

The Resignation of the Dominion Horticulturist.

Mr. John Craig, Horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, recently resigned his position, owing, according to some newspaper rumors, to a difference in judgment with the Director as to whether his department should be devoted mainly to fruit culture or arboriculture.

Mr. Craig is a native of Quebec, where in his earlier years he was associated with that well-known fruit-grower, the late Chas. Gibb, at Abbotsford.

After taking a thorough general education, Mr. Craig took a three years' course at the Iowa Agricultural College, with Prof. Budd, in horticulture and economic botany, being subsequently elected Assistant Director, in special charge of the Department of Horticulture.

It is my honest conviction that Mr. Craig was working on the right lines to meet the wants of the fruit-growers; in fact, I know of no other branch of the Horticultural Department requiring such close attention as those taken up by Mr. Craig.

MARKETS.

Toronto Markets.

Export Cattle.—There was scarcely any export trade being done, and very little of the best cattle were on sale. Prices are nominal at from 34c. to 35c. per pound.

Butchers' Cattle.—There was a moderate trade in butchers' cattle. The mild weather somewhat checks trade. The demand from all outside points is very good, and butchers buy for immediate requirements all the butchers' cattle sold.

Stocks and Feeders.—Trade was dull in this class of cattle, the demand from Buffalo being a little quieter. Prices rule from \$2.70 to \$3.30.

Sheep.—A very light run and firm at 41c. to 42c. per pound. Messrs. Dunn shipped four carloads of choice wethers to the Old Country by C. P. R. The demand from Buffalo has fallen off. Prices for the better class \$4.10; export sheep 3c. per pound.

Lambs.—Scarce, and the prices are unchanged, 4c. to 4 1/2c. per pound.

Calves.—Are scarce and wanted. We can well remember at this time last year that they were a drug on the market and exported to Buffalo by the carload; \$4 to \$5 per head for choice, \$4 for the medium. Choice veals are in demand and wanted.

Milk Cows.—All on market sold readily at steady prices from \$25 to \$45 per head. Choice dairy cows wanted.

Hogs.—The price continues to fall, and when the present glut is over look out for higher prices. The large number of stores coming forward seems to say that the farmers have no faith in the hog business, but we continue to say hold on to your stores and take any price for the finished article.

Dressed Hogs.—Car lots of choice hogs sold on track at \$5.50, in farmers' loads at around \$6 to \$6.25.

Wheat.—About three years ago the official weekly price of English wheat fell to the lowest level on record, 17s. 6d. per imperial quarter of 480 pounds, or 52 1/2c. per bushel of 60 pounds.

Butter.—Owing to a falling off in export, creamery butter is offering and prices are easier. Dairy tub, poor to medium, 11c. to 12c.; choice, 15c. to 16c. per pound; creamery pounds, 19c. to 20c. per pound.

Cheese.—Most of the cheese factories are closed down for the season, and stocks have been accumulating, but not to any great extent. Dealers sell at 9c. to 10c. for early and late makes.

Hay.—Twenty-five loads of hay sold at from \$8 to \$10. Baled hay, car lots at \$9 per ton. Straw.—Scarce, and sells readily at \$8.

Potatoes.—Contrary to expectation, plenty of potatoes are coming forward to supply all demands; the feeling is rather more easy. Farmers' loads are quoted at 55c. to 60c. per bag.

Hides.—Good demand, but market is practically without change. Prices for butchers' hides are 9c. for No. 1, 8c. for No. 2. Sheepskins—Dealers are paying 90c. for best fresh stock.

Wool.—There is still a good demand from some mills for supers and low-grade foreign wools. Supers, 21c. to 22c.; extra, 23c.

Toronto, November 11th.

Montreal Markets.

There has been no export demand during the week, as the cattle that have been shipped are all through from Ontario and the Territories, the bulk of the shipments being from the latter place.

For the local butcher trade good beefs on Monday's market sold high, making 4 1/2c. for choice, nicely finished steers; others from 3 1/2c. to 4c. per pound.

Sheep and Lambs.—Supplies were light on Monday, but on the heavy side on the several preceding markets. The light supplies created very little demand for export account, what were sold being at 3c. per pound, butcher stock ranging 4c. to 4 1/2c. per pound below.

