The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, March 18, 1916).

Wheat—The feature of last week's wheat markets was the weakness in Liverpool. This was at first ascribed to the possibility of separate peace with Turkey, thus opening the Dardanelles for the passage of Russian wheat. Later there was talk of an earlier end of the whole war than had lately been expected. These rumors suggest the question of whether present prices are too high if the war were actually at an end. It was noticeable during the past week that the markets on this side declined very little, in spite of Liverpool weakness. Chicago was strengthened by new reports of crop damage and at times our markets were assisted by American buying. On the week Winnipeg May shows a decline of 2¼c and July 2½c.

Oats—Future prices show a gain of ⅛c to ¼c for the week. There were no wide fluctuations and only a moderate amount of trading. No doubt oats values will be affected in a large measure by the action of the wheat markets.

Barley—Barley was very dull, with prices somewhat weaker and very light offerings.

Flax—Flax prices declined 2½c to 2¾c on the week's business. Trading was light and there was no special feature to the market.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

	May	July	Oct.
Wheat			
March 14	108½	108½	
March 15	109½	110½	
March 16	110½	111½	109½
March 17	107½	108½	109
March 18	107	107½	109
March 20	109½	110½	109
Week ago	108½	108½	
Year ago	150½	149½	114½
Oats			
March 14	42	42	
March 15	42½	43	
March 16	43½	43½	
March 17	42½	42½	
March 18	42½	42½	
March 20	43	43½	
Week ago	41½	41½	
Year ago	64½	64½	
Flax			
March 14	209	209½	
March 15	206½	207½	
March 16	208½	210½	
March 17	208½	210½	
March 18	207	209	
March 20	206½	208½	
Week ago	208½	210½	
Year ago	173½	175½	174½

MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES

Sample Market, March 18.

No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	$1 13½
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1 12½
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1 13½
No. 1 hard wheat, part car	1 13½
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1 13½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 10½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 10½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 08½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 08½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 09
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car, Sample sale	1 08½
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 12
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 2 cars	1 12
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 07
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 07
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 05
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, transit	1 03
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 01½
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 03
Rejected wheat, 1 car	95
Rejected wheat, 1 car	1 00
No. 2 western wheat, part car	1 04½
Screenings, 1 car, ton	12 00
Screenings, 1 car, ton	7 00
No. 3 mixed wheat, 1 car	94½
No. 1 durum wheat, 1 car, mixed	1 02½
No. 3 durum wheat, 1 car, mixed	91½
No. 2 durum wheat, 1 car	99
No. 4 wheat, 1 car, to run	96½
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	99
No. 3 hard winter wheat, 1 car, Mont.	1 03½
No. 2 hard winter wheat, 1 car	1 08½
No. 3 hard winter wheat, 2 cars	1 04½
No. 2 hard winter wheat, 1 car, Mont.	1 08
No. 4 hard winter wheat, 1 car	1 00½
No. 2 hard winter wheat, 1 car	1 08
No. 6 mixed corn, 1 car	57
No grade mixed corn, 1 car	56
Sample grade mixed corn, 1 car	53
No. 5 mixed corn, 1 car	71
No. 2 mixed corn, 1 car	75
No. 5 yellow corn, 1 car	65
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	40½
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	41½
No grade oats, 1 car	40½
No grade oats, 1 car	39
No grade oats, 1 car	39½
Sample oats, 1 car	40
No. 3 white oats, 1 car, to arrive	41½
Milling oats, 1 car, f.o.b.	37
No. 3 yellow oats, 1 car	40½
No. 2 rye, 2 cars	89
Sample barley, 2 cars, to run	63½
Sample barley, 2 cars	62
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car	66
No. 4 barley, 1 car	67
No. 2 feed barley, 1 car	64
No. 2 feed barley, 1 car	65
No grade barley, 1 car	62½
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car	63
No. 2 feed barley, 1 car	64½
No. 1 flax, 200 bu., arrive	2 31
No. 1 flax, 1 car	2 31½
No. 1 flax, 1 car	2 31

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

Fort William, March 17, 1916.

