

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

We quote Bradstreets Montreal Weekly Trade Report as follows:

This winter has so far been one of the mildest on record for many years past. This condition has saved many thousands of dollars to manufacturers, corporations, railways, householders, etc., by having to use much less coal. It is reported that our coal dealers have sufficient coal on hand at present to meet all their orders for next year's supplies.

The Dry Goods trade are booking orders freely for fall wear such as woollens, etc., as retailers allowed their stocks to run very low. Irish linens are scarce and prices rule very high.

There is a good demand for hardware, but the trade find it difficult to fill orders as stocks have run so low. The paint trade is receiving considerable attention at the present time, white lead and oils are offering at lowest values.

The grain markets were stronger and higher during the week. There was a good demand for all offerings at the live stock markets and higher prices were realized at this week's sales. There has been a good demand for baled hay and the market was somewhat stronger this week.

Retailers report that trade has been very good, there seems to be lots of money for all purposes which makes collections satisfactory.

"Dun's Review," says of Canadian trade: Retail trade at most points is being stimulated by clearance sales, while the wholesale movement is increasing with the approach of spring.

Wholesalers at Montreal report a fair volume of sorting and mail orders, but in most instances they are small in amount and mainly for current needs. Retailers are doing a normal business for this period, and collections are unusually prompt. Quebec notes an average movement of merchandise at both retail and wholesale, and with local factories generally busy, there is a cheerful feeling in regard to prospects for the future. All kinds of staple commodities are being steadily absorbed in retail lines at Toronto, and wholesalers report a tendency toward improvement, especially in clothing and footwear. The labor outlook is causing some anxiety. Collections, as a rule, are satisfactory. Reports from the Far West and Northwest indicate that business is fairly good, considering all conditions. There is a general disposition on the part of buyers to operate cautiously, owing to the lack of confidence in the stability of prices, and merchants at Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Regina, Edmonton and other cities report a smaller demand for merchandise than prevailed at this time last year.

Gross earnings of Canadian railroads reporting for January show an increase of 28.6 per cent, as compared with the corresponding month a year ago. Commercial failures in the Dominion of Canada this week numbered 21, as against 12 last week and 18 the same week last year.

### LIVE STOCK.

At the Montreal Stock Yards West End market the receipts for the week were 600 cattle, 625 sheep and lamb, 500 hogs and 100 calves. A much stronger feeling which developed in the cattle market proved the feature of the week. Prices for all grades scored advances in sympathy with the higher figures which ruled at other Canadian markets, the scarcity of good choice stock here and the limited offerings of other grades.

With regard to the market for sheep and lambs a much stronger feeling developed due to increased demand and small offerings. Calves remained firm and unchanged while a stronger feeling prevailed in the hog market.

At the Canadian Pacific Live Stock Market the receipts for the week were 975 cattle, 300 sheep and lambs, 900 hogs and 200 calves.

The receipts of live stock at the Montreal and Canadian Pacific markets for the month of January, 1919, were 10,098 cattle, 8,372 sheep and lambs, 1,657 calves, 9,368 hogs and 1,482 horses, as compared with 7,195 cattle, 8,531 sheep and lambs, 1,638 calves, 11,757 hogs, and 1,780 horses for the same month last year.

The receipts of live stock at the Union Stock Yards at Toronto, for the month of January, 1919, were 28,140 cattle, 15,863 sheep and lambs, 2,860 calves, 49,524 hogs, and 247 horses, as against 22,896 cattle, 6,117 sheep and lambs, 2,251 calves, 53,375 hogs, and 6,105 horses for the corresponding month in 1918.

The receipts of live stock at St. Boniface Stock Yards, at Winnipeg for the month of January, 1919, were 16,497 cattle, 1,058 sheep and lambs, 202 calves, 46,224 hogs, and 116 horses, as compared with 11,569 cattle, 594 sheep and lambs, 275 calves, 50,984 hogs, and 540 horses for the same month last year.

