

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

There has been little change in the general trade situation in the Dominion of Canada during the past week, according to dispatches received by Dun's Review from branch offices of R. G. Dun & Co. in the principal cities, although retail distribution has been stimulated to some extent by the return of many vacationists.

Montreal reports that wholesalers in leading lines are receiving a good volume of orders, dry goods houses being especially busy, and with retail trade showing an improving tendency, sentiment among merchants is cheerful. The current volume of business at Quebec is well up to the average for this period and an active fall and winter movement of merchandise is anticipated. There has been a noticeable increase in the retail demand for seasonable commodities at Toronto, and wholesalers generally express satisfaction at the rate with which orders for fall and winter requirements are being placed. A number of munition workers have been laid off, but many of them are finding work in other lines and little or no adverse effect is expected from this cause. Business continues in normal volume in the Far West and Northwest, and as optimistic reports are being received from the farms a heavy fall trade is confidently anticipated. Winnipeg reports some improvement in the call for dry goods, hardware, agricultural supplies and other staples, and with crop results favorable a steady increase in the distribution of merchandise is looked for. An active movement of groceries, dry goods and other staples is reported by Regina, and as crop prospects are favorable, merchants generally regard the outlook as very encouraging. Retail trade is in fair volume at Saskatoon and wholesale business is well maintained, with material improvement expected as soon as harvesting is completed.

### GRAIN.

The demand for cash wheat, which increased 1c per bushel in price on Tuesday, continues good. The tone of the market for corn and oats has been strong with prices showing further increases. Flax prices have declined.

The cash grain situation is as follows:

Grains:	per bushel.
Spring Wheat, Northern No. 1	\$2.21
Do., No. 2	2.13
Do., No. 3	2.16
Do., No. 4	2.07
Do., No. 5	1.83
Do., No. 6	1.70
Feed	1.63
Oats	
No. 2 C. W.	0.65%
Do., No. 3 C. W.	0.65%
Do., Extra No. 1 feed	0.63%
Do., No. 1 feed	0.63%
Barley:	
No. 3	1.21
Do., feed	1.12
Rejected	1.12
Flax:	
No. 1 N. W. C.	3.15

### THE LOCAL GRAIN MARKET.

The feeling in the oats situation has been strong throughout the week with a good demand from millers and from the Government for export purposes. The market closed with a net rise of 1½c to 2½c per bushel, which led to the development of a very strong feeling in the local market and an increase in prices of 1c to 2c per bushel. A fairly active trade was done with local and outside buyers. Sales of No. 2 Canada western were made at 76½c to 77c. No. 3 C. W. at 75½c to 76c, extra No. 1 feed at 75½c to 76c. No. 1 feed at 74½c to 75c, and No. 2 feed at 72½c to 73c per bushel ex-store. Ontario and Quebec new crop oats were offered and sales of car lots of No. 2 white were made at 68c, and No. 3 at 67c per bushel ex-store. There has been some demand for Manitoba rejected and feed barley, and sales of one or two round lots were made for shipment from Fort William. On spot sales of car lots were made at \$1.26 per bushel ex-store.

### LOCAL FLOUR MARKET.

There has been a decided improvement in the demand for spring wheat flour at the reduction in price noted last week, and millers say that while there has been no contracting for large lines for delivery spread over several months a great many orders have come forward for car lots. A weaker feeling developed in the market for winter wheat flour and prices declined 30c to 40c per barrel. The demand for winter wheat flour has been good, but owing to the light stocks and the difficulty in securing supplies, dealers have had to refuse orders for car lots for shipment to outside points. Sales of 90 per cent patents were made at \$11.50 to \$11.80 per barrel in wood, and at \$5.60 to \$5.75 per bag in broken lots, delivered to the trade. A steady trade in a wholesale jobbing way is passing in corn flour at \$6.50 per bag, and in rye flour at \$5.60 delivered.

### MILLFEED AND ROLLED OATS.

A more settled feeling prevailed in the market for rolled oats, last week, but prices were unchanged. Carlots of standard grades were quoted at \$4.30 and broken lots at \$4.40 per bag of 90 lbs. delivered to the trade.

The bran market ruled easy, owing to the increased offerings and somewhat decreased demand and prices for full carlots were shaded 50c to \$1 per ton, with sales at \$34 to \$34.50 per ton, including bags.

### EXPORTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

Exports of breadstuffs from all Atlantic ports last week (including New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, Portland, Montreal, Mobile and Quebec), and the preceding week were as follows:

	Last wk.	Prev. wk.
Flour, barrels	74,345	223,362
Wheat, bushels	667,880	1,042,698
Corn, bushels	85,430	18,499
Oats, bushels	1,877,127	1,293,271
Barley, bushels	55,205	36,229
Peas, bushels	.....	15,299
And from July 1, 1917, to September 1, 1917, and for the corresponding period of 1916-17:		
Wheat, bushels	14,680,389	59,091,078
Flour, barrels	1,150,826	2,752,342
Total wheat, bushels	19,859,106	71,476,617
Corn, bushels	3,537,149	11,648,383

### LIVESTOCK.

MONTREAL: The receipts of livestock at the two yards for the week amounted to 3,050 cattle, 6,350 sheep and lambs, 2,700 hogs, and 1,075 calves. The offerings of cattle were large at Monday's sale and prices remained about steady. There was a good demand for common cattle from Ontario buyers and packers, many of whom have large contracts from the Government to fill, and also from American buyers for shipment to U. S. markets. At Wednesday's market the demand was good, but the supply limited, so that trade was quiet.