1916 Wheat	This Year		Last Year	
1 hard	65,814	50	12,327	40
1 Nor	11,449,667	00	1,055,099	10
2 Nor	5,139,552	10	2,095,962	40
3 Nor	3,381,924	30	1,592,558	00
No. 4	1,640,678	10	951,203	20
Others	2,464,933	10	933,284	40
This week	24,142,569	50	This week 6,640,585	30
Last week	24,025,102	50	Last week 5,994,311	00
Increase	117,467	00	Increase 646,274	30
Oats				
1 C W	109,034	30	248	18
2 C W	4,478,741	28	739,208	19
3 C W	2,090,436	02	566,251	10
Ex 1 Fd	668,607	25	283,157	14
Others	1,816,143	22	1,133,311	01
This week	9,162,964	10	This week 2,732,156	28
Last week	8,692,692	27	Last week 2,586,427	17
Increase	470,271	17	Increase 145,729	11
Barley			**Flaxseed**	
3 C W	566,621	38	1 N W C 813,951	16
4 C W	181,905	18	2 C W 85,438	11
Rej.	106,129	44	3 C W 33,555	20
Feed	81,191	12	Others 29,127	33
Others	177,145	14		
This week	1,712,993	30	This week 961,872	54
Last week	1,652,558	28	Last week 937,796	31
Increase	55,635	02	Increase 24,076	23
Last year's total	336,622	27	Last year's total 942,492	49

SHIPMENTS

1916	Oats	Barley	Wheat	Flax
(lake)	22,000.00			
(rail)	1,503,490.20	191,996.06	20,863.30	40,103.23
1915				
(lake)				
(rail)	297,954.00	68,848.00	4,466.00	

CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY

Week ending March 17, 1916.

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur Ter.	24,142,569	9,162,964	1,712,993
Depot Harbor	26,310		
In Vessels in Can. Ter. Harbors	2,447,386	2,185,935	
Total	26,604,264	13,098,576	1,953,531
At Buffalo and Duluth	5,111,094	2,056,815	150,000
Total this week	36,162,574	17,311,326	2,103,531
Total last week	36,243,500	16,404,530	2,061,169
Total last year	10,239,496	5,032,188	673,962

GRAIN IN INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATORS

For the week ending March 15, movement of grain in the interior terminal elevators was as follows:—

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Calgary	Wheat	126,225.00	11,510.00	186,361.00
"	Oats	84,777.00	9,168.00	232,949.00
"	Barley	1,300.00		8,357.00
"	Corn	"	"	1,174.00
"	Mix'd	"		
"	Grain	164,380 Bs.		307,180 Bs.
Saskatoon	Wheat	543,262.00	$141,680.10	2,325,076.40
"	Oats	115,021.26	24,781.16	547,835.00
"	Barley	10,100.05	"	41,077.05
"	Flax	16,545.52		57,123.45
"	Mix'd	"		
"	Grain	638,660 Bs.	"	

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Closing prices on the principal western markets on Saturday, March 18, were:—

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat	$1 06	$1 12½
2 Nor wheat	1 03	1 08½
3 Nor. wheat	1 01	1 05½
3 white oats	39½	.41½
Barley	51½-59	61-69
Flax, No. 1	2 03½	2.31½
Futures—		
May wheat	1 07	1 08½
July wheat	1 07½	1 08½
Oct. wheat	1 02	

The Livestock Markets

Following the spectacular rise of hog prices last week buyers started out with determination to bring about a break, and succeeded in reducing rates 5 to 10 cents each day until near the close business was 35 to 45 cents under the year's highest position occupied just before the finish of the preceding week. Muddy roads, spring work and the fact that heavy liquidation the past few months has exhausted marketable porker supplies on many farms of the northwest and corn states tributary to this and other markets, are expected to curtail supplies so that confidence of sellers to maintain a satisfactorily high selling basis for some time to come, in spite of temporary reverses, is unshaken by the developments of the past few days.

The mildly slumpy condition in the fat cattle market have also failed to dissipate bullish sentiment, as special reasons have been cited as being the chief contributing causes of the weakness of recent sessions. Cattle supplies have been enlarged at many of the markets. Lenten abstinence from the beef diet has curtailed consumption and stor ce conditions in the east retarded clearance of stock from Chicago considerably during the week, so that buyers had several talking points to make use of in arguing for concessions.

Not more than 10 to 15 cents discounts were evident generally, and these did not become apparent until the latter half of the week. Occasionally sellers reported a quarter break from best figures of the preceding week, but these were exceptional.

Sheep and lamb supplies continued scarce. Packers paid $10.50 to 10.75 for toppy lambs of western origin and $9.65 to 9.80 for yearlings. Mature lots were sparingly offered, and no price changes were quotable. Trade tendencies favored sellers, however. Feeder demand exceeded supply.

