

MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING,

44 and 46 Richmond street W., Toronto.
Aug. 1st, 1898.

There is nothing new to report in general trade circles. The hot weather and the harvesting operations have checked trade considerably, but the outlook for a big fall trade is good. The confidence in the future seems to have been greatly strengthened by the assurance of a big crop everywhere.

Wheat.

Dealers are anxiously watching the wheat situation. Though the wheat harvest in the United States began three or four weeks ago, there does not appear to be very much of it coming to market. The world's visible wheat supply seems to be decreasing very fast, and if the new wheat is held back for a few weeks longer it may disappear altogether. But the new wheat is not likely to be held back in sufficient quantities to bring this about. Reports from many sources indicate big crops, though some sections of the United States will not give as large a yield as expected. The Canadian crop will be a large one, and the sample good. A good many samples received on this market weigh over 60 pounds standard.

The London market for spot stuff is largely steady owing to the recent decline in futures, but spot wheat continues to meet with ready demand, though holders are not fighting for any advance in prices. The tendency of the western wheat markets has been downward during the week with values $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ easier. At Montreal during the week a lot of new western wheat was offered laid down there at equal to 76¢, but it was not taken. Sales are reported throughout the province at 67¢ to 68¢. Manitoba No. 1 hard is quoted at 90¢ to 91¢ at Fort William, and 77¢ at Brandon. The market here is very easy, and prices have receded during the week from 75¢ and 76¢ for old wheat west to below 70¢. The quotations for new Ontario winter wheat are from 65¢ to 67¢, as compared with 70¢ to 71¢ a year ago at this time.

Oats and Barley.

The reports from some sections of the Western States disclose a large extent of light weight grain, and it is expected that there will be a larger proportion of this grain falling short in this particular. The dry weather recently throughout most of Ontario has caused the oats to be rather short in the straw, though the showers of the past week or two will help the grain to fill out. Canadian white oats are quoted in London at 15¢ to 15¢ 3d. c.i.f., and the market shows a steady feeling. Though there are large supplies coming into Montreal prices keep up well, and quotations are 31½¢ to 32¢ alfalfa. The market here is steady at 26¢ to 26½¢ for white wheat.

The barley market is merely nominal here. At Montreal quotations are 36¢ to 38¢ for feed, and 45¢ to 50¢ for malting.

Peas and Corn.

The London market for peas is quiet though prices are steady. Some Canadian white peas sold during the week at 3d. advance. Prices remain firm at Montreal, with sales reported at 63½¢ to 64¢ alfalfa, and with holders asking 65¢ to 66¢. Peas here are steady at 54¢ to 55¢ north and west.

The Montreal market for corn is quiet. The market here is quiet and easier at 34¢ for Canadian yellow west, and 41½¢ to 42¢ for American Toronto.

Bean and Shorts.

The Montreal market continues firm for Ontario bean at \$12.25 to \$12.50 in car lots, and shorts at \$15 to \$16 per ton. Shorts here are nominal, and bean is quoted at \$9 west.

Eggs and Poultry.

The London egg market continues firm, with a good demand at an advance of 3d. per 120. Liverpool quotations for choice fresh Canadian are 6½, 3d. to 6½, 6d. per 120. Owing to the wheat harvest being earlier, new fall eggs are coming in about two weeks sooner, owing to the hens getting the run of the fields earlier. At Montreal prices for new laid are 12½¢ to 13¢, choice fresh candled, 10¢ to 10½¢, and No. 2, 9¢ to 9½¢. The market here is easier, at 11¢ for candled. The poultry market is steady at about last week's quotations.

Potatoes.

The market is dull, and new ones sell out of track at 60¢ to 65¢ per bag.

Hay and Straw.

Low prices are likely to prevail for hay this year. There appears to be a big crop in every hay-growing district. The bulk of the sales at Montreal during the week have been from \$5 to \$6 per ton. No. 1 quality is quoted at \$8 to \$9. There is very little inquiry here. Cars of new are quoted on track at \$7.50 to \$8, cars of old bring from \$8 to \$8.25. Baled straw brings 24 in car lots.

Fruit.

New apples are quoted in Montreal at \$2.50 to \$3 per barrel, and Canadian peaches at 50¢ to \$1 per basket. Canadian tomatoes bring from 40¢ to 60¢ per basket. Fruits here bring fair prices. Lawton berries are quoted at 45¢ to 50¢ per quart, and peaches at 25¢ to 40¢ per basket.

Cheese.

