

Fruit Transportation Charges.

During the past summer the Railway Commissioners heard a complaint from the Fruit-growers' Ass'n. of Ontario against the railways, regarding various matters connected with the transportation of fruits, as a result of which the railways have voluntarily proposed and the Board of Railway Commissioners have approved and authorized the following concessions to shippers, briefly stated as follows:

(a) That under the heading of "Fruits," the Canadian freight classification be amended by reducing pears (green), in boxes or barrels, from first-class to third-class in less than carloads, and from third to fifth-class in carloads; also that apples (green), in boxes, which are at present second-class in less than carloads and fifth-class in carloads, be made third-class in less than carloads and fifth-class in carloads, thus making the classification of apples and pears in boxes or barrels uniform.

(b) That fruit described in the current Canadian freight classification as "fruit, fresh," be carried in baskets, boxes or crates, on the following described reduced basis of rates, viz.: Between all stations in Ontario, east of Sault Ste. Marie and Port William, and between all stations in Quebec, and interprovincially between Ontario and Quebec, also from stations in Ontario and Quebec to stations in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, at fourth-class rates in carloads of not less than 20,000 pounds, instead of third-class, as at present, and at second-class rates in less than carloads of 10,000 pounds or over, instead of first-class, as at present. Also from stations in Ontario and Quebec to Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and Brandon, at fourth-class rates, in carloads of not less than 20,000 pounds, instead of at third-class, as at present.

It is understood in all cases that the total charges on a smaller lot shall not be greater than the total charges on a larger lot at the next lower rate, as indicated above.

(c) With respect to the charge made by the railways for refrigerating shipments in transit, it is ordered that the average actual cost of the ice and the placing thereof in the cars shall not be exceeded, and that, pending a decision by the board as to a reasonable charge for such service, the charge for refrigeration shall not be more than \$2.50 per ton of 2,000 pounds on the actual weight of the ice supplied.

(d) Certain other matters complained of by the Fruit-growers' Association are receiving consideration.

MARKETS.

Grain is moving quite rapidly now at the magic dollar standard, but hay appears to be weighing heavily upon the market. The outlook for beans is brightening, and growers may expect to make up for last winter's slow sales. Potatoes are in active demand, with prospects of higher figures. Cheese is fluctuating, and some boards have sold the rest of the season's make at 9c. Hogs are quite steady at the prices quoted below on the different markets. Live cattle took a slump on Toronto markets last week, especially in the stocker and feeder grades. Maybee & Wilson's week end letter says:

"Run heavy this week and all grades of cattle met quite a setback, and was more especially marked in the medium feeder and light stocker line. They sold at quite a decline. Export cattle eased off some, but some real good finished cattle are in request, and can be easily sold. This also applies to the butcher trade. The good ones are in demand, but the medium to inferior are getting hard to cash, owing to the immense numbers marketed.

"In the sheep and lamb trade we have a very fair market for lambs, but sheep met with a heavy decline from last week's prices, easing off from 20c. to 35c. per cwt. We beg to quote:

Exporters.—Good weight, well finished, \$4.80 to \$5.00; mediums, \$4.12½ to \$4.65; cows, \$3.25 to \$3.50; bulls, \$3.75 to \$4.50.

Butchers.—Best steers and heifers, \$4.15 to \$4.25; good mixed loads, part cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75.

Feeders.—Good, 1,000 pounds up, \$3.50 to \$4.00; good, 850 to 950 pounds, \$3.00 to \$3.60; light stockers, common to good, \$2.00 to \$2.75.

Sheep and Lambs.—Sheep and lambs, \$4.25 to \$4.50; sheep \$3.40 to \$3.50; bucks and common sheep, \$2.75 to \$3.00.

Calves.—Calves, 4c. to 5½c. per pound.

LIVE STOCK.

Export Cattle.—Few on the market; trade was dull. There is a demand for good cattle, but none of these are coming forward. Quotations mostly nominal. Extra choice, \$4.50 to \$5.00; good to medium, \$4.25 to \$4.40; good cows at \$3.25 to \$4.00.

Butcher Cattle.—Despite the fact that the dealers say they are willing to pay as high as \$4.50 per cwt. for choice cattle, hardly anything goes above \$4.00. The run of cattle is generally of very poor quality, with a few fair to good ones sprinkled in between. The better class of stock about steady. Good to choice are quoted at \$4.00 to \$4.50; fair to good, \$3.25 to \$3.75; mixed lots, medium, \$2.75 to \$3.20; common, \$1.75 to \$2.50; and cows at \$1.75 to \$3.50.

Stockers and Feeders.—Trade in feeders fairly active and prices well maintained. There is still a dull tone to stockers, owing to the heavy receipts of poor grades. Stockers are quoted at \$3.20 to \$3.50 for

heavies, and \$2 to \$3 for light. Light bulls, \$1.75 to \$2.75. Feeders, \$2.00 to \$3.80 per cwt.

