

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Trade in the wholesale line is picking up at a good rate, and the outlook is much more optimistic than has been the case for some time past. If the weather would only become settled and let the roads get into good shape business would be even better. The dry goods houses report a brighter condition as far as orders are concerned as these are now coming in well. The situation is the same in hardware lines and builders' supplies are selling a little better. Wholesale grocers are doing a good steady business. Traffic conditions are proving troublesome again. It was anticipated that with the opening of navigation, an easy feeling would develop but the steamship companies this year are not booking any freight as practically all the space is requisitioned for the government. Following this the railways have placed an embargo upon all export freight which is not booked. This will, of course, prevent a congestion at this port though it is hitting the egg export dealers pretty hard, but it is hoped that a conciliation may be reached. The feature of the grain trade during the past week was the announcement by the government to the effect that Canadian wheat would enter the United States duty free, this action, it was reported, was taken because of the scarcity of ocean tonnage. One of the results has been a bettering of conditions for the farmers, but it does not seem to help the consuming public of Canada, who experienced a rise of \$1.90 per barrel in flour during the week. A similar condition of affairs is present in millfeed and cereals. Refined sugar has advanced again and some local wholesalers are completely out of stock.

Bradstreet reports that city collections are improving and that remittances are good.

## DAIRY PRODUCE.

**BUTTER:** The butter market has been rather quiet during the past week and although trade was steady no change in city prices is to be noted. At Cowansville prices were down to 41½¢, yet this is about 11¢ higher than at this time last year. The bids at St. Hyacinthe were lower still, being at the even 40¢. Trade on spot is small as the demand is principally to meet immediate requirements.

The receipts of butter for the week ended April 21st, 1917, were 4,385 packages, which show an increase of 254 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 505 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show an increase of 112,711 packages as compared with the corresponding period a year ago.

**CHEESE:** Several cheese boards in the country opened during the past week and indications are that all will be open by the end of this week. At Brockville the opening bids of 23¢ quickly advanced to 25¢ and about 2,500 boxes changed hands at the latter figure. At Napanee 25 3-16¢ was realized while at Picton sales were made at 25½¢. At Campbellford and Stirling the factory men refused to come down to the 20¢ and 21¢ bids made by the buyers. Some business has been done on spot at prices from 24½ to 25½ cents.

The receipts of cheese for the week ended April 21st, 1917, were 5,601 boxes, which show an increase of 2,171 boxes, as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 372 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show an increase of 261,228 boxes as compared with the corresponding period a year ago.

Current prices follow:

Butter:—		
Choice Fall Creamery Solids	0.42	0.42½
Fine Fall Creamery	0.40½	0.41½
Winter Creamery	0.38	0.40
Fresh Creamery	0.42½	
Finest Dairy Butter	0.35	0.36
Fine Dairy Butter	0.33	0.34
Undergrade Dairy	0.32	0.33
Cheese:—		
Finest Western	0.23½	0.24½
Fine Eastern	0.27	
Winter Make	0.24	0.24½
City Selling Prices to grocers:		
Large	0.26	0.27
Twins	0.26	0.28
Quebec Cheese	0.24½	0.25
Canadian Strong Cheese	0.27	
Stillton	0.28½	0.30

## COUNTRY PRODUCE.

**EGGS:** The local market is steady at an advance of 1¢, prices being 35¢-36¢ a dozen. During the week the quotations in the country were irregular and dealers who consider present prices too high will do their best to buy at 30¢ to store. Even this figure they declare is by rights too high at which to store eggs. Exporters claim that there is no ocean space available at present and are therefore unable to sell export. While it is true that the Chicago market is high the general opinion is that after the April speculation is over the market will react.

**MAPLE PRODUCTS:** The quotations for maple products remain unchanged. It is evident, from supplies and reports coming from certain sections of the country that the run of sap has been very good in some places. Deliveries have increased considerably during the past week, but the demand being good, there is no surplus in dealers' hands.

**POTATOES:** There has been a very strong feeling in the market all week and an advance of from 10¢ to 25¢ on Wednesday was followed by another raise of 25¢ on Thursday and a still further advance of 25¢ on Friday. This leaves quotations for Quebec whites at 4.00 and reds at 3.75. The reason given for this upward move is the dearth of supplies here which are almost exhausted, the steady demand from Ontario points and the bad roads which make it difficult to get supplies.

