

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.**

The season for fruit and vegetables is showing increased activity from week to week as greater numbers of varieties are placed on the market. The apple market was better last week, with an increase in price for spies. The demand for box apples was good, prices ranging from \$2.55 to \$2.65 at auction. Grapefruit remains firm under a good demand. Lemons are showing signs of life at last by advancing 50c a box in the course of the past week. Strawberries are arriving in good condition at slightly lower prices. The banana season is now at its height, with prices on an even level, in spite of a brisk demand. Bananas may be said to be one of the few staple articles which have not risen in this era of increased prices for all foodstuffs. The cold weather during the past fortnight has temporarily decreased the general demand, and prices have weakened accordingly. The tendency from now on is for a heavy consumption at full figures. Canadian asparagus receipts were heavier, which has caused a sharp drop in prices. There is a general scarcity of tomatoes as the Floridas are almost finished, and the Texas and Mississippi are hardly on the market yet. Receipts of southern cabbage are very small, and are selling freely at \$5.25 to \$5.75, an advance of 50c to \$1.00 over the previous week. A good quantity of American beans are now on the market, with a consequent drop in price. Canadian onions are meeting with a strong demand, and Egyptians are also coming on the market. Prices of California celery are advancing as the season draws to a close. As old potatoes are very scarce, the trade is now looking to Florida and North Carolina for their early summer supplies.

The first consignment of California fruit this season was sold at the Montreal Auction yesterday, Monday, May 22, consisting chiefly of cherries and apricots.

The dried fruit market continues very firm. An advance of 1c is noted in bulk Persian dates, and higher prices for Carsons. Fard dates are expected to arrive at the latter end of the month. Tarragona Almonds are higher, as the next crop is not expected to be heavy. Walnuts are firm, filberts scarce, and unchanged. Currants remain firm with no expectation of any change in prices for some time to come.

Current quotations follow:—

<b>Apples:—</b>	
Starks .....	5.00
Syops, No. 1 .....	6.00 7.50
Do., No. 2 .....	5.00 6.00
Ben Davis, No. 1 .....	3.75
Russets .....	6.00 6.50
Baldwins .....	4.50 5.00
Bananas, bunches .....	2.00 2.50
Cranberries, Cape Cod, bbl. ....	12.00 14.00
Grapefruit, 46-54-64-80-96 .....	3.75 4.50
<b>Lemons:—</b>	
California .....	3.50
Messina, 300 size, box .....	3.50
<b>Oranges:—</b>	
Late Valencias, Californias, 176-200-216	4.25
126 .....	3.50
80-96 .....	2.75 3.00
Pineapples, 18-24 and 30-36 .....	2.25 2.75
<b>Strawberries, qt., Louisiana and Tennessee .....</b>	
	0.16 0.18
<b>Vegetables:—</b>	
Asparagus, Canadian, per 11-qt. bkt.	1.25 1.75
Artichokes, bag .....	1.50
Beets, bag .....	1.50
Beans, wax, N.Y., per basket .....	3.75
Beans, green, N.Y., per basket .....	4.25
Cabbage, Montreal, per bbl. ....	2.00
Cabbage, red, dozen .....	0.40
Do., New American, Mississippi .....	5.25 5.75
Cauliflower, hampers .....	4.00
Do., New American .....	3.50
Cauliflower, crate, singles .....	3.50
Celery, Florida, crate .....	3.50
Celery, Florida, crate .....	2.50 3.00
Cucumbers, fancy, Boston, doz. ....	2.50
Garlic, per lb. ....	0.30
Horse radish, per lb. ....	0.14
Leeks, bunch .....	0.30
Curly lettuce, box, doz. ....	2.50
Mint, dozen .....	0.60
Mushrooms, 4-lb basket .....	2.50
Oyster plant, dozen .....	1.00 1.25
<b>Onions:—</b>	
Reds, 100 lb. bags .....	4.50
Do., crates .....	3.25
Bermudas, crates .....	2.75 3.00
Parsnips .....	1.00 1.25
<b>Potatoes:—</b>	
New Brunswick, 80 lbs., bags .....	1.90
Sweet, hamper .....	1.75 2.00
Radishes, doz. ....	0.40
Rhubarb, lb. ....	0.10
Spinach, New York, bbl. ....	3.25 3.50
Turnips, bag .....	0.90
Tomatoes, hothouse, lb. ....	0.30 0.35
Tomatoes, Florida, Fancy .....	5.25
Do., choice .....	4.75
Watercress, Boston, hothouse, doz. ....	0.75

