

ever I saw they were swelling, I think about three times, and never had any more trouble with them. I raised several flocks of turkeys but was bothered no more with roup.

(Roup is an infectious disease in poultry and prevention is as a rule better than any attempt at cure. Disinfection must be carefully observed, and all poultry houses should be well ventilated. Colds, etc., rarely affect people or animals where plenty of pure air is given. The turpentine undoubtedly has an antiseptic effect. Turkeys should not be housed in a close place.

## FIELD NOTES

### Events of the World.

#### CANADIAN.

Mr. John Stewart, formerly of Ottawa, will fill the new office of commissioner and chief engineer of irrigation for Alberta and Saskatchewan.

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The Japanese residents of Vancouver have erected a splendidly decorated arch in the city in honor of Prince Arthur of Connaught who is visiting Canada on his way home from Japan.

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The finding of the commission appointed to investigate the wreck of the Valencia on the Vancouver coast places the responsibility of the disaster on the commander of the wrecked vessel.

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A Minneapolis land company has been advertising Nelson fruit lands at \$1.50 per acre. The land turns out to be hillside or mountain top and was originally sold at five cents per acre. The U. S. Consular Agent at Nelson has reported the matter to Washington.

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Much destruction of life and property has been caused by earthquakes in the Japanese Islands.

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The American-Trans-Alaskan-Siberian Company proposes to construct a tunnel under Behring Sea from East Cape to Kansk, and to build three thousand miles of rails to connect it with the Siberian railroad. The Czar is said to favor the project as likely to result in better feeling with the United States.

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Lieutenant Schmidt, leader of the naval revolt at Sebastopol, Russia, in November last, has been tried by court-martial and shot along with three sailors who had mutinied. He refused to accept the sacrament and asked not to be blindfolded. The crews of the ships stationed at Sebastopol are said to be ready to mutiny because of their sympathy with Schmidt.

### Points to Serious Defects of Last Convention.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

Dear Sir,—Having just returned from Brandon where for two or three days over 200 delegates met together to air their views and attempt to formulate plans for the removal of grievances real and otherwise; I take up my pen with much regret to draw the attention of the Grain Growers' Sub-Associations, and their delegates that will be appointed next year in particular, to the deplorable lack of business ability, executive intelligence and common sense there displayed.

Bearing in mind the general reasonableness and good sense displayed in the deliberations of and the actions taken in consequence of same, by the Territorial Association in the past and the comparatively few "breaks" made by the Manitoba Association heretofore, it is extremely regrettable that the deliberations of this "farmers' parliament" should have degenerated to such an extent as to have excited the disgust of the more reasonable of the delegates and, it is to be feared, the ridicule of the business world which was beginning to believe that the farming community had at last awakened to a sense of its power and influence when properly handled and controlled.

It is easy to read between, and even in, the lines of some of the journals that this latter condition is the case and it will be in order for the association when selecting their delegates to next year's convention to be more particular as to the general intelligence of their representatives and the delegates themselves to be more circumspect in their actions and speech when in session.

It should be borne in mind that the time or the convention should not be taken up with the recital of petty grievances, many of which are traceable to ignorance of ordinary business principles and the provisions of the various acts relating to the inspection of grain, loading of cars, etc.

The convention as a whole should see to it that their time is not wasted with the reading of lengthy

minutes, resolutions and reports, the accuracy of which if not questioned after publication in the press might surely be deemed to be correct. The net result of two hours of such reading, and a discussion quite out of order, was the correction of the post-office address of one delegate.

The personality of the various committees should also be considered, those selected should be of wide knowledge, good balance with an abundance of that sense which is called common. Many of the resolutions submitted showed crudity of expression, general ignorance of ordinary trade practices, a disposition to demand action being taken without due investigation and, worst of all, inaccuracy as to nomenclature and "facts" therein contained. The reports of one or two of the committees were welcome exceptions to this general condition of affairs.

One of the best actions of the convention was a vote to reduce the representation to one delegate to each twenty members, but it would be advisable if at the next session it be further decreased to one delegate to each forty or fifty.

