

## EASTERN MARKETS.

## CHICAGO

The wheat market made a bad start on Monday and continued in a very weak state during the fore part of the week. About the middle of the week there was a little better feeling, but prices continued to decline steadily from Monday until Saturday, closing quotations being lower each day, one after another. Trading was not by any means active, and although there seemed to be an undercurrent of strength on some days, yet there appeared to be a general disinclination to bite. Although there has been a gradual decline in prices, yet the total decline for the week has been small, and not any greater than frequently occurs in a single session of the board. Nevertheless, wheat was going down and therefore the host of speculators who buy on a bulge, avoided it. Weak markets here seem to have had an influence on foreigners, who do not care to buy while prices are going down. Exports, however, keep up at the rate of about 2,000,000 bushels per week and once the rush of first deliveries is over a better feeling may be looked for. Pork and lard were dull and easy during part of the week, the only feature being brought about by the strikes at the stock yards, which caused spasmodic fluctuations in prices. Corn and oats were easy in sympathy with wheat.

Wheat started weak on Monday, owing to easy cables and heavy receipts. The increase in the visible supply, though lighter than expected had no effect upon the market. Sales on Northwestern account were mostly in December, in which month there was heavy trading. December ranged from 76½ to 75½c, closing at 76½c. Corn was active and lower, selling down 1½c, with a considerable recovery toward the close. Trading in oats was lively at irregular prices. Provisions were dull and easy. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	72½	74½
Corn .....	35½	36½
Oats .....	24	25½
Pork .....	8.72½	8.72½
Lard .....	5.77½	5.77½

The markets were generally lower in all speculative commodities on Tuesday. Wheat started ¾c lower, and trading was very quiet. Prices broke ½ to ¾c on reports from Milwaukee and weak foreign markets. Corn and oats were quiet and easy. Pork and lard both sold off steadily, but recovered 2½ to 5c in the afternoon for pork. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	71½	72½
Corn .....	34½	36½
Oats .....	24	25½
Pork .....	8.50	8.50
Lard .....	5.65	5.65

On Wednesday wheat opened weak as usual, and although the close was not much better, yet there was a firmer feeling throughout the day, owing to better buying on New York account. December sold up to 75½c, but was easier in the afternoon. Provisions were slightly stronger in the forenoon, but pork declined 2½ to 5c in the afternoon, and January lard 2½c. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	71½	73½
Corn .....	35	36½
Oats .....	24	25½
Pork .....	8.02½	8.02½
Lard .....	5.72½	5.72½

Wheat was firm by spells on Thursday and cables were somewhat better. The principal movement for the day was in covering by shorts. December sold up to 75½c, and in the afternoon prices continued strong. Pork sold up to \$9.02½ for January, on liberal outside orders and the disturbance at the stock yards. Prices eased off toward the close, but pork advanced 7½c in the afternoon. Lard was also stronger. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	71½	73½
Corn .....	35	36½
Oats .....	24	25½
Pork .....	8.75	9.77½
Lard .....	5.72½	5.75

Friday was a quieter day in wheat, and prices were easy and without much change. The undertone of the market seemed to be stronger than for many days, though the feeling on the surface was quiet. The opening was strong at 73½c for November; 75½c for December, and 81½c for May. The one o'clock close was ¾c lower, and in the afternoon prices sold down to the close. Corn and oats were easier. Prices for pork fluctuated sharply, with light trading. January pork ranged \$9.72½ to \$9.95. November lard varied 10c in price. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	70½	72½
Corn .....	34½	35½
Oats .....	23½	24½
Pork .....	8.62½	8.62½
Lard .....	5.65	5.70

On Saturday wheat was weak and lower again, and the closing prices were the lowest for the week. December closed at 74½c, and May 80½c. Corn and oats were easier. Provisions continued unsettled and irregular. January pork closed at \$9.65, and January lard at \$5.90. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat .....	70½	72½
Corn .....	33½	35½
Oats .....	—	—
Pork .....	8.75	8.75
Lard .....	5.62½	5.75

## TORONTO.

## STOCKS

The stock market has held very quiet since our last report, and values have changed but fractionally in any direction, some to higher and others to lower quotations. The feeling has generally been weak. Closing prices on Wednesday, October 6, as compared with the same day of the previous week, were as follows:

	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.
ASKED.	ASKED.	ASKED.
Montreal .....	225½	224
Ontario .....	225	221
Toronto .....	210	207
Merchants .....	130	129
Commerce .....	127½	127
Imperial .....	137	136
Federal .....	114	113
Dominion .....	210	217
Standard .....	127	126½
Hamilton .....	—	136
Northwest Land .....	68½	67
C.P.R. Bonds .....	106	105
do Stocks .....	—	67½

## GRAIN AND PROVISIONS

There has been some improvement in the grain markets, at least in the amount of business doing. Wheat has been offered more freely, though sales have usually been made for grain standing at outside points. Prices, however, have not improved, but on the contrary, have been easier. Stocks in store here have increased slightly during the week. Ontario farmers are apparently still holding their grain very closely, which seems to agree with the disposition of buyers here, who do not seem very anxious to make purchases. The provision trade has ruled steady and in about the usual volume.

## FLOUR

The flour market has been characterized by a light demand and few sales, with buyers holding off for reductions. At the opening superior extra sold at \$3.65, and extra at \$3.55, but at the close prices were shaded 5c.

## OATMEAL

Car lots have not been wanted, but sales of broken lots were made at \$3.90 to \$4.00.

## WHEAT

Prices have tended steadily downward and closed lower, with trading very light for the season. No. 1 Manitoba hard, changed hands on Monday at 88c. At the close No. 2 fall for milling was worth about 75c, but shipping lots would not bring over 73 to 74c. Red winter and No. 2 spring were worth about the same price. On the street fall and spring by sample brought from 74 to 76c.

## OATS

Oats have been offered freely and sold at easier prices. Prices ranged from 30 to 32c on track in car lots, and 32 to 34c on the street.

## BARLEY

A number of sales were reported at outside points, but very little offering on the spot, with prices easier. No. 1 sold at 62c and No. 2 at 56½ to 57½c, f.o.b.

## PEAS

Quiet, with sales at 54c.

## POTATOES

Offerings have been in excess of the demand, and prices consequently lower. Sales of car lots ranged from 52 to 56c, the former price toward the close.

## APPLES

One car of fall fruit sold at \$1.25, with very little demand. On the street prices range from \$1 for common fall to \$2 for choice.

## POULTRY

Offered less freely, and apparently rather firmer at 45 to 65c for fowl; at 55 to 75c for ducks; geese have run from 60 to 80c; turkeys usually sold at 10 to 12½c per lb., and geese by weight at 8 to 8½c per lb.

## BUTTER

Choice has remained in active demand, mainly for local use, at firm prices. Selections have been taken at 16 to 17c, and the remainder at 12 to 14c. One car of choice dairy, in small tubs, sold at 17c. Shipping lots have been in very little demand, though some medium was taken at 12 to 12½c. Rolls sold at 15 to 16c for good, on the street pound rolls sold at 21 to 24c and tubs and crocks at 16 to 19c.

## CHEESE

Small lots of choice have sold at 11½ to 12c, and later at 12 to 12½c. At Ingersoll on Tuesday 8,000 boxes were offered, with 330 sold at 12½c. Factory men were holding firmly.

## EGGS

Prices have advanced to 18c for round lots, owing to receipts not being up to the demand.

## PORK

The demand seems to have improved during the week with sales at about \$14.