

FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Russian Czar Will Introduce Constitutional Government.

DEMANDS BROAD ELECTION LAW.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The first national convention organization by a political party in the history of Russia, that of the Constitutional Democrats, opened here on Thursday. Two hundred and fifty delegates, representing sixty provincial organizations, were present. Under the chairmanship of M. Petrunkevitch, of Iver, the convention took up the discussion of the party's attitude towards the election to the National Assembly. Prof. Milukoff, Editor Hesson and Prince Hakeffsky were the leading speakers. The two first named advocated participation in the Douma, but only so long as it was shown that the majority of the Douma sympathized with the principles of the party. Prof. Milukoff declared that unless the results of the preliminary elections were favorable to the Constitutional Democrats, the latter should withdraw from the electoral colleges.

Editor Hesson said, in view of the gathering agrarian storm, unless the representatives in the Douma immediately instituted all the liberties demanded and passed a broad and simple election law, instead of the present "worthless" law, the "struggle must be recommenced along the old lines, and all the forces of society must be mobilized to war against the common enemy."

The delegates reported that the party had made good progress, but that the reactionary local authorities were interfering with the propaganda in various sections. Complaints concerning this interference, they said, had been made to Count Witte, but only slight satisfaction had been given.

CZAR'S FIRM DECISION.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Times cables:—Although the present government's apparent determination to persist in a policy of reaction, taken in conjunction with the disastrous condition of the country's finances and the spectre of famine and unremitting bitterness among all classes, does not encourage the hope of a peaceful development of the Russian crisis there, is, at least, one bright spot in the horizon. This ray of light is furnished by the persistent, unshakable determination of the Sovereign to introduce constitutional government. It was announced on Wednesday that the Emperor has ordered a council of Ministers to elaborate an amendment of the organic laws of the empire in conformity with the manifesto of October 30. Although the announcement is not official, I am satisfied that it certainly represents the intentions of Nicholas.

CARE IN MANUFACTURE

CHEESE AND BUTTER DISCUSSED BY WESTERN DAIRYMEN.

Valuable Pointers on Preparations of Canadian Products for the British Market.

At the Western Dairymen's Convention held at Ingersoll last week, Geo. H. Barr, chief instructor for Western Ontario, presented a report of the work conducted during the past season. The number of instructors in the district in 1905 was one greater than during the previous year. In the district there are 21 cheese factories, and of these 171 were visited regularly; 590 patrons were visited by the instructors, and \$35,033 was expended in building new factories and making general improvements. Generally, the quality of milk delivered at the factories showed considerable improvement over the previous year. "Still," said the instructor, "there is a lot of over-ripe cream coming in, and a very regrettable feature is that in 1905 there were more cases of watering and skimming milk than in the previous year. This I consider a reflection on the farmers." The quality of the cheese produced was, on the whole, superior to anything ever turned out before, but a few dry hard cheeses were made during the hot summer months.

NEGLECT OF OPPORTUNITIES.

G. A. Putnam, Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes, in an address, dealt with some features of agricultural education. He drew attention to the fact that farmers in too many cases do not take advantage of the opportunities for education and benefit offered by Government and other institutions. Farmers' Institutes meetings and conventions in general were not patronized as they should be by the farmers. Those who needed the instruction most too often did not take the trouble to come out to the meetings.

Referring to the bacon industry, Mr. Putnam stated that several of the institute workers who have been in different sections of the province report that farmers are in many cases reducing their production of hogs owing to the unsettled condition of the bacon industry. Mr. Putnam pointed out that dairymen could not work their business to advantage unless hog production received its fair share of attention, and he urged upon the farmers the importance of maintaining both the supply of hogs and the desirable bacon type.

A GRAIN FAMINE.

Second reports from the famine districts are very alarming. Grain cannot be transported owing to the disorganization of the railway service. It is reported from Kiev that agrarian outrages have broken out afresh. Policemaster Rostoff on the Don has been indicted for not preventing a massacre of Jews.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The holiday truce in Russian politics is over, and the new political parties are mustering their strength for Russia's first all-important electoral campaign. There will be a conference of leaders of the allied moderate parties from various parts of the empire here this week. This coalition, which embraces the party of law and order, the Octobrists and five lesser factions, has chosen the name of Constitutional Monarchists, and will nominate candidates in common. Though officially they are in favor of continuing the armed revolt, they have realized the necessity for securing representation in the coming National Assembly, and are concentrating their attention on securing a full registration from the Labor, professional and Socialistic organizations.

