

PROVISIONS.

The live hog market continues very firm, and prices during the past week have advanced 25c to 40c per 100 lbs. The market for lard and general provisions remains practically unchanged, although there is a firmer feeling as regards smoked and cooked hams. Owing to the warm weather last week most packers report a very large sale of cooked hams, and advise that their stocks are being very much reduced. In Montreal the local demand for all pork products is good, particularly on smoked meats.

Current prices are as follows:

Hams:—	Per lb.
Smoked hams, 8-14 lbs.	0.24½
Do., 14-20 lbs.	0.24½
Do., 20-25 lbs.	0.24
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.23
Bacon:—	
Breakfast	0.24
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.27
Windsor Bacon, Boneless	0.29
Barrel Pork:—	Per bbl.
Short cut pork	33.50
Clear Fat Pork, 40-50	34.00
Clear Fat Pork, 30-40	34.00
Mess Pork	32.00
Bean Pork, Canadian	28.00
Barrel Beef:—	
Plate Beef, 200 lbs.	24.00
Pure Lard—	pound.
Tierces	0.17
Tubs	0.17½
Pails	3.50
Tins	3.40
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.18
Prints	0.18½
Compound Lard:—	
Western Grades:—	
Tierces	0.14
Tubs	0.14½
Tins	2.80
Cases, 3, 5, 10's	0.15½
Prints	0.15½
Cooked meats:—	
Roast shoulders pork	0.30
Roast ham, boneless	0.34
Cooked hams, rind off	0.34
Head cheese	0.09
Jellied pork tongues	0.30
Blood pudding	0.09½
White pudding	0.08
English Brawn	0.11

ONTARIO FRUIT OUTLOOK.

The July fruit crop report, which is now being distributed by the fruit branch of the Department of Agriculture, contains the following information regarding the condition of fruits in all parts of Canada:—

Apples—In Western Ontario there will be a light apple crop, and much of the fruit will be of a poor quality. East of Toronto Spies are light, but on the whole indications point to a crop near medium. Duchess and Wealthy promise a heavy crop in Eastern Ontario. Fameuse and McIntosh will be a full crop where orchards have been sprayed. The total crop in British Columbia is estimated as slightly larger than last year. Nova Scotia reports two-thirds of an average crop, or slightly over one million barrels.

Peaches—There has been considerable damage from "leaf curl" in Niagara. The crop is estimated at 75 per cent of last year. British Columbia reports a crop about equal to last year.

Pears—In Niagara Bartletts are a good crop, Anjou and Kieffer fair, and Duchess very light. Prospects are generally favorable in British Columbia.

Plums—There will be a light crop in Ontario. There are practically no Japanese plums except Burbank. European varieties will average a half crop. In Quebec there will be about as many plums as last year. European varieties have set particularly heavy.

Cherries—In Niagara district sweet varieties will be about 30 per cent of 1915, and sour varieties 20 per cent. British Columbia reports sweet varieties light and sour varieties a fair crop.

Strawberries—Late varieties will be a good crop in Ontario. Warm weather is badly needed. New Brunswick will also have a large crop of good quality. A similar report comes from Quebec. In British Columbia there will be a decided increase over last year's crop.

The average price of tea in England has increased from 8½d. ex-duty in May, 1914 (equivalent to 1s 1½d duty paid price), to 11¼d, and 11¼d respectively.

LIVE STOCK.

MONTREAL: Receipts at the Montreal stock yards last week amounted to 1,800 cattle, 1,600 sheep and lambs, 2,500 hogs, and 3,100 calves. A decided weakness in the market for inferior grade cattle was the chief feature of last week's sales as a total drop of 50c to 75c was recorded as offerings of common cattle were large. Choice cattle were very scarce at both the Monday and Wednesday sales, as the country has been pretty well cleaned up of such stock, and consequently prices for the better grades held firm.

A very firm feeling developed in live hogs, the better qualities scoring an advance of 25c to 50c a cwt., as offerings of choice stock were exceedingly limited, and packers had to pay higher prices to obtain supplies. The run of mediocre stock, which was somewhat larger than usual, sold at firmly maintained prices.

An easier feeling was noted in the price of sheep last week, when a decline of ¼c a pound was noted, bringing the price down to a 7c level. Spring lambs held firm under a steady demand. Considerable activity is reported in the market for calves owing to the continued brisk demand for supplies for shipment to the United States, which resulted in a stronger feeling.

TORONTO: Total receipts at the Toronto stock yards last week amounted to 4,324 cattle, 918 calves, 1,592 sheep and lambs, 4,167 hogs and 2,433 horses. Choice cattle brought unprecedented prices at Monday's sale, when \$11 and \$11.10 were paid for load lots of dry fed, well finished stock. All other grades, however, were hard to dispose of until prices dropped to lower levels. Twenty-five to 50c. was knocked off cows and 50c to 75c off bulls on Monday, and a further decline was noted in many cases at the two following sales.

The market for calves held very firm throughout the week, advancing 50c. per cwt. on Wednesday in spite of very liberal offerings. Sheep, on the contrary, showed some weakness, declining gradually from the abnormal prices of a few weeks ago. Spring lambs were 25c. higher under a steady demand.

Owing to the light runs of hogs at the various sales, all offerings were readily absorbed at higher prices, \$11.65 being the average price quoted for hogs weighed off cars.

