

LIVE STOCK.

MONTREAL: Receipts at both live stock sales last week amounted to 1,000 cattle, 1,850 sheep and lambs, 2,800 hogs, and 3,200 calves. As these offerings were quite insufficient for the active demand from the buyers for good quality stock prices advanced sharply. There were practically no choice steers on the market, but dealers are of the opinion that had there been any very good stock offering they would easily have brought \$10.00 to \$10.25, which would have been an advance of 75c over the previous week. As it was, the best offerings sold from \$9.50 to \$9.75. Grass cattle is expected to arrive this present week, when a very firm market is expected. The price of live hogs fluctuated considerably, but closed with a 25c decline from the previous week. Supplies were small, and the demand good. Sheep were weaker, prices being down a dollar. The demand was very good at the lower level. Spring lambs met with a ready sale at unchanged prices. Calves were strong and prices very firm. As local demand is good and export enquiry active there is a very steady undertone to the market.

TORONTO: Receipts at the Union Stock Yards on Monday last were 445 cattle, 180 calves, 206 hogs and 668 cheep and lambs. Unusual strength was shown in the cattle market when the exceptionally high figure of \$10.35 was reached for choice heavy steers. The demand was very brisk throughout the sale, and prices advanced 10c to 20c over last week's closing figures. The quality is reported excellent in some cases. Hogs were in good demand at unchanged prices.

Total receipts on Tuesday were 763 cattle, 234 calves, 924 hogs, 306 sheep. Prices of cattle advanced 10c a cwt. over Monday, and a total of 60c o. r the corresponding sale of the previous week. On the whole supplies were light in all lines, and prices in many cases made records. The run of calves was also very light, and in consequence the demand was keen and all offerings were snapped up immediately. Spring lambs were firmly maintained at an advance of 1/2c a pound over the previous week. Sheep and yearlings were in good demand at unchanged prices. Hogs were very high, \$11.00 to \$11.10 being paid. The appearance of outside buyers caused this sharp advance in price.

Quotations for round lots were as follows:—
Per cwt.

	Montreal.		Toronto.	
Butcher steers, best	9.75	10.25	9.50	10.20
Do., good	9.50	9.75	9.10	9.50
Do., fair	8.50	9.00	8.60	9.10
Do., medium	7.50	7.75	8.00	8.60
Do., rough	7.50	8.00	7.50	8.00
Butcher bulls, best	7.75	8.25	8.00	8.75
Do., good	6.50	7.00	7.00	8.00
Do., medium	5.25	6.25	7.00	7.50
Canning bulls	3.75	4.50	6.00	6.50
Butcher cows, best	7.00	8.25	7.85	8.65
Do., good	5.75	6.75	7.25	7.75
Do., medium	5.00	5.75	6.50	7.25
Do., common	4.00	4.75	5.75	6.50
Sheep	7.25	8.00	8.50	10.50
Spring lambs, each	4.50	8.00	8.00	10.00
Hogs, selects, weighed				
off cars	11.25	11.50	10.75	11.10
Do., roughs and				
mixed lots	11.00	11.25	10.15
Calves, choice	8.00	9.00	10.00	12.50
Do., medium	6.00	7.50	7.50	10.00

BRITISH WOOL CLIP BOUGHT UP.

The British Government has announced that the purchase of the entire wool clip of the United Kingdom for 1916 is under consideration. This announcement follows the action of a few days ago when the purchase or sale of wool grown in the United Kingdom on private account was prohibited, and is understood to be the result of the information gained from the census of wool stocks in the Kingdom taken early in the month. In the meantime all Provincial wool auctions have been indefinitely postponed.

The action is interpreted by wool men in this country as the answer of the officials of the War Office to the attempt on the part of Bradford and London dealers to corner the market. Prices have steadily advanced at recent London sales and as only a comparatively small amount of the Australian clip remains to come on the market the situation was serious. The first intimation of action on the part of the Government was when the Australian embargo was declared a few weeks ago, and the Sydney and Brisbane sales postponed, presumably acting on the advice of the Home Authorities. The action should result in easier prices, now that the Bradford influence has been obviated.

