

GROSS MANSLAUGHTER

Jury's Verdict Against Four Christian Scientists.

Dr. Carveth Criticized.

The thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Shareholders of the Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the banking-house on Tuesday, 10th January, 1905, at 12 o'clock.

And we believe them to be guilty of gross manslaughter, and we further believe that deceased would have recovered if he had had proper nursing and medical treatment, as shown by the percentage of deaths from this disease.

We further recommend that if the law does not reach this class of Christian Scientists it should be amended to cover such.

We also think that medical men should be more careful in the issuing of death certificates, as many cases were not investigated.

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The above verdict was returned by the coroner's jury after midnight after hearing the evidence of Dr. Carveth, who was severely criticized by the coroner for his ready issuing of a death certificate, Dr. Carveth and Johnston, who conducted the post-mortem examination, and Mrs. Goodfellow, mother of the deceased.

Crown Attorney Drayton stated that no warrant would be issued, but that summonses would be served on the persons named in the finding, and police court proceedings will follow. The determined wording of the verdict leaves little doubt that the case will result in a bitter fight, and all who believe in Christian Science will be inclined to consider that they are all more or less on trial.

Dr. Carveth's Testimony.

Dr. Carveth stated that Goodfellow was seriously ill when he was called to see him, and was partly unconscious. The people in his room told the doctor that he had been at work three weeks before, and had been attended by Dr. Riordan up to eight days previously. Mrs. Taylor had told him that the death was in the hands of the coroner, and when he met Wallace Goodfellow's brother, who asked him for a certificate of death, he told him that there might be trouble for if the case was in the coroner's hands, the certificate could not be used.

What Testimony Showed.

Dr. Carveth said his post-mortem examination, which showed that death was due to typhoid. The system showed an attempt to heal itself. Considering that he was up and walking around, the effort would be to destroy his chances of life. The assertion was making demands on his life that the system was not able to stand.

Dr. Johnston said that he understood the young man did not receive any treatment. The post-mortem showed that he had died from typhoid and was through the worst of it. Had he had treatment, and when his heart going he would most probably have lived. Broths and things of that kind, given as treatment, would increase the danger of the case, and he would be the next thing to death.

Mr. Robinson, counsel for the accused, asked what caused death.

"Exhaustion," replied Dr. Johnston.

"What caused exhaustion?" queried the lawyer.

"Want of nourishment," said the doctor.

"He was given nourishment," suggested the lawyer.

"That kind of nourishment would kill him," was the reply. "Had he had reasonable treatment he would not have died."

Liquor and Other Stimulants.

"Are there not some doctors who don't give liquor?" asked Mr. Robinson.

"I thought that question had been asked long ago and that liquor is recognized as a good stimulant," said Dr. Johnston, "but there are men who do not give liquor. They give starchine, of course."

"Is not starchine a stimulant?" suggested Mr. Robinson.

"Definitely it is not a stimulant in my mind."

Mrs. Goodfellow was put through a two-hour examination, in which she gave very little evidence that is new. She said that it was her son's desire that a doctor should not be called in, and that he could have gone to the hospital had he wanted to. Mrs. Lee, a Christian Scientist, was called in and was paid \$1 a day for treatment. Brundrett got \$1 a day until Mrs. Lee came. Mrs. Grant got nothing.

Mrs. Stewart could not be found, and the subsequent days were passed in waiting for her. The officers were informed that she had left the city on a visit and would not be back for a few days.

Three Minors Die.

Decatur, Ill., Jan. 17.—Three minors are known to be dead and scores of others are expected to die from the recent Mr. Fielding is expected in London at the end of this week.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

Report of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Tuesday, 10th January, 1905.

