

## The Mail Bag

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time, were controlled by Populist officials; but in accomplishing this much work the Populist party and the farmers' organization with it, went out of existence, and this is the sad history of farmers' organizations that permit themselves to drift as organizations into the political arena.

We should all fully grasp the idea that has been so consistently urged by our good President, H. W. Wood, and that is, that the U.F.A. is bigger and broader and has more important work to do than any political party.

## Influence and Control

Now this does not mean that the U.F.A. should not have political influence. As a matter of fact the force of our organization can best be expressed as an "influence"; but this influence is not confined to political matters, by any means. Indeed, the powerful men of this continent are not the politicians. Rather do the powerful men control the politicians. We cannot go into the way that this is accomplished, but politically, the mission of the U.F.A. is, to some extent at least, to control the politicians. In order to do this, we must handle great questions and problems with imports far deeper than mere questions of politics.

The lesson for us to learn from the history of the prior farmers' organizations on the continent, is that the influence that they exerted in political affairs, by themselves going into politics as a party, could have been exerted just as well, and probably better, had they, as a party, remained out of politics, and as an organization have impressed upon public opinion, and through public opinion upon the political parties existing, the principles for which they stood.

## Scheming Politicians

By pursuing this course, ambitious and designing politicians who sought to use the organizations for personal advancement would not have gotten control of it; and the organization as an organization, not having assumed the responsibilities and engendered the opposition which necessarily accompany a political party, would have survived for its more important work.

In this connection it is not out of place to discuss our relation with the Non-Partisan League. The U.F.A. is a brotherhood of farmers irrespective of party. Recently many of our members have associated themselves with the Non-Partisan League. There can be no objection to this and good may be accomplished thereby; but one thing should be kept continually clear, and that is, that the U.F.A. is in no way associated with the league or any political organization.

If our members, who are affiliated with the league, will keep this clearly in mind, and in their efforts towards the objects for which they strive, will use all means to keep the public and the membership from being confused as to the identity and objects of the two organizations, all will be well.

## What Must Be Kept in Mind

On the contrary, if the U.F.A. becomes so identified with the league or any political organization in its official efforts, that its identity and objects become confused or lost in political efforts, then the organization's position and its influence will be in a very precarious condition, and if it survived such a contingency it would be doing more than any farmers' organization heretofore existing has been able to do.

It behoves the U.F.A.—and the league also—to keep these things clearly in mind, and whether we are members of the league or not, let us as members of the U.F.A. select men of the type of our good president to be our leaders—men who realize the importance of this phase of our organization, and who are too big to use the U.F.A. for political aggrandizement.—S. S. Dunham, ex-vice-president, U.F.A., Lethbridge.

In getting up circulars for advertising your farm stuff, boil them down. Cultivate the art of putting everything short, sharp, and attractively. Say things that stick, and tell the truth. Nothing else wins in the long run.

## The Farmers' Market

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, October 28, 1918.

**OATS**—Prices are considerably higher than a week ago, although there seems to be no change in conditions, nor any outside demand for our oats at these prices. Deliveries in the country have been very light owing to the continued mild weather, which permits the farmers to plow, but on the other hand the same kind of weather lessens the demand for feed for livestock. The Winnipeg market seems to be governed for the present by local conditions, and not by outside conditions of supply and demand.

**BARLEY**—With the advance in oats prices, and light deliveries and offerings, the barley market took a sharp upturn. The daily record of inspections shows a lot of barley moving to the lake front, but only a small portion of this is being put on the market. American prices have advanced slightly, but not in proportion to our advance.

**FLAX**—The week's markets were almost all very bullish. The Duluth market advanced on reported light offerings and good demand. These conditions, together with professional trading, caused a lot of active buying and sharp advances. Unfavorable weather in some districts in the Western Canadian provinces also affected prices.

## WINNIPEG FUTURES

	22	23	24	25	26	28	30	31
Oats—								
Oct. 25	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	67
Dec. 77	79	79	79	81	79	79	79	61
Barley—								
Oct. 320	102	102	104	107	106	106	106	100
Dec. 107	109	111	109	109	109	109	109	102
Flax—								
Oct. 332	343	370	356	362	362	362	362	304
Dec. 330	329	356	353	360	360	360	360	284

## INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS

Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, October 23, was as follows:

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Calgary				
Wheat	539,978	5,869	539,978	
Oats	143,646	3,963	143,646	
Barley	23,771	4,099	23,771	
Flax	83	—	83	
St. Paul				
Wheat	173,555	2,449	173,555	
Oats	52,492	3,963	52,492	
Barley	52,492	3,963	52,492	
Flax	8,971	2,382	8,971	
Duluth				
Wheat	425,171	1,090	425,171	
Oats	25,008	6,473	25,008	
Barley	1,738	—	1,738	
Flax	1,175	—	1,175	

## THE CASH TRADE

Minneapolis, October 25, 1918.

