THE MARKETS

Prices of Grain, Cattle, etc in Trade Centres.

Toronto, Dec. 23. — Wheat — The market is weaker, No. 2 white and red winter quoted at 68½ to 69c middle freights. No. 2 spring quoted 67½c east, and No. 2 goose at 66c east. Manitoba wheat steady; No. 1 hard, 87c grinding in transit; No. 1 Northern, 85c grinding in transit; No. 1 hard, 85c all rail via North Bay, and No. 1 Northern 83c, all rail via North Bay.

Oats — The market is dull, with No. 1 white quoted at 31½c east, and No. 2 white at 30½c to 31c east.

Barley — The market is quiet, with No. 3 extra quoted at 44 to 45c middle freight, and No. 3 at 42c middle freight.

Buckwheat — Trade is quiet, and prices nominal at about 52c outside.

Rye — No. 2 quoted at middle freight.

Corn — Market dull, with No. 2 Canadian at 45c west. No. 3 new American yellow nominal at 50 to 52c on track, Toronto.

Flour — Ninety per cent. patents are dull at $2.70 middle freights, in buyers' sacks, for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $3.25 to $3.40 in bbls. Manitoba flour steady. Hungarian patents, $4.10 to $4.20, delivered on track, Toronto, bags included, and Manitoba strong bakers', $3.80 to $3.90.

Millfeed — Bran, $15 in bulk here, and shorts at $17. At outside points bran is quoted at $14, and shorts at $16. Manitoba bran in sacks, $17, and shorts, $19 here.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter — The supply of choice butter is still restricted, and prices in consequence are firm. Inferior qualities plentiful. We quote: Finest 1-lb. rolls, 18 to 19c; choice large rolls, 17 to 18c; special dairy, tubs, 16½c to 17c; secondary grades, rolls and tubs, 14 to 15c; creamery prints, 23 to 24c; solids, 21 to 22c.

Eggs — The market continues steady. We quote: Strictly new laid, 25c; fresh store-gathered, 20c; cold storage, 19 to 20c; limed, 19c; seconds, 13 to 15c.

Cheese — Market is steady. We quote: Finest, 12½ to 12¾c; seconds, 12 to 12¼c.

HOG PRODUCE.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with carloads quoted at $7.25 to $7.40. Cured meats are firm, with demand good. We quote: Bacon, long clear, 11 to 11¼c, in ton and case lots. Pork, mess, $21; do., short cut, $22.50 to $23.

Smoked hams, 13½ to 14c; rolls, 12 to 12½c; shoulders, 11 to 11½c; backs, 15 to 15½c; breakfast bacon, 15 to 15½c.

Lard — Trade is fair, and prices unchanged. We quote: Tierces, 11c; tubs, 11¼c; pails, 11½c; compound, 8¾c to 10½c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Dec. 23. — The local markets are dull. There is a fair demand for butter, eggs, poultry, and other country produce, but offerings are light; quotations are unchanged. Grain — No. 1 hard, Manitoba, 71c Fort William; No. 1 Northern, 69c December; peas, 72c high freight; No. 2 oats, 30½c; high freight, 35 to 35½c; rye, 48½c east; backwheat, 51c east, in store. Flour—Manitoba patents, $4.20; strong bakers', $3.90; Ontario straight rollers at $3.50 to $3.65, in bags at $1.70 to $1.75; patents, $3.70 to $4.10. Rolled oats — Millers' prices to jobbers, $2 in bags, and $4.15 per bbl. Feed —Manitoba bran, $17.50 to $18; shorts, $20, bags included; Ontario bran, in bulk, $16.50 to $17.50; shorts, in bulk, $19. Beans—Quotations are nominal at $2 in cars on track. Provisions — Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $25; light short cut, $24; compound refined lard, 8½ to 9¼c; pure Canadian lard, 11c; finest lard, 12 to 12½c; hams, 12 to 13½c; bacon, 12 to 15c; dressed hogs, $7.50; fresh killed abattoir, $9.75 per 100 lbs. Eggs — Selected, 23 to 25c; candled stock, 19½ to 20½c; straight receipts, 18½ to 19c; No. 2, 16½c. Honey—Best, clover, in sections, 11 to 12c per section; in 10-lb. tins, 9½ to 10c; in bulk, 8c. Poultry — Turkeys and ducks, 13 to 13½c per lb.; young chickens, 10½ to 11c; fowls, 8½c per lb.; geese, 8½c per lb. Cheese — Ontario, 12¼c; Townships, 12c. Butter — Fancy Townships creamery, 22 to 22½c; fine creamery, 21¾c; Ontario creamery, 20½c; dairy butter, 16¾c to 17c for selections.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, Dec. 23. — Wheat — December, 73½c; May, 75½ to 75¼c; on track, No. 1 hard, 75¾c; No. 1 Northern, 74¾c; No. 2 Northern, 72¼c.

