

The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, April 15, 1918.)

Data—On Monday last the market advanced sharply from the break which had occurred during the latter part of the previous week. Exporters and shippers were buyers of futures and shorts rushed for cover. There was also a steady demand for cash oats. These conditions continued during the first half of the week, but it was apparent that the buying which had developed on the break was not maintained on the advance. Toward the end of the week American markets reported poor demand for cash corn and oats, with exporters offering to re-sell medium holdings. Prices declined and Winnipeg May future showed a loss of half a cent from the previous week.

Barley markets have been quiet and fluctuations have been narrow. Movement has been heavy and with limited demand, prices have moved off on all grades.

Flax markets have been dull and prices have worked slightly lower. Crushers are reported to be holding off rather than pay the present high price. Minneapolis reports the arrival of small lots of Argentine flax and it is stated that this seed has been in transit for more than three months. Heavier arrivals from this source are expected.

Date	9	10	11	12	13	15	ago	ago
May 94	95	94 1/2	94	92 1/2	93 1/2	94 1/2	70	
July 91	91 1/2	91 1/2	90 1/2	89 1/2	90	91 1/2	68 1/2	

INTERIOR TERMINAL ELEVATOR STOCKS
Movement of grain in interior terminal elevators for the week ending Wednesday, April 10, was as follows:—

Grain	Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Wheat	144,288	53,788	547,305	93,935	99,353	1,151,009								
Oats	1,728	22,774	22,774	7,112	11,305									

THE CASH TRADE
Minneapolis, April 15

CORN—Limited demand at 3 to 5c lower. Bids were then 5 to 10c down. No. 5 yellow closed at \$1.35 to \$1.45.

OATS—Slow and 1/4 to 1c lower premium. At the close the price basis was 2 1/4 to 3 1/4c over May. No. 3 white closed at 86 1/4 to 87 1/4c. No. 4 white at 84 to 87c.

RYE—Slow demand. The market was \$2.65 all morning, but closed 1/2c higher. No. 2 rye closed at \$2.64 to \$2.66.

BARLEY—Fair demand, mostly unchanged. Price closed at \$1.50 to \$1.57.

FLAX—Stronger at 1 to 2c over May. No. 1 seed closed at \$4.09 1/2 to \$4.11 1/2 on spot and to arrive.

BIG WINTER WHEAT CROP INDICATED

According to the government report on the condition of winter wheat in the United States on April 1, a crop of 560,000,000 bushels is indicated.

This total has been exceeded only twice, namely, in 1914 and 1915. Yet there is a chance that the crop may be greater than indicated by the April 1 condition. At any rate, there is a precedent for the hope. In 1914 the April 1 condition indicated a crop of 551,000,000 bushels, but conditions improved and 584,000,000 was harvested. Again in 1915, the April 1 condition indicated 519,000,000, yet 673,000,000 was harvested. Last year's winter wheat crop was small, only 418,000,000 bushels.

The April 1 condition of winter rye is given at 85.8, indicating a crop of 86,000,000 bushels, which will be a record yield, and 26,000,000 greater than in 1917, and 38,000,000 larger than in 1916.

FIXED WHEAT PRICES

	1"	2"	3"	4"	5"	6"	7 1/2"	8 1/2"	9 1/2"
Fixed	221	218	218	208	196	187	215	213	207
Year ago	229 1/2	224 1/2	219 1/2	209 1/2	190 1/2	158 1/2			

Cash Prices Fort William and Port Arthur, April 9 to April 15, inclusive

Date	Feed Wheat	OATS				BARLEY				Feed	FLAX		
		2CW	3CW	Ex 1 Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	3 CW	4 CW	Rel.		1 NW	2 CW	3 CW
Apr. 9	177	95 1/2	91 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	85 1/2	165	160	145	140	385	380	361
10	177	95 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	89 1/2	86 1/2	166	161	145	140	388	379 1/2	360
11	77	94	92	91 1/2	89 1/2	85 1/2	165	161	145	140	388	382 1/2	361
12	177	95 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	89 1/2	85 1/2	167	162	145	140	386	381 1/2	361
13	177	96	90 1/2	90 1/2	89 1/2	85 1/2	162	157	137	132	38 1/2	380	360 1/2
15	177	94 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	84 1/2	162	137	385 1/2	381 1/2	361
Week ago	178	96 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	89 1/2	85 1/2	165	160	145	140	388	382 1/2	363 1/2
Year ago	110 1/2	71 1/2	70 1/2	70 1/2	68	68 1/2	117 1/2	100	95	95	299	295	282