**OATS**—Firm, with small offerings in good demand. No. 2 white closed at 67½ to 68½ cents; No. 4 white oats at 67½ to 68½ cents.

**RYE**—Steady; good demand for milling grades. No. 2 rye closed at \$1.58 to \$1.59.

**BARLEY**—Milling grades were at firm prices; medium grades slow. Prices closed at 86 to 87 cents.

**FLAXSEED**—Offerings small and demand good. No. 1 spot two cents over to two cents under Duluth November. No. 1 seed closed at \$3.82 to \$3.86 on spot and to arrive.

## October Oat Futures off

The Winnipeg grain exchange on Tuesday, October 22, issued the following regulation with regard to the marketing of oats in view of the strike situation at the head of the lakes: "That until further notice the council of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange hereby prohibits all buying in October oats, except for the purpose of liquidating

## FIXED WHEAT PRICES

	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	7*	8*	9*	10*	11*	12*	13*
Fixed Year ago	224	224	217	211	199	199	212	212	208				
Year ago	221	218	215	209	194	185	215	212	207				

## Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur, Oct. 22 to Oct. 28, inclusive

Date	Wheat	Feed	2CW	3CW	OATS	1F4	1F4	2F4	3CW	4CW	BARLEY	Feed	1NW	FLAX	2CW	3CW
Oct. 22	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	105	100	96	—	332	332	—	—	—
23	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	107	102	96	—	343	340	—	—	—
24	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	107	102	96	—	343	340	—	—	—
25	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	107	102	96	—	343	340	—	—	—
26	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	107	102	96	—	343	340	—	—	—
28	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	107	102	96	—	343	340	—	—	—
Week ago	180	86	82	82	80	80	77	100	95	91	—	319	316	—	—	—
Year ago	180	67	64	64	62	62	62	121	116	—	—	297	294	—	—	—

## LIVESTOCK

	Winnipeg	Calgary	Toronto	St. Paul	Chicago
	Oct. 26	Oct. 23	Oct. 23	Oct. 26	Oct. 26
<b>Cattle</b>					
Choice steers	12.00-13.50	11.00-11.80	11.50-12.50	11.50-12.50	11.50-12.50
Best butcher steers	11.00-11.75	10.50-11.00	11.00-11.50	11.00-11.50	11.00-11.50
Fair to good butcher steers	10.00-10.50	9.50-10.00	10.00-10.50	10.00-10.50	10.00-10.50
Good to choice fat cows	8.00-8.50	7.50-8.00	8.00-8.50	8.00-8.50	8.00-8.50
Medium to good cows	6.50-7.50	6.00-7.00	6.50-7.50	6.50-7.50	6.50-7.50
Canners	4.50-5.50	4.00-5.00	4.50-5.50	4.50-5.50	4.50-5.50
Good to choice heifers	9.00-10.00	8.50-9.50	9.00-10.00	9.00-10.00	9.00-10.00
Fair to good heifers	8.00-9.00	7.50-8.50	8.00-9.00	8.00-9.00	8.00-9.00
Best oxen	7.50-8.00	7.00-7.50	7.50-8.00	7.50-8.00	7.50-8.00
Best butcher bulls	7.00-7.50	6.50-7.00	7.00-7.50	7.00-7.50	7.00-7.50
Common to bologna bulls	5.50-6.50	5.00-6.00	5.50-6.50	5.50-6.50	5.50-6.50
Fair to good feeder steers	8.50-9.50	8.00-9.00	8.50-9.50	8.50-9.50	8.50-9.50
Fair to good stocker steers	6.50-8.50	6.00-7.50	6.50-8.50	6.50-8.50	6.50-8.50
Best milkers and springers	8.50-11.00	8.00-10.00	8.50-11.00	8.50-11.00	8.50-11.00
Fair milkers and springers	8.50-11.00	8.00-10.00	8.50-11.00	8.50-11.00	8.50-11.00
<b>Hogs</b>					
Choice hogs, fed and watered	18.00	17.50	18.00	18.00	18.00
Light hogs	15.00-16.50	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Sows	12.25-14.00	11.50-12.50	12.25-14.00	12.25-14.00	12.25-14.00
Stags	10.00-11.00	10.00-11.00	10.00-11.00	10.00-11.00	10.00-11.00
<b>Sheep and Lambs</b>					
Choice lambs	14.00-15.50	13.00-14.50	14.00-15.50	14.00-15.50	14.00-15.50
Best killing sheep	10.00-13.00	9.00-10.00	10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00

## Hogs

Selected fed and watered	\$18.00
Straight hogs	14.00 to 17.00
Light hogs	15.00 to 16.50
Sows	12.25 to 14.00
Stags	10.00 to 11.00
Boars	7.00 to 9.00

## TORONTO

Toronto, October 23, 1918.