A stronger feeling developed for sheep and lambs, at Wednesday's market, and prices of sheep advanced 50c. per 100 lbs., and of lambs 25c. per 100 lbs. The supply was large, and a brisk business was done with packers and butchers at the advanced prices. Prices remained firm at Wednesday's sale, and business was brisk.

The market for hogs was very slow on Monday, with small offerings and a very limited demand. On Wednesday the demand from packers was good, with the result that a stronger feeling developed, and prices scored an advance of 25c. per 100 lbs.

TORONTO: The receipts for the week, at both yards, were 6,824 cattle, 520 calves, 2,584 hogs, and 4,552 sheep and lambs. Monday's market opened with the largest run of cattle in many weeks—over 5,000 head. However, the cattle were of a somewhat inferior quality, prices ruled lower, the market was draggy, and many cattle remained unsold. Prices for choice cattle remained unchanged, although the market developed a weaker undertone. Trade remained draggy, with prices steady at Monday's decline, throughout the week.

In the market for small meats the demand for sheep was strong, and for lambs good, with prices steady with the previous week.

Hogs turned stronger, and on Monday prices went up 25c to 50c per cwt., and on Wednesday were further increased 50c per cwt. to \$18.25.

	Per Cwt.	Montreal.	Toronto.
Butchers' steers, per 100 lbs.			
Do., choice	10.25	10.75	11.50 12.00
Do., good	9.75	10.00	9.50 10.00
Do., medium	8.75	9.00	8.50 9.00
Do., rough	8.00	8.50	7.50 8.00
Butchers' Cows.			
Do., choice	7.50	8.00	8.00 8.50
Do., good	7.00	7.25	7.00 7.50
Do., fair	6.50	6.75	6.25 7.00
Bulls, choice	8.25	8.50	8.50 9.00
Do., good	7.75	8.00	7.50 8.25
Do., fair	7.25	7.50	6.25 7.25
Canners cattle.			
Do., bulls	6.15	6.25	5.00 6.00
Do., cows	5.00	5.25	.....
Sheep and Lambs.			
Ewes	9.00	9.50	8.50 10.50
Bucks	8.50	8.75	6.50 7.50
Ontario lambs	14.50	14.75	.....
Quebec lambs	12.75	13.75	.....
Calves, choice	13.00	14.00	14.00 15.00
Do., good	11.00	12.00	11.50 13.00
Hogs.			
Do., choice selects	17.00	17.50	17.25 18.50
Do., heavyweights	15.50	16.00	.....
Sows	14.00	14.50	.....
Stags	13.00	13.50	.....

### CALGARY CATTLE SALES.

The highest price for cattle ever recorded on the Calgary market was paid on Thursday last, when a load of steers, raised by Elmer Davenport, of Acme, Alta., was sold to Wilson and Co., the Chicago packers, for \$12 flat. The animals were of the Aberdeen-Angus breed and in the opinion of the talent were by far the best load that ever went across the scales here. There were twenty animals in the load, and they averaged 1,428 lbs., or more than \$170 a head.

### PROVISIONS.

According to a statement made by the food controller, Canadian bacon is not barred from Great Britain but will still be largely imported, though under special license.

Prices remain steady for smoked and canned meats, with a good demand. The tone of the market for lard is firm and the demand from country and local points is good.

It is expected that hog prices will be increased this week. The receipts during the week amounted to 1,439 boxes meats, 73 pkgs. hams and bacon, 817 pkgs. lard and 100 pkgs. pork, as compared with 82,791 boxes meats, 1,947 pkgs. hams and bacon, 15,798 pkgs. lard and 500 pkgs. pork for the same week last year.

The receipts of live hogs amounted to 3,279, as against 4,901 last year.

Current prices are quoted as follows:

Hams:—	Per lb.
Shoked Hams, 8-10 lbs.	0.30
Do., 12-15 lbs.	0.28
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.28
Bacon:—	
Breakfast	0.35
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.39 0.40
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.38 0.40
Pure Lard:—	pound
20 lb. pails	0.25½ 0.21
Compound Lard (Western Grades):—	
Tubs	0.21½ 0.21

### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending September 9th, 1917, were 10,525 packages, which show a decrease of 4,179 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 9,981 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts from May 1st to date show a decrease of 87,067 packages as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Of the total receipts for this week last year 4,294 packages were received from the United States.

A firmer feeling prevailed in the market, although prices remained steady at the recent decline.

We quote prices as follows:—

Finest creamery	0.41½ 0.42
Fine creamery	0.40½ 0.41
Finest dairy	0.37½ 0.39
Fine dairy	0.37
Lower grades	0.36