

County Councils.

A Bill is before the Ontario Legislature having for its object the amending, or, rather, changing, of the Act respecting the constitution of County Councils. The proposed Bill looks very much like a return to the system existing previous to the adoption of the present system some ten years ago. As to whether the change to the present system was an improvement or not there is considerable difference of opinion, and it must be admitted that some features of the present law have not given entire satisfaction. The Government's proposal, embodied in the measure now before the Assembly, is to restore to local municipalities the right of representation in the County Council, but to limit the membership of the latter by increasing the unit of population represented by one member. According to the Bill as presented, the County Councils for and after the year 1907 will be composed of representatives—townships, towns and village municipalities by the reeve, and, in addition, by a deputy-reeve or deputy-reeves, as follows: If the municipality had the names of more than 1,000 and not more than 2,000 persons on the last revised voters' list, by a first deputy-reeve; if more than 2,000 and not more than 3,000 names, by a first and second deputy-reeve, and if more than 3,000 names are on such list, then by a first, a second and a third deputy-reeve. The effect of this would be to materially increase the numbers, but not so as to make it as large in any

county as it was before the change of 1896. Those who have had experience as councillors under the old and the new systems, are in the best position to judge as to whether the proposed change is likely to prove an improvement, and these are the men who would appear to be best qualified to discuss the question intelligently on its merits.

Oxford County Farm Notes.

During this month of March we endeavor to have all the grain in the granary cleaned up, putting that intended for seed twice through the mill, and have it all in readiness to bag up when seeding time comes. We have also all our manure put out and spread on the ground intended for roots and corn, except a small portion that has got tramped and froze solid. We also have the potatoes sorted over and ready for sale. We have been in the habit of planting the medium-sized potatoes for seed, and reserving all the largest ones for sale. We also take the harness all apart and wash and oil it thoroughly, and repair where necessary. When we are to build any crab fence, we see that we have all the stakes sharpened up this month, so that we are ready to go on building the fence whenever the frost is out of the ground. The past winter has been a very open one with us; I don't remember the like of it. Cows and brood sows have been selling very high. One sow with 10 pigs sold for \$60; and another with 5 pigs for \$40, and cows as high as \$57 at a sale lately.

Live hogs were selling at \$6.85 last week. There seems to be quite a demand for newly-dropped calves; I suppose to be used in the canned-chicken business. Oats are selling at about 38 cents. Quite a number from this county are going to the Northwest. It is quite possible that not a few of them would be as well off to remain. Their places are being taken by immigrants from Britain. Help is not so hard to get as it was a few years ago, but wages are still pretty high. There has been quite a demand for horses, over \$200 in some instances being paid for the best heavy horses.

Claiver Ha Lea.

JONAS.

International Sheep Records.

At a conference of representatives of Canadian and United States Sheep-breeders' Associations, held at Buffalo, N. Y., March 17th, satisfactory agreement was made with the American Shropshire Association for the conduct of International Records along the lines laid down at the Chicago conference in December last. Other American associations were not represented at the Buffalo meeting, but the indications are that they will fall into line.

During 1905, 4,899 mallein tests for glanders were made in Canada, and 2,113 animals were destroyed, the owners receiving from the Government \$147,851 by way of compensation.

MARKETS.

Toronto.

LIVE STOCK.

Export Cattle—Choice quoted, \$4.60 to \$5.15; good to medium, \$4 to \$4.50; others, \$3.75 to \$4; bulls, \$3.50 to \$4, and cows, \$2.75 to \$3.50.

Butchers' Cattle—Picked lots, \$4.60 to \$4.85; good to choice, \$4.25 to \$4.50; fair to good, \$3.50 to \$4; common, \$2.50 to \$3; cows, \$2.75 to \$4; bulls, \$3 to \$4; canners, \$1.50 to \$2.

Stockers and Feeders—Active demand for good short-keep feeders, \$4 to \$4.50; heavy feeders, \$3.85 to \$4.15; medium, \$2.50 to \$3.50; bulls, \$2 to \$2.75; good stockers run at \$3 to \$3.65; light, \$2.75 to \$3; rough to common, \$2 to \$2.75, and bulls, \$1.75 to \$2.50.

Milch Cows—\$30 to \$60 each.

Calves—Fairly-good demand for good veals; 3½c. to 6½c. per lb.

Sheep and Lambs—Export ewes, \$4.75 to \$5.25 per cwt., and bucks, \$3.50 to \$4.50. Grain-fed lambs, \$6.75 to \$7.25, and mixed, \$5.50 to \$6.50.

Hogs—\$6.85 per cwt for selects, and \$6.60 for lights and fats, fed and watered.

HORSES.

