

# The Farmers' Market

## WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, August 4, 1917)

There has been a dull week in all grain markets. Wheat prices have fluctuated very little, with one Northern standing around the \$2.40 mark and lower grades tending to narrow somewhat. Eastern millers and private elevators have been buyers of the low grades. Parties who have been holding wheat in the terminals are now selling freely, since the maximum price of \$2.40 based on Northern went into effect. Cash oats declined a few cents after the July futures expired, but the offerings are not so heavy that prices should break much, and there will be a lot of oats required before new crop oats are on the market. American market news is bullish on oats. They expect very large crops of oats and corn. Some estimates place the totals at one and one-quarter billion oats and three and one-quarter billion corn. There is little doing in other coarse grains. Flax prices are strong and general conditions seem to justify them.

| WINNIPEG FUTURES |      |      |      |      |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                  | July | Aug. | Oct. | Dec. |
| Wheat            |      |      |      |      |
| July 31          | 224  |      |      |      |
| August 1         | 221  |      |      |      |
| August 2         |      |      |      |      |
| August 3         |      |      |      |      |
| August 4         |      |      |      |      |
| August 5         |      |      |      |      |
| August 6         |      |      |      |      |
| Week ago         |      | 228  |      |      |
| Year ago         |      | 196  | 135  |      |
| Oats             |      |      |      |      |
| July 31          | 80   |      |      |      |
| August 1         | 68   |      |      |      |
| August 2         |      |      |      |      |
| August 3         |      |      |      |      |
| August 4         |      |      |      |      |
| August 5         |      |      |      |      |
| August 6         |      |      |      |      |
| Week ago         |      | 78   |      |      |
| Year ago         |      | 69   |      |      |
| Flax             |      |      |      |      |
| July 31          | 325  |      |      |      |
| August 1         |      | 328  |      |      |
| August 2         |      |      |      |      |
| August 3         |      |      |      |      |
| August 4         |      |      |      |      |
| August 5         |      |      |      |      |
| August 6         |      |      |      |      |
| Week ago         |      | 331  |      |      |
| Year ago         |      | 339  | 192  |      |

| MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES                        |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| (Sample Market, August 7)                     |  |  |  |  |
| WHEAT—                                        |  |  |  |  |
| No. 2 Northern—1, \$2.88                      |  |  |  |  |
| No. 1 Northern Spring—2, \$3.00               |  |  |  |  |
| No. 2 Northern Spring—3, \$2.90; 1, \$2.93    |  |  |  |  |
| No. 3 Northern Spring—Part, \$2.85; 1, \$2.92 |  |  |  |  |
| part, \$2.90; 1, \$2.85                       |  |  |  |  |
| No. 4 Northern Spring—1, \$2.80               |  |  |  |  |
| No. 5 Northern Spring—1, \$2.65; 2, \$2.80    |  |  |  |  |
| Sample Grade Northern Spring—2, \$2.30; 1,    |  |  |  |  |

| LIVESTOCK                   |             |             |             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                             | Winnipeg    | Year ago    | Toronto     | Chicago     |
|                             | Aug. 4      |             | Aug. 1      | July 26     |
| Cattle                      |             |             |             |             |
| Choice steers               | 8.00-9.00   | 6.00-7.25   | 11.00-12.20 | 13.00-14.00 |
| Best butcher steers         | 7.00-8.00   | 5.00-6.00   | 10.00-11.00 | 12.00-13.00 |
| Fair to good butcher steers | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Good to choice fat cows     | 7.00-8.00   | 5.00-6.00   | 10.00-11.00 | 12.00-13.00 |
| Medium to good cows         | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Common cows                 | 5.00-6.00   | 3.00-4.00   | 8.00-9.00   | 10.00-11.00 |
| Calves                      | 3.75-5.00   | 2.50-3.25   | 5.00-6.00   | 7.00-8.00   |
| Good to choice heifers      | 7.00-8.00   | 5.00-6.00   | 10.00-11.00 | 12.00-13.00 |
| Fair to good heifers        | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Best cows                   | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Best butcher bulls          | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Common to butcher bulls     | 5.00-6.00   | 3.00-4.00   | 8.00-9.00   | 10.00-11.00 |
| Fair to good feeder steers  | 5.00-6.00   | 3.00-4.00   | 8.00-9.00   | 10.00-11.00 |
| Fair to good feeder steers  | 5.00-6.00   | 3.00-4.00   | 8.00-9.00   | 10.00-11.00 |
| Best milkers and springers  | 7.00-8.00   | 5.00-6.00   | 10.00-11.00 | 12.00-13.00 |
| Fair milkers and springers  | 6.00-7.00   | 4.00-5.00   | 9.00-10.00  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Hogs                        |             |             |             |             |
| Choice hogs, fed and        | \$15.25     | \$11.45     | 14.50       | 14.00-15.15 |
| Light hogs                  | 12.00-13.50 | 11.25-11.85 |             | 13.75-14.25 |
| Heavy hogs                  | 10.00-11.00 | 8.00        |             | 9.00-9.25   |
| Stags                       | 8.00-10.00  | 6.00-6.25   |             |             |
| Sheep and Lambs             |             |             |             |             |
| Choice sheep                | 10.00-12.00 | 8.00-9.00   | 10.00-12.00 | 13.00-14.00 |
| Best killing sheep          | 7.50-10.00  | 6.75-7.50   | 8.50-11.00  | 9.75-14.75  |

