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Bank of Toronto
INCORPORATED 1855.

MARKETS.

Toronto. LIVE STOCK.

At West Toronto, Ont., on Monday, January 18th, receipts were: Cattle, 1,500; sheep, 340; quality fairly good; trade brisk. Export steers, \$5 to \$5.50; bulls, \$4 to \$4.50, and one of prime quality, \$5; picked butchers', \$4.80 to \$5; loads of good, \$4.50 to \$4.75; medium, \$4 to \$4.40; common, 13.75 to \$4; cows, \$2.50 to \$4.50; canners, \$2 to \$2.25; milkers, \$35 to \$51; calves, \$4 to \$7 per cwt. Sheep—Ewes, \$4 to \$4.50; rams, \$3 to \$3.75; lambs, \$5.75 to \$6.60 per cwt. Hogs—Market firm, at \$6.50 for selects, and \$6.25 to drovers, f. o. b. cars, country.

REVIEW OF LAST WEEK'S MARKET.

Receipts of live stock at the City and Union Yards last week were not as large as some of the dealers anticipated. The total run for the week was 321 carloads; 4,557 cattle, 5,289 hogs, 3,015 sheep, 117 calves, and 200 horses.

Trade opened up brisk at the commencement of the week, prices being firmer, and continued to advance in all classes until the close, and more good cattle, sheep, hogs and calves would have found a ready market.

Exporters.—There was an active trade in shipping cattle all week, prices for which continued to advance. Export steers sold from \$5 to \$5.50; and one load of choice cattle was bought at \$5.75; bulls sold from \$4 to \$4.50, and one of prime quality sold at \$5 per cwt.

"The Farmer's Advocate" is informed that a bunch of 400 head of cattle have been purchased for February delivery at the Toronto market at 6c. a pound.

Butchers'.—Prime picked lots sold at \$5 to \$5.15; good, \$4.60 to \$4.80; medium steers and heifers, \$4 to \$4.40; common light butchers', \$3.60 to \$3.90; cows, \$2.75 to \$4.50; canners, \$1.25 to \$2.

Stockers and Feeders.—Not many of either class are being offered, and prices have ruled about steady, while all offerings were readily taken. Feeders, 900 to 1,100 lbs., sold at \$3.50 to \$4; stockers, common to good, at \$2.75 to \$3.30 per cwt.

Milkers and Springers.—Receipts of milkers and springers were fairly liberal, with a moderate demand for cows of all kinds at a little stronger quotations. Prices ranged from \$30 to \$55 for the bulk, and \$55 to \$60 for a few extra choice, and one prime quality cow sold during the week at \$70.

Veal Calves.—Deliveries were light. Demand greater than supply, with prices firmer, at \$4 to \$7.50 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts were moderate; prices higher, on account of demand for United States market, ranging as follows at the close of the week: Sheep—Ewes sold at \$3.75 to \$4.50; rams, \$3 to \$3.75 per cwt.; lambs, \$3.75 to \$6.60, and we know of one carload bought for delivery this week, at \$6.75 per cwt.

Hogs.—Hog deliveries have been moderate. Prices have continued to advance

all week, and at the close \$6.50 was paid for selects, fed and watered at the market, and \$6.25, f. o. b. cars at country points. The prospects are bright for \$7 hogs in the near future.

Horses.—The horse trade improved during the week, quite an active business having been transacted at the Union Horse Exchange at both Monday's and Wednesday's sales at West Toronto. There were many buyers from various points, some from Winnipeg, in the West; Cobalt, in the North, and Montreal, in the East, as well as many from various adjacent points in Ontario. A few special quality drafters sold from \$185 to \$215. One extra choice pair of drivers sold at \$385. Mr. Smith, the enterprising manager, reports sales of 200 horses for the week at the following prices: Draughts, at \$160 to \$185; general-purpose, \$140 to \$175; wagon horses, \$150 to \$200; drivers, \$125 to \$165; serviceably sound, \$32.50 to \$90.

