

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

Dispatches from branch offices of R. G. Dun and Co., in leading cities of the Dominion of Canada are generally encouraging, for while distribution of merchandise at retail has been retarded in some sections by adverse weather, conditions in this respect are better, wholesale trade appears to be in satisfactory volume and there are many indications of substantial expansion as soon as spring opens. Montreal reports good orders being received in most wholesale lines, notably dry goods, clothing, groceries and provisions, in spite of the steady advance in prices, and sentiment as regards the future is very confident. Business in almost all departments at Quebec is in fairly satisfactory volume, and merchants are busy preparing for an active movement of all kinds of merchandise expected as soon as spring opens. Manufacturing plants are operating to capacity, as a rule, at Toronto, and this has a stimulating effect on retail demand for all kinds of commodities, while wholesale orders are coming in freely from a wide extent of territory and there seems to be little disposition to complain of prevailing conditions. Steady improvement in industrial lines has benefited all departments of business at Hamilton, and a satisfactory movement of staples is reported. Practically normal conditions prevail at London, demand for most kinds of merchandise of late having shown slow, but steady recovery, owing to the better employment of labor, and prospects are now considered encouraging. In the Far West and Northwest business, which was retarded by weather conditions, is beginning to improve and steady progress from now on is anticipated. Winnipeg reports that sales of general merchandise show steady expansion, with the movement in numerous leading lines well above that of last year at this time. The financial situation is favorable for the extension of business, and sentiment among merchants is decidedly cheerful. Somewhat quiet conditions prevail at Calgary, but there are indications of a revival in activity and a normal spring trade is expected. Retail sales are in fair volume at Saskatoon and with milder weather prevailing wholesale business exhibits substantial improvement. There is quite an active movement of merchandise at Regina, a brisk demand being reported for groceries, dry goods, clothing, footwear and other staples for spring delivery and the general situation is regarded as exceptionally favorable. The volume of business at Vancouver makes a favorable comparison with that of a year ago, and with prospects generally hopeful Spring shipments are expected to be heavy at an early date.

Gross earnings of all Canadian railroads reporting to date for the first two weeks in February show an increase of 19.2 per cent as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Commercial failures in the Dominion of Canada this week number 39 as against 54 last week and 61 the same week last year.

DAIRY PRODUCE

BUTTER: There has been no leading feature in this market during the past week, unless one may say the unusual number of enquiries for creamery butter. Considerable supplies of this class of butter have come in from different quarters, such as Quebec, but the quality has been very poor, the price being at 30c to 31c per lb. The receipts of fresh rolls and prints have been large, but the market has been quite dull.

CHEESE: The market in this commodity continues firm. There has been some enquiry from Great Britain, but owing to the difficulty in securing freights the shipments have not been large. The stocks in the hands of the dealers are getting very low, as the season wears on.

Wholesale quotations are as follows:

Finest creamery	0.33 3/4	0.34 1/4
Fine, do.	0.32 3/4	0.33 1/4
Seconds	0.31 1/2	0.32 1/2
Dairy Butter	0.25	0.28
City Selling Prices:		
Choice Creamery Solids	0.35	
Do., Prints	0.36 1/2	
No. 2 Creamery Solids	0.33	
Do., Prints	0.33 1/2	
Choice Dairy Prints	0.31 1/2	
Do., Rolls	0.32	
Cooking Butter	0.39	
Ch.	0.28	
Finest Western	0.18 3/4	0.19
Finest Eastern	0.18 1/4	0.18 3/4
Fine Cheese	0.17 3/4	0.18
Undergrades	0.17 1/4	0.17 3/4

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

EGGS: There are no more Canadian eggs left on the market, the trade consisting entirely of United States storage eggs for the past few weeks. Several cars have arrived quite recently. The trade has been poor in all but new laids. The receipts from Ontario and the Eastern Provinces have been larger than at the same time last year, but supplies are still insufficient for the demand. New laids have been purchased in Chicago at 22c, which means 27c Montreal, freight and duty paid. Dealers expect that the market will be lower as soon as the receipts of new laids are large. Owing to the recent cold spell of weather the price for this class of eggs has advanced to 28c Montreal.

