BIG INCREASE IN CANADA'S TRADE

Amounts to $55,018,726 During Nine Months

A despatch from Ottawa says: Trade returns for the nine months ending with March show some interesting increases. For the nine months closing the fiscal year the total increase in trade was $55,018,726, or nearly 15 per cent. over the corresponding per cent. of 1905-06.

Imports increased $47,506,476, and exports increased $7,502,250.

The aggregate trade for the nine months was $441,815,646.

For the month of March alone there was a record increase of no less than $12,817.658 in the total trade, as compared with March of the last year. This increase was made up of $10,978,787 in imports, and $1,838,871 in exports. The aggregate of imports for the nine months was $249,717,413, and of exports $192,087,233.

For March the imports totalled $36,842,074, and the exports $15,304,236.

The total trade of last month was over one-third greater than the total trade of March, 1906. For the nine months the duty collected was $40.196,085, an increase over the corresponding period of last year of $6,338,287.

ONE-SIDED BATTLE.

Lone Brigand With Revolver Against Russian Field Gun Detachment.

A despatch from Warsaw says: A notorious brigand, Stanilaus Lis, the author of many crimes, has been captured at Lublin, 95 miles from here, mortally wounded, after the house in which he had sought refuge had been blown to pieces by artillery fire. Lis, when he saw that a detachment of police was advancing on the house, barricaded himself within and opened fire on the police, killing several of them. Troops were summoned to the assistance of the police, but they were unable to dislodge the bandit. Finally several quick-firing field pieces were brought up and trained on the house. Eight shells hit the building, which was demolished, after which the infantry stormed the ruins and found Lis desperately wounded, trying to reload his revolver, which he had emptied at the attacking party.

RUSSIAN BARBARITY.

Prisoners Tortured in Horrible Manner by Soldiers to Secure Confessions.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: In the Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday M. Pergamont, Constitutional Democrat, read the reports of the Interpellation Committee regarding charges that prisoners had been tortured in order to obtain confessions. Details of some seventy cases were given. They were beaten on sensitive parts of their bodies with Cossacks' whips and rubber rods, and their finger nails and hair were pulled out. The tortures in many cases were prolonged for eight to ten days. One man, who was only twenty-two years old, looked like an old man after having been tortured. M. Makaroff, Vice-Minister of the Interior, admitted the cruelty practised by the Government officials on April 13th, and announced that prosecution of the guilty ones had already been begun.

INSANE; USED REVOLVER.

St. Catharines Man Arrested — Fired Shots at Constable.

A despatch from St. Catharines says: Roland McGuire, about 30 years of age, was arrested here on Thursday, charged with being insane. Neighbors reported to the police on Wednesday that he was walking up and down the street with a loaded revolver in his hand, and when Sergt. McCarthy was sent to take him in charge McGuire barricaded himself in a room and fired several shots from his revolver. He escaped from the house and reached Niagara Falls, but returned here on Thursday morning, and was arrested on his arrival. McGuire has spent some time in the Hamilton Asylum and will probably be returned to that institution.

RUFFIAN SENTENCED.

Was Given Six Years in Kingston for Wounding.

A despatch from Peterboro' says: Fred Chambers, alias Frank Cameron, of Toronto, who pleaded guilty to three charges of wounding Levi Thorndyke, Pat King, and Gilbert Blezard at the Royal Hotel, in this city, on April 17th, and of assaulting Constable Meharry, was on Thursday sentenced in the Police Court by Magistrate Dumble to six years in the Kingston Penitentiary. The prisoner got three years on each of three charges of stabbing, two of the terms to run concurrently. Chambers has a bad record. A letter received from Chief Grasett, of Toronto, by the local police, states that since he was released from the Kingston Penitentiary in December last he has been associating with professional thieves, and it is believed has taken part in a number of recent robberies. In 1889 the prisoner was sentenced in Toronto to four years for theft. And in 1899 he was given 10 years in the penitentiary for attempted robbery, with violence, of Henry Aspdon's grocery, 216 Victoria Street, Toronto. Chambers struck down Aspdon, and felled his daughter with an axe, George Slack was his accomplice, and got 12 years.