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

	Montreal.	Toronto.
Butcher steers, best	9.75	10.25
Do., good	9.00	9.50
Do., fair	7.75	8.75
Do., medium	7.25	8.25
Do., rough	6.50	7.00
Do., good	5.75	7.00
Butcher bulls, best	7.00	8.50
Do., good	5.75	7.00
Do., medium	5.00	6.75
Butcher cows, best	6.50	7.50
Do., good	5.75	6.50
Do., medium	4.50	5.75
Sheep	7.00	7.75
Spring lambs, each	5.00	8.00
Hogs, selects, weighed off cars	11.50	12.00
Do., roughs and mixed lots	10.00	11.00
Calves, choice, per lb.	0.10	0.11
Do., medium	0.06½	0.07½

BALED HAY.

Since our last report a considerable drop in the price of baled hay is noted, and an easy feeling prevails in the market, owing to increased offerings from country shippers, for which there is only a limited demand. Prospects for this year's hay crop are very promising, as the heavy rains we have had of late have greatly benefitted the fields.

Sales of car lots brought the following prices:

No. 1 hay	\$21.00	21.50
No. 2 extra good	20.00	20.50
No. 2 hay	10.00	19.50
No. 3 hay	17.50	18.00
Clover, mixed, per ton, ex-track	16.50	17.00

THE CHILEAN NITRATE TRADE.

U. S. Consul T. W. Voetter writes from Antofagasta that the reported production of nitrate of soda in northern Chile during April, 1916, was 5,337,592 Spanish quintals of 101.4 pounds each (541,231,929 pounds), while the amount exported to all countries was 4,913,379 quintals (498,275,630 pounds). The production for the same month in 1915 was 1,988,101 quintals and the exports were 2,964,136 quintals, and for 1914, 5,589,542 quintals produced and 4,444,371 quintals exported.

FLOUR, CEREALS AND MILLS.

The wheat market has been keeping very steady of late, as buyers realize that prices have touched bottom, and are buying freely for July and August supplies. There is no doubt but that there is going to be a considerable shortage of wheat on the North American continent this year. This shortage is officially announced to be about 450,000,000 bushels. Part of this shortage will be reduced by the carrying over from the old crop, which will amount to some 150,000,000 bushels in the United States, and a small amount in Canada. Freight rates have been reduced materially, and are now on a basis of about 45c per 100 pounds for flour from Montreal to London.

The feed market has been showing considerable strength of late, as buyers find the prices quoted by the different mills very attractive. Conditions show no material change in the country, and prospects are that there will be a shortage for feed purposes in the province of Quebec, which will keep up the price of feeds for some time to come.

Export business has been quiet of late, the market having been completely demoralized by the reduction of freight rates. Considerable business is expected in the near future for July and August delivery.

Current quotations follow:

	Montreal.	Toronto.
Flour:—		
First patents, per bbl., in bags	6.60	6.30 6.50
Second patents, do.	6.10	5.90 6.00
Strong clears, do.	5.90	6.00 5.60 5.80
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	2.55 2.70 2.75
First Feed Flour	3.60	3.50 3.50
Cereals:—		
Cornmeal, yellow, per bag, 98 lbs.	1.95	1.85 1.85
Rolled oats, per bbl., in wood	5.1c	5.20
per bag, 90 lbs.	2.60	2.65 2.50 2.55
Rolled wheat, 100 lb. bbl.	4.00	4.00
Rye flour, 98 lb. bag	2.65	2.80 2.80
Graham flour, 98lb.	3.00	3.00 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:—		
Bran, per ton	21.00	20.00 21.00
Middlings, per ton	26.00	25.00 26.00
Flour Middlings	27.00	
Meullie, pure grain grades, per ton	31.00	32.00
Do., mixed	27.00	29.00
Barley feed, per ton	30.00	
Do., meal, per ton	35.00	
Crushed oats, 80 lbs.	1.70	
Reground oatmeal feed, per ton	19.00	
Corn, No. 2 Yellow, K.D., \$1.70 per 98 lbs.		
Manitoba oats, 62c. per bushel.		

THE BRITISH SALT TRADE.

At the annual meeting of the Salt Union, Ltd., held in London, recently, the chairman gave a resume of the British salt trade for 1915, showing it to have been most abnormal, but successful. Though the home trade had suffered severely owing to low prices occasioned by fierce competition, the unusually favorable conditions for export trade made it possible to neutralize this loss. The chairman also voiced his opinion that the general improvement in the British chemical trade now going on would enable the Salt Union to supply the needs of the country, making it independent of continental supplies.

ADVERTISING NOVELTIES IN BRAZIL.

The United States Department of Commerce reports a great demand in Brazil for articles mostly used in advertising, such as: Ash trays, knives, pencil holders (aluminum), cigarette cases, small inkstands, pen trays, pocket combs, pocket mirrors, shoe horns, button hooks, enameled letters for hat bands, etc. Manufacturers of articles for 10 cent stores could turn these trinkets out at small cost, and the fact that they would be intended for free distribution would exempt them from duties.

The recommended draft at the "Soo" Canal has been marked up two inches all around and improvement in the store of water will considerably increase the capacity of the fleet.

Big steamers are carrying from six to eight hundred tons more than they did at this time last season. The steamer W. P. Snyder, Jr., recently delivered 12,746 tons of ore at Ashtabula, the biggest cargo ever brought to Lake Erie.