

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

The weather conditions during the past week have been very beneficial to the crops, the amount of rain fallen being sufficient to keep the ground well moistened. There has been no great damage done to the wheat crops of the West by frost, as was at first expected. Oats have now been all seeded, it is reported, that the flax crop in Saskatchewan will show an increase of about fifty per cent. About three-quarters of the barley seeding is finished. Official reports on the crops state that the outlook has scarcely ever been more satisfactory at this season; the present state of the weather will mean rapid growth.

Wool shearing has now commenced. Government estimates in Alberta state that the clip will be about twenty-five per cent over last year. Notwithstanding the fact that Dominion Government has established a price on buying wheat, and also the grading and selling of flour, they are now taking to task our millers, as it is alleged they are making excessive profits. If our millers can make a profit on the heavy restrictions placed upon them due to their magnificent organizations they should be entitled to the same, as they are taxed on their share of the profits.

Canada's trade report for last month shows a decrease of \$3,001,836. The Government contracts for hay will be completed this month, when it is expected that new contracts will be made for June delivery at lower prices than those now prevailing, owing to the large stocks of hay in the country, and the prospects for a good coming crop.

There is a big demand for maple products, large quantities of maple sugar are being shipped out to the boys at the front.

Retailers have had a fairly busy week. Remittances are good, but city collections show very little improvement.

LIVESTOCK.

MONTREAL. — The receipts of livestock for the week ending June 1, 1918, at Montreal, amounted to 900 cattle, 375 sheep and lambs, 1,470 hogs and 3,050 calves, although cattle supplies were smaller last week a fairly active trade was done. Prices for bulls advanced 75c and cows 25c to 50c per 100 lbs. A stronger feeling also developed for milch cows and supplies were very limited prices advanced \$10 to \$15 each owing to the very limited supplies available and odd sales were made at from \$100 to \$140 each.

The trade in calves was brisk and the tone of the market became very firm. The market for hogs developed a weaker tone and prices were 75c per 100 lbs. lower than those of the previous week.

We quote the following Montreal prices:

Steers, per 100 lbs.—		
Choice	\$15.00	\$15.75
Good	14.50	14.75
Fairly good	13.50	13.75
Fair	13.00	13.25
Light steers	12.50	12.75
Common	10.00	10.50
Butchers' bulls—		
Choice	12.50	13.00
Good	12.00	12.25
Medium	11.50	11.75
Common	10.00	11.00
Butchers' cows—		
Choice heavy	12.00	12.50
Good	11.50	11.75
Medium	11.00	11.25
Common	9.00	10.50
Sheep, per 100 lbs.—		
Ewes	13.00	14.00
Bucks and culls	11.00	12.00
Ontario lambs	17.00	18.00
Quebec lambs	16.00	17.00
Calves, per 100 lbs.—		
Good milk-fed stock	12.00	13.00
Good	10.00	11.00
Fair	9.00	10.00
Hogs, per 100 lbs.—		
Selected lots	20.50	20.75
Sows	18.50	18.75
Stags	16.50	16.75

TORONTO.—The receipts of livestock at Toronto for the week ending June 1st, 1918, amounted to 4-

102 cattle, 1,730 calves, 6,408 hogs, 501 sheep and 614 horses. The trade in cattle was draggy last week and prices showed a decline of 50c to 75c per 100 lbs. There was a good request for light cattle, with the result that prices for this class of cattle were really better than a couple of weeks ago. Heavy cattle suffered a decline. There was a fairly good demand for milch cows. One sold at \$215 and a few other choice milkers sold around \$175 and \$200 each. The common and medium milkers have been selling around \$90 and \$10 each.

In the small meats department business was brisk during the week, spring lambs selling at from \$15 to \$17 each, yearlings at from \$20 to \$22, and clipped sheep at from \$14 to \$15.50, and unclipped at from \$17 to \$18.50 per cwt.

Hog prices declined 50c per hundredweight. The new price was \$20, fed and watered. This is a decline of \$1 per hundredweight in two weeks, and it is said that further declines will take effect on Tuesday of next week.

We quote the following prices for livestock at the Toronto markets:

Heavy steers, choice	\$13.75	\$16.25
Do., good	12.00	13.50
Butchers' steers and heifers, choice	11.50	12.00
Do., good	10.75	11.25
Do., medium	9.75	10.50
Do., common	8.25	9.50
Butchers' cows, choice	11.00	12.50
Do., good	9.50	10.50
Do., medium	8.00	9.25
Do., common	6.75	7.50
Do., canners	6.00	6.25
Butchers' bulls, choice	11.00	12.50
Do., good	9.50	10.75
Do., medium	8.25	9.00
Do., common	7.50	8.00
Feeders, best	9.50	11.75
Stockers, best	9.50	12.00
Grass cows	7.50	9.00
Milkers and springers, choice	100.00	160.00
Do., common to medium	65.00	90.00
Calves, choice	14.00	16.00
Do., medium	12.00	13.25
Heavy fat	10.00	12.00
Lambs, choice	19.50	22.00
Sheep, choice handy	14.00	18.00
Do., heavy and fat bucks	11.00	12.25
Hogs, fed and watered	20.00
Do., off cars	20.25
Do., f.o.b.	19.00
Less \$1 to \$2 on light or thin hogs; less \$3 to \$3.50 on sows; less \$4 on stags; less 50c. to \$1 on heavies.		

