THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, Dec. 1.—Wheat—The market continues to rule steady, although offerings are more liberal. No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at 77½ to 78c, low freights; No. 2 Spring is quoted at 73c east, and No. 2 goose at 70 to 71c east. Manitoba wheat unchanged. At upper lake ports No. 1 Northern is quoted at 85c, and No. 2 Northern at 82½c. No. 1 hard nominal at 90c lake ports. For grinding in transit quotations are 6c higher than above.

Oats—The market is quiet, with the feeling easier. No. 2 white is quoted at 28½c west, and at 29c low freights to New York. No. 1 white 30c east.

Barley—The market is dull, with the prices steady. No. 2 quoted at 43c middle freights. No. 3 extra at 40c, and No. 3 at 38 to 39c middle freights.

Rye—The market is quiet, with prices steady. Cars are quoted at 52 to 52½c middle freights.

Peas—Trade is dull, and prices unchanged. No. 2 white sold at 61c middle freights, and at 62c east.

Corn—The market is quiet, and prices steady. No. 2 yellow American quoted at 53½c, on track, Toronto; No. 3 yellow at 53c, and No. 3 mixed at 52c, Toronto.

Buckwheat—The market is firm, with fair demand. No. 2 quoted at 42 to 43c middle freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are steady at $3.05 middle freights, in buyers' sacks, for export. Straight rollers of special brands, for domestic trade, quoted at $3.40 to $3.50 in bbls. Manitoba flours are steady; No. 1 patents, $4.55 to $4.60; No. 2 patents, $4.25 to $4.30, and strong bakers', $4.15 to $4.20 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran steady at $16.50 and shorts at $18.50 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $13.50 to $14, and shorts at $17.50. Manitoba bran in sacks, $18, and shorts at $20 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—The market is quiet, with prices steady. Winter fruit quoted at $1.75 to $2 per bbl. in car lots, and at $2 to $2.50 in small quantities.

Beans—There is a quiet trade, with prices steady. Prime beans are quoted at $1.65 to $1.70 per bush.

Dried Apples—The demand is fair, with prices unchanged at 4½ to 5c per lb.

Hops—The market is firm at 29 to 30c.

Honey—The market is quiet at 6 to 7s per lb. for bulk, and at $1.25 to $2 for comb. Choice clover honey, 7 to 7½c per lb.

Hay—Demand is fair, with receipts only moderate. No. 1 timothy quoted at $9.50 on track, Toronto, and mixed at $6.50 to $7.

Straw—The market is quiet at $5 per ton for car lots on track.

Potatoes—The market is a trifle firmer, with receipts light. Cars on track are quoted at 58 to 60c per bag for good quality.

Poultry—The demand is fair, and offerings moderate. Turkeys are quoted at 10 to 12c per lb., and geese at 7 to 8c per lb.; ducks, 9 to 10c per lb., or 85 to 90c per pair. Chickens, 8½ to 9c per lb., or 70 to 85c per pair; old hens, 50c per pair.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Trade continues fairly good, but the supplies of choice qualities are limited. Prices generally are firm. We quote'— Finest 1-lb. rolls, 19 to 20c; choice large rolls, 16 to 17½c; selected, dairy tubs, 17 to 17½c; secondary grades, 13 to 14c; creamery prints, 22 to 23c; solids, 19 to 20c.

Eggs—Market firm. We quote:— Strictly new laid, 24 to 25c; fresh store gathered, 21c; cold storage, 19c; limed, 18c.

Cheese—Market quiet but steady. We quote.— Finest, 11 to 11½c, the latter for twins; seconds, 10½ to 10¾c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with offerings liberal. Sales at $6 delivered here. Cured meats unchanged, with a fair demand. We quote:— Bacon, long clear, 10c in ton and case lots. Mess pork, $17; do., short cut, $19 to $19.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 13 to 13½c; do., heavy, 12 to 12½c; rolls, 10½ to 11c; shoulders, 9½ to 10½c; backs, 14 to 15c; breakfast bacon, 14 to 14½c.

