

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

Wheat was somewhat nervous on Monday, but there were frequent strong seasons with active buying, which generally came in at the critical moment in time to stop a threatened decline. The market opened at 79c for January, or $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ c lower than Saturday, and sold down $\frac{1}{4}$ c from the start. The short interest appeared to be well eliminated, and this caused some fears of a reaction, but many were firm in the belief that the markets would continue strong. Heavy country buying is an important factor in maintaining prices. The decrease in the visible supply has also been a great element of strength, but this has been brought about by unreasonable weather. Corn was active and firm. Oats quiet and steady. Provisions were active and pork slightly higher for a time, but 10c lower in the afternoon. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	27	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	10.95	11.17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lard	6.25	6.25

On Tuesday the wheat market opened lower and easier, with cables rather discouraging. Under heavy pressure to sell, the market declined spasmodically $\frac{1}{4}$ c lower than Saturday's top price. In the afternoon prices continued tending downward, May selling at 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, but closing $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ c better. May corn sold down to 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Pork and lard were lower. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	10.80	11.00
Lard	6.15	6.17 $\frac{1}{2}$

There was a better feeling at the start on Wednesday, and the decline of yesterday was largely looked upon as an engineered scheme on the part of some heavy operators. Prices opened a shade firmer, but declined later, May going down to 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Then prices went up to 85 $\frac{1}{2}$, under good buying, but heavy offerings again broke prices, to 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, closing at 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Packers report a good shipping demand for provisions. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	37	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	10.65	10.90
Lard	6.00	6.07 $\frac{1}{2}$

Wheat opened firmer on Thursday, on better cables. May opened at 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, and after considerable trading at this figure, declined to 84 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. The price then went up to 85 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, on receipt of New York buying orders, but again declined $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. From this out the tendency was to firmer prices, May closing at 85 $\frac{1}{4}$ c at one o'clock, and 85 $\frac{1}{4}$ c at three o'clock. Exports of wheat and flour have so far this week been greatly under last week. Pork started 15c higher, advanced 5c, sold down 10c, and closed about the opening price. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	37	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	10.85 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lard	6.05	6.15 $\frac{1}{2}$

On Friday wheat opened $\frac{1}{4}$ c higher, at 78 $\frac{1}{4}$ c for January and 86c for May. Prices were easier from the start for a brief spell. From that forward prices were strong, January going up to 79 $\frac{1}{4}$ c and May to 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, but just before the close heavy unloading put prices back to 85 $\frac{1}{4}$ c for May and 78 $\frac{1}{4}$ c for January. In the afternoon prices advanced steadily, closing at the top. Outside business was heavy. The advance in provisions has checked the shipping demand to some extent. Prices to-day were firm. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	79
Corn	37	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	11.00	11.27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lard	6.10	6.15

On Saturday wheat opened at 77c, the highest point of the day being $\frac{1}{4}$ c above the start, and the lowest point 77 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, for December delivery. May opened at 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ c and closed at 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Provisions were fairly steady, prices fluctuating not more than 15c for pork. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	37	37
Oats	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	11.00	11.15
Lard	6.10	6.15

TORONTO.

STOCKS

The following comparison of quotations for the dates named, will serve as an index to the course of values.

	Dec. 1.		Dec. 8.	
	ASKED.	MID.	ASKED.	MID.
Montreal	237 $\frac{1}{2}$	236	240 $\frac{1}{2}$	239 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ontario	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	114	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	115
Toronto	—	200	214	212
Merchants	128	126 $\frac{1}{2}$	130 $\frac{1}{2}$	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
Commerce	130	129 $\frac{1}{2}$	130 $\frac{1}{2}$	130
Imperial	137	135 $\frac{1}{2}$	137	136
Federal	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109
Dominion	220 $\frac{1}{2}$	220	222	221
Standard	128 $\frac{1}{2}$	127	129	128 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hamilton	136 $\frac{1}{2}$	133	—	134 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northwest Land ..	64	63	64	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
C.P.R. Bonds ..	106	105	106	105

WHEAT

The market has been rather unsettled during the week, influenced by the course of outside prices. No. 2 fall sold on Monday at 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 78c. Red winter brought 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 79c. No. 1 spring sold at 82c, and No. 2 at 79 to 80c. On Wednesday prices were about 1c lower all around.

