

# Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets

Week Ending December 20.

Receipts and Market Tops.

Dominion Department of Agriculture, Live Stock Branch, Markets Intelligence Division

CATTLE							CALVES						
Receipts			Top Price Good Steers (1,000-1,200)				Receipts			Top Price Good Calves.			
Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13		Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	
Toronto (Union Stock Yards).....	3,294	7,646	5,560	\$12.25	\$ 9.00	\$12.25	491	1,175	445	\$16.00	\$12.00	\$16.00	
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles).....	1,200	1,723	1,515	10.75	11.00	1.00	201	554	240	15.00	11.00	15.00	
Montreal (East End).....	1,576	2,475	1,812	10.75	11.00	11.00	282	834	115	15.00	11.00	15.00	
Winnipeg.....	4,970	2,268	7,344	10.50	8.00	12.00	180	67	200	8.50	9.00	9.00	
Calgary.....	1,708	2,108	2,452	9.50	7.50	10.00							

HOGS							SHEEP						
Receipts			Top Price Selects				Receipts			Top Price Good Lambs			
Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13		Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	Week Ending Dec. 20	Same Week 1916	Week Ending Dec. 13	
Toronto (Union Stock Yards).....	14,085	11,245	10,631	\$18.50	\$12.15	\$18.75	2,035	2,751	4,484	\$18.50	\$13.35	\$17.00	
Montreal (Pt. St. Charles).....	1,974	1,760	923	18.50	12.75	18.25	633	759	695	18.00	13.50	17.25	
Montreal (East End).....	1,231	1,876	624	18.50	12.75	18.25	815	1,047	1,114	18.00	13.50	17.25	
Winnipeg.....	12,189	7,769	8,209	17.00	11.15	17.00	232	264	309	15.50	12.25	15.75	
Calgary.....	6,011	2,932	1,396	16.75	10.15	16.80	814	189	233	15.50	11.25	15.75	

## Market Comments.

### Toronto (Union Stock Yards).

Cattle receipts at the Stock Yards for the week totalled thirty-five hundred head or about half of the usual weekly run; consequently prices held fairly steady in all departments, with an active demand prevailing. The number of choice killing cattle was rather limited, a large proportion of the cattle being medium quality butcher cattle and canners. The exceptionally high prices that were paid last week were not duplicated in this week's trading. For a half load of heavy cattle, twelve hundred and sixty pounds, \$12.50 was paid on Monday, while a load averaging thirteen hundred pounds and of scarcely as good quality realized \$12 per hundred. Other sales throughout the week were made at \$11.50 to \$12 per hundred. For butcher steers of ten to twelve hundred pounds, the best sales were: one head, \$12; seventeen head, eleven hundred pounds, \$11.25; twenty-two head, eleven hundred pounds, \$11.25; twenty-one head, eleven hundred and fifty pounds, \$10.90; and twenty-seven head, eleven hundred pounds, \$10. Other good sales ranged from \$10.50 to \$11.25. A few choice baby-beef animals realized fancy prices, two choice on Monday realizing \$13.25, with other good sales being made at \$12 to \$13. Straight loads of good killing cattle in this class sold as high as \$11.50, twenty-nine head of nine hundred and fifty pounds bringing that price, while thirty-three head, averaging nine hundred and eighty pounds brought \$11.25, and twelve head averaging nine hundred and twenty pounds, \$11.20. Other good sales were made at \$10 to \$11 per hundred. Common and medium cattle sold at \$8.50 to \$9.50 per hundred. Only a few choice cows were on sale, one selling on Wednesday at \$11, while two or three sold on Monday at \$10.50 per hundred. Common cows brought \$6.50 to \$7.75, and canners and cutters \$5.75 to \$6.25. Few choice bulls were on sale, one bull of twenty-one hundred pounds bringing \$10.50 per hundred. This was the top price, while a few others sold at \$9.50 to \$10.50 per hundred, with good bulls bringing \$8 to \$9. Bologna bulls sold at \$6.50 to \$7.50. There was little movement in stockers and feeders, but prices were steady. Feeders were selling from \$9 to \$10 per hundred, and the best stockers from \$8 to \$8.75, with \$9 being asked for some choice loads of the latter. Calves were active and steady, choice veal selling from \$15 to \$16 per hundred.

