

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Dun's Bulletin says of Montreal trade: Crop reports from all parts of this province, as far east as Chicoutimi on the North Shore, and Rimouski on the South Shore, are of a very favorable character, and the grain acreage is larger than usual. From nearly all points in Ontario reports are also encouraging. Some cancellations are reported from districts in the Far West, which have suffered from drought and hail, but these are comparatively few, considering the amount of damage first reported.

With regard to wholesale trade conditions there is little new to be noted. While dry goods travellers are now mostly laid off on vacation, quite a volume of letter orders are coming to hand, and sales show a steady increase over last year. Both warehouses and textile mills are busy with deliveries, and some further considerable shipments have just come to hand from Britain.

In the leather market there is just a moderate movement, as boot and shoe manufacturers are not cutting much stock at the moment, but all prices are firmly held.

The distribution of general groceries is of the usual seasonable character, except that sugars are hard to get, jobbers complaining that they can only get about 25 per cent of their normal requirements, while refiners insist that from 30 to 50 per cent of deliveries shall be dark yellows. Predictions are made of a probable advance in rice, and buyers are advised to anticipate their wants. Receipts of butter are liberal and prices easier.

General payments continue to be well maintained, and money conditions have undergone no recent change. The general call rate remains at 6 per cent, with some private funds let out at shaded figures.

Only one insignificant district failure is reported for the week, with liabilities of about \$4,000.

Bradstreet's Montreal Weekly Trade Report: Our industries are all busy, but they have their troubles with the lack of raw materials, and the shortage of labor. In the wholesale trade midsummer quietness prevails. Our Government is urging all merchants to make their usual fall shipments at once, as cars will not be available in the fall, they being required by the Government to move the grain crop.

The fuel problem is far from being solved. Large consumers are only allowed seventy per cent of their requirements. The general crop situation has taken a more favorable turn, but in some sections, further damage is reported from frost. Potatoes and other vegetables in this province are coming into the market in large quantities.

Canadian manufacturers of floor oilcloth have almost exhausted their supplies of canvas, and have advised the trade that until they again have supplies of this material, they will have no more oilcloth or linoleum to offer. Some of the manufacturers are using felt lining, but this material is too heavy and makes it very difficult to handle.

Cotton goods are still going up in price. Manufacturers have sufficient orders on hand to keep the mills busy on full time till the end of the year.

Hosiery is higher than ever in price, and the quantities available very limited. For some years past, the fur markets have been going up in values, but this year prices will be higher than ever.

Linseed oil market is exceedingly strong. Prices have now reached the highest level ever known in this market. Refined sugars are scarce, the supply not being sufficient to supply the demand.

The embargo on shipments east of Montreal have now been removed on spring wheat flour, which has resulted in more active business, as a number of country merchants were short of supplies. The western wool clip is turning out better than was anticipated, both in quantity and quality.

Retail trade has been fair. Remittances are good, but city collections are still slow.

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

#### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending August 10th, 1918, were 15,583 packages which show a decrease of 2,413 packages as compared with the previous week and an increase of 5,986 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts from

May 1st to date show an increase of 47,784 packages as compared with the corresponding period in 1917. Prices remained unchanged, last week, and the tone of the market continued strong in spite of the fact that local trade was quiet and there was no demand from outside sources and also that supplies on spot are abundant. The offerings at the auction sales last week were larger, there being 3,368 packages, as compared with 3,261 packages for the previous one. At Monday's sale prices declined  $\frac{1}{4}$ c to  $\frac{3}{8}$ c per lb., and at Friday's they reacted  $\frac{1}{4}$ c to  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. The pasteurized creamery sold at 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ c to 45 $\frac{7}{8}$ c per lb., finest at 43c to 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ c and fine at 42 $\frac{1}{4}$ c to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. There were 900 packages offered at Gould's Cold Storage which sold at 42 $\frac{1}{4}$ c to 43c per lb., delivered here. Apart from the above the trade was quiet as only a few round lots changed hands on spot at 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ c to 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ c per lb. for finest creamery.

We quote wholesale prices as follows:

Finest creamery . . . . .	0.43 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.43 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fine creamery . . . . .	0.43	0.43 $\frac{1}{2}$
Finest dairy . . . . .	0.38	0.38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Finest dairy . . . . .	0.36	0.37

#### CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending August 10th, 1918, were 71,891 boxes, which showed a decrease of 8,035 boxes as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 4,207 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts from May 1st to date show an increase of 1,520 boxes as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Very little trading was done on the cheese market last week. At Brockville the best bids made were 22c and 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ c which were refused and no sales were made on the board, while at Kingston, Napanee and Perth no bids were made, and the best price bid at Iroquois was 22c with no sales. The offerings at Alexandria were sold to outside buyers at 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ c per lb., which was  $\frac{1}{4}$ c per lb. higher than last week, and all the cheese boarded at Cornwall was taken at 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. At Gould's Cold Storage 11,000 boxes were sold during the week at 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ c to 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ c per lb. f.o.b. country points.

