FARMING AND LIVE STOCK PAGE

Wheat Futures Noticeably Steady Foreign Cables Slightly Up

Over Sunday Developments at Chicago Cause no Special Comment —Winnipeg Down.

World Office,
Monday Evening, Dec. 14.

Liverpool wheat futures closed to-day ½d higher than Saturday, and corn remained unchanged.

At Chicago, December wheat closed 1c lower than Saturday; December corn closed ¼c higher, and December oats ⅛c lower.

Winnipeg car lots of wheat to-day 720, against 572 this day last year.

Northwest car lots of wheat to-day 625, last week 507, year ago 771.

Chicago car lots to-day: Wheat 40, contract 11; corn 452, contract 6; oats 162, contract 39.

Primaries: Wheat receipts to-day, 1,253,000 bushels; week ago, 830,000 bushels; year ago, 1,204,000 bushels. Shipments, 210,000; 1,014,000, 178,000 bushels. corn, 1,130,000 bushels, 696,000, 790,000 bushels; shipments, 427,000, 201,000 bushels. Oats, 671,000 bushels; shipments, 422,000 bushels.

World's shipments: Wheat, this week, 7,712,000 bushels; corn, 3,048,000 bushels; wheat last week, 9,058,000 bushels; corn, 3,023,000 bushels; wheat last year, 8,080,000 bushels; corn, 2,715,000 bushels.

World's shipments breadstuffs past week, exclusive of North America, 7,712,000, against 9,600,000 previous week, and 8,650,000 year ago. Corn, 3,548,000, 3,923,000, 2,715,000 bushels.

American Visible.

A comparison of the visible grain supplies in the United States to-day and on the corresponding dates of the past two years is as follows:

	Dec. 17, 1906.	Dec. 16, 1907.	Dec. 14, 1908.
Wheat, bush.	43,245,000	45,468,000	58,353,000
Corn, bush	4,421,000	2,762,000	4,679,000
Oats, bush	12,261,000	7,259,000	9,461,000

Compared with a week ago the visible wheat shows an increase of 243,000 bushels, corn an increase of 73,000 bushels, and oats an increase of 118,000 bushels. During the corresponding week last year wheat increased 2,045,000 bushels, corn decreased 54,000 bushels, and oats increased 256,000 bushels.

ST. LAWRENCE MARKET.

Receipts of farm produce were 600 bushels of grain, 40 loads of hay and 3 loads of straw.

Barley—Five hundred bushels sold at 52c to 53c.

Oats—One hundred bushels sold at 43c to 44c.

Hay—Forty loads sold at $13 to $14 per ton for timothy, and $7 to $10 for mixed.

Straw—Market easier. 3 loads sold at $12 per ton for sheaf.

Grain—		
Wheat, fall, bush	$0 95	to $....
Wheat, red, bush	0 95	....
Wheat, goose, bush	0 91	....
Rye, bushel	0 80	....
Buckwheat, bushel	0 55	....
Peas, bushel	0 90	....
Barley, bushel	0 52	0 58
Oats, bushel	0 43	0 44
Seeds—		
Alsike, fancy quality	$7 00	to $7 25
Alsike, No. 1 quality	6 50	6 75
Alsike, No. 2 quality	6 00	6 25
Red clover, bush	4 50	5 25
Timothy seed, bush	1 30	1 60
Hay and Straw—		
Hay, No. 1 timothy	$13 00	to $14 00
Hay, No. 2, mixed	7 00	10 00
Straw, loose, ton	7 50	....
Straw, bundled, ton	12 00	....
Fruits and Vegetables—		
Apples, per barrel	$1 50	to $3 50
Onions, per bag	0 80	0 90
Potatoes, bag	0 65	0 75
Poultry—		
Turkeys, dressed, lb	$0 13	to $0 15
Geese, per lb	0 10	0 11
Spring chickens, lb	0 10	0 12
Spring ducks, lb	0 10	0 12
Fowl, per lb	0 08	0 09
Dairy Produce—		
Butter, lb	$0 25	to $0 33
Eggs, strictly new-laid, per dozen	0 45	0 55
Fresh Meats—		
Beef, forequarters, cwt	$5 00	to $6 50
Beef, hindquarters, cwt	8 00	9 50
Beef, choice sides, cwt	7 50	8 50
Beef, medium, cwt	5 00	7 00
Beef, common, cwt	3 00	5 00
Lambs, spring, per lb	0 09	0 09½
Mutton, light, cwt	6 50	8 50
Veals, common, cwt	6 00	7 00
Veals, prime, cwt	8 50	10 50
Dressed hogs, cwt	8 50	8.75

FARM PRODUCE WHOLESALE.