Lard—The market is quiet, with prices steady. We quote:— Tierces, 8½c; tubs 8¾c; pails, 9c; compound, 8 to 9c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Dec. 1.—Manitoba wheat is steady at 79c for No. 1 Northern, Fort William. The local demand for oats is slow, and there is none at all for other grains, so that quotations are nominal. The Cheese Market continues dull and prices unchanged. The Butter Market is quiet, with a fair local demand. The stocks of butter being held in the city at present are very light for this time of year. Western rolls in packages of about 30 pounds sell at 18c. Poultry is still scarce, and the demand continues good. Grain—Peas, 71½ to 72c afloat here; rye, 53c east and 58c afloat here; buckwheat, 52c afloat; No. 2 oats, 35¼ to 35½c in store, 34c afloat; No.3, 1c less; flaxseed, $1.15 on track here; No. 3 barley, 50c. Flour—Manitoba patents, $4.60; seconds, $4.30; strong bakers', $4.05 to $4.30; Ontario straight rollers, $3.90 to $4; in bags, $1.85 to $1.95; patents, $4 to $4.25; extra, $1.65 to $1.70; rolled oats, $1.80 per bag, $3.80 per bbl. Feed—Ontario bran, in bulk, $17.50 to $18.50; shorts, $20 to $21; Manitoba bran, in bags, $18; shorts, $20; beans, choice primes, $1.50 to $1.55 per bush., $1.40 to $1.50 in car lots. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $19.50 to $20; light short cut, $18 to $18.50; American short cut clear, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $18 to $18.50; compound lard, 8c; Canadian lard. 8 to 8½c; kettle rendered, 10½c; hams, 11½ to 13c; bacon, 14c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $7.25; country dressed hogs, $6.50; live hogs, $5. Eggs—Candled selected, 24 to 25c; straight receipts, 21c; Montreal limed, 19c. Cheese—Ontario, 10 to 11c; Townships, 10½ to 10⅝c; Quebec, 9½c. Butter—Townships creamery, 21½ to 21½c; Quebec, 20½ to 21c; Western dairy, 15 to 17c; Western rolls, 17 to 18c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, Dec. 1.—Wheat—December, 78¾c; May, 80c; on track, No. 1 hard, 81½c; No. 1 Northern, 80½c; No. 2 Northern, 78½c; No. 3 Northern, 73 to 75½c. Flour—First patents, $4.65 to $4.75; second, do., $4.55 to $4.65; first clears, $3.40; second, do., $2.30 to $2.40. Bran—In bulk, $13.25.

Duluth, Dec. 1.—Wheat—To arrive—No. 1 hard, 79⅞c; No. 1 Northern, 77⅝c; No. 2 Northern, 75⅝c; December, 77⅜c; May, 79c.

Buffalo, Dec. 1.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Unsettled; No. 1 Northern, 85⅝c; Winter, offerings light; No. 2 red 86c. Corn—Quiet; No. 2 yellow, 52¼c; No. 2 corn 50¼c. Oats—Nothing doing. Barley—52 to 63c. Rye—No. 1 in store, 59c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 1.—Business in butchers', exporters' and short-keep feeders was brisk at the Western Market to-day, and values were higher than before. Sheep and lambs were in good demand, and although the offerings were free all were sold early. Hogs were weak in price, with a lower tendency.

Butchers' cattle continued to sell readily and prices held strong. Several choice loads were sold at $4.25 per cwt. Quotations were as follows:—Choice butchers', 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., $4 to $4.25; good loads, 950 to 1,050 lbs, $3.50 to $3.75; fair and medium loads, $3.25 to $3.50; common, $2.75 to $3; rough and inferior, $2 to $2.50; canners, $1.75 to $2 per cwt.

Trade in export cows was steady on light receipts, while common to fair butchers' were not very plentiful and consequently were all sold early. We quote:—Export cows, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs, $3.12½ to $3.60; cows, 800 to 1,100 lbs, $2.40 to $3.10; rough cows, $1.75 up.

The feature of the market for feeders and stockers was the brisk demand for the best descriptions. Quotations follow:—Heavy feeders, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs, $4 to $4.25; feeders, 950 to 1,100 lbs, $3.50 to $4; feeders, 800 to 950 lbs, $3.25 to $3.50; stockers, 600 to 800 lbs, $2.50 to $3; stock calves, 400 lbs up, $2.25 per cwt.

Trade in sheep and lambs was brisk, and prices were firm. We quote—Export ewes, $3.25 to $3.40; export bucks, $2.50 to $2.75; lambs, $3.75 to $4.25 per cwt., and culls, $2 to $3 each.

Calves sold at $2 to $10 each, and 3½ to 5½c per lb.

