

**DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.**

**MEDITERRANEAN SUPPLIES:** As the Christmas season approaches the market for dried fruits and nuts takes on more than its usual activity, and shipments from the Orient are watched with more than ordinary interest. The general feeling at this time is one of great strength due to the scarcity of supplies on hand coupled with the steady demand for all lines. With regard to dates, spot stocks of fards are trifling and will be exhausted in the near future, being oversold in many cases in anticipation of the arrival in New York of a steamer from Algiers on the 18th of this month. According to recent advices from Greece, a parcel of currants is expected to reach New York by the beginning of December, and a shipment of figs is also due in about two weeks.

With reference to nuts, there is a marked tendency to advance in most varieties. The first parcel of Sperranto walnuts has just arrived, and a steamer carrying a large cargo of Brazil nuts and Sicily filberts is expected daily. Stocks of Brazils in this country are smaller than is generally realized, and will probably run very low during the next few weeks, leaving little for the Christmas trade. Dealers will probably raise the price of these nuts in order to conserve existing stocks as much as possible. Advances have already been made to this end.

**CALIFORNIA STOCKS:** The market for California dried fruits is also in a very firm condition at the present time, with future prospects decidedly strong. Stocks in Canada are light and prices high. The raisin crop was considerably damaged by impropitious rains, which has already affected both prices and deliveries, resulting in a firmly maintained market. Stocks of raisins in California are small or held in strong hands. Prunes are similarly situated. Stocks in the west are low and the new crop appears to be largely booked up already. Prices are tending to advance. There is a good demand for dried fruits in spite of the firm prices prevailing. In short, California fruit holders are playing a waiting game, and are waiting for the markets to seek them rather than seeking the market themselves.

Current quotations follow:

<b>Dried Fruits:</b>	
Apples, choice winter, 50 lb. boxes	0.10
Apricots	0.19
Peaches, choice	0.11
Candied Citron peel	0.23
Candied lemon peel	0.21
Candied orange peel	0.20
Currants, loose cleaned	0.18
Currants, carton cleaned	0.19
Dates, loose Hallowee	0.12
Dates, Fards choicest	0.12½
Do., Carton, pkg.	0.09
Do., California bricks	0.09
Prunes, Santa Clara, 60-70's	0.09½
Raisins, 4 Crown	0.09½
Prunes, Santa Clara, 60-70's	0.09½
Raisins, 4 Crown	0.11½
Do., 3 Crown	0.11
Do., Muscatels	0.10½
Do., California seedless	0.11½
<b>Nuts.</b>	
Walnuts, Grenoble	0.16 0.18
Do., Marbot	0.17
Almonds, Tarragona	0.18½ 0.19
Filberts, Sicily	0.18½ 0.19
Brazils, large, washed	0.22
Pecans	0.19
Almonds, shelled	0.40
Walnuts, shelled, Bordeaux fine split	0.40
Chestnuts	0.19
Peanuts	0.10 0.13
Hickory nuts	0.09

**FISH AND OYSTERS.**

The fish business is now in a transitory stage. Many lines of fresh fish are giving out and are being replaced by frozen varieties. At this season large quantities of salt, pickled and prepared fish are absorbed by the trade. The demand is exceptionally good, and with the close of navigation at hand, large shipments will be distributed throughout the country from central points. There will be a scarcity of salt and prepared codfish and already holders are reluctant to sell, and are booking only hand to mouth orders. In the frozen lines, producers of stocks such as halibut, salmon, haddock, and herring, are not sanguine, and very few sales of magnitude are being effected. Dealers seem to be holding out for higher prices. There is a good supply of most fresh fish with the exception of halibut, as very little of the latter variety has come in recently and consequently prices have advanced from 18c to 20c. Lobsters are still 45c. The Canadian season opens on the 15th, and therefore we look for lower prices in the near future. The bulk oyster trade

is very brisk and as prices have not materially advanced it is expected that this will be a banner season. Shell oysters, principally from Prince Edward Island, are coming in very small quantities and stocks are poor. These oyster beds, once so prolific now appear to be almost exhausted.

