

Market Review and Forecast

The Trend of Markets—Supply and Demand—The Outlook

Toronto, March 29th, 1906.

Spring trade seems to be opening up well and the amount of business is well up to that of a year ago, with some increase reported. There is a good demand for money and call loans are steady at 5c to 5½c per cent.

WHEAT

The wheat market has ruled dull of late with a gradual decline in values. Many in the trade, however, are looking for some interesting developments before long in the speculative market. There seems to be abundance of wheat and flour at present for all needs, and about the only thing that can cause a boom in values is serious injury to the 1906 crop. It is too early to report definitely, though the recent snow storm has saved the situation in some of the States, where the crop was suffering for lack of moisture. Red and white are quoted here at 75c and goose at 70c at outside points.

COARSE GRAINS

With the export market higher and an increased demand from the United States, oats seem to hold their own pretty well. At Montreal they are quoted at 30c to 39½c and here at 34c to 34½c outside. Barley rules quiet at 46c to 49c at Montreal and 43c to 50c here. The pea market is quiet. The corn market rules steady at 51c to 52c at Montreal and 50c for No. 3 Toronto.

HAY AND STRAW

The hay market is quiet, though there is a little better export demand. Some farmers are holding their crop with the hope of better prices later on owing to the possibility of the crop being injured by unfavorable winter conditions. At Montreal quotations for baled hay range from \$6 to \$8.50 per ton for car lots on track. The market here is quiet at \$8 for No. 1 timothy and \$5.50 to \$6 for No. 2, in car lots Toronto.

Baled straw rules here at \$3.50 to \$6.00.

SEEDS

The Montreal Trade Bulletin quotes seeds as follows, West meaning Ontario points:

"There is still a good demand for red clover seed, which is quoted in the West at \$7.25 for No. 1 and \$6 to \$6.75 for No. 2. Alsike is quiet at \$5.65 to \$6.75 in the West. Timothy is quoted at \$2 to \$5.50 in the West."

EGGS AND POULTRY

Though the recent cold snap stiffened egg prices somewhat, the present mild weather has increased receipts and the market is easier in tone. At Montreal fresh stock is quoted at 10½c to 17c. Here quotations are 15½c to 16c for new laid and 13c for storage, with lower values in prospect.

The dressed poultry trade is quiet here at the following quotations: Prices for choice spring chickens are: Turkeys, 15c to 16c; fat chickens, 11c to 12c, thin 7c to 8c; fat hens, 8c to 9c, thin 6c to 7c; ducks, 12c to 13c, thin 6c to 7c; geese, 10c to 11c for choice small lots.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

The cheese market is booming and 13½c is the ruling quotation for old stock. Some lots of fodders sold in the Belleville and Brockville districts at 12c to 12½c f.o.b. or about 2c higher than last year at this time.

It is reported that some factories in Western Ontario have contracted April cheese at 19½c.

The market rules steady for choice grades of creamery, with inferior grades easier. The English market rules firm and choice creamery is quoted at Montreal at 29c to 29½c. There is an active demand here for choice creamery at 25c to 26c for prints and 21c to 24c for solids. Choice dairy is quoted at 19c to 19½c for lb. rolls and 17c to 18c for large.

WOOL

The wool market continues quiet but firm. At Montreal Canadian pulled wool is quoted at 29c to 30c, washed fleece 27c to 28c and unwashed 18c to 20c. Here prices rule steady at last quotations.

LIVE STOCK

The quality of fat cattle received lately shows some improvement over those of the past few months. There are, however, too many half-fat steers coming in. The market for fat cattle is not as good as at last writing.

\$4.25 per cwt. Choice picked lots of butchers' cattle sell as high as \$4.75 to \$5.10, good cattle at \$4.50 to \$4.70, medium \$4 to \$4.40, and common at \$3.50 to \$4 per cwt. Trade in feeders and stockers is inclined to be slow. Quotations at Toronto market are as follows: Best short-keeps, 1150 to 1250 lbs., at \$4.50 to \$4.75; medium short-keeps, 1150 to 1250 lbs., at \$4.40 to \$4.60; best feeders, 950 to 1100 lbs., at \$4 to \$4.40, medium feeders, 950 to 1100 lbs., at \$3.85 to \$4.25; best feeders, 800 to 950 lbs., at \$3.60 to \$4; medium feeders, 800 to 950 lbs., at \$3.15 to \$3.85; best stockers, 500 to 750 lbs., at \$3.30 to \$3.50; best stock heifers, 500 to 750 lbs., at \$3.10 to \$3.35; common stockers, \$2.75 to \$3. Milch cows and springers sell at \$30 to \$45 each. A great many "bul" calves are coming in and are easier in price. Choice new milk-fed calves are wanted and are high in price. Prices range from \$3.50 to \$7.25 per cwt.

Sheep receipts have ruled light with prices firm. Export ewes bring \$5 to \$5.50 and bucks \$4.25 to \$4.75 per cwt. Choice yearling lambs sell all the way from \$6.25 to \$7.25 per cwt. and mixed lots at \$6 to \$6.50 per cwt. Spring lambs sell at \$5 to \$8.50 each. The run of hogs has been light and the market is firm at \$7.00 per cwt.



Special attention given to Accounts of Cheese Factories, Drovers and Grain Dealers, and all out-of-town accounts. Farmers' Sales Notes Collected and Advances Made against their security. Municipal and School Section Accounts received on favorable terms.

Savings Bank Department

Deposits of Twenty Cents and upwards received, and interest at three per cent. per annum. **COMPOUNDED FOUR TIMES A YEAR**, without presentation of passbook. No delay in the withdrawal of any portion or the whole of the deposits.

G. de C. O'GRADY, General Manager.

especially for half-finished stuff. The bad weather of Tuesday last affected prices for butchers' cattle considerably. Drovers complain that prices are too high in the country to make it profitable to bring cattle here. Export cattle sell at from \$4.85 to \$5.00, with some choice ones going as high as \$5.25. Export bulls bring \$3.50 to

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