

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Ltd., February 19, 1916)

Wheat—Wheat prices appeared to hover around a certain point during the past week, and while there were fluctuations, there was not any decided bullish or bearish tendency. Strength in Liverpool was offset by steady selling in Chicago and Winnipeg markets by strong interests, and when prices declined sufficiently, export houses came along and bought enough to prevent the selling pressure causing any decided break. Latest reports from the winter wheat states show the damage to be less than formerly feared. However, the acreage under both winter and spring wheat will be much less than last year, and no doubt the yield in most districts will be smaller, and such prospects will surely influence prices, no matter how adequate present supplies appear.

Oats—Oat markets did not develop any special feature during the week. There were no wide fluctuations in prices and the volume of trading was moderate.

Barley—Barley markets remained practically the same as a week ago, with prices a little easier this week end.

Flax—Flax was not very active and trading was light. Heavy shipments are reported from the Argentine.

CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Week ending Feb. 18, 1916—			
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur Ter.	21,553,748	8,470,420	1,487,007
Depot Harbor	106,705		
In Vessels in Can.			
Ter. Harbors	2,373,386	2,771,820	
Total	27,889,129	12,242,283	1,859,702
At Buffalo and Duluth	5,171,113	818,815	114,851
Total this week	35,433,628	16,173,018	1,974,553
Total last week	37,588,662	16,372,957	1,945,807
Total last year	11,117,967	5,697,595	648,322

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Closing prices on the principal western markets on Saturday, Feb. 19, were—

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat	\$1.24	\$1.32
2 Nor. wheat	1.22	1.28
3 Nor. wheat	1.19	1.24
3 white oats	.41	.44
Barley	.57-.68	.67-.72
Flax, No. 1	2.09	2.38

— Futures —

Month	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
May wheat	1.26	1.26
July wheat	1.25	1.24

The Livestock Markets

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Hog prices were upheld today by the fact that the supply on sale was not so numerous as on the corresponding day last week. Cattle quotations were almost nominal. Most of the sheep and lambs had been consigned direct to killers.

South St. Paul, Feb. 19.—Volume of livestock trade here continues large for this season of the year. On the whole the week's selling basis for all sorts of stock was more favorable to growers and shippers than during the preceding week, notwithstanding occasional reverses. Last week's break in cattle prices curtailed movement of such stock to western markets generally, although locally supplies aggregated about the same amount of beef as during the previous week. General conditions were such as to put the seller on a firmer footing, however, and success attended his efforts to regain much of the ground forfeited earlier in the month.

Stock and feeder demand developed snap to a greater extent than during the preceding week, with the result that prices were advanced to a par with the best part of the preceding week, from which there had been a sharp slump. Some dwindling of the demand occurred towards the close, but at all times the more desirable finishing steers, yearlings and heifers sold without real difficulty.

Hog trade was somewhat erratic, but the price basis continued astride the \$8 mark. Heavy hogs sold late at \$7.95 to \$8.10, mixed sorts at \$7.75 to \$7.90, and light kinds at \$7.50 to \$8.00. Pigs sold near \$6.50. Receipts were heavy.

A very small percentage of the sheep and lamb supply was offered for sale here, most of the arrivals being on their way to feedlots. The market appeared healthy at all times and everything of both fat and feeder grade sold at the season's best price level.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—A fairly large run of cattle was received for the mid-week market, and they were well received. The new factor was the appearance of American buyers of short-keened feeders and a large proportion of 1,050 to 1,150 pound steers and heifers went over the border at \$7.25 to \$7.75 per hundredweight. These buyers went away wanting more, and it is not unlikely that they will be on the market again next week. This stiffened the whole market up, so otherwise the cattle would have gone over the sales as butchers. Butcher brands sold to packers and butchers at \$7.10 to \$7.50 for good to choice, with medium at \$6.50 to \$7.10. The ten-cent loss of an earlier day this week was recovered.

Prices of small meats remained steady at \$10.50 to \$12.75 for lamb and \$7.50 to \$9.00 for light sheep ewes, \$6.00 to \$7.50 for heavy and burks. Swine were unchanged at \$10.00 off cars, at \$10.00 fed and watered, and \$9.65 f.a.b. country points. Nearly 2,000 head were on the open market and were readily disposed of. Hogs continue to come to packers from the west, but not the number that came a year ago.

Calgary, Feb. 19.—The Livestock Department of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company Limited reports that last week's Alberta stockyards receipts were 245 horses, 502 cattle and 2,036 hogs. This week's receipts were 425 horses, 621 cattle, 2,464 hogs and 31 sheep. Outward shipments—7 cars of cattle to New

Westminster, 2 cars to Moose Jaw, 1 car to Vancouver and 1 mixed car; 5 cars of hogs to Moose Jaw, 5 cars to Montreal, 2 cars to Winnipeg, 1 car of hogs to North Edmonton, 1 car of hogs to Moose Jaw, 1 car of hogs to New Westminster.

