

Cheese Prices Fixed

Cheese Price at 23c., 1918; 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, 1917, Announced by Dairy Produce Commission.

The Dairy Produce Commission, which is constituted of members representing the British Ministry of Food, the Dominion Department of Agriculture, the Canada Food Board, the Producers and the Trade, held a session at Montreal yesterday. Those present were:

Mr. Arthur J. Mills, representing the British Ministry of Food.

Mr. J. A. Ruddick, representing the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Jas. W. Robertson, representing the Canada Food Board.

Messrs. Jas. Donaldson, A. Gerin and James Alexander, representing the Producers and the Trade.

Mr. Mills stated that the British Ministry of Food had authorized the Dairy Produce Commission to act for them in connection with the exportable surplus of Canadian cheese, condensed milk and butter of the make of the season of 1918.

The price authorized for cheese is 23c. per lb. for No. 1 grade, f.o.b. steamer at Montreal; 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb for No 2 grade; and 22c for No 3 grade.

After fully considering the whole situation, the Commission unanimously approved of the proposal.

A committee was appointed to work out the question of a relative price for condensed milk. The object in view is to secure such a parity of prices that no unfair competition will arise between the manufacturers of condensed milk and the manufacturers of cheese to secure the patronage of dairy farmers. It is expected that the price of condensed milk will be determined and announced in the near future.

The price for butter will be arranged as soon as there is a surplus available for export. It also will be on a basis of parity with the prices for cheese and condensed milk.

The chief advantages to the cheese industry of Canada from this arrangement are, the assurance of a regular market at a fair and reasonable price for the whole output, regular shipments even under the

WORLD'S WHEAT SUPPLIES.

Chicago, April 24.

World's available supply of wheat increased 73,457,000 bushels in March, compared with a decrease of 7,781,000 bushels in February, and a decrease of 19,062,000 bushels in March last year. The large increase this season was mainly in Australia. Detailed stocks as compiled by the Daily Trade Bulletin, follow:

	April 1, '18.	April 1, '17.
Eur. afloat	x60,000,000	46,000,000
Do. store	x30,000,000	20,000,000
Argentina	9,990,000	7,955,000
Australia	175,000,000	32,000,000
United States	21,746,000	80,280,000
Canada	42,929,000	32,796,000
Total	321,675,000	269,031,000

x—United Kingdom only.

Total stocks on April 1 for a series of years compares as follows:

Year	Stocks
1918	321,675,000
1917	209,231,000
1916	356,797,000
1915	203,805,000
1914	243,976,000
1913	264,992,000
1912	254,157,000
1911	226,883,000
1910	212,038,000
1909	170,585,000
1908	189,089,000
1907	107,620,000
1906	197,015,000
1905	172,933,000
1904	157,453,000
1903	155,562,000

present extreme shortage of tonnage and the financing of a trade of about 40 millions of dollars.

The only alternative method of disposing of the cheese of Canada would be to leave it open for the British Ministry of Food to purchase such quantities as they would require from time to time, and that without any assurance that they would purchase the whole quantity available for export.

At the present time, the Allied buyers are being offered United States cheese of this season's make at 22c. f.o.b., New York.

Now that prices have been arranged, it is hoped that financial arrangements will shortly be completed to enable the Commission to accept delivery of new season's cheese.

WESTERN CROP REPORT.

Calgary, April 24.

Crop reports being received from all parts of the province indicate that conditions were never better, and it is estimated that the average increase in acreage seeded will be in the neighborhood of 20 per cent. Cool nights have retarded germination somewhat, but in many parts of the south wheat is above the ground. There are a few complaints of lack of moisture and drying winds blowing off top soil, but this happens every year in South Alberta.

GRAIN AND FLOUR EXPORTS.

Exports of breadstuffs, from all Atlantic ports last week (including New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News and Portland, and the preceding week were as follows:—

	Last week.	Previous week.
Flour, barrels	28,284	197,357
Wheat, bushels	157,939	33,435
Corn, bushels	519,656	1,434,389
Oats, bushels	1,683,453	4,722,399
Barley, bushels	123,849	2,355,545
Peas, bushels	43,806	2,504
Rye, bushels	42,906	241,565

And from July 1, 1917, to April 20, 1918, and for the corresponding period of 1916-17:

	1917-1918.	1916-1917.
Wheat, bushels	49,705,068	206,908,603
Flour, barrels	5,512,461	10,792,637

The destinations of above exports were as follows:

	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Flour, bbls.
To—			
U. Kingdom	140,612	440,731	28,284
Continent	17,327	78,925
Total	157,939	519,656	28,284

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