

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, February 11, 1918.

Oats—Since a week ago the high point for May futures has been 87 7/16, and the low point 86 1/4. This is a very narrow range of prices for a week's business, and indicates well the dulness of the market and the lack of futures. The demand for cash oats has been steady and offerings have been light. Spread on the various grades, as compared with future prices, have not changed much. 2 C.W.'s on Saturday were in poorer demand and traded at 1 cent less premium than on previous days. The demand was curtailed somewhat on Saturday by the closing of many offices in Ontario and Quebec cities for the "holidays" day. The government of grain is held up now for three days by government regulation.

Barley—New high records have been made in prices last week, both for futures and for cash delivery. The highest point was reached on Wednesday. During the latter half of the week there was some reaction and at the close on Saturday top grades showed a slight decline from a week ago, with demand much slower.

Flax has been quite steady and inactive. Prices have worked slightly higher during the week.

	February	Week	Year
	5 6 7 8 9 11	ago	ago
Oats—			
May 86 1/2	86 1/2	87 1/2	86 1/2
July 85 8/16	85 8/16	85 8/16	84 1/2
Flax—			
May 330 1/2	332 1/2	332 1/2	334 1/2
July			

	This Year	Last Year
1 hard	15,284 50	15,007 20
2 Nor.	1,450,637 59	1,998,409 10
3 Nor.	900,074 20	3,760,246 20
3 Nor.	819,454 50	3,839,543 50
No. 4	452,507 30	3,103,713 50
Others	1,835,094 30	10,114,781 50
This week	5,414,024 30	22,801,702 30
Last week	5,927,821 30	22,413,326 30
Decrease	453,797 00	Increase 388,876 00
Oats		
1 C.W.	5,305 20	17,624 22
2 C.W.	421,714 28	3,092,237 01
3 C.W.	274,726 33	1,065,936 29
Ex. 1 M.	577,037 31	2,022,824 15
Others	3,507,264 70	5,567,212 27
This week	4,878,041 22	11,795,835 26
Last week	4,688,140 28	11,762,522 32
Increase	187,900 28	Increase 33,312 28
Barley		
Ex. 3 C.W.	3,776 42	634,973 24
3 C.W.	273,980 28	131,035 06
4 C.W.	568,103 41	26,083 22
Ref.	138,817 16	18,135 12
Feed	167,787 26	
Others	81,714 26	
This week	1,234,190 35	811,127 18
Last week	1,215,640 37	774,777 05
Increase	18,549 46	Increase 36,350 13

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Flax
1918—Rail	1,042,176	123,571	70,181	23,619
1917—Rail	303,193	108,651	2,500	11,392

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur	5,474,024	4,876,041	1,234,190
East. Can. Tern.	5,384,549	2,204,217	989,583
Total	11,008,673	7,170,258	1,823,743

Year	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	T11	T12	T13
Fixed	221	218	215	208	196	187	215	212	207
Year ago	170 1/2	167 1/2	162 1/2	153 1/2	133 1/2	107 1/2			

Date	Feed	Wheat	2CW	3CW	Ex 1	Fd 1	Fd 2	3CW	4CW	Ref. Feed	1 NW	2CW	3CW
Feb. 5	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	160	155	130	130	325 1/2	322 1/2	304 1/2
6	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	159	154	130	130	327 1/2	323 1/2	305 1/2
7	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	159	154	130	130	327 1/2	323 1/2	307 1/2
8	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	156 1/2	151 1/2	128	128	328 1/2	324 1/2	307 1/2
9	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	155 1/2	150 1/2	128	128	328 1/2	324 1/2	307 1/2
11	171	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80 1/2	77 1/2	156 1/2	151 1/2	125	125	329 1/2	325 1/2	308 1/2
Week ago	172	89 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	80	76 1/2	158 1/2	153 1/2	130	130	325	321	304
Year ago	95	55 1/2	41	54 1/2	53 1/2	52 1/2	95	90	78	78	254	251	235 1/2

