

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of United Grain Growers Limited, November 5, 1917)

On October 31 the board of grain supervisors announced that they had fixed the price of number four wheat at \$2.08, number five at \$1.96 and number six at \$1.87. These prices are to apply to the present crop until August 31, 1918. There is a lot of dissatisfaction with the slow movement of grain and the serious car shortage in many districts. The Winnipeg Board of Trade has asked the Dominion government to give this matter special and immediate attention.

Oats prices are a little higher than they were a week ago in this market, and a fraction lower in American markets. Although there are large stocks at the lake front, they appear to be firmly held and it is difficult for dealers to pick up any quantities at market prices. As a result, some good premiums were paid last week for contract grades, although the requirements were not large. Local prices are still too high to compete with American oats for export, but some sales have been made to the eastern provinces, where it was supposed they had sufficient of their own. Either they over-estimate their production or the movement is being delayed.

Barley prices have worked somewhat lower, especially for lower grades. Offerings of rejected and feed barley have been heavy and the demand has not kept pace. Three C.W. barley is in steady demand with price holding firm.

Flax which is spot, unloaded at the terminals, continues to command a big premium. Distant futures are much lower, on account of the possibilities of securing supplies from the Argentine, where a large crop will be available in January.

WINNIPEG FUTURES									
October		November		December		January		February	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Oats—									
Oct. 67	67	67	67	67	67	68	68	68	68
Dec. 66	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	61
Flax—									
Oct. 305	304	304	306	306	307	307	307	307	304
Dec. 295	295	287	288	287	288	288	288	288	249

STOCKS IN TERMINALS									
Fort William, Nov. 5, 1917—									
This Year					Last Year				
1 hard	95,545.00				15,513.30				
1 Nor.	1,373,557.00				1,046,158.10				
2 Nor.	874,845.00				2,066,113.40				
3 Nor.	676,323.10				2,038,884.10				
No. 4	376,186.30				1,221,553.40				
Others	955,948.80				3,462,056.50				

This Week 4,581,406.00 This week 9,850,280.00									
Last week 5,861,978.50 Last week 9,131,256.10									
Decrease 1,280,572.50 Increase 719,023.50									
Oats									
1 C.W.	8,717.32				39,440.10				
2 C.W.	1,499,617.18				2,316,302.02				
3 C.W.	295,449.16				460,707.29				
Ex. 1st	537,612.25				345,625.19				
Others	1,722,139.50				1,265,831.26				
This week 4,063,438.05 This week 4,427,907.18									
Last week 3,463,329.11 Last week 3,861,086.01									
Increase 600,108.28 Increase 566,821.17									
Barley									
Ex. 3 C.W.	4,531.12				1 N.W.C.	830,920.22			
3 C.W.	283,507.18				2 C.W.	37,671.03			
4 C.W.	398,679.25				3 C.W.	3,905.47			
Rej.	171,582.29				Others	48,713.47			
Others	211,513.72								

This week 1,079,815.12 This week 421,211.07									
Last week 863,867.19 Last week 271,148.33									
Increase 215,947.41 Increase 149,862.30									

SHIPMENTS									
1917 (lake)									
Wheat	7,076,643	187,417	108,498	24,623					
Oats	116,169	171,093	27,256	1,160					
Barley	4,135,767	982,666	249,633	92,328					
Flax	123,300	85,000	25,311						

CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY									
Week ending Nov. 2, 1917—									
Wheat									
Fl. William and Pt.	4,581,406	4,063,438	1,079,815						
Arthur Ter.	9,150,508	1,523,694	376,577						
In East. Can. Term.	13,771,914	5,587,132	1,456,392						
Total	3,479,184	210,588	304,321						

