The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, April 2, 1917)

Wheat—The first market of last week started out strong, but there was a lot of selling on the advance, and later in the day more favorable reports from the south regarding the winter wheat caused prices to break considerably. On Tuesday there was a lot of good buying in the local futures, which closed higher than Monday's high point. This was the only day of the whole week when there was a lot of good buying. During the balance of the week the local market was slow and narrow and did not respond to the strength in the American markets. Chicago was the strongest market, influenced by the winter wheat reports, but toward the end of the week sentiment in that market seemed to change somewhat. No doubt rains now would improve conditions greatly there, and the probability of a very early spring in the spring wheat states and provinces is becoming a factor also.

Coarse Grains—Coarse grains have been steady, with prices working higher, as the wheat prices have done.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

Wheat—	May	July	Oct.
March 27	190¼	187¼	186¼
March 28	190¼	188	156¼
March 29	191¼	189¼	157¼
March 30	190¼	187¼	154
March 31	191	188	155¼
April 2	193¼	190¼	157
Week ago	187	184	152
Year ago	119¼	120¼	115¼
Oats—			
March 27	64¼	62¼	....
March 28	64	62¼	....
March 29	64¼	63¼	....
March 30	64¼	63¼	....
March 31	64¼	63¼	....
April 2	65¼	64¼	....
Week ago	43¼	42	....
Year ago	43¼	43¼	....
Flax—			
March 27	266¼	269	....
March 28	265¼	269	....
March 29	268¼	271¼	....
March 30	269¼	272	....
March 31	270¼	273¼	....
April 2	272¼	275¼	....
Week ago	265¼	269	....
Year ago	196¼	198	....

MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES

(Sample Market, March 31)

No. 1 hard wheat, part car	$2.12
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	2 09¼
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1,500, arrive	2 06¼
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 12¼
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 04¼
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 09¼
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 10¼
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 07
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 97
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 98¼
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 02¼
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1 99¼
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	2 01¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 94¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2 03¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 97¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	2 00
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 90¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 98¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1 92
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 46¼
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 42¼
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 52¼
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 62
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 66¼
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 92
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 67¼
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 51
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1 56¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 95¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 93¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 87¼
No. 4 wheat, 3 cars	1 73¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 94¼
No. 4 wheat, 2 cars	1 82
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 86¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 95¼
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1 88
No. 4 wheat, 3 cars	1 71
No. 2 hard winter wheat, 1 car, Mont.	2 02¼
No. 3 hard winter wheat, 1 car, Mont.	2 01¼
No. 4 hard winter wheat, 1 car	2 00
Mill oats, 1 car	.55
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	.61¼
Mill oats, 1 car	.50
No. 4 white oats, 1 car, choice	.62¼
No. 3 white oats, 2 cars	.62¼
Sample grade barley, 1 car	1 24
Sample grade barley, 1 car	1 21
Sample grade barley, 1 car, Canada	1 24
Sample grade barley, 1 car	1 18
Sample grade barley, 1 car	1 05
Sample grade barley, 1 car	1 16
No. 1 flax, 500 bu., arrive	2 98
No. 1 flax, 1 car	3 00
No. 1 flax, 7 cars	2 99
No. 1 flax, 1 car	2 96¼
No. 1 flax, 2 cars	3 00¼
No. 1 flax, part car, dockage	3 02¼

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, March 28, was as follows —

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Saskatoon	Wheat	174,627.10	370,423.30	1,652,392.30
"	Oats	109,402.02	19,575.30	600,636.20
"	Barley	2,696.02	.....	26,965.04
"	Flax	17,908.02	.....	100,833.19
Calgary	Wheat	26,926.00	34,299.00	961,858.00
"	Oats	119,815.00	70,180.00	1,259,541.00
"	Barley	7,399.00	.....	113,360.00
"	Flax	1,047.00	798.00	13,040.00

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

Fort William, March 30, 1917 —

1917 Wheat

	This Year		Last Year	
1 hard	15,097	20	73,571	40
1 Nor.	2,033,779	50	12,842,884	50
2 Nor.	3,926,149	10	5,541,852	20
3 Nor.	4,307,918	50	3,643,967	40
No. 4	3,237,554	30	1,815,007	10
Others	9,690,647	10	2,951,912	30
This week	22,941,056	50	This week	26,869,196 30
Last week	23,462,646	10	Last week	25,528,449 00
Decrease	521,589	20	Increase	1,340,756 30