	Winnipeg Feb. 9	Year ago	Toronto Feb. 8	Calgary Feb. 9	Chicago Feb. 6	St. Paul Feb. 9
Cattle	\$ 5 5 5 5	\$ 5 5 5 5	\$ 5 5 5 5	\$ 5 5 5 5	\$ 5 5 5 5	\$ 5 5 5 5
Choice steers	10 50-11 75	9 50-10 00	11 25-11 75	10 00-10 25	13 00-14 50	11 50-12 00
Best butcher steers	9 00-10 50	9 00-9 50	10 25-11 75	9 50-10 00	11 00-13 00	9 00-11 50
Fair to good butcher steers	7 50-8 75	6 50-9 00	8 00-10 25	8 00-9 00	10 00-11 00	6 50-9 00
Good to choice fat cows	9 00-10 00	6 75-7 50	9 00-10 00	8 00-9 75	10 25-11 50	8 50-9 50
Medium to good cows	8 00-9 00	5 50-6 50	8 00-8 50	8 00-8 50	9 75-10 00	7 50-8 50
Common cows	7 00-8 00	4 00-5 00	7 50-8 00	7 00-7 75	7 75-8 50	6 00-6 25
Canners	5 00-8 00	3 75-4 25	5 00-5 40	4 50-6 50	6 75-7 00	6 00-6 25
Good to choice heifers	10 00-11 00	7 50-8 50	9 00-11 00	8 50-9 75	10 00-12 00	8 00-9 50
Fair to good heifers	9 00-9 75	6 00-7 00	7 50-9 00	7 50-8 50	7 75-8 75	7 50-8 00
Best oxen	8 50-9 50	6 50-7 00	10 00-11 00	7 00-8 00	10 00-11 00	8 00-9 00
Best butcher bulls	8 00-8 75	6 00-7 00	6 25-8 00	6 00-7 00	7 75-9 25	6 35-8 50
Common to bologna bulls	7 00-8 00	4 75-5 50	8 00-9 50	7 50-9 00	7 25-11 00	7 00-10 00
Fair to good feeder steers	7 75-8 50	6 00-6 75	6 50-9 50	7 00-7 25	8 00-9 50	7 00-8 50
Fair to good stocker steers	5 50-7 50	6 00-6 75	6 50-9 50	7 00-7 25	8 00-9 50	7 00-8 50
Best milkers and springers (each)	\$75-\$90	\$65	\$90-\$125	\$75-\$90		
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$50-\$65	\$45-\$55	\$65-\$85	\$70-\$75		
Hogs						
Choice hogs, fed and watered	18 25	13 50	18 75	18 70	16 15-17 35	16 00-16 25
Light hogs	13 00-15 50	10 00-10 50			15 80-17 30	
Heavy sows	13 00-14 00	8 00			15 50-15 80	
Stags	10 00-12 00	6 00-6 50			11 25-13 00	
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	10 00-15 50	11 75-12 25	18 00-18 75	15 00-16 00	16 50-17 60	12 00-16 75
Best killing sheep	10 00-14 00	8 50-9 25	9 00-15 00	12 50-15 00	8 50-13 00	7 00-13 00

In Amer. Tern. and Afloat 6,509,808 1,775,519 466,400

Total this week 17,518,371 8,945,777 2,290,143

Total last week 20,561,094 9,504,323 2,167,696

Total last year 44,529,609 23,090,032 2,195,641

Note—Figures for this year do not include Montreal. Grain trading there suspended on account of hostilities day.

Elevator	Grain	Rec'd during week	Ship'd during week	Now in store
Saskatoon	Wheat	240,072	295,379	468,188
	Oats	61,944	69,641	958,300
	Barley	2,521		5,814
	Flax	4,540		8,081
Calgary	Wheat	12,407	6,385	214,308
	Oats	172,961	13,245	669,805
	Barley	10,159	2,548	71,026
	Flax	94,080		2,504
Moose Jaw	Wheat	17,144	24,147	77,848
	Oats	124,980	54,499	838,242
	Barley	5,160		7,786
	Flax			1,066

THE CASH TRADE
 Minneapolis, February 8

OATS—Strong general demand. Basis 6 to 6 1/2 over Minneapolis May. No. 2 white closed at 84 to 85c, No. 4 white oats at 81 1/2 to 84c.

RYE—Undertone easy and prices about 1c lower, except for a few early sales. Spot \$2.17 1/2 to \$2.18 1/2 and to arrive about the same. No. 2 rye closed at \$2.18 to \$2.19.

BARLEY—Strong and 2 to 3c higher. Prices closed at \$1.55 to \$1.88. Receipts today 54 cars, last year 37 cars.

FLAXSEED—Premium broke to 6 to 10c over May. No. 1 seed closed at \$3.61 to \$3.65 on spot and to arrive.