Hay, car lots, per ton	$10 50	to $11 50
Straw, car lots, per ton	7 00	8 00
Potatoes, car lots, bag	0 60	0 63
Evaporated apples, lb	0 07	....
Butter, separator, dairy	0 25	0 28
Butter, store lots	0 23	0 24
Butter, creamery, solids	0 27	0 28
Butter, creamery, lb rolls	0 28	0 30
Eggs, new-laid, dozen	0 40	....
Eggs, cold storage	0 25	....
Cheese, large, lb	0 11½	....
Cheese, twin, lb	0 14	....
Honey, extracted	0 10½	0 11
Honey, combs, dozen	2 25	2 75
Turkeys, dressed	0 13	0 15
Geese, dressed	0 09	....
Ducks, dressed	0 10	0 11
Chickens, dressed	0 10	0 11
Fowl, dressed	0 07	0 08

Live poultry, 2c per lb. less.

Hides and Skins.

Prices revised daily by E. T. Carter & Co., 85 East Front street, Wholesale Dealers in Wool, Hides, Calfskins and Sheepskins, Furs, Tallow, etc.:

No. 1 inspected steers, 60 lbs. up	$0 10	to $....
No. 2 inspected steers, 60 lbs. up	0 09	....
No. 1 inspected cows	0 09½	....
No. 2 inspected cows	0 08½	....
No. 3 inspected cows and bulls	0 07½	....
Country hides, cured	0 08	0 08½
Calfskins, city	0 12	....
Calfskins, country	0 10	0 12
Horsehides, No. 1	2 75	....
Horsehair, per lb	0 29	0 30
Tallow, per lb	0 05½	0 06½
Lambskins	0 60	0 65

Raw furs, prices on application.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Prices quoted are for outside points:

Winter wheat—No. 2 white 93½c bid; No. 2 red, 93½c bid; No. 2 mixed, 93c bid.

Spring wheat—No. 2 Ontario, no quotations.

Barley—No. 2, buyers 57c; No. 3X, 55c bid; No. 3, buyers 54c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 40½c bid; No. 2 mixed, 40c bid.

Rye—76c buyers.

Bran—Sellers, $22 bulk, outside. Shorts, $25.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 55½c bid.

Peas—No. 2, 85½c bid.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, no quotations.

Flour—Ontario, 90 per cent. patent, $3.50 bid for export; Manitoba patent, special brands, $6; second patents, $5.40; strong bakers', $5.30.

Winnipeg Wheat Market.

Wheat, July $1.03 bid, December 97c asked, May $1.01⅜ bid.

Oats—December 37⅜c bid, May 42⅛c bid.

New York Sugar Market.

Sugar, raw, nominal; fair refining, 3.36c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3.86c; molasses sugar, 3.11c; refined, quiet; No. 6, 4.35c; No. 7, 4.30c; No. 8, 4.25c; No. 9, 4.20c; No. 10, 4.10c; No. 11, 4.05c; No. 12, 4.00c; No. 13, 3.95c; No. 14, 3.90c; confectioners' A, 4.60c; mould A, 5.10c; cutloaf, 5.55c; crushed, 5.45c; powdered, 4.85c; granulated, 4.75c; cubes, 5.00c.

Chicago Market.

J. P. Bickell & Co., Lawlor Building, report the following fluctuations at the Chicago Board of Trade to-day:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat—				
Dec.	100⅝	100¾	100	100
May	105¾	106⅛	104⅞	104⅞
July	98⅝	98⅝	97½	97½
Corn—				
Dec.	57⅞	58	57⅝	57¾
May	61⅝	61⅝	61⅜	61½
July	61½	61¾	61⅛	61⅛
Oats—				
Dec.	50¼	50¼	50¼	50¼
May	52½	52⅝	52¼	52⅜
July	47⅛	47½	47⅛	47⅜
Pork—				
Jan.	15.67	15.80	15.67	15.72
May	16.00	16.12	16.00	16.07
Ribs—				
Jan.	8.15	8.22	8.15	8.17
May	8.45	8.52	8.42	8.47
Lard—				
Jan.	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15
May	9.37	9.42	9.37	9.37

Chicago Gossip.

Bickell & Co. say at the close:

Wheat—After a very irregular market, wheat closed about a cent lower, trade at the moment very much mixed; sentiment about divided. Apparently the leading long interests are scalping the market and keeping control of same. After the turn of the year there should be a good domestic demand for flour. Visible supply is undoubtedly large, but from now on we look for decreases in visible. We continue to recommend the purchase of May wheat on all sharp dips from present level.