Milch cows were firm at $30 to $71 each. The latter figure was paid by J. Armstrong for an extra fine cow

Hogs were unchanged, but the prospects were that prices would go lower. We quote:—Selects, 160 to 200 lbs. of prime bacon quality, $3.25 to $3.50, and stags $2 to $3 per cwt.

WANT PORTABLE HOUSES.

Panama Firm Expects to Get Them in Canada.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Department of Trade and Commerce has received a letter from a firm at Colon, Isthmus of Panama, asking to be placed in communication with some firm in Canada manufacturing portable houses. This is evidently an indication that active operations upon the Panama Canal will shortly be resumed. During the De Lesseps regime many portable houses were required for the officers and men on the different sections. These are reported to be in ruins, and Canada is being appealed to for new houses to take the place of the old ones. The accommodation required is for some twenty to fifty men in each house.

AN ALL-CANADIAN RAILWAY

B. C. Government Favors a Line to the Yukon.

A Victoria, B.C., despatch says: The speech from the throne at the opening of the British Columbia Legislature on Thursday afternoon recommended the pushing forward of an all-Canadian railway from some point on the British Columbia coast to the Yukon, this step being due to the adverse decision on the Alaska

RESULTS ARE SURPRISING

INVESTIGATION OF SEEDS FOR 1903.

Secured From Merchants and Tested in the Seed Laboratory, Ottawa.

The continued investigation into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are sold in Canada has been given a rather extensive scope during 1903. The report of the work done by the Seed Division during 1902 was published in Bulletin, No. 8. In the spring of the current year, one thousand one hundred and twelve samples of grass, clover, flax, cereal, root crop and garden vegetables seeds were secured from merchants in all parts of Canada and tested in the Seed Laboratory, Ottawa. In addition to these, one hundred and twenty-five samples of grass and clover seeds were analysed for farmers and seed merchants. With each sample obtained for investigation, information was enclosed giving the name of the dealer and the place where it was sold, the price per pound or per bushel and the origin of the seed. In this connection it is interesting to note that the prices paid by farmers for grass and clover seeds were no guide to the actual value of the samples. The average prices per one hundred pounds of Timothy, Alsike, and Red Clover seeds, as shown by the information cards received with the samples, have been calculated, and the results are somewhat surprising. If these are to be taken as a fair average, we find that in Ontario, first grade Timothy sold for $5.39 per hundred; second grade for $6.24 and lower grades for $5.52. In Quebec first grade Red Clover averaged $15.50, second grade $12.55, and lower grades $15.15. In the Maritime Provinces Alsike of the best grade sold for an average of $17.00; second grade $16.50, and lower grades $16.45 per hundred pounds.

IN THOSE CALCULATIONS

the nature of the impurities contained in the samples was, of course, not taken into consideration. Samples containing 90 per cent. or over of good seed were rated as first grade; samples containing between 80 and 90 per cent as second grade; and samples containing less than 80 per cent as low grade. It may be pointed out that no sample of Alsike containing 90 per cent or over of pure and germinable seed was obtained in the province of Quebec.

Two hundred and six samples of Timothy seed were analysed and of these eighty-four contained 90 per cent or over of pure and germinable seeds. Seventy-two of those samples contained fewer than 1,000 weed seeds per lb., one hundred and sixty-two contained fewer than 5,000, and sixteen contained more than 10,000.

Out of one hundred and thirty-six samples of Alsike that were analysed only six contained 90 per cent or over of pure and germinable seed. Eighteen of them contained fewer than 1,000 weed seeds per pound; sixty-seven contained fewer than 5,000, and twenty-two contained more than 10,000.

Two hundred and six samples of Red Clover were obtained from small dealers and of these eighty samples contained 90 per cent or over of pure and germinable seed. Sixty-five of them contained fewer than 1,000 weed seeds per pound, one hundred and twenty-five contain fewer than 5,000, and forty-four contained more than 10,000.

It is well to note that a large proportion of those samples obtained for investigation were purchased from irresponsible dealers in villages and small towns. The reliable seed houses retail large quantities of high class seeds, but a comparatively small number of samples were obtained direct from these large firms. The percentage of samples of good quality would have been much greater if this had been done.

SEEDS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

Seven samples of Alsike and fourteen of Red Clover seeds were obtained from retail seedsmen in Great Britain. Of these, three of Alsike and five of Red Clover were said to be Canadian grown. The analyses of the Canadian Alsike showed an average of 95.6 per cent of pure and germinable seeds. The average of the three samples of Alsike which were said to be English grown was 94.27 per cent, and the one German grown sample included in the lot contained 84.72 per cent of pure and germinable seeds. The latter sample contained thirteen species of foreign seeds.