SMALLPOX AT INGERSOLL.

Eighteen Patients in Hospital—Celebrations Are Called Off.

A despatch from Ingersoll says: The smallpox situation is causing considerable uneasiness. There are now eighteen patients in the Isolation Hospital, a new case having been discovered on Sunday. The greater number of the cases were brought to light during the past few days, and only one of them is regarded as being severe. The town already feels the effects of the outbreak. There will be no Victoria Day celebration or Old Boys' Reunion, which was to have been a three-day affair. The Caledonia Society, under whose auspices it was to have been held, decided it would be in the interests of the public to call it off. Nearly everyone is being vaccinated. The Central School has been closed and the free library and reading-room will be closed after Wednesday. The mail is being thoroughly disinfected to prevent the disease from being spread in this way.

TREASURE CAVE REVEALED.

Earthquakes Near Lisbon Disclose Buccaneer's Hoard.

A despatch from Lisbon says: Recent earthquakes in Northern Portugal have revealed a cave on the coast containing valuable treasures. They include old coins of many nationalities, especially Spanish gold doubloons, jewelry, and antique arms. They are supposed to have been a buccaneer's hoard.

SHOT SWEETHEART IN BUSH

Awful Tragedy of Stepbrother and Sister

A despatch from Parry Sound says: A story of murder and suicide, caused by jealousy, comes from the little village of Arnstein in the Northern Parry Sound District. A shocking feature of the case is that the murderer and his victim were step-brother and sister. The two lived with an elderly German couple named Supplesea, in a farmhouse near the village. Frank Varasco was the son of the wife by a former husband, and Rennie Supplesea, who was only 15 years old, was the daughter of the husband.

For some time Varasco had been paying court to the girl, and was insanely jealous of any favors which she showed to other young men of the neighborhood.

On Saturday evening he was overheard by some of the neighbors uttering threats against his brother John, 18 years old, if he did not cease his attentions to Rennie, but no particular weight was attached to them. The Sunday passed quietly with no further outbreak on his part.

On Monday morning Rennie and John went out to the sugar bush, some distance from the house, to collect sap for boiling, and while thus engaged Frank was espied coming towards them carrying a rifle. His appearance was so threatening that John ran away and hid himself in the bush, but Rennie stood her ground.

What conversation passed between them will never be known, but John from his place of hiding saw Frank suddenly raise his deer rifle, point it at his victim, only a few feet distant, and fire. Rennie fell at once, the bullet entering just beneath her left shoulder, going entirely through her body and coming out beneath her right shoulder. The wound proved fatal within a few minutes.

Then Varasco placed the muzzle of the rifle under his chin, and pulled the trigger, practically blowing the top of his head off and died instantly.

An inquest was not considered necessary, so it was decided to bury the two victims without holding one.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, April 30.—Call board quotations are:—

Wheat—Manitoba — No. 1 northern, 93c asked, Montreal; 93c bid, North Bay; spot 92½c asked, to arrive; No. 2 northern, 91c asked, en route to North Bay.

Barley—No. 2, 54c bid on a five-cent rate to Toronto; No. 3 extra, 52c bid on same basis, 54c asked 78 per cent. points; No. 3, 51c bid, 53c asked 78 per cent. points.

Peas—No. 2, 79c asked outside.

Oats—No. 2 white, 39¾c bid on a five-cent rate to Toronto.

Other prices are:—

Wheat—Manitoba—North Bay — No. 1 hard, 94c; No. 1 northern, 92c; No. 2 northern, 90c. Lake ports—May delivery—No. 1 hard, 85½c; No. 1 northern, 83½c; No. 2 northern, 81½c.

Wheat—Ontario, No. 2 white winter, 72½c to 73c; No. 2 red, 72c to 72½c; No. 2 mixed, 72c.