Spader & Perkins wired J. G. Beaty, 14 West King-street, the following:

Wheat—Selling of a considerable line of wheat by the leading bull house with late selling by early buyers caused a big break in wheat, but it has rallied sharply on any signs of support and the close was not a great deal lower considering the pressure that was on the market. The crop has been more closely marketed from the farmers' hands than for years and we think supplies before another harvest will show actual scarcity. For this reason there are big possibilities on bull side of wheat.

Ennis & Stoppani wired to J. L. Mitchell at the close of the market:

Wheat—The market was a narrow and nervous affair with tendency downward. Weather was favorable to growing crops and receipts seem to hold their own. The market was dull for great part of the day and responded only to late covering by shorts.

J. R. Heintz & Co. wired R. B. Holden at the close:

Wheat—The trade is looking for a further decline before any material advance. There has been considerable covering by the local shorts. The market is in a very unsettled condition.

Corn—There are really no new features. There will be some little setbacks from time to time, but we favor buying on all these for fair profits.

New York Grain and Produce.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Flour—Receipts, 23,045 barrels; exports, 30,376 barrels; sales, 3200 barrels; dull and nominally lower. Minnesota patent, $5.25 to $5.85; winter straights, $4.60 to $4.80; Minnesota bakers, $4.20 to $4.55; winter extras, $3.65 to $4.25; winter patents, $4.75 to $5.25; winter low grades, $3.55 to $4.15. Rye flour, quiet; fair to good, $4 to $4.25; choice to fancy, $4.30 to $4.55. Buckwheat flour, dull, $2.35 to $2.50 per cwt. Buckwheat, quiet; state, 81c nominal. Cornmeal, quiet; fine white and yellow, $1.50 to $1.55; coarse, $1.45 to $1.50; kiln-dried, $3.45 to $3.55. Rye, dull; No. 2 western, 83c, f.o.b., New York. Barley, steady; malting, 65c to 70c, c.i.f., Buffalo; feeding, 64⅝c to 65⅝c, c.i.f., New York.

Wheat — Receipts, 216,000 bushels; exports, 451,660 bushels; sales, 2,200,000 bushels, futures. Spot, steady; No. 2 red, $1.06½ to $1.08, elevator, and $1.08¼, f.o.b., afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth, $1.16⅝, f.o.b., afloat; No. 2 hard winter, $1.13⅝, f.o.b., afloat. An irregular market with a downward tendency was the feature in wheat to-day. Under stop loss selling and lack of bull support several sharp declines occurred, followed by rallies on scattered covering, with the close weak and ⅝c to 1⅛c net lower; Dec. $1.08½ to $1.09¼, closed $1.08⅝; May, $1.10 1-16 to $1.11⅛, closed $1.10⅛; July, closed $1.04¼.

Corn—Receipts, 123,625 bushels; exports, 149,877 bushels. Spot, steady; No. 2, 65c, elevator, and 66½c, f.o.b., afloat; No. 2 white, 67c, and No. 2 yellow, 66½c, f.o.b., afloat. Option market was without transactions, closing net unchanged; Dec., closed 68c; May, closed 68⅝c; July, closed 68⅜c; Sept., closed 68⅝c.

Oats—Receipts, 115,000 bushels; exports, 1400 bushels. Spot, steady; mixed, 26 to 32 lbs., 55c to 55½c; natural white, 23 to 32 lbs., 56c to 58½c; clipped white, 24 to 42 lbs., 57c to 62½c.

Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $3.25 to $3.30. Turpentine, easy, 41¾c. Molasses, strong; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 28c to 42c. Freights to Liverpool, quiet; cotton, by steam, 12c; grain by steam, 1¾c.

Liverpool Grain and Produce.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 14.—Closing—Wheat—spot dull; No. 2 red western, winter, 7s 11½d; futures, barely steady: Dec., 7s 11⅜d; March, 7s 7⅝d; May, 7s 6⅝d. Corn, spot, quiet; American mixed, new (via Galveston), 5s 7d; futures, quiet; Jan. 5s 4¼d; March, 5s 3¾d. Lard, prime western, in tierces, dull, 47s 3d; American refined, in pails, easy, 48s 3d.

New York Dairy Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Butter—Fancy table grades firm; other sorts slow; receipts, 4228. Creamery specials, 32c (official) price 31½c, extras 31c to 31½c; third to first, 23c to 30c; held, common to special, 22c to 29c; state dairy, common to special, 21c to 29c; process, common to special, 18c to 25c; western factory, first, 21c to 21½c; western imitation creamery, first, 22c to 23c.

Cheese, firm; receipts, 1059; state, full cream specials, 14½c to 15½c; do., Sept. large and small, colored or whitee fancy, 14c; do., October best, 13¾c; late made, small, best, 13c; good to prime, 11¾c to 12¾c; common to fair, 10½c to 11½c; skims, full to specials, 2½c to 11¾c.