LIVESTOCK		Winnipeg		Toronto		Calgary		Chicago		St. Paul	
		Nov. 2	Year ago	Nov. 2	Year ago	Nov. 2	Year ago	Nov. 1	Year ago	Nov. 1	Year ago
Cattle											
Choice steers	9.00-9.50	8.00-7.00	11.00-12.25	10.00-17.50	12.50-15.50						
Best butcher steers	8.25-9.00	6.00-6.50	9.00-11.00	8.50-9.00	10.75-16.00	9.50-12.50					
Fair to good butcher steers	6.50-8.25	5.00-6.75	7.25-9.00	7.00-8.50	6.50-10.75	6.50-9.50					
Good to choice fat cows	7.00-8.00	5.25-5.75	8.00-8.50	7.00-7.50	9.25-11.00	6.50-8.25					
Medium to good cows	6.50-6.75	4.50-5.00	7.00-7.50	6.50-7.00	7.50-8.75	5.75-6.50					
Common cows	5.50-6.50	4.00-4.50	6.00-7.00	5.00-6.50	6.00-7.25	5.00-5.50					
Cansters	4.50-5.50	3.00-3.75	5.00-6.00	3.00-5.00	5.00-6.00	4.50-5.00					
Good to choice heifers	7.50-9.00	5.75-6.15	9.50-10.25	7.25-7.75	9.50-13.00	7.00-8.50					
Fair to good heifers	7.00-7.50	5.00-5.50	7.50-9.00	6.00-7.00	8.50-9.50	5.75-6.75					
Best cows	6.00-7.00	5.25-5.50		6.50-8.00							
Best butcher bulls	6.50-7.00	3.00-3.75	8.00-9.25	6.00-6.50	9.00-10.50	6.75-7.50					
Common to bullock bulls	4.00-5.00	4.00-4.15	6.25-7.00	6.00-6.50	6.25-7.50	4.75-6.65					
Fair to good feeder steers	7.00-8.50	5.00-6.00	8.00-9.25	7.00-8.00	8.00-11.50	7.50-9.00					
Fair to good stocker steers	5.00-6.50	5.00-5.85	7.25-8.00	7.00-8.00	6.50-10.00	5.50-7.00					
Best milkers and springers (each)	\$75-\$90	\$65-\$85	\$90-\$125	\$75-\$90							
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$60-\$75	\$45-\$65	\$65-\$85	\$70-\$75							
Hogs											
Choice hogs, weighed off	15.25	\$10.25	16.50-16.75	\$5.00	14.00-17.00	15.75-16.25					
Light hogs	13.00	9.00			14.50-16.50						
Heavy hogs	11.00-11.50	7.00			14.25-14.50						
Stags	8.00-10.00	5.50			14.75-15.75						
Sheep and Lambs											
Choice lambs	10.00-17.00	9.50-10.25	15.75-16.00	9.00-12.75	16.00-17.25	12.00-16.00					
Best killing sheep	8.00-12.00	7.00-8.75	7.50-13.50	10.50-12.00	11.00-12.50	7.00-14.00					

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from October 30 to November 5 inclusive

Date	WHEAT										OATS						BARLEY			FLAX	
	1"	2"	3"	4	5	6	Feed	T11	T12	T13	2CW	3CW	4a	1d	1Fd	2Fd	3CW	4CW	Feed	1NW	2CW
Oct. 30	221	218	215	207	192	187	180	215	212	207	67	64	64	62	61	128	115	109	305	302	
31	221	218	215	207	194	187	180	215	212	207	67	64	63	62	60	120	115	109	295	292	
Nov. 1	221	218	215	208	196	187	180	215	212	207	68	65	65	63	61	120	115	109	300	301	
2	221	218	215	208	196	187	180	215	212	207	68	65	65	63	61	120	115	108	310	303	
3	221	218	215	208	196	187	180	215	212	207	68	65	65	63	61	120	115	107	310	303	
4	221	218	215	208	196	187	180	215	212	207	68	65	65	63	61	120	114	107	311	303	
Week ago	221	218	215	207	194	187	180	215	212	207	67	64	64	62	61	121	116	110	304	301	
Year ago	192	180	183	173	159	143	125	...	...	...	67	60	60	59	59	106	102	96	290	247

last year 21 cars. Linseed oil shipments totaled 311,555 lbs.; oil cake and meal shipments 533,006 lbs.