Milwaukee, Dec. 23. — Wheat — Easier; No. 1 Northern, 77 to 77½c; No. 2 Northern, 75 to 76½c; May, 77¼c. Rye — Lower; No. 1, 51½ to 52c.

Buffalo, Dec. 23. — Flour—Steady. Wheat — Spring, spot dull; No. 1 hard, 84c; winter quiet; No. 2 red, 78½c. Corn — Easy; No. 3 yellow, 57c; No. 3 corn, 54 to 55c. Oats—Steady; No. 3 white, 37c; No. 2 mixed, 35½c. Barley — 47 to 63c. Rye —No. 1, in store, 56½c asked.

Duluth, Dec. 23. — Wheat — Cash, No. 1 hard, 74½c; No. 1 Northern, 73½c; No. 2 Northern, 71½c; December, 73¼c; May, 76¼c. Oats — December, 31¼c; May, 36.

St. Louis, Dec. 23. — Wheat — Closed — December, 70¾c; May, 76½c.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, Dec. 23. — At the Western cattle yards to-day the receipts were 85 carloads of live stock, including 2,000 cattle, 1,070 lambs and sheep, 1,500 hogs, 50 calves, and 30 milch cows.

The export trade continues unusually dull, the embargo is causing a serious interruption to trade. Good to choice export cattle sold at from 4¾ to 5¼c per lb., with as much as 5½c for anything superfine; but prices were weaker, especially for medium cattle. Some of the Christmas cattle was purchased for the export trade.

Export bulls are firmer, with a better enquiry at from 3½ to 4½c per lb. No one appears to require either feeders or stockers just now, and quotations are almost nominal. Milch cows are a trifle lower in price, but good ones are wanted.

Ewes are worth from 3 to 3½c per lb. Bucks sell at from 2 to 2½c per lb. Culled sheep are quoted at from $2 to $3 each. Calves are worth from $2 to $10 each. Lambs sold at from $3.75 to $4.50 per cwt.

Hogs continue unchanged and steady. The top price for choice hogs is $6 per cwt., and light and fat hogs are quoted at $5.75 per cwt. Hogs to fetch the top price must be of prime quality, and scale not below 160 nor above 200 lbs.

Following is the range of prices for live stock at the Toronto cattle yards to-day:

Cattle.		
Export cattle	$4.75	$5.50
Do., light	4.00	4.50
Butcher cattle, choice .	4.00	5.00
Do., ordinary to good	3.25	4.00
Stocks, per cwt	2.50	3.25
Sheep and Lambs.		
Export ewes, per cwt .	3.00	3.25
Lambs, per cwt	3.75	4.50
Bucks, per cwt	2.00	2.50
Culled sheep, each	2.00	3.00
Milkers and Calves.		
Cows, each	35.00	55.00
Calves, each	2.00	10.00
Hogs.		
Choice hogs, per cwt ...	5.75	6.00
Light hogs, per cwt ...	5.50	5.75
Heavy hogs, per cwt ...	3.75	4.00
Sows, per cwt	3.75	4.00
Stags, per cwt...	2.00	2.50

HUNDREDS KILLED.

Battle Between Russian Workmen and Troops.

A Vienna despatch says: The Arbeiter Zeitung on Thursday describes a pitched battle between strikers and troops at Rostoff, Russia. The director of the works recently declared that he would drive the strikers back to work with knouts, and this stirred up the population, and 30,000 collected for a demonstration. Cossacks attacked the demonstrators, killing and wounding recklessly. After the first surprise of the attack the strikers rallied and attacked the Cossacks. Soldiers were dragged from their horses, kicked and stoned, and beaten to death.

