

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

Navigation is in full swing, but grain on government account is practically the only thing which can secure space. Dealers in other commodities are finding it impossible to fill any enquiries for export while they are also finding difficulty in getting delivery of goods from the other side. Country roads are now in excellent shape and in dairy sections milk is moving freely to the creameries. Travellers on the road are meeting with fair encouragement and sorting orders are coming in, in good style. With lumber advancing the building trade has quieted down a little, inferior grades of lumber being purchased by paper mills which are short of pulp. The boot and shoe manufactures say that there is a better business being done in women's goods, but men's wear is in light demand. The local trade in leather is not heavy, with no export trade being done. However, values are quite firm. There is nothing new in grocery lines, and a fair seasonable business is being done. In hardware lines country orders are fair but in the city trade is slowing down, the large buyers apparently hanging back in the hope of lower prices, but wholesalers say that higher instead of lower values will prevail. In paints and oils, however, deliveries are being made in good quantities and orders are being well filled. Refined sugar is not so active as it has been for some time past as dealers seem to be fairly well supplied. One refinery which was quite a bit lower than the others in quotations has recently come up on a more even footing. Remittances are reported as fair, but collections are if anything somewhat of a disappointment.

PROVISIONS.

With the Chicago market for hogs scoring an advance of 25c to 35c per 100 lbs., an added firmness in the local market, it would be only natural that pork products should continue advancing as they have been doing for the past five months. The tone of the market for lard throughout the week was very firm under a continued good demand for supplies and offerings which were not sufficient to keep up with it.

Current prices are as follows:

Hams:	Per lb.
Smoked Hams, 8-14 lbs.	0.32
Do., 14-20 lbs.	0.31
Do., 20-25 lbs.	0.29
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.28
Bacon:	Per lb.
Breakfast	0.32
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.34
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.36
Barrel Pork:	Per bbl.
Short cut pork	50.00
Clear fat pork	50.00
Mess pork	48.00
Bean pork, American	46.00
Plate pork, 200-lbs.	44.00
Pure Lard:	Per lb.
Tierces	0.27½
Tubs	0.27½
Pails	0.28
Tins	0.28
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.28½
Compound Lard—Western Grades:	Per lb.
Tubs	0.21¼
Pails	0.21¼
Tins	0.21¼
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.22¼
Prints	0.22¼
Cooked Meats:	Per lb.
Roast shoulder pork	0.42
Roast hams, boneless	0.46
Cooked hams, boneless	0.40
Cooked hams, rind off	0.41
Head cheese	0.16
English brawn	0.15

FLOUR AND FEED.

Flour is again on the upward tend and prices during the week scored a net advance of \$1.40 per bbl. for spring wheat grades, while winter wheat went up \$2.00. Dealers say that prices as they now stand (\$16.50 for spring wheat and \$15.50 to \$15.80 for winter wheat flour) are purely nominal and that no trade is being done. However, there is a persistent rumor that stocks in second hands are small and therefore buyers must needs come into the market soon. Millers have taken their travellers off the road and any orders taken, are taken subject to confirmation. A little trade has been done in winter wheat, but generally the market is quiet. Herbert C. Hoover, who is being spoken of as food controller in the United States seems quite alarmed over the

outlook. He says that unless there is official control of prices flour may advance to \$20 a barrel. With flour on the free list, his remarks are naturally of interest to Canadians.

"What this nation must have immediately is control of food prices," Mr. Hoover said. "If the output of wheat is taken over by the Government the present price, which is high enough, can be reduced 40 to 50 per cent. At the same time the producer can be treated in a liberal manner."

"There is absolutely no occasion for food panic in this country, nor any justification for outrageous prices unless the opposition of special interests defeats the President in obtaining the necessary power to control the nation's food fully, and adequately. America's problem is not one of famine, for we have now and will have next year a large surplus. Our problem is, after the proper protection of our own people, to give to our allies the last ounce of surplus of which we can."

One of the most surprising features of the mill-feed trade was a decline of three dollars in bran which is now selling at \$40.00. The fall in price is due to a lowering of the American prices while the demand here is not as good as it has been for some time past. Rolled oats is in a firm market and higher prices for oats has caused dealers to mark up their product 25c per bag. The trade seems well supplied for the present, and business is quiet.

Prices follow:

Flour:	per 98-lb. bag.
First patents	8.25
Second patents	8.00
Strong Bakers	7.90
Rye Flour	5.80
Winter wheat flour, 90 per cent	7.75
Corn Flour, bbls.	12.00
(An extra charge of 30c is made for flour 100 lbs.)	
Cereals:	per 98-lb. bag.
Roller Oats, 90 lb. bag	4.40
Oatmeal, 98-lb. bag	4.30
Roller wheat, 100-lb. bag	4.50
Bag	5.25
Feeds:	Per ton.
Bran	40.00
Shorts	46.00
Middlings	50.00
Moullie, pure grain grades	55.00
Do., mixed	52.00
Barley feed	47.00
Crushed Oats	49.00
Outfeed	33.00
Hay, best grades	13.50
Do., No. 2 ordinary	14.00
Do., No. 3 Timothy	13.00
Clover, mixed	11.50
	10.50

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

EGGS: A feature of the local market in eggs was the strong feeling which prevailed in the first part of the week, in some cases as high as 40c having been paid for current receipts. The demand is quite heavy at present and this coupled with the strong export demand is responsible for the higher prices prevailing. Receipts for the week ending May 12 amounted to 19,071 cases, about 4,500 cases over last week, but almost 5,000 cases short of receipts a year ago. Cool weather in the Maritime Provinces accounts for this falling off to a great extent. Ocean going space for some 30,000 cases was secured before the government stepped in and sales were made for export to Great Britain at 42c.

