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Market Review and Forecast

TORONTO, Monday, July 23.—Recent estimates from the Census and Statistics Office at Ottawa place the acreage sown in wheat in Canada, at 13,549,600. This compared with 12,500,500 acres, the area harvested in 1916. The acreage for all Canada, sown to other early grain crops, as compared with the harvested areas of 1916, are as follows: Oats, 13,806,000, against 9,875,346; barley, 1,319,900, against 1,681,189; rye, 153,900, against 147,170; peas, 161,530, against 158,280, and mixed grains, 409,140, against 397,770. The area in hay and clover shows a slight decrease from last year; buckwheat shows a decline, too; flax a quite substantial increase; corn for husking about the same; beans an increase from 32,500 acres to 43,000 acres; turnips a slight decrease; and corn fodder 310,466 acres this year, against 297,100 acres last year. Every province shows an increase in the area planted in potatoes, 502,400 acres as compared with 448,800 acres; the acreage under potatoes is larger than in any previous year, and is 18,400 acres larger than the previous record in 1912. Taking 100 as representing the average condition of crops on June 30th of the past nine years, the present condition of Canadian crops is as follows: Fall wheat 88, spring wheat 95, all wheat 95, oats 95, rye 94, and barley 97.

A review of the markets of the week shows wheat stronger, coarse grains and mill feeds inactive, eggs and poultry firmer, and dairy produce unchanged.

WHEAT.

The cash wheat market is gaining in strength, although there is little trading in futures. Advances have been made in quotations on both Western and Ontario wheat, the greater strength of Chicago and Winnipeg being reflected on the local market. Quotations follow: No. 1 Northern, $2.69½; No. 3, $2.66½; Ontario wheat, No. 2 winter, $2.55 to $2.60, according to freight outside; No. 3 winter, $2.53 to $2.58.

COARSE GRAINS.

The market is quiet and will continue so pending arrival of the new crop. Sample oats are quoted at 81c, and No. 2 C. W. at 86c. Montreal quotes oats, C. W. No. 2, 83c; No. 3, 82c; extra No. 1 feed, 82c; corn, $2.10 to $2.12; barley, feed, $1.27.

MILL FEEDS.

Millers report that there is small demand for mill feeds, but that as the offerings are correspondingly small, the market is strong, in fact, prices have advanced somewhat during the week. Bran is now quoted $35, shorts $40 to $41, middlings $44 to $45, and feed flour, per bag, $2.25. Montreal quotes bran $35 to $36; shorts, $40 to $41; middlings, $40 to $42; moullie, $44 to $49.

HAY AND TRAW.

Unfavorable weather has greatly retarded the hay harvest, and scarcity of labor is accentuating difficulties. The market, however, has not as yet been affected by these adverse influences. Extra No. 2 hay is here quoted $12 to $12.50, and mixed $9 to $11; straw, $9. Montreal quotes No. 2 hay, in car lots, from $11 to $11.50.

HIDES AND WOOL

Country Markets—Beef hides, flat, cured, 20c to 21c; deacons, or bob calf, $1.75 to $2.50 each; horsehides, country take-off No. 1, $6 to $7; No. 2, $5 to $6; No. 1 sheepskins, $3 to $2.50. Horsehair, farmers' stock, $37.

Wool—Unwashed fleece wool, as to quality, fine, 56c; coarse, 56c. Washed wool, fine, 70c; coarse, 65c.

POTATOES AND BEANS.

New Canadian potatoes are now arriving on the market and are quoted here by the wholesale trade in 11-quart baskets at 65c. Imported potatoes, per barrel, $7 to $7.50, and Westerns $2.25.

Beans are quoted as follows: Japanese, hand-picked, bushel, $7.50 to $8; Canadian, $9.25; prime, $8.75.

EGGS AND POULTRY.

The egg market during the past week has continued to gain strength. Receipts are falling off, and there has been a brisk export inquiry. Prices at country points have advanced 6c to 7c; country shippers are receiving offers as high as 36c, f.o.b., and the price being paid in the country is from 33c to 35c. Receipts of poultry continue light, probably because farmers are busy at haying. If conditions this year are the same as in other years, farmers with poultry for sale, will dispose of their surplus now before the movement to market becomes general.

	Live weight	Dressed.
Chickens, spring ...	20c to 23c	25c to 30c
Hens, under 5 lbs...	15c to 00	20c to 00
Hens, over 5 lbs. ...	18c to 00	20c to 00
Roosters	14c to 00	16c to 00
Ducks	19c to 00	00 to 00
Ducklings	15c to 00	25c to 00
Turkeys	16c to 00	18c to 00

DAIRY PRODUCE.