The average purity of the fourteen samples of Red Clover seeds in Great Britain was 98.6 and the average germination 92.3 per cent.

The Canadian grown samples were slightly lower in per cent of purity than those which were said to have been grown in England and Chile. The average per cent. of purity of the five Canadian grown samples was 96.7 and the average per cent. of vitality 93.6.

Comparing the quality of the Canadian grown seed obtained from retail dealers in Great Britain with that of the samples purchased from retail dealers in Canada, it would seem that much of our best recleaned Alsike and Red Clover seed is exported. While it is desirable that the reputation of Canadian grown seeds be maintained in European markets, it is no less important that Canadian farmers should not be further contaminated by the weed seeds remaining in the screenings and lower grades of seeds which are left for the home trade.

MEN RAN WILD IN WOODS.

Englishmen Became Demented by Cold and Hunger.

A Port Arthur, Ont., despatch says:—A frightful story comes from Kaministique, a station 20 miles west of here on the C. P. R. Four Englishmen arrived there Thursday and started to walk to the camp of Kelly and Close, some 12 miles distant, where they were to get employment. Two of the men, for some reason, returned and took the train to Fort William, the other two had dinner at Charles Greer's camp, some four miles en route to Kelly and Close's. They left there on their way, but never reached their destination. Sunday some men in the employ of Charles Greer, while teaming between the camp and Kaministique, saw two men in the bush. They were without shoes and apparently demented. Their clothing was torn, and when discovered they yelled like Indians, and made off into the woods.

The police of Fort William were telegraphed for, and went out, but returned without doing anything to locate them, and they were left running wild in the woods without clothing in zero weather. Searching parties from the camps were despatched, and one of the men found badly frozen but still alive. Though in a terrible condition, and his clothing nearly all gone, he was brought to Fort William, and taken to the hospital, where it was ascertained his named was Burns. But slight hopes are entertained for his recovery. The other man was found on Wednesday afternoon in the wood, dead. They had apparently lost their way, and through cold and hunger, their minds became unbalanced, though when found they were within a few miles of civilization. The dead man has not yet been identified. Wm. Burns, who was rescued, came from Newcastle, Ont.

STOPPED BY CATERPILLARS

Larvae Covered Rails and Clogged Engine's Wheels.

A Sydney despatch says: The mail train from the Southern States arrived here the other day an hour late. This delay was due to a most extraordinary cause. It appears that in several parts of New South Wales the caterpillars this year have found such an abundance of food that they have multiplied to an alarming extent, and assumed the proportions of a plague. Part of the line over which the mail train passed was covered with caterpillars, particularly near Cootamundra. At this point the wheels of the engine and train became absolutely clogged with the crushed bodies of the larvae, and the train came to a standstill. Though the locomotive's sanding-gear was in good order, it was found to be entirely inadequate to counteract the effect caused by this strange obstruction, and the driver, as a last resource, tied some sacking on to the cowcatcher, and after several efforts succeeded in starting the train. For the rest of the journey this device cleared the track of caterpillars as the train proceeded.

SULTAN'S BAN ON SOAP.

All Toilet Articles Containing Lard is Forbidden.

A London despatch says: The Sultan of Turkey recently instituted a reform which was not prompted by the Austro-Russian scheme. It carried dismay to the hearts of the beauty experts of Constantinople. Abdul Hamid, on learning that a great majority of cosmetics and pomades were mixed with pork and lard, immediately put the royal prohibition upon the sale of such impurity, and invoked the command of the Koran, bidding the faithful to abjure all things appertaining to the pig. The manufacturers of soap and other toilet articles were notified that only such as were exempt from all suspicion would be acceptable. Small merchants trading with other countries are buying up all the existing stocks in Turkey at cheap prices.

NO ADULTERATION.

Analysis of Canada's Brandies and Whiskies.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Inland Revenue Department has recently concluded the analysis of whiskies and brandies sold throughout Canada, and the examination failed to show the presence of any poisonous adulteration. The analysists looked especially for alkaloids like morphine and quinine, but have not found that they are used in the liquors either of domestic manufacture or imported from abroad that are consumed in this country. In the collection of samples the department officials were instructed to be sure and take those of which they had any suspicion. So the tests include practically all the brands whose quality might be questioned.