Eggs—Firmer; receipts, 4298.

East Buffalo Live Stock.

EAST BUFFALO, N.Y., Dec. 14.—Cattle—Receipts, 2500 head; active and 15c to 25c lower; prime steers, $6.50 to $7; shipping, $5.50 to $6.25; butchers', $5 to $6; heifers, $4.50 to $5.50; cows, $3.50 to $5; bulls, $3 to $4.25.

Veals—Receipts, 400 head; active and steady, $7 to $10.

Hogs—Receipts, 17,000 head; fairly active and steady; heavy, $5.96 to $6; mixed, $5.85 to $5.90; yorkers, $5.40 to $5.90; pigs, $4 to $5.35; roughs, $5.25 to $5.50; stags, $4 to $4.75; dairies, $5.40 to $5.80.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 14,000 head; sheep, slow; lambs, active; lambs, $5 to $7.50; yearlings, $5.75 to $6; wethers, $4.50 to $4.75; ewes, $4 to $4.25; sheep, mixed, $2 to $4.25; Canada lambs, $7 to $7.25.

British Cattle Markets.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—London cables for cattle are steady at 12½c to 13¾c per lb., dressed weight; refrigerator beef is quoted at 10⅝c to 10⅞c per lb.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 14.—John Rogers & Co., Liverpool, quote to-day: United States steers from 12c to 13½c; Canadians, 10½c to 11½c; ranchers, 10c to 11c; cows and heifers, 10c to 11c; bulls, 9c to 10c. Trade is firm, but slow.

CHRISTMAS MARKET BIG FINE CATTLE AT JUNCTION

Highest Price Quoted $6 Per Cwt. —Bulk of Best Sold at $5.25 to $5.50.

Receipts of live stock at the Union Stock Yards were large—105 carloads, as follows: 2115 cattle, 22 hogs, 690 sheep and 17 calves.

The quality of cattle was the best since a year ago; that is, there was a larger number of good to choice cattle than has been seen at any market since the Christmas Show at this market one year ago.

Trade was good, considering the large number of excellent cattle on sale, but not nearly as good as was anticipated by the drovers, many of whom did not make much money, and many more stated that they did not make expenses on their shipments, having paid too high prices to the farmers.

Early in the day the market became quite brisk, as long as the choicest lots and loads of cattle lasted, but later on an easier feeling developed, and business closed slow, with prices lower, and a few lots of medium cattle left over unsold.

According to reliable information, there were only five of the Christmas cattle that reached $6 per cwt., altho the owners of these cattle looked for not less than $7. The highest price reached for straight loads of cattle was $5.60, and there were only two that got that quotation. The bulk of the Christmas cattle sold at from $4.75 to $5.50 per cwt. Owing to there being no Christmas fat stock show this year, there were not quite as many of the show cattle, but many more than was expected by some of the best friends of the market.

Nearly all the leading local buyers, with several from outside points, were on hand, showing conclusively that they know where to go to get the largest selection of the best cattle that Western Ontario can produce. It is safe to say that there will not be as many choice cattle at any market in Ontario, if in the Dominion, for the next twelve months.

Exporters.

There were a few loads of exporters reported as selling at $5 to $5.50 per cwt., but we are inclined to think they were bought for the Christmas market of the Dominion. Bulls sold at $3.75 to $4.25.

Butchers.

Choice Christmas cattle sold at from $5 to $5.60, with a few picked, prime lots at $5.75 to $6. Loads of good heifers and steers, $4.75 to $5; medium to good, $4 to $4.50; common, $3.50 to $3.75; cows, $3 to $4; canners, $1.50 to $2.50.

Milkers and Springers.

A few milkers and springers sold at $35 to $55 each.

Veal Calves.

A limited number of veal calves sold at $3 to $7 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs.

About 700 sheep and lambs were on sale. Lambs were firm, selling at $5.25 to $5.55 per cwt.; sheep, $3.25 to $3.40 per cwt.

Hogs.

Gunns, Limited, reported selects at $6, fed and watered at the market, and $5.75 to drovers, f.o.b, cars at country points.

Representative Sales.

