

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

Wheat opened $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ higher on Monday, but later broke $\frac{3}{4}$, again recovered, and closed near Saturday's prices. September ranged from $89\frac{1}{2}$ to $90\frac{3}{4}$, and August from $88\frac{3}{4}$ to $89\frac{1}{4}$, December wheat closed at $91\frac{1}{4}$. Closing prices for futures were:—

	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat.....	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Corn.....	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	39
Oats.....	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork.....	11.90	11.10	11.80	—
Lard.....	5.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.02 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs.....	5.07 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.17 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.27 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.35

Wheat opened easier on Tuesday at a decline of $\frac{3}{4}$ c on improved weather conditions in the northwest. During the day another drop of $\frac{3}{4}$ c was experienced, but this was partially recovered. A heavy feeling prevailed all day. The improved cash demand for lard caused a steady feeling in futures. Closing prices were:—

	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat.....	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Corn.....	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork.....	11.70	11.07 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.75	—
Lard.....	5.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.87 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.00	6.10
Short Ribs.....	5.05	5.15	5.25	—

On Wednesday spring wheat was rather dull and weak for lots in store and to go to store. No. 2 sold in store at $86\frac{3}{4}$ c, and the close was nominally $86\frac{1}{4}$ c. Spring wheat by sample was very dull to-day and little business was transacted. Prices were weak most of the day. Free on board and switched lots sold as follows: No. 3 at $78\frac{1}{2}$ to 80 c for good. Futures ranged at from $86\frac{1}{2}$ to $87\frac{1}{4}$ c for August, $87\frac{1}{2}$ to $88\frac{3}{4}$ c for September and $89\frac{1}{2}$ to $90\frac{3}{4}$ c for December. Closing quotations for futures were:—

	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat.....	86	87	88 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Corn.....	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork.....	11.75	10.90	11.40	—
Lard.....	5.80	5.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.97 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.07 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs.....	5.02 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.10	5.20	5.27 $\frac{1}{2}$

On Thursday wheat started firm on strong cables, less favorable crop reports and a more bullish estimate on the total crop by the *Price Current*, but Hutchison was such a persistent seller that the $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent gained early was lost before the close. Closing prices were:—

	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat.....	—	86	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	—	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	—	32	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork.....	—	11.60	10.90	10.40
Lard.....	—	—	5.85	5.97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs.....	—	5.02 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.10-12 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.20 $\frac{1}{2}$

On Friday wheat was strong all day and closed $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ higher on bullish crop advices from Europe and the Northwest. Closing quotations for futures were:—

	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat.....	—	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	—	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	—	33	30	29 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork.....	—	11.25	10.70	10.35
Lard.....	—	5.80	5.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	5.95
Ribs.....	—	5.05	5.10	5.20-2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Ontario Cheese Markets.

At London on July 12, ten factories offered 1,670. Sales, 125 at $8\frac{1}{4}$ c, 230 at $8\frac{3}{4}$ c, 1,803 at $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. Junes about all sold in the section; market firm.

The total value of beef, hog and dairy products exported from the United States from January 1, 1890, to June 30, 1890, inclusive, is given at \$63,222,651 against \$53,377,459 during the corresponding six months of 1889.

Minneapolis Market.

Following were the closing wheat quotations on Thursday, July 17:—

	July	Aug.	Sept.	On track
No. 1 hard.....	88	88	—	92
No. 1 northern.....	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
No. 2 northern.....	81	81	—	81-83

Flour—Patents were going at \$4.55 to \$4.75 while millers sold well ahead asked more, reaching up to \$4.90. Bakers' went at \$3.40 to \$3.85 and low grades at \$1.30 to \$1.75.

Bran and Shorts—Business was stiff at \$11 to \$11.50 sacked, with sacks included, while there was no inquiry for bulk. Some dealers quoted bulk bran at \$9.25 to \$9.50. Shorts quoted at about \$10 to \$11.50 bulk for fine and coarse with \$1.50 more for sacked lots.

Corn—The demand was slow for corn at 31 to 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. t. and f.o.b.

Oats—The demand was fair at 27 to 31c for dark mixed to choice white o.t. and f.o.b.

Barley—Feed barley went at 29 to 33c. Feed—The demand was fair for mixed feed made of oats and corn ground together by home mills. Sales of No. 1 were made at \$13.25 to \$13.50 f.o.b. Coarse corn meal quoted at about \$13 for good sound stock with some fair lots going at a fraction under.

