

matter of hotels. Mr. H. F. Coombs is the writer, and he dates from Tignish, Prince Edward Island, May 21st. He says:

"Enclosed find cutting from your issue of May 6th, which is scarcely fair to Charlottetown. The extraordinary influx of passengers into Charlottetown on the particular day mentioned was caused by the visit for a day of the members of a fraternal society, who are usually to a large extent billeted on their brothers of the order on such occasions. Owing to a difference between the owner of the largest hotel in Charlottetown and the Scott Act inspector as to how the Scott Act should be enforced, that hotel was closed at the date of the "Minto's" arrival. But such things have happened elsewhere. In addition to the Davis Hotel, with 100 rooms, which will be reopened under new management in a few days, there is the Queen, having, with additions now being built, say, 60 rooms, one of the cleanest and best-kept hotels in Canada; the Revere, having 30 rooms, is a good house, and a number of smaller houses are open in our capital city, most of which are fairly comfortable, some of them particularly so. In fact, Charlottetown will offer ample accommodation for more than the normal number of visitors this summer.

The country is putting on its summer dress of green, and is looking charming. So, Mr. Editor, when the July sun makes life a burthen in your hot inland cities, get out your fishing tackle and come to Charlottetown, and its people will use you well, and demonstrate that their houses of entertainment merit a better title than old-fashioned boarding-houses."

TORONTO still hankers after a competitive telephone service. Montreal has a large amount of experience with this sort of thing that it will cheerfully place at the disposal of its sister city. It is to the effect that a good service at a fair price is much to be preferred to a competitive service at a lower rate.

A WINNIPEG dispatch of Saturday last says that the largest land sale of the season was closed on the previous day, when 40,000 acres in eastern Assiniboia was purchased by Chicago capitalists, represented by Messrs. J. E. Holland and E. W. Stees. It is the intention of the new proprietors to put the whole tract under cultivation at once, and they say the land will be under crop by a year from this spring. This, they declare, is but the start of a series of such gigantic farms. The highest market price was paid, the total transaction involving an outlay in the neighborhood of \$500,000. The land is situated north of Qu'Appelle.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, June 1st, 1904.

Ashes.—The market has an easier tone for both pots and pearls, and buy-

ers quote about \$6.10 for first quality of pots; seconds would realize about \$5.60 to \$5.65. For pearls, from \$7 to \$7.50 is a nominal quotation. Receipts continue light for the season of the year.

Cements and Firebricks.—Receipts of cement for the week ending to-day have been small, comprising 300 bbls. of English cement, and 1,500 bbls. and 1,800 bags of Belgian cement; firebricks, 124,600. A fair aggregate of moderate orders is reported, but no large sales. We quote: Belgian cement, \$1.70 to \$1.95; English, \$1.95 to \$2.10; German, \$2.35, but none coming in owing to the surtax. Firebricks, \$16 to \$22, as to brand.

Dairy Products.—After last writing

prices of cheese continued to advance, about 9c. being quoted as the spot price for finest Western at the end of the week; but there appears to be an easier feeling at the moment, and New York quotations are reported relatively lower than here. Quebec-made cheese sold at about 8½c. on the wharf Monday, and 8¾ to 8⅞c. seems about outside figures for Westerns. Full-grass fine Townships creamery butter quotes at 17 to 17¼c.; dairy makes at 13 to 14c. Cheese shipments are light as compared with last year at this date. Exports for last week were 32,502 boxes, as against 53,488 boxes for same week of 1903. Of butter there were shipped last week 2,448



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RECORD FOR 1903.

Policies Issued and Taken '03.. \$4,278,850	Interest Earned, 1903.....\$110,428
" " " " '02.. 3,098,450	" " " " 1902..... 84,676
INCREASE 38%	\$1,180,400
Business in Force Dec. 31, '03.. \$18,023,639	Surplus to Policy-holders, 1903....\$473,963
" " " " '02.. 15,289,547	" " " " 1902.... 226,508
INCREASE 18%	\$2,734,092
	INCREASE 109%
	\$247,455

Average Interest Earned, SEVEN per Cent.

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