

DEAD NUMBER THOUSANDS

Statistics Show Appalling Mortality From the Dread Plague

A despatch from Pekin says: The Chinese Government on Wednesday applied to the Missionary Medical Association headquarters at Shanghai asking for the despatch of additional physicians to the north. The appalling magnitude of the devastation caused by the plague is revealed by the estimates. The minimum estimate of the deaths from plague from Chang-Chun to the north is 20,000. The estimate for Southern Manchuria, based upon statistics of the Japanese railway administration, exceeds 2,500. A conservative estimate for the provinces of Chih-Li and Shan-Tung is 2,500. While it is impossible to obtain reliable statistics, particularly from the region north and east of Harbin, where the epidemic is raging with unabated fury, 25,000 as a total is more likely to be an under-estimate than an over-estimate. The Viceroy of Manchuria telegraphs to the Wai-Wu-

Pu that his official reports show between 10,000 and 11,000 deaths, but he fears the total is much larger.

HEROIC PHYSICIANS DIE.
A despatch from London says: In reply to a question in Parliament by Mr. Allen Baker, Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, on Wednesday afternoon stated that the British Minister at Pekin reports that all physicians here have been inoculated with Haffkin's vaccine and that the Chinese Government has done its utmost for the personal comfort of the physicians. The French physician, Dr. Mesny, who died, was not inoculated. He was infected owing to a patient coughing in his unmasked face. Dr. Jackson, a British physician, died of exhaustion after continuous hard work among the infected coolies. The Minister concluded by declaring that Sir John Jordan reports that the heroism of the physicians is beyond praise.

TO OCCUPY KULJA.

Russia Will seize China Possession to Enforce Treaty Rights.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The Retch states that Kulja, 48 miles over the frontier, in the Ili region of Chinese Turkestan, is to be occupied in accordance with the decision arrived at by the Government because of China's persistent disregard of the treaty of 1881. Under the terms of that treaty Russia agreed to evacuate the Ili region, which it occupied in 1871, on condition that she receive certain Consular and commercial privileges in Mongolia and Manchuria. Russia has become irritated over China's persistent violation of the terms of this treaty, and this feeling has been greatly aggravated by constant attempts on the part of China to disregard provisions for other treaties.

BIG RAILWAY MOVE REVIVED.

C. P. R. May Parallel G. T. R. From Montreal to Toronto.

A despatch from Montreal says: The rumor is revived here of a Canadian Pacific Railway line paralleling the Grand Trunk to Toronto. Part of the big expenditure in Toronto is said to be called for on account of this. The new line will commence at Bathurst, ten miles west of Smith's Falls, and proceed southwesterly to Belleville. The whole of this line, it is said, will be double-tracked, and as the line between Smith's Falls and Montreal is double-tracked already, the C. P. R. will have a double track all the way between this city and Toronto, and an alternative route between Smith's Falls and Toronto and will reach all the important industrial communities between Montreal and Toronto now served by the Grand Trunk alone. Work will commence, it is said, in the spring.

SANITARY CONFERENCE.

In View of Plague in China Date Has Been Advanced.

A despatch from Paris says: In view of the plague in Northern China it has been decided to advance the date of the proposed International Sanitary Conference, and France is inviting all nations to send delegates to Paris in May to study means of fighting epidemic.

MONTREAL WATER SCARCITY

Reservoir Is Going Down at the Rate of Ten Inches a Day

A despatch from Montreal says: From a report made to Chief Engineer Janin, of the city on Wednesday, the serious fact was brought to light that the water in the big reservoir on the mountain is going down at the rate of ten inches a day. Mr. Janin stated that if this condition of affairs should continue the outlook was that serious difficulties would be encountered in the matter of giving citizens a satisfactory supply. The cause is a most peculiar one. It appears that owing to the intense

frost this winter the ice has got so thick near where the city's intake is situated at Lachine that the water is lowering rapidly every day. There are places where the ice is so very thick that it has actually touched the bottom. The ice in the open aqueduct, which conveys the water to Montreal, is also abnormal in thickness. While a water famine in the city is not expected, officials of the water department are concerned at the difficulty they are experiencing in getting a proper volume of water to pump.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES OF AMERICA.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Produce at Home and Abroad.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Flour—Winter wheat 90 per cent. patents, \$3.50 at seaboard. Manitoba flours are unchanged, as follows:—First patents, \$5.40; second patents, \$4.90, and strong bakers', \$4.70, on track, Toronto.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 northern, 99½c, Bay ports; No. 2 northern, 97c, Bay ports, and No. 3 at 94½c, Bay ports; carrying winter storage at Goderich, 1c extra.

