

MARKETS.

TORONTO.

LIVE STOCK.

Receipts last week of live stock at the City and Junction markets were light; less than 40 carloads all told. Trade was slow, owing to dealers having got supplies for the holiday trade.

At the Junction market on Monday, receipts were light—243 cattle; quality fair; trade brisk; prices 80c. per cwt. higher. Best butchers', \$4.50 to \$5; medium, \$4 to \$4.25; common, \$3.50 to \$4; canners, \$1 to \$1.50; milch cows, \$30 to \$50; calves, \$4 to \$6 per cwt.; lambs, \$5 to \$5.50; hogs, \$5.60 for selects.

Exporters.—Few were on sale. Last week prices ranged from \$4.25 to \$4.60; bulls, \$3.25 to \$4.

Butchers'.—Picked cattle sold at \$4.75 to \$5; good, \$4 to \$4.50; medium, \$3.75 to \$4; common, \$3 to \$3.50; cows, \$2.25 to \$3.50; canners, \$1 to \$1.50.

Feeders and Stockers.—There were none offered, and few wanted.

Milkers and Springers.—About 20 milkers and springers sold at \$30 to \$67 each, three choice cows brought the latter price.

Veal Calves.—Prices ranged from \$3 to \$6 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs.—Export ewes sold at \$3.75 to \$4 per cwt.; lambs, \$4.50 to \$5.50 per cwt.

Hogs.—Prices unchanged at \$5.60 for selects, fed and watered.

BREADSTUFFS.

Wheat.—No. 2 white winter, buyers, at 94c.; No. 2 red, sellers, 98c.; No. 2, mixed, buyers, at 94c.; sellers asking 97c.; No. 2 Goose, sellers, at 90c.; Manitoba, No. 2 Northern, sellers, \$1.14, at Goderich.

Barley.—No. 2, sellers, 72c., outside; No. 3X, 70c., outside.

Oats.—No. 2 white, buyers, 46c.; No. 2, mixed, 45c.

Rye.—No. 2, 81c. to 82c.

Peas.—No. 2, 80c.

Corn.—No. 3 yellow, 70c., at Toronto.

Buckwheat.—58c.

Bran.—Buyers are offering \$18.25, in bulk, outside.

Shorts.—\$20 to \$21, outside.

Flour.—Ontario, 90 per cent. patents, \$3.65, for exports; Manitoba patents, special brands, \$5.80; second patents, \$5.20; strong bakers', \$5.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—Market steady, at unchanged quotations. Creamery, pound rolls, 30c. to 31c.; creamery, boxes, 28c. to 29c.; dairy, pound rolls, 27c. to 28c.; tubs, 25c. to 26c.

Eggs.—New-laid, 30c. per dozen; cold-storage, 22c.

Cheese.—Market steady. Large, 13c.; twins, 13c.

Poultry.—Turkeys firmer, 14c. to 16c.; geese, 9c. to 10c.; chickens, 10c. to 12c.; ducks, 10c. to 12c. per lb.

Honey.—Market steady. Extracted, 13c., combs, dozen sections, \$2.75 to \$3.

Potatoes.—Car lots, easier, at 75c. to 80c. per bag, on track, at Toronto.

Beans.—\$1.75 to \$1.85 for primes; hand-picked, \$1.80 to \$1.95 per bushel.

Hay.—Baled, in car lots, at Toronto, \$17 to \$17.50.

Straw.—Baled, in car lots, on track, at Toronto, \$9 to \$10.

TORONTO FRUIT.

Apples.—No. 1 Spies, \$4; No. 2 Spies, \$3; Baldwins, \$2.75 to \$3.75.

Onions, per bag, \$1.25.

Winter pears, 50c. per 12-quart basket.

SEEDS.

Market dull. Prices unchanged. Alsike, fancy, \$8 to \$8.25; alsike, No. 1, \$7.50 to \$8; alsike, No. 2, \$6.75 to \$7.25; red clover, No. 1, bushel, \$9.50.

