

Montreal.

Live Stock.—Shipments of cattle from Portland and St. John during the week ending December 17th, amounted to about 1,400 head. Receipts of fancy Christmas cattle at the local markets were large; fancy stock sold up to 7c. and 7½c. per lb.; very choice sold at 6½c. to 6½c.; choice, at 6c. to 6½c.; fine at 5½c. to 6c.; good at 5c. to 5½c.; medium at 4c. to 4½c.; and common as low as 3c. per lb., cows being included in this. Calves continued firm in tone, and choice sold at 7c. to 7½c. per lb., and lower grades at 5c. to 6c. per lb. The market for sheep and lambs was firm, at 4½c. to 5c. per lb. for sheep, and 7c. to 7½c. per lb. for lambs. Along with the rest of the market, the price of hogs was firm, at around \$7.15 per 100 lbs. On the whole, the quality of the live stock offered was equal to that of previous years.

Horses.—The market for horses showed very little change. It is hoped, however, that in a few weeks buying will begin again, and dealers will then dispose of some of the horses they have in their stables. For the most part, however, there was just as much trouble obtaining horses as disposing of them. Prices were as follows: Heavy draft, weighing from 1,500 to 1,700 lbs., \$300 to \$350 each; light draft, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs., \$225 to \$300; light horses, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., \$100 to \$200; old, broken-down animals, \$50 to \$100, and choice carriage and saddle animals, \$350 to \$500 each.

Dressed Hogs and Provisions.—The market for dressed hogs was about steady; abattoir, fresh-killed stock sold at 9½c. to 9½c. per lb., and country-dressed at 8½c. to 9c. per lb. Demand for cured meats was good. Barreled pork ranged from \$20.50 to \$28 per barrel, and beef sold at \$17. Lard was steady at 10½c. to 12c. per lb. for compound, and 13½c. to 14½c. per lb. for pure. Hams were steady, at 12½c. per lb. for those weighing 28 lbs. to 40 lbs.; 14½c. for 20 to 28 lbs.; smaller hams, 15½c. per lb.; boneless hams, large, 16c., and small, 17c. per lb. Bacon was steady, at 16c. per lb. for Wiltshire sides; 18c. for cottage rolls, 15½c. for Windsor skinned backs; 14c. for spiced rolls, and 14½c. for brown brand of English bacon.

Poultry.—Owing to the approach of Christmas the market for poultry was very strong, and prices experienced a general advance. Turkeys have been selling as high as 23c. per lb., and the range was down to about 20c. Chickens advanced, and sold at 15c. to 17c. per lb.; fowl selling at 11c. to 14c. per lb.; geese being 14c. to 15½c., and ducks 16c. to 18c. per lb. There was very little demand for geese, and it was thought that these would be higher this week when the New Year's demand comes on.

Potatoes.—The market has again declined, and ranges from 80c. per 90 lbs. to 82½c., carloads, on track, for Green Mountains. These were sold over again at about 85c. between dealers. Supplies were fairly plentiful at the moment.

Apples.—The market for apples was higher last week than it has been this season. Supplies were light, and there was a good demand, doubtless owing to the approach of Christmas. No. 1 apples sold at \$4.75 to \$5.50 per barrel, while No. 2 sold at \$3.75 to \$5, and No. 3 at \$2.75 to \$3.60 per barrel. Spies brought high prices all round.

Eggs.—The market for eggs was naturally active during the past few days, but prices showed very little alteration, and continued very firm in the face of the rather small supplies. This applies especially to new-laid eggs, these selling at 55c. per dozen, in case lots. Selects brought about 32c. per dozen, and No. 1 candled about 26c. to 27c. per dozen.

Butter.—The market for butter was reported easy by some of the papers recently, but dealers do not generally confirm this. Prices were 24½c. to 25½c. per lb., wholesale, single packages bringing 26c. per lb. It was stated that shipments have been light to outside points, and receipts moderate.

Cheese.—There was little interest in the market, but prices were about 11½c. to 12c., or a fraction more, to cover all qualities, colored being at a premium of ½c.

Grain.—There were very few changes during the week in the market for oats, prices were 39½c. to 39½c. per bushel for

No. 2 Canadian Western, carloads, ex store; 38½c. for No. 1 extra feed, and 38½c. to 38½c. for No. 3 Canadian Western; 37½c. for No. 2 local white, 36½c. for No. 3, and 35½c. for No. 4. No. 4 Manitoba barley was 48c. to 48½c., and No. 3 yellow corn was 57½c. to 58c.