Current quotations are as follows:

<b>Fresh Fish:</b>	
Gaspe Salmon	per lb. 0.17 0.20
B. S. Salmon, headless and dressed	0.16
B. C. Salmon, pale, head, and dres'd	0.15
Haddock	0.07
Western medium halibut	0.20
Mackerel	0.12
Perch, dressed	1.10 0.11
Market Cod	0.06
Steak Cod	0.09 0.10
Whitefish	0.13 0.14
Dore	0.13 0.14
Lake Trout	0.13 0.14
Pike	0.10
Carp	0.12
Flounders	0.06 0.08
Eels	0.10
Live Lobsters (large)	0.45
Frogs legs	0.50
Smelts	0.10 0.12
Dressed Bullheads	0.11 0.12
<b>Smoked Fish:</b>	
Herring, Gaspereaux, each	0.12½
Haddies	0.09 0.10
Bloaters, 60's, 100's	1.50
Kipper herring, 40's	1.50
Kipper herring, 50's	1.25
Digby herring, 5 bx. a bundle	0.80
<b>Salted and Pickled Fish:</b>	
Boneless Cod, Ivory Brand	0.10
Boneless Cod, Dreadnought Brand	0.08
Boneless Herrings, 10 lbs.	1.40
Shredded Codfish, 12 lb. box	1.80
No. 1 B. C. Salmon, pink, 200 lbs.	13.00
No. 1 Sea Trout, 200 lbs. bbl.	13.00
No. 1 Sea Turbot, 200 lb. bbl.	13.00
Labrador Herrings, barrel	8.00
No. 1 Green Codfish, barrel	11.00
<b>Oysters, Etc.:</b>	
Shrimps, per gallon	2.00
Bulk Oysters, per gallon	1.50
Scallops, per gallon	3.00
Malpeque Shell Oysters, bbl.	10.00 13.00
Cape Cod Shell Oysters, bbl.	9.50 12.00
Medium Clams, bbl.	8.00

**THE GRAIN MARKETS.**

**WHEAT:** The Presidential elections last week appeared to have very little effect on the wheat market which rose and fell under the influence of the usual conditions of supply and demand. Prices in Chicago show a net gain of 2½ cents during the week, being \$1.90 as we go to press as compared with a \$1.87½ close last Tuesday for December shipment. Winnipeg also gained 9½ cents, or from \$1.91½ to \$2.01½ for November. Conditions in the Argentine played a leading part in the North American wheat situation, as frost is reported to have damaged the growing crop and prices have risen in sympathy. Estimates of the Argentine exportable surplus have now been reduced to 23,000,000 bushels. Unsettled weather in Canada has been hampering both threshing and shipping, and it is reported that not half the crop has been threshed. The tendency in the United States visible supply to increase acted as a bearish factor at the beginning of the week, only to be offset by a falling off in the European visible supply and adverse European crop advices a few days later. Foreign buying in the U. S. and Canada was very heavy during the past week amounting to several million bushels, as a result of prospective cutting down of receipts. The freight situation is also an influential factor. World's shipments last week were about 3,000,000 bushels under last year's, and the amount of wheat on ocean passage was also largely short of the corresponding total in 1915. Prospects are that shipments from lake ports will be continued if possible until December 15th, although navigation usually closes about December 5, in order to handle the large purchases made by Great Britain.

The local wheat market has been very nervous during the past week with an upward trend, until prices touched the highest point in the history of Canadian trade. A good deal of the advance is no doubt caused by the foreign demand, but many think it has been helped by speculation. It is said that the speculation not connected with the ordinary trade is considerable, and there appears to be a desire in the regular grain circles that the authorities shall find some way to put a stop to this phase of the trade.

**COARSE GRAINS:** The market for oats was strengthened by purchases on the part of the Dominion Government, and a certain amount of enquiry over the cable. There is very little ocean room available for coarse grains and freight rates

have advanced considerably during the week, consequently no new business in oats is reported. Barley is firm with some business passing for export, and corn has been bought steadily both for export and domestic consumption, in spite of the fact that prices have touched the highest level in twenty-four years.

