

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Trade has been better than for a number of weeks, and the sales for the week are larger than those for the same period in the previous year. Firms filling Government contracts are very busy, as the Government requirements are large. Crop conditions are improving, and an average harvest is expected. The sugar market remains unsettled. The prices of many commodities continue to soar.

### LIVESTOCK.

**MONTREAL:** The offerings at the two stock yards last week amounted to 1,550 cattle, 2,200 sheep and lambs, 1,200 hogs and 750 calves. As will be seen by the foregoing figures, the offerings for the week were not large, and as there was a keen demand prices of cattle advanced on Monday 25c. per 100 lbs., with sales of choice stock at \$10.75 to \$11 per 100 lbs. The demand from canners for common cattle was good, and the market for such became very strong also, and prices showed an advance of from 25c. to 50c. per 100 lbs. On Wednesday prices were very firmly maintained; in some cases showing a further advance. There was a big demand for sheep and lambs, and although the offerings were large prices remained very firm. The demand for calves improved, and some choice milk-fed calves sold as high as \$14 per 100 lbs. The strong feeling which developed two weeks ago in the hog market became more pronounced on Monday, and prices scored another advance of 25c. to 60c. per 100 lbs., and an active trade was done in selected lots. The market remained strong on Wednesday, and \$17.00 was paid for choice selects off the cars.

**TORONTO:** The offerings at the two yards for the week amounted to 4,306 cattle, 455 calves, 3,208 hogs and 1,712 sheep and lambs. On Monday the cattle market developed a very strong tone, and owing to limited number of offerings prices advanced 25c. per 100 lbs., and at this increase packers bought freely, and trade was brisk. There were a number of very choice killers which brought the highest prices yet paid at the Union yards. Calves were stronger, sheep and lambs showed a weaker tone, and hog prices made a further advance, and some choice lots were sold as high as \$17.25; others brought \$17.00. Thursday's market showed a much easier tone, due to larger offerings being placed on the market, and medium and common cattle sold at a decline of 25 cents, practically steady with the close of the previous week. The market for small meats remained steady and strong, while hogs showed a slight decline, none selling above \$17.00.

	Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.	
	Montreal.	Toronto.	Montreal.	Toronto.
Butchers' steers, per 100 lbs.				
Do., choice .....	11.00	11.25	11.75	12.50
Do., good .....	10.50	10.75	11.25	11.75
Do., medium .....	9.00	10.00	10.25	11.00
Do., rough .....	8.75	9.00	8.00	9.25
Butchers' Cows.				
Do., choice .....	7.50	8.25	8.25	8.75
Do., good .....	7.00	7.25	7.25	7.75
Do., fair .....	6.50	6.75	6.25	7.00
Bulls, choice .....	8.00	8.50	8.75	9.25
Do., good .....	7.50	7.75	7.50	8.25
Do., fair .....	6.50	6.75	6.50	7.50
Canners' cattle.				
Do., bulls .....	6.00	6.25	5.00	6.00
Do., cows .....	5.00	5.75	.....	.....
Sheep and Lambs.				
Ewes .....	8.00	8.50	8.50	10.00
Bucks .....	7.50	7.75	6.50	7.50
Ontario lambs .....	13.00	14.00	.....	.....
Quebec lambs .....	12.50	13.00	.....	.....
Calves, choice .....	11.00	12.00	14.00	14.75
Do., good .....	9.00	10.00	11.50	13.00
Hogs, good .....	.....	16.75	.....	.....
Do., choice selects .....	17.25	17.50	17.00	17.10
Do., heavyweights .....	16.25	16.50	.....	.....
Sows .....	10.00	14.00	.....	.....
Stags .....	10.75	11.00	.....	.....

### PROVISIONS.

The receipts of provisions last week were 1,053 packages of lard and 206 packages of tinned meats. Owing to the continued small receipts of live hogs (which is due to the fact that farmers are too busy with the harvest to send hogs to market), the tone of the market remains very strong, and on Monday prices scored another. Advance of 25c. to 60c. per 100 lbs., which makes a net rise since the previous Monday of \$1. On Wednesday prices scored a further advance of 25c. to 50c. per 100 lbs., which was

attributed to the late rise in prices in the Toronto market, the limited supplies coming forward here and the keen demand from some packers for the same and the prospects are that values will go still higher in the near future, unless receipts increase. A fairly brisk trade was done.

The condition of the market for all cured and smoked meats is very firm, in sympathy with the tone of the hog market, but prices remain unchanged.

The tone of the market for lard is firm, and a fairly good trade is being done in a wholesale jobbing way.

Hams:—	Per lb.
Smoked Hams, 8-10 lbs. ....	0.30
Do., 12-15 lbs. ....	0.28
Do., over 25 lbs. ....	0.26
Bacon:—	
Breakfast .....	0.35
Windsor Bacon, selected .....	0.37
Windsor Bacon, boneless .....	0.39
Pure Lard:—	
20 lbs. pails .....	0.24 1/2
Compound Lard (Western Grades):—	
Tubs .....	0.21 1/2

### WHEAT MARKET.

During the week prices generally scored declines, and in the Winnipeg market wheat prices showed a net decline of 10c. per bushel, and oats 2 1/2c to 3c, while in Chicago wheat has dropped 12 1/2c, corn, 3 1/2c to 3 3/4c, and oats 2 1/2c to 2 3/4c from those of a week ago. There was a good demand from the United States for feed grades and from Canadian millers for good milling wheat. There was also a fair demand for coarse grains from both local and country buyers, and a medium amount of business was done at about the same prices as the previous week.