SHORTAGE OF FLAX IN GREAT BRITAIN
 A big shortage of flax or linseed exists in Great Britain. Harrison Watson, Canadian trade commissioner in London, England, in a report to the department of trade and commerce, says:—

"Owing to increasing lack of transportation facilities, shipments from both India and the Argentine have greatly fallen away and Russian supplies have also almost disappeared, the extent of the present shortage being illustrated by the official figures of imports showing that for nine months ended Sept. 30, 1917, receipts were only 813,987 quarters, against 2,086,112 in 1916 and 1,700,946 in 1915.

"Under these circumstances, flax seed is badly wanted, and authorities consulted are unanimous that Canada should be recommended and urged to send over all the flax seed available. Indeed

the position is so difficult that all mills are now under control of the government."

C.N.R. MUST DIVERT WHEAT
 Order No. 30 of the board of grain supervisors for Canada orders that the Canadian Northern Railway Company unload into the government elevator at Saskatoon for account of the Wheat Export Company.

(a) All cars of wheat shipped east, which are present in transit on its lines west of Warman.

(b) All cars of wheat shipped east from points on the Carlton, Shellbrook, Sturgeon, River, Vermilion, Edmonton, Battle River, Alliance and Battleford (points west of Warman) subdivisions on its lines.

The Wheat Export Company, Limited, will pay a diversion charge of one cent per bushel in addition to the fixed price for all wheat so diverted. This order does not apply to cars of wheat which are at present in transit consigned to flour mills.

This order covers the movement of wheat on the Canadian Northern Railway as above from Feb. 8, 1918, to Feb. 23, 1918, inclusive, unless sooner withdrawn.

The Livestock Markets

CHICAGO
 Chicago, Feb. 8.—A bull market in receipts the latter half of last week broke steer prices 25 to 40 cents on the bulk of offerings, accepting prime lots which held fully steady to the record. January prices established at the close of that month. For the full week the market closed with an advance of 25 to 50 cents of the previous week's depressed week-end markets. Prime weights steers sold up to \$14.30 Thursday, and we sold prime 1,270 lb. steers Friday at \$13.90, both sales new high marks on their respective classes for this season of the year. The week's run was \$1.18c, curtailed largely by new blockades of snow and also the severe declines enforced the previous week when \$4.51c cattle got in.

Monday's cattle run totaled 15,828 head. The market was generally steady with Friday and Saturday of last week, but its activity was hampered by severely cold weather and late arrival of trains. While there was a fair sprinkling of beef steers sales up to \$13 and above, choice bullocks were scarce, the best here selling at \$13.90, although prime heavy heaves carried a nominal value on up to \$14.25 to \$14.50. Strong weight cattle had the call but anything with a decent beef covering got fair action. Stocker and light finished feeder cattle of both sexes were relatively slow, country demand still being confined to very small volume. Best cattle here sold at \$14.15, being 25 cents higher than Monday's best sale. Bulk of the day's trading was on a \$11.25 to \$12.50 basis.

Wednesday's cattle receipts were considerably below expectancy, late estimates placing the fresh supply at 9,000 head, but there were close to 5,000 head in the pens from the preceding session, a good many of which arrived too late to be sold that day, and the demand was well met. Buyers' expectancy of a free marketward movement the latter half of the week, now that the weather has moderated and the traffic situation is improving, a rather sluggish beef market, and the approach of the Lenten season, which starts next Wednesday, were adverse influences that contributed to a slow trade. Buyers seemed to be well filled up with the higher priced cattle of strong weight and, although we sold one load early at \$13.25 that showed strength, the general trade on steers selling from \$12 up was dull and droopy. Below this figure sales were generally steady.

WINNIPEG
 Winnipeg, Feb. 9.—Receipts of live stock at the Union Stock Yards, St. Boniface for the past week were as follows: Cattle, 1,852; calves, 47; sheep and lambs, 19; hogs, 6,330.

Cattle prices are just about steady with last week and not enough choice cattle coming in to supply the local demands. Calves found a steady market at 7 cents to 9 cents. Very few sheep and lambs are coming forward. They are selling at from 12 cents to 15 1/2 cents. The hog market was strong all week closing at \$18.25.

CALGARY
 Calgary, Feb. 9.—The United Grain Growers Ltd. reports this week's Alberta stockyards receipts as: Horses, 659; cattle, 1,812; hogs, 3,474; and sheep, 68. The corresponding week a year ago was: Horses, 291; cattle, 823; hogs, 3,555; and sheep, 343.