Messrs. Dunn & Levack: 21 choice butchers, 1110 lbs. each, at $5.60; 18 good butchers, 1270 lbs. each, at $5.40; 11 butchers, 1205 lbs. each, at $5.25; 14 butchers, 1260 lbs. each, at $5.25; 7 butchers, 1115 lbs. each, at $5.12½; 24 butchers, 1075 lbs. each, at $4.90; 21 butchers, 985 lbs. each, at $4.85; 2 bulls, 1890 lbs. each, at $4.70; 1 butcher, 1670 lbs., at $4.70; 11 butchers, 1030 lbs. each, at $4.70; 1 butcher, 1440 lbs., at $4.60; 3 butchers, 1100 lbs. each at $4.60; 22 butchers, 1080 lbs. each at $4.60; 20 butchers, 1015 lbs. each, at $4.35; 11 butchers, 1300 lbs. each, at $4.25; 3 butchers, 840 lbs. each, at $4.25; 12 butchers, 860 lbs. each, at $4.25; 9 butchers, 1010 lbs. each, at $4.20; 1 butchers, 1280 lbs., at $4.12½; 3 butchers, 1330 lbs. each, at $4.10; 1 butchers, 1200 lbs., at $4; 19 butchers, 980 lbs. each, at $4; 12 butchers, 970 lbs. each, at $4; 1 bull, 1580 lbs., at $3.80; 8 butchers, 1230 lbs. each, at $3.60; 2 butchers, 1225 lbs. each, at $3.75; 20 butchers, 985 lbs. each, at $3.50; 3 butchers, 880 lbs. each, at $3.50; 1 butchers, 1240 lbs., at $3.50; 24 butcher cows 1150 lbs. each, at $3.30; 1 butcher cow, 1300 lbs., at $3.25; 28 butcher cows, 900 lbs. each, at $3; 1 butchers, 1270 lbs., at $3.05; 1 butcher, 1400 lbs., at $2.50; 1 canner, 1200 lbs., at $1.50; 4 canners, 850 lbs. each, at $1.50; 2 milch cows, $40 each. Shipped one load on order.

McDonald & Halligan: 18 exporters, 1330 lbs. each, at $5.50; 20 butchers, 1195 lbs. each, at $5.50, less $15; 12 butchers, 1090 lbs. each, at $5.35; 23 butchers, 995 lbs. each, at $4.75; 21 butchers, 965 lbs. each, at $4.25; 1 heifer, 1060 lbs., at $5; 17 steers, 1060 lbs. each, at $4.40; 19 butchers, 1055 lbs. each, at $4.85; 25 butchers, 945 lbs. each, at $4.20 less $5; 17 butchers, 1250 lbs. each, at $4.80; 18 butchers, 1120 lbs. each, at $4.50; 21 butchers, 1115 lbs. each, at $4.45; 12 butchers, 1085 lbs. each, at $3.75; 7 cows, 1065 lbs. each, at $3.65; 14 cows, 1235 lbs. each, at $3.80; 20 butchers, 1015 lbs. each, at $4.10; 8 butchers, 940 lbs. each, at $4.15; 1 bull, 1160 lbs., at $3.60; 1 bull, 1120 lbs., at $4; 4 bulls, 1180 lbs. each, at $3.35; 5 bulls, 1065 lbs. each, at $3.20; 25 cows, 1170 lbs. each, at $3.45; 23 butchers, 980 lbs. each, at $3.25; 2 bulls, 1475 lbs. each, at $3.25; 1 bull, 1780 lbs., at $4.25; 2 cows, 1255 lbs. each, at $3.35; 17 lambs, 82 lbs. each at $5.50; 6 lambs, 120 lbs. each, at $5.40; 30 lambs, 95 lbs. each, at $5.50; 13 sheep, 160 lbs. each, at $3.40; 1 milker, $50; 1 milker, $47.

Maybee & Wilson sold: 3 butchers, 1500 lbs. each, at $6; 20 butchers, 1140 lbs. each, at $5.60; 1 butchers, 890 lbs., at $5.50; 22 butchers, 1270 lbs. each, at $5.35; 8 butchers 1170 lbs. each, at $5.12½; 23 butchers 1130 lbs. each, at $5.12½; 12 butchers, 1100 lbs. each, at $5.10; 25 butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $5; 13 butchers, 1200 lbs. each, at $4.85; 19 butchers, 1060 lbs. each, at $4.50; 13 butchers, 1230 lbs. each, at $4.40; 14 butchers, 1150 lbs. each, at $4.30; 24 butchers, 1050 lbs. each, at $4.40; 9 butchers, 900 lbs. each, at $4.30; 16 butchers, 1120 lbs. each, at $4.20; 4 butchers, 1100 lbs. each, at $4.20; 2 cows, 1300 lbs. each, at $4.70; 13 cows, 1200 lbs. each, at $4.25; 23 cows, 1300 lbs. each, at $4.05; 4 cows, 1100 lbs. each, at $3.75; 3 cows, 1150 lbs. each, at $3.50; 12 cows 1060 lbs. each, at $3.65; 1 bull, 1420 lbs., at $4.25; 2 bulls, 1600 lbs. each, at $3.90; 5 canners, 900 to 1000 lbs. each, at $1 to $1.50; 3 calves, 200 lbs. each, at $5.25. Bought and shipped out two loads on order.

