

Amended G. T. P. R. Agreement.

The amendments to the agreement between the Federal Government and the Grand Trunk Railway Company in reference to the construction of the new transcontinental railway have been given out. The Government guarantee for the mountain section is extended to a sum equal to seventy-five per cent. of the cost of construction. It is provided that, in the event of the Grand Trunk Company defaulting, the Government shall appoint a manager, who shall manage the road and divide the receipts between the Government, the bondholders and the Grand Trunk. The company is given power to dispose of part of the \$25,000,000 of common stock which it is allowed to hold, but the provision is made that a majority of this stock must be held by the Grand Trunk Railway Company. The time for the construction of the western section is extended to December, 1911, and the clauses in reference to the leasing of the eastern section are amended. No change is made in the route of the new line, as provided last session, so the Moncton-Winnipeg section is to stand.

Western O. A. C. Banquet.

The ex-students of the Ontario Agricultural College, who have adopted Western Canada as their home, held a banquet in the Strathcona Cafe, Winnipeg, on Friday evening, the 26th, when a very enjoyable time was spent. The President, G. Harcourt, B.S.A., Regina, presided, and around the table sat Jas. Duthie, W. Rothwell, Dr. Hopkins, G. H. Greig, W. J. Black, Dr. Douglas, C. Gibson, R. W. Greig, F. A. Wilkin, J. R. Castler, F. N. Donaldson, C. Gad, Jas. Oastler, with A. P. Ketchen and Prof. Grisdale, Ottawa, as visitors. Many interesting stories were told of the college days on the old campus on College Heights, and a feeling of fellowship was perpetuated. There are now 150 ex-students in Western Canada, and the association hopes to draw them closer together. The new officers are: President, W. J. Black, B.S.A., "Farmer's Advocate," Winnipeg; Vice-president, E. Richardson, Calgary; Secretary, Geo. Harcourt, B.S.A., Regina.

The Dominion Transportation Commission resumed its sessions at Kingston, Ont., last week. Testimony was given in favor of Kingston as the point of transhipment rather than Port Colborne. It was shown that the St. Lawrence route was the cheapest for carrying, the cost per bushel from Port William to the seaboard being 3¢, as against 5 9-10 via Buffalo and New York.

MARKETS.

Another week of small freight movements, and consequent nominal prices. When the trade returns were issued for the six months ending December 31st, 1903, domestic exports showed a decline of \$2,000,000, and the reason was attributed to the inclination of farmers to hold wheat and live stock for higher prices. Higher prices for the former are now here, but it seems impossible to get wheat to market. Many farmers who have wheat express a willingness to sell at the dollar mark, but for some time no grain in cars has been moving. A car of peas, loaded on January 14th at a Western Ontario point has been standing there ever since. Quotations for grain on the wholesale market keep up, with the exception of corn, which is inclined to sag a little. Toronto street prices for wheat went lower during the past week, and the long-looked-for break in eggs has at last arrived. Trade in live stock is mostly confined to domestic business. There is scarcely anything doing in export cattle. Hogs show some improvement, and \$5.15 is now quoted in Toronto for best select hogs.

Toronto quotations are:

Exporters—Best lots of exporters sell at \$4.60 to \$4.75 per cwt.; medium, at about \$4.40 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Export Bulls—Choice quality bulls are worth \$3.60 to \$3.85 per cwt.; medium to good bulls sell at \$3.25 to \$3.50.

Export cows are worth \$3.40 to \$3.85 per cwt.

Butchers' Cattle—Choice picked lots, 1,000 to 1,150 lbs. each, equal in quality to best exporters, are worth \$1.40 to \$1.50; loads of good sell at \$4 to \$4.30; fair to good, \$3.60 to \$3.85; common, \$3.25 to \$3.50; rough to inferior, \$3; canners, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Feeders—Steers of good quality, 1,050 to 1,150 lbs. each, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per cwt.

Stockers—One-year to two-year-old steers, 400 to 700 lbs. each, are worth \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt.; off-colors and of poor breeding quality, of same weights, \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt.

Milch cows and springers are worth \$27 to \$50 each.

Calves, \$3 to \$12 each, or from \$4 to \$6.50 per cwt.

Sheep, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per cwt. for ewes, and bucks at \$3 to \$3.50.

Yearling Lambs—Grain-fed, choice ewes and wethers, for export, \$5.25 to \$5.75; barnyard lambs, at \$4.50 to \$5.

Spring Lambs—Good spring lambs are worth \$7 to \$9 each.

Hogs—Best select bacon hogs, not less than 160 lbs., nor more than 200 lbs. each, fed and watered, are worth \$5 to \$5.15 per cwt.; light and fats, \$4.75; sows, \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt.; and stags, \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt.

PRODUCE.

Toronto Wholesale Prices:

Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 red, white and mixed, lower, at 98c. to \$1 for milling; spring, 92c. to 93c. for No. 1, east; goose is quiet, at 85c. for No. 2, east.