Flour.—The market for Manitoba flour was steady, at \$5.60 per barrel, in bags, for first patents; \$5.10 for seconds, \$4.90 for strong bakers'; \$4.75 to \$5 for Ontario patents, and \$4.35 to \$4.50 for straight rollers.

Millfeed.—The market was firm, at \$18.50 to \$19 per ton for Ontario bran; \$22 to \$22.50 for middlings; \$31 to \$32 for pure grain mouille; \$25 to \$28 for mixed mouille; \$21 to \$22 for Manitoba shorts, and \$18 to \$20 for bran. Cotton-seed meal was steady, at \$37 to \$38.

Seeds.—After the turn of the year, it is likely that receipts will increase. Meantime dealers are getting along a certain amount of red clover at \$7 to \$9 per bushel, country points, and alsike at \$6 to \$8.

Hay.—The market was unchanged, at \$11 to \$11.50 per ton, track, for No. 1; \$10 to \$10.50 for No. 2 extra; \$7 to \$7.50 for clover; \$7.50 to \$8 for clover mixed, and \$9 to \$9.50 for No. 2 hay.

Hides.—The market was steady, at 8c., 9c. and 10c. per lb. for beef hides; 10c. and 12c. for calf skins; 65c. to 70c. each for sheep skins; \$1.75 and \$2.50 for horse hides; 1½c. to 4c. for rough tallow, and 6½c. to 7c. for rendered.

British Cattle Markets.

John Rogers & Company, Liverpool, cable quotations as follows: States steers, from 12c. to 13c., and Canadian, from 11½c. to 12½c. per pound.

World Crop Reports.

The Crop-reporting Board of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates, from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the Bureau, that the total production of cotton in the United States for the season of 1910-11, will amount to 5,464,597,000 pounds (not including lint), equivalent to 11,426,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight.

Winter Wheat.—Area sown this fall 2.5 per cent. more than the revised estimated area sown in the fall of 1909, equivalent to an increase of 828,000 acres, the indicated total area being 34,485,000 acres. Condition on December 1 was 82.5, against 95.8 and 85.3 on December 1, 1909 and 1908, respectively, and a ten-year average of 91.3.

Australia.—The total wheat crop of Australia for 1909-10, is estimated at 93,263,000 bushels, as compared to 64,663,000 for 1908-09.

Early official estimates of the 1910 wheat crop of Europe will now need revision. The final official estimate of the important crop of Russia exceeds expectations, and puts the 1910 yield of the Empire at 773 million bushels, or only 10 million bushels less than the high-record output of 1909. In view of these figures, it is obvious that the total European wheat crop almost, if not quite, equals the unprecedented abundance of the previous season.

In bulk, the Great Britain 1910 wheat crop amounted to 58 million bushels. Although about 5 million bushels less than that of last year, the quantity, owing mainly to augmentation of acreage in late years, exceeds the ten-year average. Barley, with a 60-million bushel crop, was also slightly over average, but 2½ million bushels under the yield of last season. Oats was exceptional in that it is the only cereal which gave a heavier out-turn than in the preceding year. The hay crop, as might be expected from the character of the season, was unusually abundant, the total output being 9½ million tons, against 8½ million a year ago; the average is about 9 million tons.

France.—Yields of root crops, as a whole, have proved even more deficient than those of cereals, and dependence upon foreign countries for food supplies has thereby been further increased. Potatoes, which constitute an important element of human and animal food, and are also much used in the manufacture of starch, are officially returned as a half crop. Owing to disease, due chiefly to the cool, wet summer, the yield per acre,

which in each of the two previous years had amounted to over 160 bushels, was this season reduced to 82. The result is that the total domestic supply for the current year is only 309 million bushels, against over 600 million in each of the two preceding years. Obviously heavy imports will be required to make up the deficit. Sugar beets, though not so disastrously affected by the inclement weather, are short of last year's output by over a million tons. The yield per acre—about 11½ tons is the average—is this season returned as 9.9 tons, making the total out-turn less than for several years. In favorable seasons, fall seedings are practically finished by mid-November, but at that date this year from 30 to 40 per cent. of the wheat lands in some Departments was reported unsown. Seed which went into the ground during the exceptionally fine October, germinated satisfactorily; in some localities, however, damage from field mice and slugs necessitated considerable resowing, and the subsequent bad weather is not regarded as conducive to a hardy vegetation. The present agricultural prospect is spoken of generally as being somewhat similar to the deplorable conditions at the same period last year, when heavy rains, beginning in October, and continuing at intervals throughout the cereal season, resulted in one of the most disastrous years agriculturally in the history of the country.

