

WITH THE FARMERS

ON THE MARKET.

The market was quiet this morning though there was a fair attendance. The supply of produce of all kinds was fairly plentiful and the prices remained firm at about the same level. The call for hay has fallen off slightly and several loads of both dense and light hay did not find ready buyers. One feature of the market this week is the fact that offerings of dressed meats including pork, beef and mutton. There is a good demand for meat as the price is reasonable. Vegetables and dairy products still continue to be very scarce on the market.

DO NOT WANT SEED.

Saskatoon, Jan. 21.—In connection with a telegram received here from the seed department at Ottawa asking for information regarding the available supply of seed wheat, a meeting of the agricultural society was called to consider a reply, when it was estimated that there is half a million bushels of unthreshed wheat in this district available, and no importations will be necessary.

OLD COUNTRY LIVE STOCK.

Liverpool, Jan. 20.—The cattle trade was firm and fairly active. Canadian steers were 1/2 cent up to 11% to 12% cents; ranchers 1/2 up to 10% to 11%; native cows, 1/2 up to 11% and bulls 1 cent up to 10% cents. Glasgow reports active trade; top quotations 12 to 12 1/2 cents and bulls 10 London cable reports around the same prices as Liverpool.

THE GRAIN QUESTION.

Indian Head, Sask., Jan. 20.—A meeting of the executive of the Saskatchewan grain growers was held at Indian Head last week at which arrangements were made for holding the annual convention at Saskatoon on Feb. 15. It has also been arranged to hold a conference between the representatives of the grain growers of the three prairie provinces to discuss all the various phases of the grain question covered by the report of the grain commission. The meeting will be held in Moose Jaw, on January 29th, will be attended by the executives from the three provinces.

THE CREAMERY CONVENTION.

The creamery convention opened this morning in the reading room of the legislative assembly. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. J. Finlay, minister of agriculture, who, in a brief speech, welcomed the delegates and outlined the importance of the creamery industry to the agricultural interests of the province. The opening address was given by Mr. C. Mark, dairy commissioner of the province of Alberta. His address was largely an outline of the work of the creamery industry during the past year. He reviewed the work of the creamery industry during the summer of 1929, illustrating the same with large charts which graphically presented the matter to the delegates. The charts indicate a large patronage of the creameries in the winter part of the season and a rapid decline towards the end, showing a measure of disloyalty to the co-operative farmers. Apparently the patrons send their cream during the hot months of the summer when they cannot handle the cream themselves to advantage. He emphasized the need of constant patronage, and the problems confronting the delegates with which they will have to deal. Chief among them are to secure better hauling of cream and a more loyal support of the co-operative institutions organized by the farmers themselves.

Some of the business of the past year were reviewed. Early in the season the commissioner sent out inquiries to the various districts as to the province with a view to ascertaining why the support of the creameries was not more liberal. Replies showed that the creameries were not doing as well as they should. The dairy herds of the province were in bad shape after the severe winter of '28 and '29. In many districts it was difficult to obtain persons who would haul cream to factories; and that many of the who had pledged themselves to support the creameries found it more advantageous to dispose of their milk through private channels. Many others, through want of information and training in up-to-date methods of dairying, found it unprofitable. Conditions of this kind indicate that the convention has serious business on its hands.

The dairy business has developed by leaps and bounds, but there is still a great work to be done. After Mr. Mark's address Hon. Mr. Finlay asked several members of the legislative assembly who were present in force to address the convention. Mr. Finlay emphasized the need of constant patronage and loyal support of the co-operative creameries of the government. Owing to the support of the government the state of the industry in the province has completely changed. Previous to 1929, butter had no cash value and the farmers were forced to take trade in it, merely an article of barter in the country store. The export of the butter production of the government creameries was a great benefit to the private creameries and to the farmers, who were engaged in dairying. The government has been successful in handling good milk, for our butter, which was giving additional prestige to the name of Alberta. The creamery industry is the handmaiden of agriculture and a solution of many difficult problems that beset the farmer.

Mr. Moore congratulated the minister of agriculture upon his comprehensive support of the dairying industry of the province. He commended the delegates to the seriousness and importance of their mission, and declared that no industry was so calculated to increase farm values and swell the bank account of the farmer as the dairying industry.

An important session of the various directors of the government creameries in Alberta was held in the basement of the Legislative Building, Tuesday, January 23. A large number of ques-

tions of interest to the creamery men were brought up and thoroughly discussed at this meeting and several recommendations were made which were embodied in the form of resolutions and presented to the Alberta Government for their consideration. The convention held three sessions in the reading room of the Legislative Assembly and compared pretty thoroughly in their discussions the difficulties in connection with the creamery industry this year. The feeling of the convention was unanimous as regards the policy of the department of agriculture, treating of the co-operative creamery.

Possibly the most important subject in the deliberations of the convention was the charging of the cost of production of butter at the creamery. Absolutely no criticism was offered by the directors as a method of handling and marketing the butter by the Dairy Commissioner. The question involves a close study of hauling, employment of labor at the creamery, power, heat, light, rent, taxes, insurance, and repairs to plant, all of which is under the cost. The delegates coincided with the opinion expressed that the farmers were not supporting these creameries as they should. They should make a more active campaign of advertising and canvassing which would be undertaken by the directors of these creameries. Mr. D. C. Gourlay, of Wetaskiwin stated that butter dealers in British Columbia had used the boxes in which Alberta butter had been shipped to pack their own butter and that they were advertising it as Alberta butter. He thought the matter should be investigated.