Calves.—Only about 20 were in yesterday, and these sold from \$2 to \$3 for common grades, and up to \$12 for choice.

Hides and Skins.—As far as outward appearances and market quotations are concerned, there is no change to note in this market, but underneath is quite a current of unrest.

Cattle Shipments.—Shipments of live cattle from the port of Montreal this season promises to equal if not surpass the total reached in 1891, when 123,136 were shipped, but which, unlike the present year, consisted of fully forty per cent. stocker cattle, whereas this season's were made up entirely of beef cattle.

British Markets.—Cables were of a little more encouraging nature yesterday, as they chronicled fully one cent advance over those of a week ago, choice Canadian steers selling at 10 1/2c. in London and Liverpool, and United States, 11c. to 11 1/2c. per pound.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago. (BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.) Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

Table with columns: CATTLE, HOGS, SHEEP, and various grades. Includes sub-tables for Present Range of Prices, Top prices, and 1896, 1895, 1894 prices.

In addition to the above it should be noted that some fat stock show animals sold at higher prices. Mr. R. J. Stone's Shrops, 138 lbs., and his 166-lb. Oxforde sold at \$5.25.

There is considerable inquiry for fancy holiday cattle. Buyers feel that there will be no end of "next best" cattle, but fancy kind are hard to find.

John Goaling is here on a visit from St. Joseph, Mo. He has been buying a good many grade bulls for Southern Texas and Colorado. John is an old-time fine stockman.

There were 14,868 Southern cattle received in quarantine division in October, against 13,008 in September and 20,812 in October, 1896. October cattle receipts of all kinds were about 4,000 more than a year ago, and the ten months' receipts were 51,722 less than a year ago.

The Western range cattle season is drawing to a close. The season's receipts to date are about 221,700, being 37,000 less than last year and 160,000 less than two years ago.

Peter Duff, who has lately been here on a visit from Scotland, says the supply of cattle has been large in that country this year and feeders have made no money in the business; in fact, some have suffered severe losses.

"We in the Old Country must make up our minds for a greater competition of high-class of both beef and mutton from the United States, Canada, and the Argentine Republic than we have ever had before."

The 6,672,802 hogs received at Chicago the first ten months of 1897 averaged 240 lbs., or 5 lbs. lighter than the average for the same period of 1896, when 6,280,121 were received. The

October hog receipts were 48,708 less than a year ago, and receipts for the year so far show an increase of about 392,681 head. The average weight of hogs for October was 241 lbs., being 8 lbs. less than in September, but 2 pounds more than a year ago, and the heaviest for October since 1883, when it was 267 lbs.

An authority estimates that hog receipts at the four great Western markets for 1897 will be the largest ever known in one year. For ten months of this year Kansas City, Chicago, Omaha and St. Louis will totalize about 11,950,000.

Receipts for the approaching two months would be light if they did not exceed 1,625,000, for in the past seven years the average November receipts were 1,264,000 and the average for December was 1,281,000.

Should the November and December arrivals this year equal those of 1896 the total receipts for 1897 would be around 14,350,000, or 1,250,000 greater than in 1896 and 772,000 greater than in 1891.

Hogs received at Kansas City last month averaged only 210 lbs., the lightest since August, 1894, and the lightest October since 1894. A average for September, 218 lbs., and October, 1896, 226 lbs.

The average weight of hogs sold at Sioux City last week was 294 lbs., the heaviest average since the week ended Dec. 26, 1896, when the average was 295 lbs. Average last month, 281 lbs., against 274 lbs. the previous month and 289 lbs. a year ago.

At the various breeders' meetings much interest was shown in the coming trans-Mississippi exposition at Omaha, and an appropriation of \$150 was set aside to be divided into special prizes for Hampshire sheep exhibited on that occasion.

Reliable figures as to the sheep business in Montana are to the following effect for 1896: Number of sheep, 3,968,627; average of fleeces, 7 1/2 lbs.; wool, washed and unwashed, 21,530,013 lbs.

The Chicago Horse Show was quite a success.

