STRAWBERRIES

CHEAPER IN PRICE

FRUITS OF ALL KINDS—ORANGES, PINEAPPLES, BANANAS— LEMONS —Just as cheap as before the war. Eat less meat and more fruit. Fine Canadian Asparagus Arriving. Prompt Service.

White & Co., Limited

FRONT & CHURCH STS.

Phone Main 6565.

OUR SPECIALTY--MIXED VEGETABLES

EXTRA FINE LINE OF TOMATOES— STRAWBERRIES AT REDUCED PRICES

H. PETERS - 88 Front St. E.

WHOLESALE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Watermelons.

Watermelons were quite plentiful yesterday, the second and third cars for this season arriving. They are selling at 75c, to $1 each.

Asparagus.

Asparagus remained about stationary in price, the bulk selling at $1 to $1.25 per 11-quart basket, and as the prospects are the shipments will be lighter today and Saturday on account of the extremely cold weather, the price will probably hold firm.

Wax Beans.

Wax beans are coming in more freely and are of choice quality, selling at $2.75 to $4 per hamper.

H. Peters had a car of mixed vegetables: Carrots at $2 per hamper; beets at $2.25 per hamper, and cabbage at $8 per crate; a car of strawberries, selling at 20c per box; also watermelons at $1 each.

White & Co. had a car of Florida new potatoes, selling at $3.25 to $3.50 per hamper; a car of watermelons, selling at 75c to 90c each; California cherries at $3.50 per box.

Chas. S. Simpson had a large shipment of hothouse tomatoes (imported), for which they were asking 35c per lb.; mushrooms at $2.50 per 4-lb. basket; strawberries at 17c to 19c per box.

McWilliam & Everist had a car of watermelons, selling at $1 each; a car of navel oranges, selling at $3.50 per case.

A. A. McKinnon had a car of New Brunswick Delaware potatoes, selling at $4.75 per bag, and westerns at $4.25 per bag.

Wholesale Fruits.

Apples—Rome Beauty, $3 per box; Winesaps, $2.50 to $3 per box.

Cherries—California, $3.50 per box.

Grapefruit—Florida, $4.50 to $5.50 per case; Cuban, $4 per case.

Lemons—California, $3.50 to $4 per case; Palermos, $3.50 to $3.75 per case.

Oranges—Navels, $3 to $3.50 per case.

Pineapples—Porto Rico, $3.25 to $3.50 per case; Cuban, $3 to $3.25 per case.

Rhubarb—Outside grown, 30c to 40c per dozen bunches; hothouse, 50c per dozen bunches.

Strawberries—18c to 20c per box.

Tomatoes—Florida, $3.75 to $4.50 per six-basket crate; home-grown, hothouse, No. 1's, 30c per lb.; No. 2's, 20c per lb.; low grade No. 2's, 12½c to 15c per lb.

Watermelons—75c to $1 each.

Wholesale Vegetables.

Asparagus—Canadian, $1 to $1.50 per 11-quart basket.

Beets—New, $2.25 and $2.50 per hamper.

Beans—Dried, prime white, $8.75; hand-picked, $9.50 per bushel; Lima, 17c to 18c per lb.

Beans—New, green, $3.50 per hamper; wax, $3.75 to $4 per hamper.

Cabbage—$8 per crate.

Carrots—New, $2 to $2.25 per hamper.

Celery—Florida, $3.25 per crate.

Cucumbers — Leamington, hothouse, $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 and $2 per 11-quart basket; imported, outside-grown, $3 to $3.25 per hamper.

Eggplant—$2.50 per dozen.

Lettuce—Leaf, 20c to 40c per dozen; Boston head, $2 to $2.50 per hamper; $3.50 per large hamper; Canadian head, 40c to $1.35 per dozen, according to size.

Mushrooms—$2 to $2.75 per 4-lb. basket.

Onions—Texas Bermudas, $3 to $3.50 per crate.

Parsley—$1 per dozen bunches.

Potatoes—New Brunswick Delawares, $4.75 per bag; Ontarios, $4.25 to $4.50 per bag; western, $4.25 per bag.