A LILLIPUTIAN REPUBLIC.

Following the example of their brothers on the mainland, the peasantry of even the tiniest province in the Baltic have instituted independent republics. One of these, the Islet Linnusit, probably the smallest State in the world, already boasts of a revolution and a second President, the citizens having risen and overthrown the first, the present Chief Magistrate, Janeenson, addressing them in proclamations as "My faithful subjects."

PLOT TO KILL DOUBASOFF.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The police of Moscow warned Vice-Admiral Doubasoff, Governor-General of Moscow, not to attend the ceremony of blessing the waters there because they had learned of a plot to kill him with bombs. He replied that if they knew of the plot they ought to know how to prevent its execution. He attended the ceremony and returned unharmed. It seems that the plot was genuine. A woman calling herself Princess Koslovskaya and two or three others were arrested. Eight bombs and a quantity of arms and correspondence were found at Princess Koslovskaya's residence. The papers seized indicated that the conspiracy was aimed at Governor Doubasoff.

CHEESE IN ENGLAND.

Dealing with Canadian cheese in England, Prof. H. H. Dean, of the Ontario Agricultural College, gave an address based on his observations while in the Old Country last summer. Referring to the special features of the different English markets, Prof. Dean stated that, in his opinion, a heavy loss is being sustained by makers in Ontario producing a cheese too close in texture. The English market does not demand such cheese, and in producing it more acid must be developed, and more milk is required to make a pound of cheese, thus making it much more expensive to produce. Prof. Dean stated that early in the season English buyers expected to get Canadian cheese at a fairly low price, as the prospects were for a heavy production. The Canadian merchants and factory men, however, held out for good prices, and through their action the farmers of the country are to-day from \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 better off than they would have been had the merchants not acted as they did.

COOL CURING.

J. A. Ruddy, Dairy Commissioner for Canada, discussed the cheese situation, and drew attention to the fact that at present Canada supplies about 80 per cent. of the cheese imported to Great Britain. But the importation of cheese into Britain has not increased within the last few years, and in order that we may increase our shipments we must increase the demand by improving the quality of our products. Mr. Ruddy contended that the most efficient means of improving the quality of Canadian cheese, and thus increasing the demand, is in having it cured at a temperature not above 60 degrees.

POINTERS ON BUTTER MAKING.

George H. Barr presented the instructor's report. In Western Ontario there are now 71 creameries, as compared with 59 in 1904. Of the total number 53 last year were visited regularly by the instructors, 324 visits being made. Of the 71 creameries 5 received whole milk, 11 were conducted on the combination, and 55 were cream-gathering creameries; 49 used the Babcock test and 22 the oil-test churn. In the district there was an expenditure of \$18,210 on new creameries and improvements.

A feature of the meeting was an address by Prof. G. F. McKay, of Ames Agricultural College, Iowa, who stated that the production of dairy produce in the United States in 1905 was valued at \$700,000,000. Of this \$300,000,000 was represented in butter. The State of Iowa alone produced butter and eggs in quantities which made them of greater value than the combined gold output of the United States and Alaska.

After Prof. McKay addresses were de-

livered by J. A. Ruddy and J. A. McFeeters, of Owen Sound, dealing with some needs of the industry. Mr. Ruddy referred to the conditions in Europe, and pointed out that considerable loss resulted to the butter trade through mould on butter. Prof. F. S. Harrison, of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, discussing this question, stated that moulds were encouraged by loose packing of butter and the use of green wood for boxes. He recommended that butter paper be dipped into formalin, as the best preventive measure against mould.

PRESIDENT CREELMAN.

Mr. George C. Creelman, President O.A.C., Guelph, gave an address largely of an entertaining character adapted to an audience where others than those directly connected with dairy work were represented. He expressed a hope that he would see the day when, as in the old land, one county would be noted for its sheep, another one for breed of cattle, another for another breed, so that buyers wanting a particular class of animal could go direct to the particular county and secure what they required. He approved of Premier Whitney's scheme to have agricultural high schools in various parts of the Province.

BISHOP IN HOT WATER.

Wrote a Letter Expiating on Japanese Social Immorality.

