

Wheat Stocks

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended March 20, 1897, shows a decrease of 1,019,000 bushels, against a decrease of 775,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,100,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,096,000 bushels three years ago.

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years; the second table shows the visible supply at the end of each week in the current year, compared with the three previous years. This visible supply includes stocks of wheat in store at most important points, east of the Rocky mountains:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
Jan. 4 ..	88,842,000	87,886,000	79,983,000	81,786,000
" 11 ..	88,945,000	86,615,000	80,433,000	82,060,000
" 18 ..	87,968,000	86,266,000	80,332,000	82,947,000
" 25 ..	87,825,000	84,665,000	80,234,000	81,487,000
Feb. 1 ..	86,784,000	83,876,000	79,863,000	81,390,000
" 8 ..	86,119,000	82,832,000	79,680,000	80,978,000
" 15 ..	85,926,000	80,733,000	78,697,000	80,214,000
" 22 ..	85,011,000	79,476,000	77,257,000	79,438,000
March 1 ..	84,089,000	78,761,000	75,589,000	79,088,000
" 8 ..	82,596,000	77,717,000	74,607,000	78,108,000
" 15 ..	80,128,000	76,878,000	73,903,000	76,680,000
" 22 ..	81,311,000	75,773,000	72,163,000	75,808,000
" 29 ..	81,018,000	74,808,000	71,488,000	77,634,000
April 4 ..	80,322,000	72,707,000	70,762,000	77,293,000
" 11 ..	79,380,000	70,437,000	69,217,000	76,063,000
" 18 ..	68,483,000	68,626,000	68,425,000	74,869,000
" 25 ..	67,946,000	66,778,000	66,633,000	75,027,000
May 2 ..	66,619,000	62,190,000	65,156,000	73,089,000
" 9 ..	64,000,000	59,623,000	63,510,000	74,632,000
" 16 ..	53,116,000	56,414,000	62,044,000	71,520,000
" 23 ..	51,293,000	54,281,000	61,329,000	70,139,000
" 30 ..	50,340,000	52,229,000	59,394,000	70,367,000
June 6 ..	50,147,000	49,739,000	58,211,000	68,062,000
" 13 ..	49,486,000	47,717,000	57,106,000	66,375,000
" 20 ..	48,819,000	46,225,000	55,854,000	65,051,000
" 27 ..	47,860,000	44,561,000	54,657,000	62,316,000
July 4 ..	47,199,000	43,359,000	54,114,000	61,119,000
" 11 ..	47,220,000	41,237,000	53,154,000	59,328,000
" 18 ..	46,743,000	40,488,000	53,771,000	58,903,000
" 25 ..	47,142,000	39,229,000	57,144,000	59,249,000
Aug. 1 ..	46,734,000	38,573,000	60,001,000	59,424,000
" 8 ..	46,429,000	37,839,000	62,321,000	58,869,000
" 15 ..	45,876,000	36,992,000	63,901,000	57,812,000
" 22 ..	45,189,000	35,083,000	64,771,000	57,240,000
" 29 ..	45,574,000	35,438,000	66,949,000	56,881,000
Sept. 5 ..	46,486,000	36,754,000	69,168,000	56,140,000
" 12 ..	47,602,000	38,092,000	69,214,000	57,331,000
" 19 ..	49,655,000	39,385,000	70,189,000	58,693,000
" 26 ..	48,716,000	40,763,000	71,418,000	60,626,000
Oct. 3 ..	50,116,000	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,275,000
" 10 ..	51,434,000	44,481,000	75,074,000	66,239,000
" 17 ..	54,808,000	49,109,000	78,059,000	66,978,000
" 24 ..	57,285,000	50,486,000	79,100,000	69,327,000
" 31 ..	58,630,000	52,993,000	80,227,000	71,396,000
Nov. 7 ..	59,233,000	56,938,000	81,220,000	74,052,000
" 14 ..	61,008,000	60,326,000	82,282,000	76,763,000
" 21 ..	59,971,000	62,221,000	83,914,000	77,238,000
" 28 ..	58,914,000	63,903,000	85,159,000	78,091,000
Dec. 5 ..	56,312,000	63,788,000	85,978,000	78,783,000
" 12 ..	54,281,000	60,834,000	88,172,000	80,128,000
" 19 ..	55,163,000	60,398,000	89,071,000	80,421,000
" 26 ..	54,433,000	60,958,000	88,561,000	80,328,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on March 13, is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal	461,000
Toronto	208,000
Kingston	10,000
Winnipeg	241,000
Manitoba; interior elevators	2,491,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Kewatin	8,248,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on March 13, 1897:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains	59,203,000
Pacific Coast	1,857,000

Total stocks a year ago were: bushels.
East of the Mountains 92,464,000 || Pacific Coast | 4,296,000 |

Bradstreet's report for the week ended March 20, shows a decrease of 937,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 59,203,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on March 1, 1897, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 119,121,000 bushels, as compared with 151,012,000 bushels on March 1, 1896; 170,653,000 on March 1, 1895; 181,119,000 on March 1, 1894; 178,181,000 on March 1, 1893; 145,615,000 on March 1, 1892; 99,523,000 on March 1, 1891; 95,841,000 on March 1, 1890, and 109,724,000 on March 1, 1889.

Comparative Prices in Staples.

