

## Trade Reports.

**MANITOBA OFFICIAL CROP BULLETIN.**—The June crop bulletin of the province of Manitoba has just been issued. The information it contains regarding the crops is of a quite satisfactory nature. The cultivated area has increased considerably compared with last year's figures and the growing grain is in a well advanced and healthy condition. The wheat area is estimated at 1,629,995 acres; barley, 575,136; oats 182,912, and this with other cereals and root crops brings the total area under cultivation up to 2,449,078, compared with 2,210,942 last year, and 1,958,025 in 1897. The wheat area last year was 1,488,232, making the increase this year 141,662 acres. This increase is attributed to the farming population by the influx of immigration and the opening up of new districts by railway extension.

**DAIRYING.**—Creameries opened up about the 1st of May, and cheese factories about the 10th of May. There was no grass for pasturage until the first week in June. There is now, however, an abundance of grass, and the milk flow is increasing rapidly. The prospects are good for a million pounds of cheese, and very nearly the same for creamery butter to be made this year.

**CANADIAN TRADE.**—R. G. Dun & Co's review of Canadian trade is as follows: Canadian despatches indicate a fairly good movement for the season, with satisfactory prospects. The general movement at Montreal is good for the season with satisfactory collections, and the money market is not quite so tight, but the call rate is still steady at 5 per cent. Trade at Toronto in hardware, metals, builders' supplies and leather is good, with groceries fairly active. At Winnipeg trade is generally fair, in implements, lumber and hardware goods, though collections are somewhat slow. Vancouver reports about the average business in groceries, dry goods and clothing, and activity in hardware and building materials, with firmer prices. Business conditions at Victoria are practically unchanged, with collections fair.

Bradstreet's review says—Reports of a full average of seasonable trade come from the Dominion. Montreal reports current sales good, bad debts small in volume, and collections satisfactory. An exception to this is found in leather trade. The values of staples are reported generally firm. Crops are reported good in the maritime provinces and the yield of hay will be heavy in Nova Scotia where collections are, however, reported slow. The scarcity of supplies of lumber is a feature in New Brunswick as elsewhere, and exports will be smaller than a year ago. Toronto reports warm weather favourably effecting trade and June business in dry-goods ahead of last year. Prices of staples are firm and cotton goods tend higher. General trade is active. Building material is in specially good demand. Hogs products are in good demand and high prices for American meats exclude them from Canada. A test suit of the Ontario log law has been begun.

There was an interesting sight on the Dominion Line pier, Montreal, as the steamship Roman, which sailed for Liverpool last week, took aboard a large consignment of meat which had come by refrigerator cars from Chicago. A canvas covered avenue led from the car to the ship. The sides of the meat weighing from 90 to 110 lbs. each, were taken out of the cars and attached by a hook to a little wheel, which, when pushed went spinning down the decline on a wire to the ship's hold. Every side of meat was carefully sewed up in cheese cloth and every package was stamped with the number of pounds of meat in the side. On arriving at the ship the meat was immediately placed

in the ship's cold storage apartments, without the sun's rays being allowed for a moment to fall on the consignment. About twenty-two car loads of meat will go by the ship to England.

**THE ENGLISH CATTLE MARKET.**—Mr. John Swan & Sons' report on the live stock trade says:—The number of fat cattle on offer has been under the average, and the quality throughout exceedingly good. With the largest attendance of customers of the season, a very active trade was experienced, and the better descriptions would make on the average 20s a head more than the previous report. Milch cows were a fair average supply, and all classes met a better enquiry at more money. Beef to 8s 6d per stone; mutton to 9d per lb.

The Royal Agricultural Society's Show was opened at Maidstone, England, on Saturday June 17th, when the judging in the butter and cheese classes was completed. Monday was occupied in the judging of the live stock, which was completed with the exception of of the dairy cattle.

The Prince of Wales visited the show, witnessed the parades of prize-winners in the horse and cattle classes, at which a vote of thanks was accorded to Lord Coventry for his services as president during the year, and the Prince was formally elected to the presidency for the ensuing twelvemonth.

The word "copper" or "cop," which is an abbreviation, as applied to a policeman, originated in New York city and in answer to an inquiry of Robert Wilson I would say that it arose from the fact that members of the original force of metropolitan police, organized by Mayor Fernando Wood in 1827, wore a big copper star on their breasts, and a large cooper shield bearing the coat of arms of the city of New York upon their hats. In London the constables or policemen are known as "peelers" and "bobbies," because the constabulary force or metropolitan police was organized by Sir Robert (familiarily known as "Bobby") Peel. I cannot find that there was any special significance in placing a green light over the door of a police station, any more than in placing a red light over the entrance of a fire engine house. The colors were probably selected without any special reason, in order that the public might easily find these two important institutions. There used to be an old conundrum, which is apropos here, although it was worn out at the minstrel shows. The interlocutor asked Sambo, who played the bones, why there was always a green light over the door of a New York police station, and the answer was "because it is an Irish clubhouse."

At a school in the suburbs of London, at the time of the annual inspection, one of the lower standards were examined by the inspector in grammar the points especially dwelt on being gender and sex. The examiner, in order to see if the children had an intelligent idea on this subject said: "Now, which sex do you belong to, little girls?" This question seemed to flabbergast the children, and for a moment or two silence prevailed; till all of a sudden a little girl put up her hand, at which the inspector said: "Ah, little girl, what sex do you belong to?" "If you please sir, I belong to Middlesex!" was the quick reply.

### THE GOLDEN TOUCH.

J. Guy—"Say! Young Borowby must be regular Midas."  
Mac—"Why?"  
J. Guy—"He's Just touched me for a fiver."