Wheat—Manitoba—No. 1 hard is quoted at \$1.07, No. 1 northern at \$1.05, No. 2 northern at \$1.02, and No. 3 at 99c., on track, lake ports. Milling-in-transit prices for each grade is six cents more.

Corn—Canadian, 39½c. for yellow, and 39c. for mixed, cars west. American, No. 2 yellow is quoted at 55c., No. 3 yellow at 54c., and No. 3 mixed at 53½c., in car lots, on the track, Toronto.

Oats—No. 1 white, 34c. low freights, 33½c. middle freights, and 32½c. high freights; No. 2 white, one-half cent less.

Barley—Market is steady; No. 2, 45c., middle freights; No. 3 extra, at 43c., middle freights; and No. 3 at 41c., east or middle.

Rye—No. 2, 55c. low, middle or high freights. Peas—No. 2 are quoted at 64c. to 65c., any freights.

Buckwheat—No. 2 is quoted at 50c. low freights, 49c. middle, and 48c. high freights.

Flour—Holders of ninety-per-cent. patents are offering to sell at \$3.90 to \$4, f. o. b., main lines, west, but export dealers will not bid any more than \$3.75. There is no business. Manitoba flour is firm and unchanged. First patents are quoted at \$5.30, second patents at \$5, and strong bakers' at \$4.90, bags included, on the track, Toronto.

Mill Feed—Ontario shorts, \$17 to \$17.50, and bran \$16, in bulk, cars west. Manitoba—Shorts are quoted at \$21, and bran at \$20, in car lots, bags included, on the track, Toronto.

Potatoes—The market is fairly active, with a good demand. The difficulty is in obtaining cars. Car lots on the track here are quoted at 90c. to 95c. per bag, and potatoes out of store at \$1.15 per bag.

Beans—There is a firm tone. Hand-picked are quoted at \$1.70 to \$1.75 per bushel, and prime at \$1.50 to \$1.60. In New York, choice pea beans are quoted at \$2.20, and common to good at \$1.90 to \$2.15.

At Detroit: Cash and March, \$1.89 asked; April, \$1.86; May, \$1.85, nominal.

Baled Hay—There is very little business. Dealers quote the price unchanged at \$9 per ton for car lots, on track here.

Baled Straw—Car lots are \$5 to \$5.50 per ton, on the track here.

Seeds—The market is quiet. Quotations are steady at \$5.25 to \$5.75 for red clover, and \$6 to \$6.25 for extra choice, \$4.25 to \$4.75 for alsike, \$1.15 to \$1.50 for timothy, and \$1.75 to \$2 for flail-threshed, all per bushel, at outside points.

Butter—The shipments are slightly larger than they were during last week, and business is more active. There is a good demand for the choice lots, and the volume of business is up to the average.

Creamery, prints 20c. to 22c.
Creamery, solids 19½c. to 20c.
Dairy, pound rolls 15c. to 17c.
Dairy, large rolls 15c. to 16c.
Dairy, common to medium 12c. to 14c.

Cheese—There is no change in prices, and the market is quiet. The demand is easily met with the large supplies on hand.

Large, per lb. 10½c. to 11c.
Twins 11c. to 11½
Eggs, new-laid, 25c. to 27c.

Montreal Wholesale Prices:

Grain—Oats are weak, dealers finding it difficult to get over 37c. for more than single-car lots of No. 3 on track. Ontario flour is scarce, and firmly held. Bran is decidedly scarce. Shorts are more plentiful, but firm. A little firmer feeling is reported in the butter market, and stocks are being held with more confidence. A large amount of cheese has been shipped on consignment. There is nothing doing in poultry, the season being practically over, and it is impossible to quote accurate prices. Peas, 75c., in store here; rye, 53c. east, 58c. here; oats, No. 2, 39c. in store; No. 3, 38c.

Flour—Manitoba patents, \$5.40; seconds, \$5.10; strong bakers', \$4.60; Ontario, straight rollers, \$4.90 to \$5; in bags, \$2.33; winter wheat patents, \$5.25; extras, \$1.90.

Mill Feed—Ontario bran, in bulk, \$20 to \$20.50; shorts, \$21; Manitoba bran, in bags, \$19; shorts, \$21.

Beans—Choice primes, \$1.45 per bushel; \$1.40 in car lots.

Fresh-killed abattoir hogs, \$7.50 to \$7.75; country, dressed hogs, \$7; live hogs, \$5.38 to \$5.50.

Eggs—New-laid, 26c. to 28c.; limed, 20c.

Butter—Winter creamery, 19½c. to 20c.; full grass, 21c.; western dairy, 15c. to 15½c.; rolls, 16c. to 17c.

Cheese—Ontario, 9½c. to 10c.; township, 9½c. to 9½c.