The local horse market was seized by a rather weak spell during the past week, and prices have reflected recessionary tendencies, though there have been no pronounced declines. The reactionary disposition was there, however, and it was accompanied by a contraction in the volume of business. The local demand has been mainly confined to the lighter classes, such as delivery and express horses, while the enquiry from outside points has been exclusively for the heavier classes of commercial lines. There have been no sales of importance outside of the usual transactions in the sales-rings, except one of several drafters of exceptional merit, which were disposed of up to \$245 per head. They were much above the average, however, and would, perhaps, have fetched a few more dollars a short time back. Dealers are looking forward to the spring trade, which they expect will be unusually active. They do not look for the present weakness, which is, after all, perhaps, more sensational than real, to last for any length of time. In fact, trade was again picking up toward the last of the week, and prices were inclined to rally. Prices are quoted as follows: Single roadsters, 15 to 16 hands, \$125 to \$180; single cobs and carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands, \$150 to \$250; matched pairs and carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands, \$300 to \$500; delivery horses, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs., \$140 to \$185; general-purpose and express horses, 1,200 to 1,350 lbs., \$140 to \$200; drafters, 1,350 to 1,750 lbs., \$150 to \$215; serviceable second-hand workers, \$60 to \$90; serviceable second-hand drivers, \$60 to \$95.

BREADSTUFFS.

Bran—\$20 bid, bags included, at Toronto.

Barley—48c. bid No. 2 at 78 per cent., freight points, C. P. R.

Peas—77c. bid, outside.

Oats—Ontario—No. 2 white offered at

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

B. E. WALKER, General Manager

ALEX. LAIRD, Asst. Gen'l Manager

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ISSUED AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:

\$5 and under.....	3 cents
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These Orders are Payable at Par at any office in Canada of a Chartered Bank (Yukon excepted), and at the principal banking points in the United States.

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They form an excellent method of remitting small sums of money with safety and at small cost.

36½c., track, Toronto, 34½c., outside; 35c. bid for No. 2 mixed, Toronto. Rye—No. 2, 68c. bid, outside. Buckwheat—Offered at 49c., outside. Corn—No. 3 yellow American, 48½c. bid at Toronto, 49½c. asked, 49c. bid, to arrive Toronto.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Creamery, 25c. to 26c.; solids, 23c. to 24c. Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice, 18c. to 19c.; large rolls, 17c. to 18c.; medium, 16c. to 17c.

Cheese—Firm in tone, and quoted at 14c. for large, and 14½c. for twins.

Eggs—Firm; demand active; 16c. for new-laid, and 13c. for storage.

Poultry—Market quiet, and receipts are light. Choice, dry-plucked: Fat chickens, 11c. to 12c.; thin, 7c. to 8c. Fat hens, 8c. to 9c.; thin, 6c. to 7c. Ducks, 12c. to 13c.; thin, 6c. to 7c. Geese, 10c. to 11c. Turkeys, 14c. to 15c. for choice small lots.

Potatoes—Ontario, 65c. to 75c. per bag, on track here; 75c. to 85c., out of store; Eastern, 70c. to 80c., on track, and 80c. to 90c., out of store.

Baled Hay—Quiet and easy in tone at \$8 per ton for No. 1 timothy, on track here, and \$5.50 to \$6 for No. 2.

Beans—\$1.75 to \$1.80 for hand-picked, \$1.65 to \$1.75 for prime, and \$1.25 to \$1.50 for under-grades.

Honey—\$1.25 to \$2 for combs, per dozen; 7c. to 8c. per lb. for strained.

HIDES AND TALLOW.

E. T. Carter & Co., 85 East Front St., wholesale dealers in wool, hides, calf skins and sheep skins, tallow, etc., quote: Inspected hides, No. 1 steers, 10c.; inspected hides, No. 2 steers, 9c.; inspected hides, No. 1 cows, 9½c.; inspected hides, No. 2 cows, 8½c.; country hides, flat, 7½c. to 8c.; calf skins, No. 1, selected, 72c.; sheep skins, \$1.45 to \$1.55; horse hides, \$3 to \$3.25; tallow, rendered, 4½c. to 4¾c.; wool, unwashed, fleece, 15c. to 16c.; wool, washed, 25c.

FARMERS' MARKET.

(Retail Prices.)

Dressed hogs, light, cwt., \$9.25; heavy, \$8.75. Butter, 25c. to 28c. Eggs, 22c. to 25c. Spring chickens, dressed,

12c. to 14c.; live, 10c. to 11c. Old, dressed, 10c.; live, 8c. to 10c. Turkeys, dressed, 15c. to 20c.; live, 12c. to 14c. Geese, live, 10c. to 11c.; dressed, 10c. to 12c. Potatoes, per bag, 85c. to \$1. Beef, hind quarters, 7c. to 8c.; fore quarters, 4½c. to 5½c. Veal, 3½c. to 10c.; carcasses, 6c. to 7c. Mutton, 8c. to 9c. Lambs, 10c. to 11c.

Detroit Bean Prices.

