

PACKING PLANT BURNED

Calgary Has One of the Most Destructive Conflagrations that Ever Visited Western Canada

A despatch from Calgary, Alberta, says: One of the most disastrous fires in the history of western Canada occurred on Sunday, when the large packing plant of P. Burns & Company was totally destroyed by fire. The loss, including carcasses in cold storage, will probably be in excess of \$2,000,000. On account of the low water pressure the fire department was unable to do effective work. The loss is serious, in that the local plant was the largest institution of its kind in the west, from which all of the western cities, including Vancouver and Victoria and the coast cities, draw largely for their meat supply, and butchering in the open may have to be resorted to in order to prevent a meat famine. The storage plant contained from 15,000 to 20,000 carcasses.

The fire was discovered about

12.30 o'clock Sunday morning. The whole of the basement was in flames, and the packing plant department, augmented by all of the city fire department, was unable to make any headway against the flames. Repeatedly the firemen entered the basement, only to be driven back by the overpowering ammonia fumes. In a short time the fire had gotten into the greas-soaked floors of the upper stories, and when this occurred the water had no effect whatever. Several of the firemen had narrow escapes from exploding ammonia tanks, but no one was seriously injured. The fire raged furiously all day and by night little remained of the magnificent plant but charred ruins. The property destroyed was fully insured, the insurance of the stock in storage being in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES OF AMERICA.

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

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, Jan. 14.—Manitoba Wheat—Lake ports, No. 1 northern, 94 1/2c; No. 2, 92c; No. 3, 89 1/2c; feed wheat, 65c.
Ontario Wheat—No. 2, 90c to 91c for car lots outside, ranging down to 70c for poor grades.
Ontario Oats—No. 2 white, 35c to 36c at western points, 37c to 38c on track, Toronto.
Manitoba Oats—No. 2 C. W. oats, 41 1/2c, track, bay ports; No. 3 C. W., 39 1/2c; No. 4 feed, 39 1/2c for prompt shipment.
Corn—American No. 3, all rail, Toronto, December shipment, 54 1/2c.
Peas—No. 2, \$1.10 to \$1.20, car lots outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 47c to 48c.
Rye—No. 2, 75c to 76c.
Rolled Oats—Per bag of 90 pounds, \$2.50; per barrel, \$4.85, wholesale, Windsor to Montreal.
Barley—Good malting, outside, 60c to 62c.
Milfeed—Manitoba bran, \$10.00 to \$20.00, in bags, track, Toronto, shorts, \$22.00 to \$25.00; Ontario bran, \$19.00 to \$20.00, in bags, shorts, \$22 to \$23.00.
Manitoba Flour—First patents, \$5.50 in jute bags; second patents, \$4.90 in jute bags; strong bakers, \$4.60 in jute bags. In cotton bags, ten cents more per barrel.
Ontario Flour—Winter wheat flour, 90 per cent. patents, is quoted at \$4.05 to \$4.10, delivered Toronto, and \$3.90 sea-board.

Country Produce.

Toronto wholesale selling prices:—
Eggs—Cold-storage eggs, 25c to 28c in case lots; fresh eggs are selling at 30c to 32c; strictly new-laid at 40c, and American new-laid at 35c.
Cheese—Tins, new, 14 1/2c to 15c, and large, new, at 14 1/2c; old cheese, twins, 15 1/2c to 16 1/2c; large, 16c.
Butter—Latest butter quotations are: Creamery prints, 31 to 32c; do., solids, 27 to 28c; dairy prints, 26 to 27c; inferior bakers', 23 to 24c.
Honey—Buckwheat, 9c pound in tins and in barrels; strained clover honey, 12 1/2c a pound in 60-pound tins, 12 3/4c in 10-pound tins; 13c in 5-pound tins; comb honey, No. 1, \$2.50 per dozen; extra, \$3 per dozen; No. 2, \$2.40 per dozen.
Poultry—Live chickens, wholesale, 10c to 11c per pound; fowl, 8c to 10c; ducks, 1c to 1 1/2c; live turkeys, 15c to 17c; geese, 1c to 1 1/2c. Dressed poultry, 2c to 3c above live quotations, excepting dressed turkeys at 2c to 2 1/2c.
Beans—\$2.75 for primes and \$2.85 for hand-picked.
Potatoes—Ontario potatoes, 90c to 95c per bag; car lots, 80c; New Brunswicks, \$1.05 to \$1.10 per bag, out of store; 95c in car lots.
Spanish Onions—Per case, \$2.50.

Provisions.