A Tokio despatch says: There is intense feeling against William Awdry, the Anglican Bishop of South Tokio. He wrote a letter last autumn to the London Times, expiating on Japanese social immorality. His letter attracted wide attention, and has evoked some strong replies from Baron Suematsu, son-in-law of Marquis Ito, and former Minister of the Interior, now a resident of England, and others in that country, and Baron Kaneko, former Minister of Justice, here. The newspapers state that already they have created a strong sentiment in England that the Japanese are unworthy of being allies. Those who have replied to the letter stigmatize it as the act of a spy. Already the Bishop has received threatening letters, and fear of violence has induced his English and Japanese friends to form a special society for his protection. Fortunately, the Bishop is now away upon a mission to the Benin Islands.

DEAD BESIDE THE TRAIL.

The Mounted Police are Investigating the Case.

A despatch from Lloydminster, N. W. T., says: A case which is attracting the attention of the Mounted Police down the line will probably be investigated by Coroner Rush of Vegreville at the request of Inspector Strickland. According to the story which has reached the authorities, John Fletting and a brother left Lloydminster one afternoon about a month ago with a team of horses to drive to their claims, a few miles south. When they left they were intoxicated and plentifully supplied with whiskey. A few hours afterwards the brother, still intoxicated, arrived at the homestead of some Galicians, and asked them to go out and look for his brother John, who, he said, had got lost on the road somewhere. The Galicians went out and found John Fletting lying alongside the trail about two miles from the house, dead. They brought the body to the house and next day it was buried without the formality of a Coroner's inquest. Owing to reports since circulated, the police are investigating.

APPLE SHIPPERS FINED.

Were Guilty of Violation of Fruit Marks Act.

A Trenton, Ont., despatch says: Two cases of importance to fruit-growers and exporters are disposed of before Magistrate O'Rourke here on Thursday, when convictions for violation of section six of the Fruit Marks Act were registered against James Coyle and F. C. Morrow. The former contested the action and a fine of \$50 and costs or 30 days in jail was imposed. This was at the rate of \$1 per barrel, the Court finding that in the shipment complained of there were 50 barrels below the standard required in the Act. Mr. Morrow entered a plea of guilty and was let off with a fine of \$5 and costs. The inspectors pointed out that in Mr. Morrow's case they examined five barrels, and that subsequently he had given them a written admission that there were at least 40 barrels of apples marked XXX that were packed in the same quality of grade as the five examined by the inspectors and found to be below the standard.

THE MIKASA DOOMED.

Attempt to Pump Out Togo's Flagship a Failure.

A Tokio despatch says: An attempt was made on Wednesday to pump out the battleship Mikasa which caught fire at Sasebo Sept. 12th and sank after an explosion. The attempt was a failure, and it disclosed unexpected rents in her hull.

IMMIGRATION IS INCREASING.

Ten Thousand More Last Year Than During Last Season.

A despatch from Ottawa says: For the year ending December last there was an increase in immigration of 10,395, as compared with the year previous. The arrivals for the year 1905 were: British, 64,863; Continental, 35,331, and United States, 44,424, making a total of 144,618, as compared with 134,223 for 1904. The prospects are that the returns for 1906 will be greater than for the past year.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Jan. 23.—Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white, 79c; red, 78c to 79c; mixed, 78c; goose, 75c; spring, 74c to 75c, at outside points.

Wheat—Manitoba—No. 1 northern, 86½c; No. 2 northern, 84c; No. 3 northern, 82c. All-rail quotations, North Bay, are: No. 1 hard, 90c; No. 1 northern, 87½c.

Flour—Ontario—The market is firmer at \$3.10 to \$3.15 bid for export for 90 per cent. patents at outside points. One sale was reported at \$3.20. Manitoba—First patents easier, \$4.40 to \$4.50; second patents, \$4.20 to \$4.30.

Milled—Ontario bran in bags outside, \$17; shorts, \$18.

Oats—Firm at 35c to 36c, outside.

Barley—48c to 49c for No. 2, 43c to 45c for No. 3 extra and 42c to 43c for No. 3, outside.

Peas—Firm at 79c, outside.

Rye—70c, outside.

Buckwheat—Firm at 52½c to 53c, outside.

Corn—Canadian, 44½c, Chatham freights; American, No. 2 yellow, 51½c; No. 3 yellow, 51c; mixed, 50½c, Toronto freights.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Quotations are unchanged.

Creamery 24c to 25c

do solids 23c to 24c

Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice, 21c to 22c

do tubs 21c to 22c

do medium 19c to 20c

do inferior 18c to 20c

Cheese—Unchanged at 13c for large and 13½c for twins.

