

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

Office of United Grain Growers Limited, October 15, 1917

Probably the most important events in the grain trade of Canada during the last two weeks have been those in connection with the strike of terminal elevator operators at Fort William. The strike lasted almost a week and was terminated only by government intervention. The Dominion government appointed a representative to dictate to both the operators and laborers. This arrangement to last until three months after the termination of the war. Since the elevators resumed operation they have been working at full capacity and have managed to clear away the large number of cars accumulated during the week of idleness. Embargoes have been lifted and the daily receipts of cars is growing rapidly. There is much uncertainty in regard to the price of wheat as fixed by the Board of Supervisors. Grain firms who had accumulated a lot of wheat in country elevators naturally asked for a guarantee that they would be able to sell this wheat at the fixed price. So far this guarantee has not been forthcoming from the Canadian government, who have apparently not been able to get such guarantee from the British and Allied governments. Meanwhile, there is no protection on purchases made in the country.

In the oats market prices have been working lower both here and in the American markets. Lately dealers have been able to make some sales in the east, but receipts are increasing and exporters state that our prices are still out of line. Many districts report a shortage of feed oats and also seed oats. In this connection it should be noted that the seed grain rate will become effective on November 1, enabling farmers to make early provision to secure seed oats.

There has not been much change in barley prices, moderate offerings being absorbed without much depression of prices.

Flax prices have worked steadily lower, with prospects of a bumper crop nearing maturity in the Argentine and a rather poor demand for oil. The slow movement of flax here is apparently not a serious bull factor at present.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

Date	October					Week Ago	Year Ago
	9	10	11	12	13		
Oct. 67	66	66	66	66	65	67	52
Dec. 66	65	63	65	63	63	64	51

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, October 10, was as follows:

Elevator	Grain	Rece'd during week		Ship'd during week		Now in store
		Wheat	Oats	Wheat	Oats	
Calgary	Wheat	5,645.00				12,501.00
	Oats	3,850.00		2,038.00		1,060.00
	Barley					109.00
	Flax					516.00
Moore	Wheat	100,590.20	67,688.50			114,600.10
	Oats	11,085.00	3,500.00			26,505.10
	Barley					641.32
	Flax					79.10

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

This Year	Last Year	
	Oct. 12, 1917	Oct. 12, 1916
1 hard	165,800 40	12,472 40
1 Nor.	1,699,269 40	1,918,772 30
2 Nor.	1,063,212 10	1,672,529 30
3 Nor.	547,124 30	1,429,051 40
No. 4	146,828 40	851,040 20
Others	666,824 30	2,539,176 10
This week	4,309,063 50	8,423,021 50
Last week	3,432,440 40	6,863,248 10
Increase	876,649 10	1,559,773 40
Oats		
1 C.W.	4,425 20	47,356 06
2 C.W.	1,241,214 03	1,154,057 32
3 C.W.	417,685 09	610,914 08
Ex. 1 ft.	490,894 02	119,794 11
Others	674,543 40	662,383 20
This week	2,818,762 06	2,549,596 09
Last week	2,568,925 09	2,141,350 29
Increase	250,736 31	453,155 14

Date	Barley		Flaxseed	
	3 C.W.	1 N.W.C.	1 N.W.C.	1 N.W.C.
Oct. 11	2,560 40	116,853 06	34,261 17	3,514 15
Oct. 4	195,072 40	34,261 17	3,514 15	44,671 14
Oct. 1	153,138 04	3,514 15	44,671 14	
Oct. 28	88,512 15			
Oct. 21	122,963 48			

Date	Wheat		Oats		Barley	
	1916-Lake	1917-Lake	1916-Lake	1917-Lake	1916-Lake	1917-Lake
Oct. 11	6,183,924 40	3,556,695 50	48,706 04	685,445 10	262,339 12	101,013 16
Oct. 4	48,706 04	685,445 10	262,339 12	101,013 16	72,032 37	181,714 51
Oct. 1	1916-Rail	1917-Rail	133,170 40	109,263 20	93,655 03	338,132 26
Oct. 28	11,621 02	5,053 38	5,053 38		5,063 08	1,063 22

Date	CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY		
	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Oct. 12, 1917	4,309,063	2,818,762	564,248
Oct. 12, 1916	2,715,621	702,443	212,795
Total	7,124,714	3,521,205	777,043
In American Term.	184,190	194,844	229,000
Total this week	7,408,904	3,716,049	1,016,043
Total last week	6,511,215	3,476,064	757,966
Total last year	16,316,805	12,414,469	1,596,923

