The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited, December 31, 1915)

The last week of the year 1915 saw exceptional activity in the grain markets for the holiday season. The range of prices each day was quite wide, and altho there were some bad breaks, these were of short duration and reactions were always quick. The volume of trading in futures was heavy. A certain amount was speculative, but there was also a lot of buying by exporters. The trade in cash wheat during the week was not so brisk as in futures. While there is a good export demand for our wheat, the transportation problem is a difficult one at present. Reports from Argentine and Australia are very favorable, but they have very high freight rates to contend with.

The oats market has also been active, with a considerable volume of trading and a good demand for cash oats, particularly of low grades.

Barley has been dull, with no buyers, until Thursday, when some sales were reported at 63 cents for No. 3 C.W., and 58 cents for No. 4 C.W.

Flax has been advancing, and flax futures show a gain of over 6 cents for the week.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

Wheat—	Dec.	May	July
Dec. 28	114¼	118⅞	118⅜
Dec. 29	115¼	118⅝	118⅛
Dec. 30	117¼	120¼	121
Dec. 31	115¼	120	120
Jan. 1—New Year's Day—Holiday			
Jan. 3	....	11	118⅛
Week ago	116¼	120¼	121
Year ago	....	132¼	133¼
Oats—			
Dec. 28	40¼	44⅛	....
Dec. 29	40¼	44⅛	....
Dec. 30	41¼	45⅛	....
Dec. 31	41¼	45¼	....
Jan. 1—New Year's Day—Holiday			
Jan. 3	....	44⅛	....
Week ago	41⅛	45⅛	....
Year ago	....	58⅛	....
Flax—			
Dec. 28	197⅛	189⅛	....
Dec. 29	199⅛	191	....
Dec. 30	192⅛	202	....
Dec. 31	194	202⅛	....
Jan. 1—New Year's Day—Holiday			
Jan. 3	....	201⅛	....
Week ago	189⅛	197⅛	....
Year ago	....	144⅛	....

MINNEAPOLIS CASH SALES

(Sample Market, Dec. 31)

No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car, W.B.	$1.26⅛
No. 1 hard wheat, 3 cars	1.25⅛
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1.25⅛
No. 1 hard wheat, 2 cars	1.25⅛
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1.26
No. 1 hard wheat, 1 car	1.25⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 11 cars	1.24⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car, ch. dockage	1.27⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 13 cars	1.23⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 1 car, sample sale	1.20⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, 5 cars	1.24⅛
No. 1 Nor. wheat, part car	1.23
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car, sample	1.19⅛
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car, run	1.20
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 4 cars	1.19⅛
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.18⅛
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.19⅛
No. 2 Nor. wheat, 1 car	1.21
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.17⅛
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	1.16
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	1.14
No. 3 wheat, 3 cars	1.16⅛
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	1.12⅛
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	1.16⅛
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	1.17⅛
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, frost, bin burnt	1.11
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, bin burnt, sample sale	1.07
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars, frost	1.11⅛
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, transit	1.16⅛
No. 3 mixed wheat, 1 car	1.12⅛
No. 1 mixed wheat, 1 car	1.19
Rye mixed wheat, 1 car	1.05
Wheat screenings, 1 car, per ton	18.25
No. 3 western wheat, 1 car, o.w.b.	1.14⅛
No. 2 western wheat, 1 car	1.19
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1.00
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1.01⅛
Sample grade wheat, 1 car	1.08⅛
Sample grade wheat, 1 car, choice	1.20⅛
No grade wheat, 1 car, c.c.	1.21⅛
No grade wheat, 1 car, tough	1.05⅛
Millett, 1 car	2.30
Timothy, 49 sacks, c.w.t.	7.00
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1.13⅛
No. 4 wheat, 1 car, transit	1.14⅛
No. 4 wheat, 1 car	1.16⅛
No. 3 corn, 1 car	72
No. 4 yellow corn, 1 car	79
No. 5 corn, 1 car, mixed	67
No. 3 white oats, 1 car, choice	44
Standard white oats, 2 cars	44
Mill oats, 1 car, sample	35
No. 3 white oats, 1 car, arrive	32⅛
Mill oats, 1 car, f.o.b.	34
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	42⅛
No. 4 white oats, 5 cars	41⅛
No grade white oats, 1 car, run	40
No. 3 white oats, 5 cars	42⅛
Sample grade white oats, 1 car	41⅛
Sample grade white oats, 1 car, wild oats	40
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	42
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car, Montana	75
No. 2 feed barley, 2 cars	67
No. 2 feed barley, 1 car	66⅛
No grade barley, 1 car	67
No. 2 feed barley, 1 car	65⅛
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car	67⅛
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car, tough	64
No. 1 feed barley, 1 car	65
No. 1 feed barley, 2 cars	66⅛
No grade barley, 1 car	64⅛
Sample barley, 1 car, No. 2 row mixed	68
Sample barley, 3 cars	65⅛
Sample barley, 1,700 bu., to arrive	66⅛
Sample barley, 1 car	64⅛
Sample barley, 1 car, No. 2 row	72
No. 1 flax, 300 bu., to arrive	2.20
No. 1 flax, sack	2.15
No. 1 flax, part car	2.10
No. 1 flax, 1 car	2.20⅛
No. 1 flax, 1 car, Montana	1.22
No. 1 flax, 6 cars, choice, Montana	2.21⅛
No. 1 flax, 1 car, dockage	2.21⅛