RAILWAY TO PEKIN

Russians Have Completed Survey of the Line.

A St. Petersburg despatch says: The survey has been completed for a railroad from Kiakhta, Siberia, to Pekin, by way of Ougou. The length of the road will be about 1,000 miles. It will give a short cut to the Chinese capital.

FARMER IS PROSPEROUS.

He Owns Property Worth Over $1,000,000,000.

A Toronto despatch says:—The farmers of Ontario are in an unusually prosperous condition just now, according to the annual report of the Provincial Bureau of Industries. There were 15,684 mortgages recorded last year, valued at $10,890,615, to secure existing debts, and 142, valued at $1,099,158, for future endorsation, whereas seven years ago 21,789 mortgages were registered. The number of chattel mortgages issued against farmers last year was 7,235, the smallest in ten years. The aggregate of these mortgages was $2,850. In 1895 the mortgages were 12,288, over 5,000 more than last year and represented $3,767,646.

The total values of farm property in 1902 were:—

Land	$604,860,063
Buildings	237,289,668
Implements	62,199,787
Live Stock	140,544,814
Total	$1,044,894,332

The number of cheese factories was 1,127, a decrease of 50, and they manufactured cheese to the value of $14,792,924 and paid to patrons for milk $13,153,255.

Farm values and rentals in Ontario were:—Average value of land per acre, $25.49, and average holdings of improvements and live stock in proportion to acres cleared, $32.43. The average rental for cleared land was $2.47 per acre.

The total value of live stock sold in 1902 was $53,083,396.

The ratios of acres under crop totalled 639.5.

The total acreage of assessed land was 23,727,010, of which 57.2 per cent. was cleared.

MAY BE EATEN BY WOLVES

F. X. Guertin, an Ottawa Woodsman, Missing.

An Ottawa despatch says: The inference drawn from a letter received in the city on Thursday is that F. X. Guertin of Ottawa, the woodsman who disappeared from a camp above Mattawa some weeks ago, has met a terrible death. The letter was received by Mr. P. Mullin from his brother-in-law, Wm. Burns, who was employed in the same camp as Guertin. Burns and Guertin were members of a gang engaged by Fraser & Co. to work on one of their camps during the winter. Guertin had strange hallucinations and one night he left the camp, presumably to return to his home in Ottawa. He was not seen afterwards, and as he did not arrive at his home a search was made for him. Burns stated in the letter that in company with two Indians he searched the country about the camp for a couple of weeks, but no traces of Guertin could be had. The Indians, who were well acquainted with the country, expressed the belief that Guertin had been run down and devoured by wolves that overrun the district.

SPREE ENDS IN MURDER.

Finlander Dies of Wound Received at Michel, B.C.

A Fernie, B.C., despatch says: Johnson, a Finlander, died on Monday from the effect of a wound received four weeks ago in a drunken fight at Michel. Edward Heriel is held on the charge of murder. Johnson's wound was caused by a stone, evidently thrown with violence, which broke a small hole in the skull above the right eye, exposing the brain. The occasion of the fight was a big spree among a number of Finlanders, in which deceased did not take a prominent part. A number of inmates of the house were knocked out, and when the constable visited the place he found evidence of a genuine drunken fight in broken bottles and unconscious victims lying around. The most injured, however, was the man Johnson. The police secured an ante-mortem statement, fixing the blame upon Edward Heriel.

A STRICKEN TOWN.

Thirteen Hundred Persons Have Typhoid.

A Butler, Pa., despatch says: Since the 15th of September this town has had over 1,300 cases of typhoid and fifteen deaths. One death was reported on Saturday, and new cases continue to develop. The State Board of Health have issued a statement, in which they say the cause is the pollution of the drinking water used in the greater part of the borough. In response to appeals doctors and nurses are arriving on every train, but domestic help to wash the clothes and bedding of the patients is as badly needed as nurses. Three deaths occurred on Sunday from fever.

GAS EXPLODED.

Three men Burned in Store Cellar at Wiarton.

A Wiarton despatch says: The list of accidents through acetylene gas has increased by an explosion in the store of E. D. Weber, on Thursday. Mr. Weber, with several others, was removing the gas plant from his cellar to a storehouse in the rear, and in disconnecting the parts brought a lamp too close. An explosion at once followed. Mr. Weber, Mr. J. Tilley, and Mr. Manvert were badly burned.