New potatoes—Florida, $3.25 and $3.50 per hamper.

Radishes—40c per dozen bunches.

Spinach—$1.75 per bushel; Canadian, $1.25 to $1.50 per case; $4.75 to $5.50 per bbl.

White turnips—$1.25 to $1.50 per hamper.

Wholesale Nuts.

Almonds, lb.	$0 20	to $....
Brazil, lb.	0 20	....
Cocoanuts, sack	6 75	....
Peanuts, lb. (greens)	0 14	....
Peanuts, lb., roasted	0 15	0 16
Walnuts, lb.	0 17	....

ST. LAWRENCE MARKET.

Hogs, heavy, cwt.	17 00	18 00

Poultry (Prices Being Paid to Producer).

Live-Weight Prices—		
Spring chickens, lb.	$0 45	to $....
Chickens, last year's, lb.	0 22	....
Fowl, under 5 lbs., lb.	0 22	....
Fowl, 5 lbs. and over, lb.	0 25	....
Dressed—		
Chickens, lb.	$0 28	to $....
Chickens, spring, lb.	0 55	....
Fowl, lb.	0 25	....
Squabs, per dozen	3 50	4 00

Hides and Skins.

Prices revised daily by E. T. Carter & Co., 85 East Front street, Dealers in Wool, Yarns, Hides, Calfskins and Sheepskins, Raw Furs, Tallow, etc.:

Lambskins, spring	$0 30	to $0 60
Sheepskins, city	2 50	3 50
Sheepskins, country	1 50	3 00
City hides, flat	0 22	....
Country hides, cured	0 22	....
Country hides, part-cured	0 18	....
Country hides, green	0 17½	....
Calfskins, lb.	0 32	....
Kip skins, lb.	0 27	....
Horsehair, lb.	0 42	....
Horsehides, No. 1	6 00	7 00
Horsehides, No. 2	5 00	6 00
Wool, unwashed, fine, lb.	0 43	....
Wool, unwashed, coarse, lb.	0 39	....
Tallow, No. 1, cake, lb.	0 11	0 12
Tallow, solids	0 09	0 10

CHEESE MARKETS.

Brockville, May 24.—At today's cheese board meeting the offerings were 2,220 white and 1,544 colored; 20 cents was bid and refused.

Stirling, May 24.—At today's cheese board 725 boxes were boarded. 21 cents was offered. No sales. 260 boxes sold at 21 1-16 cents.

Kingston, May 24.—At a meeting of the Kingston cheese board today 275 white and 504 boxes of colored were offered; 45 sold at 22½ cents.

GOOD CROP NEWS DEPRESSES WHEAT

Rumors of German Defeat in Naval Battle Affect Market.

Chicago, May 24.—Prospects of a bumper crop of spring wheat did a good deal today to lower prices and so did vague and unverified rumors of an important naval victory over the Germans. The market closed heavy at 5¼ to 7½c net decline, with July at $2.22 and September at $1.93¼. Corn lost 4½ to 6⅝c, and oats 1¼ to 3⅛c. Provisions finished irregular, ranging from a setback of 10c to a gain of 2½c.

Optimism regarding the crop outlook as to wheat prevailed from the start. Advices describing conditions in the Dakotas and Minnesota were especially encouraging. In addition, despatches from Kansas suggested a winter wheat yield of 60,000,000 bushels in that commonwealth, as against 42,500,000 bushels harvested last year. Notable improvement was also reported to be evident in Nebraska. The nearness of general harvest operations in Texas and Oklahoma counted also to some degree in depressing values.

Lowest quotations of the day in the wheat pit came during the last hour, and were associated directly with altogether unconfirmed reports that the German navy had lost heavily in a battle off Heligoland. Despite the increased weakness of the market, however, the amount of trading remained comparatively small.

Oats went downgrade in price owing, chiefly, to favorable weather.

NORTHWEST CARS.

	Yesterday	Last wk.	Last yr.
Minneapolis	191	274	190
Duluth	79	52	48

CLEARANCES.