Ontario Wheat—No. 2 white, 84c, and No. 2 red and mixed, 83c, outside.

Barley—Malting qualities, 62 to 65c, outside, according to quality, and feed, 50 to 55c outside.

Oats—Ontario grades. No. 2 white, 35 to 35½c, on track, Toronto, and 32½c to 33c outside; No. 2 W. C. oats, 37½c, Bay ports, and No. 2 at 36c, Bay ports.

Corn—51½ to 51¾c for No. 3 American, Toronto freight.

Peas—No. 2 at 80 to 82c outside.

Rye—66 to 67c outside.

Buckwheat—No. 1 at 49½c outside.

Bran—Manitobas at \$22, in bags, Toronto, and shorts, \$24, in bags, Toronto, and bran, \$22, in sacks, Toronto, and shorts, \$24.

Apples—Spys, \$4.50 to \$5.50; Baldwins, \$4 to \$5; Greenings, \$4 to \$4.50; No. 2 assorted, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel.

Beans—Car lots, \$1.75 to \$1.80, and small lots, \$1.90 to \$2.

Honey—Extracted, in tins, 10½ to 11c per lb. No. 1 comb, wholesale, \$2 to \$2.50 per dozen. No. 2 comb, wholesale, \$1.75 to \$2 per dozen.

Baled Hay—No. 1 at \$12.50 to \$13 on track, and No. 2 at \$9.50 to \$10.50.

Baled Straw—\$6.50 to \$7 on track Toronto.

Potatoes—Car lots, 80 to 85c per bag.

Poultry—Wholesale prices of dressed poultry.—Chickens, 15 to 16c per lb.; fowl, 11 to 13c per lb.; ducks, 16 to 18c per lb.; turkeys, 19 to 21c per lb., and geese, 13 to 13½c per lb. Live, 1 to 2c less.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Dairy prints, 20 to 21c; choice rolls, 19 to 20c; inferior, 17 to 19c. Creamery quoted at 26 to 27c per lb. for rolls, 24c for solids, and 22 to 23c for separator prints.

Eggs—Case lots of new-laid, 25 to 26c per dozen, and of pickled at 16 to 17c.

Cheese—Large, 13c, and twins at 13½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 11½ to 12c per lb. in case lots; mess pork, \$21.50 to \$22; do., short cut, \$25 to \$25.50; pickled rolls, \$22 to \$22.50.

Hams—Light to medium, 15 to 16c; do., heavy, 14c; rolls, 12½ to 13c; breakfast bacon, 17 to 17½c; backs, 18 to 19c.

Lard—Tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 12½c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Feb. 21.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 39½ to 39¾c, car lots ex store; extra No. 1 feed, 38½ to 38¾c; No. 3 C. W., 37½ to 38c; No. 2 local white, 37½ to 38c; No. 3 local white, 36¾ to 37c; No. 4 local white, 35¾ to 36c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, \$5.60; do., seconds, \$5.10; Winter wheat patents, \$4.75 to \$5; strong bakers', \$4.90; straight rollers, \$4.35 to \$4.50; do., in bags, \$1.90 to \$2. Rolled oats—Per barrel, \$4.45; do., bag of 90 lbs., \$2.10. Barley—Feed, car lots ex store, 49 to 50c. Corn—American No. 3 yellow, 56½ to 57c. Millfeed—Bran, Ontario, \$21 to \$22; Manitoba, \$20 to \$23; middlings, Ontario, \$23 to \$24; shorts, Manitoba, \$22 to \$25; mouillie, \$26 to \$30. Eggs—Selected, 28c; fresh, 30c; No. 1 stock, 24 to 25c; No. 2, 20 to 22c. Cheese—Western, 11 7-8 to 12 1-8c; easterns, 11½ to 11¾c. Butter—Choicest, 24½ to 25c; seconds, 22 to 23c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, Feb. 21.—Wheat, May, 96½c; July, 97 5-8 to 97¾c; September, 93c; No. 1 hard, 98½c; No. 1 Northern, 96½ to 98½c; No. 2 Northern, 93½ to 96½c; No. 3 wheat, 90½ to 94½c. Bran—\$20.75 to \$22. Flour—First patents, \$4.

