

some indication of what prices in England will reach. At the auction Quebec cheese brought 22½c, f.o.b., country points. When question as to exactly what the idea of the commission was as well as the latest information in that connection a prominent dealer said that the commission referred to was solely a purchasing commission and had nothing to do with arranging the price, which would be controlled by the British Board of Trade. The Commission was only a medium between the producer and the British Board of Trade. He could not tell when the deadlock would be broken as the Commission was awaiting for word from the Old Country for a solution of the problem. It was unfortunate that the people throughout the country were misconstruing the matter, as the work of the proposed commission should not have affected the market as it apparently had done. The British Commissioner had been in Canada for some time and had reported conditions to the home government and the matter was in abeyance until word was received. It is expected that something definite will be known next week.

Current prices follow:

Butter:—		
Choice Full Creamery Solids	0.40	0.41
Fine Full Creamery	0.38	0.39
Winter Creamery	0.37	0.38½
Finest New Milk Creamery	0.42	0.42½
Finest Dairy Butter	0.36	0.37
Fine Dairy Butter	0.34	0.35
Undergrade Dairy	0.31	0.32
Cheese:—		
Finest Western	0.26	
Fine Eastern	0.25	0.25½
Winter Make	0.24	0.25
City Selling Prices to grocers:		
Lar5e	0.27	0.27½
Twins	0.27	
Quebec Cheese	0.24½	
Canadian Strong Cheese	0.26½	0.27
Stilton	0.29	

#### FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

The feature in the fruit market this week is the low price which is being asked for pineapples, dealers are advising that the fruit be bought now as prices are at their lowest level and pineapples are in the best condition for canning. Lemons have eased off a trifle but other lines of fruit remain at former prices.

Vegetables do not show much change although more plentiful supplies of cucumbers has the usual effect on its prices. Tomatoes are also easier, the choice Florida variety selling for \$4.00 to \$4.50 per crate. Strawberries are fluctuating and quotations range about 15c for pints and 26c for quarts—boxes being quoted at from 22c to 25c.

The proposed tariff changes in the United States, referring particularly to the 10% duty imposed on all hitherto free goods, will add to the cost of bananas as well as pineapples and coconuts and all goods that are purchased through American commercial houses, according to local wholesalers. The imposition of such a tax would unquestionably be effective against practically all Canadian buyers. These goods could not be brought through in bond, because they do not become the property of the wholesaler until the cars, as a rule, are actually rolling. All are unloaded from a foreign country to the order of an American firm which puts the entire cargo under the operation of the new tariff law.

Current quotations are as follows:

Fruit:—		
Baldwins, per bbl.	\$7.00	\$7.50
Cranberries, per bbl.	9.00	
Cranberry pippin, per bbl.	5.00	
Fameuse, per bbl.	7.00	
Russets	5.50	7.00
Spies, per box	3.25	
Bananas, per bunch	2.25	3.00
Grapes, Almeria, per keg	8.50	
Grapefruit, Florida and Cuban	3.75	6.00
Do., Jamaica	5.00	
Lemons, California, box	3.50	
Do., Messina	2.75	3.00
Oranges, California, Navel, per box	3.25	
Do., Valencia	4.50	5.00
Pineapples, Cuban	2.75	2.90
Do., Porto Rico	3.00	3.25
Vegetables:—		
Artichokes, per bag	1.25	
Beets, per bag	1.50	1.75
Beans, American, per hamper	5.50	
Green beans, per hamper	3.50	
Brussels Sprouts, per qt.	0.15	0.25
Cabbage, Montreal, per bbl.	7.00	
Do., per box	0.30	
Carrots, per bag	1.50	
Cauliflower, California, per doz.	4.00	
Celery, Florida, per crate	4.00	4.50
Do., California, per crate	9.00	
Cucumber, 7 doz., hamper	2.75	3.00
Endive (Canadian) bunch	0.25	
Garlic, lb.	0.10	
Horse Radish, per lb.	0.25	
Leeks, doz. bunches	3.00	
Boston Lettuce, head, per box	4.00	
Do., curly, per doz.	1.80	
Mint, doz.	0.50	