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The President, Hon. George A. Cox, having taken the chair, Mr. F. G. Jenett was appointed to act as Secretary, and Messrs. R. H. Temple and E. Cronyn were appointed scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors, as follows:

REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the thirty-eighth Annual Report covering the year ending 30th November, 1904, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account brought forward from last year, was \$165,559 14

Net profits for the year ending 30th November, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to 1,124,973 66

Which has been appropriated as follows:

Dividends Nos. 74 and 75, at seven per cent. per annum \$608,000 00

Written off Bank Premises 127,806 41

Transferred to Pension Fund (annual contribution) 25,000 00

Transferred to Reserve Account 500,000 00

Balance carried forward... 1,290,532 80

The entire assets of the Bank have been, as usual, carefully re-valued, and all bad and doubtful debts amply provided for.

The earnings for the past year have been even more satisfactory than usual, and after writing off for Bank Premises \$127,806.41, and making a contribution to the Pension Fund of \$25,000, we have been able to add \$500,000 to the Reserve.

During the year the Bank has opened new branches as follows: In the city of Winnipeg, a branch on Ross avenue and another on Portage avenue; in the Northwest Territories, at Lloydminster, in Saskatchewan, Moosejaw, in Assiniboia and Nanton in Alberta. Since the close of the Bank's year a branch has been opened at Claremont in Alberta, and arrangements have been made to open in the near future at Melfort in Saskatchewan.

Your Directors have concluded that the time has come when the balance of the unused stock necessary to bring the paid-up capital of the Bank to the authorized amount, namely, \$10,000,000, should be issued, and a circular intimating this intention has recently been directed to the shareholders.

The various branches, agencies and departments of the bank have been inspected during the year.

The Directors have again pleasure in recording their appreciation of the efficiency and zeal with which the officers of the Bank have performed their respective duties.

GEO. A. COX, President.

Toronto, 10th January, 1905.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

30th November, 1904.

LIABILITIES.

Notes of the Bank in circulation \$7,650,947.68

Deposits not bearing interest \$118,003,420.09

Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date \$2,455,521.37

Balances due to other Banks in Canada 138,758.50

Balances due to other Banks in foreign countries 242,631.86

Dividend No. 75, payable 1st December 204,500.00

Cash at hand \$7,650,947.68

Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward 1,290,532.80

Assets.

Cash and Balances \$2,350,225.13

Demolition Notes \$301,692.00

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of Note circulation 400,000.00

Notes and Cheques on other Banks in Canada 3,635,085.23

Balances due by other Banks in Canada 10,892.50

Balances due by Agents in Great Britain 5,894,865.42

Balances due by Agents of the Bank and other Banks in foreign countries 2,103,565.24

Government Bonds, Municipal and other Securities 7,319,643.84

Call and Short Loans 30,469,092.19

\$7,919,977.67

not in themselves evidences of the presence or absence of prosperity. If this country, for many years to come, were to import more than it exports, the debt created to pay the balance might represent very wise investments. And where there is a large volume of capital, sometimes in the shape of money and sometimes of machinery or merchandise, coming into a country to represent investments by foreigners, it is not possible to take the real position with even reasonable accuracy. But to the extent that a decline in exports represents a real decline in purchasing power, and that an increase in imports represents an expansion in the power of living, our foreign trade figures are very significant indeed. In the five years from 1890 to 1894, inclusive, years mostly of expansion, the excess of imports was \$76,500,000. In the next five years, 1895 to 1899, inclusive—three of which were years of close economy, the excess of exports was \$44,500,000, the last year showing a slight excess of imports. In the five years from 1900 to 1904, inclusive, all years ending in mid-summer, the excess of imports was \$53,300,000, the first two years showing a small excess in exports. Of this \$53,300,000, however, \$45,000,000 is for 1904 alone, and it was apparently due to the recovery of unusually large imports and unusually small exports that such a wide difference was possible. The difference of \$8,300,000 was a little more than the excess of imports for 1903, and this was caused by a large increase in imports of nearly \$18,000,000, and a decrease in exports of over \$10,000,000.

There was a loss in exports of wheat of about \$10,000,000; in dairy products and eggs of \$2,000,000; and in cattle, bacon and other products, after some individual increases, the net decrease is about another \$3,000,000; in fisheries \$1,000,000; in lumber and kindred products \$2,000,000. It is true these are partially offset by a large increase in the net results from the products of mining and by gains in many minor classes of agricultural products, but even increased consumption at home, there was a serious loss of purchasing power as compared with the previous years. And, except in the very important article of wheat, the year 1905, ending at mid-summer, is likely to be a repetition of 1904.