Mr. Buckton, editor of the Olds Gazette, who was present thought the secret of lowering the cost of production of butter rested in securing a consistent supply of cream in the spring and summer. In order to do this he thought the creameries should send out canvassers to induce the farmers to supply cream. The delegates coincided with the opinion expressed by Mr. Mark regarding the cost of production. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the local independence of the creameries. It was suggested that better salaries should be paid to the creamery directors, Messrs. Fearn, Robertson, Gourlay, Fry and Buckton was appointed a drafting up resolutions embodying the suggestions made.

At the evening session a plan was made for financial assistance from the government. Mr. Mark stated that the total indebtedness of the creameries is about \$10,000. The public should understand that in the government creameries, the butter is sold at a price which is a fair return for the cost of production. The creameries are not a charity and consequently must be of a quality above reproach. This circumstance requires most careful handling. The local independence of the creameries is an important factor in the cost not incident in the cost of manufacture of the private creamery.

Another important question discussed was whether it was advisable for the government to ship butter to private wholesalers in British Columbia where they could get a larger price for the butter. The delegates were divided on this point. Some thought it was a good idea, while others thought it was a bad idea. The delegates decided to leave this question to the government.

When the question was introduced by Mr. J. J. Grogan of Lacombe, the convention at some length on the point. He stated that he had carefully investigated this question and had written to two of the Lacombe creamery directors who are in British Columbia. Mr. Grogan stated that he had written to two of the Lacombe creamery directors who are in British Columbia. Mr. Grogan stated that he had written to two of the Lacombe creamery directors who are in British Columbia.

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Mr. Mark, for the work he has done and is doing for the creamery associations. Moved by Jos. Smith (Innisfail), seconded by E. C. Groszwell (Red Deer). Carried by acclamation.

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SEED GRAIN FOR THIS PROVINCE

Board of Trade Urges Farmers to Have Seed Tested—Approve Government Action.

An important meeting of the Board of Trade of the Province of Alberta was held in the Board of Trade room yesterday, and the matter of seed grain was dealt with as authorized at the last monthly meeting.

There were at the meeting, President Short, Vice-President Fraser, B. Campbell, K. W. MacKenzie, E. E. Lussard, F. T. Fisher and Messrs. Stevens and Ottewill, of Clover Bar.

It was pointed out that the Dominion government had through its home seed inspectors, secured the importation of seed grain of the highest quality, and that the seed grain of the province of Alberta and Saskatchewan had gone to Ottawa to report and confer as to the general conditions.

It was moved and seconded that the Edmonton Board of Trade approve of the action already taken by the Dominion and provincial governments regarding the securing of sufficient and good seed grain for the farmers of the West during the coming spring, and that it is the opinion of the board that such action is absolutely necessary in the best interests of the West.

This resolution was carried unanimously after a short discussion.

Tests of Grain.

The table given below, secured by the Dominion government, shows the results of the tests of the seed grain of the province of Alberta and Saskatchewan, which was sent to Ottawa to report and confer as to the general conditions. The table shows that the seed grain of the province of Alberta and Saskatchewan is of the highest quality, and that the seed grain of the province of Alberta and Saskatchewan is of the highest quality.

Wheat.

Wetaskiwin 93
Lloydminster 93
Lethbridge 93
Vermilion 93
Ponoka 93
Strathcona 93
Lewistown 93

Barley.

Vermilion 93
Lloydminster 93
Lethbridge 93
Ponoka 93
Strathcona 93
Lewistown 93

Oats.

Vermilion 93
Lloydminster 93
Lethbridge 93
Ponoka 93
Strathcona 93
Lewistown 93

Best seed grain that is in oats and wheat, that I have seen this year, has come from the extreme north of Alberta," says Secretary Harrison. "Samples from the vicinity of Athabasca Landing, 100 miles to the north are good, those from Lesser Slave Lake better and those from Peace River Crossing and Fort Vermilion, 400 miles to the north of Edmonton are excellent. The samples I have sent from the southern part of the province are fair, and should be tested before being planted. For seed I am aware that our southern friends think they have a great crop this year, but in this part of Alberta it would not be considered anything but an ordinary crop."

"The farmers of the Clover Bar district, just east of Edmonton, are particularly anxious to have the best seed grain for their local use, but the enormous amount of new breaking east and south of Tofield, Vegreville, Deyland and Vermilion will call for a large amount of new seed, which must be secured and must be of the very best quality. Steam ploughs have been working in day and night shifts on land adjacent to Deyland and along the G.T.P. railway, and have broken up a very great area of new land. It is therefore nearly imperative that good seed grain should be shipped in in quantity. To the west of Edmonton a great deal of new breaking has been done, and it too will need seed."

"It is a curious fact that the extreme northern and southern portions of the Province of Alberta, some 700 miles apart, should have the best crops during an off year. As is quite natural the northern crops show the best sample, and it is a pity that owing to the cost of transportation the wheat and oats grown at Lesser Slave Lake, Peace River Crossing and Fort Vermilion cannot profitably be brought down for seedling purposes. This, however, will in a very few years be overcome, and the West will have the benefit of being supplied with the very best seed the world can produce."

Wall Street Uneasy.

New York, Jan. 22.—The announcement that the Reading company would lose down most of its coal mines through the reports of low earnings by the principal roads and the expectation of a record breaking had reported by the Steel Trust for this year caused an uneasy market.

Wall Street. There are no pronounced price changes. London firmings of several weeks from the steel publication of this notice, as noted hereinafter.

Grandview Hotel.

First-Class Accommodation; Finest Liquors and Cigars.
H. BIGLER, Proprietor.

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