

Provisions.—Fresh-killed abattoir hogs, \$7.35 to \$7.50; live hogs, \$5.25 to \$5.50.
Eggs.—New-laid eggs, 15c. to 15½c.
Butter.—Full grass, 17c. to 17½c.; Western dairy, 13c. to 14c.
Cheese.—Ontario, 8½c.; best Quebec, 8c.

The World's Greatest Market.

(Special correspondence.)

Up to the present date the season has proved very favorable for all sorts of agricultural work. It has developed well, for certainly in the early days of March the fates seemed against us. Sowing was once again rendered impossible by rain, and a repetition of last year's disasters was feared, as well as a legacy of injurious effects due to a miserable autumn and a rotten winter. April brought the needed change, and we really have never looked behind us since. May has been quite May-like, and we are now benefiting by a splendid spell of warmth and abundant sunshine. The conditions are suitable alike for stock and crops, and the usual farmer's grumble, for the moment at least, is stilled.

THE SHOW SEASON

for our many varieties of breeding live-stock has now fairly commenced, and for the next five months those who make a rule of exhibiting extensively will not have much time for rest. The cattle are again being shown in very high condition; as regards the fleshy breeds, it may be said, as fat as their owners can make them. It is very surprising that this high pressure system of feeding does not result in many more cases of sterility, both in bulls and females, than is the case. So long, however, as wholesome food is given, and with this food abundant exercise, it is quite astonishing how healthy the cattle will remain, and breed quite regularly.

WHEAT TRADE BETTER.

There has been a slight improvement in the wheat trade during the past week, but not much activity, except in New Indian wheats, in which a very large business has been done, both for the U. K. and the Continent, the low prices attracting buyers for late shipments, in view of the very unfavorable character of the Washington Bureau's report. It is a fact, however, that neither in America nor Europe has this report, which is described officially as the most uniformly unfavorable ever recorded, had any immediate effect. To some extent, it had possibly already been discounted, but it is tolerably clear that the trade is determined to ignore factors bearing upon the future—as this report most certainly does—with such a large quantity afloat as it now sees. When the weekly shipments to Europe fall below a million quarters per week, instead of the 1,300,000 quarters per week lately shown, probably the market will consider the American position worthy of more attention. On the "Baltic" yesterday, wheat cargoes were steadily held, but the demand is still of a limited character. Californian March is quoted at \$7.44, and Walla Walla, afloat, \$7.26. Maize firm at late rates. At Mark Lane, the attendance yesterday was about the average, and wheat was inactive at nominally late quotations. It is worth noting that there are no American Springs on spot, and very few on passage to London. Flour, now that forced sales have stopped, is held for more money. American grades are firmer. Mark Lane prices: No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat, landed, \$8.58; No. 1 northern Manitoba, ex ship, \$8.40; No. 3 northern Manitoba, ex ship, \$8.16.

THE MEAT MARKET.

A better demand for beef in the Central Market at Smithfield has helped the foreign cattle trade at Deptford. During the last fourteen days there has been on this market some very choice animals, and prices have been well maintained at 13c. per pound for the pick, while seconds have been quoted 12½c. to 12½c. There have been two small consignments of Canadian cattle, which met a ready sale at 11½c. to 12c. On to-day's (Saturday) market, 2,000 States cattle were offered for sale. Trade was somewhat slow, but a clearance was effected at 12c. to 12½c, with 12½c. for something extra good. Seven hundred and seventy-nine States sheep were also sold at 14½c. per lb.

BACON.

This market has been quite brisk this week, and no

doubt owing to the holidays considerable sales have been effected. Canadian bacon has participated in the increased activity, and transactions reported have been at enhanced rates. Leanest and highest averages are officially unaltered at 11½c. and lean, with the recent advance, is now quoted 10½c.

Hams find a ready sale at slightly firmer prices. There is a good demand for Canadian long-cut (green), but they are somewhat scarce, and are making from 10½c. to 12½c. per pound.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Butter.—A good healthy demand prevails for Colonial sorts. Owing to the excessive supplies prices dropped a little at the beginning of the week, but they have since hardened up. Canadian butter in London is very hard to find, and is not officially listed. It may, however, be quoted at 18c. for best Canadian creameries.

In Canadian cheese there has been more doing this week on improved terms, and there are symptoms of a better feeling manifesting itself of old season's makes, stocks of which are still weighing rather heavily on hand. Choice September cheese commands 9c., and a little more for special, very special. Good and fine quality, 8½c. to 8½c. per lb. The stock at Commercial Road Station yesterday was 42,400 boxes, against 2,560 boxes in 1903.

London, Eng., May 21, 1904.

Cheese Markets.

Tweed, May 26.—Five hundred and twenty cheese sold at 8½c.

Picton, May 26.—Sixteen factories boarded 1,560 boxes; highest bid, 8 7-16c. Eight hundred and ninety-five boxes sold, all colored.

Kingston, May 26.—One thousand one hundred and seventy were boarded, 795 colored and 375 white. Highest bid, 8 5-16c. Six hundred and twenty-five sold at this price.

Brockville, May 26.—To-day, 2,902 boxes were registered, 638 white, balance colored; all sold; 8½c. for colored, 8½c. for white.

Madoc, May 26.—Nine hundred and eighty boxes sold at 8 3-16c.

Alexandra, May 26.—All cheese sold for 8½c. colored, 268; white, 920.

