

Many Tariff Changes.

Hon. Mr. Fielding, Finance Minister, has given Parliament notice of 120 changes in the Canadian tariff, as originally submitted on November 29th last.

A bounty is authorized on binder twine manufactured in Canada from manilla fibre not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of one cent per pound, and equal to the amount paid as export duty in the Philippine Islands on manilla fibre. This is represented as meeting the chief demand of the twine and cordage manufacturers without (directly) increasing the cost to the consumer. A second resolution exempts from the dumping clause provision binder twine manufactured from New Zealand hemp, sisal grass, sunn or single-ply mixtures not exceeding 600 feet to the pound.

As a concession to market gardeners the duty on potatoes is increased $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel, being fixed at $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents preferential, $17\frac{1}{2}$ cents intermediate, and 20 cents general.

The specific duty on fresh tomatoes, which was respectively 50 cents, 65 cents and 75 cents per 100 pounds, is changed to an ad valorem duty of 20 per cent., $27\frac{1}{2}$ and 30. The duty on plums goes up from 20 cents per bushel to 30 cents. To the free importation list of certain classes of florist stock is added "seedling stock and rose stock for grafting." The duty on figs and dates is slightly reduced.

The British preferential tariff on preparations of cocoa and chocolate (N.O.P.) is reduced from 25 per cent. to $22\frac{1}{2}$; the other rates remain at $32\frac{1}{2}$ and 35 per cent.

The general tariff on crude petroleum, gas, oils, other than naphtha, benzine and gasoline, is reduced from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per gallon.

In item 445, after "reapers," the words are added, "and complete parts thereof, not including shafting," preferential, $12\frac{1}{2}$; intermediate and general, $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. each. A similar provision is made regarding complete windmill parts, preferential, $12\frac{1}{2}$; intermediate, $17\frac{1}{2}$; general, 20 per cent.

Well-drilling machinery, not made in Canada, is put on the free list. Another item provides for a drawback of 99 per cent. of the duty on bituminous coal when imported to be converted into coke for smelting.

Hereafter "presents" will be on the free list, a clause as follows being inserted: Casual donations from abroad sent by friends, and not being advertising matter, tobacco, articles containing spirits or mer-

chandise for sale when the duty otherwise payable thereon does not exceed 50 cents in any one case under regulations by the Minister of Customs, free in all tariffs. Microscopes valued at less than \$50 are also put on the free list, and certain parts of machinery used by twine manufacturers.

Hereafter, raw sugar, to get the benefit of the preferential duty, must be imported direct and entered at a Canadian port, which will affect adversely the Montreal refiners who have been importing via New York, in order to secure better ocean freights, but it is evidently designed in the interests of Canadian shipping and our Maritime ports.

From a South African Reader.

From far South Africa comes a letter from a friend of "The Farmer's Advocate," Thos. Bradshaw, Department of Agriculture, Orange River Colony, who in sending his subscription encloses a few notes which remind us of the seasons and doings of our British cousins under the Southern Cross: "We are having a splendid summer," he writes, "rain, blessed rain, in abundance, and crops are looking fine. We have started cutting hay this month; last summer it was February when we started. What a difference the rain makes in a dry, hot climate like this. Corn looks well; one farmer alongside of us has 1,000 acres. It is a sight to see, with its nice dark-green color. All the corn is allowed to get ripe. There have been great swarms of locusts in different parts of the country, and some farmers have had all their crops eaten off. This locust is a terrible pest in Africa."

The Chicago city "Sealer," Joseph Grein, as the result of a year and a half's work by his office on the lake front, confiscated over 1,000 fraudulent weights and measures. It included: Dry measures, 600; liquid measures, 100; baskets, 50; bottles, 300; ice scales, 12; fish scales, 6; spring scales, 6; lard pails, 80. Let us be grateful that there are not many cities on this continent with such depth of business and moral depravity as obtains in the Windy City. Chicago, however, has no monopoly of the cheating business. It is worth while for other cities to take notice of their home conditions.

Prospects for Beef.

Present indications point to higher prices for beef cattle this season. The unusual severity of the Western winter has had a serious effect upon the range stock, of which it is estimated by several authorities that fully fifty per cent. will have perished through exposure and starvation. For some twenty years such a winter has not been experienced. In addition to the heavy snowfall the Chinook winds have not been sufficiently long continued and warm to uncover the Alberta grass, and being quickly succeeded by severe frosts, the prairie became coated with an icy crust. Many ranchmen put up little or no feed or shelters for stock, so that the cattle that do not die outright will be very thin. As the Western population is growing rapidly, and much railroad and other work being done, a great deal of meat will be required this year, and the Northwest people are liberal meat-eaters under all circumstances. Consequently, there will be fewer cattle to ship east.

Through several of the beef-feeding sections of Ontario fewer export and butchers' cattle are reported in the stalls, and feeding cattle of any sort are hard to secure. These facts, coupled with the higher prices of other animal products, such as cheese, butter and bacon, will naturally tend to force beef prices up to a high figure.

We should like to hear from feeders what the prospects are for supplies, and prices in their respective districts.

Dominion Superintendent of Forestry Resigns.

Mr. E. Stewart, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, has resigned to connect himself with a large lumber company in British Columbia. A successor may not be appointed for some time. In the Eastern Provinces forestry is looked after by the Provincial Governments. The Dominion foresters' work has been chiefly in connection with Western lands, and now that Saskatchewan and Alberta are provincially organized, some of the work hitherto done by Mr. Stewart will naturally come under Provincial jurisdiction.



The Ontario Agricultural College Stock-judging Team, Champions and Winners of the Spoor Trophy at the Chicago International, 1906.

From left to right: Standing—W. J. Hartman, Prof. G. E. Day, Dr. J. Hugo Reed, Prof. H. S. Arkell; sitting—C. C. Nixon, H. Barton, A. McKenney, R. S. Hamer.