CANADA'S GRAIN ACREAGE.

Wheat Area 11.5 per cent. less than 1915, and 11.6 per cent greater than 1914, According to Government Estimate.

The preliminary estimate of acreage of Canadian grain crop as compiled by the Census and Statistics Office, has just been issued, and shows that wheat this year will occupy a total area some 11.5 per cent below the high record of last year, but about 11.6 per cent better than in 1914.

Wheat this year will occupy a total area of 11,491,600 acres. This is 1,494,800 acres, or 11.5 per cent below the high record of last year, when 12,986,400 acres were harvested, but 1,197,700 acres, or 11.6 per cent above the harvested area of 1914, which was 10,293,900 acres. The area to be harvested of fall wheat for 1916 is 1,042,200 acres, leaving the area estimated to be sown to spring wheat at 10,449,200 acres.

In the three Northwest provinces the area sown to wheat is estimated at 10,471,200 acres, as compared with 11,744,700 acres, the area of 1915, and with 9,335,400 acres, the harvested wheat area in the Northwest provinces for 1914.

In Manitoba the area sown to wheat for 1916 is placed at 2,904,400 acres, as compared with 3,342,900 acres last year; in Saskatchewan it is 5,889,100 acres, as against 6,838,100 acres, and in Alberta 1,677,700 acres, as against 1,563,700 acres.

Oats.—It is estimated that the area devoted to oats for 1916 is 10,499,500 acres, as compared with 11,365,000 acres in 1915. This is a diminution of 865,500 acres, or 7.6 per cent, as compared with last year, but an increase of 438,000 acres, or 4.3 per cent, as compared with 10,061,500 acres, the area harvested in 1914. The area sown to barley is estimated at 1,317,500 acres, as against 1,509,350 acres last year.

Other Grains.—The areas sown to other grain crops were as follows: Rye, 109,000 acres, against 112,300 acres; peas, 159,200 acres, against 196,210 acres; mixed grains, 395,000 acres, against 466,800 acres. The acreage under hay and clover is reported as 7,963,000, as against 7,875,000 last year, an increase of 88,000 acres, and under alfalfa the acreage is 88,700, as against 92,600 last year.

Condition.—Measured in percentage of a standard of 100 as representing a full crop, the condition of the principal field crops on May 31 was as follows:

Fall wheat, 84; spring wheat, 92; all wheat, 90; oats, 90; barley, 89; rye, 91; peas, 90; mixed grains, 89; hay and clover, 98; alfalfa, 94; pastures, 97. Converting this scale into one wherein 100 represents the average condition at May 31 of the past six years 1910-1915, the condition of the principal grain crops may be expressed as follows: Fall wheat, 101; spring wheat, 98; rye, 100; oats, 97, and barley, 97.

The reports show that the spring this year is late, and that heavy rains throughout the Dominion have in many places made it difficult to work the land. In Eastern Canada seeding at the end of May was considerably behind-hand, especially as compared with last year; and in parts of the West the sowing of oats and barley had not been completed.

GASOLINE LIKELY TO GO LOWER.

An inquiry is being held by the Federal Trade Commission at Washington to investigate the condition of the gasoline market. From the evidence elicited, the general opinion is that gasoline has reached its highest point for the time being, and that from now on there is likely to be a reduction in the retail price. It was declared that a fall in price may be looked for at any time. The over-production of crude oil which brought about the low price of gasoline more than a year ago is about to be experienced again. The high rates prevailing during the last few months has stimulated the production which in turn should result in a repetition of last year's conditions. Independent jobbers and refiners who appeared before the Commission were virtually unanimous in placing responsibility for the increases on the Standard Oil Company. They charge it refused to compete, and that it had forced up the price.