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg		Toronto		Calgary		Chicago		St. Paul	
	Apr. 15	Year ago	Apr. 12	Apr. 13	Apr. 13	Apr. 11	Apr. 11	Apr. 12	Apr. 12	
Cattle										
Choice steers	11.00-12.00	10.50-11.00	12.50-13.00	11.85-12.50	13.75-15.85	13.00-15.50				
Best butcher steers	9.00-11.00	9.75-10.25	11.00-12.00	11.00-11.75	11.50-13.75	10.00-13.00				
Fair to good butcher steers	7.75-9.00	8.50-9.50	9.00-10.00	9.25-10.00	9.50-10.25	7.00-9.50				
Good to choice fat cows	9.50-10.50	7.50-8.50	8.00-10.00	9.25-10.00	11.00-12.75	8.00-10.00				
Medium to good cows	9.00-9.50	6.00-7.00	7.00-7.50	8.00-9.00	9.75-11.00	6.00-8.50				
Common cows	7.50-9.00	4.00-5.50	4.75-7.50	7.00-8.00	7.00-7.40	7.25-8.00				
Canners	4.00-6.50	3.75-4.25	5.50-6.50	4.00-6.00	6.25-7.00	6.50-7.75				
Good to choice heifers	10.00-11.00	9.00-10.00	10.50-12.00	8.50-10.80	11.50-13.25	8.00-10.00				
Fair to good heifers	8.50-9.50	8.00-9.00	9.00-10.00	6.00-8.50	8.75-11.00	6.50-8.00				
Best open	8.00-9.50	7.00-8.50	7.50-7.50	7.50-7.50						
Best butcher bulls	8.00-8.50	7.00-8.00	9.00-10.50	7.50-9.00	10.50-11.75	8.00-9.50				
Common to bologna bulls	6.50-7.75	6.50-8.50	7.00-8.00	6.50-7.50	7.50-10.00	7.50-8.00				
Fair to good feeder steers	9.50-10.25	6.50-7.75	9.50-10.75	8.75-10.75	10.25-12.25	8.00-11.00				
Fair to good stocker steers	8.00-9.25	6.50-7.50	8.00-9.50	8.00-9.25	9.00-10.25	7.50-10.00				
Best milkers and springers (each)	\$75-\$100	\$75-\$100	\$100-\$125	\$75-\$80						
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$60-\$70	\$50-\$55	\$65-\$80	\$65-\$75						
Hogs										
Choice hogs, fed and watered	19.50	15.50	21.00	21.00	17.50-17.45	16.90-17.10				
Light hogs	18.00	12.00-13.00			16.00-17.75					
Heavy hogs	17.00	10.00-11.00								
Stags	11.00-14.00	6.00-7.50			16.75-17.40					
Sheep and Lambs										
Choice lambs	16.00-18.00	11.75-12.25	19.50-20.70	16.00-16.80	14.00-20.75	15.00-17.25				
Best killing sheep	9.00-14.00	8.50-9.25	11.50-14.50	13.50-16.00	15.50-17.50	7.00-13.50				

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

Choice	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
Cash Grain		
3 white oats	\$0.90 1/2	\$0.86 1/2 - \$0.87 1/2
Barley	1.32-1.32	1.30 - 1.37
Flax, No. 1	3.85 1/2	4.00 1/2 - 4.11 1/2

We quote this class of stuff at \$10 to \$10.50 and the best cows \$9.25 to \$10.00; medium cows \$8.00 to \$8.50 and common killing cows a dollar lower with canners and cutlets from \$4.00 to \$5.00. With the advantage on the market of a number of cow bill buyers the trade in stocker cows was much keener than for some weeks past and a considerable number of cows and heifers changed at from \$65 to \$80. The bulk of the stocker steers were cleaned up from \$10 to \$10.75 being paid in a few instances for some short keep feeders. Most of the lighter cattle selling from \$40 to \$50 and good yearling calves 180 to 250 pounds, from 10 cents to 11 cents.

The favorable weather that the farmers have experienced this week had an effect on the hog receipts and the run was light. Our early week's hogs, including Thursday's receipts sold at \$20.85. Friday's run was somewhat heavier and we obtained an advance to \$21 on all our hogs.

We quote choice fat lambs 16 to \$16.50; fat wethers \$15 to \$16; and fat ewes \$13 to \$14.

There were very few choice killing cattle on sale this week and any offering showing quality and condition found a ready sale at good prices. The best killing steers are those weighing from 1,200 to 1,300 pounds.

The prospects for the choice grain fed cattle are good and we anticipate a strengthening market shortly as this class of stuff is getting scarce. The most of the butcher cattle being offered show lack of finish and this has a tendency to hold prices down as the buyers would rather pay the high prices for the good stuff. The farmers are fully appreciating the advantage of co-operative marketing as is evidenced by the number of shipments we received during the past few weeks.