Reinforcements were summoned. The strikers pulled trees up by the roots, and with them constructed barricades. Heaps of stones and pieces of iron were collected, and with these the troops were assailed, both from the barricades and housetops. The troops made six attacks on the barricades, but were repulsed in each case. In the ranks of the strikers were 2,000 women, who fought ferociously. Many of these proletarian Amazons fell victims of the Cossacks' lances.

The next day an overwhelming army barred the way to the place appointed by the strikers for a meeting. The demonstrations, however, would not be thus set aside, and thousands of them swam across the Don, and a meeting was held on the other side, during which Czar Nicholas was burned in effigy.

The casualties, the paper says, amounted to 300 killed and more than 1,000 injured.

WHEAT SHIPMENTS.

Statement Shows Great Increases Over Last Year.

A Montreal despatch says: The Canadian Pacific Railway has issued a statement showing the wheat shipments by lake from all elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur for the seasons of navigation 1902-1901. The total of shipments from Canadian ports was 22,051,144 bushels, against 9,662,097 last year, an increase of 12,389,047 bushels. To United States ports the figures were 13,474,654 bushels, against 5,711,785 last year, an increase of 7,762,871 bushels, making the total shipments of Canadian wheat 35,525,796 bushels from April 11th to December 5th, 1902, against 15,373,880 from 30th April to 5th December, 1901, or a total increase of 20,151,918 bushels.

The amount carried by Canadian vessels to Canadian ports in 1902 was 22,051,144 bushels, an increase of 12,389,047 bushels, and by United States vessels to United States ports, 12,010,803 bushels, an increase of 6,405,520 bushels.

There were 23,514,995 bushels shipped by Canadian vessels, an increase of 13,746,980 bushels, and 12,010,803 by United States vessels, an increase of 6,405,520 bushels over last year.

Canadian vessels carried 627,643 bushels of oats, an increase of 541,862 bushels, and United States vessels 26,000 bushels.

Of barley, Canadian vessels carried 16,152 bushels,

DANGER OF PLAGUE.

Measures Will be Taken to Prevent Its Spread in America.

An Ottawa despatch says :—Bubonic plague and not chicken cholera as has been suggested ocists in San Francisco according to Dr Montizambert, Director-General of Public Health, who has just returned from New Orleans. He says there is indisputable evidence that bubonic plague does prevail in San Francisco and there have been three cases of the worst type of the disease, which is known by the profession as "pneumonic plague." Five different States of the Union have requisitioned Surgeon-General Wyman, under a Congressional Act of last July, to convene a conference of State health representatives to concert measures to suppress the plague, which is a menace to the entire North American continent.

The department here will take every precaution to prevent the disease getting a footing in the Dominion. All vessels arriving in Canadian ports from Frisco will be required to place funnels on the hawsers, extending from the wharves to the vessels, the feeling being strong at New Orleans that the disease has gained a footing in the California port through the medium of rats, and the funnel device is recognized as an effective preventive against rats reaching vessel or wharf.

OUR TRADE IN THE YUKON

Report Shows We Are Ousting United States Goods.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Department of Trade and Commerce has published the text of the report of Mr. Geo. Anderson, of Toronto, on trade conditions in the Yukon. Extracts from the report have already appeared in the press, but with the complete text now available those interested in Canada's Eldorado will get from it a better conception of the true condition of affairs.

The most striking feature of the report is the statistical information which shows that in a large measure Canadian goods have ousted the American product. For the year ending June 30th the value of Canadian produce carried over the White Pass Railway, was $3,109,187, as compared with $1,192,361 worth of American produce. The report is replete with information respecting the commodities of life, wages, conditions of labor, mining prospects for the country, etc.

PLAGUE IN FOODSTUFFS.

Japan Responsible for Outbreak in Honolulu.

A San Francisco despatch says: Advices just received from Honolulu show that investigation proves that foodstuffs shipped to Honolulu from Japan and China via San Francisco, are responsible for the cases of plague recently appearing there. A number of Japanese on nearby plantations were taken with the plague and died in a hospital in Honolulu. An examination of their effects was made, but no trace of the germ was discovered until thorough tests had been made of some of the Japanese food found in the house. These foods under the microscope showed a trace of the plague germs, and further examinations made of the Oriental stuffs showed that the diagnosis was correct. It was learned also that the foodstuffs had been imported at San Francisco, and shipped to Honolulu.