| COUNTRY PRODUCE            |           |           |         |             |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------|
|                            | Winnipeg  | Year ago  | Toronto | Chicago     |
|                            | Aug. 4    |           | July 27 | July 14     |
| Butter (per lb.)           |           |           |         |             |
| No. 1 dairy                | 32c       | 21c-23c   | 28c-30c | 26c-27c     |
| Eggs (per doz.)            |           |           |         |             |
| New laid                   | 31c       | 19c-22c   | 25c-30c | 25c         |
| Potatoes                   |           |           |         |             |
| In sacks, per bushel (new) | 1.75      | \$1.35    | \$4.00  | \$6.00-8.00 |
| Milk and Cream             |           |           |         |             |
| Sweet cream (per lb. fat)  | 40c       | 32c       |         |             |
| Cream for butter-making    | 30c       | 25c-26c   |         |             |
| Live Poultry               |           |           |         |             |
| Per (Yearlings)            | 15c-25c   | 15c-16c   | 14c-20c | 12c         |
| Old Hens                   | 14c       |           | 12c-13c |             |
| Hay (per ton)              |           |           |         |             |
| No. 1 Lowland              | 87        | 81        | No. 1's | 14c         |
| No. 1 Timothy              | \$14-\$15 | \$13-\$14 |         | \$10        |
| No. 1 Midland              | \$10-\$11 | \$10      |         |             |
| No. 1 Upland               | \$12      |           |         |             |

| Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from July 31 to August 6 inclusive |     |     |     |     |          |    |    |    |    |          |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|----|----|----|----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| WHEAT                                                                       |     |     |     |     | OATS     |    |    |    |    | BARLEY   |     |     |     |     |
| Date                                                                        | 1"  | 2"  | 3"  | 4"  | Date     | 1" | 2" | 3" | 4" | Date     | 1"  | 2"  | 3"  | 4"  |
| July 31                                                                     | 224 | 235 | 239 | 218 | July 31  | 79 | 76 | 76 | 73 | July 31  | 125 | 120 | 111 | 103 |
| Aug. 1                                                                      | 224 | 235 | 239 | 218 | Aug. 1   | 75 | 74 | 74 | 72 | Aug. 1   | 120 | 115 | 106 | 98  |
| 2                                                                           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | 2        | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | 2        | 123 | 119 | 111 | 104 |
| 3                                                                           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | 3        | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | 3        | 122 | 117 | 111 | 104 |
| 4                                                                           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | 4        | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | 4        | 122 | 117 | 111 | 104 |
| 5                                                                           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | 5        | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | 5        | 122 | 117 | 111 | 104 |
| 6                                                                           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | 6        | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | 6        | 122 | 117 | 111 | 104 |
| Week ago                                                                    | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 | Week ago | 76 | 75 | 75 | 72 | Week ago | 122 | 117 | 111 | 104 |
| Year ago                                                                    | 134 | 134 |     |     | Year ago | 61 | 61 | 61 | 61 | Year ago | 61  | 61  | 61  | 61  |