The following cash prices are quoted as we go to press:

	Montreal	Toronto
	per bushel.	per bushel.
<b>Grains:</b>		
Wheat Manitoba,		
No. 1 Northern	2.14	2.09
Do., No. 2	2.11	2.06
Do., No. 3	2.05	2.00
Do., No. 3	1.92	
Ontario Wheat,		
No. 2 Winter	1.85	1.87
Oats, No. 1 C. W.	0.77	
Do., No. 2 C. W.	0.76	0.73½
Do., No. 3 C. W.	0.75	0.72½
Do., Extra No. 1 feed	0.75	
Do., No. 1 feed	0.74½	
Do., No. 2 feed	0.74	
Quebec and Ontario		
Oats, No. 2 white	0.70	0.64 0.66
Do., No. 3 white	0.69	0.63 0.65
Barley No. 3 C. W.	1.26	1.14 1.16
Do., No. 4 C. W.	1.19	1.06 1.09
Corn, American,		
ex-track	1.20	1.11
off cars	11.50 12.00	

**FLOUR, CEREALS AND MILLFEED.**

**SPRING WHEAT FLOUR:** The price of flour advanced 20c twice last week, making a total advance of 40c a barrel, first patents being quoted at the record price of \$10.50, and further advances are expected if the wheat market continues on its upward course. Exporters are receiving one or two enquiries but very little business has been consummated, as the British buyers have not been willing to meet prevailing prices. Nothing definite is yet known as to Government arrangements in Great Britain, but from the fact that regular buyers are asking for quotations we infer that matters will continue on very nearly a normal basis. There has been a good demand for flour from the domestic trade for full car lots for prompt and nearby delivery and a number of orders were also received for future shipment, which millers would not accept on account of the excited condition of the market.

**WINTER WHEAT FLOUR:** Ontario flour advanced 60c last week, following the wheat market. Winter wheat prices have gone up steadily from \$1.77 on the first of the month to \$1.87 on November 11. There is a good steady trade moving, for although most people are carrying fair stocks, those whose contracts are expiring are obliged to repurchase at present values.

**MILLFEED AND CEREALS:** A steady demand is reported for rolled oats for the mixed car trade and prices have advanced 10 cents a bag. Millfeeds are also up, \$2.00 being added to prices during the past week. There appears to be a good demand for all lines of feeds. Buyers are inclined to speculate for future shipment, but millers for the most part are only willing to book for nearby delivery.

Current quotations are as follows:

	Montreal	Toronto
<b>Flour:—</b>		
First patents, per		
bbl. in bags	10.50	10.40
Second patents, do.	10.00	9.60
Strong bakers, do.	9.80	9.40
30c per bbl. more in wood.		
Winter wheat flour—		
90 per cent per bag	4.55 4.70	
Do., in wood,		
per bbl.	9.50 9.80	
<b>Cereals:—</b>		
Cornmeal, yellow,		
per bag, 98 lbs.	2.85	3.00
Rolled oats, per bbl.,		
in wood	6.95 7.05	6.95 7.05
Do., per 90 lb. bag.	3.40 3.45	3.40 3.45
Rolled wheat, 100 lb.		
bbls.	4.00	
Rye flour, 98 lb. bag	3.60 3.75	
Rye meal, 98 lb. bag	3.40 3.55	
Graham flour, 98 lbs.	4.75	
<b>Feeds:—</b>		
Bran, per ton	30.00	31.00
Shorts, per ton	33.00	33.00
Middlings, per ton	35.00	35.00
Moullie, pure grain		
grades, per ton	44.00 48.00	
Do., mixed	38.00 42.00	
Barley feed per ton	49.00	
Do., meal, per		
ton	51.00	
Crushed oats	45.00	
Do., in 80 lb. bags,		
per ton	53.50	
Oatfeed, per ton	26.00	