Grains:	per bushel.
Spring Wheat, Northern No. 1 ..	2.40
Do., No. 2 .....	2.40
Do., No. 3 .....	2.37
Do., No. 4 .....	2.29
Do., No. 5 .....	2.10
Do., No. 6 .....	1.85
Feed .....	1.72
Do., No. 4 Special .....	2.29
Do., No. 5 Special .....	2.10
Do., No. 6 Special .....	1.85
Oats:	
No. 2 C. W. ....	0.69
Do., No. 3 C. W. ....	0.68
Do., Extra No. 1 feed .....	0.68
Do., No. 1 .....	0.65
Barley:	
No. 3 C. W. ....	1.24
Rejected and Feed .....	1.13
Flax:	
No. 1 N. W. C. ....	3.34 1/2
No. 2 C. W. ....	3.27 1/2
No. 3 C. W. ....	3.16
Track .....	3.32 1/2

### RECEIPTS OF GRAIN IN WINNIPEG.

The receipts of grain in Winnipeg for the week ending August 11th and the previous week were:

	Aug. 4.	Aug. 11. Last year.	Same date
No. 1 Hard .....	0	.....	.....
No. 1 Northern .....	56	52	.....
No. 2 Northern .....	183	150	.....
No. 3 Northern .....	221	143	.....
No. 4 Wheat .....	175	121	.....
No. 5 Wheat .....	94	75	.....
No. 6 Wheat .....	68	33	.....
Feed Wheat .....	32	22	.....
Rejected .....	47	36	.....
No Grade .....	172	126	.....
N. E. Grade .....	0	0	.....
Winter .....	4	0	.....
No. 4 Special .....	12	17	.....
No. 5 Special .....	13	18	.....
No. 6 Special .....	9	3	.....
Totals .....	1,081	806	3,231
Oats .....	710	388	1,235
Barley .....	81	55	208
Flax .....	53	50	163

### THE LOCAL FLOUR MARKET.

The tone of the local market is very firm, and owing to the fact that the stocks of flour in second hands are pretty well exhausted, and that orders are coming in fairly well, the trade in spring wheat flour was more active during last week, and a number of orders for delivery within 30 to 45 days were placed. There was also a demand for 50,000 to 60,000 barrels

for shipment to Newfoundland, which led to sales of some round lots.

The condition of the market for winter wheat and flour remains unchanged, and prices are firmly maintained.

Flour:	Per barrel.
First patents .....	13.00
Second patents .....	12.50
Strong bakers .....	12.30
Cereals:	
Roller Oats, 90 lb. bag .....	4.40 4.50
Feeds:	
Bran .....	Per ton.
Shorts .....	37.00
Middlings .....	43.00
Moullie, pure grain grades .....	48.00 50.00
	60.00

### MILLFEED AND ROLLED OATS.

Some of the mills advanced the price of bran \$2 per ton, and shorts \$3 per ton, but these higher prices did not become general. The local and country demand was good for mixed car lots.

A few of the millers raised the price from \$4.60 to \$4.65 for rolled oats, early in the week, but later they reduced them, and the market became easy and prices declined 5c. per bag.

### RECEIPTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

The receipts of grain and flour in Montreal for the week ending August 11, 1917, were:

	Aug. 11, 1917.	Aug. 4, 1917.	Aug. 12, 1916.
Wheat, bushels .....	146,489	.....	.....
Oats, bushels .....	27,471	.....	.....
Barley, bushels .....	1,500	.....	.....
Flour, sacks .....	32,395	.....	.....
Meal .....	1,875	.....	.....
Hay, bales .....	1,912	.....	.....
Straw, bales .....	312	.....	.....

### LOCAL STOCKS OF GRAIN IN STORE.

The following table shows the stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Aug. 11, 1917.	Aug. 4, 1917.	Aug. 12, 1916.
Wheat, bush. ....	2,085,924	2,838,953	1,857,351
Corn, bush. ....	32,257	62,163	1,030,289
Oats, bush. ....	3,755,883	3,910,435	1,697,227
Barley, bush. ....	225,617	183,705	503,116
Rye, bush. ....	53,975	164,012	93,346
Flour, sacks .....	60,856	26,167	54,838

### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending August 11th, 1917, were 9,597 packages, which show an increase of 1,176 packages, as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 13,403 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 61,106 packages, as compared with the corresponding period a year ago.

The very strong feeling which developed in the butter market about three weeks ago, was more evident than ever during last week, and prices have steadily gone up, and the bulk of the business done has been at an advance of 1c to 2c per lb.

	0.40	0.40 1/2
Finest creamery .....	0.39	0.39 1/2
Fine creamery .....	0.36 1/2	0.37
Finest dairy .....	0.36	.....
Fine dairy .....	0.34	0.35
Lower grades .....	.....	.....

### CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending August 11th, 1917, were 76,098 boxes, which show an increase of 3,769 boxes, as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 12,451 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 206,000 boxes, as compared with the same period in 1916. Of the total receipts for the corresponding week last year there were 912 boxes received from the United States.

The exports of cheese this week were large, and on the whole the market has been active. Prices at the country boards have been somewhat irregular, but in most cases firm. The range of prices paid 20 1/2c to 21 7-16c per lb., but the bulk of the goods were bought at 21c, 21 3-16c, 21 1/2c and 21 5-16c.

The following are the prices being paid by the commission:

No. 1 western and eastern cheese .....	21 1/2c
No. 2 western and eastern cheese .....	21 1/4c
No. 3 western and eastern cheese .....	20 3/4c
Lower grades .....	20 1/2c