**GRAIN AT HEAD OF LAKES.**

Statement of stock in Store at Fort William and Port Arthur in terminal elevators on May 19th, 1916, with receipts and shipments during the week.

Elevator.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Flax.
C. P. R. ....	1,264,241	340,134	195,776	.....
Emp. and				
Th. Bay ..	1,199,758	350,706	42,931	257,399
Consol. ....	612,623	212,050	30,786	161,736
Ogilvie ....	1,013,316	87,973	49,214	.....
Western ....	630,759	209,110	20,184	234,550
G. G. G. Co. ..	980,199	361,912	34,052	.....
Fort William	484,681	149,253	57,109	18043
Eastern ....	464,552	161,277	22,628	.....
G. T. P. ....	1,640,334	511,742	110,564	120,060
Can. Nor. ....	2,013,091	725,731	112,629	125,307
Horns ....	144,670	44,318	26,761	177,600
Can. Govt. ..	1,153,438	354,643	38,574	99,062

Total .. 11,661,665 3,499,753 741,222 1,193,760

A year ago 3,337,264 1,622,704 379,276 1,430,833

Receipts ..	5,928,268	2,143,594	165,591	201,274
Ship. Rail ..	156,763	68,136	781	3,140
Ship. Lake ..	6,267,002	2,168,784	507,920	121,331

**Stocks by Grade.**

	Wheat.	Oats.		
No. 1 Hard .....	71,664			
No. 1 Nor. ....	5,125,457	1 C.W.	77,138	
No. 2 Nor. ....	1,460,283	2 C.W.	1,824,527	
No. 3 Nor. ....	1,239,811	3 C.W.	646,959	
No. 4 .....	1,237,062	Ex. 1 Fd.	208,196	
Others .....	2,477,386	Others	742,931	
Total ..	11,601,665	Total	3,499,753	
	Barley.		Flax.	
3 C.W.	266,134	1 N.W.C.	1,018,170	
4 C.W.	318,450	2 C.W.	109,183	
Reject.	43,525	3 C.W.	31,713	
Feed	30,370	Others	34,693	
Others	82,742			
Total ..	741,222	Total	1,193,760	

**ELEVATOR ADDITION OPENED.**

Lady Borden, on May 15, by crossing two small flags in the new addition to the Montreal Harbor Commissioners' elevator No. 1, started a current which gave the signal to the men in the power house (the flags being covered by insulated copper), and thus was instrumental in setting in operation the machinery in the largest seaport grain elevator in the world. The addition cost \$80,000, and has just been completed. Lady Borden was presented by President W. G. Ross, on behalf of his fellow-Harbor Commissioners, with a handsome silver tray containing an engraving of the new elevator. Sir Robert Borden, who gave a brief address, and Lieutenant-Governor Leblanc were among the interested spectators. A collation was served in the elevator.

**WINNIPEG GRAIN RECEIPTS.**

The receipts of grain at Winnipeg for the week ended May 20, 1916, compared with the previous week and the corresponding week a year ago were as follows:—

	May 13, 1916	May 20, 1916	1915
No. 1 hard .....	4	.....	.....
No. 1 Northern .....	3,147	2,700	.....
No. 2 Northern .....	932	758	.....
No. 3 Northern .....	684	530	.....
No. 4 Northern .....	278	366	.....
No. 5 Northern .....	109	106	.....
No. 6 Northern .....	40	20	.....
Other grades .....	230	261	.....
Winter grades .....	23	14	.....
Total ..	5,452	4,755	1,124
Oats ..	1,197	1,246	117
Barley ..	125	129	14
Flax ..	189	130	21