POULTRY: The poultry market has been short on all lines, as the big purchases made by American buyers around the holidays are still being felt. At that time the market was pretty well cleaned out, and very few supplies have come in since then. Chickens have been bought up everywhere for English shipment for the army.

There is no change to report in the maple and honey market; peas and beans also being featureless. Dealers still have sufficient supplies on hand to meet requirements, and look for no change before the end of the season.

Eggs—		
Fresh gathered, specials	0.32	0.33
Storage, Extras	0.28	0.28
Cracked and Dirts, No. 1's	0.00	0.20
Maple Syrup and Sugar—		
Pure Maple Syrup, 8 lb. tins	0.95	0.97 1/2
Do., 10 lb. tins	1.10	1.12 1/2
Do., 13 lb. tins	1.40	1.50
Pure Maple Sugar, lb.	0.12 1/2	0.13
Honey—		
Buckwheat, in combs	0.12	0.13
Buckwheat, extracted	0.10 1/2	0.11
Pickers—		
3-lb. pickers, carlots, bus.	4.25	4.50
3 lb. pickers, do.	3.90	4.00
Undergrades, bus.	3.60	3.70
Potatoes—		
Green Mountains, per bag, car lots	1.85	1.90
Quebecs, do.	1.85	1.90
Job lots 10c. more.		

Poultry—		
Frozen Stock—		
Turkeys	0.28	0.30
Fowl, large	0.19	0.20
Fowl, small	0.17	0.18
Ducks	0.20	0.20
Geese	0.18	0.19
Roasting chicken, ord.	0.18	0.22
Spring broilers, dressed, pair	1.10	
Squabs, Can., pr.	0.50	
Squabs, Phila., pr.	0.75	
Poultry—Live:		
Fowl, 5 lbs. and over	0.20	0.23
Fowl, small	0.18	0.19
Turkeys	0.20	0.22
Ducks	0.20	0.22
Geese	0.16	0.18
Chicken	0.15	0.18

LIVE STOCK.

Prices were generally lower at last week's sales, cattle prices showing a decline of from 25 to 50c on the previous week, and hogs a decline of from 25c to 40c. The market for small meats was stronger, however, and prices were maintained. The supply of cattle at both sales was larger than usual, and a few lots of choice cattle were offered, bringing as high as \$7.70 per cwt. Canning stock was scarcer than of late, but the demand was only fair. The drop in prices stimulated buying, and the offerings were easily absorbed. The supply of hogs was exceptionally heavy, and the demand from packers was limited. The supplies of sheep and lambs coming forward are small. The trading in the latter is practically at a standstill, and prices generally were higher than the previous week. The receipts of calves are increasing, but the bulk of the offerings last week were young and of poor quality.

	Per cwt.
Butcher steers, very choice	\$7.75 to \$7.85
Do., choice	7.00 to 7.50
Do., good	6.50 to 7.00
Do., medium	5.75 to 6.00
Do., Canners	3.00 to 3.50
Butcher bulls, best	5.75 to 6.25
Do., medium	5.25 to 5.75
Canning bulls	4.00 to 5.00
Butcher cows, very choice	6.50 to 6.65
Do., choice	6.25
Do., good	6.00
Do., poor to medium	4.25 to 5.50
Sheep	5.00 to 7.00
Lambs, Western	10.25 to 11.00

Lambs, Quebec	8.00 to 9.50
Hogs, selects	10.00 to 10.50
Do., mixed lots	9.25 to 9.90
Do., common	9.00
Do., sows	7.50 to 7.75
Calves, good veals	9.50 to 10.00
Do., milk fed	8.00 to 9.50
Do., grass fed	4.50 to 5.50

FLOUR, CEREALS AND MILLFEED.

The feature of the local flour situation during the week was the substantial drop in prices of spring wheat grades of 40 cents a barrel, and of 10 cents a barrel on winter wheat grades in sympathy with the sharp decline in wheat prices on the Winnipeg market. Business was comparatively slow, there being little export interest displayed, while domestic trade is only fair. It is expected, however, that business will show a decided improvement this week on the decline. Spring wheat mills continue fairly busy, while Ontario mills are well filled with orders.

