

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Dispatches to Dun's Review from branch offices of R. G. Dun & Co. in leading cities of the Dominion of Canada continue to report the prevalence of generally satisfactory conditions, with highly encouraging crop returns and more favorable weather in most sections stimulating the distribution of seasonable merchandise.

Montreal reports that cooler weather has benefited retail trade in fall and winter goods, although the movement so far has been hardly up to expectations, but confidence generally in the future is indicated by the receipt of substantial orders at wholesale for dry goods, clothing, furnishings and other seasonable commodities and prospects are still regarded as unusually promising. Although no great amount of activity is reported by Quebec, both wholesale and retail trade is in steady volume, and most merchants anticipate improving conditions from now on.

### BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY TRADE REPORT.

Trade in our wholesale districts show considerable activity. Dry goods houses report their sales are fully equal to that of a year ago, deliveries are slow especially cotton and woollen goods. Manufacturers are working to their full capacity, with plenty of orders on hand to keep them busy for months to come. The grocery trade is normal with very few price changes to note. Wholesale hardware houses are fairly busy, prices on all steel products are very firm and in some cases advances are noted. The manufacturers of paints and oils are filled with orders, notwithstanding the high prices that are now asked.

The boot and shoe trade is on the quiet side, prices advanced to such extremes on account of the high prices paid for the raw material that retailers are finding it difficult to make sales and are only ordering in sufficient quantities to fill their actual immediate requirements. The hide market has been slumping for some time past, the decline in prices failing to stimulate the demand, buyers have considerable stocks on hand. The leather market is also easier in sympathy with the decline in hides.

The market for mill feed which has been quiet for some time was more active last week on account of the springing up of a demand from American buyers. The market for rolled oats was weaker, prices declining 20c to 30c per bag. The flour market is unsettled. The butter market showed further strength this week, stocks, however, show an increase of over forty thousand packages as compared with that of a year ago. Numerous enquiries have been received this week from the English markets. The price of milk has advanced two cents per quart.

Retailers find trade very fair. Remittances and city collections are better.

### LIVESTOCK.

#### MONTREAL.

At the Montreal stockyards West End market and at the Canadian Pacific livestock market, the receipts for the week ended October 6th were 4,600 cattle, 6,100 sheep and lambs, 5,100 hogs and 1,900 calves. The condition of the cattle trade showed little change during the past week, the supply was good and the demand equally good. Butchers' cattle showed a slight decline in prices. Buyers for lambs for shipment to the U. S. caused the tone of the market to become strong and prices to advance 25c to 50c per 100 lbs. Trade was active and fully fifty per cent. of the offerings were bought for American account. Ontario lambs sold at \$14.75 to \$15.25, and Quebec at \$13.50 to \$14.25 per 100 lbs. There was no change in prices for sheep, for which the demand was fair and supplies ample to fill all wants. A stronger feeling prevailed in the market for milk fed calves, and sales of choice stock were made at \$14.50 per 100 lbs., which is an advance of 50c, but some drovers asked as high as \$15. Hog prices in sympathy with the higher ones prevailing at other Canadian centres and the keen demand for supplies here, scored a further advance of 25c to 50c per 100 lbs.

#### MONTREAL.

Butchers steers, per 100 lbs.		
Do., choice.	10.25	10.50
Do., good.	9.75	10.00
Do., medium.	8.75	9.00

Do., rough.	8.00	8.50
Butchers' Cows.		
Do., choice.	8.00	8.25
Do., good.	7.50	7.75
Do., fair.	7.00	7.25
Bulls, choice.	8.00	8.50
Do., good.	8.00	8.25
Do., fair.	7.50	7.75
Canners' cattle:		
Do., bulls.	6.50	6.75
Do., cows.	5.25	5.50
Sheep and Lambs.		
Ewes.	9.00	9.50
Bucks.	8.00	8.50
Ontario lambs.	14.75	15.25
Quebec lambs.	13.50	14.25
Calves, choice.	13.50	14.50
Do., good.	11.50	12.50
Hogs.		
Do., choice selects.	18.75	19.00
Do., heavyweights.	17.00	17.50
Sows.	15.75	16.00
Stags.	13.00	14.00

#### TORONTO.

The offerings of cattle at the Civic and Union yards for the week ending October 6, amounted to 9,302 cattle, 712 calves, 10,388 hogs, 10,239 sheep and 1,442 horses. As the demand for hogs was greater than the supply, last week, prices advanced to \$19 for fed and watered. The tone of the cattle market was steady throughout the week and showed no change in prices. The feature in the small meats trade was the extensive buying of sheep and lambs for shipment to the U. S. Prices of lambs showed an advance.