Eggs—There is no change in the market price, which is from 12 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per dozen, including cases. Holders are anxious to sell quickly after arrival and are rather inclined to press goods on to buyers but no sales appear to be making under 12c.

Potatoes—New potatoes, \$3.75 per barrel, or \$1.25 to \$1.40 per bushel.

Montreal Stock Markets.

Quotations on July 18 are given as follows:

Banks.	Sellerr.	Buyers.
Bank of Montreal.....	223 $\frac{1}{2}$	222 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ontario.....	120	116
Molson's.....	167 $\frac{1}{2}$	160
Toronto.....	216	213 $\frac{1}{2}$
Merchants.....	146 $\frac{1}{2}$	144 $\frac{1}{2}$
Union.....	—	—
Commerce.....	128 $\frac{1}{2}$	128
Miscellaneous.		
Montreal Tel.....	96	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rich. & Ont. Nav.....	61	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
City Pass. Ry.....	195	193
Montreal Gas.....	206 $\frac{1}{2}$	206
Canada N. W. Land Co.....	75	74 $\frac{1}{2}$
C. P. R. (Montreal).....	82 $\frac{1}{2}$	82
C. P. R. (London).....	—	83 $\frac{1}{2}$
Money—Time.....	7	—
Money—On call.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	—

Prices of Canned Goods.

The Canned goods situation in the East is causing much interest. Following is a letter which appeared in the *Toronto Empire*, from W. A. Ferguson, of the Delhi Canning Company, with a reply thereto by the commercial editor of the *Empire*:—

To the editor of the *Empire*.

Sir,—In your issue of the 10th, I notice in the commercial column under the head of "Canned Goods," your remarks on the demoralized condition of the canned goods market, which I must take exception to, as it does not in any sense represent the true condition of affairs. There may be a want of confidence among a few small jobbers in canned goods and a race between them to see who can sell for the smallest profit, and at the same time the entire stock held by them does not represent 50 per cent. 50 cases all told. The writer canvassed

the wholesale trade of Toronto on the 9th inst., successfully, and did not hear of a case of strawberries being offered at \$1.75. He had frequent enquiries for tomatoes, and could have sold at \$1.20 had he had any to dispose of. The canned goods of 1888 and 1889 will be completely used up before the new goods are on the market.

The strawberry crop in western Ontario is now over. The berries were large and of fine quality, but the season was short, owing to the excessive heat during the ripening period. Most growers come short of their estimate, and the writer has good reasons to believe that the greater portion of the strawberries canned has already been sold. One half of Delhi Canning Company sold at \$2.10, the balance they prefer to hold, believing that the short crop of apples, pears, cherries and peaches, both in Canada and the United States, will create an unusual demand for the smaller fruits. We have more orders booked for future delivery than ever before at this season of the year, and will not take on any more, except subject to pack.

W. A. FERGUSON.

[We cannot agree with Mr. Ferguson, but on the other hand maintain that we expressed the condition of the market on Wednesday last. The want of confidence is among some of the packers and not among the jobbers. It is a fact that strawberries could have been bought on Wednesday last at \$1.75, and that purchases have been made this season at that price. Our readers will notice that we reported an improvement in the market on Thursday. As our advices from packers and the advices received by wholesale dealers indicated a probable lighter pack than was anticipated a firmer tone was imparted to the market. The rain and hailstorm of Tuesday was reported to have done a great deal of damage. This made packers less anxious to contract, fearing that they might not be able to fill their orders. Notwithstanding this improvement packers to-day offered one of the best brands of strawberries at \$1.85 to the wholesale trade. It is also a fact that future tomatoes have sold at 90c. No doubt Mr. Ferguson could get \$1.20 for tomatoes if he had any 1889 goods for immediate delivery. If we mistake not he was the only packer who had full confidence in the situation as well as in his goods and sold out about two months ago at that price. He could not, however, get that figure on Wednesday last for the goods offered to the trade by a Montreal broker. A lot of these were sold, as stated, at \$1.15 to the retail trade. We may add that THE *EMPIRE* has more confidence in the canned goods situation than some of the packers appear to have. Three months ago we advised packers not to slaughter tomatoes. One of them sold a large lot at 90c. He could since have got \$1.20.

The population of Canada is estimated at 5,000,000, an increase of nearly 700,000 in ten years. A hundred years ago the population of the United States was 3,929,000, of Canada 156,000. In 1861 British Columbia had 6,000 people, in 1881 the population numbered 49,459. These figures show that Canada has grown proportionately at a faster rate than the United States. She has increased thirty-two fold, while the United States has increased sixteen.