

FISH FOR WESTERN CANADA.

Maximum prices to be paid to fishermen in the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan for winter-caught fish have been fixed by the Food Controller. The profit of the "producing companies," which buy from the fishermen and sell to the wholesale houses, has been limited to a maximum of 1 cent per pound, while the profit of the wholesale houses on sales to retail dealers must not be more than 2 cents per pound. In this way, the price charged for such fish to the retail dealers in any part of Western Canada must not exceed by more than 3 cents the price actually paid to the fishermen, plus transportation charges from the primary rail shipping point. While the Food Controller has not fixed the price to the consumers, this may be done by the several municipalities which are co-operating with the Fish Committee of the Food Controller's Office.

Persons dealing in western winter-caught fish in quantity will be required to secure a license from the Food Controller. Heavy penalties are provided for failure to register and take out such license or for failure to comply with the Food Controller's regulations. Deliberate waste of fish will be penalized. Wholesale dealers must give first consideration to the needs of the Canadian market. By this means it is hoped to ensure for the people of Western Canada an adequate supply of fresh fish at fair prices, and thus to release for export overseas a very large quantity of beef and bacon.

The announcement to this effect follows a meeting between the Fish Committee of the Food Controller's Office and representatives of the western fish industry. A conference was also held between representatives of the Food Controller for Canada and the United States Food Administration, at which the international questions involved were considered and an agreement reached.

Following are the maximum prices which may be paid to fishermen for western winter-caught fish until further notice at the shipping points named, E.o.b. railway track in each case:

	Lake Winnipeg and District.	Lake Manitoba and District.	Lake Winnipegosis and District.	Pas District.	Big River District.	Alberta Lakes.
Lake Trout and Whitefish—						
" Round .. .	8	8	—	—	—	—
" Dressed .. .	—	—	7½	7	7	6½
Pickeral and Perch—						
—Yellows .. .	7½	7½	76	7	7	6½
Jackfish—Round .. .	4½	4½	4½	4	4	3½
" Dressed .. .	5	5	5	4½	4½	4
Tullibees—Round .. .	5	4	4	4	4	3½
Goldeyes—Round .. .	3	—	3	3	1	—

In making the announcement, Mr. Hanna stated that the Fish Committee had considered a number of alternatives. "The course which has been adopted," he said, "ensures that the consumer who uses the fish in the fresh state will be able to purchase it at a reasonable price. The amount which he has to pay will be regulated by the price actually paid to the fishermen. In this way both the fishermen and the public will be protected against excessive profits to the middlemen."

VALUE OF FIELD CROPS.

Ottawa, November 30.

The Census and Statistics Office issued to-day a preliminary estimate of the total value of the field crops of Canada for the year 1917, as compared with the finally revised estimates of 1916 and 1915. The estimated values for 1917 represent the prices received by farmers, and are calculated from current market quotations; they are subject to revision after the compilation of returns from correspondents in December. According to the preliminary estimate the total value of all field crops for 1917 is \$1,089,687,000, as compared with \$886,494,900 in 1916 and \$825,370,600 in 1915. This is the first time that the estimated value of the field crops of Canada has reached one billion dollars, this large figure being due to the high prices now ruling. The total of \$1,089,687,000 is made up of \$451,874,000 for wheat, as compared with \$344,096,400 in 1916, of \$236,142,000 for oats, as compared with \$210,957,500, of \$145,361,600 for hay, clover and alfalfa, as compared with \$171,613,900 and of \$81,355,000 for potatoes, as compared with \$50,982,300. The aggregate value of other grain crops is \$134,006,700, as compared with \$84,679,800 and of other root and fodder crops \$40,974,700, as compared with \$84,165,000. The final estimates of value for 1917 will be published as usual in January.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

(Concluded from Page 20.)

One despatch yesterday stated that fresh Austro-German divisions from the French and Russian fronts are continually arriving through the Trentino, which indicates that the enemy is able and eager to seek some sort of a decision on the Italian front, inasmuch as he is coming downhill and the defender has the double disadvantage of uphill work, and, so far, numerical inferiority.

The readjustment of the British line before Cambrai, forecasted yesterday by Major-General Maurice, Director of Operations at the War Office in London, and made necessary by the recent thrust of the Germans, was effected successfully without interference from the enemy. Sir Douglas Haig announces that on Tuesday night General Byng's troops were moved back, from the salient in the neighborhood of Noyelles-sur-L'Escaut and Bourlon Wood to a position southwest of these localities. "We have fallen back deliberately and successfully upon a well-chosen line," says Reuter's correspondent, "which rules out the salient of Bourlon Wood, and should enable us to maintain our hold upon the captured length of the Hindenburg line against any pressure."

It is estimated that the area of the territory wrested from the enemy by General Byng's great surprise drive, in which tanks and cavalry figured prominently, was about sixty square miles. The area of the salient just abandoned by the British is twenty-five square miles, so that the net gain is forty square miles. But territorial gains are not the only measure of success in France. The British captures in men and guns considerably exceed those of the Germans, while in morale and equipment the foe has been placed definitely and finally and irretrievably in an inferior position. The British yesterday slightly advanced their line southwest of La Vacquerie, on the Cambrai front.