Oats

1 C.W.	7,011	12		107,266 12
2 C.W.	2,558,340	15		4,425,314 24
3 C.W.	861,698	15		1,938,680 01
Ex 1 fd.	1,542,693	32		748,523 19
Others	5,176,148	16		1,959,195 23
This week	10,145,892	22	This week	9,169,980 11
Last week	10,613,491	13	Last week	9,412,152 08
Decrease	467,598	25	Decrease	242,171 31

Barley

3 C.W.	215,366	02	1 N.W.C.	1,158,521 41
4 C.W.	564,181	18	2 C.W.	307,191 48
Rej.	79,499	30	3 C.W.	88,903 50
Feed	281,206	02	Others	51,989 26
Others	136,095	12		
This week	1,276,348	16	This week	1,606,606 55
Last week	1,284,729	34	Last week	1,589,677 11
Decrease	8,381	18	Increase	16,929 42

Flaxseed

1 N.W.C.	1,158,521	41		
2 C.W.	307,191	48		
3 C.W.	88,903	50		
Others	51,989	26		

SHIPMENTS

	1917—Lake	1916—Lake
Wheat	.....	.....
Oats	.....	.....
Barley	.....	.....
Flax	.....	.....
	1917—Rail	1916—Rail
Wheat	558,072 09	478,450 30
Oats	586,277 19	923,799 15
Barley	29,036 40	6,348 43
Flax	26,625 31	18,379 28

CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY

Week ending March 30, 1917 —

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur Ter.	22,941,056	10,145,892	1,276,348
In Vessels in Can. Ter. Harbors	334,945	352,232	.....
Total	25,476,436	15,820,553	1,477,197
At Buffalo and Duluth	7,333,263	2,860,000	334,183
Total this week	32,809,817	19,328,553	1,961,584
Total last week	33,037,537	19,147,501	1,715,095
Total last year	38,160,475	15,349,496	2,130,212

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Closing prices on the principal western markets on Saturday, March 31, were —

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat	$1.92	$2.01-$2.05
2 Nor. wheat	1.88	1.97- 2.05
3 Nor. wheat	1.82¼	1.89- 1.99
3 white oats	.62¼	.62- .63
Barley	.110-87	1.02- 1.29
Flax, No. 1	2.67¼	2.91- 3.00
Futures—		
May wheat	1.91	1.93
July wheat	1.88	1.85

The Livestock Markets

CHICAGO

Chicago, March 29.—Every livestock market in the country is now breaking price records. During last week cattle touched $12.95 per cwt. $15.00 has been a common price for hogs. Lambs have frequently sold for over $15.00, and sheep have nearly touched $13.00. It is expected receipts will be lighter very shortly as farmers have been clearing out most of their stock preparatory to seeding. Heavy steers, fit for the New York dressed trade, reached $12.50 to $12.95 early this week. Light killing cattle have been about as low as $9.00, while this closest market trade paid the top price, $12.95; thus it will be seen what an enormous spread there is between the finished heavy cattle and the unfinished light stuff. One consignment of 25 cars from Nebraska reached Chicago last Tuesday and sold from $11.85 to $12.35. Cows are selling up to $9.50, but there are not any good enough to get that figure. Canner cows, largely from the dairy sections of the country, sell mostly at $5.50 to $6.00. Even Bologna bulls are bringing $8.50 to $8.75.

The common price for hogs during the week has been $15.00. Few sold below $14.75. Feeding cattle, particularly stockers, are selling at unusual prices. Feeders have sold on the Kansas City market as high as $10.20. Chicago has sent several bunches of fleshy feeders back to the country at $10.20 to $10.50. Most of the stocker business is being done on an $8.00 to $9.25 basis.

The Breeders' Gazette of March 29 says — "February reports show that Europe is taking less beef and hog product from the United States than a year ago. Exports for February were 14 million against 17 million a year ago, while bacon exports decreased from 63 million to 51 million for the same month. During eight months, ending with February, fresh beef exports were 103 million against 148 million in 1916. Bacon decreased 43 million and hams 8 million in comparison with a year ago."

Regarding wool, the same paper has this to say — "Uncertainty as to the intention of the British government regarding exports of Australian wool to the United States has been a repressive influence; the prices are firm. In the West 50 cents is being asked for the best clips, but speculators are not disposed to pay that price. A sale of 25,000 fleeces at 48 cents was reported in Wyoming late last week and numerous 40 cent contracts have been made in that state. Manufacturers are awaiting the government's action on army cloth."

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, March 28.—The Livestock Department of The Grain Growers' Grain Co. reports receipts at the Union stockyards for last week as follows: Cattle, 2,602; calves, 129; sheep and lambs, 57; hogs, 4,766.

