EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

The wheat market in Chicago during the past week has been one of uncertainty to a great extent and fluctuations have been more marked and rapid than during the time that lower prices prevailed. The two factions are now more evenly divided and this makes the fight somewhat keener than when the bears had everything their own way. Prices seem to have hardened considerably at the recent advance, and it is not likely that they will reach as low a basis as a few weeks ago, even though a decline should set in. Corn has held somewhat stronger during the week. Provisions have generally been strong and steady.

Wheat opened 1c higher on Monday and advanced ⅜ to ½c, stimulated by numerous buying orders and crop reports from the Northwest not of an improved tenor. Later the markets became nervous, declined several times and recovered again. The feeling was easier in the afternoon. Provisions were inactive. Closing prices we.. :

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	$0.80¼	81⅛
Corn	37¼	38¼
Oats	29¼	29¼
Pork	9.77½	9.77½
Lard	6.52½	6.52½

On Tuesday the market opened ¼c lower and declined ⅞c from the start. Prices then fluctuated considerably within a ⅝c range of the bottom. The bears relied on liberal offerings of new fall wheat and foreign markets to depress prices, but so far deliveries of new wheat have not been as heavy as expected, the drought in the spring wheat belt having caused a tendency to hold. Corn was active and firm. Oats closed firmer. Provisions were *quiet but stronger* Closing prices were :

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	$0.78⅝	79⅝
Corn	38	38⅝
Oats	29¼	29¼
Pork	9.82½	9.82½
Lard	6.52½	6.52½

On Wednesday offerings of wheat were abundant, and the tendency of prices downward the close being ⅞c lower. *The market opened* firm, but soon declined 1¼c and fluctuated violently. The bulls, however, seemed confident and witnessed *the decline of prices* coolly. Corn was active and steady. Oats quiet. Provisions were quiet and firm, with good buying orders. Closing prices were :

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	$0.78⅛	$0.79⅛
Corn	37⅝	38⅝
Oats	29¼	29¼
Pork	9.90	9.90
Lard	6.60	6.65

Wheat opened ⅝c lower *on Thursday*, and the feeling continued easy until well on in the day. Cables were weak, and receipts of new wheat large at southwestern points. The crowd seemed to be tired of crop damage news, but these reports still continue to be the main stay of the bulls. Short selling is now the popular phase of the wheat question here, and the short interest has grown to large proportion during the last ten days. Toward the close the market advanced ⅛c, but settled back, again. Corn fluctuated considerably, but closed ⅜c, higher. Oats advanced ⅛ to ¼c. Provisions were quite and firm. Closing prices were :

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	78⅛	79⅛
Corn	37⅞	38½
Oats	29⅜	29⅜
Pork	9.87½	9.87½
Lard	6.60	6.65

Wheat opened a fraction higher and with a firmer tone on Friday. Heavy receipts of new wheat however, had a depressing effect, and prices receded 1c. The close was firm at nearly the same as yesterday. Corn and oats were easier. Provisions were more active and slightly unsettler. Closing prices were :

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	$0.77⅜	$0.78⅛
Corn	37¼	38¼
Oats	29⅛	29⅛
Pork	9.85	9.85
Lard	6.62½	6.65

On Saturday wheat fluctuated within a range of about 1c., closing a fraction above yesterday September closed at 80⅞c and October at 82c. Provisions were fairly active and easier. Lard steady. Closing prices were

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	$0.77⅞	$0.78⅜
Corn	—	—
Oats	—	—
Pork	9.77½	9.80
Lard	6.62½	6.65

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The past week has apparently been a strong one in the leading bank stocks, quotations being higher in all but two instances, and these two remain unchanged. Miscellaneous stocks were quiet. Closing bids for Wednesday, July 14th, as compared with Wednesday of the previous week were as follows : –

	July 7.		July 14.
Montreal	208½	..	210½
Ontario	115	..	115½
Toronto	199	..	200½
Merchants'	122½	..	123¼
Commerce	118¼	..	120¼
Imperial	135	..	136
Federal . .	108¼	..	108¼
Dominion	208	..	211
Standard	124	..	125½
Hamilton	136	..	136
Northwest Land	72¼	..	70
C.P.R. Bonds .	105	..	—
do Stocks	-	..	

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain and flour markets have been in rather an unsettled condition during the past week, owing to the situation in outside markets. The advances made in other markets has induced holders to ask higher prices than buyers cared to offer, and consequently business was not very active. Canadian crop prospects appear to have been generally improving though still far below those of last year; but that is admitted to have been something exceptionally fine. Stocks on hand have not altered very much during the week, leaving them on Monday morning as follows: Flour 2,000 bbls; fall wheat 199,588 bush; spring wheat 137,026 bush, mixed wheat 5,962 bush; oats 9,282 bush; barley 15,248 bush; peas 30,307 bush; rye 343 bush.

WHEAT.

No. 2 fall has been held at 80c, but few sales were made and bids usually did not range over 78c. About 79½c appeared to be the highest paid for very choice No. 2. No. 2 spring and red winter would bring 79 to 80c.

FLOUR.

There has been a more active demand and prices have ruled stronger, sales being made at an advance of 5 to 10c, over last week. However, as a rule buyers refuse to venture much on the advance, and higher prices were rather asked than bid. Extra was held at $3.50, and superior extra at $3.60.

OATS.

Offerings have been light and prices a shade stronger, but few sales were reported. 32 to 33c was about the range of prices for car lots and 37 to 38c on the street.

BARLEY

No movement has been reported in this grain.

PEAS.

Quiet and unchanged at 57 to 58c.

POTATOES.

New have sold in barrel lots at $2.75 to $3. The trade in old in car lots seems to be over for the season.

EGGS.

All offered have been taken readily at rather firmer prices, 11½ to 12c having been usually paid for large lots. On the street fresh brought 14 to 15c.

CHEESE.

Small lots for local trade have sold steadily at 8 to 8½c. Sales of 505 boxes at 8⅛c, 858 boxes at 8¼c, and 1,022 boxes at 8⅜c are reported at the factories.

PORK

Quiet and steady at $13.50. One sale reported at $13.75.

BACON.

Has been firm and active in tons and cases. Prices, long clear 7¼ to 7½c; cars 7c. Cumberland scarce at 7¾ to 8c, the latter light smoked; rolls 9c; bellies 11c.

HAMS

Active and higher, with small lots selling at 12½ to 13c for smoked and 11c for pickled.

LARD.

Firmer, in sympathy with pork products. Small pails sold at 9½c.

HOGS.

Quiet and steady at $7 for the few offered.

Movements of Business Men.

MR. R. F. RILEY, of W. E. Sanford & Co., is rusticating in eastern Canada.

MR. JOHNSTON, representing G. F. & J. Galt, has returned from British Columbia.

MR. J. H. ASHDOWN and family have gone on a vacation trip to Orchard Beach.

MR. E. F. HUTCHINGS will shortly take a trip east, and from Montreal will go right through to British Columbia. Mr. Hutchings expects to work up a good trade in the Pacific Province.