 0.14
Do., Red—Steel Heads, per lb.	0.12 0.13
Do., Red Sockeyes, per lb.	0.10 0.10½
Do., Red Cohoes or Silvers, Round, per lb.	0.09½ 0.10
Salmon, Red—Cohoes or Silvers, Dressed and Headless, per lb.	0.10 0.10½
Salmon, Pale Qualla, dressed, per lb.	0.07½ 0.08
Halibut, large, per lb.	0.09 0.09½
Do., medium, per lb.	0.09½ 0.10
Do., Chicken, per lb.	0.08 0.08½
Mackerel, Bloater, per lb.	0.08½ 0.09
Herrings, medium, 60 lb. per 100 count ..	2.75
Smelts, Medium, per lb.	0.13
Tom cods	1.75
Whitefish	0.10½ 0.11
Dore	0.08½ 0.09
Pike	0.06 0.07
Oysters:	
Selects—Solid Meats—No Water.	
No. 5 Can—containing 5 wine gallons	8.00
No. 3 Can, containing 3 wine gallons	5.00
No. 1 Can, containing 1 wine gallon	1.75
Standards, Solid Meats—	
No. 5 Can, containing 5 wine gallons	7.50
No. 3 Can, containing 3 wine gallons	4.50
No. 1 Can, containing 1 wine gallon	1.50
Ordinary Bulk Oysters, Standards, per Imp. gallon	1.40
Ordinary Do., Selects, per Imp. gallon	1.70
Shell Oysters, Cape Cods in large barrels ..	9.00

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Owing to the recent cold weather there has not been any material change in this market. California oranges are about steady in price. The grape fruit market is stronger, and prices are expected to be about 50 cents a box higher. The apple market is stronger, with an advance of 50 cents per bbl. on all grades and varieties. Lemons are about the same price, without any prospects of an advance in this commodity. The price of bananas is lower, No. 1 selling from \$1.50 to \$1.75. Owing to the recent hurricane in Jamaica, shipments from that island have practically ceased for the present, as almost all of the standing trees were destroyed. This condition will exist until the end of May, when with the new growth of the "suckers" the damage will be overcome. Now that the spring is advancing the demand is expected to increase, and the prospects for the open season are that importations will be light and fruit scarce, and correspondingly high prices. This will correct itself as the season advances, and the Jamaica fruit comes in again.

The vegetable market has been fairly strong this week. In the domestic trade cabbages are scarce

and prices have gone up to \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bbl. Stocks of beets and parsnips are pretty well cleaned up. Good onions are very scarce, but the poorer grades are in good supply. Canadian Reds are selling at \$7.50 per crate per 100 lbs. As regards imported lines, the receipts of Florida tomatoes are heavier and prices have declined 50 to 75 cents a crate. California celery business is cleaning up, and is now selling at \$7.50 per crate. A car of cauliflower has been received on the market this week, of which crates of 1 doz. heads sold at \$3.50. The market on Cape Cod cranberries remains unchanged at \$12 to \$14 per bbl.

Apples:	
Starks ..	5.00
Spys ..	5.50
Ben davis ..	3.50
Russets ..	4.50
Baldwins ..	4.50
Bananas, bunches ..	2.00
Cranberries, Cape Cod, bbl.	12.00
Cranberries, Nova Scotia, bbl.	8.50
Grapefruit, 46-54-64-80-96 ..	3.25
Grapes, Malaga, heavy weight, bbl.	8.00
Lemons:	
California ..	3.00
Messina, 300 size, box ..	3.00
Oranges:	
Navel, Californias, 176-200-216 6 ..	3.50
126 ..	3.00
80-96 ..	2.50
Jamaica, 196-200-216 ..	2.50
Porto Rico, 126-150-250-286 ..	2.75
Pineapples, 18-24, and 30-36 ..	4.50
Strawberries, Florida, box ..	0.35
Vegetables:	
Artichokes, bag ..	1.50
Beets, bag ..	1.50
Beans, wax, N.Y., per basket ..	4.50
Beans, green, N.Y., per basket ..	4.50
Brussel sprouts, qt.	0.38
Cabbage, Montreal, per bbl.	1.50
Cabbage, red, dozen ..	0.40
Carrots, bag ..	0.75
Cauliflower, crate, singles ..	3.50
Cauliflower, Canadian, doz.	1.00
Celery, Florida, crate ..	2.75
Celery, Montreal, doz.	0.50
Celery, roots, doz.	0.50
Cucumbers, fancy, Boston, doz.	2.50
Egg plant, N.Y., doz.	2.00
Garlic, per lb.	0.20
Home radish ..	0.14
Leeks, bunch ..	0.30
Curly lettuce, box, doz.	2.50
Lettuce, Florida, head, hamper ..	3.50
Mint, dozen ..	0.60
Mushrooms, 4-lb. basket ..	2.50
Oyster plant, dozen ..	0.50
Onions:	
Reds, 100 lb. bags.	3.50
Spanish, case ..	6.00
Do., crates ..	1.50
Parsnips, bag ..	0.75
Parsley, Canadian, doz. bunches ..	0.60
Parsley, Bermuda ..	1.35
Potatoes:	
New Brunswick, 80 lbs., bag ..	2.00
Sweet, hamper ..	1.75
Spinach, New York, bbl.	3.00
Turnips, bag ..	1.00
Tomatoes, hothouse, lb.	0.30
Tomatoes, Cuban, crate ..	4.00
Watercress, Boston, hothouse, doz.	0.75
Do., Canadian ..	0.40

SUGAR PRICES ADVANCED.

