The Farmers' Market

Winnipeg Market Letter

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, June 3, 1918.

OATS.—There has been no special feature to the markets last week, and prices have not varied very much. All contracts for May delivery were filled without any difficulty and cash oats are now trading at a discount under July delivery. There has been talk of an oversold condition in the July futures and at times the scarcity of offerings has made it possible to advance prices on very little buying, but American markets have not responded to such advance. There is certainly no demand for oats for either export or domestic trade, and, as prices now stand, American oats are several cents cheaper than ours.

BARLEY.—The prices have not varied during the week. There is no demand for this grain, except that offerings are taken at the market quotations. The American prices are declining and all reports are bearish. Crop prospects in the States are good and a large crop of barley will soon be ready to market in California.

FLAX prices have declined sharply during the week. The volume of trade in the Winnipeg market has been very moderate, with prices working steadily lower. American advices state that a lot of flaxseed is being held for higher prices, but that crushers are not buying any large quantities.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	June 1	June 3	Week ago	Year ago
Oats—								
May	81½	81½	82½	79½	HOLIDAY		81½	...
July	79½	80	81½	79½	80½		79½	...
Flax—								
May	272½	270½	268½	259	HOLIDAY		272½	...
July	272½	271	270½	260	260½		272½	...

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, May 30, was as follows:—

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Saskatoon	Wheat	.....	56,191	77,857
"	Oats	.....	183,656	880,823
"	Barley	.....	1,394	10,331
"	Flax	.....	.....	2,097
Calgary	Wheat	112	20,182	127,936
"	Oats	9,141	28,067	1,039,362
"	Barley	984	7,332	91,946
"	Flax	77	.....	639
Moose Jaw	Wheat	3,067	126,398	192,825
"	Oats	46,140	72,852	963,660
"	Barley	.....	.....	10,270
"	Flax	1	60	5,804

THE CASH TRADE

Minneapolis, June 1

CORN—No demand. No. 3 yellow closed at $1.45 to $1.55.

OATS—Slow; demand local. No. 3 white closed at 69½ to 70½c.; No. 4 white oats at 64 to 68c.

RYE—Weak; very little doing. No. 2 rye closed at $1.70 to $1.72.

BARLEY—Limited demand and 3 to 5c. lower. Prices closed at 90c. to $1.20.

FLAXSEED—Six cents under July. No. 1 seed closed at $3.67½ to $3.69½, on spot and to arrive.

FIXED WHEAT PRICES

	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	711	712	713
Fixed	221	218	215	208	196	187	215	212	207
Year ago	250	247	242	217	205	160	..	..	

The Livestock Market

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, June 1, 1918.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers reports receipts at the Union Stock Yards for last week as follows: Cattle, 1,659; calves, 178; sheep and lambs, 38; hogs, 5,409.

With a continued light run cattle prices have held well. Quality stuff is scarce and in good demand at slightly higher figures. Top butcher steers bring from 14 to 16 cents, and a few extra choice ones brought as high as $16.50 with very few good enough to reach the latter mark. The best quality of butcher cows and heifers sold from 13 up to 14 cents, while medium ones sold from $9.50 to $11.50 and showed a lower tendency. Fat, smooth bulls sold up to $11.50 to $12.00 and medium bulls from nine to 11 cents per pound. The bull market on the whole had a weaker tone except for the extra choice kind. Canner and bologna bulls selling slow at around six to eight cents. The feeder and stocker market remains about steady. Heavy feeders are scarce and wanted. Good colored steers, weighing around 900 to 1,000 are selling from ten to 11 cents with the demand greater than the supply. Light feeders and stockers are steady at from $9.00 to $9.50 and extra good bunches will bring up to 10¼ cents. The recent heavy rains through the country will further stimulate the demand for cattle to go on the grass and we look for prices for this class of stuff to be well maintained during the month of June. Feeding cows are now preferred by some to turn out as they are lower in price than steers and are likely to put on gains faster than the lighter stocker steers. Feeder cows are selling from $7.50 to $8.25.