Quotations:		
Choice export steers.	11.50	12.50
Butchers' choice handy.	10.00	11.00
Do., good.	9.25	10.00
Do., medium.	8.00	8.50
Do., common.	7.25	7.75
Butchers' bulls, choice.	8.00	9.25
Do., good.	7.50	8.25
Do., medium.	6.25	7.25
Butchers' choice cows.	8.00	8.50
Do., good.	7.25	7.50
Do., medium.	6.50	7.00
Do., common.	6.00	6.50
Feeders.	8.00	9.25
Stockers, good.	7.25	8.00
Do., medium.	6.75	7.25
Canners.	5.25	5.75
Milkers, good to choice.	90.00	135.00
Do., common and medium.	65.00	85.00
Springers.	40.00	120.00
Calves, veal, choice.	15.00	15.50
Do., medium.	11.00	13.00
Do., common.	6.00	6.50
Do., grass.	6.00	7.00
Do., heavy fat.	8.00	10.50
Spring lambs, cwt.	17.00	17.25
Sheep, ewes, light.	8.50	12.00
Do., heavy and bucks.	7.50	9.50
Do., culls.	4.00	5.50
Hogs, fed and watered.	18.75	.....
Do., off cars.	19.00	.....
Do., f.o.b.	17.75	.....

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

#### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending October 6th, 1917, were 12,475 packages, as against 9,463 for the previous week, and 15,773 packages for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 121,960 packages, as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Of the receipts for the week last year there were 2,105 packages received from the United States. A quiet tone prevailed in the butter market early in the week, and prices became easier, but a stronger tone developed due to a large demand for supplies for export and in spite of the fact that stocks on spot were large prices became firm again. At the butter auctions held during the week there were 1,668 packages offered, and the prices realized show an advance of 1/4c to 1/2c per lb., as compared with those paid last week. Pasteurized creamery sold at 45 1/4c to 45 3/4c per lb., finest creamery at 45c to 45 1/2c, and fine at 44 1/2c, while at Gould's Cold Storage about 500 packages changed hands at 44 1/2c to 45 1/4c, but in spite of the above

facts prices in the country to-day were weaker, and at St. Hyacinthe the offerings sold 1/4c per lb. lower than a week ago, at 44 1/2c, and at Waterloo 1/4c at 45c.

#### We quote the following wholesale prices:

Finest creamery	0.45	0.45 1/2
Fine Creamery	0.44	0.44 1/2
Finest dairy	0.38	0.38 1/2
Fine dairy	0.37	0.37 1/2
Lower grades	0.36	0.36 1/2

### CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ended October 6th, 1917, were 61,965 boxes, as against 68,597 for the previous week, and 73,084 boxes for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 245,541 boxes, as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Of the total receipts for the week last year there were 5,009 boxes received from the United States. There was a good demand from exporters, and a fairly active trade was done on the local market. Prices at the various boards remained firm. At Kingston and Picton the offerings sold at an advance of 1-16c per lb. over a week ago, and at Napanee 1-16c lower, while at the balance of the boards they were unchanged. The highest prices paid were 21 5-16c to 21 3/4c at Picton, and 21 1/4c to 21 3/4c at Brockville, and the lowest was 21 1-16c at Mont Joli.

#### The commission is paying the following prices:

No. 1 western and eastern cheese	0.21 3/4
No. 2 western and eastern cheese	0.21 1/4
No. 3 western and eastern cheese	0.20 3/4
Lower grades	0.20 1/2

### EGGS.

The receipts for the week ending October 6th, 1917, were 7,366 cases, as compared with 5,986 for the previous week, and 25,594 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st to date were 237,127 cases, as against 399,553 for the corresponding period in 1916, showing a decrease of 162,431 cases. There were no changes in prices last week in the local egg trade although supplies from both the East and West came in very slowly and stocks in storage had to be used. Sales were reported good. There has been an increased demand from English importers for both Canadian and American eggs at prices 2c to 3c per dozen higher than those offered in the previous week. Round lots of Canadian stock were sold for October shipment to London and Glasgow, and there was also orders on the market for round lots for November shipment, but as there was no ocean freight space offering for next month as yet, exporters could not accept the orders.

#### We quote current prices as follows:

Strictly new laid	0.53	0.54
Selected stocks	0.47	0.48
No. 1 candled	0.43	0.44
No. 2 candled	0.40	0.41

### POTATOES.

Prices of potatoes scored an advance of 10c per bag, due to the stronger tone which developed in the market caused by renewed buying for shipment to the United States. Sales of car lots of Green Mountains were made at \$1.70 per bag of 90 lbs., ex-track, and in a wholesale jobbing way at \$1.75 per bag of 80 lbs., ex-store.

### BEANS.

Bean prices scored a decline of 25c to 50c during the past week, due to a weaker feeling which developed in the market. Even at lower prices very little trade was done.

#### We quote prices as follows:

Can. 3-lb. pickers	9.00
Can. 5-lb. pickers	8.50
Rangoon beans	7.50 7.75
Yellow eye beans	7.00 7.25

### HONEY.

Prices of honey scored a sharp advance during the week and a much stronger feeling developed in the market. Sales of white clover honey in comb were made in a wholesale jobbing way at 20c, and white extracted, in 30 lb. tins, at 17c.

#### We quote prices as follows:

White clover, in comb	0.18	0.20
Brown clover, in comb	0.17	0.17 1/2
White extracted	0.16	0.17
Buckwheat honey	0.13	0.14

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