

FLOUR, CEREALS AND MILLFEED.

The strength exhibited by the local flour market a week ago when prices advanced to \$5.95 per 98 lb. bag for first patents exhausted itself a few days later and prices fell back to former levels. Spring wheat flour was in good demand and business is brisk, due to small supplies in consumers' hands; moreover since wheat from the west is moving more rapidly, mills are running to full capacity. One of the features of the market was the sale of 200 sacks of spring wheat flour of the regulation grade made for March shipment to Leith at an advance of 4s per sack as compared with the price paid for the last sale on February 24th. Millers have also succeeded during the week in having steamship agents reinstate contracts for flour space for March shipment.

Conditions in feeds are unchanged. Supplies are still small and demand remains keen. Dealers do not look for any change for the next two months. Oatmeal is being purchased in large quantities by the government and prices are steady.

Prices follow:

Flour:	per 98-lb. bag.
First patents	4.90
Second patents	4.65
Strong Bakers	4.55
Feed Flour	2.85
Winter wheat flour, 90 per cent	4.10 4.25
Cereals:	per 98-lb. bag.
Rolled Oats, 90 lb. bag	3.35 3.45
Oatmeal, 98-lb. bag	3.80
Rolled wheat 100-lb. bbl.	3.60
Bag	4.95
Rye flour, 98-lb. bag	3.75 4.00
Feeds:	per ton.
Bran	36.00
Short	39.00 40.00
Middlings	41.00 42.00
Moultie, pure grain grades	48.00 50.00
Do., mixed	45.00
Barley feed	46.00
Crushed Oats	46.00
Outfeed	46.00
Hay, No. 2	13.00

An extra charge of 30c is made for flour in barrels.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

The local grain market scored a general advance over last week's prices, wheat being up from 1c to 3c, and oats about the same. Ontario oats dropped 1 1/2c and barley feed is down 1.04. Export trade remains at a standstill. There is a good demand for oats, mostly No. 2 C. W., but the railway situation keeps down the movement of supplies. One prominent dealer made the statement that the railways were now seeking some other pretext than cold weather and snow to explain the slowness in getting traffic regulated. The United States are no better off than we are here and have the same difficulty in exporting and securing supplies. Dealers do not look for any relief even after the opening of navigation.

The cash grain situation is as follows:

Grains:	per bushel.
Spring Wheat Manitoba No. 1	2.03
Do., No. 2	2.01
Do., No. 3	1.95
Do., No. 4	1.84
Winter Wheat Ontario, No. 2	1.73 1.80
Oats:	per bushel.
No. 2 C. W.	0.77
Do., No. 3 C. W.	0.76
Do., Extra No. 1 feed	0.76
Do., No. 1 feed	0.74 0.74 1/2
Do., No. 2 feed	0.73
Ontario Oats, No. 2, white	0.71 1/2 0.72
Do., No. 3	0.72
Barley, No. 3 C. W., Ref.	1.20
Do., feed	1.04
Corn, American, ex-track	1.30 1.35

WINNIPEG GRAIN INSPECTIONS.

The receipts of grain in Winnipeg for the week ending March 16th were as follows:

No. 1 northern	86
No. 2 northern	325
No. 3 northern	308
No. 4 northern	141
No. 5 northern	72
No. 6 northern	49
Feed wheat	69
Rejected	29
No grade	1,314
No. 4 special	38
No. 5 special	57
No. 6 special	23
Winter wheat	1
Totals	2,522
Same date last year	3,597
Oats	1,014
Same date last year	972
Barley	91
Same date last year	98
Flax	136
Same date last year	111

FISH MARKETS.

The market has gone through quite a change the past two weeks. After a very brisk period it has turned out to be very dull and oppressed. Two causes are responsible for this, first, the fear of a fish famine; second, the sudden change of the weather conditions.