The cattle market held pretty steady this week with top steers selling 15 to 25 cents lower, but good fat cows and heifers were fully 25 cents higher. Fairly good heavy killing steers were sold at \$10 to \$10.35, with some lighter steers 950 to 1050 lbs. at \$9.50 to \$10. Fat cows and heifers are in good demand and all the buyers are open to buy. Choice fat heifers and cows realized \$9.25 to \$9.75, with medium \$8.50 to \$9.25 and common killing cows \$8 to \$8.50. Cutters and canners \$4.50 to \$6.50. Bull sales were slightly lower and it took extra choice ones to bring 8 cents, the bulk selling \$7 to \$7.75. No oxen were offered, but they would probably sell at \$9 for tops. There was a brisk demand for stocker steers and a number of 900 lb. steers sold at \$9, while good yearlings would bring around \$8.75. Calves are selling readily from \$38 to \$42, with a few extra choice ones selling somewhat higher. Stock cows were pretty well all picked up at prices ranging from \$55 to \$75.

The cattle market picked up somewhat before the end of the week, but owing to an embargo which it is understood the government is placing on outgoing shipments there is a possibility of at least a temporary lowering in price. Top price on cattle a year ago \$9.

The milder weather resulted in a heavy run of hogs and the receipts at Calgary was the largest received for some time. Early week hogs sold at \$18.65, with Thursday's hogs taking a jump to \$19. The expected slump, however, occurred on Friday and with no competitive bidding commission men were forced to sell at \$18.50. Top price for hogs a year ago \$13.75.

The receipts of sheep were very light and no fat sheep were offered for sale. Quotations were, fat lambs, \$15 to \$16; fat wethers, \$14 to \$15; and fat ewes, \$12.50 to \$13. A limited quantity would find a ready market.

The increasing business of the country creamery at Cardston, Alberta, necessitating its expansion, a new site has been secured, and the work on the erection of new buildings is to be commenced as soon as possible. It is planned to spend \$25,000 on the new creamery.

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Cash Grain	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
2 white oats	\$0 84 1/2	\$0 84 - 80 85
Barley	1 44 - 1 50	1 55 - 1 82
Flax, No. 1	3 27	3 18 1/2 - 3 27

A VALUABLE CAR OF FLAX

Large returns from single cars of flax are becoming a matter of frequent occurrence in Western Canada, partly to the high prices being obtained for the grain and partly to the care that is now given to loading a car to capacity. A car of flax arriving at Winnipeg, Manitoba, a short time ago, netted its owner \$1,001.84. For a car of wheat containing 2,365 bushels of wheat, the sender received a check for \$4,184. Three other cars of wheat recently sent to Winnipeg netted their senders \$4,571.02, \$4,458.10 and \$4,122.55, respectively.

SASKATCHEWAN'S CREAMERY BUTTER

The total output of butter from the creameries of Saskatchewan in 1917 amounted to 4,240,000 pounds. During the year market conditions were very favorable and good prices were obtained. In the past most of the surplus butter manufactured by the Saskatchewan creameries has found a sale on the Vancouver market, but last year several carloads were sent to Montreal, and one to Toronto. An idea of the uniformly high quality of Saskatchewan creamery butter may be gathered from the fact that in the butter competition held in connection with the convention of the Dairymen's Associations of that province there was only 1.75 points difference between the highest and lowest samples, the highest securing 94.83 and the lowest 93.08 points.

An egg circle organized at Blackie, Alberta, last spring has had a most successful initial year. During the past few weeks the value of poultry products shipped has averaged \$200 weekly, while the total value of business transacted during the past season is approximately \$7,000.

During the year 1917, two hundred cars of creamery butter were exported from Alberta. This province was the first in Western Canada to grade its butter and cream.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS
 Belgian Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$12,136 87
W. J. Inglis, Roblin, Man.	25 00
S. Richmond, Leroux, Sask.	10 00
H. F. Prockter, Fenwood, Sask.	10 00
Total	\$12,181 87

Y.M.C.A. Military Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$683 05
Proceeds of Collection taken at Blarrie and Isabella G.O.A. Meeting, Isabella, Man.	15 75
St. Saviours Orphan, Minnedosa, Man.	30 00
H. F. Prockter, Fenwood, Sask.	5 00
Total	\$733 80

Nerbian Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$407 00
H. F. Prockter, Fenwood, Sask.	5 00
Total	\$412 00

Halifax Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$106 00
H. F. Prockter, Fenwood, Sask.	5 00
Total	\$111 00

Blue Cross Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$72 05
Wallace W. Black, Gull Lake, Sask.	25
Allan M. Diehl, Calcutta, Alta.	25
Helen Turcotte, Den	