

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 \$139,000,000, or 23 per cent. Imports for the past twelve months totalled approximately \$654,000,000, while exports amounted to nearly \$302,000,000. 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.

RAW PELTS ARE EXPENSIVE

THEIR RELATIVE PRICE HERE WITH DISCUSSED.

About Furs of Various Countries and Certain "Habits" of the Trade.

When a high price is paid for a Persian lamb skin coat, the purchaser is usually under the impression that the garment is composed of the finest skins to be had; but that is not so, for the central Asiatic rulers take the pick of the skins and have them made into those high black caps which bedeck them on occasions of ceremony. They do not permit the export of the best skins. A fur that is sold extensively is the so-called Hudson seal. It is nothing more than muskrat, dressed, pulled, fur sheered in half and dyed a genuine seal color. It wears very well and looks handsome.

Sable and Ermine Rare.

Ermine, which is imported in enormous quantities from Norway, Sweden, Russia, and Siberia, has been the emblem of royalty almost since royalty began in Russia. Until recent years it was restricted to members of the royal family, but is now worn on a state robes. Chinchilla, which is valued considerably this year, comes from the Bolivian Andes. Sable, a very valuable fur is found in Siberia. Sable and ermine rank among the rarest of furs.

The finest sables, usually designated as "Russian crown," come from Kamchatka, Asia, Yakutsk, Siberia, and North China. The fur of one of these little animals, barely nine inches in length, including the tail, readily brings from \$15 to \$150 a skin. Furriers will admit, however, that they prefer a Siberian or ermine marten to any sable except the finest.

America Has Most Foxes.

There are red and silver foxes, and of the two the silver fox is the more expensive. It is a black fur tipped with silver hair, is known both as silver black fox, and is found in North America. Foxes are found, too, in various other parts of the world, even in northern Africa, Arabia, Persia, and in certain parts of India. Very few black foxes are caught wild, being raised by men who make a specialty of it. Not so very long ago a large luxurious black foxskin was sold for \$1,500, and some have been sold for \$3,000.

Red fox skins bring from \$4 to \$5 each, while mink skins are selling for from \$4.50 to \$5 apiece. It must be remembered that sometimes taken as many as forty skins to make up a garment. For instance, it takes over forty sable skins to make a long sable coat, and as sable skins are very expensive, it can be readily seen that sable coats are not yet going to be worn by everybody. The prices quoted above are for the skins in the raw state, and all skins increase in price after they have been dressed.

HUGE C. N. R. HOTEL.

Company Shortly to Erect One of 700 Rooms in Montreal.

A despatch from Montreal says: Mackenzie & Mann, of 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.

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BUILT LIKE A BIRD.

British Army Aviators Experimenting with Austrian Invention.

Although relatively little has been seen or heard in this country of the Erich monoplane, it stands out as one of the most remarkable designs of this class of aerial machines, and it represents a type that bids fair to be more permanent than many other models which from time to time have created sensations, says the London Sphere.

The monoplane has fallen into disfavor with the military authorities in several countries as a consequence of an unfortunate series of accidents, which were debited rather unfairly to the machine without taking sufficiently into account the variable human element.

Of the Austrian-built plane, it may be said that it is designed to remedy some of the defects which have been pointed out in monoplane, and this machine has by several trials justified the confidence which the Austrian military experts continue to place in it. Great strength and automatic stability to a high degree are the two most notable features of the Erich monoplane, and in these two respects alone it merits special notice, for admittedly the monoplane of several other types has shown marked structural weakness and want of stability on occasion. Herr Erich is one of the earliest of experimenters, commencing at almost the same time as the Wrights. Not until three years ago, however, did he evolve his motor-driven monoplane, and since then he has moved further forward with a design which is highly original. The Erich monoplane is birdlike in plan view, and the wings are curious in that they are curved backwards and upwards at the ends. The tail is birdlike also. From tip to tip the machine measures no less than 48 feet, an enormous width for a monoplane. Its length is 37 feet, and these dimensions are proof, in themselves of the remarkable strength of this aeroplane.

