COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

Dispatches from branch offices of R. G. Dun and Co. in leading cities of the Dominion of Canada note a tendency toward improvement in almost all directons, although in some sections distribution of merchandise has been held up by extremely cold weather. Montreal reports that business in some lines has been affected by the weather, but, on the whole, the outlook is favorable. Wholesalers note a brisk demand for dry goods and millinery, leather is moving more freely, and there is quite a fair demand for groceries, hardware and agricultural implements. Traveling salesmen make encouraging reports and spring business is expected to be active. All branches of trade at Quebec now show considerable improvement, wholesalers receiving a satisfactory volume of orders and retail distribution being fully up to normal. Favorable conditions prevail in most lines at Toronto, good orders for spring and immediate delivery being received by wholesalers of dry goods, clothing, footwear, groceries, hardware, furniture and other staples, while retail demand is stimulated by the fact that the factories and foundries are working to capacity, and labor is fully employed at unusually high wages. Business in some sections of the Far West and Northwest has been restricted by extremely low temperatures, but there is no lack of confidence as regards the future and a large spring trade is anticipated. Winnipeg reports generally satisfactory conditions, sales in many lines beng well above the average, wth prospects excellent, especially in the leading staples, such as dry goods, furnishings, footwear, clothing, provisions, hardware, implements, etc. Cold weather has affected some lines at Calgary, but this falling off is more than offset by increased sales of furs, heavy clothing and footwear and other winter goods, while confidence in the future is unimpaired. Low temperature have retarded general trade considerably of late at Saskatoon, but this is regarded as only temporary and sentiment among merchants is much more optimistic as regards spring trade than at this time a year ago. Business has not been very active at Regina for the past week, but the outlook is considered encouraging and merchants are busy with preparations for the new season. Business in some lines at Vancouver it quiet owing to adverse climatic conditions, but aside from that, the merchants report the general situation fairly satisfactory.

Gross earnings of all Canadian railroads reporting for January show an increase of 36.9 per cent. as compared with the corresponding month a year ago. Commercial failures in the Dominion of Canada this week numbered 58, as against 50 last week and 64 the same week last year.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER: There has been an active demand during the week from the local and outside jobbing trade, and the market has held firm. Jobbers' stocks are small. Receipts continue larger than last year. Some good business in undergrade creamery was reported, while the demand for finer grades was maintained.

CHEESE: The market is quiet. Local stocks are low and little export business is reported for the week. English advices state that the market there rules firm, with Canadian cheese selling around 99s. to 100s. per cwt.

Current quotations follow:—

	Montreal.		Toronto.	
Butter—				
Choicest Creamery..	0.34	0.34½	0.33	0.36
Fine Creamery ..	0.33	4.33½	0.32	9.34
Seconds	0.31½	4.32	.....	.....
Dairy Prints, best	.....	0.28	0.27	0.30
Cooking	.....	0.23	0.23	0.25
Cheese—				
Finest Colored ...	0.18½	0.18¾	.....	.....
Finest Eastern, white	0.18	0.18¼	.....	.....
Finest easterns ..	0.17½	0.17¾	.....	.....
Large	.....	.....	0.18½	0.19
Twins	.....	0.20	0.18¾	0.19¼

GRAIN ON WESTERN FARMS.

A dispatch from Webb, Sask., says, "There are now thousands of bushels of grain piled up in bins, barns, coal sheds and in piles on the prairies. It is safe to say that there is at least 100,000 bushels of wheat in that condition in every small town in this district, which means a territory of nearly 150 miles square. I am not sure as to what effect the snow will have on the open bins and piles. The elevator agents say they will not take it as they can get more grain than they can handle without it."

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

EGGS: Dealers report that the Canadian cold storage eggs are practically finished, and all in use in the trade now come from the United States. Storage and new laid egg receipts are fairly large, but the brisk demand has not allowed of any accumulation as yet. Dealers are receiving 30 cents for strictly new laids, and expect that this price will continue steady for some time at least. Reports state that the Chicago market has been weak during the last few days. Storage eggs are being offered at 15c, and new laids at 22c.

POULTRY: Reports from poultry dealers are that the demand for this commodity continues firm, that owing to short supplies and very small receipts, prices are high. Most of the trade consists of cold storage stocks for the time being.

Maple products are quiet and stocks low. Honey is in good demand, with a shortage of clover grades reported. The market for potatoes continues active, with prices fully maintained.

	Montreal.		Toronto.	
Eggs—				
Fresh gathered, specials	0.35	0.38	0.33	0.35
Storage, Extras ..	0.30	0.31	0.31	0.32
Do., No. 1's	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.29
Do., No. 2's	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.26
Cracks and Dirts, No. 1's	0.00	0.23	.....	.....
Maple Syrup and Sugar—				
Pure Maple Syrup, 8 lb. tins	0.95	0.97½	.....	.....
Do., 10 lb. tins ..	1.10	1.12½	.....	.....
Do., 13 lb. tins ..	1.40	1.50	.....	.....
Pure Maple Sugar, lb.	0.12½	0.13	0.13	0.15

Honey:—		
White clover, in comb.	15c to	16c
Brown clover, in comb	12½c to	13½c
White extracted	12c to	12½c

Beans—				
3-lb. pickers, carlots, bus.	4.00	4.15	.....	.....
3 lb. pickers, do...	3.90	4.00	.....	.....
Undergrades, bus..	3.60	3.70	.....	.....
Potatoes:—				
Green Mountains, per bag, car lots.	1.85	1.90	.....	.....
Quebecs, do., ...	1.85	1.90	.....	.....

Job lots 10c. more.

