a much higher level than they are. Hogs sold last week on Toronto market at $5 for selects and $4.75 a cwt. for lights and fats, and $4.75 for the best at country points.

### THE HOG SITUATION

The hog market situation is of the most serious character. If it does not improve soon the industry will receive a set back that may take a year or two for it to recover from. The development of the bacon trade in the last decade has had much to do with the prosperity of the farmer in Eastern Canada. To allow it to fall behind just now will work serious injury to one important phase of agriculture.

The farmer asks why continue it, if there is no profit in the business of hog raising? Feed is high in price and at $4.75 a cwt. for select bacon hogs there is no money in feeding them. Better then quit and devote our energies to something more profitable. This is one way of looking at it. But there is a broader view. For the past three or four years, it cannot be denied, hog raising has been one of of the most profitable branches of farming, and the way to size up the situation is not to conclude because a period of very low prices comes along that the industry is not worth looking after. The business should be judged by its record for a longer period. Looked at from this point of view, the bacon trade is one of Canada's most valuable assets and should be continued. Because the cattle market drops to a low ebb the cattle feeder does not quit feeding cattle. He may cut down the number he is fitting for market but does not let go altogether because the market goes against him occasionally, as many hog raisers do. Periods of low prices occur with every other branch of agriculture at times and yet farmers keep in the swim, and are ready for the rise which is sure to follow sooner or later. This should be their attitude towards the bacon trade. A reaction is sure to come, and if we are not mistaken a change for the better in the hog situation is soon due. During the past week there has been some improvement in the American hog market, and it looks as if things here had reached rock bottom, and that an up-turn in the market is near at hand.

Upon the packer is put the blame for the present continued slump. When asked about it he refers you to the English bacon market. And really he has strong backing for the claim he makes that the Canadian packer is paying all and a little more than the English market will warrant him in paying for live hogs. He refers you to Denmark's very large "killing" which averages about 40,000 hogs every week. The Americans also have been sending immense quantities of bacon to England this year. There you have it, he says. The Englishman will not pay high prices for Canadian, when he can get all he wants of the best Danish sides and a large supply of a lower grade of American at the low values that rule in the old country market at the present time. "Then why blame me," says the packer. "I am doing the very best I can for you."

But what about the large imports of American dressed hogs that have been brought into Canada by the packer, the past few months? Has not this helped to keep down the price of Canadian hogs? To these questions the packer replies: "Ever since the Canadian bacon trade was placed on its feet there has been more or less of the importation of American dressed hogs into this country. This winter, owing to lower values for the live animal to the south of the line there have been more brought in than usual. All the fresh pork supplied to Western Canada this winter has come from the United States. This is brought in and 3c a lb. duty paid on it and the packer makes a profit in handling it."

The producer and the packers side is here summarized. Is the latter as much to blame for the present market situation as many farmers believe him to be? Has he not some ground for the contention that he has been and is paying as much for hogs as the market will warrant? We believe the reasonable farmer will say that he has.

### THE BEEF CATTLE TRADE

In connection with the agitation in Great Britain for the removal of the embargo against Canadian cattle, some rather startling arguments have been presented. In an address at Aberdeen recently, Mr. H. D. McCombie, a leading breeder of the country, stated that there was a deterioration in the quality of the store cattle in that district and proposed: (1) That Government assistance should be given in the purchase and spread of pure bred bulls; (2) The entire prohibition of the export of pure bred stock from the country; or (3) The opening of British ports to Canadian cattle.

That propositions of this nature, especially the first two, should be made by a prominent cattle-breeder in the old land, will come as a surprise to Canadians well acquainted with the stock industry of Great Britain. The reasons advanced for the inferior quality of the store cattle are the lack of sufficient capital to buy good bulls with and the purchase of the best Shorthorn animals for the Argentine which leaves only the inferior kind at home. Government aid in supplying pure bred bulls in Ireland has very much improved the quality of the store cattle, upon which many in the United Kingdom are dependant for their supply of feeders. The argument is used that the Irish feeder though improved very much in quality of late years, is not of good enough quality to supply the English trade, hence the cry for improvement in home store cattle.

To prohibit the exportation of pure bred stock is the most surprising of all. This trade has brought millions of dollars into the country and will continue to do so. Even though so many high-priced bulls are exported to South America, there should be plenty of breeding stock to insure a good quality of store cattle being produced. Canadian importers well acquainted with the trade tell us that there are hundreds of Shorthorns of excellent type, not eligible to register in the Canadian herd book, but sufficiently good individuals to produce first-class beef cattle and many of them give a good supply of milk besides. These are the cattle that many would like to see brought to Canada in larger numbers for distribution among the average farmer. Their inability to register in the Canadian Shorthorn Herd Book is a barrier. Several of them were brought over last fall by Prof. Arkell, for use at Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., and the experiment will be watched with interest.