Milch Cows.—Are fairly steady. The range of prices offering is \$25 to \$50 each.

Calves.—\$2.00 to \$10.00 each, and 3 cents to 5 cents per pound.

Sheep and Lambs.—Trade a little heavy; 10c. to 50c. per cwt. lower. Export are quoted at \$2.50 to \$3.60 per cwt., and culls at \$2 to \$3. Lambs firm in tone, and quoted slightly higher at \$4.00 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Hogs.—The market is steady, and is quoted at \$5.30 per cwt., for selects, and \$5.10 for lights and fats.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Toronto Wholesale Prices.

Wheat.—The demand from millers for Ontario grades is moderate, but business is not active. Red and white offered outside at \$1.01, with \$1 bid; No. 2 goose, 90c.; and No. 2 spring, 95c. Manitoba, No. 1 northern, \$1.02 to \$1.02½; No. 2, 99c.; No. 3, 96c. to 96½c., Georgian Bay ports; 6c. more grinding in transit.

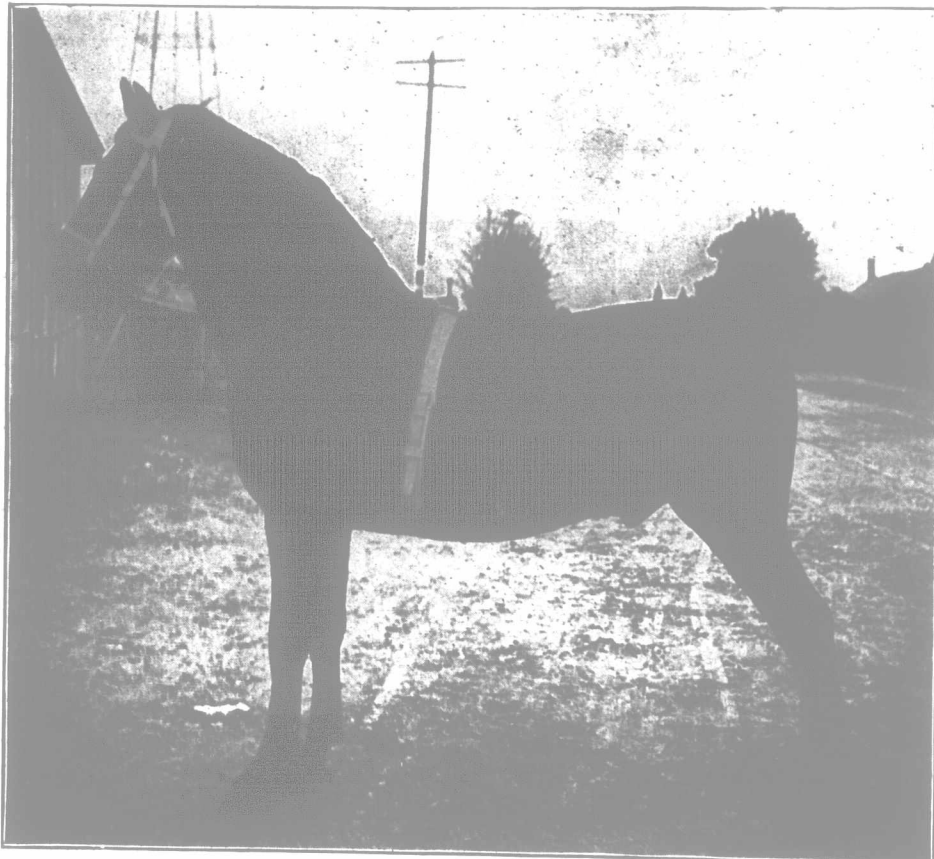
Mill Feed.—Bran, \$14 to \$14.50 in bulk; shorts at \$17.50, east or west. Manitoba mill feed, \$20 to \$21 for shorts, and \$19 for bran, sacks included, Toronto freights.

Barley.—Prices steady at 45c. to 46c. for No. 2; 44c. to 45c. for No. 3 extra, and 43c. for No. 3 malt-ing outside, 1c. less for export.

Rye.—64c., east and west.

Corn.—52c. to 53c. for cars of Canada west. American, 61c. to 61½c. for No. 2 yellow, 60½c. for No. 3, and 59c. for No. 3 mixed, on track.

Oats.—Market quiet and steady. No. 1 new white, 32½c. to 33c., east; No. 2 new white, 31½c. to 32c., low freights, and 31½c., north and west.



Truman's Cadet.

Three-year-old Hackney stallion. First at World's Fair, St. Louis; first as a two-year-old at Iowa State Fair; first and reserve champion at the International, 1903. One of the good things in Truman's barns at London, Ont.