Buyers this year appear to be too timid and hesitating, while, last year, they were over-confident, and paid too high prices. They lost money, however, on last year's business, which may account for their timidity this season in the face of greatly decreased supplies. The exports from Montreal up to July 23rd show a decrease of 169,975 boxes, as compared with the same period last year. And the combined exports from Montreal and New York up to July 23rd show the large decrease of 285,219 boxes, as compared with the same period last year. There is, however, reported to be a large English make, which may account for the present series of low values. But, notwithstanding this, the London market is firmer and higher, and the Liverpool public cable continues steady at 37s. 6d. In the face of this it is hard to account for the easier feeling in the market here last week, when prices generally were from 1.16c. to 1¢ lower than the week previous. Factorymen, however, seem inclined to hold for higher prices. Montreal quotations are from 7¼¢ to 7½¢ for finest Western colored, and 7¾¢ to 7½¢ for finest Western white, 7½¢ to 7¾¢ for finest Eastern, and 7½¢ to 7¼¢ for finest French. The local country markets show a wide range of prices from 7 1/10¢ to 7¼¢.

Butter.

The London market is weak and lower, with Canadian creamery quoted at 78 to 80s. There are large receipts of Canadian, Danish, and Irish coming forward. In spite of this the market on this side shows a little firmer feeling and an increase in values, which is hard to account for. The increase in cold storage facilities may have something to do with it. It is reported that immense quantities of butter are going into cold storage in the United States and Canada to be held for a higher market. The butter exports from Montreal, up to July 23rd, show an increase of 24,046 packages as against the same period last year, while the reports from New York show a decrease of 56,287 packages, thus leaving a decrease from this side of 32,241 packages. Choice fresh lots of creamery have been sold at Montreal during the week at 16½ to 16¾¢, and in one exceptional case, 17¢, for choice, and quotations are 16½ to 16¾¢ for choiced, and 15 to 15½¢ for good to fine. Dairy butter is quoted at 13½ to 13¾¢. The market here is firmer at 17½ to 18¢ for creamery prints, and from 16 to 16½¢ for tubs, though as high as 19¢ is reported in some quarters for fine prints. Dairy rolls bring about 15¢, and the best dairy tubs 12 to 13¢, and medium to good 10½ to 11¢.

Wool.

A slight improvement is reported in the United States market, but it does not appear to have much effect on the market here, which practically rules the same as last week.

Cattle.

The general condition of the cattle trade is slightly easier, which seems to be in keeping with London cable reports which are weak and lower. Receipts of Canadian beefs have been large and sales have been made at a decline of 3d. per stone of 8 lb. The western cattle markets show very little change. The receipts here have been large during the week.

Export Cattle—Are quiet and easier and prices rule from \$4.15 to \$4.65 per cwt., though early in the week \$4.80 was asked, but the offer was not taken. Export bulls bring from 3½¢ to 4¢ per lb.

Butcher Cattle—There has been a slow demand and prices are low. The best cattle sold on Friday at from 4¢ to 4½¢ per lb., and medium to good brought from 3½¢ to

3¾¢ per lb. As low as 3¢ was paid for common stuff.

Stokers and Feeders—These are quiet with a lower market. There has been little demand from Buffalo during the week. Stockers bring from 3¢ to 3¼¢ per lb., and feeders from 3¼¢ to 4¢. The quality of some of the cattle is not very good and as pastures are getting short farmers are selling more readily.

Cakes—The demand is steady, and the market is firmer at \$3 to \$7 for good, choice veals. Fancy lots bring as high as \$10.

Milk Cows and Springers—These are slightly lower, owing to a falling off in the demand owing to the pastures drying up. Prices rule from \$25 to \$46 per head.

Sheep and Lambs.

The London market for sheep is dull and the prices are low for shippers. Lamb are easier at Buffalo, though good sheep continue high. There have been heavy offerings here and the demand is not very active. Ewes and wethers sell at 3¢ per lb. and bucks fetch 2½¢. Lambs are plentiful. They bring from \$2.75 to \$3.35 each.

Hogs.

At the western markets supplies have been large for this season of the year, though prices have not changed materially during the week. Choice bacon hogs are in good demand here, and bring from \$5.95 to \$6 per cwt. Light hogs fetch from \$5.40 to \$5.50. Lower grades bring lower prices, but for the prime, grain-fed bacon hog prices are higher.

Publishers' Desk.

Exterminate the Bugs.—Our readers are all interested in the destruction of the pests which annually rob them of a considerable portion of the fruits of their labor, and will be pleased to learn of any means which will effectively rid them of these mischievous depredators. It will be some satisfaction, therefore, to read the advertisement of Messrs. Robert Evans & Co., of Hamilton, Ont., which appears in this issue, in which the means required for the purpose mentioned is indicated. The apparatus offered through the medium of this advertisement is remarkably cheap, and is said to be most effective.

Protect Your Cattle.—The other announcement of Messrs. Robert Evans & Co. which appears on the back cover of this issue, is equally important. The protection of cattle from flies and other insects is not only necessary from a humane point of view, but it pays. Read the advertisement and you will appreciate this fact most thoroughly.



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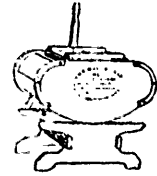
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