

We are glad to be able to state that, while some cattle have already gone south, the stocker and feeder movement, during the first seven months of this present year, has been in favour of Western Canada. The bumper grain crop of 1915 has provided sufficient ready cash to enable our own farmers to finance the feeding of more cattle. The demand for stocker stuff from the Canadian West appears to be keen and strong. Owing to the plentiful rainfall this spring, the hay crop will be considerably above the average. While during the past years the hot seasons have burned the pastures badly, the grass on the prairies has revived very greatly this season and has developed in a root such as it has not had for five years. With the feed situation developing in such a promising way, it is very evident that a confident attitude is being taken as regards the prospects for cattle feeding. With such a showing as now appears both for fodder and for grain, it is a safe guess that the man who markets it through his live stock will find himself in a pretty strong position at the end of the game.

THE CANADIAN MARKET.

It may not be understood by everybody that the Canadian market locally and through the position we hold in relation to the Mother Country is likely to furnish us profitable or even more profitable outlet for our finished product than that to be found through United States channels. On the very best authority, it can be stated that sales last year on the Chicago market of finished Canadian range cattle were disappointing. Large shippers admitted that better results could have been obtained had they offered their stuff upon the Canadian market. As a matter of fact, Canada is developing a useful and lucrative trade with Great Britain and with France. It is only during the fall months, however, that there is an exportable surplus of cattle in this country. During the remaining months our packers have been obliged, in order to maintain their trade, to import large quantities of American beef and have found it profitable to do so. Not unlikely some of this was Canadian beef returned to our markets after a pretty costly finishing process during which the cream of the profits have been absorbed but in which the Canadian farmer, Canadian capital and Canadian labour had no share. What an advantage it would have been to the farmers of the Prairie Provinces had they retained and fed at home the feeders they exported last fall!

The efforts of every citizen should be determinedly directed to the expansion and upbuilding of our own industries. If it is ever to amount to anything, our live stock business must rest upon its own initiative as regards the development of its trade. It can never be profitable in the fullest degree if permitted to become subsidiary to business interests that have no concern as regards the future of the Dominion. It may as well be recognized that the prosperity of the Canadian farmer is linked up with the prosperity of capital and labour engaged in allied or related industries. If Canadian commerce does not expand, the farmer loses the benefit of a fair home market. If Canadian railways do not prosper, they may easily become a tax upon the whole community. We can build up in this country a great meat industry. Useful foundations have already been laid. That it can be made a very profitable business to the whole country no one can doubt. It must, however, receive the systematic and organized support of all the controlling units engaged in every phase of our home and export trade.

THE MARKET PROSPECT.

The entire country believes that, as regards live stock, we will do wisely to increase our productive capacity to the fullest possible extent. No one doubts that during the period of the war all available beef will be in strong demand and that cattle prices will be high. What may happen following the declaration of peace is