Calgary, March 18.—Cattle continued to advance a little, selling about 15 cents stronger for the last week. There were no real extra choice cattle on the market this week so it is very hard to say what they would bring, but some very ordinary common cattle sold for $7.40 to $7.55. There should be no trouble to realize $7.75 for extra choice cattle weighing from 1100 lbs. to 1300 lbs. There are very few cows and heifers coming, but the prices are strong for them. Good heifers are selling around 7 cents, while extra good choice cows are bringing $6.75 to $7.00. Some real good oxen were sold for 6 cents, while the majority are selling around $5.50 to $5.65. Bulls are also holding firm, selling around $5.25. Stock cattle are in good demand and selling at about last week's prices, but there are not as many moving as expected. There have been no sheep on the market for the past week, but good wethers would bring around 9 cents, ewes around 8 cents and lambs 10 cents.

The hog market has been very strong again this week, opening Monday at $9.75 and closing on Friday at $10.15, but it looks as if the market is out of line with Eastern markets, so that shippers should be very careful during the coming week.

Winnipeg, March 20.—Receipts at the Union stock yards for the past week have been as follows: Cattle, 1,050; hogs, 5,000; calves, 91; sheep and lambs, 21.

Receipts of cattle have been more liberal this week and include more good quality stall fed cattle than have been offered for some time. There has been a slightly lower tendency during the week, largely in sympathy with outside markets. A few extra choice cattle sold from $8.25 to $8.50. Good to choice cows and stockers are in demand. On the whole the market is reasonably steady and should remain so unless heavy supplies are received. Calves, 125 to 200 lbs., sell around $7.50 to $8.50, and common to fair $6.00 to $7.00.

Hogs have been selling well all week. Prices advanced about 15 cents per hundred and offerings were comparatively heavy. Saturday's price was $10.15 to $10.25 for selects.

Sheep and lambs are scarce. Good quality sheep are selling at $6.75 to $7.50, and choice lambs $8.60 to $9.00.

Country Produce

CALGARY PRODUCE—The Produce Department of The Grain Growers' Grain Co. Ltd., Stall No. 24, Calgary Public Market, reports that dairy butter is coming forward slowly and price is steady. New laid eggs are coming very plentifully and price has dropped. Potatoes have advanced in price. Milk and cream is more plentiful and prices are easier. There is a good demand for live poultry. Dressed hogs, light, are 12 to 12½ cents per pound, heavier weights being 10 to 11½.

WINNIPEG PRODUCE—Note: All prices quoted are f.o.b. Winnipeg unless otherwise stated.

Butter—There is no change in the price offered for country butter shipments this week. Fancy dairy is worth 24 to 26 cents per pound, No. 1 dairy is 24 to 25 cents per pound and good round lots 17 to 19 cents.

Eggs—Eggs are very plentiful now and shipments of new laid eggs are coming in good condition. Dealers are offering the same price namely, 20 to 25 cents per dozen this week.

Milk and Cream—Supplies of cream are increasing rapidly, demand for butter is steady, but more is being made, consequently prices for cream are lower this week. Sweet cream, delivered, is worth 38 cents per pound of butterfat; sour cream is 34 cents delivered (or about 31 cents per pound of butterfat in the country). Milk is now being paid for on a quality basis. A scale of prices is in force varying according to the fat content of the milk so that no one definite price can be quoted for this product.

GENERAL EMBARGO

Owing to weather conditions in the East, the C.P.R. found it necessary at noon on Sunday, March 19, to declare a general embargo out of Fort William on all freight other than livestock and perishables, excepting freight of all classes booked for Cartier, Sudbury and points south.

The National Transcontinental is completely blocked with snow east of Cochrane, making a complete embargo on that line for freight for Montreal and Quebec.

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from March 14 to 20 inclusive

Date	WHEAT 1*	2*	3*	4	5	6	Feed	OATS 2 CW	3 CW	Ex 1 Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	BARLEY No. 3	No. 4	Rej.	Feed	FLAX 1 NW	2 CW	3 CW	Rej
March 14	107½	105	102½	99½	90½	83½	78½	40½	38½	38½	37½	37	60	55	51	51	204½	201½	..	..
15	108½	105½	103½	100½	91½	84½	79½	41½	39½	39½	38½	37½	60	55	51	51	202	199½	..	..
16	109½	106½	104½	101½	93½	85½	80½	42½	40½	40½	38½	38½	60	55	51	51	205½	202	..	..
17	106½	103½	101½	98½	89½	81½	76½	41½	39½	39½	38	37½	60	55	51½	51½	205½	202½	..	..
18	106	103	101	98	89	81	76	41½	39½	39½	37½	37	59	54	51½	51½	203½	200½	..	..
20	108½	105½	103½	100½	91½			42½	40½	40½	38½	38½	59	54	51½	51½	203½	200½	..	..
Week ago	107½	104½	102½	99½	99½	90½	83½	40½	38½	38½	37	36½	60	55	51	51	205½	202½	..	..
Year ago		148½	145½	139½	134½	130½		62½	60½	60½	59½	58½		72	70	70	170	167	..	..