This would aid the chairman and expedite the transaction of business which would be further helped if the executive were empowered to select resolution committees, who would sit previous to the convention and consider resolutions sent in from the various sub-associations.

Under the present system the convention is deprived of the presence of, presumably, its best men, who in turn have neither the time nor the quiet surroundings necessary for the output of finished and thorough work.

In conclusion it may not be out of place to refer to the statement of a fellow traveller on my return, a gentleman thoroughly respected by all grain growers "that just as soon as the interest of the press and business men in the movement, as is instanced by their reports and receptions, ceased, the usefulness of the organization would end." And slovenly resolutions, unfounded allegations against allied interests and indecorous discussions are conducive to that end. Yours truly,

"DELEGATE."

## MARKETS

Thompson, Sons & Co. say:—"The more confident feeling mentioned in our last week's review as having come into the wheat markets, has continued during the past week, and resulted in a more active market at a slightly higher range of prices. The United States markets are now right in line with export values, so that the price of United States wheat and Manitoba wheat of the same grade, is now practically the same, whereas three months ago U. S. wheat was 8c. per bushel higher than Manitoba. While all markets have declined since January 1st, the United States prices have had to decline in larger ratio than others, owing to the surplus they have for export. The process of these markets getting down to an export basis has been a cause of weakness all round, but now that it has been arrived at, it makes the whole trade on a more even and healthy basis, and the comparative dullness in the trade which has been experienced during the last two or three months, will likely be succeeded by a fair measure of activity. There is nothing in the situation at present to cause anxiousness as regards supplies during the balance of the present crop year, which in a general way ends with the 1st of August, but there is a steady large demand for consumption, which will pretty well use up all the wheat in sight by the time new crops are ready to come on the market, and therefore the prospect for future prices is going to depend almost, if not altogether on the prospect for, and the development of the ensuing season's crops in Europe and America. If crops come on in a normal way so as to promise an average or over average yield in the aggregate, prices would doubtless continue to move around present level, at which it may be said wheat is at a reasonable price, not too high for the consumer, and yet a very good price for the producer, at least in the large new wheat producing countries. But should any wide spread crop damage occur, so as to make the prospect of even a moderate shortage in the supply for another year, markets would quickly advance under the stimulus of speculative buying and prices go to a much higher level again. From what information we can gather regarding crop prospects we do not look for a continuation of large supplies during the coming months. To begin with while reports concerning the yield of the Argentine crop are still conflicting, some estimating a larger surplus for export than last year, and others placing it as radically smaller, we are prepared to see it appreciably smaller than last year, because during the growing season the weather in that country did not seem to be the best for a full yield. It probably was good for raising a big crop of straw, but not good in all districts for filling the heads, and after the heavy rush of the early movement, exports may fall off considerably. India will have only a moderate percentage to ex-

port as compared with her exports of the last two years, which has been the largest on record. The cause of lesser crops in India being severe drouth in many districts. In Western Europe covering Germany, France, Belgium and the United Kingdom, the weather throughout the winter has been too mild and wet for the winter wheat crops, and spring in these countries has not opened favorably for agriculture, so that prospects cannot be looked upon as assuring, although favorable weather later may improve them. In central Europe conditions have been better than in the west but not above an average, and in Russia conditions vary, being good in some districts and poor in others. There is always the prospect also that the spring wheat acreage in Russia may be considerably reduced owing to the unsettled state of the country. In America the winter wheat crop will not we think be above a moderate average, although conditions up to this time are reported as fairly favorable. The American spring wheat crop is of course to be put in the ground yet, and the prospect for it the coming year will we think become unusually important. A month ago it looked rather like as if we would have an early spring and seedtime, but weather during March has been hard, although without storms over the spring wheat country, and the prospect now is that seeding time will not be earlier than an average at least. This may not have any important effect on the crop after it is sown, but as last fall was unfavorable for getting much plowing done, the lateness of spring may prevent as much ground being covered with wheat as otherwise would have been. At the same time owing to the large increase in new settlers in the last two years, especially in the Canadian west, a great quantity of new ground will be seeded for the first time, and there should be some increase in acreage. Owing to the increase in the American Visible Supply as compared with last year, and the fact that farmers and interior elevators hold large supplies compared with last year we have for some time recently been of the opinion that prices were not likely to advance in the near future, until something more definite could be known as to the prospects for the coming season's crops. The outlook, however, seems to us to be changing towards the probability of somewhat higher prices, and we think holders may do well to go slow in selling for a time as values are not likely to decline now and easily advance more or less. The Visible Supply decreased last week 439,000 bushels against an increase of 418,000 bushels the previous week and a decrease of 1,151,000 bushels last year.