THE CASH TRADE
 Winnipeg, Oct. 13
 OATS—No. 3 white closed at 57 1/2 to 58 1/2. No. 4 white oats at 56 1/2 to 57 1/2. Receipts today 200 cars, last year 56 cars. Shipments today 109 cars, last year 79 cars. Chicago receipts today 175 cars, last year 514 cars.
 RYE—No. 2 rye closed at \$1.77 1/2 to \$1.78 1/2. Receipts today 106 cars, last year 56 cars. Shipments today 68 cars, last year 38 cars. Chicago receipts today 18 cars. Milwaukee receipts today 17 cars.
 BARLEY—Prices closed at \$1.11 to \$1.32. Receipts today 229 cars, last year 139 cars. Shipments today 155 cars, last year 90 cars. Chicago receipts today 63 cars. Milwaukee receipts today 104 cars.
 FLAXSEED—No. 1 seed closed at \$3.00 in spot, and to arrive \$3.08 1/2. Receipts today 47 cars, last year 72 cars. Shipments today 3 cars.

Last year 4 cars. Lined oil shipments totaled 570,310 lbs. oil cake and meal shipments 738,105 lbs. Duluth receipts today 29 cars, last year 41 cars.

GRAIN EXCHANGE MEETING
 The annual election of officers of the Fort William and Port Arthur Grain Exchange took place on October 10. The following were elected: President, H. J. Sterling; vice-president, F. H. Bole; secretary-treasurer, C. Burkett; council, John Bell, D. W. Black, D. L. Role, F. A. Guy, J. King, W. D. Muirhead, Jas. Murphy, N. M. Peterson, S. F. Robertson, A. Sellars, John R. Smith.
 The price for seats was increased to \$400 and the membership limited to 200. There are now 169 members. The organization of the exchange is proceeding rapidly and the advertising campaign amongst the western producers as to the benefits of this sample market and this method of disposing of grain is bearing fruit. Two hundred and sixty samples have been received since October 1.

The Livestock Markets

CHICAGO
 Chicago, Oct. 11.—American cattle markets are glutted. Corn fed cattle are up 25 to 40 cents per cwt. on this market. A good grade of short fat steers, weighing 1,100 to 1,300 pounds, is selling at \$11.00 to \$13.00. Above this price or the steers that bring \$13.25 to \$15.75 steers have been corn fed to six months on grass. A lot of Holstein grade steers off grass and weighing 1,050 to 1,150 pounds is going at \$9.50 to \$9.75. The best heavy grassers are quoted at \$15.50 here, but most of the 1,000 to 1,300 pound native northern steers sell at \$9.50 to \$10.75. Car scarcity is seriously interfering with the best distribution of cattle to the country in the territory served from Chicago.
 Breedy cattle, any weight between 500 and 950 pounds is selling for stock or feeding purposes at \$8.50 to \$9.50. Values are 75 cents higher than a month ago.
 A break in hog prices is anticipated.

WINNIPEG
 Winnipeg, Oct. 13.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited reports receipts at the Union stockyards for last week as follows: Cattle, 10,048; calves, 643; sheep and lambs, 1,344; hogs, 2,135.
 The run of cattle continues heavy, but with the usual demand from outside markets prices have held up well with last week. The prospects for the feeder and stocker market looks good and the real choice kind showing good breeding are in good demand. With a heavier run calves show a tendency for lower prices. The light kind selling up to 9 cents with the heavy fat class from 7 1/2 to 8 cents.
 Sheep and lambs are about steady with last week's quotations. Good lambs selling for 14 1/2 cents with sheep at from 10 to 12 cents.
 The hog market holds steady and with the light run coming forward prospects are for a steady market in this class.