Vankleek Hill, May 26.—There were 1,069 boxes of white, and 279 boxes of colored cheese boarded here to-night; all sold at 8 18-16c.

Winchester, May 26.—Price bid 8½c. None sold on board.

Perth, May 27.—One thousand four hundred and twenty-five boxes of cheese were sold at 8½c.

Listowel, May 27.—One thousand four hundred and eighteen boxes, 1,368 white, and 50 colored, were boarded. One lot sold on the board for 8½c.; a few other lots sold afterwards on the street at that figure, and in some cases 1-16c. more was paid.

Iroquois, May 27.—Nine hundred and thirty-seven colored cheese were boarded; 8 1-16c. was bid; no sales on board; buyers subsequently bought on nearly the whole lot at 8½c.

Farnham, Que., May 27.—Thirteen factories offered 209 white cheese and 419 boxes of butter to-day. Cheese sold at 8½c.; butter at 16½c.

Napanee, May 27.—To-day 1,420 colored and 762 white cheese were boarded. Sales at 8½c.

Ottawa, May 27.—There were 945 boxes boarded on the Ottawa Cheese Board to-day, 524 white and 421 colored. All the white but 88 boxes was sold at 8½c., the colored at 8½c. There were few buyers present.

South Finch, May 27.—Cheese Board was held this evening; number of cheese boarded, 1,505 boxes, half white and colored; price offered on board, 8½c. None sold on board.

Kemptville, May 27.—Twenty-five factories boarded 1,704 cheese at to-night's market, of which 1,604 were colored. Thirteen lots were sold at 8 11-16c., for both white and colored, the remaining salesmen holding out for 8½c.

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Campbellford, Ont., May 25.—One thousand and sixty white cheese boarded. All sold at 8½c.

Sherbrooke, Que., May 25.—There was an advance in butter, the 376 packages selling at 15½c. per pound. No cheese offered.

Woodstock, Ont., May 25.—Several lots of cheese sold at 8½c. to 8 5-16c.

Stirling, Ont., May 25.—Seven hundred and twenty cheese boarded; price 8 3-16c.

London, May 28.—Ten factories offered 1,266 boxes Sales, 200 at 8½c.; 150 at 8 7-10c.

Belleville, May 28.—At a meeting of the cheese board, 3,385 white and 610 colored were boarded. Prices, 8½c., and 8 9-16c.

Cowansville, Que., May 28.—Twenty-three creameries offered 1,836 boxes butter; 27 factories offered 1,230 boxes cheese. Butter sold for 17c. to 17½c.; cheese, 8½c. to 8 9-16c.

Wool.

Montreal.—The market is quiet, but prices are firm, especially for Canadian fleece wool, sales of which have been made at 19c. to 20c. for washed, and at 15c. to 16c. for unwashed, and we quote prices as follows: Greasy Cape, 16c. to 20c.; B. A. wool, 80c. to 40c.; Ontario washed fleece, 19c. to 20c., and unwashed, 15c. to 16c.; Nova Scotia washed fleece, 23c.; pulled wool, extras, 23c. to 24c.; Northwest, 17c.

Toronto.—Receipts of unwashed wool are larger, and the movement is likely to be well under way in a short time. The market is steady at 9c. to 11c. The fine weather has had the effect of starting the clip of washed, and a few small lots are coming in. Quotations are steady at 16c. to 17c.

Nova Scotian Apples.

Shipments of apples from Nova Scotia to England are about over. For several months an average of 10,000 barrels a week left the Annapolis Valley, and over 400,000 barrels were shipped from Halifax alone. About 500,000 barrels were harvested in the Annapolis Valley, which averaged \$2.75 per barrel. The outlook for this year is particularly good. The trees have bloomed full, and a good crop is expected.

Buffalo Markets.

Buffalo.—Cattle—Prime steers, \$5.25 to \$5.50; shipping, \$4.85 to \$5.15.
 Veals, \$4.00 to \$5.25.
 Hogs—Heavy, \$4.95 to \$5.00; a few, \$5.05.
 Sheep and lambs—Lambs, \$4.50 to \$6.80; yearlings, \$5.75 to \$6.00; wethers, \$5.40 to \$5.50; ewes, \$4.75 to \$5.00.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago.—Good to prime steers, \$5.25 to \$5.75; poor to medium, \$4.40 to \$5.25; Texas-fed steers, \$4.50 to \$5.10.
 Hogs—Mixed and butchers', \$4.55 to \$4.75; good to choice heavy, \$4.70 to \$4.80.
 Sheep—Good to choice wethers, \$5.20 to \$5.60; fair to choice mixed, \$4.00 to \$5.00; native lambs, \$5.00 to \$6.50; spring lambs, \$5.50 to \$7.50.

British Cattle Markets.

London.—Canadian cattle are slow at 11½c. to 12½c. per pound; refrigerator beef, 9c. to 9½c. per pound. Sheep dull, 12c. to 14c. per pound; yearlings, 15c.

Forthcoming Stock Sales.

June 15.—Imported Yorkshires: D. C. Flatt & Son, at Hamilton, Ont.
June 22nd.—Shorthorns: H. Parker, Durham, Ont.
June 23.—Fifty Imported Clydesdale Fillies: Graham Bros, Claremont, at Grand's Repository, Toronto.
June 28th.—Shorthorns: W. C. Edwards and others, at Hamilton, Ont.

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