TORONTO

Toronto, April 15.—With about 3,000 cattle on sale on Monday and a good demand, we had a very active market. Any good butcher cattle weighing from 1,100 lbs. and upwards were selling at a strong quarter higher than they were during the previous week. The light weight butcher cattle were a little slow of sale. The butcher cow trade was very good, the better class selling a little higher. There was a good demand for butcher bulls.

For milch cows and springers, the better class of cows met a ready sale at steady prices. Ordinary cows were a little slow of sale. We have had a good inquiry all this week for broody stockers and leasers for grazing purposes, and for thin young cows for the grass. The indications are that any steers with weight and quality are going to sell considerably higher from now on. We feel very bullish about this class of cattle. We do not look for much improvement for common butchers, that is light weight half finished cattle.

In the small stuff department there has been a very heavy run of calves this week, and all classes were off at the close at from \$1 to \$2 per cwt., especially the common grades. There is a strong demand for heavy stock sheep, and for good yearlings.

The hog market showed a tendency to go lower this week. Today they are bidding \$20.25 fed and watered, and \$20.50 weighed off ears.

PRICES FELL AT MINNEAPOLIS

Minneapolis, April 15.—Realization that the crucial period of the war is at hand, that a matter of a few hours may, and probably will, decide the fate of the warring nations, that the British "sitting with their backs to the wall" are literally standing between Germany and the United States, had a depressing effect on all markets, grain, stock and cotton. Excepting when the big drive began, three weeks ago, at no time since 1914 has the war been so close to Minneapolis as it was today, as reflected in the serious attitude of the members of the grain exchange.

News of Herds and Flocks

ANOTHER McCREGOG IMPORTATION

At the Omaha sale on April 3, held under the auspices of the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association, J. D. McGregor bought for export to Canada 21 head of registered bulls. These bulls were pronounced by Secretary Gray of the American association the best bunch of Aberdeen-Angus bulls ever exported. Many of them are 18 months to two years of age, and all are ready for farm or ranch service. They are the pick of 82 head sold at Omaha, and those 82 head in turn are the pick of Iowa and Nebraska herds. The breeding of some of these young bulls, says Secretary Gray, "cannot be improved upon. But for the fact that they came from the herds of small breeders who have not as yet progressed far enough to hold their own sales, they would class as \$1,000 bulls and higher."

Erris 2nd is a Chieftan Trojan-Erica, 18 months old, and carries such Blackbird blood. Homewood Prith 5th is a Pride of Aberdeen, 19 months old, and carries both Blackbird and Blackcap blood.

Homewood Adam 3rd, a Balwylie is about 15 months old.

King of Homewood 5th is a Rothiemay Queen of about the same age.

All four are from the herd of R. J. Hadley, Grinnell, Iowa.

Beal of Mount Vernon is a Blackbird

nearly two years of age, and is a superbly bred one, carrying Blackbird blood on both sides, as well as descending from such great show bulls as G. V. Batters' Glendale Thelaxal 2nd, Black Woodlam, Heather Lad of Emerson 2nd, and others. The herd of Oliver Hammers, Malvern, Iowa, produced him.

King Beal and King Beal 2nd are two others from this herd, both Queen Mothers and within a day of the same age, which lacks but a month of two years. The breeding on these three from the Hammers' herd cannot be equalled in America by any but the highest priced show herd bulls.

Wrightley, a Heather Bloom aged 18 months, was bought from the herd of W. A. Moffa, Mechanicsville, Iowa.

Two Thornburg, Iowa, herds furnished seven head of high-class bulls, Pine Hill Ness and Pine Hill Triumph being a Pride of Aberdeen and a Queen Mother, respectively, from the herd of W. C. Hickey.

Blackbird Captain and Pine Park Bertram, two Blackbirds, Pine Park F. 7th, a Pride of Aberdeen, and Pine Park K.P. 2nd, a K. Pride of Aberdeen, all came from the herd of J. D. Wardrip.

The herd of C. L. Reasner, Keosauqua, Iowa, furnished Paul Elgin, a Pride of Aberdeen.

Five great young bulls from the herd of J. S. Athan, Hamburg, Iowa. These are all over 18 months of age.

Homewood Cub, a Delta from the herd of R. J. Hadley, Grinnell, Iowa, completed the bull purchase at this sale.

Kenneth McGregor has also just completed a deal to bring in immediately 50 more head from the United States. Twenty-seven head of cows and heifers were purchased from the University of Ohio Experiment Station at Wooster. These animals were all bred by the station, which has contributed many show steers to the International Exposition at Chicago. Right head have calves at foot, and the others are due to calve within the next six weeks. They are in fine breeding condition. The S. Melvin herd, Grandfield, Illinois, has contributed 18 head of heifers and cows that are bred "in the purple." In the Melvin bunch are many Blackbirds, Queen Mothers, Prides and Ericas and other leading families. Mr. Melvin is one of the oldest and most reliable breeders of the Middle Western States, though he has never shown a herd. He has been breeding Aberdeen-Angus for the past quarter of a century.