Total clearances: Wheat, 671,000 vs. 457,000; corn, 50,000 vs. 297,000; oats, 579,000 vs. 460,000; flour, 4,000 vs. 18,000; W. & F., 659,000 vs. 1,038,000.

PRIMARIES.

	Yester.	Last wk.	Last yr.
Wheat—			
Receipts	920,000	1,024,000	888,000
Shipments	1,375,000	1,191,000	1,008,000
Corn—			
Receipts	481,000	577,000	444,000
Shipments	449,000	475,000	461,000
Oats—			
Receipts	620,000	747,000	1,029,000
Shipments	698,000	1,422,000	845,000

BANK OF ENGLAND STATEMENT.

London, May 24.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes:

Total reserve, increase, £54,000; circulation, increase, £151,000; bullion, increase, £223,541; other securities, increase, £5,370,000; public deposits, decrease, £5,878,000; other deposits, increase, £14,278,000; notes reserve, decrease, £6000; government securities, increase, £80,000.

The proportion of the bank's reserve to liability this week is 19.49 per cent.; last week it was 20.42 per cent.

Discount rate, 5 per cent.

Satisfactory Settlement of Estates

Is not a matter of mere good will. It involves complicated and troublesome processes. It needs ability, diligence, and continuous attention.

The preference for a Trust Company as Executor is growing because a Trust Company brings to these processes prudence, experience and skill such as few individuals achieve.

Write for further information.

National Trust Company Limited

Capital Paid-up, $1,500,000 Reserve, $1,500,000

18-22 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.

U. S. STEEL RISES ON HUGE DEMAND

Transactions Involve Lots of One to Ten Thousand Shares.

New York, May 24.—All other developments of today's feverishly active market seemed insignificant compared with the fourth rise of United States Steel to the new record of 131½. This represented an overnight gain of 3¾ points and surpassed its previous maximum of 1¾ points.

The ease and confidence with which Steel changed hands in countless lots of 1,000 to almost 10,000 shares was regarded as one of the most phenomenal features in the annals of the local exchange. Steel's portion of the day's total of 1,115,000 shares approximated 33 per cent.

Other industrials, notably those included in the wide variety of equipments and munitions, kept pace with Steel as to actual gains, but the so-called "war brides," while strong, were, for the most part, far below highest quotations recorded in the spectacular markets of the two preceding years.

Standard rails also augmented recent gains.

Metals, shippings, oils and diverse issues which move in common with the war division registered gains of one to three points. Exceptions were manifested by some motors, People's Gas, Brooklyn Transit and Virginia Iron.

Commission houses reported a decided accession of public interest, the inquiry originating at leading industrial centres. The short interest also paid its heavy toll, especially in United States Steel.

Another large export of gold to Japan, and prospects of a revival of the gold movement to South America were among the financial incidents of the day. Foreign exchange underwent no material alteration, but call loans stiffened.

Bonds were irregular on the heaviness of minor railway issues, and an easier tone in internationals. Total sales, par value, aggregated $2,250,000.

NEW YORK STOCKS.

