

**PROVISIONS.**—A firm feeling prevails in the market for live hogs owing to the limited supplies coming forward and prices advanced 50c. to 75c. per 100 lbs. early in the week. The demand for abattoir fresh-killed is steady with sales in a jobbing way at \$14 to \$14.50 per 100 lbs. There is a good demand for all lines of smoked meats and a fair trade is passing for the season. Medium weight hams are selling at 22c. and breakfast bacon at 17c. to 19c. per lb. The trade in lard is only fair, with pure leaf grades selling at 15c. per lb. in 20 lb. wood pails, and at 14½c. per lb. in 20 lb. tin pails, and compound lard at 10½c. to 11c. in 20 lb. wood pails and at 10½c. to 10¾c. in 20 lb. tin pails.

#### QUEBEC'S MINERAL PRODUCTION.

The revised report on minerals issued by the Province of Quebec for the year 1912 has just come to hand. The report shows that the total value of minerals produced in this Province in 1912 was \$11,187,110 as compared with \$8,679,786 for the previous year, or an increase of nearly 29%. The following table gives the annual mineral production of the Province for the past ten years:—

Year.	Value.
1903.....	\$2,772,762
1904.....	3,023,568
1905.....	3,750,300
1906.....	5,019,932
1907.....	5,391,368
1908.....	5,458,998
1909.....	5,552,062
1910.....	7,323,281
1911.....	8,679,786
1912.....	11,187,110

Asbestos has proved to be the most valuable mineral mined in the Province during the past year with an output of 111,000 tons valued at \$3,059,000. The following table shows the output and value of Asbestos from 1900 to date:—

Year	Tons.	Value.
1900.....	21,408.....	\$ 719,416
1901.....	33,466.....	1,274,315
1902.....	30,634.....	1,161,970
1903.....	29,261.....	916,970
1904.....	35,479.....	1,186,970
1905.....	48,960.....	1,476,450
1906.....	61,675.....	2,143,653
1907.....	61,985.....	2,455,919
1908.....	65,157.....	2,551,596
1909.....	63,965.....	2,296,584
1910.....	80,605.....	2,667,829
1911.....	102,224.....	3,026,306
1912.....	111,175.....	3,059,084

The most noticeable development of the Province has been in connection with the output of structural materials. The value of cement, limestones, brick, lime, granite and marble have increased 150% in the past four years as the following table will show:—

Product	1909	1910	1911	1912
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cement.....	1,314,551	1,054,646	1,931,183	3,098,350
Limestone.....	457,143	503,173	1,128,402	1,363,552
Bricks.....	584,371	906,375	1,129,480	1,284,235
Lime.....	105,489	279,306	284,334	455,570
Granite.....	149,064	291,240	308,545	358,749
Marble.....	130,000	151,103	143,457	252,041
	2,740,618	4,085,843	4,925,401	6,812,497

The remarkable development of the cement industry in the Province of Quebec is best illustrated in the following table. This increase in the output in 1912 is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that the Government reduced the duty on cement during the year which caused

the importation to increase from 661,916 barrels in 1911 to 1,434,413 barrels in 1912.

Table of Cement Production in Province of Quebec since 1901.

Year	Barrels.	Value.
1901.....	17,000	\$ 28,000
1902.....	36,000	61,000
1903.....	40,000	66,000
1904.....	33,500	50,250
1905.....	254,833	408,000
1906.....	405,103	625,570
1907.....	415,580	640,000
1908.....	801,695	1,127,335
1909.....	1,011,194	1,314,551
1910.....	1,563,717	1,954,646
1911.....	1,588,283	1,931,183
1912.....	2,684,002	3,098,350

#### THE WORLD'S HARVEST.

The forecasts just published by the International Agricultural Institute at Rome show some improvement on the estimates from the same source at the end of August. The latest estimate of the world's crops of cereals may be summarized as follows:

	Estimated crop, cwts.	Comparison with last year's production.
Wheat.....	1,784,000,000	+ 4.1%
Rye.....	748,000,000	— 6.7%
Barley.....	525,000,000	+ 1.2%
Oats.....	979,000,000	— 5.9%
Maize.....	1,383,000,000	— 22.4%
Rice (Japan only).....	148,067,000	+ 5.1%

All these figures, with the exception of maize, compare favorably with the previous estimates. The severe drouth in the United States has reduced the estimated production of maize in that country to 1,175,500,000 cwts., but the wheat crop has been exceptionally good, and the yield is expected to reach 304,680,000 cwts.; the estimate of the oats crop at 304,574,000 cwts. is a little better than the last report, though well below last year's output. The Canadian Pacific Railway's official estimate for this year's crop in Canada are as follows: Wheat—59,679,000 bushels. Saskatchewan, 20 bushels per acre; total crop, 114,800,000 bushels Alberta, 22 bushels per acre; total crop, 23,540,000 bushels. For the whole Western district: Oats, total crop, 233,839,000 bushels; barley, total crop, 63,980,000 bushels; flax, total crop, 13,634,000 bushels. The only drawback to the marketing of the crops is the slow movement of the lake boats, there being no shortage of railway trucks. The production of wheat in other countries is forecast as follows: France, 172,893,000 cwts.; Italy, 112,200,000 cwts.; Hungary, 89,291,000 cwts.; Roumania, 47,242,000 cwts. and Bulgaria, 32,479,000 cwts. As regards rye, Germany is expected to produce 183,822,000 cwts.; Hungary, 28,003,000 cwts., and France, 25,682,000 cwts. The production of oats in Germany is estimated at 122,714,000 cwts., in Canada at 120,014,000 cwts. and in Roumania at 9,842,000 cwts.—(London Economist.)

#### THE 1912 SUICIDE RECORD.

In a late issue of "The Spectator" was published an article from the pen of Frederick L. Hoffman, statistician of the Prudential, on the suicide record of 1912. This shows that suicides in American cities are on the decline. Since 1908 the rate has been growing lower. In 1912 the rate was 18.8 per 100,000 of population, which is the lowest on record since 1906. The number of suicides in one hundred cities of this country has decreased from 4460 in 1911 to 4397 in 1912.