PROVISIONS.

The weak feeling which developed in the market for live hogs became more pronounced and prices generally tended to a lower level. The demand from packers was limited. At Toronto prices recorded a decline of 50c per 100 lbs. for the week and closed easy, with sales at \$20.25 per 100 lbs. weighed off cars, and at \$20 weighed off cars, while at Winnipeg they were also 50c per lb. lower, and the market closed quiet at \$19 per 100 lbs. for selected lots weighed off cars. The local market on Monday opened weak, with prices 75c per 100 lbs. below the closing figures of the previous week and remained unchanged for the balance of the week, with selected lots quoted at \$20.50 to \$20.75 per 100 lbs. weighed off cars, but the prospects at the close were that they would go still lower in the near future in sympathy with the above markets. There has also been an easier feeling in the market for dressed hogs, with only a limited amount of trade passing in a wholesale jobbing way in abattoir fresh-killed stock at \$29.50 to \$30 per 100 lbs.

The market for smoked and cured meats showed no developments and prices remained unchanged.

We quote current prices as follows:

Hams:—		Per lb.
Smoked Hams, 8-10 lbs.	0.38
Do., 12-15 lbs.	0.34	0.35
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.32	0.33
Bacon:—		
Breakfast	0.41	0.42
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.44	0.45
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.44	0.46
Pure Lard:—		
20 lbs. pails	0.32	0.33

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending June 1st, 1918, were 14,587 packages, which show an increase of 3,792 packages as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 3,319 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show an increase of 5,481 packages as compared with the corresponding period last year. The total receipts for the month of May, 1918, were 39,543 packages, as against 32,500 for the same month in 1917, showing an advance of 7,043 packages. The butter market opened easy but became stronger early in the week although the receipts of butter for the week were the largest on record for the season to date, showing an increase of over 3,700 packages as compared with the previous week and over 3,300 packages with the same week last year. This was attributed to the improved demand which relieved the market of the bulk of the accumulated stock. At the auction sale held here on Monday prices as compared with the previous sale scored a decline of ½c to ¾c per lb., finest creamery selling at 41½c, and fine at 41c, but at the sale on Friday the bidding was keener and the above prices were advanced 1½c to 1¾c per lb., finest selling at 43½c, and fine at 42¾c. The offerings at these sales for the week amounted to 2,233 packages. At Gould's Cold Storage on Tuesday 400 packages were sold at 41½c per lb., f.o.b. country points, and on Friday 800 packages were disposed of at 43½c per lb. delivered here. In sympathy with the above, the course of prices at the boards in the country to-day was upward and all the offerings at St. Hyacinthe sold ¾c per lb. higher than a week ago at 42½c. On spot, sales of round lots of finest creamery were made in the early part of the week at 43c to 43½c, but the market closed strong at 43½c to 44c.

We quote the following prices:

Finest creamery	0.43½	0.44
Fine creamery	0.42½	0.43
Fine dairy	0.36½	0.37
Margarine:—		
Prints	0.29½	0.34
Bulk	0.28½	0.31½
Cottonseed (Shortening):		
Tierces, per lb.	0.26½	
Tubs, per lb.	0.26½	
Pails, per lb.	0.27	
Cartons	0.28	

CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending June 1st, 1918, were 47,033 boxes, which show an increase of 19,303 boxes as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 2,907 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 6,338 boxes as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The total receipts of cheese for the month of May, 1918, were 108,746 boxes, as against 113,952 for the same month in 1917, showing a decrease of 5,206 boxes. Owing to a keener competition prices at most of the country boards showed advances from ¼c to 5-16c per lb. as compared with those paid the previous week, the range being from 22c to 22½c per lb., f.o.b. At Gould's Cold Storage last week the offerings amounted to 4,500 boxes, which sold at 22c, 22½c and 22¾c per lb., f.o.b. country points. The trade on spot during the week was active owing to the free movement for export account, and in addition to this there was a good steady demand for small cheese for domestic consumption, and all supplies of such met with a ready sale at 22½c to 23c per lb.

The Commission is paying the following prices:

No. 1 cheese	0.23
No. 2 cheese	0.22½
No. 3 cheese	0.22

EGGS.

The receipts for the week ending June 1st, 1918, were 16,746 cases, as compared with 12,842 for the previous week, and 17,409 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st, 1918, to date were 70,490 cases, as against 98,067 cases for the same period in 1917. The local market remains practically unchanged, but an easier feeling developed in the country. In consequence prices have ruled lower and purchases were made of current receipts at 34c per dozen, f.o.b. points of shipment in Ontario. The domestic demand for immediate consumption com-