

## Market Review and Forecast

### The Trend of Markets—Supply and Demand—The Outlook

Toronto, Dec. 16, 1907.

There are signs that the financial stringency is easing off somewhat, though cheaper money is not to hand yet. The situation is gradually working that way, however, and if people will be more economical things are bound to come out all right.

#### WHEAT.

Wheat prices rule about the same. Ontario red and white is quoted here at 94c. to 95c. outside, mixed at 94c. to 95c., and goose at 85c. per bushel. As to the situation in general, it is strong. European buyers are, however, turning their attention more to Argentine wheat, to the detriment of American. Winnipeg prices have eased off somewhat, though holders will not accept lower values.

#### COARSE GRAINS.

The oat market is not as strong owing to weaker cable reports. At Montreal the market is quiet, with No. 2 white quoted at 54c. Quotations here are 43c. to 44c. outside. Barley is quoted at 65c. to 72c., and peas at 83-72c. No. 3 American yellow corn is quoted at 70-12c. to 71c., Toronto freights, and bran at \$19 to \$20 and shorts at \$21 to \$22 per ton outside.

#### HAY AND STRAW.

Prices rule a little easier for baled hay, and quotations are \$17.50 to \$18 per ton for baled timothy in car lots on track. Toronto. Baled straw is quoted at \$9.50 to \$10.50 per ton in car lots on track.

#### SEEDS.

On Toronto farmers' market, alsike is quoted at \$7.50 to \$8.75 per bushel, according to quality. At outside points quotations range from \$7 to \$8.50 for alsike and \$6 to \$9.50 for red clover.

#### EGGS AND POULTRY.

There is little change in the egg situation. Supplies of new-laid are limited. For other quality an easier feeling prevails. At Montreal, new-laid are quoted at 32c., and here at 30c. to 35c. and 26c. for selects. On Toronto farmers' market, new-laid bring 30c. to 60c. per dozen.

There is a fair demand for poultry of good quality, but inferior stuff is not wanted. Quotations in a jobbing way are as follows:

Chickens, choice, 8c. to 9c.; old fowl, 5c. to 7c.; inferior chicks and fowls, 4c. to 5c.; young cheese, 8c. to 9c.; young ducks, 8c. to 9c.; thin turkeys, 6c. to 8c.

#### POTATOES AND BEANS.

Potatoes are quoted here at 85c. to 90c. per bag in car lots.

Prime beans are quoted here at \$1.75 to \$1.95, and hand-picked at \$1.85 to \$1.95 per bushel.

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS.

At Montreal, the cheese situation is strong. An active inquiry prevails for high quality, but little or none of this is available. Only a few fac-

ories are now making cheese and receipts are light. Quotations are 12-1-2c. to 12-3-4c. for Octobers and 13c. to 13-1-4c. per lb. for Septembers.

Butter receipts rule light. There is a scarcity of good butter and prevailing prices are lower than they would be were doing quality offering. An active demand prevails and prices are firm. Montreal quotations are 28c. to 28-1-2c. for good grass butter, and 26-1-2c. to 27c. for current receipts. Creamery prints are quoted here at 28c. to 30c. and solids at 26c. to 27c., and dairy prints at 23c. to 24c. and solids at 22c. to 23c. per lb. On Toronto farmers' market butter brings 28c. to 32c. per lb.

#### LIVE STOCK.

Receipts of live stock have ruled large. Some Northwest cattle were on the market last week. There is little or nothing doing in exporters excepting bulls and these are quoted at \$3.25 to \$4.25 per cwt. There was a better trade in butchers' cattle and a firmer feeling, especially for anything approaching good quality. The best Christmas cattle sell at \$4.80 to \$5.60 per cwt.; good cattle at \$4.50 to \$4.75; medium, \$4 to \$4.50; good cows and medium steers, \$3.50 to \$4.30; common cows, \$2.25 to \$3; and canners, 75c. to 80c. per cwt. There is a good demand for the heavier classes of feeders steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs. each, but which are not plentiful. The following are the quotations for feeders and stockers:—Best feeders, 1000 to 1100 lbs., at \$5.50 to \$5.90 per cwt.; best feeders, 900 to 1000 lbs., at \$2.90 to \$3.50; best stockers, 800 to 900 lbs., at \$2.85 to \$3.15; best stockers, 600 to 800 lbs., at \$2.40 to \$2.75; common stockers, unchanged, at \$1.50 to \$1.75. There has been a fair trade for milkers and springers. There are, however, few of the higher-priced kind offering and prices were lower. Prices ranged at from \$20 to \$55 each, which is from \$5 to \$10 per cow less than two weeks ago. One cow, an extra large fine animal, sold for \$70. Veal calves rule at from \$3 to \$6 per cwt.

The run of sheep and lambs has not been large and trade holds steady: at \$3.75 to \$4 per cwt. for export ewes, \$3 to \$3.50 for hucks, and \$4 to \$5.50 per cwt. for lambs.

Hog prices have advanced somewhat and quotations here are \$5.40 per cwt. for selects and \$5.15 for lights, fed and watered.

#### Practical Talks to Farmers

(Continued from page 1180.)

township has to pay compensation to the value of two-thirds of the sheep destroyed. There was need for more stringent legislation.

Mr. Thos. Mason said that municipalities should have no option, but be compelled to enforce the law.

The tax on dogs should be trebled, said one speaker, while another advocated doing away with the tax and compensation and shooting all dogs found away from home between sunset and sunrise. Bad fences were the cause of much loss. Improved fences would remove the difficulty.

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