BREADSTUFFS.

Wheat.—No. 2 white, 95c. sellers; No. 2 red, 95c.; No. 2 mixed, 94c. sellers. Manitoba—No. 1 northern, \$1.09; No. 2 northern, \$1.06, at Georgian Bay ports. Rye—No. 2, 71c. sellers. Peas—No. 2, 85c. bid. Oats—No. 2 white, 39c. bid; No. 2 mixed, 38c. bid. Barley—No. 2, sellers 57c.; No. 3X, 53c. bid; No. 3, sellers 51c. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 66½c., at Toronto. Flour—Ontario, 90 per cent. patent, \$3.70 bid for export; Manitoba patent, special brands, \$6; second patents, \$5.40; strong bakers', \$5.30. Bran—Sellers \$21, bulk, outside points. Shorts—\$22, bulk, outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—Receipts liberal, prices easy, as follows: Creamery pounds, 28c. to 29c., with Locust Hill brand 30c.; creamery solids, 27c. to 28c.; store lots, 23c. to 24c.; separator dairy, 25c. to 26c.

Eggs.—Receipts larger. Prices easier. New-laid, 35c.; cold storage, 26c. to 27c. Cheese.—Market steady. Prices unchanged, at 13½ for large, and 14c. for twins.

Honey.—Market unchanged. Extracted, 10½c. to 11c.; combs, \$2.25 to \$2.75 per dozen sections.

Potatoes.—Market easy, at 60c. to 63c. per bag, for car lots, on track at Toronto.

Beans.—Market steady. Primes, \$1.70 to \$1.75; hand-picked, \$1.80 to \$1.85.

Hay.—Baled, on track at Toronto, \$10 to \$10.50.

Straw.—Baled, on track at Toronto, \$7 to \$8.

HIDES AND WOOL.

E. T. Carter & Co., wholesale dealers in wool, hides, etc., quote prices as follows: Hides—No. 1 inspected steers, 60 lbs. up, 11c.; No. 2 inspected steers, 60 lbs. up, 10c.; No. 1 inspected cows, 10½c.; No. 2 inspected cows, 9½c.; No. 3 inspected cows and bulls, 9½c.; country hides, 9c.; calf skins, city, 12c.; calf skins, country, 10c. to 12c.; horse hides, No. 1, \$3; horse hair, per lb., 29c. to 30c.; tallow, per lb., 5½c. to 6½c.; lamb skins, 8c. Raw furs, prices on application.

SEED MARKET.

The William Rennie Co. report the seed market about steady, with trade quiet. Prices: Alsike, fancy, \$7.25 to \$7.60; No. 1, \$6.90 to \$7.20; No. 2, \$6 to \$6.50; red clover, \$4.50 to \$5.75; timothy, \$1.30 to \$2.

Chicago.

Cattle.—Steers, \$4.60 to \$7.50; cows, \$3 to \$5.50; heifers, \$3 to \$5.75; bulls, \$3.40 to \$3.80; calves, \$3.50 to \$10; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$5.10. Hogs—Choice heavy shipping, \$6.20 to \$6.30; butchers', \$6.10 to \$6.25; light mixed, \$5.65 to \$5.85; choice light, \$5.90 to \$6; packing, \$5.80 to \$6.10; pigs, \$4.50 to \$5.40; bulk of sales at \$5.90 to \$6.15. Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$4 to \$5.75; lambs, \$5.25 to \$7.50; yearlings, \$4.25 to \$7.

Buffalo.

Cattle.—Prime steers, \$6.50 to \$6.75; Veals—\$7 to \$10. Hogs—Heavy, \$6.30 to \$6.40; mixed, \$6.25 to \$6.35; Yorkers, \$5.75 to \$6.25; pigs, \$5.50 to \$5.60; roughs, \$5.25 to \$5.60. Sheep and Lambs—Lambs—\$5 to \$7.50, a few at \$7.65; yearlings, \$6.50 to \$6.75; wethers, \$5.50 to \$5.75; ewes, \$4.15 to \$5; sheep, mixed, \$2.50 to \$5.