Quinn and Leveck report that there was about 3,000 cattle on sale here on Monday. The quality, generally, was the worst we have had this season. The receipts were made up mostly of light-weight off-colored common cattle, and this class were very hard to sell, with the result that we had a draggy market. Quite a number were held over unsold. What good big steers were here sold at very good prices. While they did not sell as high as they did during the two weeks previous, we think they are making satisfactory prices. There was a good enquiry for canner cows and the best class of butcher cows. Medium cows were slow of sale. For milk-cows and springers the trade was not as good this week as it has been. Best class of cows made satisfactory prices. The demand for stockers and feeders was very limited this week. There were not many farmers looking for feeding cattle, and they could have secured large numbers of useful steers and heifers at very reasonable prices here this week. We do not look for any improvement in the cattle market for some weeks to come, excepting for steers with weights. The trade for this class may improve.

We have had fairly liberal supplies of sheep and lambs here this week, and today, lambs were about 25 cents to 40 cents per cwt. lower. Good veal calves are wanted and making satisfactory prices. The hog market is about steady. The packers are quoting 18½ cents fed and watered, and 17½ cents for cars country points. We sold a few bunches at a little more than these quotations.

We think the present is as good a time as any to ship any class of livestock that must come to market this fall, but we do not look for any higher prices.

## CALGARY

Calgary, October 23.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited report this week's receipts as follows: Horses, 476; cattle, 3,100; hogs, 277; sheep, 1,314. Receipts for the corresponding week last year were: Horses, 312; cattle, 2,883; hogs, 1,083; sheep, 311.

Largely owing to the embargo, the receipts were very light this week, the majority of shippers not knowing whether they could ship or not. Cattle sold slightly stronger and we believe that choice smooth steers weighing 1,300 to 1,500 pounds would reach \$12. We quote choice fat steers, \$11 to \$12; medium to good, \$10 to \$11; and small fat butcher steers, \$9.25 to \$10. The fat cow market also showed an improvement, and we sold some nice heifer stuff at \$7.40 to \$8.00, with medium cows \$6.50 to \$7.25. A large number of common cows sold as cutters at \$5.50 to \$6.00, and canners met a ready demand from \$4.25 to \$5.25. Bulls were steady at \$5.00 to \$7.00 for the best, and choice oxen made \$7.25. All the good stocker steers that showed breeding found a ready sale. Steers weighing 900 and up, around \$9.00; and light two-year-olds, \$8.00 to \$8.50; while good yearling steers sold from \$7.00 to \$7.75. The trading is slow on stock cows and a lot of them go to the canners at \$5.50 to \$6.00, with a few of the best selling to go to the country at \$6.00 to \$6.25; two-year-old heifers, \$5.00 to \$6.50; and yearling heifers around \$7.00. Veal was not in demand and \$8.50 got the bulk of the best with heavy calves \$7.25 to \$7.75.

Top price on cattle a year ago, \$9.25. Very few hogs on sale. Our Thursday hogs made \$17.75 fed and watered and Friday's hogs sold at the same figure with one choice load shipped by J. T. Boucher, of Cochrane, at a 50 cent premium. Top price on hogs a year ago \$15.00.

## Sheep

Sheep weakened during the week and we quote: Fat lambs \$13.00 to \$13.50. Wethers \$11.50 to \$12.50. Fat ewes \$10.00 to \$11.00. We especially wish to emphasize that common off-colored stockers are practically unsaleable except at canner prices, and we do not recommend shipping them here unless prepared to take a low price. Heavy rough steers, lacking kill, are also very slow, and it is difficult to find a purchaser willing to take them. The yards are pretty well cleaned up now and we expect that there will be a steady movement of stock from now on.

## Tragic Shipwreck on Pacific

The C.P.R. steamer Princess Sophia which had left Skagway, on the Wednesday of last week, with a large number of passengers, mostly people from Dawson and interior Alaska points, coming "outside" for the winter, was only four hours out of that port when she was driven on Vanderbilt Reef, half-way between Skagway and Juneau, in a blinding snowstorm. She stayed on the reef 40 hours, every possible effort being made to take off her passengers, but in vain, on account of the constantly increasing violence of the storm, which at last, on Friday evening, hurled her across the reef into deep water. All lives were lost, numbering 346. This is the most tragic shipwreck in the history of the northern Pacific coast.