Oats—No. 3 white, 39c to 39½c outside; No. 2 mixed, 38c to 38½c.

Peas—78c to 78½c.

Corn—No. 3 yellow American, 55½c to 56c, lake and rail; Ontario, 46c to 47c, Chatham freights.

Rye—62c to 63c.

Barley—No. 2, nominal at 53c to 53½c; outside, No. 3 extra, 52c to 52½c; No. 3, 51c to 51½c.

Flour—Ontario—90 per cent. patents, $7.70 asked, $2.67 bid; Manitoba, first patents, $4.50; seconds, $3.75; bakers', $3.90.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Receipts are improving, and the market will gradually weaken.

Creamery, prints	28c to 29c
do solids	26c to 27c
Dairy, prints	25c to 26c
do tubs	21c to 23c

Cheese—Steady at 14c for large and 14½c for twins in job lots here.

Honey—Pails, 11c to 12c lb.; combs, $2.50 to $2.75 per dozen.

Beans—$1.50 to $1.55 for hand-picked, and $1.35 to $1.40 for primes.

Potatoes—Ontario, 85c to 90c; eastern, 95c, in car lots here Ontario nominal.

Baled Hay—$13.50 for No. 1 timothy, and $11 to $12.50 for secondary grades, in car lots here. Receipts are light, and prices firmer.

Baled Straw—$7 per ton in car lots here.

PROVISIONS.

Dressed Hogs—Steady at $9.40; heavies, $9; farmers' lots, $8.25 to $8.50 for car lots.

Pork—Short cut, $23.50 to $24 per barrel; mess, $21 to $21.50.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats.—Long clear bacon, 11c to 11½c for tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 15½c to 16c; heavy, 14½c to 15c; backs, 16½c to 17c; shoulders, 11c to 11½c; rolls, 11½c; out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Lard—Firm, tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 12¾c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, April 30.—The local grain market is still very dull and no export business to speak of.

Buckwheat—55c to 56½c per bushel.

Corn—American No. 2 yellow, 55c; No. 3 mixed, 65c.

Peas—Boiling peas, $1 in carload lots, $1.10 in jobbing lots.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat, $4.25 to $4.60; strong bakers', $4 to $4.10; winter wheat patents, $4.10 to $4.25; straight rollers, $3.60 to $3.70; do in bags, $1.65 to $1.75; extras, $1.50 to $1.55.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran in bags, $20 to $22; shorts, $22 to $22.50; Ontario bran in bags, $20 to $21; shorts, $22 to $29.50; straight grain, $28 to $29 per ton.

Rolled Oats—Per bag, $1.90 to $2.

Hay—No. 1, $12.50 to $13.50; No. 2, $12.50; No. 3, $11.50; clover mixed, $11; pure clover, $10.50 to $11 per ton in car lots.

Butter—The demand is steady and quotations 24c to 24½c.

Cheese—The quotation is still 11¾c.

Eggs—Prices are steady at 17c.

Provisions—Compound lard, 9½c to 10¼c; kettle rendered, 13c to 13½c; pure lard, 12½c to 13¼c; barrels heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $22.50; tierces heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $33; half barrels Canada short cut mess pork, $11.50; barrels selected heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $23.50; barrels Canada short back pork, family pork, $22.50; half barrels short cut back pork, $11.50; barrels light Canada short cut clear pork, $21; barrels heavy flank pork, $21; barrels clear fat backs, $24.50.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, April 30. — Flour — Steady. Wheat—Unsettled; No. 1 Northern, 91c asked; Winter, nominal. Corn—Strong; No. 2 yellow, 54c; No. 3 white, 53½c. Oats—Dull; No. 2 white, 74c; No. 2 mixed, 44½c. Barley — Strong; Western quoted 68 to 75c. Rye—Strong; No. 1 in store, 71c.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, April 30.—Wheat—Spot market firm; No. 2 red 84⅞c elevator; No. 2 red, 85⅞c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 95⅛c, opening navigation f.o.b. afloat; No. 2 hard winter, 89⅝c, opening navigation, f.o.b. afloat.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, April 30.—Trade was somewhat draggy at the Western Market today on large receipts.