J. P. Bickell & Co., Standard Bank Building, Toronto, report fluctuations in New York stocks, as follows:

	Op.	High.	Low.	Cl.	Sales.
Trunk Lines and Grangers—					
B. & Ohio	70½	71	70½	71	1,500
Erie	24¾	25½	24¼	24⅞	3,800
do. 1st pr.	37½	37⅞	37¼	37⅞	900
Gt. Nor. pr.	107⅝	107⅝	107¼	107⅝	1,500
New Haven	37	37	32⅞	34	14,700
N. Y. C.	90⅝	91¼	90¼	90⅞	1,600
St. Paul	73¾	74¼	73½	74⅛	....
Pacific and Southerns—					
Atchison	101⅛	101½	101¼	101⅜	4,200
C. P. R.	160⅝	162⅝	160½	162⅛	....
K. C. South.	21¾	22	21¾	22	....
Mo. Pac.	27½	28½	27⅞	28	....
Nor. Pac.	102⅞	103¼	102⅝	103¼	1,100
South Pac.	93¾	94	93¾	93¾	2,900
South. Ry.	26	26½	25⅞	26½	3,300
Union Pac.	136½	137½	136½	137	....
Coalers—					
Ches. & O.	58½	59	58⅝	59	....
Col. F. & I.	52½	54	52½	53⅞	3,800
Penna.	52⅝	52⅞	52⅝	52⅞	400
Reading	92½	93⅝	91¾	93½	38,100
Bonds—					
Anglo-French	93⅞	93⅞	93⅝	93⅝	....
Industrials, Tractions, Etc.—					
Alcohol	130¼	132¾	130¼	131¼	24,100
Allis-Chal.	27½	27½	26½	27	1,600
Air Brake	150	150	149	149½	400
Am. Can.	47½	49½	47¼	49¼	....
Am. Wool	51⅞	51⅞	51⅝	51⅝	900
Anaconda	83	83¼	82¼	82⅝	200
Am. Beet S.	91¼	92	91½	92	....
Baldwin	59½	61½	59½	61¼	....
Beth. Steel	139	140	138	140	....
B. R. T.	59	60	59	59	....
Cal. Petrol.	21	....	....	....	100
Car Fdry.	71	72⅝	71	72⅝	6,900
Chino	57½	58	57¼	57⅞	3,200
C. Leather	91¼	92	90⅝	92	27,500
Corn Prod.	26½	27⅞	26½	27	....
Crucible	71	76½	70⅞	74	....
Distillers	17	17⅝	16⅞	17¼	....
Dome	12	12½	12	12½	600
Goodrich	51½	52⅛	51½	52⅛	300
G. N. Ore	34⅞	35⅞	34½	35⅝	19,400
Ins. Cop.	61½	62¼	61¼	62⅛	....
Kennecott	46¾	47¼	46⅝	46⅞	....
Int. Paper	38	38⅝	38	38⅝	....
Interboro	10¼	10½	10¼	10½	800
do. pref.	57⅝	58½	57¼	58	....
Int. Nickel	41	42¼	41	41½	....
Lack. Steel	96½	97⅝	95⅝	97⅝	23,200
Lead	58½	....	....	....	200
Locomotive	70⅝	71⅝	70½	71⅝	1,900
B. S. R.	131½	134⅝	131	134½	3,800
Max. Motor	49	49	48⅝	48⅝	200
Mex. Petrol.	94½	95¼	93⅝	94⅞	10,900
Miami	41½	41½	40⅞	40⅞	400
Marine	28½	28⅞	28¼	28⅝	3,500
do. pref.	81¼	81⅞	80½	81	15,300
Nevada Cons.	25	25⅛	25	25⅛	600
Press. Steel	75¼	76½	75	76½	900
Ry. Springs	53	53¼	53	53¼	1,000
Rep. Steel	88⅝	91⅝	88⅝	91⅛	6,400
Ray Cons.	30⅛	30⅛	29⅝	30	....
Rubber	57⅛	....	....	....	....
Sloss	55	57	55	57	4,200
Smelting	104¼	105¾	104¼	104⅞	13,200
Steel Fdries.	66	66⅞	66	66⅞	3,900
Studebaker	81¼	81½	80⅛	81½	....
Texas Oil	214½	214¾	212½	213	3,000
Third Ave.	20½	20½	19½	19½	900
U. S. Steel	128⅝	131½	128⅝	131⅛	386,700
do. pref.	118⅝	119	118¼	119	600
Utah Cop.	114⅛	115¼	114⅛	115¼	8,900
Va. Chem.	43⅞	44¾	43⅞	44¾	300
W. Union	95⅝	....	....	....	....
Westinghouse	53½	53¾	52	52½	17,800
W. O.	28⅝	28⅝	27⅝	28	6,700
Total sales, 1,115,400.					

HAMILTON CLEARINGS.

Hamilton, May 24.—Total for week ending May 23, 1917, $4,638,093; corresponding week, 1916, $3,048,982; corresponding week, 1915, $2,238,216.

NEW YORK COTTON.

