

Comparative Prices of Staples.

	May 7, 1897	May 8, 1896
Flour, straight spg. . . . .	\$4.10 @ \$4.25	\$3.10 @ \$3.50
Flour, straight wint. . . . .	\$4.10 @ \$4.20	\$3.25 @ \$3.75
Wheat, No. 2 red . . . . .	96 1/2c	72 1/2c
Corn, No. 2 mixed . . . . .	29 1/2c	35 1/2c
Oats, No. 2 . . . . .	22 1/2c	24 1/2c
Rye, No. 2 western . . . . .	42c	47c
Barley, No. 2, Milw . . . . .	42c	47c
Cotton, mid. upld. . . . .	7 11-16c	8 5-16c
Print cloths, 6x6 1/2 . . . . .	2 1/2c	2 9-16c
Wool, Ohio & Pa. X . . . . .	19 @ 20c	16c
Wool, No. 1 combg . . . . .	23 @ 24c	20 @ 21c
Pork, mess, new . . . . .	\$8.70 @ \$9.25	\$9.00 @ \$9.50
Lard, prime, cont'd . . . . .	4-25c	5-00c
Butter, ex. creamery . . . . .	10 1/2c	16c
Cheese, ch. east, fty . . . . .	17c	9 1/2c
Sugar, centrif. 66 . . . . .	3 5-16c	4 1/2c
Sugar, granulated . . . . .	4 0-16c	5 1/2c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7 . . . . .	8 1/2c	14 1/2c
Petroleum, N. T. Co. . . . .	85c	\$1.22
Petroleum, rd gal . . . . .	6 25c	6 95c
*Iron, Bessemer . . . . .	\$9.10	\$12.75
*Steel Billets, ton . . . . .	\$14.00	\$19.50
*Steel Rails . . . . .	\$20.00	\$28.00
Ocean Steam Freight:		
Grain, Liverpool . . . . .	2d	2d
Cotton, Liverpool . . . . .	9-13 1/2d	5-6 1/2d

\*Pittsburg.

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended May 8, 1897, shows a decrease of 2,550,000 bushels, against a decrease of 1,519,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 2,573,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,616,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year compared with the three previous years. This visible supply includes stocks of wheat in store at most important points, east of the Rocky mountains:

	1897	1896	1895	1894
Jan 2	31,651,000	69,812,000	57,886,000	79,953,000
" 9	33,572,000	68,915,000	56,615,000	80,133,000
" 16	34,450,000	67,988,000	55,684,000	80,382,000
" 23	35,298,000	67,533,000	54,665,000	80,261,000
" 30	36,591,000	66,731,000	53,376,000	79,821,000
Feb 6	37,884,000	66,119,000	52,324,000	79,662,000
" 13	38,668,000	65,916,000	50,733,000	79,567,000
" 20	39,215,000	65,011,000	49,476,000	79,257,000
" 27	40,797,000	64,089,000	48,761,000	78,957,000
Mar 6	42,778,000	62,594,000	47,719,000	78,507,000
" 13	44,410,000	62,123,000	46,874,000	78,189,000
" 20	46,179,000	61,318,000	45,771,000	77,161,000
" 27	47,303,000	61,018,000	44,388,000	76,448,000
Apr 3	48,612,000	60,321,000	43,292,000	75,761,000
" 10	49,700,000	59,310,000	42,487,000	75,217,000
" 17	50,910,000	58,483,000	41,626,000	74,425,000
" 24	52,201,000	57,916,000	40,776,000	73,583,000
May 1	53,864,000	57,000,000	39,633,000	72,510,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on May 1, is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal . . . . .	605,000
Toronto . . . . .	123,000
Kingston . . . . .	—
Winnipeg . . . . .	208,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,140,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin . . . . .	3,442,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows on May 1, 1897:

	Bushels.
East of the mountains . . . . .	49,684,000
Pacific Coast . . . . .	1,614,000

Total stocks a year ago were:

	Bushels.
East of the mountains . . . . .	50,390,000
Pacific Coast . . . . .	3,182,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended May 8, shows a decrease of 4,900,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 44,784,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on May 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and Africa for Europe) were 107,493,000 bushels as compared with

131,816,000 bushels on May 1, 1896, 154,960,000 on May 1, 1895; 170,695,000 on May 1, 1894; 172,093,000 on May 1, 1893; 125,894,000 on May 1, 1892; 95,409,000 on May 1, 1891, and 76,995,000 on May 1, 1890.

Grain and Milling News.

Feed is lower at Montreal. Sales of Manitoba bran were made there at \$10.50 and shorts at \$11.50 per ton, including bags, and Ontario white wheat bran was offering at \$10.50 per ton in bulk.

The Ogilvie Milling company's grain warehouse at Surlaluta, Assa., collapsed recently, spilling several thousand bushels of wheat.