Cattle and Hogs.—The feature of the market was the extraordinary slump in hogs—\$8.85 against \$9.45 last week. (This week a year ago \$6.85.) Eastern packers discontinued buying and owing to the inevitable drop in price men held back for the inevitable drop. We sold hogs on Tuesday at \$9.25 and took \$8.85 for our hogs today. We had for choice steers secured by us was \$7.20 for watered. Market was slightly weaker on P. Burns and Company not buying and the yards being full of cattle. We do not look for a strong market for either cattle or hogs next week.

Sheep.—Top yearlings, wethers and lambs, \$8.00 to \$8.50, ewes \$7.00.

Winnipeg, Feb. 21.—Receipts at the Union stockyards during the past week have been as follows: Cattle, 780; calves, 50; and hogs, 9,992.

Cattle trade generally is slow here. There is plenty of eastern beef on the market and although receipts have been small this has not had influence enough to stop falling prices. The feature of the latter part of the week is demand both from the south and from Western Canada for stockers weighing from 600 to 800 pounds. These must be of the good broody kind and there is at present an order for 5,000 of this type here.

The hog market has fallen off, trade is dull, offerings are often not cleared up readily from day to day and the tendency all thru is to lower values. The bidding is \$9.30 for select and prospects are for \$9.25 for the balance of the week. Sows range from \$7.25 to \$7.50, stags \$1.50 to \$5.00.

Sheep and lambs are not on sale here, but good killing sheep would sell well.

Country Produce

WINNIPEG PRODUCE.—Note: All prices quoted are f.o.b. Winnipeg unless otherwise stated.

Butter.—There is scarcely any change to report in the produce market this week, supplies do not vary to any extent and the demand just continues fair. Fancy dairy butter remains the same, at 24 to 26 cents per pound, No. 1 dairy is 24 to 25 cents and good round lots are 21 to 23 cents per pound.

Eggs.—Shipments of eggs are increasing. The quality on the whole is fair at present and new laid eggs this week are being bought by dealers at from 32 to 37 cents per dozen.

Potatoes.—There is not much likelihood of any change taking place in the potato situation until spring. This week dealers are paying the same, namely, 90 cents per bushel for potatoes.

Milk and Cream.—Sweet cream, delivered, is worth this week 40 cents per pound of butterfat. Sour cream, delivered, is worth 37 cents per pound of butterfat, and milk remains the same, at \$2.50 per hundred pounds.

Furs.—John Hallam Ltd., Toronto, reports that there is a slight falling off in receipts of raw furs, which is usual at this time of the year, owing to the heavy snows and difficulties of trapping during the severe weather. Prices paid still continue at a high level. Manufacturers have commenced to make inquiries and to line up supplies for next season's business, which according to the present outlook will be good, as furs were never more popular than they are today.

INSPECTIONS

Cars inspected at Winnipeg for the month ending January 31, 1916, were as follows—

	This Year	Last Year
Wheat	8,953	3,599
Oats	2,344	975
Barley	374	249
Flax	16	247
Screenings	49	15

Total 11,725 5,115
Winnipeg, Feb. 21.—There are 1,000 cars in sight for inspection.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

	May	July
Wheat		
February 15	126 1/2	127 1/2
February 16	128 1/2	127 1/2
February 17	127 1/2	126 1/2
February 18	128 1/2	127 1/2
February 19	126 1/2	125 1/2
February 21	124 1/2	123 1/2
Week ago	126 1/2	125 1/2
Year ago	154 1/2	154 1/2

	May	July
Oats		
February 15	46 1/2	45 1/2
February 16	47 1/2	45 1/2
February 17	46 1/2	44 1/2
February 18	46 1/2	45 1/2
February 19	45 1/2	44 1/2
February 21	44 1/2	43 1/2
Week ago	45 1/2	44 1/2
Year ago	62 1/2	62 1/2

	May	July
Flax		
February 15	215	216
February 16	215 1/2	217
February 17	214 1/2	215 1/2
February 18	215	216
February 19	214 1/2	217
February 21	213 1/2	216
Week ago	208 1/2	210
Year ago	165 1/2	167 1/2

No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 23
No. 3 western wheat, 2 cars, o.w.b.	1 14
No. 2 durum wheat, 1 car	1 22 1/2
No. 3 durum wheat, 1 car, mixed	1 20
No. 2 hard winter wheat, 2 cars	1 28 1/2
Sample grade mixed oats, 1 car	30
Sample grade corn, 1 car	25
Standard white oats, 1 car, Mont.	46 1/2
No. 3 white oats, 2 cars	45 1/2
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	45
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	44 1/2
No. 2 rye, 1 car	97
No. 3 rye, 1 car, dockage	95 1/2
No. 2 rye, 10,000, good	97
No. 2 rye, 1 car, f.o.b.	96 1/2
No. 1 feed barley, 2 cars	68
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car, wild oats	67
Sample barley, 2 cars	69 1/2
No. 4 barley, 1 car	69 1/2
No. 1 flax, 1 car, dockage	1 24 1/2
No. 2 flax, 2 cars	2 39 1/2