H. E. Botsford & Co. say: "The market on pea beans has been dull and dragging for the past three weeks, with a decline of about 15c. a bushel. The unseasonable weather has had, no doubt, a great deal to do with the decline. For the proper consumption of beans, we need good cold weather. Lately there has been a noticeable improvement in the demand, and the market is now much stronger than it has been for some time. Farmers are not bringing in beans to market, and the stocks that are held by dealers are held firmly, and are not for sale at these prices. Stocks in leading receiving markets are very light, and everything points to higher values. We quote C. H. P. P. beans, \$1.35 to \$1.38 per bushel, f. o. b., Michigan points."

Chicago.

Cattle—Common to prime steers, \$3.85 to \$6.40; cows, \$3.65 to \$4.60; heifers, \$2.75 to \$5.25; bulls, \$2.60 to \$4.30; calves, \$3 to \$7.75; stockers and feeders, \$2.75 to \$4.75.

Hogs—Choice to prime, heavy, \$6.20 to \$6.45; medium to good, heavy, \$6.15 to \$6.35; butchers' weights, \$6.20 to \$6.40; good to choice, heavy, mixed, \$6.15 to \$6.35; packing, \$5.80 to \$6.35.

Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$4.25 to \$6.15; yearlings, \$5.50 to \$6.40; lambs, \$6.25 to \$6.85.

British Cattle Market.

London—Cattle are quoted at 10½c. to 11½c. per lb.; refrigerator beef, 7½c. per lb.; sheep, dressed, 12½c. to 13½c. per lb.; lambs, 11½c., dressed weight.

Montreal.

Live Stock—Local market steady last week. Choice cattle, 5c. to 5½c.; good to fine, 4c. to 5c., and medium, 3½c. to 4c.; common, 2½c. to 3½c. Sheep, 4½c.; lambs, 6c. Calves, \$2 to \$5 for inferior cattle, and up to \$10 for choice. Hogs, 7½c. to 7¾c.

Horses—Coal-cart horses, weighing 1,350 to 1,450 lbs. each, sell at \$175 to \$225 each; express horses, 1,100 to 1,300 lbs., \$150 to \$200 each; light draft, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs., \$175 to \$225 each; heavy draft, 1,500 to 1,700 lbs., \$250 to \$300 each; choice saddle or carriage horses, \$300 to \$500 each; old, broken-down animals, \$75 to \$125 each.

Butter—New-milk butter now arriving sells at 22½c., wholesale; October choicest, 22c.; choicest winter makes, 21½c. to 21¾c.; inferior ranging down below 20c.; dairies sell at 16c. to 17c. Tone of market somewhat heavy.

Cheese—13c. to 13½c. Some business has been put through lately.

Eggs—Fresh-laid about 16½c., wholesale, single cases running up to 18c. or 18½c.

Dressed Hogs—9½c. to 10½c. for fresh-killed abattoir stock, and 8½c. to 9½c. for country-dressed. Barrel pork, \$19.50 to \$22.00 per bbl., demand being fair.

Potatoes—Stock offered at 60c. to 65c. for 90 lbs., carloads on track.

Seeds—Dealers say that nearly all the red clover seed is in, and they have raised their prices for it to \$7.25 or \$7.75 per bushel, country points. Alsike quoted \$4.25 to \$6.50, paid at country points. They are paying \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt. for timothy, country points.

Hay—Demand small. Dealers paying \$8 to \$8.50 per ton for No. 1 timothy, \$7 to \$7.50 for No. 2, and \$6 to \$6.50 for No. 3, or for clover mixed.

Grain—Oats have been lower, prices not expected to advance for some time. No. 3 oats, 37½c.; No. 2, 38½c.

Hides—Dealers paying shippers 11c. for No. 1 hides, 10c. for No. 2, and 9c. for No. 3, f. o. b., Montreal, and selling to tanners at an advance of 4c. per lb. Calfskins are quoted at 12c. for No. 1, and 10c. for No. 2. Lambskins are scarce at \$1.10 each. Horse hides are steady at \$2 each for No. 1, and \$1.50 for No. 2. Rendered tallow is 4½c. per lb., and rough is 1½c. to 2½c. per lb. Demand for tallow rather dull.

Feedstuffs—Market fairly active. Prices are \$19 per ton for bran, and \$21 for shorts, in bags.

Flour—Steady at \$4 per bbl., in bags, for Manitoba strong bakers', and \$1.50 for patents.

Buffalo.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$5.50 to \$5.85; shipping, \$4.85 to \$5.40; butchers', \$4.40 to \$5.25; heifers, \$3.50 to \$4; cows, \$3 to \$4.50.

Veals—\$5.25 to \$8.50; a few at \$8.75. Hogs—Heavy and mixed, \$6.55 to \$6.70; Yorkers, \$6.50 to \$6.65; pigs, \$6.30 to \$6.50; roughs, \$5.75 to \$6; stags, \$4 to \$4.50.

Sheep and Lambs—Lambs, \$6.25 to \$7.40; a few, \$7.20; yearlings, \$6 to \$6.25; others, \$5.75 to \$6.15; ewes, \$5.50 to \$5.75; sheep, mixed, \$3 to \$3.75; Western lambs, \$6.90 to \$7.20.