**BEANS:** The market rules very firm with a steady demand and small offerings.

### Eggs:

New laid . . . . . 0.35 0.36

### Poultry—Live:

Fowls, 5-lb. and over . . . . . Per Pound. 0.20 0.23

Fowls, small . . . . . 0.18 0.20

### Fresh Killed Poultry:

Turkeys . . . . . 0.32 0.33

Old Turkeys, cocks . . . . . 0.27 0.28

Fowls, hens . . . . . 0.20 0.21

Do, roosters . . . . . 0.17 0.18

Chickens . . . . . 0.22 0.23

Do, crate fattened . . . . . 0.25 0.28

Squabs, per pair . . . . . 0.35 0.45

Geese . . . . . 0.18 0.19

Ducks . . . . . 0.21 0.22

### Maple Products:

Pure maple syrup, quart cans . . . . . 0.40

Pure maple syrup, 9-lb. tins . . . . . 1.10 1.20

Extra choice syrup, 13-lb. tins . . . . . 1.30 1.45

Pure maple sugar, per lb. . . . . 0.12 0.13

### Honey:

Buckwheat, 5-10 lb. tins . . . . . 0.12

Clover, in comb . . . . . 0.16 0.18

Do, in 5-10 lb. tins . . . . . 0.14 0.15

### Potatoes:

New Brunswick, Delawares, 90-lb. sacks . . . . . 3.25

Quebec's, 80-lb. bags . . . . . 3.75 4.00

Green Mountains . . . . . 4.00

### Beans:

Can. hand-picked ear lots, per bu. 7.75 8.00

Yellow eyes . . . . . 7.50

Rangoon . . . . . 7.00 7.50

3 lb. pickers . . . . . 7.25 7.50

5 lb. pickers . . . . . 6.75 7.00

## PROVISIONS.

With continued high prices for hogs, all pork products remain firm and smoked hams have advanced 1¢ per lb. Lard is scarce and remains very firm at last week's prices. Shortening has advanced ½¢ since our last issue and the prospects are that it will go even higher. The market for live hogs in Chicago declined slightly last week, but it did not result in any appreciable change in pork products.

Current prices are as follows:

Hams:		Per lb.
Smoked Hams, 8-14 lbs.	0.31	
Do, 14-20 lbs.	0.30	
Do, 20-25 lbs.	0.28	
Do, over 25 lbs.	0.27	
Bacon:		Per lb.
Breakfast	0.31	
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.31	
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.34	
Barrel Pork:		Per bbl.
Short cut pork	\$48.00	
Clear fat pork	50.00	
Mess pork	46.00	
Bean pork, American	46.00	
Plate pork, 200-lbs.	44.00	
Pure Lard:		Per lb.
Tierces	0.26½	
Tubs	0.26½	
Pails	0.26½	
Tins	0.26½	
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.27½	
Compound Lard—Western Grades:		Per lb.
Prints	0.27½	
Tubs	0.20½	

## How the Markets Stand

The price of butter in the city during the past week has remained unchanged at 42 to 42½ cents for new creamery, and 40-42 cents for good to best. In the country, however, these prices are from 1½ to 2 cents lower. Cheese is quoted at fractions on either side of 25¢, the 25 cent figure ruling at the first meeting of the Brockville Dairymen's Exchange. Eggs have advanced slightly and are now 35¢ to 36¢. The continued high price of live hogs is reflected in prices for pork products and these have advanced 1¢. Lard is very firm at last week's figure, but shortening is up another ½¢. Maple products with a supply about equal to the demand hold steady. Potatoes after weeks of inactivity are again on an upward trend and Quebec reds sell for \$3.75 with whites at \$4.00. Beans in a good market are firm. Cattle scored an advance of 25¢, while hogs hold the \$17.00 mark made last week. The Atlantic and St. Lawrence Sugar Refineries raised another 25¢, making the price \$8.50. The Canada Sugar Refinery still quotes at \$8.25. Flour has been going up by leaps and bounds of late and at present spring wheat flour is quoted at \$12.70 for first patents, with winter wheat flour at \$11.60. All feeds raised another \$2.00, so that bran is now selling for \$42.00 and shorts at \$43 to \$44 per ton.

Spot grain prices are moving upward in sympathy with the continued advance in other centres. Dried fruits remain firm with prunes quoted at an advance of 1¢, selling for from 11¢ to 13½¢. Peanuts are also up ½¢. Teas are in a very firm market with a scarcity of Indian and Ceylon varieties. Fish Trade is less active and prices vary very little.

Tins	0.20½
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.21½
Prints	0.21½
Cooked Meats:	
Roast shoulder pork	0.38
Roast hams, boneless	0.42
Cooked hams, boneless	0.40
Cooked hams, rind off	0.41
Head cheese	0.14
English brawn	0.13

## FLOUR AND FEED.

Flour is again in a very active market and prices have advanced \$1.20 in all since last issue so that first patents are now selling at \$6.35 in 98-lb. bags. Winter wheat is also up to \$5.50 and \$5.65. The new market opened up in the United States for all wheat and wheat products by the removal of the duty imposed under the Wilson-Underwood tariff of 1913 has had the effect of raising prices in these articles and flour, of course, naturally followed. A good demand from the New England States resulted in the transaction of much business in the local market. The domestic trade, however, is well booked up and not much business is passing between local buyers and sellers. Rye flour is very scarce, due to the fact that stocks of rye in Canada are practically nil and so prices have advanced. Corn flour is firm at \$8 per bbl.

Millfeed prices in the United States are much higher than those ruling here, so the removal of the duty moved quotations up about \$3 per ton. Rolled oats is very firm and advanced 50 cents during the week. A big trade is being done with the United States at these advanced prices.

Prices follow:

Flour:		per 98-lb. bag.
First patents	6.35	
Second patents	6.10	
Strong Bakers	6.00	
Rye Flour	4.75	5.00
Winter wheat flour, 90 per cent	5.50	5.65
Corn Flour, bbls.	8.00	
(An extra charge of 20¢ is made for flour bbls.)		
Cereals:		Per ton.
Roller Oats, 90 lb. bag	4.00	4.25
Oatmeal, 98-lb. bag	4.10	
Roller wheat, 100-lb. bbl.	3.85	
Bag	5.05	
Feeds:		Per ton.
Bran	40.00	42.00
Shorts	43.00	44.00
Middlings	45.00	47.00
Moullie, pure grain grades	52.00	53.00
Do, mixed	48.00	49.00
Barley feed	47.00	
Crushed Oats	48.00	
Oatfeed	31.00	32.00
Hay, best grades	13.50	14.00
Do, No. 2 ordinary	11.50	
Do, No. 3 Timothy	11.50	
Clover, mixed	10.50	