

ed condition. Only one car of Seville oranges has arrived this season, and no more are likely to come. California navels are firm owing to the difficulty of shipping them across the continent under the existing embargoes. Lemons went \$1.50 per box higher last week at the New York auctions, so that higher prices are predicted for Montreal. The advance is attributed to the lack of tonnage from the Mediterranean and the increased war risks. The danger of freezing in railway transportation is another important factor in the situation.

Apples are moving fairly well under a good demand for all grades, including 3's. Nova Scotia is reported to hold 75,000 barrels in stock which will likely be marketed in Montreal and Toronto, as it is impossible to secure sufficient freight space to export them. The arrival of these apples will not likely weaken the market as Ontario apples are so very scarce and poor this year that this additional quantity can easily be absorbed. A car of coconuts arrived in Montreal last week which is the first for some time.

With regard to vegetables, the market is higher and very firm. American firms are buying up as large supplies of onions, turnips, beets, parsnips and carrots as they can get in this district. One New York buyer brought 100 bags of onions in Montreal at 8c a pound and shipped them by express. The red onion crop last season was only about 50 per cent of normal and in some places a total failure. Owing to the consequent scarcity any good stock remaining in dealers hands is worth from 8c to 10c per pound to-day with every likelihood of going higher. The recent food riots in New York were started by onions selling retail at 29c a pound. Spanish onions are practically off the market. Beans are very high on account of damage by frost. Cabbage is exceedingly scarce and dear, selling in Montreal at \$6.00 to \$6.50 a barrel, which works out to \$120 a ton. This is the result of a big American demand when we have not even sufficient cabbage for our own needs. Enquiries are also coming from Toronto for all kinds of vegetables.

Current quotations are as follows:

Fruit:—	
Cranberries, per bbl. . . . .	6.00 8.00
Baldwins, per bbl. . . . .	4.50 6.00
Cranberry pippin, per bbl. . . . .	5.00
Greenings, per bbl. . . . .	5.50
Pezaunkies, per bbl. . . . .	4.00 4.50
Mackintosh Reds, per box . . . . .	3.25 3.25
Spies, per bbl. . . . .	7.00 9.00
Bananas, per bunch. . . . .	2.50 3.00
Grapes, Almeria, per keg. . . . .	7.00 9.00
Grapefruit, Florida and Cuban . . . . .	4.25 4.50
Do., Jamaica . . . . .	3.00
Lemons, Palermo, per box . . . . .	4.00 4.50
Do., Messina . . . . .	4.25 4.50
Oranges, California, Navel, per box . . . . .	3.25 4.00
Do., Floridas . . . . .	4.00 4.50
Do., Mexican . . . . .	2.00 2.25
Pears, Winter Nellis, per box . . . . .	4.50 5.00
Vegetables:—	
Artichokes, per bag . . . . .	1.75
Beets, per bag . . . . .	1.50
Beans, American, per hamper . . . . .	9.00 12.00
Brussels, Sprouts, per qt. . . . .	0.15 0.25
Cabbage, Montreal, per bbl. . . . .	6.00
Carrots, per bag . . . . .	1.50
Cauliflower, California, per doz. . . . .	3.00 3.50
Celery, Florida, per crate . . . . .	5.50 6.00
Do., California, per crate . . . . .	9.00 9.50
Garlic, Venetian, per lb. . . . .	0.12
Horse Radish, per lb. . . . .	0.35
Boston Lettuce, head, per box . . . . .	2.50 3.00
Do., curly, per box . . . . .	2.50
Onions, red, per 75 lb. bag . . . . .	6.00
Potatoes, Quebec, per 80 lb. bag. . . . .	3.25 3.50
Do., Green Mountains, per 80 lb. bag . . . . .	3.25
Do., Sweet, per basket. . . . .	2.75 3.50
Parsley, per doz. bunches . . . . .	1.50
Salsify, per doz. bunches . . . . .	0.75 1.00
Turnips, per bag . . . . .	1.00 1.75
Tomatoes, hothouse, per lb. . . . .	0.25 0.30
Cuban, per crate. . . . .	3.50

GROCERIES.