variety of hard red spring wheat, but shall not include more than 10 per cent of other wheat. This class is divided into four sub-classes—Dark Northern, Spring Northern Spring, Red Spring and Red Spring Hardback. Each of these sub-classes is divided into grades, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and Sample Grade, making 24 grades of spring wheat. Class 2—Common and Red Durum, which includes all varieties of durum wheat, but shall not include more than 10 per cent of other wheat. This class is divided into three sub-classes—Amber Durum, Durum and Red Durum. Class 3—Hard Red Winter. This is divided into three sub-classes—Dark Hard Winter, Hard Winter and Yellow Hard Winter. Class 4—Soft Red Winter, divided into two sub-classes—Red Winter and Red White. Class 5—Common White, divided into two sub-classes—Hard White and Soft White. Under "Miscellaneous" mixed wheat is classed, and "mixed" wheat, which includes smutty wheat that has been washed, smutty wheat is in a class by itself. Oats are divided into three classes—White, Mixed and Chopped White, and these are subdivided into—No. 1 White, No. 2 White, Standard White, No. 3 White, No. 4 White, and Yellow. There are four grades of Mixed and three of Chopped. Rye is divided into three grades. Barley is given eight grades, No. 1 to 8, Chevalier and No. Grade.

## The Livestock Markets

**SOUTH ST. PAUL.** South St. Paul, Aug. 2.—Estimated receipts at the Union stockyards today: Cattle, 1,785; calves, 510; hogs, 2,007; sheep, 212; cats, 112. Some of the druggies were gone from the cattle trade today and there was no further depreciation. The week's decline stands at 25 to 40 cents. Quality today was about as usual and nothing appeared to have special popularity with buyers. Bull trade showed a little more life at steady money. Veal calves were 25 cents lower again, putting two weeks down to \$11.50. Hog receipts were light today and early trade showed a little more snap than usual at steady prices. Top remained at \$15.50, with most of the trade again at \$15.50 to \$16.00, and the usual small proportion under \$15.00. Pigs were steady at \$12.50. Receipts were 2,000 compared to 3,500 a week ago, and the four days this week show a shortage of 2,000 compared to last week. The usual small movement of sheep and lambs showed up today and sold at steady prices. Lambs were again in the majority, with prices ranging from \$14.00 for tops and \$11.50 for seconds down to \$9.00 for culls. Ewes sold from \$9.50 down to \$8.00. There was little trade in breeding ewes. Total receipts were around 200.

**WINNIPEG.** Winnipeg, Aug. 4.—The Livestock Department of The Grain Growers' Grain Co. reports receipts at the Union stockyards for last week as follows: Cattle, 3,907; calves, 324; sheep and lambs, 100; hogs, 4,179. The receipts have been fairly liberal with the market on real good-kind holding up well around the 8 cent mark. There is a large percentage of common variety butchers cattle coming forward which are not carrying enough weight. They are worth from 7 to 7 1/2 cents with the better kind up to 8 cents. Young fat cows and heifers are in good demand at steady prices. The springer market also keeps brisk and this class is meeting with a ready sale. Light calf calves are selling at high as 14 cents with heavier stuff going at 7 1/2 to 8 cents. Very little change in this class with prices steady on lambs at around 11 cents, and sheep selling from 6 1/2 to 8 cents. The market for the past week has had a strong tone with prices advancing each day. Friday's close was 15 cents, opening Monday at 15 1/2 cents at which price they sold Tuesday. Friday this week closed at 15 1/2. The eastern markets are showing more strength and with present demand we look for steady prices for the coming week.

**TORONTO.** Toronto, Aug. 1.—Tuesday is becoming more and more the quietest day on the local cattle market. From yesterday were steady, with Monday, but there was no high grade stuff offered, as was the case the day previous. Good butcher cattle were selling at from \$9.00 to \$10.50. Cows were from \$7.50 to \$9.75 for good, and from \$5.50 to \$8.25 for canners. Bulls, with very few available, were from \$7.00 to \$9.00, according to quality. Milkers and springers were not plentiful, but two very fine cows were sold at \$115 each. There was another very light offering of hogs on the market yesterday, but a few more than on the day previous. There were only 200 on sale and they were sold at an advance of 50 cents at \$15.50 for fat and watered. All were not sold at the foregoing figure, one dealer having sold some at \$15.50, weighed off ears. Hog prices are firming up, no doubt due to the small number being sent to the market.