J. P. Bickell & Co., 302-7 Standard Bank Building, report New York Cotton Exchange fluctuations as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Prev. Close.
Jan.	20.68	20.97	20.59	20.89	20.71
March	20.78	21.10	20.78	21.05	....
May	21.00	21.50	20.85	21.50	21.15
July	20.65	21.21	20.65	0.10b	20.95
Oct.	20.50	20.89	20.50	20.78	20.60
Dec.	20.61	20.99	20.58	20.86	20.67

CHICAGO GRAIN.

J. P. Bickell & Co. report:

	Open	High.	Low.	Close	Prev. Close.
Wheat—					
July	225	225½	222	222	227
Sep.	200	200	195	195½	201
Corn—					
July	157	157	151½	152¼	156⅝
Sep.	147¼	147¼	141	142	147⅞
Oats—					
July	65	65	62	62¼	65
Sep.	55⅛	55⅛	53⅝	53⅝	55¼
Pork—					
May	37.85	37.95	37.85	37.95	37.95
July	37.65	38.05	37.92	38.00	38.10
Lard—					
May	22.12	22.20	22.12	22.20	22.22
July	22.22	22.42	22.30	22.37	22.37
Sep.	22.45	22.57	22.32	22.50	22.55
Ribs—					
May	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.45
July	20.45	20.60	20.45	20.52	20.60
Sep.	20.67	20.80	20.60	20.72	20.77

PRICE OF SILVER.

London, May 24.—Bar silver, 37⅞d.

New York, May 24.—Bar silver, 74⅝c.

Live Stock Market

The holiday spirit pervaded the Union Stock Yards yesterday, and in common with all other good citizens the commission houses closed their doors early following light deliveries and a fairly responsive and active market for all kinds of live stock. Receipts were only light, 27 cars in all, and of this there were 22 cattle, 214 calves, 1612 hogs, and 19 sheep, practically all of which was cleaned up before long before the noon hour.

The market for cattle was strong on the Union Stock Yards yesterday, holding steady with Wednesday's closing, and there was a general opinion that the outlook was for steady to firm prices for all the better grades. Stockers and feeders are not in good demand, and indeed have not been thruout the week.

In the sheep market heavy sheep and bucks sold at from $10.50 to $11.50; yearlings from 14½c to 16c, with 3c off for clipped sheep. The outlook for the sheep trade is far lower prices with the approach of summer, unless for the very close grades.

Calves sold well at Wednesday's prices, and the market was characterized as steady. Choice veal calves sold at from 14c to 14¼c; medium calves from 11c to 12½c, and common from 5½c to 9c. Light handy weight sheep with the wool on brought from 12½c to 13¼c.

Hogs—There was no change in the price of hogs over Wednesday's figures, $17 fed and watered being the prevailing rate. Some of the commission houses were inclined to think that the feeling was easier for hogs, and would not be surprised to see lower prices for next week.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES.

J. B. Dillane bought 150 cattle during the week. Light steers, weighing from 500 to 700 lbs., at $8 to $9 per cwt.; 800 to 1000 lbs. cattle steers at from $9.50 to $10.25; light stockers, steers and heifers cost from $6.75 to $8. Mr. Dillane shipped out four loads on local orders. One load of choice feeders, averaging 950 lbs., was sold by Mr. Dillane to W. G. Knowles of Fort Colborne at 10c per lb.

Dunn & Levack sold:

Butchers—4, 870 lbs., at $11.75; 1, 1100 lbs., at $9.75; 1, 1020 lbs., at $10.75.

Cows—5, 1170 lbs., at $9.25; 5, 1010 lbs., at $9; 1, 1260 lbs., at $10.50; 2, 820 lbs., at $6.50; 1, 630 lbs., at $5.85.

Five decks of hogs at $17 fed and watered.

Charles Zeagman & Sons sold eight loads:

Cows—3, 1050 lbs., at $9.75; 11, 940 lbs., at $9; 1, 1130 lbs., at $7.50.

Steers and heifers—1, 650 lbs., at $8.50; 2, 640 lbs., at $8.25; 8, 860 lbs., at $10.35; 11, 1300 lbs., at $11.

Bulls—1, 1730 lbs., at $9.50.