Eggs—New laid are offering at 24c to 25c, cold storage at 18c to 19c, and lamed at 17c.

Poultry—Fat chickens, 10c to 11c, thin 7c to 8c; fat hens 7½c to 8½c, thin 6c to 7c; ducks 12c to 13c, thin 6c to 8c; geese 10c to 11c; turkeys 14c to 15c for choice small lots.

Dressed Hogs—The market is quotable higher at \$8.50 to \$8.75 per cwt. for carcots here.

Potatoes—Ontario, 65c to 75c per bag, on track here, 75c to 85c out of store; eastern, 70c to 8c on track and 80c to 90c out of store.

Baled Hay—\$8 per ton for No. 1 timothy, in carcots here, and \$6 for No. 2.

Baled Straw—Carcots on track here are quoted unchanged at \$6 per ton.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Jan. 17.—Grain—Although business is rather quiet on account of the unfavorable weather and other conditions, the local grain markets are very firm in tone.

Oats—No. 2 white, 40c; No. 3 white, 38½c to 39c, and No. 4 white, 38c.

Peas—79c f.o.b. per bushel.

Barley—Manitoba, No. 3, 47½c; No. 4, 45½c to 46c.

Corn—American mixed, 53c; No. 3 yellow, 53½c extra.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$4 to \$4.50; strong bakers', \$4.20; winter wheat patents, \$4.25 to \$4.50; straight rollers, \$4 to \$4.10; in bags, \$1.85 to \$1.95; extras, \$1.65 to \$1.75.

Milled—Manitoba bran in bags, \$18; shorts, \$20 per ton; Ontario bran in bulk, \$14.50 to \$15; shorts, \$20; milled mouille, \$21 to \$24; straight grain mouille, \$25 to \$27 per ton.

Rolled Oats—Per bag, \$2.40.

Cornmeal—\$1.45 to \$1.50 per bag.

Hay—No. 1, \$8.50 to \$9; No. 2, \$7.25 to \$7.50; clover, \$6 per ton in car lots.

Cheese—Holders are asking 13c to 13½c.

Butter—Choice creamery is selling in the local market at 23c to 23½c, and under grades at 22c to 22½c. Some fancy stock is bringing 23½c. Dairy butter is in good demand in 21c in tubs and 21c to 21½c for rolls.

Eggs—Selects quoted at from 23c to 24c, and lamed at 18c to 19c. Strictly new laid are selling well at 28c.

Potatoes—In bags of 90 pounds, 65c to \$1.

Honey—White clover, in comb, 13c to 14c per pound sections; extract, 8c to 9c; buckwheat, 7c to 7c.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$19 to \$20; light short cut, \$18 to \$19; American short cut, \$19; American cut clear fat back, \$19 to \$20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian pure lard, 10½c to 11c; kettle rendered, 11½c to 12c; ham, 12c to 13c, according to size; bacon, 13c to 14c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, \$9.75 to \$10; country dressed, \$8.75 to \$9.50; alive, \$7.25 for mixed lots.

BUFFALO MARKETS.

Buffalo, Jan. 23.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Nothing doing. Corn—Firm; No. 2 yellow, 48 to 48½c; No. 2 corn, 48½c. Oats—Unsettled; No. 2 white, 35½c to 36c; No. 2 mixed, 34½c.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

New York, Jan. 23.—Wheat—Spot easy; No. 2 red, 90½c in elevator and 92½c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 97½c f.o.b. afloat.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 23.—The features of trading at the Western Cattle Market to-day were a further advance in hog prices and an easier feeling in butcher cattle.

Export Cattle—Quotations are unchanged. Choice are quoted at \$4.60 to \$5, good to medium at \$4 to \$4.50, others at \$3.75 to \$4, bulls at \$3.50 to \$4, and cows at \$2.75 to \$3.50.

Butcher Cattle—Picked lots \$4.20 to \$4.50, good to choice \$3.70 to \$4.20, fair to good \$3 to \$3.60, common \$2.50 to \$3, cows \$2 to \$2.75, bulls \$1.75 to \$2.25, and canners \$1.75 to \$2.50.