The Dairy Produce Commission is paying the following prices:

No. 1 cheese . . . . .	0.28
No. 2 cheese . . . . .	0.22 $\frac{1}{2}$
No. 3 cheese . . . . .	0.22

#### EGGS.

The receipts of eggs for the week ending August 10th, 1918, were 7,026 cases as compared with 6,128 for the previous week, and 6,191 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st, 1918 to date were 164,541 cases, as against 185,266 for the corresponding period in 1917. The market for eggs was fairly steady with a firm understone and a good trade was done. Prices remained unchanged.

We quote wholesale jobbing prices as follows:

Selected new laid eggs . . . . .	0.51	0.52
No. 1 stock . . . . .	0.47	0.48
No. 2 stock . . . . .	0.45	0.46

The United States situation is somewhat unsteady. The heavy movement in and out of storage under the thirty day continues, many firms evidently making a practice of placing their current receipts in storage when any slackening in current demand occurs. Consumption, while said not to be quite as large as it was, still continues heavy for the season. One report at hand is to the effect that consumption in the United States is at least seventeen per cent over that of last year. In Canada some dealers state that Canadian consumption is nearer twenty per cent in excess of last year. In confirmation of this one firm in the city of Quebec whose normal weekly sales were one hundred and fifty cases a week, one year ago, now claim to be selling over three hundred.

The following standardized war scratch and mash feeds were adopted at a meeting of the instructors and investigators of poultry husbandry held recently in New York. Standardized war scratch: Five parts cracked corn, one part feed wheat, one part heavy oats and two parts barley. Standardized war laying mash: One part wheat bean, one part wheat middlings, one part corn meal or corn feed meal or hominy, one part gluten feed, one part crushed or ground oats and one part meat scraps.—"Egg Reporter."

### POULTRY.

The feature of the poultry situation is the heavy receipts at some centres in the western provinces particularly in Alberta. It is not the price of feed so much as the actual shortage that is given as the cause of the usually heavy movement at this time. Some districts where the growing grain suffered heavy frost damage are said to be shipping heavily. The movement into storage is brisk and with a prevailing price for fowl of sixteen to twenty delivered western centre. It is a question if it would be good business on the part of eastern feeders to look into the possibilities of bringing a few cars of live fowl east in much the same manner as poultry is transported from the western to the eastern States.

### POTATOES.

The tone of the market for potatoes was easier last week due to large supplies. A fairly active trade was done in a wholesale jobbing way at \$2.10 to \$2.25 per bag of 80 lbs. ex-store.

### BEANS.

The condition of the market for beans showed no changes; trade was quiet and prices firm. Hand-picked beans in car lots were quoted at \$8.50 per bushel, and in small quantities at \$8.75, while Quebec beans sold at \$7.50 to \$7.75, and Japan beans at \$8 to \$8.25.

### LOCAL FLOUR.

The demand for spring wheat flour from all sources was considerable last week, but millers were unable to meet all requirements due to the smaller production of the mills. Government standard spring wheat flour in car lots for shipment to country points sold at \$10.95 per barrel, f.o.b., Montreal, and to city bakers at \$11.05 delivered. The trade in winter wheat flour has been quieter, but the tone of the market is firm on account of the small stock on spot and sales of broken lots were made at \$11.60 per barrel in new cotton bags, and at \$11.30 in second-hand jute bags ex-store.

The market for rye flour showed continued weakness due to the fact that larger supplies are coming forward and prices scored a further decrease of \$1 per barrel. The demand was steady at the lower level and a fair amount of business was done in broken lots at \$13 per barrel in bags delivered. The tone of the market for other substitutes was steady and prices showed no change from a week ago. The demand was satisfactory for broken lots with sales of barley flour at \$12.50 per barrel in bags, delivered, oat flour at \$12, white corn flour at \$12, Government standard corn flour at \$11.60, Graham flour at \$11.05, and rice flour at \$8.75 per 100 lbs., put up in 220-lb sacks.

### MILLFEED.

The millfeed situation remained unchanged last week. The demand for bran and shorts was in excess of supplies, but other feedstuffs were, in ample supply and a fair trade was done at firm prices. Feed cornmeal sold at \$68, pure barley feed and oat moullie at \$67, mixed moullie at \$55, shorts at \$40, and bran at \$35 per ton, including bags, delivered to the trade.

### ROLLED OATS.

There was a steady demand for rolled oats and the market ruled firm. Offerings were limited and sales of broken lots of standard grades were made at \$5.20 to \$5.30 per bag of 90 lbs., delivered to the trade. The trade in cornmeal continues fair for the season of the year and prices were maintained with sales of Golden grade at \$6.15 to \$6.25, and bolted at \$4.50 to \$4.75 per bag, delivered.

### LOCAL GRAIN.

The upward tendency of prices at other grain centres as well as an increasing local demand for supplies led to a very firm feeling in the grain situation here. The demand for oats was also good and sales of several round lots was made on spot, including one lot of 225,000 bushels of extra No. 1 feed, and, in addition to these lots, a large number of cars changed hands for both local and country account. Sales for car lots of No. 2 Canadian western were made at \$1.01, No. 3 C.W. at 98c, extra No. 1 feed at 98c, No.