ONTARIO'S NEW MILK BILL

Municipalities Obtain Complete Control Over Milk Supply

A new bill based on the recommendations made to the Ontario Legislature last session by the Provincial Milk Commission was introduced in the House on Wednesday by the Hon. J. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture. It is entitled "An Act Respecting the Production and Sale of Milk for Human Consumption," and seeks to embody in its scope all the legislation bearing on this subject.

WHAT BILL DOES.

The bill does two things. First, it gives municipalities complete control over their milk supply. Secondly, it sets general standards for the province in regard to certain matters. The principle followed is that the municipality in which the milk is to be consumed should have complete control in the matter of the production, care and sale. With this object in view, municipalities are given power to pass by-laws making regulations as to the care of cows, the sanitary condition of the places where cows are kept, the water supplied to cows, the care of utensils used in handling milk, the proper storage and transportation of milk, the making of bacteriological tests as a guide to the wholesomeness of milk, and such other matters as may be considered necessary.

Councils are also authorized to fix standards for butter fat and total solids, but it is provided that "no milk shall be sold for human consumption which contains less than 12 per cent. of solids, of which 3 per cent. shall be butter fat." In addition to this, stringent provisions are made to prevent adulteration.

Councils are empowered to appoint inspectors, who are given authority to inspect the source of supply, as well as every other point

at which the milk might be contaminated.

NO TUBERCULOSIS MILK.

As to tuberculosis, it is provided that no milk shall be sold from any cow which, upon physical examination by a certified veterinarian, shall be declared to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder or milk glands, or whose milk, on bacteriological or microscopical examination is shown to contain tubercle bacilli.

It is provided that no cans or other utensils used in the distribution of milk shall be used for any other purpose, and all must be thoroughly cleansed before again being used.

The other clauses of the bill deal with special classes of milk. For instance, municipalities are empowered to establish and maintain or assist in the establishment and maintenance of milk depots to furnish a special supply of milk for infants.

The term "certified" is protected by incorporating the conditions which must be complied with before it can be used, and by providing that these conditions must be certified to either by the Medical Health Officer or an incorporated society of medical practitioners.

PASTEURIZED MILK.

Similarly, it is provided that it shall be unlawful to apply the word "pasteurized" to any milk unless it has been subjected for at least 20 and not more than 30 minutes to a temperature of not less than 140 and not more than 145 degrees Fahrenheit and at once cooled to 45 degrees Fahrenheit or under and kept at that temperature until delivered.

All the clauses at present in the statutes bearing on milk for human consumption are repealed.

\$9 to \$9.50. At \$4.25 to \$4.50 for ewes, \$3.25 to \$3.75 for rams, and \$6 to \$6.50 for lambs. Hogs, \$6.90 per cwt. for shipments f.o.b. car; at country points, and \$7.20 fed and watered at the market.

GUESTS OF THE KING.

Arrangements for Colonial Premiers at Coming Conference.

A despatch from London, says: It is officially announced that the Prime Ministers of the over-seas dominions and the Ministers accompanying them to the Imperial Conference will be the guests, first of the Government, and afterwards of the King. The Colonial Office has taken rooms at the Hotel Cecil. The British members of Parliament will entertain 58 of the colonial members, eighteen of them from Canada, for a fortnight. They will have seats for the Abbey ceremony.

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS.

Duma Asked to Vote \$60,000,000 for Four New Battleships.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The Government has asked the Duma to vote \$60,000,000 for the construction of four battleships by 1915. The vessels are to be named Sebastopol, Petropavlovsk, Gangut, and Poltava.

The Baptist church at St. George was destroyed by fire.

QUEBEC BRIDGE CONTRACT

Has Been Secured By a Canadian Firm, and Will Amount to About \$13,000,000

A despatch from Montreal says: It is stated that the experts employed by the Government to make recommendations concerning the new Quebec bridge to replace the one wrecked some years ago have reported four to one in favor of the tender presented by the St. Lawrence Bridge Company, which is composed of the Dominion Bridge Company and the Canadian Bridge Company.

The contract, which doubtless will be awarded by the Government as recommended, amounts to about \$13,000,000, or \$40,000 above the tender sent in by the British Em-

pire Bridge Company, which adhered to the official design. However, when the St. Lawrence Company prepared its tender, Phelps Johnston, the managing director of the Dominion Bridge Company, assisted by Mr. Douggan, of the same company, prepared a design of his own, and it is understood that the experts considered this design superior to the official one. The successful company, as a result of the award, will spend at least \$2,000,000 in new machinery, as new shops will have to be built. The bridge will probably take six years to complete.