HIDES AND TALLOW.

Prices are quoted as follows by E. T. Carter & Co., 85 East Front St., Toronto: Inspected hides, No. 1 cows and steers, 6c.; inspected hides, No. 2 cows and steers, 5c.; country hides, 4c. to 4c.; calf skins, No. 1, city, 9c. to 10c.; kips, 8c.; horse hides, No. 1, each, \$2.25; horse hair, 27c.; tallow, 5c. to 6c.;

MONTREAL.

Live Stock.—Following the active trade, for Christmas purposes, two weeks ago, the local live-stock market has become very quiet. Choice beeves sold at 5c. to 5c. per lb.; fine, 4c.; good, 4c. to 4c.; medium, 3c. to 4c.; common, 3c. to 3c.; inferior, 2c. to 3c., and canners, 1c. to 1c. per lb. The supply of sheep and lambs was light, and as demand was good, particularly for lambs, prices were firm. Lambs sold at 6c. for best, 5c. to 5c. for good, and down to 5c. for common; export sheep selling at 4c., good butchers' stock being 3c., or a shade more, and common as low as 3c. Calves, as a rule, held steady, best ranging from \$12 to, in some cases, \$15 each, and other qualities ranging down to \$4 each. Supplies of hogs are not sufficient to satisfy the demands of packers and dealers, the result being that the market has been forced up 1c. to 1c. per lb. Sales of best stock are being made at 6 1-3c. to 6c. per lb., weighed off cars.

Horses.—There has been rather a good demand for horses from outside sources of late, and quite a number have been shipped from here to points eastward, such as New Brunswick. Construction operations are going forward along the line of the Transcontinental Railway pretty actively, and this is occasioning some demand for horses. Prices continue steady, as follows: Heavy-draft horses, weighing 1,500 to 1,700 lbs., \$250 to \$300 each; light-draft, weighing 1,400 to 1,500 lbs., \$225 to \$275 each; good blocks, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs., \$200 to \$225 each; express horses, \$150 to \$225; common plugs, \$50 to \$75, and choice carriage and saddle animals, \$300 to \$500 each.

Dressed Hogs and Provisions.—Finest fresh-killed, abattoir-dressed hogs sold around 8c. to 8c.; country-dressed, steady, at 7c. to 8c. per lb. Hams are selling as low as 12c. for best quality, weighing over 25 lbs. each; 13c. per lb. for those weighing 18 to 25 lbs.; 13c. for those of 12 to 18 lbs.; 13c. for 8- to 12-lb. hams. Green bacon, boneless, is quoted at 12c.; flanks, with the bone in, 10c.; long clear, heavy, 10c., and light, 11c., choice smoked being 15c. Lard, also, is cheaper, being 12c. to 12c. for pure, and 9c. to 9c. for compound.

Poultry.—Throughout the Christmas period, the price of poultry was slightly firmer than earlier in December, although still below last year's figures. Turkeys sold at 14c. for best, others ranging down to 12c., and a few inferior even below 10c. Geese were not in very good demand, but will sell better during the coming week. Prices were 9c. to 10c. per lb., ducks being valued about the same price, but being very scarce. Chickens brought as high as 11c., and ranged as low as 9c., the difference in quality being very considerable. The market for fowl was steady, and prices ranged from 6c. to 7c., according to quality. Towards the end of last week the market strengthened, and prices went up a cent, while turkeys became temporarily scarce.

Potatoes.—Best Quebec white stock is costing from 74c. to 76c. per 90 lbs., carloads on track, and these are being resold at about 4c. more, same position; while in broken lots, bagged, they are selling from car at 80c. to 85c. When delivered into store, bagged, prices are 90c. to 95c., in broken lots.

Eggs.—Market unsettled. Broke away badly the end of last week, under the influence of importations of Americans, selling down to 17c.; good cold-storage sold at 18c. to 20c.

