

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, May 7, 1917.

Last week was another very eventful one in the history of the grain trade of Western Canada. The form of censorship instituted on the previous Saturday appeared at first to be the correct remedy for the local market troubles, but on Wednesday there were further developments which indicated clearly that speculation was not the source of trouble. Matters became steadily worse until Thursday when May futures advanced to \$1.05. The council of the Grain Exchange therefore decided to suspend facilities for trading in May and July wheat, and so informed the members before the opening on Friday. Their inquiries showed that the trouble was caused by hedging of low grades of wheat by selling May and July futures, which called for the delivery of the first three grades. It was therefore necessary to negotiate with the buying agents of the British and allied governments, who were holders of most of the May and July futures, with a view to arrange a basis on which they would accept some of the lower grades in exchange for May and July hedges. This has been finally done, and firms who found it necessary to suspend buying operations in the country will not find it possible to resume business in the regular way.

Navigation was officially declared open on April 30, on the arrival of the first boat at Fort William from the Don. Later it was found necessary to advance the date five days, and up to the present ice conditions are preventing the movement of boats, many of which have suffered serious damage in the ice-bergs. This re-acts against the movement of grain from country elevators and accentuates the troubles in regard to making deliveries on May contracts.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

Wheat—	May	July	Oct.
May 1	254	259	184
May 2	280	250	190
May 3	294	266	184
May 4	294	266	184
May 5			193
May 6			194
May 7			194
Week ago	268	249	192
Year ago	117	118	115

MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES

Sample Market, May 4	
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	\$2.95
No. 2 hard wheat, 1 car	2.91
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 2 cars	1.90
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.89
No. 1 Nor. wheat, part car	2.82
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2.79
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2.81
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2.73
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2.72
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2.80
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.72
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.71
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.75
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.55
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.62
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2.62
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, G.N.	2.62
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	2.00
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1.91
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	2.22
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1.55
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	2.20
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	2.50
No. 4 wheat, 2 cars	2.62
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	2.47
No. 4 wheat, 2 cars	2.47
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	2.47
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	2.53

No. 4 wheat, part car	2.37
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	2.34
No. 4 white oats, 3 cars	70
No. 3 white oats, 4 cars	65
Mixed grade oats, 2 cars	70
No. 3 white oats, part car	70
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	70
No. 4 white oats, part car	70
No. 6 barley, part car	1.32
Sample barley, 1 car	1.25
Sample barley, 1 car	1.35
Sample barley, 1 car	1.43
Sample barley, 2 cars	1.52
Sample barley, part car	1.50
No. 6 barley, 1 car, B.H.	1.30
No. 6 barley, part car	1.25
No. 6 barley, 2 cars	1.40
No. 4 barley, part car	1.50
No. 1 flax, 1 car	3.32
No. 1 flax, part car	3.31
No. 1 flax, part car	3.29
No. 1 flax, 1 car	3.31
No. 1 flax, 1 car, dockage	3.36
No. 1 flax, part car	3.32

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Ele- vator	Grain	Rec'd dur- ing week	Ship'd dur- ing week	Now in store
James	Wheat	106,245.20	108,802.10	2,556,706.30
"	Oats	15,514.04	15,350.01	743,606.19
"	Barley	2,227.04	500.00	24,158.19
"	Flax	1,216.44		108,918.03
Saskatoon	Wheat	353,212.10	178,721.00	1,637,718.10
"	Oats	60,158.00	132,058.04	409,829.02
"	Barley	2,664.28	1,239.28	35,176.19
"	Flax	26,481.42	1,071.24	225,588.18

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

Fort William, April 27, 1917.	This Year	Last Year
1 hard	15,007.20	65,794.50
1 Nor.	2,095,306.10	6,137,711.00
2 Nor.	3,636,589.40	3,775,972.30
3 Nor.	3,909,241.00	2,648,067.20
No. 4	3,449,814.20	1,552,963.50
Others	9,862,970.10	3,137,892.00
This week	23,271,879.40	This week 17,321,421.30
Last week	23,176,490.40	Last week 27,193,999.40