CALGARY
 Calgary, Oct. 13.—The United Grain Growers Limited reports this week Alberta stockyards receipts as: Horses, 336; cattle, 4,612; hogs, 1,393; sheep, 432. The corresponding week a year ago was: Horses, 442; cattle, 2,428; hogs, 1,204; sheep, 918.
 Prices on cattle show a material decline this week with fairly light receipts on Monday and Tuesday. With extra heavy receipts of cattle on Wednesday and Burns & Co. and Gordon & Ironside off the market on account of being temporarily stacked up, the duller day of the season was experienced and the competitive bidding we have had for the last few weeks was entirely lacking. The Harris Altonair Company taking advantage of the situation bought steadily all week, the bulk of the heavy cattle of 1,250 pounds and up, at prices ranging from \$8.50 to \$9.00. We sold several steers at \$8.55, \$8.75, \$8.65 and \$8.50. Cows sold lower, the bulk of the best cows selling from

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES		
Closing prices on the principal western markets on Saturday, October 13, were:		
Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat	\$2 21	Prices set
2 Nor. wheat	2 15	Prices set
No. 3 wheat	2 15	Prices set
3 white oats	63 1/2	\$0.57 1/2 - \$0.58 1/2
Barley	1 09 1/2 - 1 20 1/2	1 11 - 1 32
Flax, No. 1	2 95	3 09 1/2
Wheat futures are dropped.		

\$7.25 to \$7.75. Medium cows \$6.50 to \$7.00 with common and culler cows down to \$3.50. We sold a load of 1,200 pound feeders to go to the country at \$8.50, but medium feeders from 1,000 to 1,100 pounds bring from \$8.00 to \$8.25; stocker two year olds 800 to 900 pounds are worth from \$7.40 to \$7.75 and yearlings from \$5.00 to \$5.4. Good calves are selling from \$30 to \$35. Taken as a whole the market on heavy cattle was fully 50 cents lower, with butcher cattle 20 to 30 cents lower. Top price on cattle a year ago \$6.50. We sold our Thursday's hogs at \$17.60, our Friday's hogs realized \$18.00, with a few loads selling somewhat higher. It looks as though hogs will probably sell lower next week. Top price on hogs a year ago \$10.35.

A CHANCE TO BUY SHEEP
 The Manitoba farmers wish to buy a few thousand well bred, grade Ontario ewe lambs at a little more than the prices at which Ontario farmers are turning them off to the butchers this fall? It has been suggested that possibly ten thousand of these ewe lambs could be purchased by Manitoba farmers. The Manitoba Department of Agriculture, without setting any mark upon the numbers to be taken, is announcing that it will facilitate the movement as fully as possible. The lambs are selling on Ontario markets at about \$12.00 or \$13.00 each, or around 16 or 17 cents per pound live weight. It is believed that when all arrangements are worked out the department will be able to deliver them at Manitoba local stations at practically Ontario prices. The department of agriculture is going into the project with the intention of charging the farmers just what the sheep cost to deliver—no more and no less.
 The fact that Manitoba's wool clip sold this year at close to 60 cents per pound, and that a serious shortage of wool as well as meat is inevitable for years to come, is a reason why it is especially desirable that Manitoba farmers should think this matter over very carefully. Incidentally, too, the wool situation on many farms and the excellent wool destroying capabilities of sheep have an important bearing on the subject.

SIBERIAN WHEAT FOR AMERICA
 Chongchun, Manchuria.—Manchurian and Siberian wheat probably will be exported to America to replace American wheat shipped to the Entente Allies in Europe. Because of the lack of harvest and acre, it is impossible to send the wheat surplus from Eastern Asia into European Russia. At scores of railway stations in Siberia and Manchuria, sacks of wheat only slightly protected by temporary sheds are rapidly deteriorating. Agents of the United States government have been inspecting the wheat and soy beans which are awaiting transportation, and it is probable that the wheat and beans within reasonable distance of tidewater will be diverted to America.
 There are many flour mills in Siberia and Manchuria. European Russia lacks milling facilities. Plans are under consideration for the removal of some of the mills from Western Siberia to centers in Southern Russia, where large quantities of wheat are available.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS	
British Soldiers Relief Fund	
Part Proceeds of Picnic held by Bottrel	Union, No. 286, Bottrel, Alta. \$30.00
Total	\$30.00
Belgian Relief Fund	
Previously acknowledged	\$10,950 45
J. J. Funnell, Donor, Man.	37
Total	\$10,987 02
Serbian Relief Fund	
Previously acknowledged	\$218.00
Part Proceeds of Picnic held by Bottrel	Union, No. 286, Bottrel, Alta. 25.00
Total	\$243.00
Canadian Patriotic Fund	
Previously acknowledged	\$865.00
Part Proceeds of Picnic held by Bottrel	Union, No. 286, Bottrel, Alta. 25.00
Total	\$890.00
Previously Acknowledged	
Red Cross Fund	\$4,087 50
French Red Cross Fund	61.00
French Wounded Emergency Fund	6.00
Polish Relief Fund	50.00
Y.M.C.A. Military Fund	25.00
Prisoners of War Fund	105.00
Returned Soldiers' Fund	25.00

GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER TERMINALS

The strike at Fort William and Port Arthur which closed the terminal elevators for eight days and held up the forward movement of grain to the Allies to the extent of at least 12,000,000 bus. came to an end on Sunday, Oct. 7, when an announcement came through from Ottawa that an order-in-council under the War Measures Act had been passed late Saturday night appointing Leslie Boyd, head of the Canadian grain commission, as director of the elevators, and stating that the government was taking over the operation of the terminal houses on much the same basis as they previously took over the coal mines. Mr. Boyd at once issued a state-

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg		Toronto	Calgary	Chicago	St. Paul
	Oct. 13	Year ago				
Cattle						
Choice steers	9 50-10 00	6 00-6 85	11 00-12 25	8 50-9 50	15 00-17 50	11 50-15 50
Best butcher steers	8 25-9 00	6 25-6 50	10 25-11 00	8 50-9 50	11 50-15 00	10 00-11 50
Fair to good butcher steers	5 50-8 25	5 25-5 75	7 50-10 00	8 00-8 75	8 50-11 50	8 00-10 00
Good to choice fat cows	7 50-8 25	5 25-5 75	8 00-8 75	7 25-7 75	9 50-10 50	8 00-9 00
Medium to good cows	7 00-7 50	4 50-5 00	7 00-7 50	6 50-7 00	7 25-8 50	7 00-8 00
Common cows	5 75-6 25	4 00-4 50	5 50-6 50	5 50-6 50	6 00-7 25	5 25-7 00
Calvers	4 50-5 00	3 00-3 25	4 25-5 25	3 00-5 00	5 00-5 85	4 25-5 25
Good to choice heifers	7 50-9 00	5 75-6 25	10 00-10 50	7 25-8 00	9 50-13 00	7 00-9 00
Fair to good heifers	6 50-7 50	5 00-5 50	7 50-9 85	6 25-7 00	6 00-9 50	6 00-7 00
Best cows	6 50-8 00	5 50-6 00	7 00-8 00	7 00-8 00		
Best butcher bulls	6 50-9 00	5 25-5 75	8 00-8 50	5 50-6 00	8 50-11 00	6 75-7 50
Common to bullock bulls	4 00-5 50	4 50-5 00	5 50-6 50	5 00-5 75	6 50-7 80	6 00-6 25
Fair to good feeder steers	7 00-8 50	5 00-6 00	8 25-9 25	8 00-8 25	7 50-14 50	8 00-12 50
Fair to good stocker steers	5 00-6 50	5 00-5 85	7 50-8 75	7 40-7 75	7 25-9 00	5 50-7 50
Best milkings and springers (each)	\$75-\$80	\$65-\$80	\$90-\$125	\$75-\$90		
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$60-\$75	\$45-\$55	\$65-\$85	\$70-\$85		
Hogs						
Choice hogs, weighed off	17 25	10 00	18 75	17 75	18 25-18 75	18 00-18 85
Light hogs	15 00	8 00			17 75-18 25	
Heavy hogs	11 25-12 50	7 00			17 00-17 50	
Stags	10 00-11 00	5 50			17 75-18 00	
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	9 00-14 50	8 50-9 50	15 00-15 75	12 00-13 00	13 00-18 25	10 50-17 00
Best killing sheep	7 00-10 00	7 00-8 25	11 00-12 00	10 00-12 50	11 50-12 00	9 00-12 50

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from October 9 to October 15 inclusive

Date	WHEAT					OATS					BARLEY			FLAX						
	1"	2"	3"	4"	5"	Feed	T11	T12	T13	2CW	3CW	Ex 1	Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	3CW 4CW	Feed	1 NW	2CW	
Oct. 9	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	67	64	64	63	62	121	117	110	308	297
10	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	66	63	63	62	61	120	115	110	294	287
11	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	66	63	63	62	61	120	115	110	294	287
12	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	66	63	63	62	61	120	115	110	294	287
13	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	66	63	63	62	61	120	115	110	294	287
14	221	218	215	200	194	186	175	215	212	207	66	63	63	62	61	120	115	110	294	287
15	221	218	2																	