Prices of refined sugar were advanced 20 cents per 100 lbs. by Canadian refiners last week, making a total advance of 30 cents per 100 lbs. during the past three weeks. For some time past the raw sugar market has been rising under pressure from New York on European account. Present refinery prices are as follows:

Extra granulated, bags 100 lbs.	\$6.90
Do., gunneries, 4-25 lbs.	6.95
do., gunneries, 5-20 lbs.	7.00
do., gunneries, 10-10 lbs.	7.05
do., cartons, 20-5 lbs., 50-2 lbs.	7.20
Beaver granulated, bags, 100 lbs.	6.95
Yellow, No. 1 light, bags 100 lbs.	6.50
do., golden, bags 100 lbs.	6.50
Dark, yellow, bags, 100 lbs.	6.30
Bright coffee, barrels ..	6.75
Cyrstal diamonds, barrels ..	7.50
do., boxes, 100 lbs.	7.60
do., boxes, 25 lbs.	7.90
do., cases, 20 cartons ..	8.55
do., cases, 40 half cartons ..	9.05
Cut bar, extra hard lumps, bbls.	7.50
do., boxes, 100 lbs.	7.60
do., boxes, 50 lbs.	7.70
do., boxes, 25 lbs.	7.90
Crystal Dominos, cases, 20 cartons ..	8.66
Extra ground and Diamond Icing, bbls.	7.25
boxes, 50 lbs.	7.45
do., 25 lbs.	7.45
Powdered, cases, 50-2 lb. cartons ..	9.10
Granulated and Yellow in barrels, ..	5c. over bags.

ENGLAND STOPS METAL TRADING.

The prohibition placed on speculation in war metals by the British Government has, according to dispatches from London, caused quite an uneasiness on the English market, brokers arguing that speculation in Great Britain is insignificant. The text of the order follows:

"It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or buy or to offer to sell or buy the following: Iron, steel, copper, zinc, brass, antimony, nickel, tungsten, molybdenum, ferro-alloys, or any other metal specified by the Ministry of Munitions as necessary for the production of any war material unless the metal is in the possession of the seller or in course of production for him, and, in the case of the buyer, unless the purchase is made for the actual consumers."

It is stated that the London Metal Exchange may close. In connection with the effect on the United States exchanges the New York Journal of Commerce says, in part:

"While England's announcement created widespread interest, metal factors here are of the opinion that no possible benefit can be derived from the prohibition and that no repressive effect on the metal situation will follow. It is pointed out that all of the important metals needed for the manufacture of munitions are controlled in this country, and that England's newest step to prevent further advances in prices cannot be effectual, in that when purchases must be made the prices asked by sellers here will be based on war conditions and its effect on supply and demand with disregard of any maximum that England has imposed or may impose on metals."

"The London metal market lost its importance as a governing factor on prices soon after the war began. While interests here watched fluctuations abroad, the price movements had only a sentimental effect. The creation of barriers against futures cannot induce a reaction here, as the American market has, even since the beginning of hostilities, created the price. The fact that the metal dealers at London will be permitted to sell spot metal means nothing, as stocks of copper, lead and spelter abroad have been so small as to enable the radical price fluctuations, due to speculation, that caused the Minister of Munitions to suppress further manipulation."

CHIEF BUTTER AND EGG RECEIPTS.

The following table shows the total receipts of butter, cheese and eggs in Montreal during the week ending March 4, with comparisons:

	Butter,	Cheese,	Eggs,
	pkgs.	boxes,	cases,
Week ended March 4, 1916	367	507	4,969
Week ended Feb. 26, 1916	399	91	5,380
Week ended March 5, 1915	819	41	7,822
Total receipts, May 1st, 1915,			
to date ..	397,910	1,995,816	546,331
Total receipts, corr. period			
last year ..	386,506	1,539,185	386,339

MONTREAL PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the principal commodities at Montreal for the past week follow:

Wheat, bushels ..	210,530
Oats, bushels ..	60,204
Barley, bushels ..	18,402
Flour, barrels ..	14,783
Eggs, cases ..	4,969
Butter, packages ..	367
Cheese, boxes ..	517
Potatoes, bags ..	4,817
Hay, bales ..	31,057

LIVERPOOL FOODSTUFFS.

The stocks of breadstuffs and provisions in store in Liverpool on March 1 were, as follows:

Wheat, 652,000 centals; corn, 1,376,000 centals; bacon, 31,600 boxes; hams, 10,200 boxes; shoulders, 3,900 boxes; butter, 6,200 cwt.; cheese, 31,700 boxes; lard, 5,600 tierces of prime western steam and 1,420 tons of other kinds.

LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE FOR MONTREAL.

At a large and representative gathering of the live stock trade of Montreal, held on March 4, it was decided to go ahead with the formation of the "Montreal Live Stock Exchange," on a similar basis to that of Toronto and other cities. The following officers were elected: President, Geo. C. Beall; first vice-president, Z. Senecal; second vice-president, Alfred Leduc; secretary, D. J. Tansey. Board of directors, Messrs. C. F. Mitchell, C. A. Dohan, E. Chapleau, I. Levinoff, F. Montreuil, U. Lauzon, Arthur Leduc, and John Taylor.