

DAIRYING IN CANADA

Ontario and Quebec Produce About 70 Per Cent. of Total

In a press bulletin issued recently the Census and Statistics Office of Canada reports on the total production of butter and cheese in the creameries and cheese factories of Canada for the year 1916, as compared with 1915, the report being based upon returns collected from the dairying branches of the provincial departments of agriculture. The figures for 1915 represent approximate estimates, as the returns for that year are not quite complete. The total number of creameries and cheese factories operating in 1916 is reported as 3,446, including 993 creameries, 1,813 cheese factories, 624 combined factories (cheese and butter) and 16 condensed milk factories. The total number of patrons contributing to creameries and cheese factories during the year 1916 was 221,192, the deliveries of milk amounting to 2,600,542,987 lb. and of cream to 157,620,636 lb. The two chief dairying provinces of the Dominion are Ontario and Quebec. Both manufacture cheese and butter; in Ontario more cheese is made than butter; in Quebec more butter is made than cheese. In Ontario the total number of establishments operating in 1916 was 1,165 and the patrons numbered 87,325, whilst in Quebec the establishments numbered 1,984 and the patrons 79,145; so that the average number of patrons per establishment was 75 in Ontario and 40 in Quebec.

Value of Creamery Butter.

The total production of creamery butter in Canada in 1916 is returned as 82,564,130 lb., of the value of \$26,966,357, as compared with 83,824,176 lb., of the value of \$24,368,636 in 1915. Comparing the relative production of the provinces the production in 1916 is highest in Quebec with 34,323,275 lb., of the value of \$11,516,148, as compared with 24,680,109 lb., of the value of \$8,031,998 in Ontario. These two provinces together produce about 70 per cent. of the total creamery butter of Canada. Of the other provinces the production and value of creamery butter in 1916 were in relative order as follows: Alberta, 8,521,784 lb., value, \$2,619,248; Manitoba, 6,574,510 lb., value, \$2,038,109; Saskatchewan, 4,310,669 lb., value, \$1,338,180; Nova Scotia, 1,586,679 lb., value, \$505,000; British Columbia, 1,243,292 lb., value, \$497,316; New Brunswick, 709,932 lb., value, \$236,104; and Prince Edward Island, 613,880 lb., value, \$184,164. The average price per lb of creamery butter for all Canada works out to 33 cents in 1916 as compared with 30 cents in 1915. By provinces in 1916 the highest price was in British Columbia, 42 cents, and the lowest in Prince Edward Island, 30 cents. In the other provinces the price per lb. for 1916 was as follows: Nova Scotia, 32 cents; New Brunswick, 33 cents; Quebec, 34 cents; Ontario, 33 cents; the prairie provinces, 31 cents.

Value of Factory Cheese.

The total production of factory cheese in 1916 was 192,968,597 lb., of the value of \$35,512,530, as compared with 183,878,898 lb., of the value of \$27,587,775 in 1915. By provinces the lead in production is taken by Ontario with a total quantity in 1916 of 126,015,870 lb., of the value of \$23,312,935, Quebec being second with 61,906,750 lb., of the value of \$11,245,104. These two provinces together account for 98 per cent. of the total production of factory cheese. The production and value of factory cheese in the other provinces in 1916 were as follows: Prince Edward Island, 2,121,736 lb., value, \$409,495; New Brunswick, 1,185,664 lb., value, \$210,692; Manitoba, 880,728 lb., value, \$158,931; Alberta, 745,122 lb., value, \$154,454; Nova Scotia, 94,727 lb., value, \$16,959; and British Columbia, 18,000 lb., value, \$3,960. The average price per lb. of factory cheese for all Canada works out to 21 cents in 1916, as compared with 17 cents in 1915. In 1916 the average price was highest in British Columbia, 25 cents. In Quebec and Ontario the average price was 18 cents and in Alberta it was 21 cents.

Back Copy of *Monetary Times* Wanted.—One of our subscribers is very anxious to secure a copy of *The Monetary Times* of May 24th, 1913. If any reader having a copy of that issue which he has no further use for would kindly send it to this office it would be very much appreciated.

RISE AND FALL OF WHEAT

Many Fluctuations in Last Hundred Years—High Market To-day

An interesting article in the *Canadian Credit Men's Journal* records the fluctuating price of wheat during the last century. "During the Napoleonic war, which lasted from 1812 to 1816, wheat reached the highest known figure, viz., \$4.25. Exports to England were cut off from France, Holland and Germany. England was also at war with the United States in 1812, and for some time in this troublesome period the price remained steady around \$3.86. The lowest figure quoted in the first quarter of the nineteenth century was \$1.37, in 1822. In the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the lowest figure was reached in 1835, when wheat sold at \$1.35; therefore the second quarter of the nineteenth century was a fairly high wheat period also.

Steady Climb in 1854.

"In the third quarter of the century was the Crimean War, which started in 1854, when Russia was fighting England and France, and wheat sold at \$2.50 per bushel, having started at \$1.71 in 1851, and had a steady climb until the \$2.50 price was reached. There was a declining fluctuation then until 1864, partly owing to the Civil War, when wheat began to advance until \$2.10 was reached. From 1864 to 1875 there was a steady tendency downward, the lowest price being \$1.37 in 1875. By 1877 the price had gradually climbed to \$1.72, and in 1878 went back to \$1.40. From that on a period of steadiness followed until 1883, when the wheat quotation was \$1.25.

Below the Dollar in 1886.

"The market continued to decline and the even dollar was reached in 1884, and in 1886 94c. This is the first time wheat went below the dollar mark since 1800. In 1891 the price of wheat was \$1.13, and in 1894 reached 60c. It was fourteen years before the \$1 price was again exceeded, namely, from 1894 to 1909. There were periods along about 1895 when the farmer only received 40c. per bushel in Manitoba, and an old grain merchant claimed to our representative that he bought wheat at Boissevain, Man., in 1895, at 36c. (No. 1 Hard). There has been an upward tendency in recent years, and especially since August, 1914, when the trading in wheat has been exceedingly active. In the past few months there has been a steady rise, and \$3.05 was the highest bid on the Winnipeg Exchange, but Minneapolis and Chicago markets have had quotations at \$3.25. All signs point to a high wheat market, even should we have a restricted market."

RAILROAD EARNINGS

The following are the earnings of Canada's transcontinental lines during the first two weeks in August:—

Canadian Pacific Railway.		Increase or decrease.	
	1916.	1917.	
August 7	\$2,985,000	\$2,559,000	— \$426,000
August 14	2,943,000	2,746,000	— 197,000
Grand Trunk Railway.			
August 7	\$1,256,376	\$1,320,706	+ \$ 64,330
August 14	1,236,989	1,320,753	+ 83,764
Canadian Northern Railway.			
August 7	\$ 868,000	\$ 775,500	— \$ 92,500
August 14	841,500	746,800	— 94,700

The Guardian Accident and Guarantee Company has changed its name to that of the Guardian Insurance Company of Canada. This company at present transacts accident, liability, plate glass and burglary insurance, and issues guarantee bonds.

Mr. John H. C. Durham, vice-president and general manager of the Merchants Fire Insurance Company, has left with his family for Quebec and Murray Bay to spend a well-earned vacation. The Merchants reports a very successful half-year's business.