

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

Wholesale business in seasonable merchandise and commodities continues to reflect a satisfactory condition. Spring and summer wants in dry goods and like merchandise are about filled, although sorting orders are still coming forward in fair volume. Placings for fall have been heavy and it is stated in dry goods circles that the mid-summer stock accounting will reflect a very satisfactory business. In other lines Montreal houses report favorably. Boot and shoe manufacturers are busy, mostly on army contracts, but in spite of steadily advancing prices domestic business is shaping up well. The dairy and country produce markets are easier under increased deliveries and prices are lower this week. Live stock sales during the week were strong and prices were maintained at a high level.

Dun's review, dealing with Western business, says: "Favorable reports are received from the various centres in the Far West and Northwest, distribution of merchandise being in well maintained volume and the outlook improving with the progress of the season. Winnipeg reports that both wholesale and retail trade continues to improve and that merchants seem to be highly encouraged over the prospects for a large summer business. Sales of automobiles, furnishing and dry goods, clothing and footwear are especially good, and there is a noticeably improved demand for household supplies, groceries and provisions. Merchants at Saskatoon express much satisfaction regarding prevailing conditions, trade with country points showing improvement, and the local movement in most lines being quite active. More seasonable weather conditions at Edmonton have stimulated demand for staple merchandise in that city and vicinity, and the general situation is now very encouraging. The trend toward improvement which has been in evidence at Calgary for some time past is well maintained, and business is expected to be active during the coming summer and fall. The volume of sales in both wholesale and retail lines at Regina is fully up to normal, and conditions are considerably more favorable than at this time last year."

DAIRY PRODUCE.

CHEESE: The cheese market last week was almost demoralized, prices declining rapidly under the low level of the previous week. At country boards the decline in price variously amounted to 11-16c to 3½c per lb. This general slump was brought about by increased supplies and a total absence of export enquiry in the beginning of the week. Towards the end of the week the market reacted slightly as cables became active again. Reports from the country are that pastures are in excellent condition, and that the make of cheese is large, and of good quality. Stocks are about the same as last year.

BUTTER: The butter market shows no new developments to date. Prices remained firm during the past week, but scored a slight decline, amounting to from ½c to 1c per lb. at country boards on Saturday last, in sympathy with the marked weakness in cheese. There was a certain amount of export enquiry, with a few shipments going forward, but the high prices prevailing during the past ten days seems to have checked export business somewhat. Many local dealers are storing June butter which will have a tendency to strengthen the market throughout the month. The local demand is good, and while prices are not expected to go higher the feeling is that the market will be steady for the next few weeks. Receipts are less than last year.

Current quotations follow:

Butter:		
Fresh creamery, solids	0.29	0.29½
Do., prints	0.28½	0.28¾
Seconds	0.26	0.26½
Dairy butter	0.22	0.23
City Selling Prices to grocers:		
Choice Creamery Solids	0.31	
Do., Prints	0.31	
No. 2 Creamery Solids	0.29	
Do., Prints	0.29	
Choice Dairy Prints	0.27	0.28
Do., rolls	0.27	
Cooking butter	0.25	
Cheese:		
Finest Western	0.17	0.17½
Finest Eastern	0.16½	0.16¾
Blue Cheese	0.15½	0.16
Undergrades	0.15	

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

EGGS: This market is a little easier as receipts were heavy during the warm weather last week. There was an active export enquiry, but though no sales of Canadian eggs have been made so far, dealers expect that some business will shortly be consummated. The bulk of the eggs now going forward are coming from the United States. There is a good demand for home consumption, and especially so for selected stock, which is selling at 29c to 30c per dozen in a wholesale jobbing way. Non-fertilized eggs will be on the market by the middle of the month.

POULTRY: Fresh spring chickens are beginning to come in, and as there will soon be larger quantities arriving, a drop in price is expected.

MAPLE PRODUCTS: A very firm market is reported for maple products, especially for sugar, which is somewhat scarce, and buyers of car lots find it difficult to fill their requirements. The demand is good for the season of the year. Prices remain unchanged.

BEANS: A very strong feeling has prevailed in the market for beans during the past week, and prices have scored another sharp advance, which is attributed to the fact that Michigan buyers have been operating in the market to some extent on account of the very limited supplies available in the United States markets.

POTATOES: Offerings of potatoes are not large, which has caused a steady feeling in the market. The demand is very fair at unchanged prices.

Eggs—		
New Laid	0.25	
Special	0.26	0.27
Selected stock	0.29	0.30
Poultry:		
Poultry—Live:		
Fowl, 5 lbs. and over	0.20	0.23
Fowl, small	0.18	0.19
Turkeys, cocks	0.20	0.22
Do., hens	0.22	0.23
Fresh Killed Poultry:		
Turkey, cocks	0.25	0.27
Do., hens	0.28	0.30
Chickens	0.23	0.24
Fowls, hens	0.24	0.25
Do., roosters	0.23	0.24

Frozen stock:—		
Turkeys	per pound.	
Fowls, large	0.21	0.22
Fowl, small	0.18	0.20
Ducks	0.22	0.25
Geese	0.16	0.17
Roasting chickens, ord.	0.23	0.25
Chickens, milk fed	0.27	0.28
Capons	0.28	0.30
Spring broilers, dressed, pair	1.20	1.50
Squabs	0.65	0.75
Squabs, Phila., pr.	0.85	0.85