One might have expected to see this loss of purchasing power reflected in the imports, but we cannot trace it there. Almost \$5,000,000 in increase of business, much of it doubtless part of the permanent loss arising from the unusual winter. Under about thirty headings, of which twenty-five are manufactured goods, we find large increases. One of the most regrettable is nearly \$2,000,000 for lumber, because of conditions in the United States referred to later. The decreases are represented by the United States millers, who, in eight, representing \$2,500,000 for products of iron and steel, and for agricultural implements, the reason for the decrease being both gratifying and obvious. Several other headings represent raw materials, such as wool, hides, and furs. The subject of reciprocal trade relations with Canada is now being discussed in the United States more widely than at any recent time. The Chamberlain proposal, which, if put into action, seems to involve further preferences for Canada to Great Britain, are used freely as a reason against further delay. Many special and mainly selfish reasons are being urged, such as those advanced by the United States millers, who, to secure their grades, require our wheat, and would in any event like to be the manufacturers into flour of our raw material, wheat; while a few journals state plainly the disingenuous truth that several decades of unfairness to Canada are not a good basis for a treaty, now that the small country has markets for its products and desires to manufacture most of the articles which it now imports from the United States. The Chamberlain proposal is a very real and practical one, and the sudden desire for reciprocity by the regulations we have been forced to make to prevent the dumping into this country, to the ruin of our own manufacturers, of goods sold here at prices much lower than in the country of manufacture.

A few figures will illustrate the peculiarities of our relations with Great Britain and the United States. In the five years from 1890 to 1904, inclusive, the value of our exports to Great Britain was \$259,000,000, and we sold to her \$379,000,000. We bought from the United States in the same period merchandise to the value of \$967,000,000, and we sold them \$357,000,000. We therefore brought in a bill of exchange on Great Britain for \$320,000,000 and paid \$310,000,000 of it to the United States.

Now this is a very pleasant state of affairs for the United States, and if it is to be permanent, reciprocity treaties might not be heard of. But it is so palpably unfair that we shall, of course, bear it only while we must. While it lasts we shall try hard to overcome such a one-sided state of affairs by making as far as possible at home everything that is now bought from them, and by diverting to our better customer, Great Britain, by preference or otherwise, all the trade we can. If, however, as seems probable, there is growing up in the United States a sentiment in favor of fairer dealing with us, this great disparity in figures may be lessened. Fair dealing, especially having regard to the permanent relations of the United States and Canada, suggests that we be allowed to pay as largely as possible for what we buy with what we have to sell, and if this were so the United States would take our coal, lumber, fish, cattle and great free duty. This would mean the trade between the two countries reciprocal. But is this what our friends in the United States are striving for? It does not seem to us that any other kind of reciprocity would be of interest to Canada.

We may now devote some attention to the affairs of the various parts of Canada.

The Maritime Provinces.

In the Maritime Provinces the results, either in yield or in price from the farm, the fisheries and the forest, were in almost all parts more or less satisfactory. We have not in many years

had a record of disappointment so unvaried in these branches of industry. Farmers in these Provinces are better off only in a few localities, and while there are but few relatively who have had to break into the savings of the past, the majority have had a year with no material advancement. The very extraordinary winter left its mark in many ways. The important article of hay did not yield more than half a crop, and the pastures have been in a poor condition. This involved the purchase of hay elsewhere in large quantities, and the sale of cattle where farmers could not or did not wish to buy hay. Cereals of all kinds did badly; the fruit crop was, on the whole, satisfactory in quantity, and fairly so in quality, but prices have been very unremunerative indeed. In fishing, an industry so important in it by inland Canadians is deplored, the results are somewhat better than last year, but not what they have been in the past. In cod fishing there is an improvement over last year, but the catch was still quite unsatisfactory, this being attributed by some to lack of bait. The handling of the fish trade by the exporters shows quite a renewal of vigor. While we cannot say that the fisheries of Nova Scotia produced, in 1904, more than two-thirds as much wealth as the coal of Nova Scotia, twice as much as iron and steel, and a half times as much as wheat, it is not desirable that we should recognize more fully the necessity of conserving and increasing by every means in our power this great source of national wealth.