Montreal.

Live Stock.—Offerings last week were fairly large, and as there were indications of severer weather in the near future, the tone of the market was rather stronger. Some choice stall-fed steers were offered, and for these upwards of 5½c. per lb. was paid, while choice sold at 5c. Finest ranchers were sold at 4½c. per lb., fine cattle at 4½c., good at 4c. to 4½c., medium at 3½c. to 4c., common at 2½c. to 3½c., and inferior down to 1½c. Demand was good all the way round. The tone of the market for sheep was rather easy, although the supplies were by no means large. Demand, however, would not absorb them at recent prices, and holders had to accept 3½c. to 4c. per lb. for best sheep, and ½c. less for inferior. Lambs were firm in tone, demand being good and offerings none too large. Buyers took choicest at 5½c. to 6c. per lb., and good at 5½c. to 5½c. per lb., and the turnover was made rapidly. There were very few calves offering, this being the tail-end of the season, as it were; butchers were said to be paying \$2 to \$3 each. The situation in live hogs was a little puzzling, inasmuch as the supply of hogs is understood to be very light throughout the country, and the market should therefore be firm, whereas the tone was rather easier than otherwise, select lots selling at 6½c. to 7½c. per lb., another quotation being, however, rather higher than a week ago, at 7c. to 7½c. per lb.

Horses.—Demand from certain sources keeps up. One large dealer again turned out a large number last week and had further demand. Some demand from New Brunswick, from lumbering firms. In fact, most of the demand is from lumbermen. Prices ruled steady, as follows: Heavy draft, 1,500 to 1,700 lbs., \$225 to \$300 each; light draft, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs., \$185 to \$240 each; good blocks, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs., \$175 to \$200 each; small or inferior animals, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., \$100 to \$150 each; broken-down animals, \$50 to \$75 each, and choice saddle or carriage animals, \$300 to \$500 each.

Dressed Hogs and Provisions.—Market for dressed hogs was very firm and prices distinctly higher than the week previous, at 9½c. per lb. for country dressed.

Poultry.—Market held about steady. The supply of most lines was fairly liberal, but the demand continued good. Fresh-killed turkeys, not less than 19c. to 20c. per lb.; frozen, 17c. to 18c.; inferior quality at lower figures. Fresh-killed spring chickens, 14c. to 15c. per lb.; frozen being 12c. to 14c., and fowl bringing 10c. to 11c. per lb. Ducks were scarce and rather higher, at 11c. to 13c. per lb.; while geese sold at 10c. to 12c. per lb.

Potatoes.—75c. to 80c. per 90 lbs., for Quebec whites, Green Mountains being 80c. to 85c. Jobbing prices about 5c. above those mentioned.

Eggs.—Prices of eggs were marked up about one cent more last week, and demand was good at the advance. No. 1 limed or cold-storage eggs were quoted at 26c. to 27c. per dozen, while selects were firm, at 29c. per dozen. Fresh-laid, so-called, are held at 35c. to 40c.

Butter.—There was evidence of increased interest in the butter market, and the undercurrent was of a more optimistic nature. Fresh-makes of inferior quality were selling at 24½c. to 25½c. per lb., while best fall creameries were still available at 27c. to 28c. Some dairy rolls have been sold at 24c., tubs being 23c. to 24c. Manitoba dairies about 21c. to 22c. It is said that two cars of them were received last week.

Cheese.—Market showed much improvement last week, demand from England being good. Holders advanced their ideas fully ½c. per lb., and Quebec makes were selling at 12½c. to 12½c. per lb., Townships being 12½c. to 12½c., and Ontarios 12½c. to 12½c., the outside price being for colored in each case, and the inside for white.