Owing to delays in the sailings of the ocean vessels the export trade was dull. It is also stated that the English markets were easier. Export cattle sold at $4.85 to $5.25 per cwt.

Light well-finished butchers' heifers were wanted, and not too plentiful. For animals of this class around 1,000 lbs $5 was paid. Best butchers', $4.65 to $5; fair to good butchers', $4 to $4.50; cows, $3.25 to $4.25; mixed lots, $2 to $3.90 per cwt.

A steady demand was passing for good feeders, 1,060 to 1,100 lbs, at $4.50 to $4.75 per cwt.

Hogs sold at $6.40 for selects, and $6.15 for lights and fats.

The market for sheep and lambs was steady to firm at the following quotations: — Good grain-fed lambs were quoted at $7.50 to $8 per cwt; spring lambs, $3 to $8 each; export ewes, $5.25 to $5.50; bucks, $4.50 to $5.50.

CANADA LEADS IN AGRICULTURE

Conditions More Prosperous Than in Any Other Country.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Commons Committee on Agriculture and Colonization submitted its final report to Parliament on Thursday. It mentioned that in Great Britain the average wheat crop is 30.95 bushels per acre. In Ontario the average of winter wheat is 22.50, and of spring wheat 18.92, showing that we are not in this respect a great way behind the Mother Country; France averages 19.57 bushels, which is under the average yield for Ontario. Manitoba gives about 18.45. The North-West of Canada 19.13, while Russia in Europe gives an average of 9.05 bushels per acre, and the United States 13.43.

The Argentine Republic gives an average of 14.76 bushels per acre. Australasia as follows: New South Wales, 9.9 bushels per acre; Victoria, 7.18 bushels; South Australia, 6.62 bushels; West Australia, 11.51, and Queensland, 15.77.

Referring to the dairy industry in Canada, it says it is in a very prosperous condition. Canadian cheese is now regarded in the British market as second to that of no other country. This is largely due to the introduction of cool curing rooms, as an adjunct of cheese factories, and the ample provision for export in cold and cool storage.

Large quantities of small fruits of the apple orchards are left over annually. These are not marketable, owing to size, but it might be profitably manufactured into excellent jam, jellies, etc.

It is suggested that co-operation would probably convert what is now a loss into a profitable industry.

The report concludes: "A careful survey of the entire field demonstrates that agriculture, the corner-stone of national wealth and power is in a more prosperous condition at present in Canada than in any other country of the world, while the yet unmeasured territory of rich virginal lands awaits settlement, ready to respond bounteously to the industry and intelligence of many millions of willing hands. In a word, Canada is the world's greatest bread field of the day."

NO ALMS FOR KING AND QUEEN.

Adventure of Edward and Alexandra With Neapolitan Monks.

A despatch from Naples says: King Edward and Queen Alexandra went sightseeing here on Wednesday. They visited the ancient Church of Santa Chiara, where it happened the monks, who care for the edifice, were eating their lunch. The visitors knocked at the door, but as there was no reply they knocked again. The sacristan inside, supposing it was a beggar who had knocked, shouted:

"Go in peace, there is nothing for you."

The Royal party were greatly amused. One of the members knocked again, saying they wanted to see the church.

"Don't bother us," the sacristan responded, "this isn't sightseeing time."

The visitors would have had to accede to the rebuff, but Gen. Salsa, of the Italian army, happened to pass, recognized them, and prevailed upon the sacristan to open the door.

When the sacristan realized the situation he was profoundly apologetic. He called the other monks, who hastened to act as showmen. The church's funds benefitted from the visit.

MONTHS IN TRANSIT.