The wings are the weakest part of the monoplane as a rule, and in the Erich we find a very remarkable method of construction to remedy this. Three main spars project from the central body, and the cross-ribs are secured to these and then covered with fabric. A cantilever bridge-like structure of steel tubing supports the main spars, and thus gives a degree of strength to the planes which enables them to be made of ample dimensions. The rear part of the plane is built up of bamboo, covered with fabric so as to form a flexible trailing edge. In this again we have a suggestion of bird formation being followed. The wing-tips are turned up at the rear, and in a somewhat similar manner to the Dunne machine; natural stability to a high degree is obtained thereby. The pilot also has control of the wing-tips. The central body is made of steel tubing strongly braced and the front part is covered in with metal sheeting. The Erich monoplane is made in various standard types, and its power is furnished by the famous Austro-Daimler engine, which has been so successfully used by Cody. The largest machine is a three-seater, and it has an engine of 150 horse-power. The Erich monoplane is largely used in the Austrian army, and by its strength, power and stability, it seems peculiarly well adapted for naval and military work.

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THE NEWS IN A PARAGRAPH

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE IN A NUTSHELL.

Canada, the Empire and the World in General Before Year Ends.

Canada's field crops in 1912 totalled a value of \$500,000,000. John Brooks of Lindsay committed suicide without apparent reason.

The Duchess of Connaught is out of the dangerous stage of her illness. R. T. Woodside, of Cornwall, dropped dead while going home from work.

Hamilton temperance folk may call for a resumption of the license reduction ballot.

London now has fifteen Aldermen owing to recent annexation constituting a fifth ward.

James Mackay, aged 20, of Hamilton, ended his life with carbolic acid.

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

A Montreal convent employee was arrested on a charge of trying to thrust a little girl into a furnace.

Mr. Lewis Toole, Mount Albert, was elected President of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union.

Mrs. J. H. V. Simpson, formerly Miss Minnie Bloor, teacher at Ingersoll, was drowned in a British Columbia wreck.

Looking for a gas leak in the London Institute of Public Health, Christopher Peake, a plumber, found it. Many windows were broken.

Mrs. Thos. Taylor is dead from coal gas, near Waseley, Sask., her husband, two boys and a domestic were all seriously affected, and the youngest boy may not recover.

Reporting to the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, J. A. Ruddick, dairy commissioner, Ottawa, said that in 1909-11 the value of the total exports of dairy products increased by several million dollars, but the figures for 1912 showed a decrease in the quantity of all products in total value of \$5,000,000 compared with 1911. Canadian statistics did not show a single pound of butter as having been shipped to England since April 1st.

The Irish home rule bill made further progress in committee. British actresses decided to picket the House of Commons during franchise bill debate.

The engagement is announced of Ada, the youngest daughter of Field-Marshal Earl Roberts, and Major Lewin, of the Royal Field Artillery. She is 37 years of age.

United States.

There is an epidemic of spinal meningitis at Cairo, Ill.

The Empress and Dowager-Empress of Russia are both ill.

Irrecoverable damage was done to the lemon and orange crops in California owing to heavy frost.

Interesting evidence was given as to huge profits before the United States money trust inquiry.

General.

A woman was executed at Shanghai for persisting in the use of opium.

It is reported that the powers will urge Turkey to cede Adrianople to the Balkan allies.

The President of the Hungarian Chamber fought another duel and wounded his antagonist.

INTERESTING EVENT.

Countess of Aberdeen Opens a Negro Baby Show.

A despatch from Philadelphia says: The Countess of Aberdeen, wife of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, who, with Miss Violet Asquith, youngest daughter of the British Premier, is visiting this city, spent Wednesday inspecting the Phelps Institute and other institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis. Miss Asquith devoted her time to social engagements during the afternoon, but at night accompanied Lady Aberdeen to the opening of a baby-saving show in the negro section of the city.

GASOLINE LAMP EXPLODED.

