

ICE CREAM AND BUTTER

There are several reasons why Canada has become an importer of butter. The growth of the home market is one, the lack of the farmers' enterprise is another. The increase in the consumption of ice cream is a third. Statistics of the cream and ice cream trade in twenty-four Canadian cities, collected in 1912, show that the manufacture of ice cream in these places uses up cream that would make 1,500,000 pounds of butter, or over 4,000,000 pounds of cheese. This estimate takes no account of the hundreds of similar smaller businesses in the various towns of the Dominion. The managements of these ice cream establishments report that their trade in 1912 showed an increase of 70 per cent. over 1911, notwithstanding it was a cool season. It is estimated that in the present year Canada will import approximately 7,000,000 pounds of butter, the bulk of which will come from New Zealand. The dairy farmer in Canada should not have to worry about his market.

SMALL CHANGE

The revival of the piano trade must not be confused with the current plethora of notes.

They seem to know in England all about the Canadian "cyclone," of which we still have to learn.

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A Toronto daily says "The West is all right." That is the kind of stuff that makes the West justly indignant.

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Calgary should do without a stock exchange. Toronto and Montreal exchanges have all they can do to earn their salt.

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A Londoner says he has seen "more sloppy business come from Canada than is sent over by any other country, excepting Turkey"—some critical grease, that.

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The Port Arthur real estate men got sixty automobiles and invited the public to take a look at the recent developments—a pretty good way to bridge the quiet days.

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There is a man on one of Thunder Bay Islands who claims he was placed there on the island by a Port Arthur doctor whose name he cannot remember and that he was told he had an incurable disease and must remain on the island until liberated. This must be a bad case of subdivisionitis.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FOREST WEALTH

Commercial Considerations—Soil, Climate and Growth—Reforestation is Not Yet Necessary

Over one hundred million acres of wood land, of which upwards of sixty-five million acres may be regarded as actually or potentially capable of producing merchantable timber, is an estimate of British Columbia's lumber resources, though, outside of this, the land is not of value. On this area nature has been busy for a great many years storing up what is to-day one of the greatest of the few extensive reserves of commercial timber left in the world. It is estimated that this area contains over three hundred billion feet board measure of timber, comprising over half the standing timber of Canada. When the question of forest planting is linked with such a resource, it becomes of interest, even though the importance of planting to the perpetuity of the resource yet remains to be seen.

Consideration of Reforestation.

The matter of reforestation has been considered in connection with British Columbia from three points of view:—1—Silvicultural. 2—Financial. 3—Economic.

Owing to a very favorable combination of soil and climate, nowhere, at least in the temperate zone, do trees grow more rapidly and persistently than on the Pacific slope of North America; nowhere is natural reproduction more prolific and vigorous. In fact, this very readiness of nature to undertake the work renders discussion almost superfluous.

However, it has been demonstrated that reforestation is practicable in British Columbia. Not only would it be possible to reproduce those trees which are indigenous to the soil, but also other exotic trees such as the hardwoods.

Arriving at Conclusions.

But, in a province which is cutting as yet only one-fifth of the annual growth of its forests, it is naturally hardly necessary for man to undertake to facilitate the reproductive processes of nature.

It may be concluded, then, that artificial reforestation is neither necessary nor, relatively speaking, desirable over the major part of British Columbia to-day. With regard to the three considerations mentioned above, the following conclusions have been arrived at:—

First, forest planting in British Columbia is silviculturally possible, hardwoods may be grown as well as softwoods; second, forest regeneration in British Columbia is financially practicable, as also is forest planting; third, forest planting is not now, in general, necessary, nor is it the most profitable way to spend time, energy or money in British Columbia.

WESTERN CANADA'S PAYING POWER

This Fall it is Likely to be Greater Than Hitherto—Outlook is Splendid

Excellent conditions in Western Canada were reported in an interview which *The Monetary Times* had the other day with Mr. C. W. Rowley, manager of the Winnipeg branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Present indications, he said, are for a crop above the average, which will grade well and be inexpensive to handle. Mr. Rowley is a keen, conservative observer, and the utmost reliance can be placed in his reports and opinions.

"From all reports that we have received from our branches, customers and others who have travelled over the country," he continued, "we have no hesitation in saying that unless some mishap occurs between now and the time the farmers deposit their dollars or cents in the bank, the West will have as great, if not greater, paying power than it has in the past. The last month or six weeks has been as nearly ideal as possible.

Reduce Harvesting Expense.

"The grade will probably be better than usual, the straw is short and that will reduce the expense of harvesting. Add to this the improvement in mixed farming and cattle, sheep and hog raising that has taken place during the past year, and the West should be able to pay considerable of its debts and ease things materially in the East by so doing. Of course there will be districts and individuals whose crop will not come up to the average, but this happens in all countries every year. Possibly it is on account of drought, or too much moisture or hail or some cause over which the farmer has no control, but I am satisfied in the majority of cases it is lack of knowledge, industry and method or poor management on the part of the farmer.

Safe, Sane and Sound.

"I am firmly convinced that Canadian conditions are on a safer, saner, sounder basis to-day than they have been for some time. Everybody is working a little harder and a little longer and cutting out extravagant habits and reckless expenditures, and all these things combined mean an easing of general conditions throughout Canada, no matter what the financial conditions may be elsewhere, and also that the next ten years in Canada will show a greater development along immigration, agricultural and mercantile lines than during the past ten years."