Winnipeg	Year Ago	Toronto	Calgary	Chicago	St. Paul
May 5	May 4	May 4	May 5	May 5	May 5
Cattle	11.00-11.75	11.50-12.00	10.25-11.00	10.00-13.50	10.50-11.50
Choice steers	10.25-10.75	7.90-8.25	10.25-11.25	9.25-10.00	9.50-10.50
Best butcher steers	7.50-10.00	7.00-7.75	8.75-10.25	8.50-9.25	8.00-9.50
Fair to good butcher steers	6.50-10.00	6.25-7.00	9.50-10.25	7.50-8.00	10.00-11.50
Good to choice fat cows	6.50-8.00	5.25-6.00	8.25-9.00	6.50-7.25	7.50-8.50
Medium to good cows	4.25-6.00	4.00-5.00	6.50-7.50	5.25-6.75	6.50-7.25
Common cows	3.75-4.25	2.50-3.75	5.25-7.75	4.25-6.75	5.00-6.50
Canners	9.50-11.00	6.75-7.50	8.25-10.50	9.50-11.75	8.50-10.00
Good to choice heifers	6.00-9.00	5.75-6.50	8.00-9.50	7.00-8.25	6.50-9.50
Fair to good heifers	5.50-9.50	5.50-6.25	6.75-7.25	6.75-7.25	7.00-8.50
Best cows	7.50-9.50	5.50-6.50	9.75-10.50	7.50-8.50	7.75-9.50
Best butcher heifers	5.50-7.00	4.50-5.25	6.50-8.00	7.00-8.25	7.00-7.75
Common to bullock heifers	6.50-8.25	6.75-7.25	9.25-10.25	7.50-7.75	9.50-10.00
Fair to good feeder steers	6.50-7.75	6.00-7.00	7.25-8.50	7.25-7.75	8.50-9.75
Best milkers and springers					
(each)	\$75-\$100	\$65-\$90	\$70-\$95	\$95-\$100	\$90-\$100
Fair milkers and springers					
(each)	\$50-\$65	\$45-\$55	\$50-\$70	\$70-\$75	\$50-\$70

Winnipeg	Year Ago	Toronto	Calgary	Chicago	St. Paul
May 5	May 4	May 4	May 5	May 5	May 5
Choice hogs, fed and	\$10.00	\$11.00	17.00	\$15.50	15.00-15.40
Light hogs	13.00-14.50	8.75-9.25	16.50		14.00-15.25
Heavy hogs	9.00-10.00	8.25-8.75	\$14.00		8.00-8.25
Stags	6.00-8.00	6.00-7.50	\$12.00		

Winnipeg	Year Ago	Toronto	Calgary	Regina	Saskatoon
May 7	Year Ago	May 4	May 5	May 5	May 5
Butter (per lb.)	25c	22c-24c	25c-30c	25c-30c	25c
Eggs (per doz.)	34c	19c-20c	30c-40c	30c	42c
New laid					25c
Potatoes	\$1.25	90c-70c		\$1.25	\$1.25
In sacks, per bushel					90c-\$1.10
Milk and Cream					
Sweet cream (per lb. fat)	40c	25c			
Cream for butter-making	40c-45c	30c-35c			
(per lb. butter-fat)					
Decreased Poultry					
Spring chickens	17c	15c-14c	15c	20c-25c	15c
Ducks	20c	14c		15c-20c	
Geese	20c	14c		15c	
Turkeys	25c	14c	20c-25c	25c	25c
Hay (per ton)			No. 1's	No. 1's	
No. 2 Eastern	\$12	\$13-\$15	\$15-\$15	\$17-\$15	
No. 2 Timothy		\$12-\$14			
No. 2 Midland					

The Livestock Markets

Chicago, May 8.—A large percentage of the cattle run is immature, having been forced out by the advancing cost of corn. Not many cattle are good enough to bring bids above \$12.25. Prices from \$10.75 to \$12.00 are being the most of them. There are few fat cattle on other markets than Chicago and the condition of last week's run was the best in the history of that market at this season of the year. Low grade cows and

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat		\$2.54-2.56
2 Nor. wheat		2.77-2.80
No. 3 wheat		2.65-2.80
3 white oats	77	69-70
Barley	120-127	1.15-1.54
Flax No. 1	3.13	3.27-3.32
Futures—		
May wheat		2.70
July wheat		2.35

bulls are bringing higher prices than ever before known in market history. \$9.25 is a common price for hogs in bulk to make sausage. Feeder steers are selling at big prices, stock from \$30 to \$100 pounds going out at \$10.00 to \$10.50. One consignment of hogs and cattle from the feed lots of Charles Saunders, South Dakota, totaled 23 cars and brought \$53,915 in Chicago last Monday.

\$13.50 to \$15.00 is taking the bulk of hogs. An unusual situation has developed, in that some feeders are hauling hogs at the stockyards on corn at \$2.00 per bushel and turning them off at times of sharp advances. There seems every prospect that hog prices here will touch considerably higher levels.

South St. Paul, May 4.—Steers and female stock are rated generally a quarter lower for the week. Canners and cutters 15 to 25 cents down, with bulls 10 to 15 cents down. Receipts of cattle for the first five days of this week total 10,100 head.