GRAIN IN INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATORS

For the week ending December 29 there was in store in the interior terminal elevator at Moose Jaw: Wheat, 22,191 bushels; oats, 21,471.26 bushels; barley, 444.28 bushels; and flax, 3,363.12 bushels. In the interior terminal elevator at Saskatoon: Wheat, 1,052,133.30 bushels; oats, 43,805 bushels; barley, 698.16 bushels; and flax, 19,794.34 bushels.

STOCKS IN TERMINALS

Fort William, December 31, 1915.—

1915 Wheat	This Year	Last Year
1 hard	79,229.50	13,203.50
1 Nor.	7,154,199.40	773,650.20
2 Nor.	3,347,006.30	1,373,396.20
3 Nor.	2,379,857.50	937,194.20
No. 4	1,240,205.40	565,855.20
Others	2,378,471.50	870,039.50
This week	16,578,971.20	4,533,340.00
Last week	13,550,072.20	4,035,632.40
Increase	3,028,899.00	497,707.20

Oats			
1 C.W.	212,531.08		15,639.24
2 C.W.	2,743,630.27		635,738.17
3 C.W.	1,345,326.23		337,891.33
Ex. 1 Fd.	430,375.31		213,750.20
Others	1,388,077.01		876,688.15
This week	6,119,941.22	This week	2,079,709.07
Last week	5,028,467.32	Last week	1,973,049.22
Increase	1,091,473.24	Increase	106,659.19
Barley		Flaxseed	
3 C.W.	523,051.01	1 N.W.C.	648,680.06
4 C.W.	278,036.46	2 C.W.	72,326.20
Rej.	90,211.40	3 C.W.	30,751.17
Feed	56,959.42	Others	29,456.55
Others	189,532.40		
This week	1,137,792.25	This week	781,219.51
Last week	1,001,349.26	Last week	756,046.18
Increase	136,442.47	Increase	25,173.33
Last year's total	250,167.28	Last year's total	613,880.08

SHIPMENTS

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Flax
1915 (lake)	297,186	.....	.....	.....
(rail)	841,855	308,591	76,258	35,865
1914 (lake)	.....	.....	.....	.....
(rail)	145,427	33,291	25,407	18,266