Butter.—The market for butter is holding firm, but demand has been exceedingly dull for some time past, and it is not thought that there will be much activity until well into January. The make is dropping off rapidly, and is now very small indeed. Prices show very little change, being about 26c. to 27c. per lb. for current makes, 27c. to 28c. for November makes, and 28c. to 29c. for October.

Cheese.—Of late, there has been quite

a good demand for cheese from the other side, and, as a result, prices here are gradually stiffening. Colored cheese is in strong favor, the result being a spread in price of about 1c. between white and colored. Stocks on the other side of the Atlantic are said to be very light, and certainly those on this side are anything but large. Quotations are 12c. per lb. for October white, and 13c. for September white, 13c. for October colored, and 13c. for September colored.

Grain.—Some dealers report a strong market for Manitoba oats, but, as a general thing, the feeling is that oats are about as high as anyone will pay, and that any distinct move in prices can hardly be upwards. Meantime, No. 2 oats are quoted at 51c., store, in car lots, 49c. for No. 3, 48c. for No. 4, and 46c. for rejected. Trade is mostly in rejected oats, very little of the better grades being sold.

Hay.—Owing to the falling off in demand, prices have experienced a decided decline. No. 1 timothy is quoted at \$18 to \$16.50 per ton, car lots, Montreal; No. 2 at \$15 to \$15.50, and clover and clover mixture at \$13.50 to \$14. Deliveries continue light.

Hides.—From all accounts the market holds steady, and very dull. Dealers are still paying 5c., 6c. and 7c. per lb., for Nos. 3, 2 and 1 hides, respectively, Montreal, and 6c. and 8c., respectively, for Nos. 2 and 1 calf skins, and selling to tanners at an advance of 1c. per lb. Sheep skins are steady at 80c. to 85c. each, and horse hides at \$1.25 for No. 2, and \$1.75 for No. 1, each. Tallow, 1c. to 8c. for rough, and 6c. for refined.

CHICAGO.

Cattle.—Steers, \$5.90 to \$6.25; cows, \$2.50 to \$4.50; heifers, \$2.50 to \$3.25; bulls, \$2.60 to \$4.90; stockers and feeders, \$2.40 to \$4.50.

Hogs.—Choice heavy shipping, \$4.60 to \$4.70; butchers', \$4.55 to \$4.65; light, mixed, \$4.20 to \$4.35; bulk of sales, \$4.55 to \$4.60.

Sheep and Lambs.—Sheep, \$2 to \$4.50; lambs, \$5 to \$6.55; yearlings, \$4 to \$5.50.

BUFFALO.

Cattle.—Prime steers, \$5.25 to \$5.75. Hogs.—Heavy and mixed, \$4.65 to \$4.70; Yorkers, \$4.50 to \$4.65; pigs, \$4.40 to \$4.50; dairies, \$4.50 to \$4.65.

Sheep and Lambs.—Lambs, \$5 to \$7; yearlings, \$5 to \$5.50; ewes, \$4.25 to \$4.50; sheep, mixed, \$2 to \$4.50; Canada lambs, \$6.50 to \$6.65.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKET.

Cables from London quoted American cattle at 12c., Canadian being nominal at 10c. to 11c. per lb. At Liverpool, American steers sold at 11c. to 12c. At Glasgow, choice steers sold at 12c.; second at 11c., and ranchers at 9c. to 9c. per lb.

What an Export Duty on Pulp will Do.

"The time has arrived," says Sir William Van Horne, "when the Canadian people must take action to protect the pulp areas of this country, if we are to reserve them for Canada, and prevent the United States decimating our forests and injuring our water supply."