Receipts of cattle the past week have been more liberal than for some weeks. The quality has been very plain with few finished killing cattle, the bulk of the offerings being medium kind with a good percentage of stockers and feeders. Few cattle have been good enough to bring $10.00 or better. The market has held about steady with best butcher steers bringing from $9.25 to $10.00. Good fat heifers are quotable from $9.50 to $9.50 and best grade cows from $7.50 to $8.00. The cows and bull trade is good, best kind in this class going up to $8.00. There has been a good demand for stockers and feeders, best heavy kind selling up to $7.75, and in some cases a little more. Good quality close up springing cows are in demand at quotations shown below. We look for the cattle trade to remain about the same next week, with the finished fat kind in demand. Choice veal calves weighing 125 to 200 lbs. bring $8.00 to $10.00; common to fair $6.00 to $7.00.

There are very few sheep and lambs coming to market at present. Those that come forward bring high prices.

The hog market closed the end of last week strong at $14.90 for selects fed and watered. The market opened Monday of this week at $14.90 on light receipts, advancing Tuesday and Wednesday to $15.00, going to $15.50 Thursday and holding steady at this price the balance of the week.

CALGARY

Calgary, March 31.—The Livestock Department of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. Ltd. reports this week's Alberta stockyards receipts as: Horses, 772; cattle, 1,197; hogs, 3,343; sheep, 1,080; and this week a year ago: Horses, 499; cattle, 1,083; hogs, 2,705; sheep, 3.

With heavier receipts of cattle, the market was very uneven, and only extra choice beef was in any demand. We succeeded in topping the market with 20 cattle shipped by Riddell Bros., from Carstairs, selling 16 head of the shipment at $9.60 and 4 head at $9.50, fed and watered. Common beef cattle were a drag on the market and we had to take fully fifty cents less for this kind than a week ago. Stockers were slow and dragging and not much country demand.

There were no hogs sold till Friday, and with advancing Eastern markets prices advanced here to $15.00 and $15.10, a new record. Salesmen had mostly their own way, only trading was very uneven; buyers co-operating together to keep the market down to $15.00, some of them advancing their price at the last to make full shipments. (Top prices for cattle and hogs this week a year ago: $7.70 and $10.45).

There were no fat sheep for sale. Young stock sheep are in good demand at high prices. We handled 30 per cent. of the yard cattle and 19 per cent. of the yard hogs. Altogether we sold 182 cattle and 1,243 hogs this week.

TORONTO

Toronto, March 30.—Prices held steady on the closing livestock market of the week and with a very little supply for yesterday's trade, a good clean-up was effected. The market could not be termed strong, but quotations were steady. Choice cattle were very scarce. There was a good market for cows and bulls at prices steady with Wednesday. Stockers and feeders were steady and firm, with the best quality going as high as $7.75, and green cows were wanted at $6.50 to $7.25.

The hog market was steady with Wednesday's prices of $16.25 to $16.45, fed and watered. Packers bought quite freely at these levels.

A few spring lambs were on the market, weighing about 50 pounds and selling at 13 cents to 14 cents per pound.

There was no change in the prices of milkers and springers. Most of the offerings were taken at $80 to $85, and the high price for the week has been around $110.