Wholesale dealers are selling to the trade as follows:—
Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—Rolls—Smoked, 14 1/2c to 15c; hams, medium, 17c to 17 1/2c; heavy, 15 1/2c to 16c; breakfast bacon, 18c; long clear bacon, tons and cases, 15 1/2c; backs (plain), 21 1/2c; backs (seasoned), 22c.
Green Meats—Out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.
Pork—Short cut, 25c to 28c per barrel; moss pork, \$21.50 to \$22.

THE DAIRYING INDUSTRY

Startling Results Announced by Chas. F. Whitley at Eastern Dairymen's Association Meeting

A despatch from Kingston says: In an address far more romantic than the story of Cobalt, the great possibilities of the dairying industry of Ontario were revealed to the Dairymen's Association of Eastern Ontario by Charles F. Whitley of the Dairy Division of the Federal Department of Agriculture. Even the most inveterate optimist must have been startled.
"Ontario has 1,250,000 milk cows," said Mr. Whitley. "With an increase of only \$10 each the extra revenue derived from them might easily be over \$12,000,000 a year, and that is very conservative. The possible extra profit is \$24,000,000."
Mr. Whitley said that systematic cow-testing, the bedrock principle of dairy herd improvement, was becoming more general throughout

the Province, and the cows that were not money-makers were being weeded out. Disorder and chaos were giving way to system, satisfaction and profit.

Comparing the performance of the three hundred best cows in Ontario with the three hundred poorest, Mr. Whitley said the recorders working under his direction had obtained some amazing information last year. The three hundred poor animals had yielded \$33.33 each, the cost being \$33, leaving a profit of 33 cents. The best three hundred cows yielded \$104 each; feed cost \$40, leaving \$64 profit per animal. The best three hundred gave over two million pounds of milk more than the poorest three hundred. Thus the startling discovery was made that each one of the three hundred good cows made as much profit as 195 of the poor kind.

ON FIRE IN MID-OCEAN.

Passengers on Allan Liner Have a Thrilling Experience.

A despatch from St. John says: A narrow escape from destruction from fire and severe experiences by passengers and crew were reported by the Allan Line steamer Carthaginian, which arrived here on Friday night from Liverpool. The steamer left Liverpool December 28 for St. John's, Halifax and Philadelphia. Capt. McKillop said that when she was three days out her cargo caught fire in some unexplained manner. The flames spread so rapidly that it was necessary to pump an enormous amount of water into the vessel to drown them out. The fire was finally extinguished, but for twelve hours the water was knee deep on the lower deck. It is estimated that repairs to the vessel will cost \$10,000. A large part of the general cargo was damaged.

GASOLINE LAMP EXPLODED.

Jouquiere Woman Killed, Another and Two Children Hurt.

A despatch from Quebec says: A fatal accident occurred on Thursday night at Jouquiere, 10 miles from Chicoutimi, by which one woman lost her life and another woman and two children were badly burned. In the residence of one Hick, a gasoline lamp exploded, instantly killing Mrs. Lilaburn, a servant in the family. Mrs. Hick and two of her children were badly burned. How the explosion occurred is unknown. The house was only slightly damaged.

SIXTY VESSELS READY.

Unique Result of Sending Icebreakers to Fort William.

A despatch from Fort William says: Ready with the first breaking of ice in Thunder Bay and Lake Superior to steam out of the harbor to their destinations, sixty vessels are tied up at the elevators in Fort William with 13,000,000 bushels of grain in their holds. This work, which has never been equaled at the head of the lakes, is due to keeping the harbor open after navigation had closed. The vessels were able to move to different elevators with little or no assistance and without any undue rush. Icebreakers are breaking ice two feet thick in the harbor and will continue to keep the river open until January 20. Practically all the vessels here have been loaded, and there will be no necessity of work being done after the ice breakers quit.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECTED.

Canadian Central & Labrador to Run from Cochrane Eastward.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A railway from Cochrane, Ontario, across the great new hinterland of Quebec, to Cape St. Lewis, in Labrador, with branches to the mouth of the Hamilton River and to the city of Quebec, is projected. The Canadian Central & Labrador Railway Co. has given notice of application to Parliament this session for a charter for the undertaking.

MISSIONARY'S SON KILLED.

Five-year-old Son of Rev. R. O. Jolliffe Shot by Chinese Robbers.

A despatch from Pekin says: Chinese robbers shot and killed John, the five-year-old son of the Rev. R. O. Jolliffe of the Canadian Methodist mission. A party of missionaries were returning by boat to the town of Tzelutsing, when they were attacked by the robbers, between Chengtu and Chungking, in the province of Szechuen. One of the robbers was captured, but the rest took to flight.

STR. URANIUM STRANDED.

Struck on Ledge While Manoeuvring for a Pilot.

