

Marten.—Yorkfort. Large, 48; small, 82; pale, 88; small, pale, 26; seconds, 84.6; thirds, 27.8 shillings. **Mackenzie River.** Large, 46.10; small, 34.9; pale, 38.8; small, pale, 27; seconds, 35.6; thirds, 26.6 shillings. **East Maine.** Large, 84.9; small, 50.0; pale, 43.6; small, pale, 32.6; seconds, 41.6; thirds, 31.6 shillings. **Moose River.** Large, 48.6; small, 33.9; pale, 34.9; small, pale, 27.6; seconds, 30.3; thirds, 26.6 shillings. **Fort Garry.** 92.4; small, 60.0; pale, 43.6; seconds, 47.6; thirds, 37 shillings. **Esquimaux Bay.** Large, 51; seconds, 49.6 shillings. **Northwest.** Large, 49; small, 31; pale, 35.6; small, pale, 25.6; seconds, 30.6; thirds, 24.6 shillings. **Canada.** Large, 35.8; small, 25.9; pale, 20.9; small, pale, 22.6; seconds, 25.6; thirds, 19.6 shillings.

Lynx.—Yorkfort. Large, 41.3; middling, 35; small, 26; large, fine, 59; middling, fine, 43; large, low, 40; middling, low, 34.6; small, low, 27; open, 28; seconds, large, 31.9 seconds, middling, 30; seconds, in the hair, 27; thirds, 15.3; thirds, in the hair, 15 shillings. **Moose River.** Large, 43; large, fine, 52; middling, fine, 46; small, fine, 34; large, low, 42; middling, low, 38; seconds, large, 30; seconds, in the hair, 25; thirds, 17 shillings. **Esquimaux Bay.** Large fine, 44; seconds, large, 34; thirds, 16 shillings. **Canada.** Large, 40; middling, 34; small, 25; large fine, 44; small fine, 25; large low, 33; middling low, 27.3; seconds, large, 31; middling, 26; seconds, in the hair, 17 shillings. **Northwest.** Large, 41.6; middling, 31; large fine, 44; middling fine, 36; large low, 37; middling low, 35; seconds, large, 35.6; seconds, small, 30; seconds, in the hair, 36; thirds, 18; thirds, in the hair, 16 shillings.

Raccoon.—Northwest. Firsts, 3.9; seconds, 3; thirds, 1.2 shillings. **Canada.** Firsts, 3.3; seconds, 2.2; thirds, 1.3 shillings.

Badger.—Yorkfort. Firsts, 15; seconds, 1.5 shillings.

Skunk.—Yorkfort. Firsts, cased, 6.9; open, 6.3; firsts, half open, 5.9; seconds, cased, 4.6; seconds, open, 3.9 shillings. **Canada.** Firsts, cased, 5.9; open, 6; firsts, half open, 5; seconds, cased, 3; seconds, open, 2.6 shillings.

Wolverine.—Yorkfort. Open, 29; cased, 26; seconds, open, 17; cased, 18 shillings. **Northwest.** Open, 20; cased, 25; seconds, open, 18; seconds, cased, 14 shillings.

Wolf.—Yorkfort. Large, 30; small, 21; seconds, large, 19; seconds, small, 17; firsts, white, 52.6; firsts, blue, 30 shillings. **Northwest.** Large, 17 shillings.

Muskox.—Yorkfort. Firsts, 145; small, 52.6; seconds, 95; seconds, small, 36; thirds, 28 shillings.

Hair Seal.—Little Whale River. Large, 4.9; middling, 4.6; small, 2.11 shillings.

Otter.—Yorkfort. Large firsts, 53.6; brown firsts, 51; small firsts, 40; large seconds, 49; small seconds, 40.3; large thirds, 35; small thirds, 20; cub, 15 shillings. **Moose River.** Large firsts, 61.3; small firsts, 59; cub firsts, 45; large seconds, 52.6; small seconds, 46; large thirds, 40.10; small thirds, 33; cub, 15 shillings. **East Maine.** Large firsts, 67.8; small firsts 63, large seconds, 63; small seconds, 52.6, large thirds, 42.4; small thirds, 34, cub, 19 shillings. **Esquimaux Bay.** Large firsts, 67.3; small firsts, 65; large seconds, 62; small seconds, 51.6; large thirds, 44.4; small thirds, 36 shillings. **Fort Garry.** Large first, 82; large seconds, 69.6; large thirds, 42 shillings. **Northwest.** Large firsts, 49; large seconds, 50; large thirds, 43.3 shillings. **Canada.** Large firsts, 56.6; small firsts, 47; large seconds, 52.3; small seconds, 45; large thirds, 40; small thirds, 33; cub, 20 shillings.

Black Bear.—Yorkfort. No. 1 rough, 280; No. 1 low, 115; No. 1 woolly, 160; No. 2 rough, 60; No. 2 low, 50; No. 2 woolly, 70.6; thirds, 17; fourths, 7.6; No. 1 small rough, 65; No. 1 small woolly, 75; No. 3 small, 4.6 shillings. **Canada.** No. 1 rough, 170; No. 1 low, 120; No. 1 woolly, 155; No. 2 rough, 58; No. 2 low, 40; No. 2 woolly, 67.6; thirds, 14.8; fourths, 7; No. 1 small rough, 65; No. 1 small woolly, 75; No. 3 small, 6.3 shillings. **Northwest.** No. 1 rough, 220; No. 1 low, 135; No. 1 woolly, 170; No. 2 rough, 60.6; No. 2 low, 51; No. 2 woolly, 85; thirds, 14.9; fourths, 7; No. 2 small rough, 34; No. 2 small woolly, 39.6; thirds, small, 6.6 shillings.