CANADIAN VISIBLE SUPPLY

Week ending December 31, 1915.—

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur Ter.	16,578,971	6,119,941	1,137,792
Depot Harbor	440,619	.....	115,042
In vessels in Can. Ter. Harbors	7,762,243	6,437,087	336,908
Total	24,781,833	12,557,028	1,589,742
In vessels in Can. Ter. Harbors	1,413,624	2,537,549	.....
At Buffalo and Duluth	17,893,586	507,773	179,590
Total this week	43,789,043	15,652,400	1,769,332
Total last week	42,909,112	14,887,493	1,658,345
Total last year	15,504,845	6,978,325	821,572

The Livestock Markets

South St. Paul, Dec. 31.—Estimated receipts at the Union stockyards today: Cattle, 1,000; calves, 300; hogs, 10,800; sheep, 4,700; cars, 186.

Cattle—Outlet for fat cattle was steady as compared with that on the previous days of the week. Stockers and feeders of desirable sorts have been somewhat stronger this week, owing to mildly improved demand and restricted supplies. The year's livestock receipts were about 712,000 cattle, 142,600 calves, 2,155,000 hogs, 703,000 sheep, 9,000 horses and 58,800 cars. New records have been established in volume of cat le, calf, hog and carload receipts. Last year's carload deliveries here numbered 45,232, and was the yard record for a year's run.

Hogs—The following shows the weight, cost and price range of hogs for Thursday, Dec. 30: Average weight 178 lbs.; average cost, $6.35; price range, $6.00 to $6.50. Hogs drew bids strong to ten cents above Thursday from the start off of today's session. Sales ranged from $6.25 to $6.60, with bulk quoted at $6.45 to $6.50.

Sheep—Sheep and lamb prices were about steady today. Only a few loads were on sale here, as bulk of the liberal run was on thru consignment.

Calgary, Jan. 1.—The Livestock Department of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company L.d. reports last week's Alberta stockyards receipts: 205 horses, 765 cattle, 2,719 hogs, 192 sheep. This week's receipts were: 165 horses, 420 cattle, 981 hogs, 3 sheep. Outward shipments—1 car of cattle to Vancouver, 9 cars to New Westminster, N.B.—Receipts and shipments do not include Friday's and Saturday's cars, on account of the holiday.

Cattle—Medium weight cattle, 1,100-1,300 lbs., sold strong at $6.10 all the week, with special quality cattle bringing $6.35. Today there was good B.C. demand and 10 cars were shipped to the coast. Fat heifers, $5.50; choice cows, $5.00 to $5.25; stock heifers, $6.00 to $6.25.

Hogs—Select hogs sold for $8.80 on Monday and balance of week at $8.85, except Friday when the market advanced to $8.90. Swift & Co., Toronto, are shipping tomorrow. Burns has been getting the majority of the hogs all the week. W. Davies & Co. not buying.

Sheep—Top yearling wethers and lambs, $8.00-$8.25; ewes, $7.00.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—With 700 odd cattle offered on the local livestock market today, trade for better class heavy steers was improved, but for other classes the demand was slow, with a weaker tendency to prices. Some fairly c o.c e loads ranged from $7.50 to $7.70, with good at $7.00 to $7.50, medium at $6.50 to $7.00, and common at $6.00 to $6.50.

Demand came strong for cows and bulls, and prices held firm at $5.75 to $6.75 for better classes, with odd animals reported at higher figures. Canners and cutters were taken at steady rates, being in demand.

In the small meats department lambs were a firm, strong feature, going to packers at $10.00 to $11.00 for best. Calves were in request and sold at $9.00 to $10.35. Sheep ewes brought $6.35 to $7.50, for light, and while swine were still quoted at $8.75 by packers, offerings held at the firmer levels of Tuesday at $9.00 to $9.10, fed and watered.

Winnipeg, Jan. 3.—The market for all classes of stock during the past week has been dull. Receipts all thru have been light, not enough coming to make a market. Cattle are holding steady around last week's prices, choice heavy steers being quoted at $6.25 to $6.50, and choice heifers $5.50 to $5.85.