There is no actual change in millfeed prices. Consumption continues heavy for the season, and millers' stocks are low, but a decline in prices is anticipated this week, present prices being shaded in some instances.

Rolled oats were reduced 10 cents per barrel in sympathy with the easier tone in the market for raw material. Trade has been fairly active on the decline. Other cereals are steady, and in good demand.

Current prices are as follows:—

Spring Wheat Flour:—	Montreal.	Toronto.
First patents, per bbl. in bags	6.90	7.00
Second patents, do.	6.40	6.50
Strong clears, do.	6.20	6.30
30c per bbl. more in wood.		
Winter wheat flour—		
Fancy Patents	6.50	
90 per cent in wood	5.90	6.00
90 per cent in bags	2.75	2.85
Cereals:—		
Cornmeal, yellow, in bags, 98 lbs.	2.25	2.45
Rolled oats, per bbl. in wood	5.25	
per bag	2.50	2.75
Rolled wheat, 100 lb. bbl.		
bbl.	4.00	3.30
Rye flour, 98 lb. bag	2.65	2.80
Graham flour, 98 lb.		3.25
Barley pot., 98 lbs.	3.00	
Barley, Pearl, 98 lbs.	4.50	4.00
Whole wheat flour, 98 lbs.		3.25
Baled Hay—		
No. 1 per ton	21.00	17.50
Extra Good, No. 2 do.	20.50	15.00
No. 2 per ton	20.00	13.00
No. 3 per ton	18.50	
Millfeeds:—		
Middlings, per ton	28.00	30.00
Bran, per ton	24.00	24.00
Shorts, per ton	26.00	26.00
Feed flour, per ton	35.00	
Feed flour, bag	1.60	1.70
Moultie, pure grain grades, per ton	33.00	
Do., mixed	31.00	
Barley feed, per ton	33.00	
Do., meal, per ton	35.00	
Crushed oats, 80 lbs.	1.75	
Reground oatmeal feed, per ton	19.00	

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGG RECEIPTS.

The following table shows the total receipts of butter, cheese and eggs in Montreal during the week ending February 26, with comparisons:

	Butter, pkgs.	Cheese, boxes.	Eggs, cases.
Week end. Feb. 26, 1916	399	91	5,380
Week end. Feb. 19, 1916	739	279	4,189
Week end. Feb. 27, 1915	1,062	232	4,567
Total receipts, May 1, 1915 to date	397,543	1,995,309	541,422
Total receipts, corr. period last year	385,687	1,530,144	397,107

PERSONALS.

W. A. Torrance, well-known cattle dealer of Toronto, has joined the Live Stock and Grain Growers' Grain Company, Limited, of Winnipeg, and will reside in future in the West. Albert Duncan, of Petrolia, is superintendent of the company.

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Current Hams: Smoked ha Do., 12-2 Do., 20-3 Do., over Large bonc Smoked ro Bacon: Boneless Windsor B Windsor B Barrel: Short cut Clear Fat Clear Fat Clear Fat Mess Pork Barrel Mess Beef Plate Beef Pure L Tierces .. Tubs .. Pails .. Tins .. Cases, 3, 5 Prints .. Western Tierces .. Tubs .. Pails .. Tins .. Cases, 3, 5 Prints .. Quebec Tierces .. Tubs .. Pails .. Tins .. Cases, 3, 5 Prints .. Cooked Roast shou Roast legs Cooked har Head chees Do., 6's Jellied pork Blood pudd White pudd Jellied bee Beef hams, Pressed bee

The mont very dull in dency to be moment Ca per box. G to \$3.50 wit ket is very bbl. higher lemons hav to react 50 moving free will sell ar choice. Ca last week, a Florida sto onions for \$3.50 per 10 and is selli Cranberries ing at \$12 t tia's left o been scarce in that isla varieties.

Apples:— Starks .. Spys .. Ben davis Russets .. Baldwins Bananas, bu Cranberries, Cranberries, Grapefruit, 4 Grapes, M Lemons:— California Messina, 3 Oranges:— Navels, Ca 126 .. 80-965 ..