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	March 10, 1897.	March 20, 1896.
Flour, straight spring ..	\$4.05 to \$4.25	\$3 10 to \$3.60
Flour, straight winter ..	\$1.15 to \$1.30	\$3.30 to \$3.50
Wheat, No. 2 red	94 7-8	77 1-2
Corn, No. 2 mixed	20 3-4	37
Oats, No. 2	22	25
Rye, No. 2, Western	44	49 1/2
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee ..	43 1/2	45 1/2
Cotton, mid. upland	7 1-4	7 15-16
Print cloth, 64x64	29-10	27
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X	18 1/2	18
Wool, No. 1 combing	2 1/2 to 2 3/4	22 to 23 1/2
Pork, mess new	\$9.00 to \$9.50	\$9 75 to \$10.25
Lard, prime, com't	\$1.45 to 4.50	\$5.47 1/2
Butter, ex. creamery	16 to 18 1/2	22 1/2
Cheese, ch. east	12	10 1/2
Sugar, centrif., 96%	3 5-16c	4 3-16c
Sugar, granulated	4 1/2	5 1/2
Coffee, Rio, No. 7	9	1 1/2
Petroleum, N. T. Co.	9 1/2c	\$1.40
Petroleum, rfd. gal.	\$8.30	\$7.50
Iron, Besse. pg.	\$10.10	\$12.25
Steel billets, ton	\$16.50	\$17.00
Steel Rails	\$2 1/2	\$3.00
Ocean Steam Freight—		
Grain, Liverpool	2 1/2	1 1-2d
Cotton	17 1/2	

* Pittsburgh.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:

Grade.	Feb. 20	Feb. 27	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20
Extra Man. H'd ..	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 hard	52	49	19	49	71
No. 2 hard	3	7	8	13	12
No. 3 hard	7	7	7	4	3
No. 1 North'n	0	0	1	0	1
No. 2 North'n	0	0	0	0	0
No. 3 North'n	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 white type ..	0	1	0	0	0
No. 2 white type ..	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring	0	1	0	1	0
No. 2 Spring	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Trosted	4	2	6	3	0
No. 2 Trosted	2	5	2	0	5
No. 3 Trosted	0	0	1	2	0
No. 1 Rejected	1	1	0	2	1
No. 2 Rejected	0	0	0	1	1
No Grade	1	0	1	1	0
Feed	0	0	0	0	0
Total for week ..	75	73	45	76	94
Same week last year	352	363	353	354	408

*Wheat inspection at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

A year ago this week wheat was rather firmer. Bran and shorts declined \$1 per ton. Oats were weak and lower. Eggs declined 1c and recovered. Mutton advanced 1c.

Potatoes declined 5 to 10c. Hides tending lower. The first export shipment of cattle was made.

Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

Wheat.—About 46c to 50c for No. 1 hard, country points, to farmers; afloat Port William, 64c cash, May 65c.

Flour.—Local price, per sack. Patents, \$1.85 to \$1.90; Bakers, \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Bran.—Per ton, \$8.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$10.

Oats.—Per bushel, Winnipeg street price, 16 to 17c. Car lots at country points, 11 to 13c.

Barley.—Selling at 17c for feed here. Car lots at country points worth 13c to 15c.

Flax Seed.—60 to farmers at country points. Butter.—Dairy, choice, jobbing at 12c to 15c.

Cheese.—Jobbing price 9 1/2 to 11c.

Eggs.—Fresh, jobbing at 10 to 11c.

Beef.—City dressed, 5 to 6c; country, 8 1/2 to 4c.

Mutton.—Mutton, 8 to 9c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 5 to 5 1/2c.

Cattle.—Nominal at 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for butcher stock.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 8 1/2c.

Sheep.—Sheep nominal at 4c off cars.

Seneca Root.—Dry 18 to 20c lb.

Poultry.—Chickens, 8 to 10c lb; turkeys, 10 to 12c; ducks, 10c, geese, 10c.

Hides.—Green frozen, 4 to 4 1/2c.

Potatoes.—10 to 15c per bushel.

Hay.—\$5 to \$5.50 for baled on track.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matter.

Never in the history of the port of Montreal, says the Toronto Bulletin, have the freight engagements in grain been as heavy at this season of the year as at the present time, the greater portion of the available ocean tonnage for May and June having been secured, and it is understood that one of our large steamship lines has engaged quite a lot for July shipment. One line has already booked about one million bushels and others in proportion, so that the coming shipping season promises to be one of exceptional activity as far as grain is concerned. Liberal engagements have also been made for May and June exports of lumber to direct British ports, and altogether the prospects for a good shipping business are brighter than for a number of years past.

Hides, Wool, Etc.

The price of hides at Montreal is abnormally high, owing to a fight there between different interests.

A Montreal house has bought 60,000 dry hides in New York.

The Chicago market is quoted by Hides and Leather as follows: "No. 1 buff, free of brands and grubs, 40 to 60 lbs., are a little easier. Two cars sold Tuesday at 8 1/2 and 7 1/2c. It is thought that the proportion of buff and 2's was about even. Reported sale of another car at 8 1/2c, but it is surmised that special conditions figured in the transaction. One dealer said to be holding a car of No. 1's fall hides at 8 1/2c.

Fur Trade Notes.

H. C. Lyre, of Norway House, near the northern end of Lake Winnipeg, was in Winnipeg recently with a large lot of furs, valued at about \$3,500, mostly marten, mink, beaver, foxes, etc.