Hogs are steady and holding about even today at $9.00. Eastern markets are largely the determining factor here at present and as long as they hold steady there will be very little change here.

Sheep are too scarce to warrant a quotation being made.

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Closing prices on the principal western markets on Friday, Dec. 31, were:—

	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
1 Nor. wheat	$1.15	$1.21⅛
2 Nor. wheat	1.12	1.18⅛
3 Nor. wheat	1.06	1.14⅛
3 white oats	.36⅛	.42⅛
Barley	.....	63-69
Flax, No. 1	1.93	2.20
Futures—		
Dec. wheat	1.15⅛	1.20⅛
May wheat	1.20	1.21⅛
July wheat	1.20	1.20⅛

Country Produce

CALGARY PRODUCE—The holiday rush on the market has been very heavy and most of the produce for sale quickly changed hands a good prices.

WINNIPEG PRODUCE—Note—All prices quoted are f.o.b. Winnipeg unless otherwise stated.

Butter—There is very little fluctuation in prices on the produce market at this time of the year. Creamery butter has advanced slightly in price, but as far as farm supplies are concerned the little coming warrants no change this week. Fancy dairy butter is worth 24 to 26 cents per pound, No. 1 dairy is 24 to 25 cents per pound and good round lots are 21 to 23 cents per pound.

Eggs—New laid eggs are in great demand, but the supply of such is very small. Dealers will pay 40 to 45 cents per dozen for such, but private individuals are willing to pay more provided they can be sure of the genuineness of the article. Candled eggs in cases are only worth 25 cents per dozen and the quality is poor.

Potatoes—Most persons lay in a supply of potatoes in the fall. This does away with much of the trade during the winter months, thus the market in this line is generally dull. There is no change this week, dealers quoting 50 cents per bushel for potatoes.

Milk and Cream—With a slight raise in creamery butter prices, sour cream for butter-making purposes has advanced 2 cents per pound of butter fat, the price being this week 37 cents. Sweet cream is still 40 cents per pound of butter fat and milk is unchanged at $2.50 per hundred pounds. There is a probability that in the near future milk will be purchased on the basis of the butter fat which it contains instead of the straight weight basis.

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur from December 28 to January 3 inclusive

Date	WHEAT 1*	2*	3*	4	5	6	Feed	OATS 2 CW	3 CW	Ex 1 Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	BARLEY No. 3	No. 4	Rej.	Feed	FLAX 1 NW	2 CW	3 CW	Rej.
Dec. 28	113⅛	110¼	105¼	102⅛	93⅛	83⅛	73⅛	39	36	35	35	34	..	..	..	..	189	186	..	..
29	113⅛	111	106	102⅛	93⅛	83⅛	73⅛	39	36	35	35	34	..	..	..	..	191	188	..	..
30	115⅛	113	108	104	95⅛	85⅛	75⅛	39⅛	36⅛	35⅛	35⅛	34⅛	..	..	49	49	192⅛	189⅛	..	..
31	115	112	106	104	95	85	75	39	36⅛	35⅛	35⅛	34⅛	..	..	..	..	193	190	..	..
Jan. 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY																			
3	113	110⅛	105⅛	102	93	83	73	39⅛	36⅛	35⅛	35	34	63	58	49	49	192⅛	189⅛	..	..
Week ago	115⅛	112⅛	108⅛	104⅛	95⅛	85⅛	75⅛	40	37	37	35	34	[illegible]	..	..	..	189	186	..	..
Year ago	126⅛	123⅛	119⅛	115⅛	111	106	102	56	53	53	51	50	65	61	57	57	138	135	..	..