A SENSATIONAL AUCTION SALE

The auction sale at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, on March 28, of the Hill-Crest herd of Holsteins, owned by G. A. Brubaker of Norway, and by drafts from the herds of A. C. Hardy and J. W. Stewart of Brockville and Lyn respectively, was easily the most sensational sale of dairy cattle ever held in Canada. Over 50 head, including in the number many young things, even calves a few days old being sold separately, made an average of approximately \$750. That high-class Holsteins are in brick demand was shown by the sale of the young cow Hill-Crest King Pentice Ranover for \$4,450, of Hill-Crest May Echo Countess for \$3,000, the heifer calf, Hill-Crest Echo Sylvia Ranover for \$2,900, and a goodly number of other cows for \$1,000 to \$1,500 each. A tribute to the quality of the stuff offered may be found in the fact that the heaviest buyer was John A. Bell, Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pa., a new breeder who is expending a small fortune on the foundation of a herd which is expected to be the most select in breeding and performance of any in the world.

ANGUS PRICES IN SCOTLAND

At the great Perth sale, February 5-6, Aberdeen-Angus cattle established some great records for the breed. J. Ernest Kerr, of Dallas, topped the sale at \$7,350 for a bull calf born in March, 1917. This bull, Eileenach of Haverston, not only won in his class at the show which preceded the sale, but carried off all the champion prizes. He is one of the Eilan line of Ericas, being by Jason of Ballindalloch, the champion of the Perth sales of 1916, and out of Everilda of Haverston by Prince of the Wansell, also bred at Ballindalloch. His buyer was Charles Penny, Skillymarno, Aberdeenshire.

The second best price at the sale was for the reserve champion Erurian of Bleanon, owned by J. M. Marshall, of Bleanon, Blairgowrie. This bull went to Worcester-shire at \$3,150. J. Ernest Kerr had the remarkable average of \$3,343 for the three bulls sold by him, thus having the highest average as well as the top price for at least two years in succession. The next best herd average was \$1,487 for three from Kinarmony. The Ballindalloch average for seven was \$1,336. Eight from Bleanon averaged \$943, three from Lord Allendale's herd at Bywell \$617, five from Lord Rosebery at Dalmeny \$545, and four from Sir J. R. Findlay of Aberour \$543. The 573 bulls cashed averaged \$326, as against \$321 each for 295 last year.

The females sold fairly well, the best price being \$1,312 for a two-year-old heifer. Forty heifers of this age averaged \$390. Sixty-six yearlings averaged \$270 with a highest price of \$1,155. Sixteen cows averaged \$232, with a best figure of \$514. The overhead average for 445 cattle sold was \$321, as against \$299 for 415 in 1917.

A. E. Wilson, Dominion Seed Commissioner, in an interview in Regina said that "sufficient oats are available to the Dominion Seed Purchasing Commission to provide seed for all sections of the Dominion."

e, we may expect a summer of the deeper has been in progress three weeks. The test war has really come present struggle, and at only superior reversers of men and in ery will prevent the lizing their desire and

portant department of ies, judging from the strict advantage over hat is in the air. In on Friday, sixty-two were brought down ve British machines commission. Great to the attacking Ger-large number of low-men who swept with ne gun fire, roadways an soldiery advancing ish lines.

es on, the strategy of which has been pus-its application during t, will be fully appre- Allied commander-in-

tion of Germany's dited to allow the enemy re a greater number of e more quickly he can e more, temporarily, he Such a system obv-acks, as it can only r a limited time. It is f Germany's determina-war in this battle, and so.

on of the British army here is, therefore, satisg that so far the de- own army has pro- piddly, though the situa-ous. To date, the Briten attacked by greater his inequality is being y by reinforcements.

ent of General Foch by r council at Versailles, chief of the Allied armies front, has been greeted American and Canadian ith great satisfaction. the strategy of all the n the western front, and pected to reveal much lion between the various has been possible in the

BORGE'S STROKE

David Lloyd George, of Great Britain, made, died in the United King- stroke of his career by a Rule for Ireland with n of Irishmen in present- ish House of Commons er Bill, which embodies nt's scheme for securing the armies in France. proposes to call out mes s, transport services, civil ncelling a number of ex- raising the military age years.

rst sentence on Ireland, was assailed with what respondent describes as tile comment from the

ationalist leader, John Dill- more typical of the fiery resister than his courtly he late John Redmond, de- scription for Ireland heart- there any signs of sup- Ulster faction. The Irish t under the chairmanship d Carson and resolved to cri