Milch Cows and Springers are coming in sufficient numbers to supply the demand and prices remain about steady with a slightly lower tendency on the poorer grades. Calves are scarce and wanted at from ten to 15 cents for veals, and pail-feds from seven to nine cents. The run of sheep and lambs are almost all, but the few offering meet a ready sale, lambs or yearlings selling from 13 to 18 cents and butcher sheep from ten to 12 cents.

HOGS.—Despite the lighter run during the week, the market has had a lower tendency and has closed Saturday at $18.75.

The following is a correct summary of prices prevailing the past week:—

Butcher Cattle

Extra Choice Steers	$15.50 to $16.00
Choice Heavy Steers	13.00 to 15.00
Medium to Good Steers	11.50 to 12.00
Fair to Medium Steers	10.50 to 11.25
Common to Fair Steers	9.00 to 9.50
Choice Fat Heifers	11.00 to 13.00
Fair to Good Heifers	9.50 to 10.00
Good to Choice Cows	10.00 to 12.00
Fair to Medium Cows	9.00 to 10.00
Canner and Cutter Cows	6.00 to 7.50
Best Fat Oxen	9.00 to 12.00
Canner and Cutter Oxen	6.50 to 8.50
Fat Weighty Bulls	9.00 to 11.00
Bologna Bulls	7.00 to 8.75

Stockers and Feeders

Choice Weighty Good Colored Feeders	$10.00 to $11.00
Common to Good Stockers and Feeders	8.00 to 10.00
Best Milkers and Springers	$5.00 to $100.00
Fair Milkers and Springers	60.00 to 80.00

Hogs

Selects Fed and Watered	$18.75
Light Hogs	17.75
Straight Heavies	17.00
Sows	$15.00 to 16.00
Stags	11.00 to 14.00

CALGARY

Calgary, Alta., June 1, 1918.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers reports this week: Alberta Stockyard receipts as follows: Horses, 375; cattle, 2,650; hogs, 3,597. The corresponding week a year ago: Horses, 432; cattle, 1,050; hogs, 2,199.

Although the receipts of beef cattle were light, the demand, especially for the common stuff was poor and we had considerable difficulty in disposing of this class of beef. The buyers were willing to pay the price for good fat cattle, but very few were on sale. We quote choice fat steers 14½ cents to 16 cents; good to medium steers, 13 cents to 14½ cents, and common killers 10½ to 11½ cents. The demand for good fat cows and heifers was strong and this class of stuff held their own well. The best heifers and smooth cows would bring 13 to 14 cents; medium, 11½ to 12½ cents; and common to fair killers, 9 to 11 cents. Good bulls sold up to $9.75 and 10 cents, but the common kind showed a heavy decline and were not wanted. Good fat veal sold up to 13 cents. There were large receipts of stockers and as has been for some time past, good steers of from 800 lbs. up were the best sellers, realizing from $10 to $10.50, with yearling of good quality at around $60 per head. Stock cows were draggy at from $60 to $75.

The hog market developed a weakness and opened on Wednesday at $19.50, falling to $19.35 on Thursday, Friday's run selling at the same price. There was an average run, with Swift and Burns taking the bulk of the receipts.

No sheep offered. We quote fat lambs and wethers 16 to 17 cents; fat ewes, 14 to 15 cents.

We would advise all shippers that the keen demand for common beef has ceased and we expect to see this class of stuff continue to sell lower. There appears to be very little choice beef left in the country, but the demand will ease off as soon as there are a sufficient number of grass cattle in B.C. to fill their local demand. A large number of stockers continue to be offered for sale.

