

## THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

### READSTUFFS.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—Wheat—The offerings of winter wheat are very light, there is a better milling demand and holders are asking \$3c per bushel and \$1.50 per barrel west, and millers would probably have to pay that price this afternoon for car lots. But local dealers are only quoting \$1.50 bid for No. 2 red and white outside. Oats—Is steady at 72c for No. 2 east. Spring is firm at 76c to 77c for No. 2 east. Manitoba wheat is higher at 94c for No. 1 hard, 92c for No. 1 medium, and 88c for No. 2 northern at Georgian Bay ports, and more grinding in transit. Barley—is firm at \$1.17 for ears of 90 per cent patients in buyers' bags east or middle weights. Choice brands are held 16c to 20c higher. Manitoba flour is firm at \$1.65 to 84.90 for Hungarian patients, \$1.35 to \$1.60 for second patients, and \$1.25 to \$1.50 for strong bakers, bags included on the track Toronto.

Millet—is steady at \$1.7 for ears of shorts and \$1.5 for bran in bulk east or middle weights. Manitoba millet is steady at \$20 for ears of shorts and \$18 for bran, sacks included, Toronto freights.

Buckwheat—is in fair demand and steady to firm at 48c for No. 2 east or west.

Rye—is in good demand and firm at 55c for No. 2 east or west. Corn—by-finer, Canada mixed is quoted at 37c and yellow at 38c for car lots west. American is higher at 56c for No. 3 mixed and 52c for No. 3 yellow in car lots on the track Toronto.

Oats—are in good demand and dear at 38c for No. 1 white and 31c for No. 2 white east or low weights to New York. No. 2 white are quoted at 30c west.

Oatmeal—is firm at \$1.10 for ears of bags and \$1.35 for bags on the track Toronto, and 30c more for broken 16c.

Pea—is steady at 62c for No. 2 east or west.

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—The feature of the trade is the overabundance of dairy rolls, all pressing coming into the market, and dealers and considerable trouble in getting rid of anything but a small part of the stock offering. An unusual result of this glut is that the tub butter is quoted higher than rolls. The blanched roll round is easy.

Creamery prints—20c to 22c do rolls and 19c to 20c do tubs.

Dairy, lb. rolls, choice—15c to 16c do large cold, 14c to 15c do tubs, good 10c.

choice and kidney—15c to 16c do medium and 13c to 14c do poor—10c to 12c.

Cheese—is fairly steady and unchanged at 11c per pound for twins and 14c for large.

Eggs—Continues very firm in tone. Quotations are unchanged at 35c for new laid, 20c for selected fresh gathered, 27c for cold storage and 25c for dried.

Potatoes—Receipts are not heavy. Cars on the track here are quoted at 7c to 7.5c. Potatoes out of store sell at 85c to 90c.

Poultry—Outside of chickens, the demand is quiet. Quotations being quoted at 12c to 14c per pound turkeys at 12c to 13c duck at 9c to 10c, and wild fowl at 5c to 6c.

Baked Hams—The movement is quiet. Cars on track here are quoted at 8c per ext.

Baked Eggs—The bad state of the country roads is responsible for lighter receipts and the market has a firm tone. Car lots on track here are quoted at 85c to 89c per ton.

Baked Sausage—The movement is fair. Quotations are unchanged at 85 to 87.50 per ton for car lots on track here.

### MONTRÉAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Jan. 26.—Grain—The local market for oats is strong, and prices show further advances, owing to scarcity on spot. No. 2 were sold at 37c, and even a fraction more, while No. 3 sold at 36c to 36.5c, and as 36.5c was made it is thought that it would be hard to get any more at 36c. No. 2 oats, low freight west for export, 30c; No. 2 peats, 36c; rye, 52c; No. 2 barley, 12c; No. 3 extra barley, 12c; No. 3, 41c.

Flour—Demand is good and the tone firm. There is a difference of 15c per barrel between Manitoba millers, according to the quotations given out by them. Patients range from \$1.75 to \$1.90 per straight bakers, \$1.90 to \$2.10; extra, \$9.50 to \$2.65; straight rollers, in bags, \$1.90 to \$1.95, and extras, in bags, \$1.65 to \$1.75.

Feed—The demand is good and the market strong, it being expected that the consumption will increase from this out. Manitoba bran in bags, \$18; shorts, \$20 per ton; Ontario bran in bags, \$17 to \$17.50; shorts, \$19.50, to \$20; moulie, \$26 to \$27 per ton, as to quality.

Rolled Oats—The association price seems to be in force, \$2.15 being asked for bags, and \$1.40 for barrels on track.

Hay—The market is easy. We quote—No. 1, \$9 to \$10; No. 2, \$8 to \$8.50; clover, mixed, \$7 to \$7.50; clover, \$6.50 to \$7 per ton, in car lots.

