

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The late Mr. Thomas Lawry of Hamilton left an estate of \$155,000. Oxford County Council is considering the purchase of all the toll roads in the county.

It is expected that the new census of Montreal will show a population of three hundred thousand.

Judge Davidson has been appointed professor of criminal law in the McGill University faculty of law.

The Customs Department is taking steps to stop the importation of inferior and unwholesome tea.

Lieut.-Col. Humphreys, of the 60th, Halifax, has withdrawn his resignation and other officers will follow.

Dundas Town Council will not cooperate in the Dominion Alliance's petition for liquor license amendments.

Alphonse Cyr, who ran a nail into his foot while working in Booth's mills, died of lockjaw in the hospital at Ottawa.

The British Board of Trade figures for November show a decrease in imports of £1,350,000, and an increase of exports of £1,202,717.

Chevalier Drolet has left for England to complete arrangements for the sale of his mining rights on the Saskatchewan to an English syndicate.

Guard Milligan has been suspended by the Kingston penitentiary authorities for carrying out letters and having communication with convicts.

The C. P. R. has been compelled to refuse grain shipments via St. John on account of the difficulty of getting vessel accommodation from that port.

The County Council has decided to encourage the introduction of the teaching of agriculture in the Public Schools of the rural districts of Wentworth.

Mr. Shaughnessy, Vice-President of the C. P. R., strongly denies the reports that he is engaged on the Crow's Nest Pass Railway have been ill-treated.

W. B. Palmer, Hamilton, sentenced to three years at Kingston Penitentiary for embezzlement from the Bank of Commerce two years ago, has been pardoned.

A letter has been received from Major Walsh, written from Lake Bennett, on November 15th. His party are all well, and they expect to reach Dawson in February.

It is probable that the Dominion Cotton Company's big mills at Brantford will shortly be moved to Three Rivers, where power can be had from the Shawanigan Falls.

The annual report of the London Board of Health states that the death rate is only 12.03 per thousand. London claims to be the healthiest city in the Province.

The C. P. R. announces another reduction in freight rates. This time on west-bound oats and oatmeal between Smith's Falls and points in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. G. M. Bosworth, traffic manager of the Canadian Pacific railway, says the freight rates on grain between Fort William and Montreal were lowered to induce a winter movement of Manitoba wheat.

A delegation of artillery officers, headed by Major-General Gascoigne, waited on Dr. Borden on Saturday, and asked that a special grant be given for the association to entertain the British team that will visit Canada next summer.

Mr. David Mills, Dominion Minister of Justice, is being deluged with applications for the pardoning of criminals, and it is remarked as a curious fact that most of the letters asking for pardons refer to the worst criminals, and emanate from women and women's associations.

Dr. H. Walton L. Jones, who was sent by the Dominion Government to the Stockholm Exhibition, returned to Montreal, and reports that there is very little prospect of immigration from Norway, Sweden, Finland, or Russia, as times at present are good in Norway, and fair in the other countries mentioned.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Investigation into the recent London fire reveals points of inefficiency in the brigade.

A severe gale is again raging on the British coast, and especially on those parts bordering on the Irish sea.

Rumors are current that the Earl of Elgin early next year will retire from the Viceroyalty of India and that he will be succeeded by Lord George Hamilton.

London notwithstanding the mild and unseasonable weather, is putting on a gay appearance and many motorists have issued invitations for large Christmas parties.

At the sale of the Earl of Ashburnham's library in London, Caxton's translation of "A Book of the Hoole Life of Jason" fetched two thousand one hundred pounds.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has issued a pronouncement that the divorce process of the remarriage of divorced couples, and that his Vicar-General hereafter will not license them.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Charles Fleischmann, the yeast manufacturer, of Cincinnati is dead.

A large store in Philadelphia has opened a department for the sale of cats.

Mr. D. W. Powers, the banker and owner of the famous Powers block in Rochester, is dead.

Capitalists of Day City, Mich., have organized the first beet sugar company in the State, with a capital stock of \$300,000.

Representative Johnson of North Dakota, is preparing a bill providing for the complete extermination of the seal herd of Behring Sea.

Mr. George W. Vangerbilt, youngest son of William H. Vanderbilt, before sailing for England, effected a million-dollar insurance policy on his life.

Rioting is reported at Port au Prince resulting from popular indignation against the Government for surrendering to the demands of Germany.

Charles Zanoli, the New York barber, denies he poisoned his four wives for the sake of their insurance, and asks that an autopsy be performed on the remains of his last wife.

A slat of quartz with veins of gold prominently showing will convey California's invitation to President McKinley to attend the gold jubilee of the discovery of gold.

Lenz Winslow, of Kansas City, who sued the Knights of Malacca for twenty-five thousand dollars for dislocating one of his kidneys while initiating him into the local order, has been awarded ten thousand dollars damages.

Mr. J. Havelock Wilson, labor member of the Imperial Parliament, and Mr. Edward Harford, of the British Trades Union Council, have arrived in New York to attend the congress of the American Federation of Labor, to be opened at Nashville next Monday.

The Interstate Commerce Commission of the United States has decided to extend for two years the period within which railroads must comply with the act of Congress requiring all railroads to be equipped with safety appliances for the protection of the employees and passengers.

Commercial summaries are not usually exciting reading at this season of the year, but the present one is no exception to the general rule. There is a steady retail trade in the ordinary lines of holiday goods, especially in the lighter lines of toys and presents, but usually business is quiet with no special features. But while there is no marked improvement in any special lines, there is a better tone all round in business circles than has existed for a long time, and many concerns are busy to their full capacity in confident expectation of a large increase of business immediately after the turn of the year. All the speculative markets are stronger than at the close of last week and in the chief centres of trade and industry in the United States the outlook is regarded as exceptionally encouraging and bright.

MANITOBA'S PROSPERITY.

DECEMBER CROP BULLETIN OF AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Nearly Thirty-Three Million Bushels—Failure of the Oat and Barley Crops—A Splendid Season for Dairy Products—Estimated Average for Next Year.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—According to the December crop bulletin issued by the Provincial Agricultural Department, the total cereal production in Manitoba this year was 32,404,625 bushels, of which 18,261,950 were wheat, 10,629,513 oats, 3,183,602 barley, 247,836 flax, 48,344 rye, and 33,388 peas. The averages per acre were: Wheat 14.14 bushels, oats 22.7, barley 20.77. The oat and barley crops were failures. Three and a quarter million bushels of potatoes and roots were also grown, potatoes averaging 149 bushels per acre, and roots 199. The estimated wheat yield of the August bulletin was not realized, owing to a blight which attacked the grain just before maturity.

The number of beef cattle exported from the province this season was fifteen thousand. There were also sixteen thousand five hundred stockers shipped to the United States as shown by the Customs returns; total export from the province, thirty-one thousand five hundred. The number of hogs shipped was twenty thousand five hundred. The number of sheep was twenty-five thousand five hundred. Poultry disposed of by farmers was as follows: Turkeys, 47,540; geese and ducks, 20,000; chickens, 184,655. These find a ready market in the province.

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