

Empire Mutual for the illumination of users of its neat, new diary.

At the close of this year, the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society completes a quarter of a century of an honorable business record and continued success. It will be a pleasing anniversary for the Provident and its patrons, because of the prediction that the 1899 statement will be the most satisfactory it has ever issued.

WE acknowledge friendly greetings from the Editor of "Sunshine," as the regular publication of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada is called. Our Sun is shining over a considerable portion of the life insurance earth to-day.

"Progressive Conservatism" is the motto of the Canada Life for 1900. The activity in the head office of this conspicuous company at the closing of the year gives token that the agents are bestirring themselves to reach a good total

The Ontario Mutual Life Assurance Company have issued a handsome calendar for 1900. The company has, we are told, written a very satisfactory amount of business during the year now drawing to a close. In Toronto, Messrs. J. S. & G. C. Mills have charge of the company's business. The counties of York, Peel, Simcoe, Muskoka, Parry Sound, Nipis-

sing and Algoma have Mr. T. N. Scripture as general agent. The Toronto and district offices are now on King street, north side, close to Yonge.

THE Welland Canal was officially declared closed Saturday afternoon.

HON. F. G. M. DECHENE, Commissioner of Agriculture for the province of Quebec, says that his department is prepared to give \$200 as a premium to the inventor of any practical and effective remedy for the riddance of caterpillars, which are annually destroying the maple trees on the sugaries of the country.

THE STOCK INDUSTRY IN THE TERRITORIES.

The growth of the live stock industry on our Western plains is one of the important features of development in the territories. Mr. J. H. G. Bray, Stock Inspector, furnishes the Medicine Hat News with some interesting figures, showing the development of the stock industry in that district. The imports and exports for the season of 1899 were:

Imports—	
Medicine Hat—Cattle	2,900
Horses	317
Sheep	60
Stair—Cattle	2,352
Horses	74

Walsh—Cattle	969
Sheep	52
Exports—	
Medicine Hat—Cattle	2,627
Horses	376
Sheep	1,743
Wool (pounds)	52,300
Stair—Cattle	1,703
Horses	125
Sheep	370
Walsh—Cattle	1,128
Horses	7
Sheep	2,941
Wool (pounds)	64,000

Here are totals of 6,221 cattle, 391 horses, 112 sheep imported, as against 5,458 cattle, 508 horses, 5,054 sheep exported. There is also to be noted exports of 116,300 pounds of wool. One feature to which special attention is called by the News is the fact that "our imports of cattle have been larger than our exports. This means that the range is not being depleted, but rather that stockers are being imported to take the place of the beef turned off, and this, together with the natural increases, should show good returns in future years." A list is also given of the number of cattle and horses, etc., exported in different years:

Cattle exported in 1896	902
Cattle exported in 1897	1,813
Cattle exported in 1898	4,131
Cattle exported in 1899	5,458
Horses exported in 1898	43
Horses exported in 1899	508
Sheep exported in 1898	5,450
Sheep exported in 1899	5,054

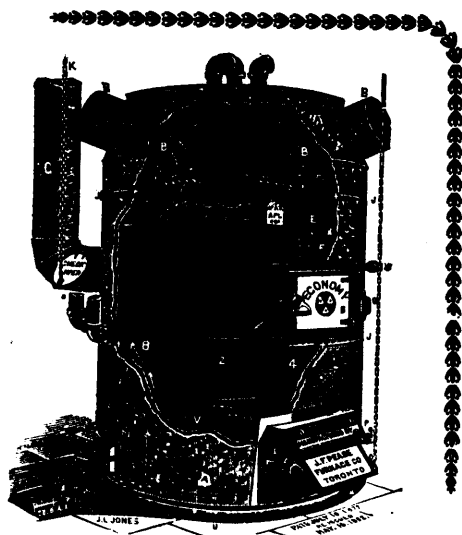
There were 135 thoroughbred cattle, several horses and 112 pure-bred sheep imported during the year.

TORONTO MARKETS, CONTINUED

BREADSTUFFS.—There is little doing in wheat, prices are steady, but generally unchanged. Red and white winter are quoted at 65 to 66c. north and south; goose wheat, 70 to 70½c.; No. 1, Manitoba is 77 to 78c., g.i.t. No. 1, hard, is 66c. at Fort William. Flour is steady and in fair demand; in barrels, straight rollers are quoted \$2.85 to \$2.95 west; bran is \$12 to \$12.50, west; shorts, \$14 to \$14.50, west. Barley is quiet; No. 2 quoted at 38c., west, and No. 1 at 40c. Oats are steady; white, 25½c. west, and 26½c. east. Rye is slow; quoted at 49c. west and 50c. east. Corn is quiet; No. 2, American yellow, quoted at 41c., track, and No. 3, at 40c., track; Canadian, steady at 30½ to 31c. west for No. 2. Buckwheat is steady at 47c. west and 48c. east, 49c. asked. Rolled oats, in bags, track, Toronto, \$3.25, and \$3.35 in barrels. Peas are easy at 57c. west, and 58c. east.

GROCERIES.—Having about filled the Christmas demand, the wholesale houses are mostly stock-taking, and will do comparatively little business until the New Year. The local enquiry for sugar is weak, but prices are maintained. Sugar is quoted here to local retailers, as follows: Paris lumps, 50's, \$5.28; Paris lumps, 100's, \$5.18; extra standard granulated (Redpath's), \$4.53; extra standard granu-

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