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg Mar. 31	Winnipeg Year Ago	Toronto Mar. 30	Calgary Mar. 31	Chicago Mar. 29	St. Paul Mar. 29
Cattle	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c
Choice steers	9 75-10 25		10 75-11 50	9 50-9 60	12 00-12 95	10 00-11 25
Best butcher steers	9 25-9 75	7 25-7 50	9 50-11 00	8 50-9 00	11 00-12 00	9 00-10 25
Fair to good butcher steers	8 25-9 00	7 00-7 25	7 00-8 50	7 25-8 00	8 50-11 00	6 50-9 00
Good to choice fat cows	7 25-8 00	5 50-6 00	8 50-9 50	6 75-7 25	9 35-10 75	8 50-10 00
Medium to good cows	6 00-7 00	5 00-5 50	7 50-8 50	5 50-6 50	7 50-9 35	7 50-8 50
Common cows	4 00-6 00	4 25-4 75	6 50-7 50	4 50-5 50	6 10-7 40	6 50-7 50
Canners	3 75-4 25		4 50-5 25	3 50-4 00	5 15-6 15	5 00-5 75
Good to choice heifers	8 50-9 50	6 50-7 25	9 50-11 00	7 50-8 25	9 25-11 25	8 50-10 00
Fair to good heifers	7 00-8 50	5 75-6 25	6 50-9 25	6 75-7 50	6 00-9 25	6 25-8 50
Best cows	7 00-8 00			5 75-6 50		
Best butcher bulls	7 00-8 00	5 00-5 25	8 00-10 00	5 75-6 50	8 75-10 00	7 50-8 50
Common to bologna bulls	5 50-6 50	4 25-4 75	5 50-7 00	4 25-5 50	6 50-8 00	6 75-7 25
Fair to good feeder steers	6 50-7 50	5 75-6 50	8 00-9 00	6 75-7 25	7 50-9 25	7 25-9 00
Fair to good stocker steers	6 50-7 50	5 50-6 00	6 75-8 50	6 75-7 00	6 00-8 25	6 50-7 50
Best milkers and springers (each)	$75-$90	$65-$80	$80-$100	$95-$100	.....	$70-$100
Fair milkers and springers (each)	$50-$65	$45-$55	$50-$70	$55-$75	.....	$50-$70
Hogs						
Choice hogs, fed and watered	$15.50	10.25-10.50	16.25-16.40	$14.75	14.80-15.00	14.25-15.00
Light hogs	12 00-13 00	.....	14.25-15.50	.....	13.75-14.50	11.75-12.25
Heavy sows	9.00-10.00	7.50-8.25	$13.50	.....	.....	8.00-8.25
Stags	6.00-7.00	$4.50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	11 75-12 25	8 00-9 00	12 00-15 25	.....	13 25-15 40	11 00-14.00
Best killing sheep	8.50-9 25	7 00-7 50	9 00-11 50	8 00-11 50	10 25-13 85	6 00-10.50

COUNTRY PRODUCE	Winnipeg April 2	Winnipeg Year Ago	Calgary Mar. 31	Toronto Mar. 30	Regina Mar. 31	Saskatoon Mar. 24
Butter (per lb.)						
No. 1 dairy	24c	24c-26c	35c	35c-37c	35c	35c
Eggs (per doz.)						
New laid	25c	19c-21c	37c-40c	39c	43c	35c
Potatoes						
In sacks, per bushel	.65	75c-85c	$1.25	$2.00	$1.25	$90-$1.10
Milk and Cream						
Sweet cream (per lb. fat)	50c	38c	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cream for butter-making (per lb. butter-fat)	43c	34c	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dressed Poultry						
Spring chickens	.....	17c	.....	.....	.....	18c
Fowl	17c	13c-14c	20c-21c	20c-23c	20c-23c	.....
Ducks	20c	15c	21c-23c	18c-20c	18c-20c	.....
Geese	20c	15c	19c-21c	18c	18c	.....
Turkeys	23c	19c	30c-33c	25c	25c	25c
Hay (per ton)						
No. 1 Upland	.....	No. 1's $14	.....	No. 1's	No. 1's	.....
No. 2 Timothy	$12	$17	$13-$15	$8	$8	.....
No. 2 Midland	.....	$12	.....	.....	.....	.....

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from March 27 to April 2 inclusive

Date	WHEAT 1*	2*	3*	4	5	6	Feed	OATS 2 CW	3 CW	Ex 1 Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	BARLEY No. 3	No. 4	Rej.	Feed	FLAX 1 NW	2 CNW	3 CW	Rej.
Mar. 27	191¼	187¼	181¼	172¼	152¼	121¼	152	64¼	62¼	61¼	60¼	60¼	107¼	100	87	87	261	250¼	246¼	..
28	191¼	187¼	181¼	172¼	152¼	121¼	152¼	64	62	61¼	60	60	107¼	100	87	87	262¼	256¼	246¼	..
29	192¼	188¼	182¼	173¼	153¼	123¼	152¼	64¼	62¼	62¼	61¼	60¼	107¼	100	87	87	263	261	248¼	..
30	191¼	187¼	181¼	172¼	152¼	122	152¼	64¼	62¼	62¼	61¼	60¼	110	101	88	88	264¼	262¼	249¼	..
31	192	188¼	182¼	173	153	123	..	64¼	62¼	62¼	61¼	61¼	110	100	87	87	274	262¼	250¼	..
April 2	193¼	190¼	184¼	175¼	155¼	125¼	153	65¼	63¼	63¼	62¼	62¼	110	100	87	87	268¼	265¼	252¼	..
Week ago	188¼	184¼	178¼	169¼	150¼	118¼	150	63¼	61¼	61¼	60¼	58¼	107¼	100	..	..	262¼	258¼	244¼	..
Year ago	152¼	151¼	148¼	143¼	136¼	135¼	..	62¼	60	59¼	59	58	..	..	..	..	175	172	..	..