Goods Shipped From Toronto Before Christmas Still on the Road.

A despatch from Toronto says: The wholesale dry goods houses are receiving intimation that the block on the Canadian Northern and the western roads is being relieved. Gordon MacKay & Company, on Wednesday morning, received a telegram from a merchant in Saskatoon, advising the arrival of goods on April 23rd, shipped from Toronto on January 31st. Other houses shipped goods before Christmas, and these have not yet reached their destination.

A LATE OPENING.

Montreal Shipping Men Concerned Over Navigation Prospects.

A despatch from Montreal says: Montreal shipping companies are somewhat disappointed at the late opening of navigation this year. It is not expected that the first vessel of the season will come into this port until about the 2nd of May, or probably as late as the 5th of May. Grain men in the city are anxiously waiting the breaking-up of ice at Fort William and Port Arthur.

STANDS FOR THE BEST.

Sir Frederick Borden's View of the Word "Englishman."

A despatch from London says: Sir Frederick Borden, speaking at the St. George's Day banquet, said the word "Englishman" stood for everything best in humanity.

PRUNING TREES.

The Forester Leaves it to Nature—His Object to Lessen Expenses.

In the orchard or park trees are pruned by the hand of man; in a forest trees do their own pruning. This is one of the striking differences between the treatment of trees by the fruit farmer and the arboriculturist and the forester's treatment of them.

In a forest not many years pass (especially if the trees are nearly all about the same age; or, to use the forester's terms, if the stand is an even-aged one) before the light begins to be cut off from the lower branches of the trees. Now, as light is essential for the formation of the food of trees and other plants and so for their proper nourishment and growth, so the lower branches of the trees, from which the light has been cut off, gradually die, leaving the upper branches to manufacture the tree's food and so maintain its life.

Gradually the dead branches become weaker and eventually are broken off by the wind or some other agency. This process goes on all through the tree's growth, branches growing out and in the course of years being discarded as the need for them disappears.

Finally, as growth in diameter proceeds, the stub, if any has been left, is surrounded by the new wood and forms a knot in the tree. And so, often there is found the long stem of the tree, fifty, seventy, a hundred or more feet in length, with no such stubs to be seen, the dead stubs having been grown over.

The essential point to be noted is that, in growing trees under forestry methods, artificial pruning is not done, but the natural pruning is relied on. In the vast majority of cases, artificial pruning would not pay, for the original cost of pruning, together with twenty or thirty years' interest on it, would take up a large proportion of the money received from the trees. And the financial aspect of the question is always before the forester's mind.

SNOW IN SASKATCHEWAN.

Thermometer at Lumsden Registered Eight Above Zero.

A despatch from Lumsden, Sask., says: Severely cold weather prevails here. The flood in the Qu'Appelle Valley is passed. All the streams emptying into the Qu'Appelle have fallen. It was eight above zero at nine on Saturday night. The sloughs west of town are filled, and the river is ten feet below the high mark of 1904. There was a big snowstorm on Sunday morning.

FELL DEAD AFTER GOLF GAME.

Sudden End of Mr. M. V. Bethune, a Prominent Montreal Lawyer.

A despatch from Montreal says: Meredith V. Bethune, a prominent Montreal lawyer, dropped dead at Dixie on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Bethune had been out playing golf on the Dixie links most of the afternoon, and had just entered the club house when he collapsed and died almost instantly. He was 60 years old and a son of Strachan Bethune, K.C.

COURSE IN AGRICULTURE.

High Schools Ready to Adopt Education Department's Suggestion.

A despatch from Toronto Says: The Ontario Education Department is arranging for a course in agriculture in the High schools, and Dr. Seath states that already some half dozen schools are ready to fall in with the proposal. The idea is to have teachers who are graduates of the Ontario Agricultural College in addition to their other qualifications. The salary of each would be about $1,000, and the province would bear half of the expense. The course would extend over two years and would include physics, horticulture and other subjects appropriate to modern farming