A big run of calves total 4,800. 27,000 more cattle showed up at nine chief American markets the first five days this week than in the corresponding time last week. A little less than two carloads of 1,345 pound steers brought \$11.50, the best transaction of the week. One half dozen loads of prime hogs brought \$13.35, 5 cents better than yesterday's top. Nine American markets showed a gain of 35,000 hogs for this week over last week.

Winnipeg, May 4.—The Livestock Department of The Grain Growers' Grain Co. reports receipts at the Union stockyards for last week as follows: Cattle, 2,420; calves, 180; sheep and lambs, 31; hogs, 4,420.

Receipts of cattle continue to be fairly liberal and the quality pretty good. We are getting a fair proportion of finished stall fed cattle, for which there is a good demand at strong prices. Tuesday of this week two cars choice fed steers sold for \$11.75, which has been the highest price paid so far for carload lots, although small lots have sold up to \$11.50 and \$11.00. We still look for the real choice cattle to sell higher. Choice heifers are quotable up to \$11.00, with choice fat cows up to \$10.00. Trade on medium grades is proportionately high. Oxen and bulls are wanted at prices shown below. Stocker and feeder trade remains about the same, although the country demand has slackened off the last few days. The trade on good condition springing cows is good at prices quoted below. Receipts of calves are very light. Choice calves weighing 125 to 300 lbs. bring \$4.00 to \$10.00, common to fair \$3.00 to \$7.00.

Practically no sheep or lambs are coming to market. There would be a good market for any that come.

The hog market closed strong the end of last week with select selling at \$10.00 fed and watered. Trade opened Monday of this week at \$16.00, holding steady all week at this figure, but closing with a weaker feeling. The Eastern hog markets have been considerably stronger the past week, and our market has strengthened in sympathy with them.

Calgary, May 4.—The Livestock Department of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. reports this week's Alberta stockyard receipts as follows: Horses, 980; cattle, 1,213; hogs, 2,492; sheep, 187; and this week a year ago: Horses, 327; cattle, 632; hogs, 1,829; sheep, 403.

No top beyond \$11.00 was registered on steers. We sold three steers at this price and several lots of fat cattle at from \$10.40 to \$10.80. Other grades have bettered steers at from \$8.00 to \$10.00. There was a good demand for rough fat cattle this week and fat bulls and cutters and canners made new record, stocker trade was slow.

We sold all our hogs at \$15.75 with C.P.R. freight allowances this week. The market was even and held steady. We advise shippers of cattle and hogs to phone on next week before shipping as last wire from Winnipeg reports weaker market.

No arrivals of fat sheep. We sold 25 per cent. of the cattle and 20 per cent. of the hogs marketed. Altogether we handled 103 cattle, 1,437 hogs at Calgary this week.

WOOL MARKET
The Broomfield Gazette of May 3 says: "Wool values are gradually advancing. Nothing has sold at shearing stations around Chicago for less than 50 cents and most of the clip are held at 55. One Boston firm bought a large Utah clip last week at 50 cents and the American Woolen Company made a heavy purchase in Montana at the same figure. New Arizona wools have sold on a clean basis of \$1.25 to \$1.30. No military business has developed, but mills are busy with civilian orders."

The Commercial Bulletin of Boston recently said: "In Wyoming buying has been lively at 40 to 45 cents and in Utah 50 cents has been paid for one medium clip estimated to shrink about 45 per cent. Probably 90 per cent. of the clip of the country west of the Mississippi River has been contracted or purchased and some operators think even more. In California the season is well on toward a close and in Utah and Nevada there is comparatively little left, while Montana is doubtless more than half contracted."

WINNIPEG HORSES
Good fat horses from 1400 lbs. up are selling in Winnipeg at \$200 to \$250, and good farm horses at \$175 to \$225. Farmington now draft horses are practically not available. They are picked up by country buyers at about 100 prices as good sound horses could be bought for.

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from May 1 to May 7 inclusive

Date	1"	2"	3"	4"	5"	6"	Feed	1CW	4CW	1F	1F	1F	2F	No. 2	No. 4	Reg.	Feed	1CW	2CW	3CW	Reg.
May 1	255	271	245			174		70	70	70	68		122		100	100	300	200	204		
"	252	277	272	240	208	175	127	72	72	71	70		121		100	100	304	201	206		
"	251	281	280	284	208	175	127	74	77	77	74		121		100	100	312	200	206		
"						180	127	74	74	74			121	115	100	100	311	204	205		
"						140	74	74					127	122	100	100	310	204	207		
"						140	74	74					127	122	100	100	310	204	207		
Week ago	270	264	264			184	140	72	71	71	70		125		100	100	304	200	207		
Year ago	117	114	111	107	94	92	84	44	45	45	44	43	46	41	37	37	148	145			