Poultry:		Montreal.
Frozen stock—		
Turkeys	0.27	0.28
Fowl, large	0.18	0.19
Fowl, small	0.14	0.16
Ducks	....	0.20
Geese	0.16	0.17
Roasting chicken, milkfed, 4 lbs. or over	0.24	0.26
Roasting chicken, ordinary	0.18	0.22
Spring broilers, dressed, pair	0'75	1.00
Squabs, Canadian, pair	....	0.40
Squabs, Philadelphia, pair	....	0.70
Pigeons, pair	0.25	0.30
Live stock—		
Fowl, 5 lbs. and over	0.20	0.23
Fowl, small	0.18	0.19
Turkeys	0.19	0.20
Ducks	0.22	0.25
Geese	0.16	0.18
Chicken	0.15	0.18
Honey:—		
Buckwheat, tins	....	0.07
Strained clover, 60-lb. tins..	....	0.10½
Strained clover, in 10-lb. tins	....	0.11
Strained clover, in 5-lb. tins ..	....	0.11½
Comb honey, No. 1, doz.	....	3.00
Comb honey, No. 2, doz.	....	2.40
Peas:—		
Guaranteed boilers, per 60 lb. bu.	3.00	3.25
Ordinary, per bushel	.....	2.25

LIVE STOCK.

Last week's sales showed continued strength in the local situation. The offerings were increased and at the Monday salesp rices were very firm at $7.75 per 100 lbs. in car lots for choice butcher steers, while in a few individual cases sales were made of particularly good stock at from $7.90 and $8.12½ per cwt. On Wednesday prices in most cases remained firm, although a larger quantity of inferior stock was offered than usual, and on these prices were 25c per 100 lbs. lower. The supply of canning cattle was small owing to the limited demand from packers. Prices of butcher cows and butcher bulls, at the Wednesday sales, show an advance of 50c per 100 lbs., as compared with the previous weeks' prices, due to a betetr demand. In other lines of butcher cattle prices were steady.

There is no change to note in the price of sheep and lambs from last week. The demand continues fair and trade is on the usual scale for this season of the year.

Calves are arriving in satisfactory volume, and prices are unchanged from last week's, being firmly maintained. The improvement in the weather should stimulate the trade generally, and it is expected that the market will show a better tone all round in a short time.

The market for hogs shows a good deal of activity, and prices are 25c up over last week's, choice stock selling for $10.75 per cwt. in carload lots, and in a few odd cases as high as $10.85 was paid for choicest stock. The larger receipts in this line this week are being disposed of at these high prices, and considerable activity is apparent just now.

Local quotations are as follows:

	Per cwt.	
Butcher steers, very choice	$7.90 to	$8.12½
Do., choice	7.00 to	7.50
Do., good	6.50 to	7.00
Do., fair	6.00 to	6.50
Do., medium	5.75 to	6.00
Do., rough	....	5.50
Butcher bulls, best	6.00 to	6.50
Do., medium	5.50 to	6.00
Canning bulls	4.25 to	5.50
Butcher cows, very choice	6.75 to	7.25
Do., choice		6.50
Do., good		6.00
Do., fair		5.50
Do., poor to medium	4.50 to	5.25
Do., canners	3.25 to	4.00
Millers, each	60.00 to	80.00
Lambs, Western	10.25 to	10.50
Lambs, Quebec	9.75 to	10.00
Hogs, selects	10.25 to	10.75
Do., mixed lots	9.50 to	10.15
Do., common		9.25
Do., sows	7.75 to	8.00
Calves, good veals	9.50 to	10.00
Do., milk fed	8.00 to	9.50
Do., grass fed	4.50 to	5.50

Current Toronto quotations as reported from the Wednesday sales, are as follows:

Heavy choice steers	$7.75 to	$ 8.25
Handy choice steers	7.60 to	7.75
Butchers', good	7.10 to	7.60
Do., medium	6.60 to	7.10
Do., common	5.75 to	6.60
Heifers, choice	7.30 to	7.70
Do., good	6.85 to	7.25
Do., medium	6.00 to	6.75
Butchers' cows, choice	6.25 to	6.85
Do., good	5.75 to	6.25
Do., medium	5.25 to	5.75
Butcher bulls, choice	6.25 to	7.00
Do., medium	5.75 to	6.25
Do., bologna	4.00 to	4.75
Feeders, 900 to 1,100 lbs.	6.00 to	6.85
Do., bulls	5.00 to	5.25
Stockers, choice, 750 to 900 lbs.	6.00 to	6.50
Do., medium, 650 to 760 lbs. ..	5.50 to	6.00
Do., light	4.75 to	5.50
Cutters	4.00 to	4.75
Canners	3.25 to	4.00
Milkers, choice, each	80.00 to	100.00
Do., medium	55.00 to	80.00
Springers	60.00 to	100.00
Calves, veal, good	9.00 to	11.00
Do., medium	6.00 to	9.00
Do., common	5.25 to	6.00
Do., grass	4.75 to	5.50
Spring lambs, cwt.	10.50 to	12.50
Cull lambs	8.00 to	8.50
Yearling sheep	9.00 to	9.50
Sheep, ewes, light	7.50 to	8.75
Do., heavy and bucks	6.00 to	7.50
Do., culls	3.00 to	4.50
Hogs, fed and watered	10.25 to	0.00
Do., light and heavy	9.75 to	9.00
Do., fo..b., country points ..	10.50 to	10.60

MONTREAL DAIRY RECEIPTS.

The receipts of butter and cheese in Montreal during the week ending February 12, 1916, with comparisons, were as fololws:

	Butter, pkgs.	Cheese, boxes.
Week ending Feb. 12, 1916	593	771
Week ending Feb. 5, 1916	745	1,472
Week ending Feb. 13, 1915	2,097	261
Total receipts May 1, 1915, to date	396,405	1,994,939
Total receipts corr. period last year	382,772	1,529,772