THE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg Mar. 20	Winnipeg Year Ago	Toronto Mar. 9	Calgary Mar. 18	Chicago Mar. 18	St. Paul Mar. 18
Cattle	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c
Choice steers		7 35-7 75	8 10-8 50	7 40-7 65	9 85	7 00-9 00
Best butcher steers and heifers	7.50-8.00	7.25-7.50	7.75-8.15	6.75-7.00	7.10-8.60	6.00-8.25
Fair to good butcher steers and heifers	6.50-7.25	6.25-6.75	6.40-7.75	6.00-6.25	6.50-8.60	4.75-7.50
Best fat cows	5.75-6.50	6.25-6.50	5.25-7.00	6.50-6.75	3.80-8.75	4.25-7.50
Medium cows	5.00-5.50	5.00-5.50	5.50-5.75		3.80-8.75	4.25-7.00
Common cows	4.00-4.75	4.25-4.50	5.25-5.50	4.50-5.75	3.80-8.75	4.25-7.00
Choice heifers	6.50-7.25	6.50-7.00	7.50-7.85	6.75-7.00		4.25-7.00
Best bulls	5.25-5.75	5.00-5.25	6.50-7.25	4.75-5.25		4.00-6.75
Common and medium bulls	4.75-5.00	4.25-4.50	5.75-6.50			3.50-6.75
Best feeding steers	5.75-6.50	6.00-6.50	6.25-7.25	5.50-6.00		5.00-8.00
Best stocker steers	5.50-6.00	5.50-6.00	6.00-6.75			4.75-7.50
Best milkers and springers (each)	$65-$80	$60-$70	$80-$100	$65-$80		
Common milkers and springers (each)	$45-$55	$45-$50		$50-$60		
Hogs						
Choice hogs	10 10-10 25	$7 25-$7 50	10 50-10 60	$10 15	$9 15-$9 70	$9 45
Heavy sows	$7.50-$8.00	$5 50				
Stags	$4.50	$4 75				
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	$8 00-$9 00		10 50-13 50	$9.50-$9.75	$9 75-11 50	$5.50-10.75
Best killing sheep	$7 00-$7 50		$8.00-$8.50	$8.00	$8 25-$8.90	$6 75-$9 50

COUNTRY PRODUCE	Winnipeg March 20	Winnipeg Year Ago	Calgary Mar. 17	Saskatoon Mar. 16	Regina Mar. 16	Brandon March 20
Butter (per lb.)						
Fancy dairy	24c-26c	25c	30c-32½c		28c	27c
No. 1 dairy	24c-25c	21c-22c	25c-27½c	22c	20c	26c
Good round lots	17c-19c	18c-20c	22c	18c	23c-25c	25c
Eggs (per doz.)						
Subject to candling				20c		
New Laid	20c-25c	18c	25c	22½c	25c	25c
Potatoes						
In sacks, per bushel, new	75c-85c	50c-55c	85c	75c	75c	90c
Milk and Cream						
Sweet cream (per lb. butter-fat)	38c	35c	31c-36c			35c
Cream for butter-making purposes (per lb. butter fat)	34c	31c	30c-33c			32c
Sweet milk (per 100 lbs.)		$2.25	34c per lb. of butter-fat			$2.50
Dressed Poultry						
Spring chickens	17c	16c	20c-23c	20c	22c	20c
Fowl	13c-14c	12½c	20c	16c	18c	16c
Ducks	15c	15c	20c	14c-18c	17c	
Geese	15c	12½c		18c	18c	
Turkeys	19c	18c-20c	25c	22c-25c	22c	20c
Hay (per ton)						
No. 1 Red Top	$14	$12-$14			$20	
No. 1 Upland	$12	$14	$9	$10-$12	$18	$12
No. 1 Timothy	$16	$15	$14	$12		
No. 1 Midland	$11	$10-$12		$9-$10		