In lumber, prices for deals have fallen badly, while products suitable for the Canadian States and South America have done well. In consequence of the drop in deals, large stocks will be held over, and an attempt is being made to lessen the new cut by about one-half. In cod fishing, the large output of recent years has been maintained with a moderate increase, and prices have continued to be satisfactory. In most lines of manufacturing the volume is not lessened, and business continues to be satisfactory, especially with the large establishments which look to Canada as a whole for their markets. In some of these the volume of business last year was the greatest ever attained.

In the important industries of iron and steel great progress has been made in lessening the cost of production, and although labor troubles seriously affected a situation already difficult enough, the outlook for profitable results is more promising than at any previous time. Business in general, although curbed by the unfavorable conditions of which we have been speaking, including the prolonged strikes, has been fairly good. Trade with the West Indies has been increased, aided by a reduction in inland transportation charges, especially in the proportion of such rates to our ports as compared with Boston. Large shipments of flour and other products are now being made. The importance of this is obvious, and we are glad to know that the Halifax Board of Trade is actively studying the needs of the West Indian Islands with a view to further trade conquests. We have no sub-tropical area, while the United States has enormous advantages in such a position, and we are not sure that we should consider the possibilities both industrially and politically of these British Islands in sub-tropical areas, wanting so much that we can produce, and capable of producing so much that we want.

Ontario.

In Ontario the severe winter and cold spring destroyed much of the winter wheat, and the yield was so small that the higher prices did not compensate except in a few districts. Other grain crops, hay and pasturage, and roots, have done very well on the whole. These, however, are used mainly for cattle, and while prices for cattle were at one time satisfactory, later conditions in Great Britain caused the price here to drop, so that many farmers who were not in a position to feed over the winter have sold at unremunerative figures. The price for hogs has also been less favorable to the farmer than in recent years.

In the dairy we have had one of the worst years ever known for the dealers, and a bad year for the cheese makers. A large and expensive stock held over from last year was sold at a great sacrifice, and new cheese had in consequence to be marketed at a low range of prices. This being the case the quantity made fell off rapidly. In butter the conditions were more favorable, and this to some extent mitigates the situation, but taken as a whole, the money return in between five and six million dollars less than in 1903. Since 1898 the lowest money return for cheese in any one year was \$12,065,000, the highest \$21,363,000, and in 1904 \$14,880,000. In butter the lowest return in the same period was \$2,897,000, the highest \$7,936,000, and in 1904 \$6,225,000. These figures, of course, apply to all Eastern Canada and not to Ontario alone.

There was in Ontario, as elsewhere in Eastern Canada, a bountiful crop of apples, but the winter grower has been unusually bad. We have in every direction of apples left lying on the ground to rot or unpecked on the trees because it would not pay to pick them. The market price of apples has been so low that it is almost any time bring a good price in Great Britain. Why do we not sort them and grade them so that the best qualities may be clearly visible in price from the poorer apples? If we did, it is probably true that the good qualities would ever fail to be worth shipping. Do we not raise the price ourselves by gutting the market with unsorted apples, good and bad, when it would always take the best of the crop at much better prices relatively than we now receive, and would generally take the balance, if honestly graded, at a good price as such fruit should bring? The shipments to the United States were only 1,200,000 barrels, against 2,300,000 for the same period in 1903.

The far the most of those whose work is the foundation of the prosperity of the nation is distinctly less bright than usual. The total amount of money paid to farmers for their products in 1904 was many millions less than in 1903 and every dollar short represents a corresponding deficiency in purchasing power, debt paying power or power to save. Except, however, in a few districts where there are low-lying lands and where for two or three years the results have been disappointing, there is no actual failure to make progress. In some towns sales have been smaller, but this is not the usual condition. The situation may be summed up by saying that as a rule the farmer has been able to pay his debts, but not to add to his savings bank account. He has not paid the merchant, and sometimes not the implement maker, quite as well as in recent years, but there are few requests for money on mortgage.