Following the example of England, Germany, Italy and the Scandinavian countries, all clocks in France were set forward one hour at eleven o'clock on June 14th, in accordance with the daylight-saving bill. The new method of calculating time will be continued until October 1.

FLOUR, CEREALS AND MILLFEED.

The wheat market continues in a very weak condition, which has resulted in a drop in price of 20c. per barrel in all grades of flour; first patents being quoted at \$6.60, seconds at \$6.10, and strong bakers at \$5.90. Domestic business in flour is fair. The export trade is very quiet, as foreign freight rates on flour have not declined in proportion to the rates on wheat. For example, 9s. per qr., or 45c. per 100 lbs. is being asked for wheat to the United Kingdom, while the rates for flour remain at 80c. per 100 lbs. Naturally Canadian millers can hardly compete with the English mills on these terms.

The winter wheat flour crop is coming on very satisfactorily. It is still too soon to predict, but the general opinion in the trade is to the effect that the cold, backward spring weather this year will make the harvest late in comparison with last year. However, this cool weather will tend to offset the damage caused by the heaving of the ground, which injures the roots of the plant. The demand is steady, but buyers are hesitating as to the advisability of carrying large stocks as this year's flour contains an excessive quantity of moisture.

Millfeed continues in fair demand considering the excellent condition of the pastures. A further decline of \$1 per ton was noted last week.

Current quotations follow:

	Montreal.		Toronto.	
Flour:—				
First patents, per bbl., in bags	6.60	6.60	6.70	
Second patents, do.	6.00	6.00	6.10	
Strong clears, do.	5.90	6.00	5.80	6.10
30c per bbl. more in wood.				
Winter wheat flour—				
Fancy Patents	6.00	6.25	5.85	6.10
90 per cent in wood	5.30	5.40	5.60	5.80
90 per cent in bags	2.40	2.50	2.70	2.75
Cereals:—				
Cornmeal, yellow, in per bag, 98 lbs.	2.50			2.50
Rolled oats, per bbl., in wood	5.10	5.20		
per bag, 90 lbs.	2.40	2.45		2.60
Rolled wheat, 100 lb. bbl.		4.00		4.00
Rye flour, 98 lb. bag	2.65	2.80		2.80
Graham flour, 98 lb.				2.75
Barley pot., 98 lbs.		3.00		3.00
Barley, Pearl, 98 lbs.		4.50	4.20	4.40
Whole wheat flour, 98 lbs.				3.00
Feeds:—				
Middlings, per ton	25.00	27.00	25.00	26.00
Shorts, per ton		24.00		22.00
Feed flour, per ton		1.65		25.00
Feed flour, per ton				1.65
Moultrie, pure grain				
grades, per ton	31.00	32.00		
Do., mixed	27.00	29.00		
Barley feed, per ton		32.00		
Do., meal, per ton		32.00		
Crushed oats, 80 lbs.		1.70		
Reground oatmeal feed, per ton		19.00		

MONTREAL PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the principal commodities at Montreal for the past two weeks follows:

	Week end- June 17,	Week end- June 10.
Wheat, bushels	2,286,654	1,389,476
Oats, bushels	563,675	646,303
Barley, bushels	35,892	153,889
Flour, barrels	188,941	173,702
Eggs, cases	20,213	16,696
Butter, packages	15,442	16,138
Cheese, boxes	87,267	82,749
Potatoes, bags	11,769	13,743
Hay, bales	43,882	27,510

NEW POSTAL REGULATIONS.

The Post Office Department has received information that gifts sent from Canada to soldiers from Canada serving in British regiments stationed in Great Britain, and to naval reservists and others from Canada serving in the navy, are exempt from customs duty, provided they are addressed in care of the Canadian War Contingent Association, Army Post Office, London, England.

Arrangements have been made for this association to act as a central authority for the distribution of such parcels from Canada, and free customs entry is restricted to such parcels as are sent through the association.

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