Onions, Spanish, per case	9.50
Do., Texas, per crate (50-lbs.)	3.50
Do., red, per 75-lb. bag	8.00
Do., white, per 100-lb. bag	6.50
Do., Spring, per doz. bunches	1.75
Potatoes, Quebec, per 80-lbs. bag	4.00
Do., Green Mountains, per 80 lb. bag	3.75
Do., Sweet, per hamper	4.25
Do., new, per hamper	6.00
Parsley, per doz. bunches	0.50
Radishes, per doz.	0.75
Rhubarb, doz.	1.50
Turnips per bag	1.25
Tomatoes hothouse, per lb.	0.22
Do., Florida, per crate	4.00
Watercress, doz.	0.50
Strawberries, per pint	0.15
Do., per box	0.22

#### TEA AND COFFEE.

The expected advances in both tea and coffee took place last week, and prices in all grades are up. The reason given for such increases is that freight rates from all the leading primary markets are so high that the lay down value of the product here must necessarily go up. It is now next to impossible to do business with Calcutta as the exchange situation there has become very acute and the actual transfer of gold must accompany all business done with India.

Prices follow:

Tea.		Per lb.
Japan, Common	0.17½	0.19
Do., Medium	0.21	0.25
Do., Good	0.28	0.30
Do., Choice	0.35	0.40
Do., Siftings	0.11	0.12
Do., Fannings	0.13	0.14
China, Black, Common	0.19	0.20
Do., Good	0.26	0.28
Do., Choice	0.29	0.30
Do., Finest	0.34	0.36
Do., Green, Common	0.18	0.19
Do., Medium	0.19	0.20
Do., Pealeaf	0.23	0.25
Do., Pinhead	0.30	0.32
Ceylon & India, Black, Common,		
Pekoe	0.44½	0.44
Do., Good Pekoe	0.45	0.47
Do., Pekoe, Choice	0.46	0.48
Do., Orange	0.48	0.50
Do., Broken	0.44	0.45
Do., Broken, Choice	0.47	0.49
Do., Broken, Very Choicest	0.52	0.55
Coffee, Santos	0.16	0.18
Do., Rio	0.14	0.16
Do., Maracaibo	0.17	0.18
Do., Java, roasted	0.33	0.34
Do., Mocha, roasted	0.35	0.36
Do., Santos, roasted	0.20	0.21
Do., Rio, roasted	0.17	0.18

#### HIDES AND LEATHER.

Buyers who have been holdings off for lower prices in hides and leather have at last given up in despair and are coming into the market to a greater extent. The market for green hides is steady at 27c for No. 1, while calfskins are easy at 40c. Sheepskins are also at former prices. Tanners have made a few more deliveries of both sole and black descriptions.

Current quotations follow:

Hides:		Per lb.
No. 1 inspected	0.27	
No. 2	0.26	
No. 3	0.25	
Tough	0.23	
Sheepskins, each	3.90	4.00
Calfskins	0.38	0.40
Sole Leather:		Per Pound.
No. 1 Hemlock Sole	0.62	0.60
No. 2 Hemlock Sole	0.58	0.56
No. 3 Hemlock Sole	0.55	0.54
Oak Sides, Canadian, dry hides	0.63	0.61
Do., from hides, green	0.68	0.66
Oak backs	0.68	
Oak bends, No. 1	0.85	0.83
Oak bends, No. 2	0.79	
Oak bends, No. 3	0.75	0.74
Upper Leather:		Per ft.
Gun Metal Sides	0.50	0.45
Chrome Box Sides	0.48	0.45
Matt Sides	0.45	
Kangaroo Grain	0.42	
Russett Oil Grain	0.42	
Elk	0.45	
Splitts Wax	0.39	0.37
Automobile, Carriage, and Furniture Leather:		
Spanish furniture	0.37	0.38
Hand buffed	0.35	0.36
Machine buffed	0.35	0.32
Belting Leather:		
Belting butts, shoulders off	1.60	
Belting butts, shoulders on	1.40	
Harness	0.65	0.62
Skirting	0.37	0.35

#### THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Trade has picked up some in local grain during the past week and dealers report a fairly active market. Seed wheat is selling at \$3.50 to \$3.75 with a very good demand and strong undertone. Manitoba feed wheat is also in a good market and selling for \$1.66 to \$1.70 per bushel. There has been some enquiry for export, but offerings could not be made. There has been a better enquiry for oats during the past week and prices are a shade higher. Wheat prices other than those quoted above are purely nominal.