U.S. CONTROL SMALL MILLS

The United States government has since Sept 10 exercised control over the wheat supply operations another rate of profit of the operators of all the large mills. Plants under 100 barrels daily capacity have been exempt. Recently every mill was put under the regulation, and those of less than 400 barrels daily capacity will be required to report on their operations, thereby increasing the assurance that flour will be manufactured and sold with the least possible economic loss.

THE CORN SITUATION

Minneapolis, Nov. 3.—Many members of the grain trade are beginning to wonder why they should ever have thought \$2 a legitimate price for corn. That price, while still being paid, is looked upon by many as a bubble, liable to complete collapse some day in the near future. And when it does burst, they say the options will drop to \$1 or lower. There are only a few bubbles left in the entire market field. One is cash corn, another is the price of pork, and the other is cotton.

The Livestock Markets

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER AT CHICAGO

The month of October, 1917, was a record breaker in point of number of cattle received at the market in one month. During October approximately 415,000 head arrived at Chicago; the previous-highest mark was made September, 1892, when 385,466 arrived at Chicago.

The average price of steers for October, 1917, at Chicago will figure close to \$11.70, while for the corresponding month last year it was \$9.75.

Seven leading western markets (American) handled approximately 1,599,000 cattle during October, 1917, and 1,373,000 during October, 1916.

The extreme range of hog prices October, 1916, was \$8.50 to \$10.50. October this year the spread was from \$13.75 to \$19.65.

Seven western markets received approximately 1,328,000 hogs during October this year, against 1,360,000, October last year, and 1,114,000 October, 1915.

The average price of hogs at Chicago October this year will be about \$17.50, against \$9.80 October last year.

Average weight of hogs at Chicago for October, 1917, close to 212 lbs., compared with 210 last year, 204 two years ago, and 253 in October, 1910.

The average price of sheep for October, 1916, was \$7.50 and for lambs \$10.15. October this year the average for the former will be close to \$11.70 and for the latter right around \$17.50.

Top on western lambs October last year was \$11.10, and best price for natives was \$11.25. October this year the best prices were \$18.55 and \$18.60 respectively.

Top yearling breeding ewes reached \$20.00 during October, a new record. Best feeding lambs sold as high as \$18.50 during the month. (Chas. Robinson's Report.)

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Nov. 3.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited reports receipts at the Union Stockyards for last week as follows: Cattle, 12,638; calves, 869; sheep and lambs, 1,128; hogs, 4,710.

The run of cattle for last week was extraordinarily heavy, which caused an embargo to be placed on Wednesday on stock consigned to this market. The average quality coming forward has not been as high as usual, but extra choice steers in a few cases brought over the ten cent mark. Prices have kept up remarkably well, and sales averaged steadily on last week's prices. The indications show there is a large number of cattle to be marketed yet this fall, but with the keen demand continuing, prices should remain strong. The good kind of veal calves are worth from eight to nine cents, and stockers from five and a half to seven cents.

A brisk demand in holding prices steady.

Country Produce	Winnipeg		Calgary
	Nov. 2	Year ago	Nov. 2
Butter (per lb.)			
No. 1 dairy	40c	35c	40c
Eggs (per doz.)			
New laid	45c	40c	40c
Potatoes			
In sacks, per bushel ..	90c	65c	75c
Milk and Cream			
Sweet cream per lb. fat	50c	45c	....
Cream for butter-making (per lb. butter-fat)	64c	40c	....
Live Poultry			
Fowl (Yearlings)	12c	11c	13c-14c
Spring Chickens	16c	14c	15c-17c
Ducks	15c	12c	14c-15c
Turkeys	20c	15c	20c-25c
Geese	14c-15c	.....	14c-15c
Hay (per ton)			
No. 1 Timothy		\$18	\$17
No. 1 Milled	\$14-\$20	\$10	
No. 2 Upland	\$12	.....	\$10-\$11