All lines in the frozen fish are easier. In some cases prices are nominal. In packed and salt fish the market is well cleaned out with the exception of a few barrels of codfish, Labrador herring and Labrador salmon. Fresh and smoked fish are also quiet with prices rather easier. Bulk and shell oysters are also without any feature of interest to note.

The following wholesale prices are quoted to-day:

Fresh Fish:	per lb.
Pacific Halibut	0.17 0.19
Steak Cod	0.10 0.11
Market Cod	0.7 1/2 0.08
Haddock	0.09 0.10
Carp	0.12 0.13
Dore	0.15 0.16
Whitefish	0.15 0.16
Lake Trout	0.15 0.16
Pike	0.11 0.12

Fresh Frozen Sea Fish:	per lb.
Halibut	0.15 0.18
Mackerel	0.09 0.10
Salmon, B. C. Red	0.13 0.15
Do., B. C. Pale	0.10 0.11
Salmon, Gaspe	0.17 0.18
Cod, Steak	0.08 1/2 0.09
Haddock, fancy	0.7 1/2 0.08
Smelts, No. 1 and No. 1 large	0.15 0.20
Tommy Cods, bbl.	1.50
Herring	0.06 0.06 1/2
Fresh Frozen Lake Fish:	per lb.
Lake Trout	0.14 0.15
Whitefish	0.14 0.15
Perch	\$0.10 0.11
Dore	0.12 0.13
Pike	0.09 0.10
Eels	0.10
Smoked Fish:	per lb.
Finnan Haddies	0.11 0.12
Finnan Haddies, Finest, Boned	0.13
Finnan Haddie Fillets	0.16 0.17
Digby Herrings, per bundle of 5 boxes	1.00
Smoked Boneless Herring, 10 lb. box	1.40
Kippers, 40s and 50s, per box	1.75 2.00

Salted and Pickled Fish:	per lb.
Herring (Labrador), per bbl.	9.00
Salmon (Labrador), per bbl.	20.00
Salmon (B. C. Red)	16.00
Sea Trout, red and pale, per bbl.	15.00
Green Cod, No. 1, per bbl.	14.00
Mackerel, No. 1, per bbl.	21.00
Salt Eels, per lb.	0.08
Codfish (Skinless), (100-lb. box)	9.50
Codfish (Boneless), Blocks, per lb.	0.10
Codfish, Shredded, 12 lb. box	1.80
Strip Cod, boxes, 30 lb., per lb.	0.15
Shellfish:	per lb.
Lobsters, medium and large, lb.	0.60
Prawns, Imperial gallon	3.00
Shrimps, Imperial gallon	2.50
Scallops	3.00
Oysters, Selected, per gallon	2.00
Oysters, Ordinary, per gallon	1.50
Oysters, Malpeque, Choice, per bbl.	13.00
Oysters, Malpeque, Shell, Ordinary, per bbl.	10.00
Oysters, Cape Cod, Shell, per bbl.	12.00
Clams, medium, per bbl.	12.00

MONTREAL PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Receipts of the principal commodities at Montreal for the past two weeks follow

	—Week ending—	
	March 17.	March 10
Wheat, bushels	349,123	.....
Oats, bushels	120,309	.....
Barley, bushels	23,439	.....
Flour, sacks	49,774	.....
Flax, bushels	10,083	.....
Corn, bushels	4,109	.....
Hay, bales	11,650	.....
Butter, packages	4,002	1,653
Cheese, boxes	4,752	8,395
Eggs, cases	5,792	7,935

UNITED KINGDOM FOOD SUPPLY.

The February journal of the Board of Agriculture, published by the British government, contains an article based on the report of a committee on the food supply of the United Kingdom. The Royal Society appointed the committee in 1916. The food supply before the war is given in a table of the average amounts of food yearly for the five years, 1909-1913. In metric tons (2,205 pounds) of food material (imported plus home produced) the quantities averaged as follows:

Meat	2,685,000
Poultry and eggs, game and rabbits	331,000
Cereals	4,865,000
Dairy produce (including lard and margarine)	5,231,800
Fish	848,400
Fruit	1,271,000
Vegetables	5,482,000
Sugar, including cocoa and chocolate	1,657,000

GRAIN AT HEAD OF LAKES.