Stockers and Feeders—Short-keep feeders are quoted at \$3.60 to \$4, good feeders at \$3.40 to \$3.65, medium at \$2.50 to \$3.50, bulls at \$2 to \$2.75, good stockers

run at \$2.80 to \$3.00, rough to common at \$2 to \$2.70, and bulls at \$1.75 to \$2.50. Milch Cows—Quotations are unchanged at \$30 to \$60 each.

Calves—Quotations are unchanged at \$2 to \$12 each and 3½c to 6½c per lb.

Sheep and Lambs—Export ewes are quoted at \$4.50 to \$4.75 per cwt., and bucks and culls at \$3.50 to \$3.75. Grain-fed lambs, ewes and wethers, \$6.40 to \$6.65, and bucks at \$6 to \$6.25.

Hogs—The market continues firm and is quoted at an advance of 10c per cwt., at \$6.75 for selects and \$3.50 for light and fats.

TENDERS CALLED SOON.

Contracts on Continental Will be Rushed.

An Ottawa despatch says: Within a few days the National Transcontinental Railway Commissioners will probably be calling for tenders for construction in portions of the Government section between Quebec and Winnipeg. Messrs. Morse, Wainwright and Wood, directors of the Grand Trunk Pacific, were in the city on Friday in conference with the National Transcontinental Railway Commissioners in connection with the construction work on the Government section, which the company is anxious should be rushed with all possible expedition from Winnipeg to Lake Superior Junction.

Another incentive to the early letting of contracts is that successful tenderers may be able to push supplies northward while the ice and snow affords facilities for transportation. The letting of all contracts will be subject to approval by the Governor-in-Council. Assurances were given by Mr. Parent and his colleagues that tenders would be asked within two or three weeks, and the work energetically pushed so that the line would be ready for traffic by August, 1907.

LARGE SLAUGHTER OF DEER.

Express Companies Carried 3,310 From Hunting Grounds.

A despatch from Toronto says: Returns from the express companies to Chief Game Warden Tinsley indicate that the slaughter of deer in the forests of the province during the last open season was larger than in former years. The companies carried 3,310 carcasses from the various shipping points in the hunting districts. This was 270 more than in the former season, but it does not represent more than a quarter of the game shot. Many hunters residing in the neighborhood kill their two deer to which they are entitled and do not need to send them to their homes by rail, but cart them away. A large number of moose were also exterminated. The express companies have carried 150 heads of these animals. Others remain yet to be sent.

FAMINE IN NORTH JAPAN.

Nearly One Million Persons Known to be Suffering.

A Tokio despatch says: Conservatively compiled statistics, published in the newspapers, show there are 960,000 persons in North Japan who are famine-stricken. Undoubtedly the suffering is far greater than the Government is willing to advertise.

Premier Saionji has announced the adoption of the budget of the former Premier, Katsura. He urges Constitutionalists to give him their undivided support.

DERRICK FELL, MEN CRUSHE.

Avalanche of Rock and Timber Precipitated into Deep Cut.

A despatch from Keewatin, Ont., says: A serious accident occurred on Saturday at the new Keewatin flour mill being constructed by the Macdonald Engineering Company, of Chicago. A derrick, which was used for lifting rock from a raceway, forty feet in depth, broke, precipitating its load of rock and huge timbers into a cut in which twenty men were at work. The timbers fell, pinning one man to the earth. Three others were hit by falling rock. The injured man was at once conveyed to the Keewatin Hospital, where a Galician, name unknown, died. The others are lying at the point of death.

CANADIAN GRAIN.

More Carried by Vessels of the United States.

An Ottawa despatch says: During the period from Sept. 1st to the close of navigation, Dec. 12th, there were shipped from Port Arthur and Fort William of the crop of 1905 30,358,066 bushels of wheat, 396,291 bushels of oats, 280,964 bushels of barley, and 147,469 bushels of flax. Of the wheat 19,139,184 bushels was carried in Canadian and 11,218,882 bushels in American vessels, of which latter quantity 10,613,822 bushels went to Buffalo, 1,382,000 bushels to Port Huron and about half a million bushels to Erie, Pa.

During the corresponding period of 1904 only 2,724,135 bushels of Canadian wheat, out of a total of 17,116,281 bushels shipped, were forwarded by American ports.

ZERO IN PEKIN.

First Snowfall—Poor Suffering and Beggars Freezing.

A Pekin despatch says: The first snow of the winter fell here last night, and was followed by zero weather, the temperature being the lowest for years. The poor are suffering severely, and beggars are freezing. The jinricksha men are unsheltered.