Hay—No. 1, \$10 to \$11; No. 2, \$9 to \$9.50; clover, \$7 to \$8; clover, mixed, \$8 to \$8.50 per ton, in car lots.

Potatoes—Per ninety-pound bag, 75c. to 80c.; 65c. in car lots.

PRODUCE.

Toronto Street Prices, Retail:

Wheat, white	.....	\$1.01	
Wheat, red	.....	1.01	
Wheat, goose	.....	90	to \$0.92
Wheat, spring	.....	1.06	
Oats	.....	38½	to 39
Barley	.....	47½	to 48½
Rye	.....	60	
Buckwheat	.....	46	
Peas	.....	65	
Hay, No. 1 timothy	.....	11.00	to 12.00
Hay, mixed, or clover	.....	7.00	to 8.50
Straw, sheaf	.....	10.00	
Straw, loose	.....	6.00	
Dressed hogs, light, cwt.	.....	7.00	to 7.50
Dressed hogs, heavy, cwt.	.....	6.50	to 6.75
Butter	.....	19	to 22
Eggs, new-laid	.....	40	to 45
Fowls, per pound	.....	6	to 8
Spring chickens, per pair	.....	75	to 1.50
Spring chickens, per pound	.....	11	to 12
Geese, per pound	.....	10	to 14
Turkeys, per pound	.....	14	to 16
Apples, per barrel	.....	1.50	to 2.50
Potatoes, per bag	.....	1.10	to 1.25
Lambs	.....	8	to 10½
Calves, per pound	.....	6	to 10
Dressed hogs	.....	6.50	to 7.50

Toronto Horse Market.

Owing to the stallion show being held in the Repository during last week, there was no auction sale on Friday, and the sale on Tuesday was limited to about fifty horses. These sold readily, and as many more could have been disposed of. Prices were about the same as previous week. If the railroads are open, upwards of one hundred and fifty head will be sold this present week. Mr. M. Sullivan, Port Arthur, bought a carload of cheap workers, several well-known Manitoba buyers were in the market, and the sale was well attended.

The following is Walter Harland Smith's weekly report of prevailing prices:

Single roadsters, 15 to 16 hands	.....	\$130	to \$300
Single cobs and carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands	.....	150	to 215
Matched pairs carriage horses, 15 to 16.1 hands	.....	315	to 500
Delivery horses, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs.	.....	125	to 185
General-purpose and express horses, 1,200 to 1,350 lbs.	.....	130	to 200
Draft horses, 1,350 to 1,750	.....	135	to 225
Serviceable second-hand workers	.....	40	to 100
Serviceable second-hand drivers	.....	50	to 90

Cattle Dealers' Association.

The Dominion Live-stock and Cattle-dealers' Association has appointed a committee to lay their grievances before the Railway Commission when it meets in Toronto. They also demand aisles at least three feet wide on the boats.

The officers elected are: President, Mr. E. Snell; 1st Vice-president, Mr. T. O. Robson; 2nd Vice-president, Mr. T. Coughlin; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. F. Hunnisett, Toronto; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Ellsworth Maybee.

Mr. H. Mullins, Winnipeg, who was present, announced that about one hundred cattle dealers in the Northwest had organized, and would affiliate with the Association.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago.—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$5 to \$5.75; poor to medium, \$3.50 to \$4.90; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$4.25; canners, \$1.50 to \$2. Hogs—Market 10c. lower; mixed and butchers', \$5.10 to \$5.45; good to choice, heavy, \$5.40 to \$5.52½; rough, heavy, \$5.15 to \$5.40; light, \$4.50 to \$5.20; bulk of sales, \$5.10 to \$5.35. Sheep and Lambs—Market steady to firm; good to choice wethers, \$4.25 to \$4.75; fair to choice, mixed, \$3.50 to \$4.25; western sheep, \$2.75 to \$5.25; native lambs, \$4.50 to \$5.75.

Buffalo Markets.

East Buffalo.—Cattle—Steers, \$5.10 to \$5.25; shipping, \$4.60 to \$5; butchers', \$4 to \$4.85. Hogs—Heavy, \$5.70 to \$5.75; mixed, \$5.60 to \$5.65; Yorkers, \$5.50 to \$5.65. Sheep and Lambs—Lambs, \$5 to \$6.10; yearlings, \$5.25 to \$5.50; wethers, \$4.75 to \$4.90; ewes, \$4.60 to \$4.65.

Live-stock Shipments.

Statement of live stock shipped from the port of St. John, N. B., and Portland, Me., for week ending February 28th, 1904, as compiled by Robert Bickerdike & Co., Ltd., Dominion Live-stock Exchange, Montreal: Cattle, 2,711; sheep, 872.

British Cattle Markets.

London, March 4.—Live cattle steady at 11c. to 11½c. per lb. for steers, dressed weight; refrigerator beef, 8½c. to 9½c. per lb. Sheep, 13c. to 13½c. per lb.

CONTENTS.—For contents of this issue see page 358.