A despatch from Halifax says: From the stranded steamship Uranium 500 passengers were taken off at Chebucto Head, at the entrance to Halifax Harbor, and reached here in safety. No lives were lost. The Uranium struck at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning in thick weather. She crashed on the ledge a quarter of a mile north of Chebucto Head light and fog station. How the captain got out of his course in this way is a mystery. He was manoeuvring for a pilot at the time. Word was at once sent to Halifax for assistance, but there was some delay, and it was 2 o'clock before the Government steamer Lady Laurier, the Bridgewater and other craft went down to the wreck.

EDUCATION BY THE STATE

Colossal Scheme to be Subject of the Next British Government Legislation

A despatch from London says: The Government has decided that the next great work in its programme of social reform, to be undertaken as soon as the Home Rule, the Welsh Disestablishment and the Franchise Reform Bills are disposed of, will be a colossal scheme for improvement in elementary, secondary and higher education.

This important announcement was made on Friday on the authority of Premier Asquith and Chancellor of the Exchequer David Lloyd George by Viscount Haldane, the Lord High Chancellor, at a political meeting in Manchester. Viscount Haldane said the existing system of education was chaotic and must be altered. It would be an expensive problem to handle, and the expense must not be borne by the taxpayers. It would be a productive expenditure, and was absolutely necessary "if our productive power is to be maintained in comparison with that of our rivals," he added.

The explanation given by the Ministerialists is that the land question cannot be dealt with until the land valuation scheme undertaken in David Lloyd George's famous budget is completed and that this will require at least another couple of years.

CANADA'S TRADE FOR YEAR

Gain of Nearly 23 Per Cent. Over the Dominion's Record for Previous Year

A despatch from Ottawa says: Canada's total trade for the twelve months of the past year passed the billion-dollar mark by a little over five and a half million dollars. Final or detailed figures will not be available for some weeks yet, but the returns received so far by the Trade and Commerce and Customs Departments show that the billion-dollar mark has been well passed. As compared with the Dominion's trade for 1911 this represents a gain of nearly \$189,000,000, or 23 per cent. Imports for the past twelve months totalled approximately \$654,000,000, while exports amounted to nearly \$352,000,000. The gain in imports was nearly \$140,000,000, while exports increased by nearly \$49,000,000. Only one country in the world rivals

Canada in the percentage of trade growth during the past few years, namely, Argentina. By the end of the fiscal year it is expected that Canada will have reached tenth place among the countries of the world in respect of total trade. The Dominion's trade has doubled within the past six years and trebled within the past thirteen years.

The principal gains in exports during the past year have been in exports of agriculture, mines and manufactures. The increase in exports of agriculture has been over twenty-five millions, and in manufactures over seven millions. Exports of the forest and of animals and their products have shown a falling off of several millions, due, doubtless, to the increased demands of the home market.

FROM TRIESTE TO CANADA.

Austro-Canadian Line by the C. P. R. is Rumored.

A despatch from Montreal says: Mr. G. M. Bosworth, Vice-President of the C.P.R., would neither confirm nor deny the rumor that the Canadian Pacific Railway will shortly inaugurate an Austro-Canadian steamship service. "The company," Mr. Bosworth said, "has not made any definite decision regarding such a service, and as the matter stands now it is only a rumor." The rumor current in London is that the proposed line will run directly from Trieste to Canada, and that Montreal will probably be the landing port in summer and St. John in winter.

DIED IN DENTIST'S CHAIR.

Woman at Sussex, N.B., Fails to Rally From Anaesthetic.

A despatch from Sussex, N.B., says: Mrs. Harry Seeley, of Markhamville, near here, died in a dentist's chair on Friday. The young woman was having some teeth extracted. An anaesthetic was administered by a physician and the operation carried through, but Mrs. Seeley failed to rally afterwards.

SECOND DEATH FROM POISON.

Putrid Bacon Eaten by London Family Kills Two Children.

A despatch from London, Ont., says: John Murphy, the eighteen-months son of John Murphy of Blackfriars' street, West London, died at Victoria Hospital on Wednesday of ptomaine poisoning. His four-year-old sister, Christina, succumbed to convulsions induced by the same cause on Tuesday. The malady is attributed to the eating of bacon, which is said to have been in a state of putridity.

HUGE C. N. R. HOTEL.

Company Shortly to Erect One of 700 Rooms in Montreal.

A despatch from Montreal says: Mackenzie & Mann, or the Canadian Northern Railway, will shortly commence the erection of a large seven-hundred-room hotel in Montreal. The new hotel will face on McGill College avenue, and be within two blocks of the new C. N. R. station.

The six-year-old son of Lorne Jackson of Mount Forest was thrown off a sleigh, breaking his neck.



MAP SHOWING PROBABLE DIVISION OF TURKEY.