Grain.—No. 2 white Western oats, 46½c.; No. 1 extra feed, 45c.; No. 1 feed, 45c.; No. 2 Ontario white, 44½c. to 45c.; No. 3, 43½c. to 44c.; No. 4, 43c., car lots, store. No. 3 corn, yellow, 70c.; No. 2 peas, 94c. to 95c.; No. 2 barley, 63c. to 64½c. Manitoba feed barley, 57c. to 58c., and buckwheat 59c. to 60c. per bushel.

Flour.—Market steady, at \$6 per bid, for Manitoba first patents, \$5.50 for seconds, and \$5.30 for strong bakers'. On

tario winter wheat patents, \$5 to \$5.25, and straight rollers \$4.60 to \$4.70.

Bran.—\$21 to \$21.50 per ton, in bags, and shorts at \$24 to \$24.50, cotton seed being \$33, and oil cake \$32 per ton.

Hay.—Demand fair, at \$12 to \$13 per ton for No. 1 timothy; \$10 to \$11 for No. 2; \$8.50 to \$9.50 for No. 3; \$8 to \$8.50 for clover mixed, and \$7.50 to \$8 for clover.

Hides.—Market unchanged.

British Cattle Market.

London cables cattle 13c. to 14½c. per lb., dressed weight; refrigerator beef, 9½c. to 9½c. per lb.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

WITCHING FOR WATER.

What is your opinion regarding a well I have? Two or three men water-witched for me four years ago and located water to their satisfaction. I dug 28 feet in very hard soil, so hard that I have never considered it necessary to stone the well except about 4 feet near the top. As I got about 25 feet deep, it got much harder, and when I left off digging it was so hard that it was almost impossible to drive a sharp pick in more than three-quarters of an inch. Do you think if I were to dig through that hard streak, or dig a few feet further down, I would be likely to find water? At the present this well is not more than a good cistern. I have a tile emptying into it. I have a No. 1 spring 60 rods from my barn, and down a grade thirty feet. I presume it would cost me \$300 to windmill that water to my barn.

G. W. A.

Ans.—The matter of water-witching is a very questionable one. Why not let the contract for providing the water to those men who water-witched to their satisfaction at a reasonable figure? We cannot say whether or not you are liable to strike water when that hard streak is gone through. You should be able to arrive at an approximate opinion on this point by other well in the vicinity. Your best plan would have been to secure the services of a drilling machine to bore through the hard clay. If neighbors have had to go deep for water, it might be well to get a drill yet. It is much safer to use the experiences of others who have dug wells in similar locations than to go according to water-witchers. If there is a fall from the spring, an hydraulic ram might be used to force spring water up to the buildings.

INOCULATION FOR ALFALFA.

1. It is my intention to seed a field to alfalfa this spring, and would like a few pointers in regard to inoculation of the soil. Have read in several places that soil from old sweet-clover patches was excellent for this purpose. Would there not be danger of getting sweet-clover seed with this soil, or would it do no harm if one did?

2. Where can alfalfa culture for inoculating seed be obtained?

3. Would it be as effective as soil from alfalfa or sweet clover fields?

M. C.

Ans.—1. All things considered, probably the best method of inoculation for alfalfa is to sow over the field to be seeded a load, or over 500 lbs. per acre, of loam from an old alfalfa field, or, failing that, soil from a spot where sweet clover has grown. There is a chance of sowing some sweet-clover seed, but it need not occasion serious worry, for sweet clover is a biennial, and will die out in a year or two if prevented from re-seeding. Sweet clover rarely gives serious trouble in fields where other crops thrive. It is a roadside and waste-land crop. If the sweet-clover patch is clean of other weed seeds, do not hesitate to use it.

2. Culture for the inoculation of a bushel of alfalfa seed may be obtained from the Bacteriological Department, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, for a nominal fee of 25 cents.

3. Probably it would, if instructions were carefully followed, although some experimenters have, doubtless, failed through mistakes in handling and applying the culture, or in sowing the seed. For general use the soil from a thrifty alfalfa or sweet-clover field would, perhaps, be safer, if convenient to obtain and free of bad weed seeds.