Fort William, March 17th, 1917.

Statement of stocks in store in terminal elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur on March 16th, 1917, with receipts and shipments during the week.

Elevator.	Winter Storage,			
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Flax.
C. P. R.	4,575,636	2,169,829	228,587	.....
Empire	879,675	255,125	39,139	256,090
Consolidated	1,051,250	237,178	38,772	179,761
Ogilvies	1,220,389	74,724	35,408	.....
Western	915,811	248,397	35,366	489,373
G. G. G. Co.	1,243,425	729,519	100,454	.....
Fort William	852,241	432,873	28,424	54,890
Eastern	1,070,111	476,601	30,749	.....
G. T. P.	3,236,312	2,202,483	134,161	83,985
Can. Nor.	4,683,075	2,544,525	412,297	165,356
Horn & Co.	271,694	147,103	28,591	141,632
Can. Govt.	2,028,965	632,493	89,029	148,837
Thunder Bay	684,131	348,425	55,251	61,651
Day. & Smith	649,413	257,575	9,783	.....
Total	23,362,133	10,756,857	1,260,019	1,581,578

A Year Ago .. 24,142,569 9,162,964 1,712,993 961,872

Receipts	533,304	199,452	9,690	29,086
Ship.—Rail	287,820	546,180	15,539	26,272

Winter Storage,	Afloat	Winter Storage,	A Year Ago
.....	89,245	101,331	.....
.....	2,447,386	974,311	.....

Stocks by Grade.

Wheat.	Oats.
One Hard	15,007
One Hard	2,001,199 1 C. W. 10,767
Two Nor.	3,950,867 2 C. W. 2,684,190
Three Nor.	4,033,471 3 C. W. 992,174
No. Four	3,129,312 Ex. 1 Fd. 1,862,994
Others	10,232,275 Others 5,206,731
Total	23,362,133 Total 10,756,857

Barley.	Flax.
3 C. W.	214,083
4 C. W.	547,924 1 N. W. C. 1,157,719
Rejected	74,942 2 C. W. 291,222
Feed	290,698 3 C. W. 81,499
Others	138,370 Others 51,136
Total	1,266,019 Total 1,581,578

STOCKS OF GRAIN IN STORE HERE.

The following table shows the stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Mar. 17, 1917.	Mar. 10, 1917.	Mar. 18, 1916.
Wheat, bushels	566,986	662,400	807,394
Oats, bushels	1,554,826	1,630,118	1,293,726
Peas, bushels	1,033	1,033	161
Barley, bushels	87,766	82,150	195,636
Flour, sacks	34,397	28,331	47,236

TRADE RETURNS FOR BRITAIN.

The London (England) Board of Trade figures for February show that imports during the month increased £3,612,000 and that exports increased £952,000. While arrivals of food and raw material increased considerably during the month, the restrictions placed on unnecessary imports are reflected in a decline of importations of manufactured articles.

FRANCE'S WHEAT ESTIMATES.

Victor Boret, president of the agricultural committee of France has produced estimates for the wheat crop of 1917 as follows:

For France a yield of from 180,000,000 to 190,000,000 bushels; requirements, deduction being made for the invaded territory, 317,000,000 bushels, leaving a deficit of 127,000,000 bushels.

FOOD PRICES UP 19 PER CENT.

The United States Bureau of Labour Statistics show an advance of 19 per cent in the prices of retail food during the year ending January 15. This is a greater increase than for the three years previous combined. The leaders in the rise were potatoes with 57 per cent and Onions with 50 per cent. Beans advanced 39 per cent and flour 38. Every staple article of food, with the exception of tea and coffee partook in the upward trend.

The fire losses of the United States and Canada for the month of February aggregated \$29,588,000, compared with \$21,771,000 same month last year.