

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

WHEAT: During the past week the most prominent factor influencing the wheat markets of the world has been the decision of the British Government to control the imports of wheat and flour into the United Kingdom, and to provide adequate freight space for grain transportation. No details of the plan have as yet been made public either in Great Britain or on this continent, and consequently dealers on both sides of the Atlantic are pursuing a waiting policy for the time being. Whether the British Government's plans include buying for the other allied nations, or if the new regulations will apply to coarse grains or not, is still a matter of conjecture, but cables from the other side advise dealers to continue bidding on oats and barley. There has been a certain amount of business transacted during the week as purchases of wheat at market prices were allowed to cover the freight space booked in ocean steamships prior to October 9. Large purchases of wheat are reported to have been made in the United States and cable advices say that the British Government also bought to the extent of 18,500,000 bushels in Australia, for which transportation details have been fully arranged.

When the decision of the British Government first became known, a general slump in wheat prices was predicted. On the contrary, however, the Chicago market shows practically no change, closing for December option at \$1.57½ on Monday, October 9 and \$1.57½ on Saturday, October 14. Winnipeg also held fairly steady showing a drop of only 4c from Tuesday until Saturday. Premiums show a decline which is attributed to heavy receipts of new wheat from the west and the temporary lack of activity on the market. Cash wheat declined about 5c a bushel during the week as the December and May options are firm at slight advances while the spread between December and cash was 9 cents a week ago and to-day it is barely 6 cents.

News from the Argentine continues to be unfavorable, where the long drawn out drought continues to inflict heavy losses on the wheat crops of that country. Conditions in the Argentine, coupled with the first published estimate of the 1916 world's crops in which it is calculated that the whole world's wheat harvest will fall 814,400,000 bushels short of last year's, are strengthening the bullish aspect of the market. The action of the British Government is undoubtedly taken with a view to reducing prices to lower levels by eliminating all competition in the buying end of the market, and forcing wheat holders to meet their prices by a waiting policy as stocks in store in the United Kingdom are said to be sufficient for six or eight weeks to come. On the other hand conditions in the selling end of the market remain unchanged. The United States crop still allows for practically no export when domestic consumption and reserves are accounted for, the Canadian crop is still under last year's, the Russian wheat is still tied up indefinitely, and the Argentine crop is still suffering daily from want of rain. No Government action can alter these facts.

Grains:	Montreal. per bushel.	Toronto. per bushel.
Wheat Manitoba.		
No. 1 Northern.	1.75½	1.72½
Do., No. 2	1.72½	1.69½
Do., No. 3	1.67½	1.64½
Ontario Wheat	1.55	1.57
Oats, No. 1 C. W.	0.64	0.60
Do., No. 2 C. W.	0.63½	0.60
Do., Extra No. 1		
feed	0.63	0.59½
Do., No. 1 feed	0.62½	0.59½
Do., No. 2 feed	0.62	0.59
Ontario and Quebec.		
No. 2 white	0.60½	0.57
Do., No. 3 white	0.60	0.56
Barley No. 3 C. W.	1.07½	0.95
Do., No. 4 C. W.	1.02	0.90
Do., rejected and		
feed	0.96	0.87
Corn, American, No. 3		
Yellow, ex-track	1.00	0.97½

MONTREAL PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Receipts of the principal commodities at Montreal for the past two weeks follows:

	Week en'd. Oct. 14, '16.	Week en'd. Oct. 7, '16.
Wheat, bushels	1,841,815	2,071,156
Oats, bushels	351,219	343,165
Barley, bushels	1,250	168,194
Flour, barrels	133,920	110,583
Eggs, cases	25,935	25,596
Butter, packages	19,906	15,773
Cheese, boxes	80,439	73,084
Potatoes, bags	9,448	15,861
Hay, bales	100,440	98,583

THE DRY GOODS SITUATION.

Business continues to be brisk in the dry goods trade and the wholesale houses report a very satisfactory autumn season in all lines. Prices are high and tending to go higher, particularly in imported goods, in which the market is very uncertain.

Discussing the situation in Glasgow with the agent of a well-known textile manufacturing firm of that city, the representative of the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE was told that many Glasgow mills were actually running to capacity. In normal times a large proportion of the operatives are women and girls, so that although there is hardly a man left in Glasgow who is eligible for military service, actual enlistment has affected the textile mills less than other industries. The labour difficulty has been brought about rather through the inability of the mills to compete with the munition works where every effort is being made to increase the output of shells to the maximum limit. Before the war 25 shillings was considered a good wage for a female operative. As these women are as accustomed to handling machinery as men are, munition makers are offering every inducement to obtain their services, and consider three pounds a week a fair salary for this class of worker. It is no wonder, therefore, that the textile operatives are easily diverted to the ranks of the shell makers, as each one is burning with a desire to do her bit in defeating the national enemy apart from earning over double her regular wage.

With an increased payroll, and the higher cost of general overhead expenses, the textile manufacturer is obliged to add to his prices at frequent intervals, until many lines have advanced out of all proportion to the demand and have to be eliminated from price lists. When the public cannot be given a certain line at a suitable price, it is necessary to substitute another that is feasible from the point of view of the maker and at the same time that will meet the requirements of the consumer. In this way many varieties have disappeared from manufacturers' lists altogether, so that to fill an order the mills often are obliged to draw on the stocks in the wholesale houses left from former seasons.

Up to the present the public has not felt the shortage of dry goods that has been impending for the last year, but this autumn retail prices on both piece goods and ready to wear garments have advanced to a marked extent, and everyone is predicting higher prices for the future as mills at home and abroad positively refuse to guarantee orders for future delivery. The next six months holds many perplexing problems in store for the dry goods trade.