#### Montreal quotations:

Cattle, per 100 lbs.—

Choice steers	13.50 to 14.00
Good steers	13.00 13.25
Fairly good	12.50 12.75
Fair	12.00 12.25
Medium	11.50 11.75
Light steers	10.50 11.00
Common	8.50 10.00

#### Cows—

Choice heavy	10.50 11.00
Choice light	10.00 10.25
Good	9.50 9.75
Fair	9.00 9.25
Medium	8.50 8.75
Common	7.00 8.00

#### Bulls—

Choice heavy	9.50 10.00
Choice light	9.00 9.25
Good	8.50 8.75
Fair	8.00 8.25
Medium	7.50 7.75
Common	6.50 7.00

#### Sheep and lambs—

Ontario lambs	14.00 14.50
Quebec lambs	13.00 13.50
Ontario sheep	9.50 10.00
Quebec sheep	8.00 9.00
Culls	6.50 7.50

#### Hogs—

Selected, choice	17.25 17.50
Selects, below 140 lbs.	15.25 15.50
Sows	14.25 15.50
Stags	13.25 13.50

#### Toronto quotations:

Extra choice steers	15.00 to 16.25
Choice steers	13.00 14.00
Butchers, choice handy	10.50 12.00
Do. good	9.50 10.50
Do. medium	7.25 8.50
Do. common	6.50 7.25
Butchers' bulls, choice	9.50 10.50
Do. choice	8.00 9.50
Do. medium	7.00 7.25
Butchers' cows, choice	9.50 10.50
Do. medium	7.50 8.50
Do. common	5.50 5.75
Feeders	9.00 10.00
Short keep feeders	9.50 11.50
Stockers	8.00 9.00
Cutters	5.00 6.00
Canners	5.50 5.75
Springers	95.00 140.00
Milkers	90.00 125.00
Do. common and medium	65.00
Calves, very choice	16.50 17.00

Do. common to fair	6.00 11.00
Do. medium	14.50 15.00
Do. heavy, fats	8.00 9.50
Light weight lambs	15.30 16.25
Heavy lambs	14.50 15.50
Butchers' sheep	9.00 10.25
Do. fat and medium	7.00 8.00
Do. culls	5.00 10.00
Hogs, fed and watered	17.00
Do. off cars	17.50
Do. f.o.b. nominal	16.50

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

#### BUTTER.

Prices generally were maintained and no new developments occurred in the local butter situation. The volume of business showed a little improvement, and the jobbing trade was fair.

The receipts of butter for the week ending February 15th, 1919, were 1,393 packages, which show a decrease of 476 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 173 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st, 1918, to date, show an increase of 123,124 packages as compared with the corresponding period last year.

We quote wholesale jobbing prices as follows:

Finest creamery, solids	51½c to 52c
Finest creamery, blocks	52½c to 53c
Fine creamery, solids	51c to 51½c
Finest dairy	43c to 44c
Fine dairy	42c to 42½c

#### CHEESE.

The trade in this commodity was very quiet, both on export and domestic account, owing to light supplies, and stocks. Excepting sales on spot the market was very dull.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending February 15th, 1919, were 373 boxes, which show an increase of 182 boxes as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 71 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st, 1918, to date, show a decrease of 119,850 boxes as compared with the same period last year.

The following prices are being paid by the Commission:

No. 1 cheese	25c
No. 2 cheese	24½c
No. 3 cheese	24c

#### EGGS.

A firmer feeling with no important changes in the condition of the market was noticeable in the local egg situation. Prices were fully maintained on account of the smaller supplies coming forward, and the continuing good demand for the same for domestic consumption owing to the fact that stocks of cold storage eggs are now about exhausted, and it is doubtful if a fair sized lot could be picked up on the market to-day. The trade throughout the week in a jobbing way was fairly active and the prospects are that it will continue so, as at the present level of values the consumption is steadily increasing.

The receipts for the week ending February 15th, 1919, were 4,660 cases, as compared with 5,550 for the previous one, and 1,686 for the same week last year. The total receipts from May 1st, 1918, to date were 287,986 cases, as against 312,955 for the same period last year.

We quote wholesale jobbing prices as follows:—

Strictly new laid	55c
Cold storage selects	50c
Cold storage No. 1	47c

#### POULTRY.

A fairly good trade in dressed poultry was done during the week, as supplies of fresh-killed stock have been light. The demand has been principally for cold storage poultry, and in consequence the tone of the market has ruled firm, with no change in prices to note. The stock of storage poultry is