THE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg Jan. 3	Winnipeg Year Ago	Toronto Dec. 29	Calgary Jan. 1	Chicago Dec. 31	St. Paul Jan. 2
Cattle	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c	$ c $ c
Choice steers	.....	6.50-7.00	7.50-8.00	6.10-6.35	8.35-9.75	7.00-8.75
Best butcher steers and heifers	6.25-6.50	6.00-6.50	7.00-7.50	6.00	6.20-8.10	3.75-7.25
Fair to good butcher steers and heifers	5.50-6.25	5.25-5.50	6.50-7.00	.....	6.20-8.10	3.75-7.25
Best fat cows	5.00-5.25	5.25-5.75	6.25-6.75	4.75-5.25	2.80-8.40	4.25-6.25
Medium cows	4.25-4.75	4.75-5.00	5.25-5.75	.....	2.80-8.40	4.25-6.25
Common cows	3.25-3.75	3.50-3.75	4.50-5.50	4.35-4.75	2.80-8.40	4.25-6.25
Choice heifers	5.50-5.75	5.75-6.25	7.15-7.60	5.50	.....	4.25-6.25
Best bulls	4.75-5.00	5.25-5.50	6.25-7.00	3.00-4.50	.....	3.50-5.60
Common and medium bulls	.....	4.25-4.50	5.50-6.00	.....	.....	3.50-5.60
Best feeding steers	5.65-5.85	5.25-5.50	6.00-6.75	5.50-6.00	.....	4.25-6.75
Best stocker steers	5.25-5.50	4.75-5.25	6.00-6.50	.....	.....	4.00-6.25
Best milkers and springers (each)	$65-$90	$55-$65	$90	$60-$75	.....	.....
Common milkers and springers (each)	$45-$55	$40-$45	$45-$60	$55-$60	.....	.....
Hogs						
Choice hogs	$9.00	$6.75	$9.15	$8.90	$6.50-$7.05	$6.75
Heavy sows	$6.25-$7.00	$5.75	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stags	$4.50	$4.25-$4.75	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	$8.75	$7.00-$7.50	$10-$11	$8.00-$8.25	$7.00-$9.65	$8.00-$9.25
Best killing sheep	$6.50-$7.00	$5.50-$6.00	$6.00-$7.50	$7.00	$6.40-$7.00	$4.50-$6.50

COUNTRY PRODUCE	Winnipeg Jan. 3	Winnipeg Year Ago	Calgary Dec. 24	Saskatoon Dec. 4	Regina Dec. 24	Brandon Dec. 4
Butter (per lb.)						
Fancy dairy	24c-25c	21c	37½c	.....	35c	30c
No. 1 dairy	21c-23c	21c	30c-35c	30c	30c	28c
Good round lots	21c-23c	18c	23c	27½c	25c-28c	25c
Eggs (per doz.)						
Subject to candling	25c	28c	.....	30c	35c	30c
New Laid	40c-45c	35c-55c	55c	60c	50c-60c	40c
Potatoes						
In sacks, per bushel, new	50c	55c-60c	55c	65c	75c	50c
Milk and Cream						
Sweet cream (per lb. butter-fat)	50c	35c	33c-35c	.....	.....	.....
Cream for butter-making purposes (per lb. butter fat)	37c	28c	28c-31c	.....	.....	32c
Sweet milk (per 100 lbs.)	$2.50	$2.25	5½c per lb. of butter-fat	.....	.....	.....
Dressed Poultry						
Chickens	17c	12½c	.....	14c-16c	23c	16c
Fowl	13c-14c	9c-10c	.....	12c-16c	16c-18c	12c
Ducks	15c	12½c	.....	12c-16c	18c-20c	14c
Geese	15c	.....	.....	12c-16c	18c-20c	16c
Turkeys	19c	15c-16c	.....	18c-22c	22c-25c	16c
Hay (per ton)						
No. 1 Red Top	$14	$14	.....	.....	$18	.....
No. 1 Upland	$12	$12	$9	$11	$12	$12.00
No. 1 Timothy	$16	$15	$14	$10	.....	.....
No. 1 Midland	$11	$10-$11	.....	.....	$10	.....