Italy.—Weather conditions during the past month have, on the whole, been seasonable, and the development of the growing cereals is generally spoken of as making good progress. The area sown to winter wheat is believed to have been considerably increased. On account of the deficiency of the 1910 wheat harvest, the Ministry of Agriculture estimates the import requirements at about 75 million bushels, as compared with an actual import of 35 million bushels last year. Fruit crops, and the yield of cocoons, were seriously curtailed by cold, rainy weather in early spring, and the vintage, because of insalubrious atmospheric conditions and diseases of the vine, has given even poorer results than had been anticipated. The yield of grapes is officially returned at 5,951,000 tons (2,000 pounds each), against 10,853,000 tons last year. The rice crop is officially estimated at 965,615,000 pounds, as compared with 1,093,000,000 pounds a year ago; corn, 97,750,000, against 94,821,000 bushels the previous season.

Belgium.—The potato crop, according to recent official statistics, is short in all parts of the Kingdom. In some localities it is a complete failure. Lands which normally return from 225 to 450 bushels per acre, have this season given yields ranging from 150 to 200 bushels. In the humid regions results have fallen as low as 25 bushels. In average years the domestic crop amounts to from 80 to 90 million bushels. Heavy importations will probably be required to make up the deficiency.

Germany.—Seeding of winter cereals was practically finished by mid-November. The autumn has generally been a dry one, and late field work was in most parts rendered difficult by excessive hardness of soil. Early-sown rye germinated well, but growth has been retarded in many districts by lack of sufficient moisture; of late-sown fields of both wheat and rye, some are described as looking poor. As in several other countries of Europe, much damage is reported from ravages of field mice and slugs, and many fields have had to be replowed. On the whole, the condition of vegetation is not all that could be desired, especially in the event of a cold, open winter. Late potatoes are said to have turned out somewhat better than expected, the prolonged spell of dry weather having checked the spread of rot, which had proved so calamitous to the early varieties. In the southern part of the Empire, however, yields are very unsatisfactory, damage from disease and rot having been beyond repair.

Russia.—The Central Statistical Committee has recently published its final estimate of the 1910 production of spring wheat, barley, oats, and corn, in 73 Governments of European and Asiatic Russia. The yield of spring wheat, as stated by cable, is in round numbers, 524 million bushels, or 52 million bushels less than last year. The final figures of the same authority on the winter-wheat crop, issued

late in October, were 249 million bushels, an increase over the winter-wheat yield of the previous year of 42 million bushels. It therefore turns out that the total 1910 wheat crop has greatly surpassed all expectations, and falls short of the unprecedented yield of 1909 by only 10 million bushels. It is pertinent to note that the impetus given to wheat culture in the Empire in recent years has no parallel either in the old world or the new. Year after year more and more extensive areas have been sown to this cereal, until the 42 million acres under wheat 15 years ago were represented in 1910 by 71 million acres, an increase of 70 per cent. in a decade and a half. The movement has received exceptional impetus during the last two years, chiefly from the prevailing high prices; and, owing largely to increase in areas sown, the Empire has in both seasons taken rank as the leading wheat-producing nation of the world, the yield of 783 million bushels in 1909, and 773 million bushels in 1910, comparing with crops, respectively, of 737 and 692 million bushels in the United States.

"If."

"If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting,
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies;
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

"If you can dream, and not make dreams
Your master;
If you can think, and not make thoughts
Your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat these two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

"If you can make one heap of all your
winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them,
'Hold on!'

"If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but not too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a man,
My son!"

—Rudyard Kipling, in American Magazine.

"Now, tell me, Mr. —, what are the Knights of the Bath?" He stammered for a while, and finally blurted out: "Why, Saturday nights, I suppose."

"I understand Brindle and his wife have quarrelled. What was the cause?" "Why, Brindle lost his wife in the crowd, and went about peeping under all the peach-basket hats that looked like hers—and she saw him and got mad."