Corbett & Hall sold: 3 Xmas. cattle, 1200 lbs. each, at $5.50; 1 bull, 2100 lbs., at $4.75; 1 bull, 1500 lbs., at $4; 23 butchers, 1020 lbs. each, at $4.90; 10 butchers, 1070 lbs. each at $4.40; 20 butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $4.40; 3 butchers 1100 lbs. each, at $5.25; 3 cows, 1050 lbs. each, at $3.50; 23 butchers, 950 lbs. each, at $4.00; 18 butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $4.50; 20 butchers, 1020 lbs. each, at $4.80; 2 cows, 1300 lbs. each, at $4; 1 bull, 1100 lbs., at $2.50; 20 butchers, 1180 lbs. each, at $4.45; 3 butchers, 920 lbs. each, at $4.60; 9 butchers, 940 lbs. each, at $4.30; 8 cows, 1100 lbs. each, at $3.85; 7 cows, 1150 lbs. each, at $3.75; 7 cows, 1050 lbs. each, at $3.75; 8 cows, 1040 lbs. each, at $3.60; 3 cows, 1200 lbs. each, at $3.70; 20 butchers, 900 lbs. each, at $3.90; 2 bulls, 1400 lbs. each, at $3.60; 8 cows, 1100 lbs. each, at $3.35; 4 butchers, 930 lbs. each, at $4.25; 1 heifer, 1110 lbs., at $6, less $2; 5 canners, 850 lbs. each, at $1.50; 50 lambs, 100 lbs. each, at $5.60.

Wesley Dunn bought: 550 lambs at $5.50 per cwt.; 75 sheep at $3.40 per cwt.; 8 calves at $8 per cwt.

Fred Rowntree bought 6 milkers and springers at $45 to $52 each, and one load of good butchers' cattle, 1075 lbs. each, at $4.75 per cwt.

James Hood, Woodstock, sold 21 butchers' cattle of good to choice quality at $4.90.

Wm. McClelland bought two loads of butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $4.25; four loads of Xmas. cattle, 1050 to 1150 lbs. each, at $5.15 to $5.60 per cwt.

J. H. Dingle bought for the Fowler Company of Hamilton one mixed load of cattle, 1000 to 1400 lbs. each, at $4.10 to $5.50; one load lambs direct from the country at $5.50 per cwt.

R. J. Collins sold: 26 butchers, 1070 lbs. each, at $5; 25 butchers, 960 lbs. each, at $4.40; 16 butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $4.60; 2 cows, 1300 lbs. each, at $4.

Crawford & Hunnisett sold: One load butchers, 1250 lbs. each, at $4.80; one load butchers, 1300 lbs. each, at $5; one load butchers, 1000 lbs. each, at $4.40; one load butchers, 1225 lbs. each, at $4.75; one load mixed, 1100 lbs. each, at $2.75.

The D. B. Martin Company bought thru William Crealock two loads of choice Christmas steers and heifers, 1200 to 1300 lbs. each, at $5.50; loads of good at $4.50 to $5.25. This firm got between 400 and 500 cattle, with some lambs at $5.50 per cwt., and hogs, f.o.b. cars, $5.85, at country points.

Market Notes.

Maybee & Wilson sold one of the two loads of Christmas heifers brought in by Drover Newton Hill. These weighed 1140 lbs. each and realized $5.60 per cwt., and were said by judges to be the best load of heifers on the market. This firm also sold one steer and two heifers; the steer was the best on the market, and sold at $6; the heifers were also among the best, and weighed 1525 lbs. each, also sold at $6. These three cattle were the production of Urban Schmidt of Mildmay, Ont.

Messrs. McDonald & Halligan sold the best load of exporters, 1330 lbs. each, at $5.50 per cwt. These cattle were brought in by Messrs. Brooks and Snider of Elmira, Ont.; also 20 cattle brought in by B. Hicks, Centralia, which weighed 1195 lbs., at $5.50 per cwt., less $15 on the lot; also 12 butchers for S. Birchall of Wingham, which weighed 1290 lbs. each, at $5.35; and also one of the finest Xmas. heifers brought in by Drover S. H. Reynolds, which weighed 1560 lbs., at $6 per cwt. This heifer was bought by Mr. Reynolds some time ago and finished feeding at his own farm at Bothwell, Ont.

Messrs. Dunn & Levack, commission agents, sold for John Black of Belwood 21 of the best butcher heifers on the market to A. Levack, which shows credit to both owner and buyer. The price of these cattle is kept very quiet, but from good authority we learn that it was $5.60, which is the top price for a straight load of this kind on the market to-day.