Beans.—The market is firm in tone, and quoted unchanged at \$1.50 to \$1.55 for hand-picked, \$1.35 to \$1.40 for prime, and \$1.10 to \$1.25 for under-grades.

Peas.—Dull and easy at 63c. to 64c. for No. 2, west or east.

Potatoes.—The market for Ontario stock is pretty well demoralized, and there is little demand for this line. They are quoted at 60c. on track, and 75c. to 80c. out of store. Eastern stock is in fair demand at 90c. to 95c. out of store, and 75c. to 80c. on track.

Baled Hay.—Is offering freely at \$7.50 to \$8.00 per ton for car lots, on track here.

Baled Straw.—Car lots on track here are quoted at \$5.75 to \$6.00 per ton.

Butter.—Choice dairy rolls are scarce. Fairly large supplies of poor stock are coming in both rolls and in tubs. Creameries are about steady.

Creamery prints19c. to 20c.

do, solids19c.

Dairy tubs, good to choice14c. to 15c.

do, inferior grades10c. to 13c.

Dairy pound rolls, good to choice16c. to 17c.

do, medium14c. to 15c.

Cheese.—Is steady, and quoted unchanged at 9½c. to 9½c. per pound for large, and 9½c. to 10c. for twins.

Eggs.—Continue firm, with more stock moving at 20c. than at 19c. Receipts do not show any sign of

increase, and the active demand has to be supplied from stores.

Poultry.—Is steady and quiet. 11c. to 13c. for spring chickens, and 8c. to 9c. for old birds. Ducks are steady at 9c. to 10c., and geese at 8c. to 9c., all dressed weights.

Retail Prices Toronto Street Market.

Wheat, white	\$ 1 00
do, red	1 00
do, goose	88
do, spring	98
Peas	67
Oats	38
Barley	47 to \$0 50
Rye	69
Hay, No. 1 timothy	9 00 to 11 00
do, clover or mixed	7 50 to 8 50
Straw, sheaf	12 00 to 13 50
do, loose	7 50
Dressed hogs, light, cwt.	7 25 to 7 75
Butter	21 to 23
Eggs	25 to 30
Old chickens, dressed, per lb.	7
Spring do, per lb.	12
Turkeys, per lb.	12
do, spring	17 to 20
Spring ducks, lb.	10
Potatoes, per bush.	60 to 70

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Wholesale Prices.

Grain.—The market has apparently settled down to a trading basis on wheat. It begins to look as though prices would not go lower to any very great extent, and the promise to farmers is consequently extremely encouraging.

Oats.—Some report a very fair trade for local

account, others stating that there is absolutely nothing doing. As for export account, all agree that it is next to impossible to move anything at present prices. Some western-inspected No. 3 oats are being offered here at 85½c. on track, but No. 3 oats are generally quoted around 37c. store, while No. 2 are 38c., and sometimes 38½c.

Other grains are steady, with the exception of barley, which is 34½c. to 55c. for No. 2 afloat, Montreal; 53½c. to 54c. for No. 3 extra, and 52½c. to 53c. for No. 3. No. 2 peas are stronger, at 74c. to 75c., afloat, Montreal.

Feed.—The market for mill feed holds firm under a fairly active and gradually increasing demand. Manitoba bran, in bags, is \$18 to \$19 per ton, and shorts \$21; Ontario bran in bulk being \$17 to \$17.50, and shorts \$19 to \$20.

Hay.—Dealers are not losing money, but they are barely paying expenses. There are no remunerative markets to ship to at present, and while prices are rather low it is not at all impossible that they will go lower, though this is not expected. Prices are \$8.50 to \$9.00 for No. 1 per ton, on track; \$7.50 to \$8.00 for No. 2, and \$6.50 to \$7.00 for clover and clover mixed.

Beans.—The market shows no change. Old stock is very scarce, and the demand for new stock will be extraordinary throughout the coming season. This will, of course, give a firm market. At present prime beans are selling at \$1.35 to \$1.40, in car lots or in jobbing lots.

Potatoes.—The market shows a further advance, and offerings of stock are fairly liberal, but none of the shippers of Quebec stock would accept less than 60c. to 65c. per bag of 90 pounds, in car lots laid down here. These would sell from store in broken lots at 75c. The market will undoubtedly advance still further before long. Even now Ontario stock could not be had save at higher prices than those mentioned. The scarcity is, of course, due to the rot.

Cheese.—Last week opened quietly enough on the cheese market, the tone being firm after the depression of the previous week. Later on the local market began to show firmness, and by Wednesday the price had worked up on country boards to 9c. On Thursday, cheese was cheap on country boards at 9c., and there was a scramble for it, the result being that prices