Canadian Live Stock Exports.

The following are the live stock exports for the weeks ending Nov. 3rd & 10th, as prepared by R. Bickerdike, of the Live Stock Exchange, Montreal:

Table of live stock exports for weeks ending Nov. 3rd & 10th, listing various breeds and quantities of cattle and sheep.

Buffalo Markets.

Canada Lambs.—Since our last report there has been but very little change in the situation in the sheep and lamb trade; prices have ruled steady to strong, with offerings only moderate.

With prospects generally favorable at these prices, and with an active demand and prices for good stockers and feeders ruled stronger, whilst the common and rough lots sold barely steady with last week.

Prime, well-bred, good quality feeders sold at \$4.10 to \$4.25, with good to medium grades taking at \$3.75 to \$4.00. The common coarse Montreal and Eastern Ontario cattle sold slow and in light request, at \$3.25 to \$3.65.

There still continues to be a good demand for prime, good color, well-bred yearlings and stockers, and they averaged 10 to 15 cents higher than last quotation, selling at \$3.85 to \$4.00, with some extra fancy lots bringing \$4.15 to \$4.25.

Stock hogs sold at \$3.00 to \$3.25, with several Eastern buyers taking some choice breeding heifers at \$3.40 to \$3.50. Stock bulls sold steady, at \$2.85 to \$3.15 for best grades, with common at \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Best export and shipping steers sold at \$5.00 to \$5.15. East Buffalo, Nov. 9.

Stock for Manitoba and the Northwest.

Under direction of Mr. F. W. Hodson, acting for the Dominion Live Stock Associations, the loading of another car of live stock for the West was completed on Nov. 11th.

The car contained animals to the following persons: M. Gardhouse, Highfield, to D. Sinclair, Portage la Prairie, Man, one yearling Leicester ram; Wm. Linton, Aurora, to F. W. Brown, Portage la Prairie, Man, four ewe lambs, four yearling ewes, and one yearling ram (Cotswolds); J. & W. Watt, Salem, to J. R. Sanders, Minnedosa, Man, one yearling Shorthorn bull; Thos. Teasdale, Concord, to F. W. Brown, one Berkshire boar; Wm. Linton, to Wm. Linton, Jr., Elkhorn, Man, one Hackney mare; Jas. Russell, Richmond Hill, to G. Allison, Elkhorn, Man, three Shorthorn heifers; J. M. Gardhouse, to G. Allison, one yearling ram and one ram lamb (Leicesters); Wm. Grainger & Son, Lonsdale, to T. T. Skinner, Indian Head, Assa, one yearling Shorthorn bull; Jas. Russell, Marsh, Richmond Hill, to Wm. Stothers, bull, cow, heifer (Shorthorns); John Gardhouse, to Wm. Stothers, Shorthorn heifer; Mossom Boyd, Bobcaygeon, to Mossom Boyd Co., Prince Albert, Alta, Hereford bull, bred by D. Smith. Compton, Que. to W. Butler & Son, Dereham Centre, to Kipp & Knight, Chilliwack, B. C., Guernsey bull.

These animals were sent out in charge of Chas. King, and are a first-rate lot. The bull bred by J. Wm. Grainger & Son, of Lonsdale, is a promising youngster. Both of these animals, if handled well, will likely give an account of themselves in the showing of Western Canada.

They are among the best specimens that have left Ontario for the West during the season. The Cotswold sheep sent by Mr. Linton are full in high condition, but they are exceedingly well-bred and full of quality. Mr. Gardhouse's Leicesters are in nice condition, and are first-rate specimens of the breed.

The three Shorthorn heifers shipped by Jas. Russell are nice, straight, useful heifers, in fair condition, but of good quality, and faultless as far as color, skin, and hide go. The Berkshire boar sent out by Thos. Teasdale, of Concord, is one of his famous family of Berkshires, and if given fair treatment will be a prize-winner of the future.

There are now enough animals on hand to partially fill another car, and one will be sent as soon as sufficient animals are available. Those having stock on hand which they wish shipped to the Northwest should correspond with F. W. Hodson, Secretary of the Associations, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.