The lumber situation in Ontario and Quebec has shifted somewhat from the record during recent years of increasing prices and increasing cost of production. Great Britain seems unwilling to the moment to pay as much for lumber as it has been doing for some time. Surely it is not, and it is to be hoped that with our magnificent record for quality, and our otherwise splendid position as wheat growers, we are not destined to drop out of our high level merely because we are unwilling to face the truth and do what it commands.

The conditions of wheat production in the United States, to which we have referred, according to the latest report for 1904, have caused a further relaxation of the regulations under which Canadian wheat may be ground in bond in the United States for their European export trade, and wheat has also, to a small extent, actually been imported from Canada, and the high duty paid, in order to produce satisfactory results for home consumption. These are significant facts. Some day we shall help to feed the vast population of the United States, and a duty on our food stuffs will be impossible to maintain. In the meantime let us attend faithfully to our present satisfactory markets, which can be securely kept only, as any other business creating merchandise, by producing the best article possible. Little that is satisfactory can be said of the cattle trade, whether it affects the ordinary farmer or grazer in Ontario and Manitoba, or as it affects the rancher in the Territories. The winter was one of the hardest on cattle for many years. Prairie fires, the previous autumn had destroyed large areas of grass in the ranching country, and the spring following the severe winter was most unfavorable. Owing to the large herds driven from the United States many of the cattle on the ranges were in a strange country and ill prepared to take care of themselves in such unusual conditions. These exceptional disadvantages, which, however, have been borne, but the low prices in England and the prolonged strike in the cattle trade in Chicago combine with the other misfortunes to make a very bad year for both the producer and the middleman. In the British Columbia the unfavorable winter features were absent and the cattle had an excellent season.

General Remarks.

I must apologize for the unusual length of my remarks regarding the various parts of North America in which we are interested. The features which are gratifying and those which are not so agreeable are both numerous, and the situation in detail is much more difficult of explanation than in most years. The fact, however, which outweighs all points of detail, is that with an unusual number of natural products yielding less than normal returns, the total result is a year of decided progress. We have not hesitated to set out in detail many features unfavorable because of conditions peculiar to the season and beyond our control, and especially such results as with increased knowledge or industry might have been improved. The confidence of Canadians in the future of their country is so great that it is not well to fear by such criticism to lessen it materially. We are in far worse danger from a disposition to expect too early results from our energies, and to purchase rather in relation to what we think we shall shortly be able to afford, than to what we can afford at the moment. But it is hard to resist this hopefulness when we have regard to the progress of the last ten years, in that time the business of banking in Canada has increased as much as in the preceding eighty years. A deposit of the people have not merely grown as money in the aggregate, but they have grown from \$52.16 per head to about \$99.50. The bank note circulation, which, owing to the rapid multiplication of branches, must in the East at all events, be shorter-lived than ten years ago, has, nevertheless, grown from \$6.35 per head to about \$11. In the same period, our foreign trade has grown from \$48.34 per head to about \$84.85. With the tide of the world's land-seekers set at last towards our Northwest, with our national credit in the world's money markets at its highest, with plans for transportation adequate in scope at least for the immediate future, it is, perhaps, natural that we should view more of our future with encouragement.

The motion for the adoption of the report was then put and carried.

An increase of \$10,000 in the Bank's annual contribution to the Pension Fund was authorized, and the usual resolutions, expressing the thanks of the shareholders to the President, Vice-President and Directors, and also to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officers of the Bank, were unanimously carried.