Lambs were selling at steady prices, only twenty hundred head being available throughout the week. \$17.50 to \$18 was the ruling price, with one or two loads of choice lambs realizing \$18.25, and ewe lambs for breeding purposes bringing \$18.50. Sheep for a similar purpose sold from \$14.50 to \$16 per hundred, according to quality. Since the inauguration of the Free Freight Policy by the Live Stock Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, on October 11, very few sheep or lambs of breeding quality have gone to the killing pens, while approximately four thousand head of sheep and lambs, and nine hundred heifers have been shipped out to Ontario farmers under the supervision of the officers of the Branch.

Close to twenty thousand hogs were received in the Yards during the week, but several thousand of these were con-

TORONTO (Union Stock Yards)					MONTREAL (Pt. St. Charles)				
CLASSIFICATION	No.	Avg. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price	No.	Avg. Price	Price Range Bulk Sales	Top Price	
STEERS heavy finished	30	\$12.10	\$11.50-\$12.50	\$12.50	25	\$11.65	\$11.50-\$11.75	\$11.75	
STEERS 1,000-1,200 good	145	11.40	10.50-11.75	12.25	26	10.30	9.45-10.50	10.75	
STEERS 700-1,000 common	3	10.25	9.00-10.50	10.75	97	9.15	8.50-9.75	9.75	
STEERS 700-1,000 good	306	10.75	10.25-11.25	11.75	12	11.00	10.00-11.25	11.25	
HEIFERS 700-1,000 common	172	8.75	8.00-9.50	9.75	63	9.15	8.50-9.50	9.50	
HEIFERS good	224	11.10	10.50-11.50	12.00	111	7.40	7.00-9.50	7.50	
HEIFERS fair	326	9.29	8.75-10.00	10.00	12	9.75	9.00-9.85	11.00	
HEIFERS common	52	8.21	7.50-8.50	8.50	227	7.50	7.00-8.50	8.50	
COWS good	92	8.47	8.00-9.00	10.50	18	9.50	8.75-11.25	11.25	
COWS common	681	6.92	6.50-7.50	8.25	161	7.15	6.50-8.00	8.50	
BULLS good	24	9.21	8.50-10.00	10.50	385	6.25	5.75-6.35	6.60	
BULLS common	75	7.25	6.75-8.00	8.75	109	13.00	11.00-15.00	15.00	
CANNERS & CUTTERS	636	6.00	5.75-6.25	6.25	92	7.00	7.00-	7.00	
OXEN	16								
CALVES veal	471	14.10	13.00-15.50	16.00	1,709	18.50	18.50-	18.50	
CALVES grass	20	7.00	6.00-8.00	8.00	191	17.50	17.50-18.00	18.00	
STOCKERS 450-800 good	214	8.16	7.75-8.50	8.75	73	16.25	16.00-16.50	16.50	
STOCKERS 450-800 fair	85	7.50	7.00-7.75	8.00	1				
FEEDERS 800-1,000 good	129	9.50	9.00-10.00	10.00	442	17.60	17.50-18.00	18.00	
FEEDERS 800-1,000 fair	84	8.75	8.50-9.25	9.25	116	17.00	17.00-	17.00	
HOGS selects	13,151	18.20	18.00-18.50	18.50	70	12.50	12.50-	13.00	
HOGS (fed and watered) heavies	24	18.25	18.00-18.50	18.50	5	11.50	11.00-12.00	12.00	
HOGS (fed and watered) lights	576	16.71	16.00-17.50	17.50					
HOGS (fed and watered) sows	325	16.67	16.00-17.50	17.50					
HOGS (fed and watered) stags	9	14.00	14.00-14.50	14.50					
LAMBS good	1,723	17.94	17.00-18.25	18.50					
LAMBS common	94	14.97	13.00-16.00	17.00					
SHEEP heavy	2								
SHEEP light	133	14.09	13.00-16.00	16.00					
SHEEP common	83	7.00	6.00-8.00	8.00					