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Closing prices on the principal western markets on Saturday, June 1, were:—

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
3 white oats	80 7/8	80 3/4-80 7/8
Barley	1.20-1.30	.90 - 1.20
Flax, No. 1	3.60½	3.67½-3.69½

Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur, May 28 to June 3, inclusive

Date	Feed Wheat	OATS 2 CW	OATS 3 CW	OATS Ex 1 Fd	OATS 1 Fd	OATS 2 Fd	BARLEY 3 CW	BARLEY 4 CW	BARLEY Rej.	BARLEY Feed	FLAX 1 NW	FLAX 2 CW	FLAX 3 CW
May 28	180	81½	78½	78½	75½	72½	130	125	108	100	373½	370½	348½
29	—	81½	78½	78½	75½	72½	130	125	108	100	370½	367½	345½
30	—	82½	79½	79½	76½	73½	130	125	108	100	368½	365½	343½
31	—	77½	74½	74½	71½	68½	130	125	108	103	357½	354½	332
June 1	—	78½	75½	75½	72½	69½	130	125	108	103	360½	354½	332½
3	H		O		L		I		D		A		Y
Week ago	180	81½	78½	78½	75½	72½	—	—	—	—	373½	370½	348½
Year ago	H		O		L		I		D		A		Y

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg June 1	Winnipeg Year ago	Calgary June 1	Toronto May 29	St. Paul May 29	Chicago May 29
	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c
Cattle						
Choice steers	13.00-16.00	11.25-11.60	14.50-16.00	13.75-16.25	14.50-17.50	17.00-17.60
Best butcher steers	10.50-12.00	10.50-11.00	11.50-13.50	12.50-12.75	10.00-14.00	12.75-16.50
Fair to good butcher steers	9.00-10.50	7.50-10.50	10.50-11.50	10.00-11.25	8.50-10.00	10.00-12.50
Good to choice fat cows	10.00-12.00	9.00-10.00	12.00-13.00	9.50-12.50	11.00-13.00	12.00-14.50
Medium to good cows	8.00-10.00	8.00-8.75	10.50-10.50	8.00-9.50	9.50-10.50	9.75-12.00
Common cows	7.50-9.00	6.00-7.50	8.50-10.50	6.75-7.50	7.75-8.00	7.50-8.75
Canners	6.00-7.50	3.75-6.00	6.00-8.50	6.00-6.25	6.00-7.25	7.00-7.50
Good to choice heifers	11.00-13.00	10.00-11.00	13.00-14.00	11.50-12.00	10.50-14.00	12.00-15.50
Fair to good heifers	9.50-12.00	8.00-9.50	9.00-12.50	10.00-12.00	7.50-10.50	9.00-12.00
Best oxen	9.00-12.00	9.00-10.00	7.50-9.00	.....	.....	.....
Best butcher bulls	9.00-11.00	7.50-9.50	8.50-10.00	10.75-12.25	9.25-11.00	12.00-14.00
Common to bologna bulls	7.00-8.75	6.50-7.50	5.00-8.25	7.50-11.50	7.75-9.25	9.00-11.50
Fair to good feeder steers	10.00-11.00	7.50-8.50	10.00-10.50	9.50-11.50	9.50-13.25	10.25-12.25
Fair to good stocker steers	9.00-10.00	7.00-7.75	9.00-10.25	11.00-12.00	7.50-10.50	9.50-11.00
Best milkers and springers (each)	$75-$120	$65-$110	$60-$75	$100-$160	.....	.....
Fair milkers and springers (each)	$50-$55	$50-$65	.....	$65-$90	.....	.....
Hogs						
Choice hogs, fed and watered	18.75	15.15	19.25	20.00	16.20-17.50	16.40-16.65
Light hogs	18.00-19.00	14.50-15.00	.....	18.00-19.00	.....	.....
Heavy sows	17.75	9.00-10.00	.....	17.00-17.50	.....	.....
Stags	15.00-16.00	6.00-8.00	.....	16.00	.....	.....
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	16.00-18.00	11.50-12.75	16.00-17.00	19.50-22.00	15.00-16.50	20.00-20.90
Best Killing Sheep	10.00-12.00	8.50-9.25	14.00-15.00	14.00-18.00	10.00-15.00	18.75-19.00

Hens Losing Feathers

Am writing you in regard to my chickens. Would you kindly tell me what is the cause of their heads becoming bare? They are apparently healthy but about 25 out of my flock of 100 hens have lost all their feathers off their heads. Is it from some form of parasite, or what?—William H. Fritz.