The applicants for the charter of the new grain company which was referred to in these columns last week are: W. J. Lindsay, W. L. Parrish, Brandon; W. A. Walker, Winnipeg; A. J. Adamson, Morden; J. A. Thompson, Carnduff; R. J. Chalmers, Manitou; and others. The company intends to enter the field early in the summer, and will control a considerable line of elevators at leading centres throughout the province and territories. The intention is to purchase grain at from seventy-five to one hundred points. The head office will be in Winnipeg. The capital stock of the company will be \$250, of which \$150,000 has been subscribed and paid.

The Hardware Trade.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "The hardware men appear to be as unsettled regarding the effect of the tariff as ever; a leading house in the trade informing us that on a number of lines they do not know what to do, whether to order or not; and Ottawa, it is said, will have to be consulted, and representations made before it will be safe to enter upon business in the new groove. Wire nails, it is said, are lower, and cut nails, it is believed will follow suit. Prices are all more or less nominal, and will remain so until the changes in the tariff are better understood on quite a number of articles. Although some parties are quoting below our quotations for bar iron, \$1.35 is said to be the lowest price it can be bought at in round lots. Pig iron is reduced \$1.50 per ton. Montreal prices are: Summer-lee pig \$18.50 to \$19.00; Carron, \$18.50 to \$19.00; Ayrshire, No. 1, \$17.50; Eglinton, \$17.50; Carnbro, \$17; No. 1 Hamilton, \$17; No. 2 do, \$15.50; Ferrona, \$14; to \$16; Siemens No. 1, \$14 to \$16; wrought scrap No. 1, \$15.50 to \$16; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$3 to \$3.25; I. C. char-coal, \$2.50 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.50 to \$2.85; tinned plates, \$0.25; galvanized iron, 4-1-2 to 5-1-2c; as to brand. Oxford copper, 12c to 13c; ingot tin, 15-1-2c to 16c; lead, \$3.15 to \$3.25; and spelter at \$4.50 to \$4.70.

A Montreal report says: There has been a good deal of cutting in petroleum since the new tariff was brought down, and the market is still somewhat unsettled. Prices are as follows: Canada refined, 14c ex-warehouse in the country and 14-1-2c for barrels delivered in the city; U. S. refined, 17 to 17-1-2 ex-warehouse in the country and 17-1-2c delivered in the city."

A Montreal report says: The demoralized state of the cordage (blunder twine, etc.) market noted last week continues, owing to the fact that U. S. manufacturers are offering to

supply goods at almost any price, and, although no further change in values has taken place, the trade state that it would not be any surprise to see a further reduction in the near future. Montreal prices are: Turpentine, 43c to 44c; resins, \$2.85 to \$5, as to brand; coal tar, \$3 to \$3.50; cotton waste, 4-1-2c to 5-1-2c for colored, and 7c to 8c for white; oakum, 5c to 7c, and cotton oakum, 9c to 11c. Cordage—Skal, 5-1-4c for 7-16 and upwards; puro manilla, 63-4c for 7-16 and upwards, and 7-1-4c for smaller sizes.

Refined petroleum has declined 1c for United States and 1-2c for Canada, in the east, in consequence of tariff changes.

Dairy Trade Items.

Most of the butter arriving in England from Australia and New Zealand is received in a frozen condition in refrigerators; but recently it is said, an experiment was made by placing a lot of fresh grass butter on board steamer in a separate compartment where it was not frozen but kept in a uniform temperature of 30 degrees. The result was that the butter arrived in London in a perfect condition with its fresh grass flavor unimpaired, and it sold quickly at top prices.

A decline of 1-2c per lb. was recorded in prices for butter at Montreal, and choice creamery was offered freely at 15c to 15-1-2c.

An advance of 6d in the public cheese cable from Liverpool, to 55s, is reported for white or colored.

A report from Brockville says: Everything points to a large make of cheese in this section, and from all accounts in others also this season. The factories in this district have been making all through April.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

Wheat was 1-2c lower. Butter 1c lower.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat—No. 1 hard, in store at Fort William, 63 1-2 to 6-1c for May delivery.

Flour—Local price, per sack, Patent, \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Bran—Per ton, \$8.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$10.

Oats.—Per bushel, car lots on track, Winnipeg, 18c to 19c. Car lots at country points, 11c to 13c.

Barley.—Selling at 17c to 18c for feed here. Car lots at country points worth 13c to 15c.

Butter.—Dairy, good to choice, jobbing at 10c to 13c as to quality and quantity.

Cheese.—Jobbing price 8-1-2c to 9c.

Eggs.—Fresh, jobbing at 9c to 9-1-2c and 8c net.

Beef.—City dressed, 5c to 5-1-2c.

Mutton.—Mutton held stock, 6c to 7c, fresh 9c to 10c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 4-3-4c to 5c.

Cattle.—Nominal at 2-1-2c to 3c for butchers' stock.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3-3-4c.

Sheep.—Sheep nominal at 4 to 4-1-4c off cars.

Seneca Root.—Dry 19c lb.

Poultry.—Chickens, 12c lb; turkeys, 14c; ducks, 10c; geese, 12c.

Hides.—No. 1 green, 3-1-2c to 4c.

Potatoes—12 to 15c per bushel.

Hay.—\$7 to \$9 for baled on track.