

Causes of the Success of Indian Over Chinese Teas.

Hankow, which is the chief tea port of China is naturally interested in ascertaining the reasons why Indian teas are driving those of China out of the European market. The British consul there in his last report discusses these causes at some length, and thus summarises the advantages of the Indian and Ceylon tea growers: (1) Greater command of capital. In India and Ceylon tea estates are generally owned by companies which can afford to carry on business at a loss for a time, can purchase expensive machinery and plant, and can spend large sums of money on experiments, and investigating the tastes and requirements of purchasers. (2) The Indian tea grower can borrow money at from 4 to 5 per cent., while the Chinese tea grower has to pay from 20 to 30 per cent. (3) In India and Ceylon the land tax is lighter than in China and there is absolutely no likin, octroi, or export duty to pay. In China, the likin and export duty often amount to 30 per cent. of the selling price of the tea abroad, and to 100 per cent. of the prima cost of its production in China. (4) Labor is cheaper in India than in China. (5) The tea planters in India and Ceylon have the necessary knowledge of chemistry and chemical agriculture at their command to produce in the tea by cultivation and manufacture the qualities required by the purchasers, and can vary them with the varying wants of different countries and districts. (6) Better acquaintance with the tastes and requirements of purchasers and intimacy with the retail dealers and their mode of conducting business. (7) Better transport. (8) Ceylon is not the distance from England and Russia that China is, and India is only 60 per cent. of the distance. Hence there is a saving in freight and a quicker sale, and consequently speedier returns of the money invested. (9) The enormous public works in India facilitating irrigation in dry seasons and preventing floods in wet seasons. Hence the Indian tea grower has far less to fear from floods and droughts than the Chinese. (10) The enormous size of the tea estates in India and Ceylon, as compared with those in China, gives the growers advantages over the Chinese in economy, rapidity and uniformity in collecting the crop, and all the processes from gathering to packing being done on the same estate more care is insured and less risk of damage or imperfect processes are insured. (11) Better machinery in India gives a treble advantage to the Indian growers. It lessens the cost of preparation; it turns out a better quality of tea, and it insures uniformity between the sample and the bulk. Against all these advantages of the Indian and Ceylon grower, China possesses one advantage, and that is that the Chinese tea grower working for his own hand instead of for wages, brings often greater care and more industry to the task. Experience takes the place of science, and he is able to produce a finer flavored tea than has yet been produced in India.—Times.

Toronto Markets.

Millstuffs—Bran, steady; sales being made to-day at \$11 Toronto freights. Shorts—Unchanged and in fair request; sales were reported at \$17.50.

Wheat—Quiet, unchanged, and scarce. Buyers of new wheat outside were at 96c., but

little was offering. No. 2 hard sold \$1.11 west. Millers are about the only buyers. Exporters say that winter wheat will have to come down to about 93 cents before they can handle it at the present condition of the European markets.

Oats—Firm and wanted, but scarce. Buyers were at 32c outside, with offerings at 32½c.; 35c. was bid for old white oats outside.

Car prices are: Flour (Toronto freights)—Manitoba patents, \$5.80 to \$5.85; Manitoba strong bakers, \$5.50 to \$5.60; Ontario patents, \$4.75 to \$5.25; straight roller, \$4.50 to \$4.60; extra, \$4.20 to \$4.30; low grades, \$2 to \$3.75. Bran—\$12.50 to \$20. Shorts—\$17 to \$18. Wheat—No. 2 white, 96 to 99c; do spring, 94 to 95c; No. 2 red winter, 97 to 98c; No. 2 hard, \$1.10; No. 3 hard, 93 to \$1; No. 2 northern, \$1. Peas—No. 2, 67 to 70c. Barley—Feeding, 48 to 55c. Corn—70c. Oats—35 to 37c.

Eggs—Are steady at 12½ to 13c. Stocks are but moderately large.

Potatoes—Remain at 50 to 60c per bag. Further enquiry for business in car lots is heard from growers, but no interest is felt yet.

Quotations are: Beans, \$1.70 to \$1.80; potatoes per bag, 50 to 60c; hops, 20 to 25c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; evaporated do., 13½ to 14c; eggs, fresh, 12½ to 13c; hay, \$11.50 to \$12 for timothy, \$9 to \$10 for mixed; straw, \$6 to \$7; sheepskins, 60c; calfskins, 5 to 7c; hides, green, No. 1, 5 to 5½c; do., cured, 6½c; wool, 10 to 21c; chickens, 50 to 60; fowls, 49 to 50c; ducks, 50 to 55c; turkeys, per lb, 11 to 12c.

Provisions—Quotations are: Mess pork, United States, \$15; Canadian, 15.50; short cut, \$16.50 to \$17; bacon, long clear, per lb., 8½ to 9c; lard, Canada, tubs and pails, 10½ to 10¾c; compound, do., 8½ to 9c; smoked meats—hams per lb, 12½ to 13c; bellies per lb., 11c; rolls, per lb., 9c; backs, per lb, 11c. Dressed hogs, \$7.

Butter—Good stock is in request at 14 to 16c. The latter price going for only prime butter. The consumptive capacity of the city is much greater than it was, so that the supply, though reasonably good, is not more than equal to the local demand. Quotations are: Butter, good to choice western, 14 to 16c; dairy, medium, 11½ to 13c; common, 9 to 11c; creamery, tubs, 19c; rolls, 22c.

Cheese—Is firm at 10c. August cheese is held at 9½c at the factory.

Fruit—Prices are: Peaches, per basket, 60c. to \$1.35; watermelons each, 20 to 35c; apples, per barrel, \$1.25 to \$2; plums, 35c. to 60c. per basket; pears, common, 30 to 50c per basket; Bartlett, per bbl., \$4 to \$6; crab apples, 30 to 35c per basket; grapes, champions, 5 to 6c per pound.—Empire, Sept. 7th.

Canadian Pacific stock continues to advance on the Montreal market, and Tuesday last it reached 89, the highest point it has ever attained. Some six hundred shares sold at this figure and the demand continues.

The steamship, City of New York, for Liverpool, passed Browhead on September 8. Her time to Fastnet is 5 days, 22 hours and 30 minutes. The China and Japan mails (per steamship Empress of Japan to Vancouver and the Canadian Pacific Railway to New York) were aboard the City of New York, and should reach London in 20 days from Yokohama, beating all previous mail records.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY.

TORONTO EXHIBITION,

Sept. 7th to 19th.

Excursion tickets on sale from August 31st to September 14th, good to return up till September 30th, at

\$5 1.00,

Including meals and berths on steamers.

Tickets are available by direct steamer to Owen Sound or to Sault Ste. Marie, thence Great Northern Transit Company's steamers, touching at various points on Manitoulin Island and Georgian Bay, returning same route, or by all rail.

The sailings from Fort William are now

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Connecting trains from Winnipeg every

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