At the commencement of last week there was practically no trading done in cash wheat at Winnipeg, while oats were in good demand. This state of affairs veered around towards the latter part of the week when the government bought wheat on spot at fair prices, while trade in oats dwindled away to practically nothing. On Wednesday new record prices were established all around on account of bullish reports from the United States, and all grades of cash wheat with the exception of No. 6 had a ready sale.

The bulls have been running wild on the Chicago Exchange and wheat has reached the highest prices ever known. The bullish tone of the government estimate of visible wheat amounting to 366,166,000 bushels as compared with an anticipated 400,000,000 shot wheat up 17c and May options touched the \$3.00 mark. Cash wheat on Wednesday sold for \$3.32½, the highest known prices, owing to a government report showing the largest abandonment of winter wheat ever. Heavy buying for seaboard was also a feature. The Allies it was reported plan to take 33 millions of bushels from the United States, and this with big buying and small offerings put May options at \$3.25.

The local cash grain situation is as follows:

Grains: (Wheat prices are approximate). Per bushel.		
Spring wheat, Manitoba, No. 1	3.20	3.24
Do., No. 2		3.03
Do., No. 3		2.80
Do., No. 4		2.70
Winter wheat Ontario, No. 2	2.18	2.22
Oats:		
No. 2 C. W.		0.86
Do., No. 3 C. W.		0.85
Do., Extra No. 1 feed		0.83
Do., No. 2 feed		0.82½
Ontario Oats, No. 2, white	0.77	0.79
Do., No. 3		0.78
Barley, No. 4 C. W., Rejected		1.30
Do., feed		1.20
Corn, American, ex-track	1.66	1.70

#### LIVE STOCK.

Offerings on the local market during the past week amounted to 850 cattle, 125 sheep and lambs, 2,200 calves and 1,450 hogs as compared with the receipts of the previous week of 800 cattle, 100 sheep and lambs, 3,000 calves and 2,000 hogs. Offerings of cattle though larger did not seem to have the national and usual effect on prices, which scored an advance of about 50c per 100 lbs., a fact attributed to a better quality in the offerings of the stock and a keener demand on the part of the buyers.

The trade was quite active as butchers' and packers' stocks of beef had been reduced pretty low, so sales of full loads of choice steers were made at \$12.50 to \$12.75 per hundred weight. Drovers say that there is really no reason behind such an advance and put the blame on the buyers themselves who bid up prices; cattle — throughout the country they assert are not scarce. A feature of the small meat trade is the active demand for calves for both shipment and local consumption. Offerings were quickly snapped up at prices ranging from \$5.50 to \$11.00 per 100 lbs. The feeling in sheep and lambs is firm, spring lambs selling for from \$8.00 to \$12.00 each while old sheep brought \$10.00 to \$11.00 a hundred pounds. A very strong feeling prevails in the hog situation and an advance of 50c to 75c was made during the week. This makes a net rise of \$4.50 since the first of the year. A good demand is coming from packers and a fairly active trade was done at prices ranging from \$17.75 to \$18.00.

#### MANITOBA WHEAT IN.

Conditions in Manitoba Are Most Satisfactory.

The Winnipeg Telegram says: "Reports on seeding progress and conditions throughout the province are most reassuring and satisfactory. Wheat seeding is practically finished. In southern Manitoba large areas are already sown to oats and there is some barley in the ground."

"There will be no decrease in acreage in wheat in the old settled districts. Great efforts are being made to towns and villages, as well as upon farms, to greatly increase the potato crop."