Brown Bear.—Northwest. No. 1 light and dark, 145; No. 1 low, 77.6; No. 1 woolly, light, 87.6; No. 1 woolly, dark, 120; No. 2 rough, light, 43; No. 2 rough, dark, 63; No. 2 woolly, light, 56.4; No. 2 woolly, dark, 77.6; thirds, 12.6; fourths, 2.6 shillings.

White Bear.—Yorkfort. No. 1 large, 170; No. 1 middling, 70; No. 1 small, 16 shillings.

Gray Bear.—No. 1 rough, 135; No. woolly, 55; No. 2 rough, 26; No. 2 woolly, 24; thirds, 13; fourths, 7.6; small, firsts and seconds, 9 shillings.

Montreal Fruit Auction.

Koen Lidding, high prices, rapid selling, and a large and avaricious attendance were the predominating features of the first important fruit auction of the season, held yesterday in the Montreal Fruit Auction Company's wareroom, Murray street, says the Gazette. Between fifty and sixty thousand cases of lemons and oranges Messina, Palermo, Catania, Sorrento and Malori, were put under the hammer and hardly a single lot left unsold. The attendance was unusually large, both of United States and Canadian buyers, and the keenest rivalry was evinced in the bidding for the choicest lots. Those in the business state that there is every probability of a scarcity of fruit this year. Prospective shipments and a distinct falling off in the supply as compared with former years. Consequently, competition amongst buyers to obtain a sufficiency is brisker. This, as was apparent at yesterday's sale, reacts upon the market. The average price paid was higher than in former opening sales, and all indications point to an even more advanced scale.

The sale lasted until almost eleven o'clock at night. In all 20,000 boxes of oranges and 39,000 boxes of lemons were disposed of. In oranges there were 524 different lines and in lemons 259. The entire consignment of fruit realized a total of \$111,000, a distinct increase upon all preceding fruit sales in Montreal. The orange market opened strong and remained firm throughout the sale. On the whole this stock was particularly fine, both as to condition and quality. Consequently very high prices ruled throughout. Messina oranges ranged from \$2.50 to \$3.25 for boxes and from \$1 to \$3.10 for half boxes. Sorrentos, which were especially fine both as to condition and quality brought, for boxes from \$2.15 to \$3.15, and for half boxes, \$1.15 to \$2.30. A limited number of long boxes touched \$4.10.

The lemon market was influenced to some extent by the knowledge that a large consignment was on its way from Italy to New York, and opened distinctly weak. Later in the sale, however, it took on a firmer tone. First choice Messinas ranged from \$2.45 to \$3.10; seconds and thirds

from \$1.25 to \$2.25. Best ordinary grades realized from \$2.55 to \$2.70; common grades bringing from \$1.75 to \$2.25. In Sorrentos the best lots brought from \$3.25 to \$3.50, while from \$3.40 to \$3.65 were obtained for Maories.

Importance of the Hog.

An item next in importance to that of the dairy business is raising hogs. This industry works in well with the other, because of the whey for feed which is returned from the cheese factory. The farmers have found plenty of encouragement in this because it has been profitable, while the demand for bacon seems to be without limit, up to the present time at least. The only precaution needed is to guard against careless or improper feeding, for while the Canadian pork producer has an eager market he has also a very critical one. His future success will depend upon his holding the position now being won, and this cannot be done if the proper feed is not used for the securing of the right class of meat. A practical farmer, in speaking to your correspondent on the subject, referred to the great advantages of feeding barley to hogs. He said that a few years ago, when barley was depressed to 35 and 40 cents per bushel, he began feeding it to his hogs, and by that means realized 75 cents per bushel on the grain, besides having the manure left for his farm. He also spoke of his having fed them wheat.

"Wheat," he said, "is the finest food there is for man or beast. It has all the ingredients necessary to produce bone, flesh and muscle. My method was to grind the grain, then feed it dry to the hogs, afterwards giving them whey or milk as a dessert. I found that from feeding wheat to the hogs I realized \$1 a bushel for it, when pork was quoted at 55." Such returns as that afford practical proof of the value of these grains as feed for stock. Under these circumstances the gentleman quoted has lost faith in selling grain at low prices and realizes a handsome return by feeding it to his hogs. Pigs he considers too strong, unless mixed with some other grains. He added that wheat made the best pork he ever had, and that he had received as high as \$6.50 per hundred for some of it. At that price he received nearly \$1.50 a bushel for wheat. Some farmers, he remarked, consider it wasteful to feed wheat to hogs, but he thought those figures proved it to be otherwise.—Toronto Globe.

THE DAIRY TRADE

THE CHEESE SITUATION.

A local authority says: The cheese situation is unprecedented in the history of cheese making in the province. There is only a little cheese in stock, and what comes of the new make, is picked up at a good price—eleven cents per lb. There is a very heavy make going on, probably the heaviest since 1894. A very large quantity of dairy cheese will also be made this year. Prices are comparatively much lower in British Columbia and Montreal. Every produce merchant has lost money on cheese shipped to the coast last fall. And there is cheese enough on that market to last until August. Prices are sagging on Montreal on account of the British market being filled with Australian cheese—so we must look for much lower prices in the near future for Manitoba cheese.