Rice & Whaley sold 15 cattle, weighing 13,000 lbs., at $10.40; 2 cattle, 1690 lbs., at $10.25; 6 cattle, 5410 lbs., at $10.

Corbett, Hall, Coughlin Co. sold four decks of hogs at $17, fed and watered, and 25 calves at from 12½c to 14c. The firm stated that the market for calves was good and strong, with sheep and lambs steady at Wednesday's quotations.

H. P. Kennedy sold 4 butcher cattle, weighing 900 lbs. each, at $11; 14 steers, 830 lbs., at $10.40; 10 stockers, 900 lbs., at $9.75; 13 light yearlings, 600 lbs., at $8.75, and a bunch of yearlings, averaging 550 lbs., at $8.25. They sold 6 canners at $6.75. They regard the cattle trade as firmer and look for a continuance of strong to steady prices.

J. Atwell & Sons sold one load stockers at $7.75; one load of steers at from $9.75 to $9.90. They bought 50 cattle yesterday, 40 of them grass-fed, at from $7.25 to $7.85; 25 steers and heifers, mixed, at from $9 to $9.50.

John B. Shields & Sons disposed of 3 cattle, 2910 lbs., at $10.50; 10, 9990 lbs., at $10.85; 2 cows, 1080 lbs., at $7.35; 3, 2390 lbs., at $8.50; 5 cows at $439 for the bunch, and 3 cows, 3050 lbs., at $9.

Geo. Rowntree bought 50 cattle for the Harris Abattoir Company at Wednesday's prices.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Chicago, May 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 6,000. Market weak; beeves, $9.40 to $13.60; stockers and feeders, $7.40 to $10.30; cows and heifers, $6.50 to $11.40; calves, $10.75 to $15.50.

Hogs—Receipts, 11,000. Market steady; light, $14.80 to $16.05; mixed, $15.50 to $16.20; heavy, $15.45 to $16.20; rough, $15.45 to $15.60; pigs, $10.50 to $14.50; bulk of sales, $15.65 to $16.15.

Sheep—Receipts, 7,000. Market unsettled; lambs, native, $13 to $17; spring lambs, $15 to $20.

EAST BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffalo, May 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 150. Steady.

Veals—Receipts, 600. Slow; 25c lower; $5 to $14.50.

Hogs—Receipts, 1,800. Active and strong; heavy, $16.90 to $17; mixed, $16.75 to $16.90; yorkers $16.75 to $16.85; light yorkers, $15 to $16; pigs, $14 to $14.50; roughs, $14.75 to $15; stags, $12 to $13.50.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 1,400. Lambs slow; 50 lower; others active and steady; lambs, $10 to $16.70; others unchanged.

U. S. STEEL TO ERECT IMMENSE SHIPYARDS

Big Acreage Near Newark Has Been Secured for Purpose.

New York, May 24.—The United States Steel Corporation has purchased a big acreage near Newark, in the New Jersey meadows, within striking distance of deep water, and will erect immediately one of the largest shipyards in the world, where standard 5000 and 10,000-ton steel ships will be constructed, probably with the co-operations of the government shipping board. It is reported the construction of the new plant was requested by the government.

Elbert H. Gary, chairman of the board, stated that the corporation had recently purchased a large plot near Newark.

It is understood the American Bridge Company, one of the corporation's largest subsidiaries, will be given over to the manufacture of standardized units, which will be shipped to the yard and there assembled.

LONDON 'CHANGE FIRM.

London, May 24.—The stock market today celebrated Empire Day quietly and principally with a lavish display of flags.

The better feeling regarding Russia continued a strengthening influence, and Russian securities and other allied stocks improved under quiet support. Industrials were freely bought, and rubber and mine shares hardened, but American securities declined and closed quiet. U. S. Steel was a firm exception.

Money was in increased demand, and discount rates were firm.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

Liverpool, May 24.—Cotton futures closed irregular and unsettled, May, 13.22; May and June, 13.15; June and July, 13.06; July and Aug., 12.98; Aug. and Sept., 12.75; Sept. and Oct., 12.56; Oct. and Nov., 12.40; Nov. and Dec., 12.31; Dec. and Jan., 12.27; Jan. and Feb., 12.24; Feb. and March, 12.16; March and April, 12.13.

