

MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST

Toronto, April 6, 1908.—The financial position has not improved. Money, though a little easier, is not sufficiently plentiful to help business materially. Call loans rule at about one per cent.

WHEAT

The situation in wheat now depends largely upon crop report conditions. Reports from the fall wheat area in the United States are unfavorable. Those affecting the market somewhat, though no change in price need be looked for for some time. It is too early yet to say anything definite about the growing crop of fall wheat in Ontario. The recent cold snap, coming after a period of warm weather and thawing, may have an injurious effect but what it will amount to will not be known for some time. Prices rule about the same as last week. Quotations here range from 80c to 90c at outside points.

COARSE GRAINS

The oat market is easier, as is that for barley. There is quite a good demand for peas but there is very little stock to be had. Quotations for these show no change, excepting, perhaps, that barley is down to 60c. Prices here for oats are 80c to 87c outside; 60c on track to Toronto. On the farmers' market, oats bring 80c to 84c a bu.

FEEDS

The corn market continues firm. Prices here rule at about 75c a bu. in car lots. The bran and shorts market continues firm at 10c. Quotations on track to Toronto, and shorts at 82c. At Montreal, Manitoba bran is quoted at 82c a ton, in bags, and shorts at 85c in car lots.

HAY AND STRAW

There is very little change in the hay situation. There has been some buying of baled hay at Eastern Ontario points for Montreal, where there is a very good demand. The market here rules steady at 15c for car lots on track. The straw market shows no change from last week's prices, namely 89 to 91c a ton, in car lots.

EGGS AND POULTRY

The egg market is a little better than a week ago and likely to continue strong until after Easter. The recent cold weather has lessened the supplies somewhat. On the farmers' market, strictly new-laid eggs bring 25c a doz., with the ruling wholesale prices at 10c and 12c. The trade in poultry is very quiet. Chickens are largely nominal. Dressed chickens sold at from 20c to 22c lb.; fowl, 15c to 16c; turkeys, 10c to 25c; ducks, 10c to 14c; geese, 10c to 12c.

BUTTER

Prices continue firm here at about 30c to 31c for the best creamery butter. There is not likely to be any great increase in the supplies on account of the feed scarcity and the cows coming through the winter in such poor shape.

SEEDS

Seed prices continue firm at last week's quotations. There is a special demand for alfalfa and other clover seeds. The ruling prices are red clover, 25c to 28c a cwt.; alfalfa, 22c to 24c; and alfalfa, 20c to 22c.

LIVE STOCK

Toronto, April 5, 1908.—Another light run characterized last week's live stock business, both at the Union Stock Yards and City markets. Prices ruled high and there was keen competition for the best lots, which were few in number. Continuing the general run of cattle the past few weeks prices have ruled higher than for some years past. Should there be a big run for a day or two prices will come down. But a very big run is not at all likely for a while. Many cattle were sold off last fall and during the winter because of the feed scarcity. The continued cold weather will have some effect on the feed supply this spring and may cause a lot of cattle to be held over for grazing. Many feeders are also holding for the Easter trade.

Export steers sold at the Junction market last week at 85.50 a cwt. while the run of the best ones brought 85 to 85.50. Export steers at the City market sold at 85 to 85.40 and bulls at 84 to 84.50 a cwt. Butcher's cattle are in demand and the quality offering is not quite up to the past few weeks. Choice selected steers, 1,100 lb. each sold at 85.10 to 85.40. Some exporters, 1,350 lb. each, were bought by butchers at 85.50 to 85.55. Good cattle sold at 84.00 to 85.10; medium 84.50 to 84.75; common, 84.20 to 84.40; good cows, 81.60 to 84.50; common ones 83 to 83.50, and canners 82 to 83.50 a cwt.

There are a few stockers, but scarcely any feeders arriving. There is a good demand for the latter. Some short cow feeders sold last week at 84.75 to 84.90, and a few 1,100 lb. each, at 84.50 to 84.75 a cwt. Choice stockers are worth 83.50 to 85.00 and common ones 82.75 to 83 a cwt.

There are few choice milch cows offering the bulk of them being of only

medium quality. They sell at from 83 to 85.00 each, the latter figure being for fresh milkers of good quality. The common run sell at 82.50 a cwt. Good to choice veal calves are in demand at 85 to 87 a cwt., while the common to medium kind sell at 84 to 84.50 a cwt. The bulk sell at 83 to 87 a cwt. At East Buffalo veal calves sell at 85 to 86 a cwt.

Both sheep and lambs are up. There is a very strong demand for grain fed yearlings at 87 to 88 a cwt., which prices may be exceeded before Easter is over. The common barnyard kind are worth 85.50 to 85.75 a cwt. Export ewes sell at 85 to 85.75 and bucks at 84 to 84.50 a cwt. Spring lambs are worth 84 to 85 each. At East Buffalo lambs are quoted at 85 to 85.75, yearlings 87.50 to 87.75, wethers, 87 to 87.50 and ewes at 85.50 to 86.75 a cwt.

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Hogs took another jump upwards and 86 was paid for select bacon hogs towards the end of the week, with lights and fats selling at 85.75 to 86.50 a cwt. The supply is scarce and it looks as if prices would continue to advance. At Buffalo as high as 86.50 was paid for Yorkers, and at Chicago 86.10 a cwt. The higher prices to the south of the line will check the importation of American dressed pork into Canada.

GOSSIP

At the annual sale at Oak Park Stock Farm, Brantford, last week, the once champion Hackney stallion Grayke Mackdo, sold to Lloyd Jones Bros., Brantford, for \$1,500. Warwick Dons, a Toronto champion, sold to J. C. Johnson, Brantford, for \$675. A. Baker, Calmville, purchased Jubilee Performer (imp.) for \$675. These are all Hackneys of well known breeding and quality.



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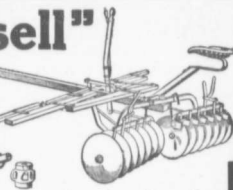
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