

adu," and thereby secured readier sale and bigger prices. Barely have we established intimate relations with the pocket and palate of the British consumer on a large scale than our very reputation as honest traders is jeopardized by a few fatuous fools whose make-up is as much below par mentally as it is morally. If there is a repetition of the complaint from the Old Country of dishonest practices on the part of Canadian packers or producers, it will be necessary, for the protection of the community at large, for our Government to establish a thorough system of inspection of produce for export. It might be a costly piece of machinery, but it would be cheaper in the long run than the loss of our best markets.

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THE *Geographical Journal* of recent date contains a very interesting article on the Caroline Islands, a portion of which is devoted to the coinage or currency of the nation. We learn:

"First and foremost, comes the stone money, which consists of quartzen wheels, varying from six to eight inches to twelve feet in diameter, which form a most unwieldy form of exchange."

Yes, we should imagine so; and rather inconvenient, too, when a Caroline Islander wants to get out of lending an acquaintance a "quartzen." He can't very well plead he is hard up also, when he has half a hundred weight of the "stuff" on his shoulder. It must be a difficult feat to carry five dollars worth of Carolinean currency for any length of time; but then the same difficulty exists in regard to Canadian currency.

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MUCH disappointment has been felt in Canada and Australia, and in England also, at the announcement of the British Government that it would not contribute the five-eighths of the cost of the proposed Imperial cable, as proposed by the governments of Australia and Canada, but would instead pay a subsidy of \$100,000 a year upon certain conditions. This decision was certainly not in keeping with the well-known imperialistic sympathies of the British Government

and of the greater portion of the opposition. Fortunately, the Government has expressed itself willing to re-consider the question, and the consummation of the project is not likely to be prevented by niggardliness from a source whence bounteous support, moral and material, has always been forthcoming of late years when the object in view was the closer union of the various parts of the Empire.

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"WINTER lingering in the lap of May" passed muster once upon a time to describe poetically that anything but poetical state of affairs, an abnormal prolongation of the Coal Dealers' Halcyon Days; but the bard of '99 must wait the dirge of "Winter, weary, wet and windy, walking into June."

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AT the International Conference of scientists who have made their life task the cure and prevention of tuberculosis, at present being held in Berlin, Germany, it has been again proclaimed that the danger of the transmission of this dreaded disease from cattle to human beings does not lie in the consumption of the meat of animals that have been affected, which is rendered comparatively innocuous by cooking, but in the use of the milk taken from cows affected even in a slight degree. "The milk of one cow could soon clean out a whole village," one of the speakers declared, while the meat of the same animal would be practically harmless. As we pointed out some months ago, our Government has placed every facility possible in the way of the farmer and cow-keeper for making himself acquainted with the symptoms and predisposing causes of tuberculosis in cattle, and for subjecting the latter to the best test yet discovered for detecting the presence of the death-spreading tubercles.

The keeper of cattle who takes it for granted that his animals are "alright," when once they have shown suspicious symptoms, and ignores the opportunity afforded him by the Government, is guilty of a gross criminal offence against the whole community. While the presence on the statute books, of most countries, of stringent regulations re-