**WORLD'S WINTER WHEAT ACREAGE.**

The Bulletin of Agricultural and Commercial Statistics for February last, compared with last year:—

Countries.	Acres.	Per cent. of 1915.
Denmark .....	164,300	100.0
Spain .....	9,846,800	106.0
France .....	12,440,500	91.4
Switzerland .....	112,500	107.0
Canada .....	1,100,800	85.1
United States .....	37,256,500	88.7
India .....	28,243,600	95.0

**CANADIAN FLOUR IN TRINIDAD.**

Trade Again Normal With Resumption of Freight Service.

(By Commercial Agent EDGAR TRIPP.)

The proportion of imports of flour from Canada continues most satisfactory, although the United States have by no means relinquished competition in an article in which they held a practical monopoly for over a century, notwithstanding the preferential duty against them of one shilling per barrel. This competition found some encouragement during the first two months of the present year, when owing to complications of the freight service in the Dominion and other causes incidental to the war considerable delay was experienced in the shipment of goods on order, with the result that a flour famine very nearly obtained locally.

**Business Done Through Selling Agents.**

Most of the flour trade is now done through selling agents of the millers established here. These selling agents take orders on sample, transactions are concluded by telegraph, and the goods are consigned direct to purchaser with documents against draft at from 10 to 30 days sight. Under present uncertain conditions it is difficult to effect any business, so much depends upon date of delivery which can in no case be guaranteed by the seller, whilst the buyer looks upon such guarantee as essential. Probably this state of affairs will for the present lead to a partial resumption of the old time consignment business, in which the consignor took the chance of each venture reaching a favorable market but this is, however, a system which, unless in exceptional circumstances, is not to be commended. Its practical elimination from the trade of these islands, whereas it was formerly most generally adopted, has led to the better commercial status of traders now obtaining.

**Flour Trade of Trinidad.**

Regarding the flour trade of Trinidad, the fact should be borne in mind that the consumption is about 800 barrels a day all the year round. When, as has happened of late, the shipments have approached, roughly, 1,200 barrels a day for a period of over six weeks, and it is remembered that the article is a perishable one, and that cold storage is limited, it is not surprising if many losses have turned the scale against a few unlooked for gains.

**Steamship Service.**

The excellent service performed under contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has been the principal factor in the marked advance in imports of foodstuffs, etc., from Canada. Previously there was no substantial competition offered to the regular line from New York, especially as regards punctuality in arrival and departure. But admirable as the existing service is, it is already manifest that it is insufficient to cope with the growing trade and to supply the needs of all the islands. Steamer after steamer leaves fully laden but without carrying all that is or would be offering, and disappointment and loss to importers frequently result. It is with satisfaction, therefore, that the news has been received of the charter of an extra freight boat from Halifax which should go far to relieve the situation. It was the uncertainty of obtaining the necessary supply from Canada which led to the placing of extensive orders elsewhere as well as the disorganization and trouble in the local market.

**INQUIRE INTO GRAIN ACT.**

The Board of Grain Commissioners of Canada has been appointed a commission to examine into and report upon the operations of the Grain and wheat defects, if any, have been found in it. Also as to whether any improvements are necessary. The commission will also report to the government upon the general course of transport of grain from the west and what are the causes which hinder a greater portion of Canadian grain going through Canadian ports, etc., covering the following seven points in particular:

- "1. The grading and weighing of grain.
- "2. The shipping of grain from country elevator.
- "3. Grain exchanges.
- "4. The financing of grain.
- "5. The handling of grain at terminal points and in respect of the charges for the same.
- "6. The shipping of grain to Atlantic ports.
- "7. The lake shipments.

Patrick H. Rice, of the Rice Milling Co., St. Boniface, Man., whose plant was destroyed by fire some weeks ago, states that the mill will be rebuilt as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.