John Scott of Listowel, one of the best known live stock men in Western Ontario, was on the market with a lot of good cattle, amongst which was one of the five cattle that sold at the top notch of $6 per cwt. This was an extra choice heifer, which weighed 1500 lbs., and was bred and fed by Amos Smith, the well-known breeder of shorthorn cattle, at Listowel, Ont.

Geo. Teasdall of Concord, Ont., was a visitor at the market.

John Fenvy of Cairo, Ont., was down with a load of butcher cattle.

Urban Schmidt of Mildmay was on the market with Xmas. cattle that would have won prizes, as usual, had there been a show.

Newton Hill of St. Mary's was judged to have the best load of butcher heifers on the market.

Alexander Levack bought a good lot of cattle, amongst which was one of the best loads on the market, which sold at the top-notch price for carloads of cattle, $5.60 per cwt. Sandy always has something good for his patrons, especially at Xmas. time.

Billy McClellan also got some of the top-notchers, buying six loads of the good ones, amongst which were a lot at $5.60 per cwt.

CATTLE MARKETS

Cables Steady—Cattle Lower, Hogs Steady at Buffalo.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Beeves—Receipts, 4719; steers, slow and generally 10c to 15c lower; bulls, steady to strong; thin cows, 15c higher; others, firm; common to prime steers, $4 to $6.20; bulls, $2.75 to $4.50; cows, $1.75 to $4.30; few western cows, $4.50.

Calves—Receipts, 2672; veals, steady to slow; barnyard and western calves, weak to a shade lower. Veals, $6 to $10.50; culls, $5 to $5.50; barnyard calves, $2.75 to $4.25; western calves, $5.25.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 20,061. Sheep slow to 25c lower; lambs, dull and 25c off. Sheep, $2.50 to $4.25; few at $4.50; culls, $2 to $2.25; lambs, $5.75 to $7.50; two cars choice, $7.60; culls, $4.25 to $5; yearlings, $5.25 to $6.

Hogs—Receipts, 15,894; steady; hogs, $6 to $6.10; pigs, $5.50 to $5.75.

Montreal Live Stock.

MONTREAL, Dec. 14.—At the Montreal Stock Yards West End Market, the receipts of live stock for the week ending Dec. 12 were 3418 cattle, 1213 sheep and lambs, 3319 hogs and 277 calves. The offerings for local consumption this morning amounted to 2158 cattle, 800 sheep and lambs, 2000 hogs and 204 calves.

Altho the supply of cattle was much larger than a week ago yet the undertone to the market was strong and prices for ordinary stock showed an advance of ¼c per lb. The quality of the stock of feed was all that could be desired by both local and out-of-town buyers for the Christmas trade, there being some extra choice beeves, which brought fancy prices. The demand was active for all top quality grades and a brisk trade was done in the morning, but the common and inferior cattle moved rather slowly, of which the offerings were smaller than usual. Messrs. Johnston and Bessner, one of ourleading wholesale butcher firms, bought two extra choice stall-fed cows, weighing 3375 pounds, at 6c per lb. Two others, weighing 2270 pounds, at 5¾c, and five calves, weighing 2175 pounds, at 6c. Mr. William Masterman of the Masterman Packing Company, was on the market as usual, and operated freely in cattle and hogs. There was also a number of buyers from Ottawa and Quebec, who bought a number of carloads of choice cattle and lambs. On the whole the trade was very satisfactory to all concerned. Ordinary choice cattle sold at 5¼c to 5½c; good, at 4½c to 5c; fair, at 3¾c to 4¼c; common, at 2½c to 3¾c, and inferior, at 1½c to 2½c per pound.

A much stronger feeling prevailed in the market for lambs, on account of the continued small offerings and prices scored a further advance of ¾c per lb. The demand was good from local and outside buyers and an active trade was done, with sales of choice lots at 5¾c to 6c, and good at 5¼c to 5½c per lb. There is no change in the condition of the market for sheep, prices being firmly maintained under a fair demand and small supply, and sales of choice stock were made at 4c, and culls, at 3½c to 3¾c per lb. The offerings of calves were not large, but the quality of the stock was something extra and in consequence the demand was good and higher prices than usual were paid. Some extra choice stock sold at 5¾c to 6c and good at 4¾c to 5c per lb.

There were no new developments in the live hog situation. Receipts were larger than they have been of late, for which the demand was good and prices ruled firm, with sales of selected lots at $6.60 to $6.75 per cwt., off cars. Cable advices received on Canadian bacon last week were weak and noted a further decline in prices of 1s to 4s per cwt., but this fact seems to have but little influence on the local market these days.