Manitoba wheat has been firm and in fairly good demand all the week, and prices have advanced 1c. to 1½c. on the week, cash wheat showing the best advance. At close of business to-day prices are 1 Nor. 75½c., 2 Nor. 73½c., 3 Nor. 72½c., No. 4 wheat 69½c., spot or March delivery, and for future delivery March closed 75½c., April 75½c., May 76½c., July 77½c. Rejected wheat is in demand at Rejected 1-1 Nor. 69½c., Rejected 1-2 Nor. 66½c., Rejected 1-3 Nor. 64½c., Rejected 2-2 Nor. 66½c., Rejected 2-2 Nor. 64½c., Rejected 2-3 Nor. 62½c. All prices are for in store Fort William and Port Arthur.

OATS.—This grain is beginning to look up, and has had a sharp advance in the last few days. No. 2 white oats sold as low as 30½c. in store Fort William not many days ago, but to-day 32c. was freely paid by large buyers. We quote No. 1 white 33c., No. 2 white 32c., No. 3 white 31c., spot, with May delivery 1c. over these prices. We look for further advance in oats.

BARLEY.—This grain is scarce and wanted at 39½c. in store Fort William or Port Arthur for No. 3, and 38c. for No. 4.

FLAX.—There is nothing doing in flax as apparently the crop is all shipped out. The price is firm at 109c. in store Fort William for No. 1 North Western."

| MILLFEED, per ton                                  |     |    |        |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|----|--------|
| Bran                                               | 15  | 00 |        |
| Shorts                                             | 16  | 00 |        |
| CHOPPED FEEDS—                                     |     |    |        |
| Oats                                               | 25  | 00 |        |
| Barley                                             | 18  | 00 |        |
| HAY, per ton (cars on track),                      |     |    |        |
| Winnipeg                                           | 5   | 00 | @ 5 50 |
| Loose loads                                        | 5   | 00 | @ 6 00 |
| PRODUCE, prices are wholesale to the retail trade, |     |    |        |
| BUTTER—                                            |     |    |        |
| Creamery bricks, Winnipeg                          | 27  |    |        |
| Creamery, in boxes                                 | 24  | @  | 25     |
| DAIRY BUTTER—                                      |     |    |        |
| Tubs, choicest                                     | 21  | @  | 22     |
| Second grade, ground lots                          | 15  | @  | 17     |
| CHEESE—                                            |     |    |        |
| Manitoba                                           | 14  |    |        |
| Ontario                                            | 13½ |    |        |
| POTATOES, (farmers' loads)                         | 55  | @  | 57     |

### LIVE STOCK.

Hogs—The local market holds strong and receipts are not equal to demand. Prices, weighed off cars, Winnipeg, are as follows:

Live hogs—Choice 150 to 250 lbs. 7c. per lb.; usual grades, stags 3 to 3½c.

Veal calves—Choice live calves wanted and demand is good. Choice 125 to 200 lbs. 5c.; choice 225 to 350 lbs. 4c.;

Cattle—Market easier. Good demand for good cattle; poor stuff not wanted. Choice steers, 1,100 over, 3½ to 4c.; choice heifers, 1,050 over, 3 to 3½c.; choice cows, 1,100 over, 2 to 3½c.; fat bulls, 2 to 3c.