FLOUR

The demand has been slack and bids below the views of holders. Last prices were \$3.45 for superior extra and \$3.35 for extra.

OATMEAL

Cars hold at \$3.60 to \$3.65, and broken lots at \$3.75 to \$4.25, the latter for granulated.

OATS

Mixed worth about 31 to 32c, and some white sold at the latter price.

BARLEY

Prices have steadily declined during the week, No. 2 sold at 50c, f.o.b. Extra No. 3 was offered at 47c, with but 45c bid. No. 1 was held at 57c, which was also about 2 to 3c above the views of buyers.

APPLES

Cars offered at \$2.25 per bbl.

POULTRY

Has continued to come forward very freely in box lots, but as some shipping demand has been heard sales have been made more easily at steady prices. Turkeys 8 to 9c, and geese 5 to 6c per lb.; ducks 50 to 60c, and fowls 30 to 35c per pair, the latter continuing rather weak.

BUTTER

Fine qualities have been scarce, though large rolls have commenced to arrive more freely.

The latter have sold at 15 to 16c, with some extra at 17c. Selection from lots of dairy have sold at 18 to 19c, with mixed lots at 15 to 16c. Shipping lots have sold at 12c.

EGGS

Fresh firmer at 18 to 19c, in large lots, or 20 to 24c on the street. Pickled 18c.

CHEESE

Held firmly at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, with some common at 10 to 11c. Fine is held at the factories at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

PORK

Little or nothing doing and prices nominally unchanged at \$13.50.

BACON

Increasing firmness in hogs has rendered holders firm on meats, at about 8c for long clear and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for Cumberland in cases; at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9c for rolls; at 10 to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for backs and bellies; and 10c for boneless racks.

HAMS

Very quiet at unchanged prices: the only movement has been in small lots of smoked at about 11c.

LARD

Selling slowly in small lots at 9 to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for tinnets and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10c for pails.

DRESSED HOGS

Rail-lots have been in fair supply, and have found a ready sale. Prices have advanced from 15 to 25c, and closed at \$5.65 to \$5.75 for car lots of good quality. On street also prices have advanced and closed with the range from \$5.50 to \$6, but few good going below \$5.75.

DRIED APPLES.

Scarce, and wanted at firmer prices; trade-lots of new have been worth 4 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, and dealers have been selling small lots for a half-cent more. Evaporated in trade-lots have brought 9c, and dealers prices have been 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Old about finished, and all sorts held firmly both in town and country.

LIVE STOCK.

Prices for cattle remain about the same, but with the average lower than a week ago; the best sale reported was equal to about 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ c per lb., being 22 head averaging 1,125 lbs. at \$42 per head; among the other sales were 8 head, averaging 1,100 lbs. at \$26; 16 do., 1,000, lbs. at \$27, less \$5. Hogs have been in good demand, especially for medium and light fat, at an advance of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per cwt.; offerings consist chiefly of mixed lots, which have sold at \$4.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$4.20 per cwt. Prices were: Heavy fat, \$4 to \$4.12 $\frac{1}{2}$; medium fat, \$4.25 to \$4.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; light fat, per cwt. off the car, \$4 to \$4.25.

HIDES AND WOOL

Following are quotations:—Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$9; No. 1 inspected cows, \$8.25; No. 2 inspected, \$7.25; No. 3 inspected, \$5; calfskins, green, 11 to 13c; calfskins, cured, 13 to 14c; calfskins, dry, 11 to 13c; sheepskins, green, 65 to 90c; wool, super, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 23c; extra super, 27 to 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

The small increase in stocks in the Northwest acted as an offset to easier cables at the commencement of the week, and the feeling held fairly firm, notwithstanding fluctuations in prices. Friday was one of the most active days of the week, transactions reaching about 3,000,000 bushels. Receipts have been small, amounting to about 150 cars per day, but it is expected that receipts will commence to increase almost immediately, as the railways are getting in better shape to handle the grain. The course of prices will be shown by the following closing figures for No. 1 hard, on each day of the week:

	Cash	Dec.	May
Monday	76	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	77	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	81 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday	—	—	80 $\frac{1}{2}$