Sugar is firm at the recent advance chiefly on account of the unsettled conditions in Cuba. Recent reports are to the effect that Santiago is cut off and the situation there is serious. A dispatch from Washington states that the American fleet off Cuba is carefully guarded by torpedo nets.

Figures as regards production of sugar are still incomplete, the centrals in the interior of the Island being behind with their reports owing to the prevalence of the trouble. Anxiety exists as to the possible amount of damage done to sugar milling machinery which might retard production and shorten the output. The supply of raw sugar in the refiners' hands is said to be limited and retailers' stocks of granulated are also becoming depleted.

Rice is very firm and the prospects are that it will go well over 10c a bag. Vancouver rice has ad-

vanced 25 cents per 100 lbs. These high prices are attributed to limited supplies held by the millers. The planters are said to have large amounts on hand which they are unwilling to part with at present prices. The demand for tapioca is increasing, and this coupled with the difficulty of bringing new supplies into the country has created a very firm market. Black teas have been rising steadily in price of late and further advances are likely. No tea may be shipped from England to neutral countries in order to insure sufficient supplies for the Allied nations who are buying heavily in London. This market dear tea in the United States, which is immediately reflected in Canada. In Lloyd George's speech on the proposed measures to meet the German submarine campaign, he announces his intention of prohibiting the import of foreign tea, coffee and cocoa as existing stocks are considered sufficient for the time being. Coffee is without feature.

The demand for all kinds of dried fruit and vegetables is good and most prices have advanced. Prunes are especially firm. The freight congestion on the railways is seriously interfering with shipments of Californian goods. No offers are being made as consignments might not arrive for several months. Canned goods are firming up again with the Lenten demands, and the absence of stocks of many varieties in canners' hands. Brokers are simply buying from one another to fill their orders. Tomatoes and peas are scarce, but stocks will likely be sufficient at the reduced rate of consumption. Prices on new crop asparagus are about 10 per cent in advance of last year's quotations to the wholesaler. Canned peaches, pears and cherries cannot be bought to-day at less than 20c a dozen above the prices quoted by jobbers last year.

All imported goods are dear and scarce on account of the increased risks and the lack of ocean tonnage which has become more pronounced since the Germans have increased their submarine activity. Very little olive oil is coming in and if the demand were not slack owing to the season much higher prices would prevail. French walnuts are quoted over the cable at 5c a pound more than the present ruling price, with prospects of going even higher. Buyers are consequently refusing to book. The cost of packing has gone up 30 per cent since the war.

LIVE STOCK.

MONTREAL: Offerings of live stock for sale at the Montreal stock yards last week amounted to 1,200 cattle, 200 sheep and lambs, 4,400 hogs and 950 calves. Trade in cattle was slow last week as Lent has already brought a diminished demand for all kinds of meat. In-coming receipts were very light owing to the difficulty of bringing stuff to market over the bad roads all over the country. Buyers are disposed to stand off, as they hesitate buying at the present abnormally high price levels. Easier prices are expected with better weather conditions and heavier receipts. Choice steers were scarce but good quality stock brought \$10 to \$10.25 per 100 lbs. The offering of small meats were small, and consequently trading was dull, although prices held steady. The trade in live hogs was quiet which was due to the fact that drovers in many cases would not accept present prices ruling, while on the other hand packers were unwilling to pay any more for the quality of stock coming forward. In any case the consumption of pork is smaller at this season than usual on account of Lent. The outcome of the situation is a decline of 25c a cwt. for live hogs. Selected lots brought \$15.25 to \$15.50.

TORONTO: Receipts of live stock at the Toronto stock yards last week amounted to 2,915 cattle, 755 calves, 7,340 hogs and 535 sheep and lambs. The outstanding feature of the trade last week was the unusually light run of receipts, which amounted all told to less than a day's offerings last autumn. Values were well maintained for cattle, although some dealers complained that green cattle had to be disposed of at sacrifices. At the close of the week prices generally were 25c higher than the level of the preceding week. The hog market closed strong at prices exceeding the former high level by 15c to 25c, the fed and watered price being \$15 and \$15.15 on the off-car basis. The farmers appear to have control of the situation for the time being, probably for the reason that hogs are not finished as well as in normal times, so that two or three weeks of additional feeding can be resorted to, leaving the market bare and forcing prices up. Small meats were steady with the small supply tending to keep values up.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