"When I tell you that Americans own ten thousand square miles of timber limits, nearly all in the Province of Quebec, you will probably realize to some extent the seriousness of the situation. Now, this means that unless something is done, and done quickly, to prevent the wholesale exportation of pulpwood, the United States paper mills will, in time, denude our pulpwood areas. If, however, the Federal or Provincial authorities take action and prohibit the Americans taking away our pulpwood in such tremendous quantities, we will be in a position to force the United States mills to locate on this side of the line. Of course, the American paper manufacturer is anxious to have no export duty on Canadian pulpwood, for it will then be easier for him to secure all he requires, so as to keep his mills running overtime, and with what result, may I ask? Well, to keep the Canadian paper manufacturer out of the United States market. Now, let us cut off the supply of pulpwood, and in six months you will find American capitalists erecting paper mills in Canada."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- 1. What is the cubic measurement of one bushel?
2. About how many cubic feet is there to a ton of: (a) new hay, (b) old hay, (c) straw, in mow, in winter?
3. What is the best way to treat rubber that it may be used again, or what is it useful for?
4. What is the value of an American (United States) silver dollar?
5. What is in the envelope enclosed, and has it any value? J. A. B.

Ans.—1. Taking 277.274 inches to the gallon, a bushel would occupy 2,218.192 cubic inches.

2. Depends upon the kind of hay, and how cured. Estimates of the weight of hay vary from a cube of 7 feet, or 348 cubic feet, up to a cube of 8 feet, or 512 cubic feet per ton. There is no rule that will hold good in anything like a general way. Better to weigh a section of a mow, or a load or two of new hay. We are not aware of any published data giving the volume of straw per ton. Anyone with reliable information on this point will confer a favor by contributing it to these columns.

3. This information would scarcely be of any worth to an ordinary citizen, though the rubber manufacturers appear to make good use of it.

4. The silver dollar of the United States weighs 412.5 grains, consisting of 371.25 grains silver and 41.25 of alloy. The precise value of the silver, in terms of gold, varies somewhat, according to the relative abundance of the two metals.

5. The sample consists of black mica, a common mineral, specifically known as biotite, which comes from boulders of glacial origin. It is of no commercial value.

BUTTERMILK BITTER.

I have a pure-bred Jersey cow which gives good milk; but, when it is churned, the buttermilk is bitter, although the butter seems all right. She is not in calf. R. S. L.

Ans.—The bitter taste in the buttermilk may be produced by any one of a large number of causes. Certain weeds, such as ragweed, occasionally produce a bitter flavor when eaten by cows in large quantities. Over-ripe clover hay, especially threshed alsike, is also responsible in some cases. Cows far advanced in lactation are inclined to produce bitter milk, especially if deprived of laxative food and a reasonable grain ration, and, in certain diseases of the udder, the composition of the milk may be changed, and bitterness developed. The commonest, and in this case the most likely, cause is due to bacteria, or to yeasts, which gain entrance to the milk subsequent to milking. Some of these organisms are found upon the surface of leaves, whence they may be carried by wind or drafts to the milk, and, finding a suitable food, multiply rapidly, and produce bitter substances. Once introduced into a dairy, they are very hard to get rid of, and, in cheese factories where the whey is returned in the milk cans, they may spread from one farm to another, and infest the dairies of a whole neighborhood. It is partly as a means of controlling these and preventing their spread that the practice of heating whey at cheese factories is advocated. To cleanse the dairy of them is difficult, for in all the crevices of every can in which milk has been kept there will be found sufficient of the yeast to carry on the infection when new milk is put into the vessel. It is, therefore, necessary to thoroughly cleanse, scald and scrape the seams of every milk vessel, and then disinfect with boiling water or steam. Then whitewash the milk-house, cellar and pantry; thoroughly cleanse the cream separator if one is in use; sweep down the walls and ceiling of the stables, and give all the inside a thorough coat of whitewash or a spraying with some disinfectant. Then observe special precautions to insure cleanliness in milking. While these things may look pretty elaborate precautions, they are all good in themselves, and we have, therefore, no hesitation in recommending them. Half-way measures are not likely to be of any use.