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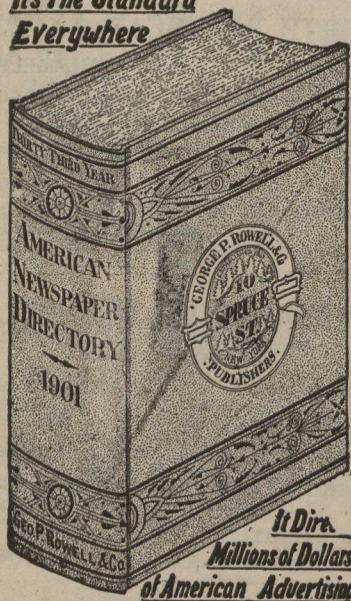
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MONETARY TIMES is represented by MR. W. H. BOFFEY, 44 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

The satisfactory crop estimates tend to depreciate prices.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Business in the local fruit trade is very active just now. The demand for such tropical fruits as pineapples seems to grow every year and the increasing supply brings about an increased demand. Pineapples have been in particular request, and they have sold at good prices, though they have been very plentiful. The first watermelons of the season came from Florida this week, selling at 40 to 50c. each. Strawberries have been plentiful. California cherries are beginning to come in. Tomatoes are easier. Prices are quoted as follows: Apples, per basket, 50c. to \$1; bananas, per bunch, \$2 to \$3; oranges, \$7; Florida pineapples, 30's to 42's, \$3.25 to \$3.50 per case; loose, according to size, 6c. to 14c.; tomatoes, 4-basket carrier, \$1.25; strawberries, per quart, 5c. to 9c.; cherries, per basket, \$1.25 to \$1.50; California cherries, \$2 to \$2.25 per box; California apricots, \$3 per crate; watermelons, 45c. to 50c. each.

Hardware.—Quotations remain the same as last week, with prices firm. Business remains as good as can be expected at this period of the year. Metals are in brisk demand, in sympathy with conditions across the line. Glasgow reports of a late date speak of the pig iron market being rather easier, with but a limited business passing, and that almost exclusively in Cleveland, in which it has become evident that there is a much larger oversold account than was thought. Considerable orders for all classes of pig iron and steel were still coming from the United States, and everything pointed to a continuance of this demand for the balance of the year. German orders, on the other hand, were becoming scarcer.

Live Stock.—Good prices were again the order of the day at the Cattle Market this week. Good quality export cattle were in particularly good request. Butchers' cattle also were in demand. Prices for sheep fell off about 10 per cent., owing to largeness of offerings. Lambs on the other hand fetched 50c. over the prices realized last week.

Provisions.—Butter continues firm at 16 to 17c. Pound rolls fetch 15 to 17c. Creamery remains unchanged. Cheese is steady at 10 to 10½c. Eggs are firmer at 16c. Hog products have made no change so far as price is concerned. The Cincinnati Price-Current says that considerable increase is shown in the marketing of hogs, reflecting the largest weekly movement since February. Total western packing, 495,000, compared with 400,000 the preceding week, and 415,000 two weeks ago. For corresponding time last year the number was 525,000, and two years ago 530,000. From March 1 the total is 5,575,000, against 6,540,000 last year—a decrease of 965,000. The quality of current offerings is generally good. Prices have been advanced, and at the close the average for prominent markets is \$7.20 per 100 pounds, compared with \$7.05 a week ago, \$6.90 two weeks ago, \$5.95 a year ago, and \$5.10 two years ago.

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