Beans—Choice primes, \$1.55 to \$1.60 per bushel and \$1.50 to \$1.55 in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut mackrel, \$1.8 to \$1.95. Bright short

## BEHEADED HER CHILD.

Terrible Deed of an Insane Mother at Oakland N.J.

A Peterson, N.J., despatch says: Mrs. Arthur Oswald was arrested on Wednesday on a charge of murdering her 8-year-old son the day previous at her home in Oakland. She is believed to be insane. Since she came from Germany, she lived in New York City until about a year ago, when her husband moved to Oakland as he had obtained employment with the E. C. Potter Company, at Pompton Lake.

Being used to living in a big city she did not like the quiet life of Oakland, and had often asked her husband to return to New York. Her husband gave up his place at Pompton Lake, and on Tuesday went to Jersey City to seek employment there. On his return late at night, he found the house in darkness. He opened the door with his latch-key, and after striking a match, walked into the dining-room. There he was horrified to see the headless body of his 8-year-old son lying on the floor. The head lay near the boy's foot. Near the boy lay the body of his pet dog, which had also been beheaded.

Oswald found his wife lying in bed another room with her young baby in her arms. She was clinging tightly to the infant, and when her husband spoke to her she did not appear to recognize him. When asked about the murdered boy she said not seen to understand what was said to her. Near the bed her two older children lay sleeping in a crib. The authorities were notified and Mrs. Oswald was later placed under arrest. In the room in which the boy and the dog were killed everything was spattered with blood.

## SHRUNK FORTY PER CENT.

Effect of Surface on Our Imports From Germany.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Customs department returns shows that in the three months of October, November and December since the surtax on German products came into full operation, our purchases from that country have decreased by forty per cent.

The following statement of imports of dutiable goods from Germany bears out this statement:

1902. 1903.

October ... \$935,321 81,356,031

November ... 657,926 392,166

December ... 789,501 353,926

## CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—Prices on the whole were steady to firm, though there is a feeling that there is plenty of cattle to come forward as soon as the roads are opened, and buyers are not eager to buy much meat enough to meet immediate requirements.

Export—There were four or five loads of export in the market, of fairly good quality. Prices, however, are not high, foreign quotations not being particularly encouraging just now. The range to-day was from \$1.50 to \$1.75.

Butchers—The light corn helped to stimulate prices a little for the choice cattle. Good butchers' cattle were about steady while common cattle and 20c for ears of bags, and \$1.35 for bags on the track Toronto, and 30c more for broken 16c.

Stokeys—There is a fair demand for stockers and feeders, but there was practically none offering.

Milk cows—The demand is very fair, with not many offering.

Sheep and lambs—Everything was sold, with trade good and prospects steady. Lambs are steady at \$1.60 to \$1.65, ears, \$2 to \$2.50.

Hogs—The market continues steady, with no change in the Toronto market quotations last at \$5.12, and lights and flats at \$1.87.

Export, heavy ... 1.36 to \$1.75

Export, light ... 1.00 to 1.25

Bulls, export, heavy ... 3.75 to 4.00

To, light ... 3.00 to 3.75

Feeders, 800 lbs. and up ... 3.00 to 3.25

Wards L. ... 2.00 to 2.25

pounds ... 2.50 to 3.42

... 900 lbs. ... 2.75 to 3.50

Butchers' cattle, choice ... 3.65 to 7.25

do, medium ... 3.30 to 5.10

do, picked ... 1.25 to 1.40

do, bulls ... 2.75 to 3.00

do, rough ... 2.50 to 2.60

Light stock bulls, ext ... 2.25 to 2.50

Light stock ... 1.60 to 1.75

Bags, best ... 5.12 to 5.25

do, light ... 3.87 to 4.00

Sheep, export, ewes ... 3.50 to 3.75

Lambs ... 1.60 to 1.75

Bucks ... 2.50 to 3.00

Calfs, each ... 2.25 to 3.50

Calves, each ... 2.00 to 10.00

## A PROSPEROUS PROVINCE.

Industrial Conditions in British Columbia.

A Victoria despatch says: A bulletin just issued by the Bureau of Provincial Information for British Columbia, reviewing the industrial conditions of the past year, gives the output of the metalliferous mines of the province at 1,276,000 tons. The coal mining amounted to 168,000 tons. The total value of the mining output is \$19,200,000; which was nearly two millions of dollars increase over the previous year, notwithstanding the strike which paralyzed the industry in the early part of the past year.

With the exception of the salmon pack, which is great, below the average, all other industries show large increases. Old timber during the year was fifteen per cent greater, the sawing output one-third, fruit marketed, thirty-five per cent, in trees, half and other fish, forty per cent.

The value of the total productions of the province was about thirty million dollars. The value of the exports was twenty-nine millions, five millions increase over the previous year.