TO MEET AT COLUMBUS.

Dallas, Tex., May 24.—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America voted unanimously today to hold the 1918 assembly at Columbus, Ohio.

AUSTRIA TO FALL WITH POOR CROPS

Failure to Secure Peace With Russia Makes People Despair.

NEED GOOD WEATHER

Present Outlook Betokens a Failure—Germany Suffers the Same Trouble.

(By a staff correspondent of the Associated Press just returned from Vienna.)

New York, May 23.—Peace with Russia and the hope that this year's crops would be better than those of last year have, during recent weeks, been the sole factors in whatever optimism existed in Austria-Hungary concerning the outcome of the European war.

It was thought that the reaching of an understanding with Russia would cause the entente governments also to enter negotiations for peace, or release the central power troops on the east front for operations against the Italians and the allies on the west front. This failing, a crop at least as good or better than last season's appeared to most classes the only cause for seeing anything bright in the future. The government shared this view, and this led to several attempts by it to give the Russians to understand that peace with the central powers could be obtained under conditions considered favorable in Berlin and Vienna.

Those interested in public sustenance matters in Austria-Hungary realize that only the best best of seasons could give the country a crop as good even as last year's. It would take the most exceptionally favorable weather to make these crops better.

The shortage in farm labor also argues against a good crop this year. Most of the farming is done by the women, the older children, men unfit for military service and prisoners of war. Last year, for instance, much grain was ruined by being too long in the fields after ripening, rain spoiling it.

A lack of vitriol, principal ingredient in spraying solution used to tree crop plants from parasites, has also been a serious factor in poor crop returns in the monarchy. In many parts it has led to total failures in potato crops, and many of Austria-Hungarys splendid vineyards and orchards have been ruined because vitriol, being a copper product, could not be obtained.

The crop outlook in Austria-Hungary for this year must be looked upon as being far from good. It is no worse than that of Germany, however. Both countries labor under the same disadvantages, to which the present year has so far added a lateness in spring planting and sowing.

MASSEY AND WARD VISITORS AT OTTAWA

New Zealand's Premier Says National Government Has Proven Success.

Ottawa, May 23.—Right Hon. W. F. Massey, prime minister, and Right Hon. Sir Joseph Ward, minister of finance in the New Zealand national government, and their party, are in Ottawa tonight, en route home from the war conference.

Speaking of the adoption of conscription in this country, the premier said that early in 1915, when the New Zealand Parliament met, the Reform party, which was in power and of which he was the leader, decided to establish a national government. This was done, much to the satisfaction of the New Zealand people. Compulsory service was then taken up and carried thru, with opposition so small that it was really unanimous.

The people of New Zealand had been generally strongly in favor of the compulsory legislation, and Premier Massey said its adoption had proven a wise move. The age limits were 20 to 45 years, single men first.

COPENHAGEN REPORTS CANNONADE IN BALTIC

Houses in Southern Danish Islands Shake With the Concussion.

London, May 24.—Pronounced German naval activity in the Baltic on Tuesday is reported in a Central News despatch from Copenhagen. Yesterday a violent cannonade lasting thruout the night was heard by persons living along the shore. Houses on southern Danish islands shook from concussions.

FIVE HUNDRED SOLDIERS ARE BACK AT HALIFAX

Quebec, May 24.—A batch of some 500 invalided soldiers reached here this morning from Halifax, where they disembarked yesterday from a British steamer. The following is a list of Montreal men among them:

Montreal,—E. G. Arnold, M. Anderson, J. Blaissin, W. Bryson, G. H. Barefoot, F. Blanchette, J. Beveridge, C. K. Black, J. Cook, H. Collins, J. Duff, R. Duval, V. B. Devoney, C. Gowan, H. Horne, H. Heffernan, L. Kutral, S. Leblanc, J. B. Lorrain, P. Lafontaine, G. Masson, W. Mell, W. R. Mills, J. Mathwan, T. R. McLagan, W. McArdle, W. P. MacKinnon, P. McDermott, L. A. Naud, O. Picard, A. Paquet, S. R. Rowley, A. Reynolds, A. E. Robinson, E. Sauve, D. Sinclair, C. Shaw, W. E. Smith, J. Swais, J. Walton, V. R. Williams.