There is little to report in the dairy produce market. The price of cheese this season is more or less a fixed quantity, and the price on country boards ranges from 20¾c to 21¼c for finest, the Cheese Commission paying 21¾c f.o.b. steamer. A normal business is doing in butter, and, if anything, prices have been a little firmer; the export trade is quiet. On this market, creamery solids are quoted 34c to 35c, creamery prints 35c to 36c, and dairy prints 28c to 30c. Prices on country boards follow:

Cowansville, Que., July 14.—1,195 packages butter sold at 35¼c; 28 boxes of cheese sold at 20¾c.

Waterloo, Que., July 14.—1,190 boxes of butter at 35¼c, and 30 boxes cheese at 20¾c.

London, Ont., July 14.—907 boxes offered; 567 boxes sold at 21c.

St. Hyacinthe, Que., July 14.—1,250 boxes sold at 21c.

Belleville, Ont., July 14.—2,450 boxes of white offered; 800 sold at 21 5-16c; 1,100 sold at 21¼c, balance refused at 21¼c.

Vankleek Hill, Ont., July 14.—1,655 boxes white and 50 colored sold at 21 5-16c.

Victoriaville, Que., July 14.—3,000 boxes cheese sold at 21 3-16c.

Iroquois, July 14.—970 colored and 170 white. Auli bid 21½c, the price at which all sold on the board. The corresponding date last year 1,005 cheese were boarded—930 colored and 75 white. Price 14 5-16c.

Woodstock, July 18.—The offering of cheese on the local market was sold on the board. The price obtained was 21c, and 812 boxes of colored cheese were boarded. The first bid was 20¾c.

Madoc, Ont., July 18.—510 boxes sold at 20¾c.

Peterboro, July 18.—3,000 colored cheese sold at 20¾c.

St. Paschal, Que., July 17.—846 cheese sold at 21 1-3c; also 96 boxes of butter at 35 1-16c.

Stirling, July 19.—790 boxes sold at 20¾c.

Kingston, July 19.—772 white and 170 colored; 600 boxes sold at 21c; 20½c offered for balance and refused.

Brockville, July 19.—4,094 white, 960 colored, 20½c being bid for both. No sales.

Cornwall, July 20.—2,813 white and 407 colored sold at 20¾c.

Iroquois, July 20.—840 cheese, 20½c offered. No sales on board nor on the curb.

Perth, July 20.—1,350 boxes sold at 20¾c.

Picton, July 20.—2,005 boxes sold at 21¼c.

Alexandria, July 20.—1,039 white sold at 21¼c.

Campbellford, July 20.—480 cheese offered; 340 sold at 20 11-16c. Balance refused.

Napanee, July 20.—2,095 sold at 20 13-16c.

LIVE STOCK.

With 3,600 cattle on sale on Monday, prices were lower by 10 to 20 cents than those prevailing on the closing market of last week, but about on a level with those prevailing on the previous Monday. Trading was, however, very active, and by the close almost everything had been weighed up. With a light supply on sale on Tuesday, prices held steady and were followed by an advance of 10 to 25 cents on Wednesday, on which day a further light run was received. On Thursday everything was bought up early at Wednesday's advance, the market closing with a steady undertone. Lookers were in demand, but none were offering. The trade in sheep and lambs was active in spite of the largest receipts this season. Hogs on the Monday market were previously contracted for at $16.25 per hundred, and the bulk was weighed up at this figure. On Tuesday $16.75 was the prevailing price for selects, and on the following day the bulk sold at the same level, although $16 was paid for several loads, but on Thursday $15.75 was about the highest price paid. A further decline of from 25c to 50c is predicted for next week.

Although there were few choice butcher cattle offered during the week at Montreal, the average quality of the receipts was slightly better than for a few weeks past. This was particularly true of the offerings at the East End market, where several loads of steers averaging 1,050 to 1,200 pounds, from the district west of Ottawa, and a few loads from Western Canada, were on sale. Such cattle sold generally from $10 to $10.50, with a few small lots above the latter figure. Butcher cows brought from $7 to $8.25. Choice bulls sold up to $10.25, but the majority of sales were made at from $8 to $8.75. A few bologna bulls are coming in and brought from $6 to $7. Canners are scarce and in good demand at unchanged prices. Sheep and lambs are arriving in greater numbers and hold about steady. The hog market was unsteady all week. Prices on Monday ranged from $16.50 to $16.75, off cars, for selects. Tuesday and Wednesday, sales were made at from $16 to $16.50, off cars. Only one load was received on Thursday,