Jonquiere Woman Killed, Another and Two Children Hurt.

A despatch from Quebec says: A fatal accident occurred on Thursday night at Jonquiere, 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, an employe in Price's paper mill, a gasoline lamp exploded, instantly killing Mrs. Llaburn, 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.

DIED IN DENTIST'S CHAIR.

Woman at Sussex, N.B., Falls 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.

HOG CHOLERA SERUM.

Its Importation or Use in Canada Has Been Prohibited.

A despatch from Ottawa says: An Order-in-Council has been passed amending the quarantine regulations as follows:—"The use of hog cholera serum or virus being considered a source of danger the importation of such serum or virus is prohibited."



MAP SHOWING PROBABLE DIVISION OF TURKEY.

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 Liner 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. 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.

MAKING GOLD BY ALCHEMY.

Two Men Sentenced for Stealing \$2,250 of Alchemic Gold.

A despatch from London, England, says: That there exists a company for the making of gold by alchemy was disclosed in a case heard in the London Sessions, when two men were charged with stealing thirty-one hundredweight of alchemic gold of the value of \$2,250 from the proprietors, the Alchemic Gold Company, Limited. The men were convicted, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

MONTREAL'S HEALTH BETTER

Deaths Have Been Reduced to 19.99 Per 1,000 of Population.

A despatch from Montreal says: Montreal citizens' health is improving, according to latest report. During 1911 the percentage of deaths was 21.19 per thousand of population, but in 1912 this had fallen reduced to 19.99. Deaths of children under five years of age in 1912 numbered 49.92 per thousand. Deaths from consumption in 1912 numbered 895.

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 Trieste 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.

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.

OLDEST LEGISLATOR DEAD.

St. Edward Shea, Member of Newfoundland Council, Aged 93.

A despatch from St. John's, Nfld., says: Sir Edward Shea, said to have been the oldest active legislator in the British Empire, died here on Friday, aged 93 years. He was a former president of the Legislative Council of this colony, and continued a member to his death.

CANADA'S WHEAT IN BRITAIN

Imports From Dominion Exceeded Only by Those From India.

A despatch from London says: A Government return shows that Canada sent here last year twenty-one and a half million hundredweight of wheat, the next largest figure to twenty-five millions from the East Indies. Canadian cattle imported totalled 6,800, as against 42,329 in 1911. The value of Canadian bacon sent here was \$1,178,000, over six hundred thousand less than in 1911. The United Kingdom sent Canada 1,600,000 gallons of spirits. The most noticeable thing about British exports to Canada is the steady drop in raw material, and the steady increase in finished products.

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 1,235,000 milk cows," said Mr. Whitley. "With an increase of only 810 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 poorest animals had yielded \$33.23 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.

TROPICAL TIMBER SUPPLY.

Forests Grow Much Faster Than in This Country.

One thing which the prophets of a world-wide timber famine forget is the supply of tropical timber in a hundred jungles, waiting the demand of the white man.

Until recently the coarser, commoner woods of tropical timber were hardly known outside the tropics. Mahogany, ebony, teak and rosewood were brought to northern cities for use in cabinet work; but the same ships which brought these tropical woods carried back northern pine for use in rough structural work in the tropics.

Of late the subtropical woods, cypress and eucalyptus, have come to the front for all sorts of uses. Now "greenheart," an equatorial wood very common in Brazil and British Guiana, has been chosen for the locks of the Panama Canal.

Investigators keep reporting that this or that tropical wood is really well fitted for ordinary use, and can be had at a moderate price by use of modern lumbering methods. Twenty years in the tropics will grow a forest larger than can be produced in a century in the north.

With the full utilization of the hot lands of the earth, the "timber famine" will be indefinitely postponed.

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 12,000,000 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 without any undue rush. Icebreakers are breaking ice two feet thick in the harbor until February 20. Practically all the vessels here have been loaded, and there will be no necessity of work being done after the ice breakers quit.

MISSIONARY'S SON KILLED.

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

A despatch from Pekin says: Chinese rob