Moved by Mr. Kilgour, seconded by Mr. Kingman:

That the meeting do now proceed to elect directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot-box be opened and remain open till 3 o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered, the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the general manager.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year: Hon. Geo. A. Cox, Robert Kilgour, W. B. Hamilton, J. A. T. Fraser, J. W. Flavelle, J. A. Hoekin, K.O. L.L.D., J. W. Flavelle, A. Kingman, Hon. L. Melvin Jones, Fred. B. Tupper, and J. W. Flavelle.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, Hon. Geo. A. Cox was re-elected President and Robert Kilgour, Vice-President.

not in themselves evidences of the presence or absence of prosperity. If this country, for many years to come, were to import more than it exports, the debt created to pay the balance might represent very wise investments. And where there is a large volume of capital, sometimes in the shape of money and sometimes of machinery or merchandise, coming into a country to represent investments by foreigners, it is not possible to take the real position with even reasonable accuracy. But to the extent that a decline in exports represents a real decline in purchasing power, and that an increase in imports represents an expansion in the power of living, our foreign trade figures are very significant indeed. In the five years from 1890 to 1894, inclusive, years mostly of expansion, the excess of imports was \$76,500,000. In the next five years, 1895 to 1899, inclusive—three of which were years of close economy, the excess of exports was \$44,500,000, the last year showing a slight excess of imports. In the five years from 1900 to 1904, inclusive, all years ending in mid-summer, the excess of imports was \$53,300,000, the first two years showing a small excess in exports. Of this \$53,300,000, however, \$45,000,000 is for 1904 alone, and it was apparently due to the recovery of unusually large imports and unusually small exports that such a wide difference was possible. The difference of \$8,300,000 was a little more than the excess of imports for 1903, and this was caused by a large increase in imports of nearly \$18,000,000, and a decrease in exports of over \$10,000,000.

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One might have expected to see this loss of purchasing power reflected in the imports, but we cannot trace it there. Almost \$5,000,000 in increase of business, much of it doubtless part of the permanent loss arising from the unusual winter. Under about thirty headings, of which twenty-five are manufactured goods, we find large increases. One of the most regrettable is nearly \$2,000,000 for lumber, because of conditions in the United States referred to later. The decreases are represented by the United States millers, who, in eight, representing \$2,500,000 for products of iron and steel, and for agricultural implements, the reason for the decrease being both gratifying and obvious. Several other headings represent raw materials, such as wool, hides, and furs. The subject of reciprocal trade relations with Canada is now being discussed in the United States more widely than at any recent time. The Chamberlain proposal, which, if put into action, seems to involve further preferences for Canada to Great Britain, are used freely as a reason against further delay. Many special and mainly selfish reasons are being urged, such as those advanced by the United States millers, who, to secure their grades, require our wheat, and would in any event like to be the manufacturers into flour of our raw material, wheat; while a few journals state plainly the disingenuous truth that several decades of unfairness to Canada are not a good basis for a treaty, now that the small country has markets for its products and desires to manufacture most of the articles which it now imports from the United States. The Chamberlain proposal is a very real and practical one, and the sudden desire for reciprocity by the regulations we have been forced to make to prevent the dumping into this country, to the ruin of our own manufacturers, of goods sold here at prices much lower than in the country of manufacture.

A few figures will illustrate the peculiarities of our relations with Great Britain and the United States. In the five years from 1890 to 1904, inclusive, the value of our exports to Great Britain was \$259,000,000, and we sold to her \$379,000,000. We bought from the United States in the same period merchandise to the value of \$967,000,000, and we sold them \$357,000,000. We therefore brought in a bill of exchange on Great Britain for \$320,000,000 and paid \$310,000,000 of it to the United States.

Now this is a very pleasant state of affairs for the United States, and if it is to be permanent, reciprocity treaties might not be heard of. But it is so palpably unfair that we shall, of course, bear it only while we must. While it lasts we shall try hard to overcome such a one-sided state of affairs by making as far as possible at home everything that is now bought from them, and by diverting to our better customer, Great Britain, by preference or otherwise, all the trade we can. If, however, as seems probable, there is growing up in the United States a sentiment in favor of fairer dealing with us, this great disparity in figures may be lessened. Fair dealing, especially having regard to the permanent relations of the United States and Canada, suggests that we be allowed to pay as largely as possible for what we buy with what we have to sell, and if this were so the United States would take our coal, lumber, fish, cattle and great free duty. This would mean the trade between the two countries reciprocal. But is this what our friends in the United States are striving for? It does not seem to us that any other kind of reciprocity would be of interest to Canada.