At the Canadian Pacific Live Stock Market the receipts for the week ending Dec. 12 were 7155 cattle for export account, and 1097 cattle, 1581 sheep and lambs, 1286 hogs and 253 calves for local consumption. The offerings on the market this morning were 900 cattle, 500 sheep and lambs, 700 hogs and 100 calves.

Chicago Live Stock.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Cattle—Receipts, 29,000; 10c lower; steers, $4.60 to $7.80; cows, $3 to $5.25; heifers, $2.50 to $4.60; bulls, $2.75 to $4.50; calves, $2.50 to $8.25; stockers and feeders, $2.50 to $4.85.

Hogs—Receipts, 50,000; market, strong; choice heavy shipping, $5.70 to $5.80; butchers', $5.65 to $5.75; light mixe, $5.10 to $5.30; choice light, $5.35 to $5.45; packing, $5.40 to $5.70; pigs, $4 to $5.15; bulk of sales, $5.40 to $5.65.

Sheep—Receipts, 40,000; market, 10c to 25c lower; sheep, $4 to $5; lambs, $5.25 to $7.75; yearlings, $4.25 to $6.50.

STUDY YOUR SOILS.

"He who leaves his farm in no better condition and with no higher fertility in it than had his grandfather is, indeed, a slovenly farmer," said a public speaker recently. His words are not the vaunt of idle verbiage, but a truism that many of our farmers have not yet comprehended. For the assertion on the public platform at Guelph that a large percentage of our farms are dirty is another evidence.

Any man who essays to farm, and who does not approach his subject from the standpoint of a business undertaking requiring knowledge, intelligence and management of the highest order, is not cut out for the occupation. A farmer has chiefly to do with soils, just as a merchant has to do with goods. Ignorance of that soil spells loss. And acquaintance with the fertility of one's land required long study and close observation.

On the majority of our farms there is one poor field, if not many of them. To tickle these into production is an art. Guesswork has been the ruling law so long that the farmer is often cynically given over to doubt about the capabilities of anyone in this line. However, science knows what plants require, and that same science can teach us what our soils need. Let us then, as intelligent farmers, apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Next year how would it be to put the soil to a test? We can examine the soil by the water and chemical tests, but the agricultural colleges have as yet not supplied any easy method that any farmer can follow. A sure way would be to test the growth next season.

Lay out five plots of the most typical soil in the field in question. Have these all of equal size, say two rods square, thus making each represent about one-fortieth of an acre. Prepare all alike and give thoro cultivation ensuring a good seed bed. On lot No. 1 sow your grain. On lot No. 2 put a coating of nitrogen. On lot No. 3 phosphoric acid. On lot No. 4 potash and on lot No. 5 place a proper blending of all three fertilizers, while an additional one with barnyard manure might be tried.

As draining is always essential, the field should be first of all well drained as soon as possible, as good results are not possible on a wet soil.

Now keep the results separate and at harvest time by allowing full consideration for accidents, some serious conclusions may be drawn.

It may be found out that the soil lacks one of the essentials to growth, or perhaps more than one. To supply these ingredients means success to the farmer. And the study becomes one of highest interest to the student. It is thus that every farmer should be a student and enjoy the life in the open. Other lines of animal breeding, etc., are open for his work and the farm life of Ontario is waiting for such men.

CATTLE SALES GOOD.

Shorthorns Are Coming Back to Their Own, It Would Seem.

The sales at Chicago following the International looks like old-time prices for shorthorns.

In the Aberdeen Angus cattle some fifty-one head sold for $10,685, being an average of $209.50.

In the Herefords some forty-nine head sold for $7085, being an average of $160.

Short Horns.

It was a return of the good old times at the combination sale of shorthorns. Not in some years has such enthusiasm and such bidding characterized an international sale ring. The cattle were of excellent character, and no little interest had been awakened in the event. President H. F. Brown of the Shorthorn Association was proved a prophet even before he had anticipated such a confirmation of his predictions. At the annual meeting of the association he had declared that cattle now selling at $200 a head would before long sell at $400. The average of this sale exceeds the last-named figure. L. V. Harkness, the Standard Oil magnate who has in his Walnut Hall Farm, near Lexington, Ky., one of the most magnificent breeding establishments in the world, has decided to extend the operations of the farm beyond the production of trotting horses, and appeared at this sale as a liberal bidder. Previously he had by private treaty arranged for the transfer to Walnut Hall of F. W. Harding's champion roan bull, Whitehall King, at a price which is quoted at $3500. Mr. Harkness secured quite a number of the most prized females in the offering. His entrance into the ranks of shorthorn breeders, along with the