Early Thursday morning twenty-five German airplanes raided the southeastern area of England and the City of London. The total casualties resulting were 7 killed and 21 injured, of whom three were killed in London and ten injured.

Eleven enemy airplanes were brought down by the French.

Lord Robert Cecil stated in the British Commons that an allied reply to the Vatican was unnecessary.

A blizzard adds to the Halifax tragedy.

Hebron has been taken by the British forces operating in Palestine.

The Austro-German forces on the northern section of the line in Italy have made some progress in their plan of an enveloping movement, the first phase of which has as an objective the driving in of the wedge between forces on the Piave River and those to the west and north. If this could be done, most of the Italian forces on the Piave would be cut off and forced to surrender.

General Haig reports that Ulster troops have improved General Byng's position by the capture of trenches north of La Vacquerie, in the Cambrai area. There are indications of a new move in the Ypres area. The withdrawal in the Cambrai area takes the British line about a mile back on the northern section. An aggregate of about thirty square miles out of the sixty taken in the first advance by the British has been abandoned to the Germans, who are making the most of this fact. They have been reinforced from various fronts, including the Russian.

Most of the bombs dropped on London during the last raid were incendiary.

German military works in Belgium were effectively raided by British airmen.

The Prussian electoral reform bill was introduced by the German Chancellor.

MONDAY, DEC. 10.

The British are now back in strong defensive positions south of Bourlon Wood and west of Gonnelleu and Villers-Guislain, chosen in accordance with the plan of withdrawal and with the Hindenburg lines, the old Hindenburg front, and the support lines behind them.

A proclamation to the Russian nation has been issued by the Russian Government announcing that "Kaledines and Korniloff, assisted by the Imperialists and Constitutional Democrats, have raised a revolt and declared war in the Don region against the people and the revolution." The proclamation adds "that the Constitutional Democrats and Bourgeoisie are supplying the revolting generals with scores of millions." New U.S. destroyer sunk by submarine and 66 lives lost.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF THE TRADE OF CANADA FOR OCTOBER. Prepared by Trade Statistics Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa. One Month and Twelve Months ending October, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

	Month of October.			Twelve Months ending October.		
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1915.	1916.	1917.
<b>Imports for Consumption.</b>						
Dutiable goods .. . . .	\$22,801,957	\$37,946,011	\$47,019,685	\$247,136,333	\$396,798,646	\$553,286,091
Free goods .. . . .	16,713,187	33,250,241	31,156,791	174,448,264	320,131,167	457,985,016
Total imports (mdse.) .. .	39,515,144	71,196,252	78,176,476	421,584,597	716,929,813	1,011,271,107
*Coin and bullion .. . . .	1,924,605	781,115	489,370	56,531,364	49,464,853	15,757,950
Total imports .. . . .	41,439,749	71,977,367	78,665,846	478,115,961	766,394,666	1,027,029,057
Duty collected .. . . .	8,201,830	12,074,463	13,824,545	83,291,392	133,483,207	167,552,073
<b>Exports.</b>						
<b>Canadian Produce—</b>						
The mine .. . . .	6,669,776	7,299,082	7,668,525	56,993,485	78,066,052	80,967,695
The Fisheries .. . . .	2,527,616	2,515,518	3,744,367	21,723,042	23,262,674	26,222,005
The Forest .. . . .	5,503,343	5,450,202	4,900,739	47,408,698	53,899,809	52,440,091
Animal produce .. . . .	12,081,545	13,718,592	18,679,265	89,741,675	112,968,379	162,375,960
Agricultural products .. .	39,833,353	27,306,934	45,504,815	158,463,160	383,929,118	446,125,216
Manufactures .. . . .	12,880,731	28,637,814	74,419,973	130,848,327	377,138,502	678,318,994
Miscellaneous .. . . .	542,218	384,033	176,060	3,523,858	7,949,063	4,849,584
Total Canadian produce .. .	80,038,582	85,312,175	155,093,744	509,092,245	1,037,213,597	1,451,299,545
Foreign produce .. . . .	4,063,483	2,093,559	4,790,753	41,455,829	18,925,723	40,977,341
Total exports (mdse.) .. .	84,102,065	87,315,734	159,884,497	550,548,074	1,056,139,320	1,492,276,886
*Coin and bullion .. . . .	24,462,311	5,037,078	283,978	118,782,516	206,120,302	3,290,894
Total exports .. . . .	108,564,376	92,352,812	160,168,475	669,330,590	1,262,266,122	1,495,567,780
<b>Aggregate Trade.</b>						
Merchandise .. . . .	123,617,209	158,511,986	238,060,973	972,122,671	1,773,059,133	2,503,547,993
Coin and bullion .. . . .	26,386,916	5,818,193	773,348	175,313,889	255,591,655	19,048,844
Total trade .. . . .	150,004,125	164,330,179	238,834,321	1,147,446,561	2,028,650,788	2,522,596,837

\*NOTE.—It will be noted that the figures relating to the imports and exports of coin and bullion for the twelve months ending October, were: Imports, 1915, \$56,531,364; 1916, \$49,464,853; 1917, \$15,757,950; and exports, 1915, \$118,782,516; 1916, \$206,120,302; 1917, \$3,290,894. Although it has been customary to include these figures in trade returns, the total trade figures are seriously disturbed by them in this instance and they should not be taken as an indication of the trade of Canada.