| BELGIAN RELIEF FUND     |             |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Previously acknowledged | \$10,045.45 |  |  |  |
| J. W. Ross              | 5.00        |  |  |  |
| Total                   | \$10,050.45 |  |  |  |

| CASH PRICES |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|             | 1"  | 2"  | 3"  | 4"  |
| July 31     | 224 | 235 | 239 | 218 |
| Aug. 1      | 224 | 235 | 239 | 218 |
| 2           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| 3           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| 4           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| 5           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| 6           | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| Week ago    | 240 | 257 | 262 | 232 |
| Year ago    | 134 | 134 |     |     |

## WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

| Closing prices on the principal western markets on Thursday, August 2, were— |           |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Cash Grain                                                                   | Winnipeg  | Minneapolis   |
| 1 No. wheat                                                                  | \$2.40    | \$2.50-\$2.60 |
| 2 No. wheat                                                                  | 2.37      | 2.55-2.65     |
| No. 3 wheat                                                                  | 2.32      | 2.75-2.80     |
| 3 white oats                                                                 | .75       | .50-.55       |
| Barley                                                                       | 1.11-1.23 | 1.15-1.45     |
| Flax, No. 1                                                                  | 3.25      | 3.27-3.30     |
| Futures                                                                      |           |               |
| Oct. wheat                                                                   | 2.24      |               |
| Dec. wheat                                                                   |           | 2.32          |

| RED CROSS FUND                                                                   |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Previously acknowledged                                                          | \$3,905.18 |
| Proceeds of Bazaar and Annual Picnic of Mt. Olan G. G. Association, Duval, Sask. | 16.00      |
| Total                                                                            | \$3,921.18 |

## DECKING CAR LOTS OF POTATOES

The British Columbia Fruit Markets Commissioner in a recent circular gives some very valuable instructions to those shipping potatoes in car lots. As these may prove useful to shippers on the prairies and perhaps especially to Alberta shippers, we are printing them. Some co-operative associations are shipping in this way. The circular says: The following information re loading cars of early potatoes may not be amiss to the uninitiated: All cars should be "decked" right up to the time when the tubers are mature enough so that the skin will not rub under the pressure of the thumb, and much better if a four inch false floor is also used. The material required to "deck" a 35 foot refrigerator car having an inside measurement of 31 ft. 3 in. length by 8 ft. 5 in. width is 6 pieces of 2 by 4, 13 ft. long for stringers, 64 pieces of 2 by 4, 2 ft. 8 in. long for posts, 30 pieces of 1 by 6, 8 ft. 5 in. long, or actual width of the car for decking spaced 6 ins. apart. Note—to get the length of the 2 by 4 stringers for any car subtract 5 from the given inside length and divide by 2. In fastening stringers and posts to sides of cars care should be taken to not injure the insulation of the car. Any nails used for this purpose should be short and driven into the studdings only. Place sacks on end, spaced about 2 ins. apart. Load both deck and floor space at same time; placing the 1 by 6's on deck as needed. The above sized car will hold six sacks across width of car and ten sacks from ice bunkers to door way, or 240 sacks—15 tons—without placing any in the door passage. The minimum to prairie points (from British Columbia) is 15 tons or 300 sacks. To put in full minimum deck door passage, after filling ends, extra lumber needed will be 3 stringers 2 ins. by 4 ins. by 6 ft. long, 3 posts 3 ft. 1 in. long and 6 pieces, 1 by 6's 8 ft. 5 in. long. Place ends of stringers on top of end decks. Reports received by the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture indicate the wheat yield will run between 10 and 15 bushels per acre. In the south-eastern part of the province the wheat average is estimated at 12 bushels to the acre. Harvest is expected about August 20. In the Regina-Weyburn district the wheat is expected to run about fifteen bushels. Wheat in the south central district will average about twelve bushels, with oats a failure in most parts. All grains are maturing too fast and it is feared that the conditions of 1914 will be repeated.

R. C. Henderson, President of the Manitoba G. G. Association, who was rather seriously injured in an auto accident a week ago, is making a steady and satisfactory recovery.

All trading in September corn was officially stopped by the Chicago Board of Trade on August 1. All contracts sold to 1.15 p.m. August 2 will be settled for at the basis of \$1.65, for actual delivery made.