signed to local plants or billed through to other points. Notwithstanding this record run, prices held up remarkably well, while the bulk of the hogs sold on Monday were contracted for at \$18.50 per hundred for selects, fed and watered, those on the open market sold at \$18.00 or 50 cents below last week's close. This level was maintained on Tuesday and Wednesday, and on Thursday the market advanced from 25 to 40 cents, closing at \$18.25 to \$18.40, fed and watered, and \$18.50 weighed off cars. The hogs on the whole are showing good quality, the average weight for the past four weeks ranging from one hundred and ninety to one hundred and ninety-five pounds.

Of the disposition from the Yards for the week ending December 13th, Canadian packing houses bought 188 calves, 61 bulls, 4,076 butcher cattle, 12,855 hogs, and 3,567 lambs. Local butchers made purchases amounting to 225 butcher calves, and 886 butcher cattle, 205 hogs and 609 lambs. Canadian shipments consisted of 54 calves, 103 milch cows, 90 butcher cattle, 468 stockers, 193 feeders, 277 hogs, 152 sheep and 101 lambs. Shipments to United States points were made up of 50 calves, 139 butcher cattle, 22 feeders, and 125 lambs.

The total receipts from January 1 to December 13, inclusive, were 286,796 cattle, 45,831 calves, 162,090 sheep and 426,050 hogs; compared to 290,570 cattle, 45,641 calves, 165,088 sheep, and

480,127 hogs received during the corresponding period of 1916.

### Montreal.

Receipts of cattle during the week were fewer by seven hundred head than those of the previous week. The market opened on Monday at prices on a level with those prevailing at the close on Friday, but trading was inactive, and with the possible exception of canner stock, butcher cattle moved out very slowly. While there were a few head of steers and cows of much better quality than usual, the average quality of the run was lower than for some time past, the receipts consisting largely of common to medium stock, mostly of light weight. During the latter part of the week, a number of loads of very inferior stock were received and this gave additional slowness to the market. However, no price changes occurred, the light receipts evidently preventing any decline. One load of steers of fair quality weighing from eleven hundred and fifty to thirteen hundred pounds sold at \$11.75 per hundred. Steers weighing between ten hundred and twelve hundred pounds showed a lack of finish. A number of steers weighing ten hundred pounds sold from \$9.45 to \$10.75 per hundred, and those weighing less than one thousand pounds sold from \$7.50 to \$10.35 per hundred. One heifer of choice quality sold at \$11.25 per hundred, and heifers of medium to good

grading sold from \$8.50 to \$10.00. A considerable number of light heifers of dairy type were on hand, and sold from \$7 to \$7.50 per hundred. Two very fat cows sold at \$11 per hundred, three others of good weight and quality sold at \$9.85, while most of those of medium quality sold from \$7.75 to \$8.50, and common from \$7 to \$7.50. Bulls sold well, two extra heavy animals realizing \$11.25 per hundred. The majority of the offerings, however, were of poor quality, and sold from \$6.50 to \$8.50. Canners and cutters were fewer in number than last week, and were well taken care of. Most of the canners sold at \$5.75 per hundred, and cutters at \$6.35. The market for veal calves was steady at unchanged prices, but with a better quality run the average prices were advanced by 50 cents. Grass calves sold well at \$7 per hundred.

The market for sheep and lambs was active under a good demand from local buyers. Choice lambs sold at \$18 per hundred, while those of common quality averaged \$17. The best sheep offered sold at \$13 per hundred, and the majority of those of good quality at \$12.50; common sheep brought \$11 to \$12 per hundred.

Receipts of hogs were light, not enough being received to fill requirements. The packing houses are purchasing on their own account at country points in addition to buying at the Yards; but even under these conditions sufficient supplies are