Prices of a few standard lines of cottons quoted by wholesale houses to their retail customers follow:

There is an active demand for all varieties of coatings and suitings the only difficulty being to obtain adequate supplies from abroad. Prices are increasing gradually as shipments become more uncertain, and sales from stocks are cheap compared with future quotations on goods ordered today, as there has been such an increase in this market during the past six months. The leading lines in coatings, appear to be wool velours and seal plushes. Wide black velvets are very strong though almost unobtainable. Black and coloured linings are scarce and dear. Serges are in good demand.

Prints: Per Yard.

Low Canadian, 30-in. cloth.....10c-13½c
Standard Canadian, 31 to 32-in. cloth.....12c-15½c
Light and printed ducks, 28-in.....14½c-16c

Ginghams:

First grade manufactured by Canadian
Colored Cotton Co.....12½c
Do Second grade11½c

Foulards:

Cambrie9c-9½c

Cottons:

(Lines that sold at 7½c in spring 1915.)

Bleached11½c

Grey10½c

Blankets:

Ibex, 10/4\$1.25

Do., 11/4\$1.45

Do., 12/4\$1.70

Dragon, 10/4\$1.20

Do., 11/4\$1.40

WINNIPEG GRAIN RECEIPTS.

The receipts of both old and new grain at Winnipeg for the week ended Oct. 14, 1916, compared with the corresponding week a year ago were as follows:

	Oct. 14, 1916.	Oct. 7, 1916.	1915.
Wheat	759	884	643
Barley	233	267	211
Flax	39	47	22

GRAIN AT THE HEAD OF LAKES.

Fort William, Oct. 14th, 1916.

Statement of stocks in store in terminal elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur on October 13th, 1916, with receipts and shipments during the week:

Elevator.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Flax.
C. P. R.	886,529	181,411	57,699	.....
Empire	532,081	140,258	21,217	85,653
Consolidated. . .	674,067	122,901	26,435	62,050
Ogilvie.	891,885	87,318	38,890	.....
Western	901,981	93,804	20,976	125,084
G. G. G. Co. . . .	801,531	325,953	69,517	.....
Fort William . .	449,124	278,060	42,854	9,380
Eastern.	282,250	106,211	18,933	.....
G. T. P.	755,610	371,828	32,223	70,652
Can. Nor.	924,318	499,891	201,171	102,428
Horn and Co. . . .	181,607	107,504	41,532	87,637
Canadian Gov't. .	636,301	105,881	40,997	91,003
Thunder Bay . . .	505,731	173,478	54,456	43,746

Total8,423,021 2,594,506 666,908 683,715

A Year Ago 9,850,128 1,116,050 366,125 650,669

Receipts.5,034,232 1,426,733 289,735 56,199

Ship. Lake.3,556,695 685,445 101,013 181,714

Ship. Rail.109,263 338,132 5,053 1,093

Stocks by Grade.

Wheat.	Oats.
One Hard.....12,472	
One Nor.....1,918,772	1 C. W. ....47,356
Two Nor.....1,672,508	2 C. W. ....1,154,057
Three Nor.....1,429,051	3 C. W. ....610,914
No. Four.....851,040	Ex. L. Fd.....119,794
Others.....2,539,176	Others .....662,383

Total.....8,423,021 Total2,594,506

Barley.

Barley.	Flax.
3 C. W. ....185,677	
4 C. W. ....137,092	N. W. C. ....460,054
Rejected.....64,904	C. W. ....165,014
Feed.....179,120	C. W. ....17,610
Others.....61,753	Others .....41,036

Total.....666,908 Total683,715

THE WEEK'S CHEESE SALES.

St. Paschal, Que., Oct. 10.—504 boxes at 21 13-16c.
Stirling, Ont., Oct. 10.—550 boxes, 21c bid, no sales.
Campbellford, Ont., Oct. 10.—375 boxes white at 21 9-16c.

Woodstock, Oct. 11.—451 boxes, highest bid 21½c, no sales.

Madoc, Ont., Oct. 11.—610 boxes at 21½c.
Brockville, Ont., Oct. 12.—2,720 boxes at 21½c.

Kingston, Ont., Oct. 12.—150 boxes white and 351 colored at 21½c.

Alexandria, Ont., Oct. 12.—797 boxes white at 21 9-16c and 48 colored at 21½c.

Cornwall, Ont., Oct. 13.—20 boxes white and 1,804 colored at 21½c.

Iroquois, Ont., Oct. 13.—515 boxes colored and 30 white, highest bid 21½c, no sales.

Napanee, Ont., Oct. 13.—480 boxes white and 1,005 colored at 21½c.

Mont Joli, Que., Ont., 13. — About 120 boxes at 21 5-16c.

Perth, Ont., Oct. 13.—800 boxes white and 300 colored at 21½c.

Pictou, Ont., Oct. 13.—1,195 boxes colored, at 21½c to 21 11-16c.

St. Hyacinthe, Oct. 14.—1,000 boxes at 20 9-11c.

Belleville, Ont., Oct. 14.—1,480 boxes at 21½c to 21½c.

London, Ont., Oct. 14.—682 boxes, 20c to 20½c bid, no sales.

No. 1 Northern	804	1,406	.....
No. 2 Northern	942	1,215	.....
No. 3 Northern	694	866	.....
No. 4 Northern	195	245	.....
No. 5 Northern	71	87	.....
No. 6 Northern	42	92	.....
Other grades	360	445	.....
Rejected	62	48	.....
No. 6 grades	106	26	.....
No. 4 Special	211	338	.....
No. 5 Special	180	247	.....
No. 6 Special	135	156	.....
Winter grades	13	6

Totals3,869 5,178 8,973

Oats759 884 643

Barley233 267 211

Flax39 47 22

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