Maple Products:		
Pure maple syrup, 8-lb. tins	0.85	0.90
Pure maple syrup, 10-lb. tins	1.00	1.10
Extra choice syrup, 13-lb. tins	1.40	1.50
Pure maple sugar, per lb.	0.12	0.14

Honey:		
White clover, in comb	0.15	0.15½
Brown clover, in comb	0.12	0.13
White extracted	0.12	0.13
Brown extracted	0.10	0.11
Buckwheat honey	0.09	0.10

Beans:		
Can. hand-picked, car lots	4.90	5.00
Three-lb. pickers	4.65	4.75
Five-lb. pickers	4.40	4.50
Seven-lb. pickers	4.00	4.30

Potatoes:		
Green Mountains, per bag, car lots	1.75	
Do., Quebec	1.70	
Job lots, ex store, per bag	1.85	1.90

THE WEEK'S CHEESE SALES.

St. Paschal, May 30.—60 boxes at 16 1-16c.	
Campbellford, May 30.—655 boxes at 17 3-8c.	
Peterboro, May 31.—2,088 boxes coloured at 16 5-10c.	
— 16 7-16c.	
Woodstock, Ont., May 31. — 3,226 boxes offered	
Highest bid 15 1-2 no sales.	
Madoc, Ont., May 31.—545 boxes at 16 1-16c.	
Sterling, Ont., May 31.—1,200 boxes at 16 7-8c.	
Brockville, Ont., June 1.—4,675 boxes at 16c.	
Kingston, Ont., June 1.—777 boxes white and 414 boxed colored boarded, 500 boxes sold at 15c.	
Montreal, Quebec Agricultural Co-operative Society, 1,296 boxes at 15 1-4c — 16 1-8c.	
St. Hyacinthe, June 3.—650 boxes at 15 1-4c.	
Belleville, Ont., June 3.—2,900 boxes of white offered, 545 sold at 16 9-16c, balance 16 1-2c.	
London, Ont., June 3.—1,364 boxes offered, 165 sold 15 1-4c.	

PROVISIONS.

A steady decline in the price of live hogs was recorded throughout the past week, prices dropping 30c to 35c on Monday, May 29, and a further 25c on Wednesday, making a net reduction of 55c to 60c for the week, and of 80c to 90c for the month of May. Dressed hogs showed decided weakness in sympathy and dropped 25c per 100-lbs. There is a fairly good demand from packers at these reduced prices. No change has taken place in the smoked meat market. A good trade for home consumption combined with an active export demand, is keeping prices very firm in all lines. The lard market was fairly active during the week, prices holding firm as supplies are light.

Current prices are as follows:

Hams:—		Per lb.
Smoked hams, 8-14 lbs.	0.24	
Do., 14-20 lbs.	0.23½	
Do., 20-25 lbs.	0.22½	
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.20	
Bacon:—		
Breakfast	0.24	
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.27	
Windsor Bacon, Boneless	0.29	
Barrel Pork:—		Per bbl.
Short cut pork	32.00	
Clear Fat Pork, 30-40	33.00	
Clear Fat Pork, 40-50	33.00	
Clear Fat Pork, 20-35	30.00	
Mess Pork	29.50	
Bean Pork, Canadian	24.50	
Barrel Beef:—		
Plate Beef, 200 lbs.	24.00	
Pure Lard:—		pound.
Tierces	0.17	
Tubs	0.17½	
Pails	3.50	
Tins	3.40	
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.18	
Prints	0.18½	
Compound Lard:—		
Western Grades:		
Tierces	0.14½	
Tubs	0.14½	
Tins	2.80	
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.15	
Prints	0.15½	
Cooked meats:—		
Roast shoulders pork	0.33	
Roasts houlders pork	0.33	
Roast ham, boneless	0.35	
Cooked hams, rind off	0.35	
Head cheese	0.09	
Jellied pork tongues	0.30	
Blood pudding	0.09½	
White pudding	0.08	
English Brawn	0.11	

MONTREAL PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the principal commodities at Montreal for the past two weeks follows:

	Week-end. June 3.	Week end. May 27.
Wheat, bushels	2,165,381	1,643,148
Oats, bush.	353,845	235,660
Barley, bush.	15248	378,147
Flour, barrels	185,526	102,670
Eggs, cases	18,782	15,959
Butter, packages	16,106	9,387
Cheese, boxes	85,139	67,617
Potatoes, bags	18,874	13,663
Hay, bales	39,690	31,409

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

The following table shows the receipts of butter, cheese and eggs in Montreal for the week ending June 3, 1916, with comparisons:

	Butter, Pkgs.	Cheese, Boxes.	Eggs, Cases.
Week ending June 3, 1916..	16,106	85,139	18,782
Week ending June 5, 1915..	15,656	84,419	19,831
Total receipts, May 1 to date, season 1916..	47,205	257,407	99,668
Total receipts, May 1 to date, season 1915..	57,785	271,657	103,099

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co. has let the contract to Carter, Halls, Aldinger and Co. for their new mill at Medicine Hat to replace the one recently burned. The building will be of brick and reinforced concrete, capacity 1,500 to 2,000 barrels, and the price is around \$200,000. The mill is to be ready for the plant within four months. The company will also erect a number of elevators this summer in the west.