Professor Tells Synod Liquor's Place Must Be Filled Somehow

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, May 23.—That something must now be done to fill the place of liquor, which cannot be sold in hotels, and that it would have to be met, was the declaration of Prof. H. Mitchell, of the social service commission, before the Ontario Synod this afternoon.

"Our policy," he said, "has been one of destruction. Now we must start one of construction. It will be a burning question when the soldiers return from the war. A far-seeing policy is also necessary to protect the vigor of our youth."

With rousing applause the synod received a report that out of 47,563 men recruited in this district, 20,862, or 43 per cent. were members of the Anglican church.

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DENIES THAT BORDEN REJECTED PROPOSAL

Long Replies to Martin's Queries Respecting Imperial Preference.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

London, May 23.—In the commons tonight Joseph Martin asked why the premier had not informed the house that the late imperial conference was asked to agree with the imperial parliament's proposal to have the United Kingdom make changes in its fiscal system for the purpose of giving preference to the dominions and that these proposals were refused on behalf of Canada.

Colonial Secretary Long said there was no foundation for this statement. Mr. Martin said that Premier Borden in the Canadian house Friday last made the statement. Secretary Long replied that Mr. Martin must have been misled, because both allegations contained in his questions were entirely devoid of foundation.

SINN FEINERS UNLIKELY TO ATTEND CONVENTION

Number of Concessions Are Demanded as Result of Conference.

Dublin, May 24.—The Sinn Fein conference today unanimously resolved to decline to participate in any conference "called by the English Government ostensibly to settle the Irish question" until the following conditions are fulfilled:

First: That the terms referring the question to the conference leave it free to decree the complete independence of Ireland.

Second: That the English Government publicly pledge itself to the United States and the powers of Europe to ratify the decision of a majority of the conference.

Third: That the convention consist of persons freely elected by the adult suffrage of Ireland.

Fourth: That prisoner-of-war treatment is accorded the Irish prisoners arrested during the recent revolution.

BRITISH LABOR ASKED TO CO-OPERATE FURTHER

Important Change in Relations With Government is Contemplated.

London, May 23.—It is understood that an important change in the relations between the government and the trade unions is contemplated, the movement probably being an outgrowth of the many labor difficulties that have arisen during the war. Proposals are being advanced, it is stated, with a view to making better use of the assistance of the trade union leaders in strengthening the ministry of labor and co-ordinating its work with various government departments, such as the admiralty, the war office, the ministry of munitions, and the shipping control department, which all have direct relations with the trade unions and exercise control over labor.

The government is making inquiry, it is declared, as to how far the trade unions could co-operate with the ministry of labor in an advisory capacity and relieve these various departments of direct negotiations in industrial questions.

Borden Makes Statement In Reply to Joe Martin

Ottawa, May 24.—Sir Robert Borden, when asked regarding Joseph Martin's query in the British house, said:

"Mr. Martin was entirely misinformed. I made no such statement as he suggests. The imperial conference was not asked to agree to an imperial parliament, nor was any request made that the United Kingdom should change its fiscal system in order to give a preference to the dominions. Nothing in my speech of Friday last suggested that any such demand or request was made."

THE CONCRETE HIGHWAY

to Hamilton is made doubly attractive to motorists by the fact that at the Hamilton end there is the Royal Connaught Hotel. This new hotel is one of the finest in Canada.

CELEBRATION CALLED OFF.

Special to The Toronto World.

Galt, May 24.—The celebration planned for today by the local branch of the Great War Veterans' Association had to be canceled because of the rainy weather, and the association suffered considerable financial loss. The association will celebrate now on Dominion Day.

HUN WIRELESS AT BUENOS AIRES.

Buenos Aires, May 23.—A German wireless station has been installed here and is expected to be in operation in a few days. Some of the newspapers demand that use of the plant be forbidden.

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