## FEARS OF WAR DISPELLED.

Peace Is Assured For a Long Time to Come.

A St. Petersburg despatch says: The Novo-Venya states that news just received from Japan has dispelled all fears of war. Peace has apparently been assured for a long time to come. It is officially stated that the Far East Committee, at a meeting under the Czar's presidency on Thursday, practically completed the answer to Japan, which will be shortly presented.

It is the impression in official circles that it will be courteous, but firmly, insist that whatever commercial concessions have been granted in Manchuria that territory must remain politically and strategically under Russian influence. It is alleged that the terms of the agreement are inspired by the reported readiness of Japan to undertake not to fortify ports on the Corian coast, which would threaten Russian communications between Vladivostok and Port Arthur, and also to her willingness to negotiate with China, providing for the permanent security of the railroads.

## SMOOTHERED TO DEATH.

Four Men Killed by Cave-in in Montana Mine.

A Butte, Mont., despatch says: By a cave-in in earth in the East Gray Rock mine, on Wednesday, one of the Amalgamated properties, four men were killed and two injured. The men should be compelled to provide blankets, the lack of which indirectly caused the death. The landlord is the Prince of Wales, and the house belongs to the Duke of Cornwall.

After the Prince: His Neglect Caused the Death of a Woman.

A London despatch says: At Lambeth on Monday, coroner's jury returning a verdict of accidental death in the case of a woman who fell down stairs, added that the landlord should be compelled to provide blankets, the lack of which indirectly caused the death. The landlord is the Prince of Wales, and the house belongs to the Duke of Cornwall.

## THE BREEDING OF GRAIN MAKES WOOD FIRE-PROOF.

Effort Being Made to Form an Association.

Variation Can Be Turned to Account in the Improvement of Plants.

Good work has been done along various lines by the Dominion Department of Agriculture and by some of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture in Canada with a view to encourage the use of high class seed in the best varieties, but there is yet room for a considerable increase in the average yield of common field crops by the use of better seed grain.

The object of forming associations of seed growers may not be perfectly clear to all. The idea may be new in Canada, but there are associations of seed growers in other countries, such as the Illinois Seed Crop Growers Association, that are doing good work. The benefits derived from associations of breeders of live stock are pretty well understood.

Associations of breeders of pure bred stock fix a standard which must be attained before animals will be recognized as pure bred. In fixing standards of excellence for pedigree animals, the principles which underlie improvement of animals are recognized.

The same principles that are applied in the improvement of animals are also applied in the improvements of varieties of farm crops.

## HEREDITY IS THE LEVER.

which is made by either breeding or selecting.

Hereditability is the lever upon which breeders must be taken in its broad use, because it would not be possible to make improvement if it were not for the tendency toward variation.

Hereditability and the tendency toward variation can be turned to account in the improvement of plants equally as well as in the improvement of animals, but unfortunately few farmers make any attempt to systematically apply these principles to the improvement of plants.

Through heredity and variation improved varieties of field crops tend to revert to the wild types from which they evolved; but when these improved sorts are provided with the environment best suited to their growth, and a continued selection of the most desirable specimens practiced, this natural tendency toward "reversion" is overcome.

It is highly important that the variety of grain be well suited to the locality where it is to be grown, too much faith has been placed in the names of varieties without due attention to the quality of the seed itself. It is not always recognized that there may be much difference between two strains of seed of the same variety of grain as there is between two distinct varieties, so far as the quality of the seed to give a large yield of grain of good quality is concerned.

It is, therefore, important that the best seed of the best varieties has been kindly treated and continued selection for several years. In the production of good quality crops, the cost of the seed is but the influence of the seed is great. Plumpness and freedom from impurities is not sufficient proof that seed grain is capable of giving a good crop. Breeders of poultry do not pay much attention to the size of eggs for incubation; they want, first of all, to know something about the good qualities that the egg has inherited from the parents, and not only from the parents, but from the majority of the ancestors.

It is equally important that seed be taken from a crop in which the individual plants have had an opportunity to attain a maximum yield per plant, and it is just as important to have definite information about the creeps and how the work of selection was carried on.

SEVERAL PRECEDING YEARS

as it is to have a knowledge of the ancestors of breeding animals.

In consideration of these principles which underlie improvement in common grain crops, and in view of the limited supply and growing demand for high class seed grain, efforts are being made by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa to form an association of seed producers and seed consumers.

According to the provisional rules of the association, seed grain that is pure, true to variety, and that had the benefit of a system of careful growing and continued selection for three consecutive years is recognized as improved-seed. The operations of the association are closely inspected and records are kept of the amount and pedigree of the seed they produce. It is proposed to issue a catalogue for general distribution each year in which names and addresses of members will be given, together with the kind and varieties of seed produced by the members,