

Market Review and Forecast

The Trend of Markets—Supply and Demand—The Outlook

Toronto, March 14, 1906.

General trade is on the quiet side owing largely to the bad roads in many places. The outlook, however, is good and business paper has been fairly well met. Money is in good demand for mercantile purposes.

WHEAT

The wheat situation is not as strong as it was and prices are a few cents lower, the quotations here being 75 to 76½¢ for red and white, and 72¢ for goose, at outside points. In the speculative market operators are anxious to know what the future will be and what prices will be when spring opens. May prices at Chicago last week were 14½¢ down from October prices last year, and 24¢ below what they were a year ago. From now on there may be scarce head reports about the crops which will influence the market.

COARSE GRAINS

The oat market seems to hold its own and prices rule steady. At Montreal oats bring 37 to 39½¢, as to quality, and here at 36 to 36½¢ to arrive in Toronto. The barley market is quiet here at 49¢, and peas at 77¢, at outside points. The corn market is firmer at 48¢ for No. 3 yellow, Toronto.

HAY AND STRAW

The export hay trade is rather discouraging. At Montreal there is little doing outside the local trade. Farmers east are getting from \$3.00 to \$3.50 f.o.b. for clover mixed and \$6.00 to \$8.50 for No. 2 f.o.b. at country points. At Montreal quotations are \$6.00 to \$8.50, as to quality, for car lots on track. There have been large deliveries of loose hay here and the market for baled hay is dull at \$8 for No. 1 timothy and \$5.50 to \$6.00 for No. 2. Baled straw sells here at \$5.50 to \$6.00 for car lots on track.

EGGS AND POULTRY

The egg market is still on the downward grade, though the past few days, owing to a falling off in the receipts the market is firmer. At Montreal fresh stock is quoted at 16 to 17¢ in case lots. Here new laid are quoted at 16¢ in case lots.

The poultry trade is quiet with little coming forward. Choice dry plucked are quoted here to the trade as follows: Fat chickens, 11 to 12¢, thin 7 to 8¢; fat hens, 8 to 9¢, thin 6 to 7¢; ducks, 12 to 13¢, thin 10 to 7¢; geese, 10 to 11¢; turkeys, 14 to 15¢ for choice small lots.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

As the opening of the new season approaches the cheese market seems to be firmer. Some sales were made last week at Montreal on the basis of 12½¢ for white and 13¢ for colored. The English market has a firmer tendency and some in the trade would not be surprised to see the market go to 70s. This would mean very high prices for the beginning of the season.

There has been a better inquiry for butter and sales have been made at firm prices. At Montreal the local demand is good at 22 to 22½¢ for choice and 20½ to 21¢ for undergrades. Receipts are light here and creamery prints are quoted at 25 to 26¢ and solids at 23 to 24¢. Choice dairy is quoted at 18 to 19¢.

SEEDS

Last week's Trade Bulletin quotes seeds at Montreal as follows: There is a fair demand for red clover seed, which is quoted in the West at \$7.25 for No. 1 and \$6 to \$6.75 for No. 2. Alsike is quiet at \$5.65 to \$6.75 in the West. Timothy is quoted at \$2.00 to \$2.50 in the West.

WOOL

The wool market rules quiet but firm. Stocks of Canadian wool are light. At Montreal Canadian pulled is quoted at 29 to 30¢; washed fleece, 27 to 28¢; and unwashed at 18 to 20¢.

LIVE STOCK

Deliveries of live stock have not been large this week. On Tuesday last only 52 cars arrived at Toronto city market and at the Junction on Monday only 39 cars. The fat cattle offered showed some improvement in quality. Owing to the light run busi-

ness is good. A great many farmers are coming to Toronto looking for work horses. Prevailing prices at the Repository here are as follows:

Single roadsters, 15 to 16.1 hands, \$75 to \$175; single cobs and carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands, \$150 to \$250; matched pairs, and carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands, \$300 to \$450; delivery horses, 1100 to 1200 lbs., \$140 to \$175; general purpose and express horses, 1200 to 1350 lbs., \$140 to \$190; draught horses, 1350 to 1750 lbs., \$150 to \$215; serviceable second hand workers, \$60 to \$80; serviceable second hand drivers, \$60 to \$85.

Maritime Markets

Halifax, N.S., March 8, 1906.

Conditions in most parts of the province remain satisfactory and the markets continue fairly steady. The continued mild weather has affected the price of both butter and eggs. Rolls are one cent lower, being quoted at 21 cents for best stock. Creamery prints are now selling at 26 cents but are slow of sale. Solids are also slow of sale at 24 and 25 cents. Eggs are



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O. de C. O'GRADY, General Manager.

ness was brisk, with prices of fat cattle 10¢ to 15¢ higher than a week ago. Exporters are quoted at \$4.75 to \$5.25 per cwt. and export bulls at \$3.75 to \$4.00 per cwt. Picked lots of butchers' cattle sell at \$4.75 to \$5.00; good cattle at \$4.50 to \$4.70; medium \$4.25 to \$4.35, and common \$3.75 to \$4.25 per cwt. Stockers and feeders are reported scarce. The following are the quotations for these: Best feeders, 1100 to 1200 lbs., at \$4.30 to \$4.60; medium feeders, 1100 to 1200 lbs., at \$4.20 to \$4.35; best feeders, 1000 to 1100 lbs., at \$4.10 to \$4.30; medium feeders, 1000 to 1100 lbs., at \$3.90 to \$4.10; best feeders, 900 to 1000 lbs., at \$3.75 to \$4.10; medium feeders, 900 to 1000 lbs., \$3.60 to \$3.90; best stockers, 750 to 900 lbs., at \$3.50 to \$3.75; medium stockers, 750 to 900 lbs., at \$3.15 to \$3.50; good stock heifers, 600 to 750 lbs., at \$3.00 to \$3.25; common stockers, \$2.75 to \$3.00. Milch cows and springers sell at \$30 to \$60 each. There is a keen demand for choice veal calves, but the inferior kind do not sell readily. Prices range from \$3.50 to \$7 per cwt.

Sheep deliveries are light. Export ewes sell at \$4.75 to \$5.25 and bucks \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt. Lambs of choice quality sell at \$6.75 to \$7.10 for the bulk, although \$7.25 per cwt. was obtained for one very choice lot of lambs on Tuesday last.

Hog prices keep up. Quotations here are \$6.85 per cwt. for selects and \$6.60 for lights and fats.

HORSES.

Prices for horses on this market are inclined to be weak. High class carriage horses are scarce and wanted. The supply of work horses seems to be about equal to the demand, although the demand for ordinary work-

declining almost daily. New eggs are selling at 18 cents in case lots, while limed are practically unobtainable. Supplies of cheese are reported low and the market firm in sympathy with the old country. Quotations as follows: Cheese, large, 13½ cents, small and twins, 14 cents.

There is a slight change in price of vegetables but such is only natural with the approach of spring. The heaviest advance has been in onions. Prices have advanced to \$1.50 and \$1.60 for the 80 lb. bag. Prince Edward Island potatoes are quoted at 40 cents per bushel; N. B., three cents bags at \$1.50, and turnips at 90 cents per bushel.

The feed market is firmer all around and in most instances the prices are slightly higher. The price of Manitoba bran has advanced about 50 cents per ton owing to the strong demand and light supplies. There is little Ontario bran on this market. Oats are very firm and some dealers have been compelled to advance their price to 48 cents per bushel. There has been no change in the hay situation and owing to the mild weather the consumption has not been particularly heavy.

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