BOERS TO ASSIST.

Generals Are Returning to Aid the Investigation.

A New York despatch says :—Hon. Joseph Chamberlain is to have the assistance of the Boer generals in his investigation into conditions in South Africa. This information is contained in a letter written by General Louis Botha from Brussels to the trustees of the Holland Society of this city. It is further intimated that in order to be of all the assistance possible to the visiting statesman, in order that he may see the great needs of the devastated country, Generals Botha, De Wet and Delarey have postponed their contemplated visit to America in order to hasten back to South Africa. They will visit America later.

A SEVEN-CENT STAMP.

Now Being Supplied by the Post-office Department.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Post-office Department announces that it is now in a position to supply a seven-cent postage stamp to accounting post-offices throughout Canada. This stamp, which is of a yellow color, will be especially convenient for postage and registration fee on single rate letters, while it may also be used for other postage purposes to the extent of its face value.

Non-accounting offices can obtain their supply through the city post-offices.

Since August last a fire has been burning in some disused workings of a coal mine at Penicuik, near Edinburgh.

HOUSE PROROGUED.

King's Speech Refers to Trouble With Venezuela.

A London despatch says: Parliament was prorogued on Thursday afternoon by Royal Commission. The King's speech, which was an unusually lengthy recapitulation of public events since January, including the action taken in connection with Venezuela, regarding which the speech said:

"I regret that the constant complaints which my Government found it necessary to address to the Government of Venezuela in regard to unjustifiable and arbitrary acts against British subjects and property during the last two years have been persistently disregarded, and that it has become necessary for my Government, acting in concert with that of His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor, which also has serious causes of complaint against the republic, to insist on measures of redress."

SOUTH AFRICAN PROSPECTS.

The speech refers to the conclusion of the South African war, and adds: "There seems to be every reason to hope that material prosperity greater than any the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies have yet experienced may visit these regions, and that all sections of the population may live together in friendship for each other and loyalty to the Crown."

Paragraphs deal with the postponed coronation, the colonial conference and Colonial Secretary Chamberlain's tour, which together are expected to be of the "utmost value, both in respect to their immediate effect and as precedents in the future."

Other topics touched upon were the expedition against the Mad Mullah, and the co-operation of Italy therein, the acceptance by Chile and Argentina of the British boundary award, the Brussels sugar convention, and the alliance between Great Britain and Japan, "which, I believe, will be of advantage to both countries, and contribute to the maintenance of general peace in the extreme East."

ANGLO-CHINESE TREATY.

The Anglo-Chinese treaty is referred to as promising to "secure, not only for this country, but for the commerce of the world, valuable facilities and advantages."

The speech closes with a reference to India, where the anxiety regarding another famine has been averted by a plentiful rainfall, and where the coronation durbar will be associated with a period of unusual commercial and financial prosperity.

Parliament was prorogued until Feb. 17th.

C. P. R. ATLANTIC SERVICE

Definite Announcement Expected Soon.

A Montreal despatch says: An announcement from the C. P. R. respecting its plans for operation of a freight service of steamships between Canada and Great Britain is expected shortly. Regarding the cable from London to the effect that the company has determined to establish a weekly service between Montreal and Liverpool, and a ten-day service from London and Glasgow at the opening of St. Lawrence navigation, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy said on Friday night that such a statement had not been made by the company. It is, however, understood that the company has been moving actively in the question, and that not long will elapse before a definite announcement will be given to the public.

BEFORE HIS WIFE'S EYES

Keeper of New Brunswick Lighthouse Drowned.

A St. George, N. B., despatch says: T. Warren Davidson, keeper of the light at the Southern Wolves, was drowned by the capsizing of a dory before the eyes of his wife, who was on the shore at the time. Fishermen nearby were unable to recover the body. Mr. Davidson was keeper of the light for five or six years, and in his earlier days was skipper of a fishing schooner that sailed out of Gloucester, Mass. He was 35 years of age, and leaves a widow and small family.

TEN DAYS ANNUAL DRILL.

New Militia Act Expected to Contain Provision.