Your hens are doubtless losing the feathers on their heads from some of the hens having contracted the habit of feather eating. This complaint is very common this spring. In some cases the loss of feathers is due to a depluming mite. In both cases a liberal application of carbolated vaseline on the head and neck feathers will overcome the trouble. In addition, if it is due to the feather-eating habit, it might be well to feed some raw meat to the hens. A little salt added to the soft mash will also help to overcome the difficulty, if it is due to this vice. In the case of the depluming mite the vaseline will kill it.—M. C. Herner.

Harvesters From South

Washington, May 31.—Shortage of farm labor to harvest the western wheat crop will be met by a mobile force of workers recruited for this purpose, the federal employment services today announced.

These workers will start early next month harvesting the winter crop in Oklahoma, then going into Kansas and afterward moving into the spring wheat section of the north-west and finally crossing the border and assisting Canadian farmers late in the summer.

The army of workers will return in time to assist in harvesting the corn crop in the early fall. Each state will contribute volunteer community workers to supplement any demands for help not met by these transient harvesters.

Recruiting and direction of these workers is in charge of A. L. Barkman, former chief of the farm service, who is now employment director for the district comprising the grain belt.

Revolution in Russia

A despatch from Moscow, dated June 3, was sent out by the Associated Press from London, England, as follows:—

The discovery in Moscow and Petrograd of a large counter-revolutionary plot, which stretches throughout the whole of Russia, is announced in a Russian wireless message received here Sunday night. To this plot is attributed part, the mutiny of the Czecho-Slovak troops, which have captured several important railway junctions and lines.

The Soviet executive decided on May 29, to undertake the partial calling to arms of several classes of workmen and the poorer peasants in Petrograd and Moscow and the Kuban and Don regions. At the same time Moscow had been declared in a state of siege. Counter-revolutionaries have been taken against the press. These measures are necessary, it is announced, owing to the situation in which the Russian revolution has been placed.

The question dominating all others is that of supplying the people with bread, now that Russia has been deprived of the Ukraine granary.

The Kuban and Don regions are, according to the Russian statement, menaced by a counter-revolutionary band, which hopes by means of complications, to provoke intervention by foreign powers and thus drive the Russian masses toward famine.

In some regions, the large owners are mobilizing the well-to-do peasants, with the object of resisting the efforts of the government to commandeer the flour depot, and are trying to conceal their stocks for purposes of future speculation, and, finally agents of the counter-revolution in the various Russian cities throughout the country, says the statement, "are seeking to excite the starving masses against the Soviet government."

It is understood that the United States government is studying the feasibility of extending economic assistance to Russia. Assistance from the United States would take the form of purchasing and assembling food supplies and distributing them in European Russia.

A Hollow Sound

"Is a new German peace offer coming?" is the question now being asked in political circles, says a despatch from Amsterdam this week.

What has often been advocated in German socialistic and radical organs, namely: that Germany should clearly and unequivocally state the terms upon which she would be willing to make peace is now urged even by the Pan-German "Kreuz Zeitung" which judges the present moment as a most opportune one.

The newspaper says with emphasis, it is not a peace offer but a peace offensive that is wanted, and it believes that recent German military successes cannot fail to add weight to any concrete proposal Germany may make now, only the paper adds, it should be made publicly.

The government is called upon by the Kreuz Zeitung to appoint immediately a commission consisting of a leading economist a colonial expert, representatives of the army and under the presidency of an able diplomatist to work out a complete peace programme; but it urges that time presses, and that it must be done quickly. A definite programme after consultation with party leaders, the newspaper asserts, would undoubtedly secure the majority in the reichstag, which was secure for unrestricted submarine warfare.