We may now devote some attention to the affairs of the various parts of Canada.

The Maritime Provinces.

In the Maritime Provinces the results, either in yield or in price from the farm, the fisheries and the forest, were in almost all parts more or less satisfactory. We have not in many years had a record of disappointment so unvaried in these branches of industry. Farmers in these Provinces are better off only in a few localities, and while there are but few relatively who have had to break into the savings of the past, the majority have had a year with no material advancement. The very extraordinary winter left its mark in many ways. The important article of hay did not yield more than half a crop, and the pastures have been in a poor condition. This involved the purchase of hay elsewhere in large quantities, and the sale of cattle where farmers could not or did not wish to buy hay. Cereals of all kinds did badly; the fruit crop was, on the whole, satisfactory in quantity, and fairly so in quality, but prices have been very unremunerative indeed. In fishing, an industry so important in it by inland Canadians is deplored, the results are somewhat better than last year, but not what they have been in the past. In cod fishing there is an improvement over last year, but the catch was still quite unsatisfactory, this being attributed by some to lack of bait. The handling of the fish trade by the exporters shows quite a renewal of vigor. While we cannot say that the fisheries of Nova Scotia produced, in 1904, more than two-thirds as much wealth as the coal of Nova Scotia, twice as much as iron and steel, and a half times as much as wheat, it is not desirable that we should recognize more fully the necessity of conserving and increasing by every means in our power this great source of national wealth.

In lumber, prices for deals have fallen badly, while products suitable for the Canadian States and South America have done well. In consequence of the drop in deals, large stocks will be held over, and an attempt is being made to lessen the new cut by about one-half. In cod fishing, the large output of recent years has been maintained with a moderate increase, and prices have continued to be satisfactory. In most lines of manufacturing the volume is not lessened, and business continues to be satisfactory, especially with the large establishments which look to Canada as a whole for their markets. In some of these the volume of business last year was the greatest ever attained.

In the important industries of iron and steel great progress has been made in lessening the cost of production, and although labor troubles seriously affected a situation already difficult enough, the outlook for profitable results is more promising than at any previous time. Business in general, although curbed by the unfavorable conditions of which we have been speaking, including the prolonged strikes, has been fairly good. Trade with the West Indies has been increased, aided by a reduction in inland transportation charges, especially in the proportion of such rates to our ports as compared with Boston. Large shipments of flour and other products are now being made. The importance of this is obvious, and we are glad to know that the Halifax Board of Trade is actively studying the needs of the West Indian Islands with a view to further trade conquests. We have no sub-tropical area, while the United States has enormous advantages in such a position, and we are not sure that we should consider the possibilities both industrially and politically of these British Islands in sub-tropical areas, wanting so much that we can produce, and capable of producing so much that we want.

Ontario.

In Ontario the severe winter and cold spring destroyed much of the winter wheat, and the yield was so small that the higher prices did not compensate except in a few districts. Other grain crops, hay and pasturage, and roots, have done very well on the whole. These, however, are used mainly for cattle, and while prices for cattle were at one time satisfactory, later conditions in Great Britain caused the price here to drop, so that many farmers who were not in a position to feed over the winter have sold at unremunerative figures. The price for hogs has also been less favorable to the farmer than in recent years.

In the dairy we have had one of the worst years ever known for the dealers, and a bad year for the cheese makers. A large and expensive stock held over from last year was sold at a great sacrifice, and new cheese had in consequence to be marketed at a low range of prices. This being the case the quantity made fell off rapidly. In butter the conditions were more favorable, and this to some extent mitigates the situation, but taken as a whole, the money return in between five and six million dollars less than in 1903. Since 1898 the lowest money return for cheese in any one year was \$12,065,000, the highest \$21,363,000, and in 1904 \$14,880,000. In butter the lowest return in the same period was \$2,897,000, the highest \$7,936,000, and in 1904 \$6,22