

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

Dun's Bulletin says of Montreal trade: Between the Easter holidays, the feast of Passover, closely observed by our numerous Hebrew citizens, and a hot civic election on the 2nd inst., attention has been considerably diverted from business, and there is comparatively little new to report since last writing. General trade conditions, however, continue of a healthy character, and complaints regarding payments are notable only by their absence.

Dry goods orders, both from travellers and by letter, are still coming in in goodly volume. Cotton prices keep firming up. The Wabasso Co. has this week advanced its special makes of lawns and other fine lines 10 per cent, and other mills are reported sold a year ahead in a good many lines.

Fur travellers are now starting out with regular samples, and are expecting to do a large business despite constantly advancing prices. American shippers of raw furs are said to have been realizing very high figures on consignments to London, notwithstanding war conditions. It is reported black muskrats have sold as high as \$2.50. The fur for summer furs will, it is said, be accentuated this season.

The movement in groceries is up to the average, and no recent changes are reported in leading staples. There is a possibility that there may be some firming up in canned goods. The American Government has commandeered all stocks of canned fruits and vegetables, and Canadian packers are apparently anticipating some orders from across the border. In confirmation of last week's remarks about salmon, it is now definitely reported that sales of 1918 pack of cohoes have actually been made on the Coast at \$4.00 a dozen, unlabelled and unwrapped. The maple sugar season is proving a short one and new maple syrup is retailing as high as \$2.50 a gallon.

In the shoe and leather trade, conditions are unchanged, the actual volume of business being light. Six district failures are reported for the week, with liabilities of \$58,000.

Bradstreet's Montreal Weekly Trade Report says: Weather conditions during the past week have been ideal. So many holidays during the past few days have more or less upset routine business. Advices from the Western districts report that seeding has commenced, and is more general all over the provinces.

In Quebec snow still covers the ground in most districts. Stocks of butter show a decrease of over 13,000 packages as compared with a month ago. The estimated stocks of cheese held in Montreal is 6,000 boxes less than what was in store last month. Maple syrup and sugar are arriving in more liberal quantities, prices are considerably higher than those previously at the opening of the season a year ago. Potatoes are selling at much lower prices, in a wholesale jobbing way.

Owing to the numerous restrictions between Canada and the United States, travel for the Easter holidays between the two countries was greatly curtailed. It is expected that the daylight saving bill will become effective in this country about the middle of the month. In the meantime all trains to and from the United States are stalled for an hour at the border line.

The volume of orders taken by the paint trade exceed last year's big record, notwithstanding the fact that prices are all higher. The demand for leather for Government requirements has considerably fallen off, and prices rule lower. This has had an effect on the hide market, which rules quiet at lower values.

American consuls in Canada have been notified that after April 15th the admission of a number of articles to the United States will be refused, unless under special license. Amongst the principal articles are the following: Agricultural implements, live animals, all breadstuffs (except wheat, wheat flour), eggs, fresh meats, nickel, oilcake, fruits, vegetables, nuts, honey, hay, hops, etc.

Collections have been upset by the holidays. Retail trade has been very good.

PROVISIONS.

Live hogs are scarce and receipts continue light, and as a consequence the prices of all lines of provisions was light owing to the fact that dealers have sufficient supplies on hand.

We quote wholesale prices as follows:—

Abattoir killed	29.00	30.00
Hogs, live	22.50	23.00
Hams:—		
Medium, per lb.	0.33½	0.34½
Large, per lb.	0.30½	0.31
Backs:—		
Plain, per lb.	0.41½	0.42½
Boneless, per lb.	0.44½	0.45½
Bacon:—		
Breakfast, per lb.	0.40½	0.42½
Roll, per lb.	0.32½	0.33½
Dry Salt Meats:—		
Long Clear Bacon (ton lots), per lb.	0.27	0.29
Do. (small lots), per lb.	0.28½	0.29
Cooked Meats:—		
Hams, boiled, per lb.	0.47	
¼ Do., roast, per lb.	0.47	
Shoulders, boiled, per lb.	0.40	
Do., roast, per lb.	0.46	
Shoulders, boiled, per lb.	0.40½	
Do., roast, per lb.	0.42	
Lard:—		
Tierces, per lb.	0.31	
Tubs, per lb.	0.31½	
Pails	0.31½	
Cartons, per lb.	0.32½	

LIVESTOCK.

MONTREAL: The offerings at Montreal's two markets for the week ending April 6th amounted to 550 cattle, 55 sheep and lambs, 2,950 calves and 1,950 hogs. The market for all grades of livestock was very quiet last week, and while offerings were unusually small they were sufficient to meet all requirements. The offerings of calves were fairly large, and the market for them became easy.