The opening of British ports to Canadian cattle is an old story and from present indications it is questionable if the embargo will ever be removed. The recent outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Scotland puts a strong barrier in the way for the present. Canadians had better turn their attention to the development of the dead meat trade and endeavor to make the most of shipping live cattle under existing conditions. If the agitators in Great Britain can eventually succeed in removing the embargo all well and good, Canada will reap the benefit. In the meantime, we should not sit down and wait for its removal, but make the best of our opportunities under present conditions.

### HORSE MARKET MORE ACTIVE

There are signs of more activity in the horse market. The demand is increasing, especially for drafters and general work horses. The character of the horses offering is improving and some choice goods are coming forward.

No place is this condition shown more clearly than at the new Horse Exchange Union Stock Yards, Toronto Junction. This exchange was opened for business on January 6th and has met with remarkable success. Business has grown right from the start. The manager, Mr. J. Herbert Smith, reports prospects as being exceedinly bright for a prosperous horse trade. The demand for good horses is increasing every day and the quality of the offering has greatly improved and many high-class animals are offering.

On Wednesday last 60 odd horses were sold. Wm. Hopps, of Elkhorn, Man., purchased 20 farm horses at an average price of $130. He paid as high as $215 for a specialty well bred mare.

One team of registered draft mares of superior quality sold for $385, or considerably less than they are worth for breeding purposes.

The following is the range of prices for the different classes: drafters, $140 to $187.50; express horses, $130 to $165; drivers, $110 to 157.50; farm blocks, $130 to $155. These quotations are for guaranteed sound horses or no sale. Serviceably sound workers sold at from $57.50 to $110 each.

## GENERAL MARKETS

### PETERBORO FARMERS' MARKET.

Peterboro, March 7.—The receipts of butter and eggs were again large. The latter in particular were very numerous. Poultry was very scarce, also hay and straw. A large quantity of pork and beef was offered. The following prices were received:

EGGS—New laids sold from 26c to 28c a doz., with the bulk at 27c.

BUTTER—Prices ranged from 29c to 31c a lb., the bulk going at 30c.

APPLES—50c to 60c a bu., and 75c to 90c a bag.

BEEF—Hindquarters, 7 to 7½c a lb.; fore 5½ to 6c.

PORK—Hind quarters, 9c a lb.; fore, 8c; whole hogs, from 100 to 125 lbs., $6.50 each; weighing from 125 to 175 lbs., $7 50 each.

HAY AND STRAW—Hay, $16 to $18 a ton; Straw, $5 to $7 a load.

### MONTREAL HOG MARKET.

Montreal, Monday, March 9.—The market for live hogs is practically unchanged from a week ago. There has been no new development in the trade, there is still an easy tendency owing to the fairly large receipts and advices from the other side, and little likelihood of any change so long as present conditions continue. Prices for last week's offerings ranged from $5.75 to $5.90 a 100 lbs. for selected


The Union Stock Yards Co.
LIMITED

HORSE EXCHANGE
Keele St., Toronto Junction

Auction Sales of Horses, Carriages and Harness every Monday and Wednesday. Private Sales every day

Come and see this new Horse Exchange, it will interest you, also the Quarter Mile Track for Showing and Exercising

THE Directors of the above Company have not spared anything in the building of this new Horse Exchange. The stables which are built of cement and brick, will stall between 200 and 300 head of horses, and are considered by judges who have seen them, to be the most sanitary they have yet seen. ¶ We have sold on an average of 100 horses per week since the opening of this great Horse Market, and now that the success of the Horse business is assured, we are in a position to handle

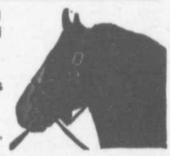
Breeders' Stock Sales

of all kinds, Cattle, Sheep and Hogs. Breeders will find that advertising from a central place like Toronto will be advantageaus in many ways, as this is unquestionably the most complete market of its kind in America for both buyer and seller. We have our own Railway Chutes, which are the finest, and can load any number of cars at once on both G. T. R. and C. P. R. No charge for loading or unloading stock of any kind.

Correspondence Solicited as to Terms, etc.

HERBERT SMITH, Manager (Late Grand's Repository)

AUCTION SALE
OF
Shorthorns, Clydesdales, Cotswolds and Shropshires



under the auspices of The Myrtle Sales Association, will be held at

MYRTLE STATION, THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH, 1908

Consisting of: 10 Shorthorn Bulls, 10 Shorthorn Cows and Heifers, 40 Registered Cotswold and Shropshire Ewes and Ewe Lambs, and a few choice stock rams, also several Clydesdale Stallions and Mares.

Sale to commence at 1 o'clock, p. m.

Terms and Conditions—Cash, unless other arrangements are made with the Association previous to the commencement of the sale.

JOHN BRIGHT, Manager, Myrtle, Ont.

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