MAPLE PRODUCTS: There has been a steady demand from the United States for Quebec Maple sugar, and carlots have been shipped at 12c per lb., an advance of ½c over the figures of a week ago. Eastern Townships sugar is in good demand and the market is firm at 14c to 16c a lb. Syrup is in an active market and choice goods in 13 lbs. tins have sold for \$1.75 to \$1.90.

HONEY: A steady undertone prevails in honey and trade is good. Stocks are pretty well cleaned out, but supplies are ample for all requirements and buyers find no difficulty in supplying their wants.

POTATOES: Potatoes are if anything a little easier, but there is nothing new to report.

BEANS: Offerings being small and the demand active, the market for beans was firmly maintained and a fair amount of business was done in a wholesale jobbing way.

Eggs:	Per laid	Per Pound.
New laid	0.44	
Poultry—Live:		
Fowls, 5-lb. and over	0.24	0.27
Fowls, small	0.20	0.22
Fresh Killed Poultry:		
Turkeys	0.32	0.33
Old Turkeys, cocks	0.27	0.28
Fowls, hens	0.20	0.21
Do., roosters	0.17	0.18

How the Markets Stand

Flour is again the most active commodity on the local market and spring wheat grades were advanced \$1.40 per bbl. last week, while the winter wheat varieties are up \$2.00. Some people say that without food control in the United States flour will reach \$20.00. Eggs are continuing in an active and upward market, buying prices in the country being as high as 40c. Speculation in Chicago is cited as the cause of this. Selling prices in the city now range around 44c. Maple products are in good demand and are a trifle higher than a week ago. Potatoes are steady at former quotations, while beans, though making no actual advance are firmer. Butter is somewhat irregular but is easier and is selling around 41½c to 42c. F. o. b. country points it ranged as low as 40½c. Cheese is very quiet, the dealers waiting to hear the report of the British Commission before doing anything. However, some was sold at 22½c. F. o. b. the country last week. Sugar is very quiet and the alarmists who predicted \$10.00 sugar would seem to have been mistaken, although refineries are cautious as to assuring dealers on prices. A feature of the live stock market was the stronger price in cattle which sold at from \$9.75 to \$12.75, an advance of about 50c to 75c over prices a week ago. Hogs are also in a strong market and range from \$17.50 to \$18.00. Pork products are naturally on the up grade also. Fruit is practically unchanged, a shading off in lemons being noticed while pineapple quotations are probably at rock bottom prices. Strawberries are coming in a little more plentiful, but prices are about the same. Leather is firm at previously quoted prices and trade is picking up. One of the surprising incidents of the trade in millfeeds was a drop of \$3.00 in bran, that product now selling for \$40.00. Other feeds remain steady. Tea is advancing at a steady rate due more than anything to heavy freights. The same situation prevails in coffee.

Chickens:	Per lb.
Do., crate fattened	0.25
Squabs, per pair	0.25
Geese	0.18
Ducks	0.21
Maple Products:	Per lb.
Pure maple syrup, quart cans	0.40
Pure maple syrup, 9-lb. tins	1.10
Extra choice syrup, 13-lb. tins	1.75
Pure maple sugar, per lb.	0.14
Honey:	Per lb.
Buckwheat 5-10-lb. tins	0.09
Clover in comb	0.14½
Do. in 5-10 lb. tins	0.12
Potatoes:	Per lb.
New Brunswick, Delawares, 90-lb. sacks	3.75
Quebec's 80-lb. bags	3.85
Green Mountains	4.35
Beans:	Per lb.
Can. hand-picked ear lots, per bu.	7.75
Yellow eyes	7.50
Kingston	7.50
3 lb. pickers	7.25
5 lb. pickers	6.75

DAIRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER: Dealers report that they have been able practically to clear out their stocks of held butter. The demand for this class of butter is small, but as the offerings are also light, the price remains firm. The new make is not as yet coming in, in any quantity and as stocks are light it is expected that a good trade will be done this week. At the butter auction at the Board of Trade, prices advanced ½c to ¾c per pound. F. o. b. country points quotations are 41c with a fair demand for small lots to meet immediate requirements. 42½c was asked towards the middle of last week, but this price shaded off to 41½c on Friday with an easier feeling all around. One dealer when questioned as to the probable supply of butter this year gave it as his opinion that Ontario would be quite a factor in the market as well as the Middle West. "Ontario," he said, "is making big preparations to increase the butter production, but just to what extent these plans will go, will not be known till the farmers and creameries see what prices are going to rule for cheese." Enquiry is again being made here by England for butter.

CHEESE: There has been some inquiry for cheese on spot during the past week, but there has been little or no business done. Trade is quiet and likely to remain so for some time. The decision of the commission appointed to look after the surplus of cheese for export is eagerly awaited as well as