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

Fort William, Feb. 18, 1916—

	This Year	Last Year
1 hard	75,723 40	11,186 10
1 Nor.	10,028,357 30	671,050 00
2 Nor.	4,553,837 00	1,265,371 10
3 Nor.	2,967,183 00	1,221,989 10
No. 4	1,428,454 10	659,412 50
Others	2,520,193 00	873,478 10

GRAIN IN INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATORS

For the week ending Wednesday, February 16, grain movement in the interior terminal elevators was as follows—

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Calg.	Wheat	1,098,000	1,262,000	11,098,000
	Oats	4,218,000	1,682,000	97,721,000
	Barley	1,228,000	1,250,000	5,317,000
	Flax		1,510,000	75,080,000
Saskatoon	Wheat	145,881,200	179,725,200	1,414,569,100
	Oats	66,987,120	8,298,180	294,172,120
	Barley	4,882,400		20,978,110
	Flax	4,225,250	2,039,550	32,753,130

MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES

(Sample Market, Feb. 19)

No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	\$1.33 1/2
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1.35
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1.35 1/2
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.33
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.30
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.33
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.30
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.29
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.26 1/2
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 2 cars	1.27
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.29 1/2
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.22 1/2
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars, elevator	1.23 1/2
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.24
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.25
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.23 1/2
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	1.21 1/2

	This week	Last week	Decrease
21,553,748 20	22,219,104 10	5,004,717 30	665,355 50
1 C.W.	122,876 18	4,587 22	
2 C.W.	4,123,952 22	496,907 03	
3 C.W.	1,986,273 06	409,596 10	
Ex. 1 Fl.	588,149 26	216,427 11	
Others	1,649,167 29	867,163 06	

	This week	Last week	Decrease
8,470,420 02	8,407,611 17	1,942,396 27	
1 C.W.	782,921 34	1 N.W.C.	697,188 39
4 C.W.	411,436 46	2 C.W.	78,282 03
Rel.	86,820 06	3 C.W.	31,404 45
Feed	66,340 30	Others	29,279 54
Others	150,488 02		

	This week	Last week	Increase
1,487,007 22	1,431,502 23	824,870 04	
55,804 47		11,290 25	
262,614 39		834,843 51	

SHIPMENTS

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Flax
1916 (lake)	269,622.15	269,622.15	2,850.00	11,986.18
1915 (lake)	166,827.00	166,827.00	17,455.00	

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from February 15 to 21 inclusive

Date	WHEAT						OATS						BARLEY				FLAX			
	1*	2*	3*	4	5	6	Feed	2CW	3CW	Ex 1 Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	No. 3	No. 4	Rej.	Feed	1NW	2CW	3CW	Rej.
Feb. 15	124	121	118	111	107	104	96	43	41	41	39	38	68	63	57	57	209	204		
16	125	123	120	111	107	103	97	44	41	41	40	39	68	63	57	57	210	207		
17	123	121	119	109	104	101	96	43	41	41	39	38	68	63	57	57	209	206		
18	126	124	121	111	107	103	96	44	42	42	40	39	68	63	57	57	210	207		
19	124	122	119	115	109	106	97	43	41	41	39	38	68	62	57	57	209	206		
21	122	119	117	113	107	104	94	42	40	40	38	38	65	60	55	55	208	205		
Week ago	123	120	118	111	107	104	93	41	39	39	38	37	68	63	55	56	203	200		
Year ago	153	151	147	133	131	135		64	61	61			78	72	70	70	160	157		

THE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg		Toronto	Calgary	Chicago	St. Paul	COUNTRY PRODUCE		Winnipeg	Calgary	Saskatoon	Regina	Brandon
	Feb. 21	Year Ago	Feb. 16	Feb. 19	Feb. 19	Feb. 19	Feb. 21	Year Ago	Feb. 11	Jan. 22	Feb. 16	Feb. 16	
Cattle	\$ 0 - 0 - 0	\$ 7.5 - 7.00	\$ 7.5 - 8.15	\$ 7.00 - 7.25	\$ 6.50 - 7.00	\$ 7.00 - 8.75	Butter (per lb.)						
Choice steers		7.00-7.25	6.60-6.60	7.50-7.75	6.25-6.25	6.70-8.15	Fancy dairy	24-26	24	33		30	30
Best butcher steers and heifers													