The wheat markets again fluctuated within narrow limits, chiefly influenced by reports of foreign buying and the transportation situation. Improved conditions on the railways led to an upturn in prices at the beginning of the week, to be followed by depression as to the betterment of railway traffic conditions on Wednesday, when matters would have become much worse but for the aggressive action taken by the Chicago Board of Trade, officials, looking to an embargo on all shipments of freight east of that city except foodstuffs and fuel. Dealers found themselves unable to ship wheat east and the congestion reached a stage where for the first time ever known operations in the grain elevators throughout the city were at a practical standstill.

The British Premier's speech was the subject of much discussion in the wheat pits. At the outset the effect on the market was decidedly bullish, as by far the greater number of traders took the view that the immediate result would be to discourage holders and would be purchasers as well. On the following day the consensus of opinion was that the Premier's address implied a long continuance of extraordinary demand for foodstuffs and had even precluded much of a break in values on peace news. Assertions that a fleet of the largest merchant vessels in the world would shortly be conveyed from this side of the Atlantic by British cruisers helped to carry the wheat market to the topmost point of the day.

Unfavorable reports of winter wheat crop condition continued to come in based chiefly on the ill effect of absence of snow protection during cold weather in Ohio, Indiana and Central Illinois and on the results of lack of moisture in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

Closing quotations to-day (Monday) show a loss of approximately 1½ cents for the week in Winnipeg, being \$1.76½ for May, \$1.74½ and \$1.47½ for October. Chicago quoted \$1.77½ for May, \$1.51½, and \$1.39½ for September, as compared with last Monday's closing at \$1.76 for May, \$1.50½ for July, and \$1.39½ for September, or practically no change.

The cash grain situation is as follows:

Grains:	per bushel.
Spring Wheat Manitoba, No. 1 . . . . .	1.92
Do., No. 2 . . . . .	1.89
Do., No. 3 . . . . .	1.85
Do., No. 4 . . . . .	1.77
Winter Wheat Ontario, No. 2 . . . . .	1.73 1.75
Oats:	
No. 2 C. W. . . . .	0.75
Do., No. 3 C. W. . . . .	0.73
Do., Extra No. 1 feed . . . . .	0.73
Do., No. 1 feed . . . . .	0.72½
Do., No. 2 feed . . . . .	0.71
Ontario Oats, No. 2, white . . . . .	0.70
Do., No. 3 . . . . .	1.68
Barley, No. 3 C. W., Rej. . . . .	1.18
Do., Feed . . . . .	1.14
Corn, American, ex-track . . . . .	1.24

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

The following table shows the receipts of butter, cheese and eggs in Montreal for the week ending February 24th, 1917, with comparisons:

	Butter	Cheese	Eggs
	pkgs.	boxes.	cases.
Week ending Feb. 24, 1917.	2,249	2,388	2,800
Week ending Feb. 17, 1917.	1,512	2,961	2,797
Week ending Feb. 26, 1916.	399	91	5,380
Total receipts May 1, 1916			
to date . . . . .	504,803	2,242,721	640,548
Total receipts May 1, 1915,			
to Feb. 26, 1916 . . . . .	397,543	1,995,309	541,422

WINNIPEG GRAIN INSPECTIONS.

The receipts of grain at Winnipeg for the week ended February 24th:

	This week.	Last week.	Last year.
No. 1 Northern . . . . .	71	72	.....
No. 2 Northern . . . . .	252	329	.....
No. 3 Northern . . . . .	244	327	.....
No. 4 Northern . . . . .	149	216	.....
No. 5 Northern . . . . .	52	98	.....
No. 6 Northern . . . . .	35	57	.....
Feed wheat . . . . .	38	55	.....
Rejected . . . . .	16	22	.....
No. grade . . . . .	526	490	.....
No. 4 Special . . . . .	26	25	.....
No. 5 Special . . . . .	26	29	.....
No. 6 Special . . . . .	6	14	.....
Winter wheat . . . . .	1	5	.....
Totals . . . . .	1,433	1,537	3,603
Oats . . . . .	542	780	718
Barley . . . . .	41	75	111
Flax . . . . .	68	70	70