An Ottawa despatch says: It is probable that the period of the annual drill of the Canadian militia will be fixed at ten days, and that legislation to this effect will be introduced in connection with the new Militia Act. It is likely, however, that the Government will fix the dat and conditions of annual drill to suit the various military districts.

WHERE ONTARIO LEADS.

We Handle Smallpox Much Better Than the States.

A Toronto despatch says: While Ontario has several cases of smallpox, our health officers have the situation well in hand, compared with neighboring States. Rochester city has 217 cases in the hospital, and 11 deaths have occurred within a month. Michigan has the disease in 40 centers, and two cases within a week have been imported to Ontario from Detroit.

MESSAGE TO KING.

Marconi Notifies Lord Minto of His Achievement.

An Ottawa despatch says: Shortly before three o'clock on Sunday afternoon the Governor-General received the following message from Mr. Marconi at Glace Bay, N. S.:

"I have the honor to inform your Excellency that your message to his Majesty has now been transmitted by me from Cape Breton to Cornwall by wireless telegraphy, and has been forwarded to its destination.

(Signed) "G. MARCONI.

"Glace Bay, N. S., 2.20 p.m."

Etiquette of the strictest kind prevents his Excellency from furnishing to the press the text of this Marconi gram, but it is understood to convey Lord Minto's congratulations to the King on the accomplishment, within his Majesty's dominions, of the greatest feat of modern science.

Mr. Fielding also received a telegram from Mr. Marconi, telling him of his success.

The message of his Excellency to King Edward was prepared two months ago, the first understanding being that it would be sent about October 15th. A trial was made at that time, but it was found that the towers at Table Head were not sufficiently effective, and the young inventor in a letter some time ago said he would have to await the arrival of additional machinery. This was brought out recently on the Italian warship Carlo Alberto, and for the past two or three weeks Mr. Marconi has personally superintended its installation.

SLEEPING SICKNESS.

Is Contagious and Almost Invariably Fatal.

A London despatch says: The School of Tropical Medicine has issued a report on the sleeping sickness which is now devastating Uganda. Though it was discovered only a few years ago, it is computed that the disease has already killed from 20,000 to 30,000 people, and is spreading to new areas with increasing virulence. Its extension to the north will be of the greatest menace to Egypt.

Scientific reports made on the spot describe the sleeping sickness as a complaint something like thennnn a complaint something like that group of diseases known as meningitis, or inflammation of the brain. It begins insidiously with changes in the mental attitude of the patient.

From that time the disease i progresses and the patient becomes stupid and restless, and after other symptoms have passed, enters into a state of coma and dies. The duration of the complaint varies from a month in acute cases to six months or more in others.

The disease is almost invariably fatal, and although taking longer to cause death than hydrophobia, may be classed with the latter as one of the most fatal illnesses known to mankind. It is contagious, and its spread is assured by overcrowding of many individuals in the same huts. The depopulation of many large and thickly populated areas is making itself felt, and the outlook is very gloomy.

The only scheme yet devised for the prevention of the spread of the disease is the isolation of new cases.

WANT WESTERN LANDS.

New Ontario Syndicate After Prairie Farms.

A Toronto despatch says :—Judge Utt, of Chicago, was in the city recently in furtherance of his colossal immigration scheme for settling tenant farmers from the States on New Ontario lands. While here Judge Utt called upon J. C. Hartney, Manitoba immigration agent, and informed that official that his syndicate were in receipt of so many applications from American tenant farmers for Canadian Western prairie lands that it would be necessary for them to enter into negotiations with the Manitoba and Dominion Governments, similar to those pending with the Ontario Government, in order to secure land in the Prairie Province and the Territories, on which to locate settlers under the same conditions as are proposed in the New Ontario scheme.

APPALLING CONDITIONS.

Four Hundred Thousand Persons Are Starving.

A St. Petersburg despatch says: Four hundred thousand persons are reported to be destitute and starving as a result of the crop failure in Finland. The Anglo - American church here has undertaken to feed and feed the school children of four Finnish parishes, and Pastor Francis says the conditions to-day are worse than those of 1867, when one hundred thousand persons died.

NEW STATION.

C.P.R. to Build One Suitable to Size of Winnipeg.

A Montreal despatch says: The Canadian Pacific has decided to build a station at Winnipeg, commensurate with the importance of the city, and an announcement of the company's intentions may be looked for in the near future.