We quote the following prices:

Steers, per 100 lbs.—		
Choice	\$12.75	\$13.25
Good	12.25	12.50
Fairly good	11.75	12.00
Fair	11.25	11.50
Light steers	10.75	11.00
Common	10.00	10.50
Butchers' bulls—		
Choice	11.75	12.00
Good	11.25	11.50
Medium	10.75	11.00
Common	9.50	10.00
Butchers' cows—		
Choice heavy	11.50	11.75
Good	11.00	11.25
Medium	10.50	10.75
Light weights	10.00	10.25
Common	9.00	9.50
Canners' cattle—		
Bulls	6.00	6.50
Cows	5.00	5.50
Sheep, per 100 lbs.—		
Ewes	0.00	12.00
Bucks and culls	11.00	11.50
Ontario lambs	0.00	16.00
Quebec lambs	0.00	15.00
Calves, per 100 lbs.—		
Good milk-fed stock	11.00	12.00
Good	9.00	10.00
Fair	8.00	9.00
Common	5.00	7.00
Hogs, per 100 lbs.—		
Selected lots	21.50	22.00
Sows	21.00	21.25
Stags	17.00	18.00

We quote the following prices for livestock at the Toronto markets:

Heavy steers, choice	\$12.25	\$12.90
Do., good	11.25	11.75
Baby heaves	12.50	13.50
Butchers' steers and heifers, choice	11.50	12.25
Do., good	11.00	11.50
Do., medium	10.25	10.60
Do., common	8.75	9.75
Butchers' cows, choice	9.75	10.50

Do., good	9.00	9.50
Do., medium	8.00	8.75
Do., common	6.75	7.50
Do., canners	6.00	6.25
Butchers' bulls, choice	10.25	10.75
Do., good	9.25	9.75
Do., medium	8.50	9.00
Do., common	7.75	8.25
Feeders, best	9.50	10.50
Stockers, best	9.00	9.50
Grass cows	7.00	7.75
Milkers and springers, choice	100.00	135.00
Do., common to medium	65.00	90.00
Calves, choice	16.50	17.00
Do., medium	14.00	15.00
Do., common	8.00	10.00
Heavy fat	10.00	12.00
Lambs, choice	19.50	20.85
Sheep, choice handy	18.00	14.50
Do., heavy and fat bucks	11.50	12.75
Hogs, fed and watered	21.00	00.00
Do., off cars	21.25	00.00
Do., f.o.b.	19.75	20.00
Less \$1 to \$2 on light or thin hogs; less \$3 to \$3.50 on sows; less \$4 on stags; less 50c to \$1 on heavies.		

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending April 6th, 1918, were 703 packages, which show a decrease of 209 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 1,290 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st, 1917, to date show a decrease of 146,716 packages as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. A shortage of supplies and an increased demand led to the development of a strong tone in the market for butter last week, and prices showed an increase of a cent a pound compared with those of the previous week.

We quote the following prices:

Finest Sept. and Oct. creamery	0.50	0.51½
Fine Sept. and Oct. creamery	0.49	0.49½
Finest dairy	0.43	0.44
Fine dairy	0.41½	0.42½
Margarine:—		
Prints	0.29½	0.34
Bulk	0.31
Cottonseed (Shortening):		
Tierces, per lb.	0.26	
Tubs, per lb.	0.26½	
Pails, per lb.	0.26½	
Cartons	0.28	

CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending April 6th, 1918, were 6,325 boxes, which show an increase of 4,442 boxes, as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 4,554 boxes, with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st, 1917, to date, show a decrease of 423,558 boxes as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The trade in cheese for domestic account was very quiet during the week, but as supplies on spot were small, prices are being firmly maintained.

The Commission is paying the following prices:

No. 1 cheese	21½c
No. 2 cheese	21¼c
No. 3 cheese	20¾c

EGGS.

The receipts for the week ending April 6th, 1918, were 8,976 cases as compared with 9,179 for the previous week, and 12,943 for the same week last year. The total receipts from May 1st, 1917, to date were 354,848 cases, as against 688,980 for the corresponding period a year ago. The increased supply of eggs due to the favorable weather last week led to the development of an easier tone in the egg market, and a decrease in prices. Sales of fresh gathered stock were made at 44c. per dozen.

We quote wholesale prices as follows:

Strictly new laid eggs	0.44	0.45
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POULTRY.

The supplies of live and fresh killed poultry were very light, and as the demand was good prices for all grades scored an increase.

We quote wholesale prices as follows:

Turkeys, per lb.	0.33	0.40
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