

## MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING.

Nov. 22nd, 1897.

The general business throughout the country has been in a fairly prosperous condition, people are beginning to realize that a good trade is going steadily on, and a more healthy feeling prevails.

## Wheat

The wheat situation is not changed very much. The uncertainty of the real condition of the Argentine crop, and the varying demand from Europe, will cause prices to fluctuate a little. They have varied a few cents the past week, and at the time of writing wheat is about one cent higher than it was last week. Montreal quotes wheat at 89c. and 90c. At Toronto exporters' wheat is being bought at 82c., middle freights, and 81c. north and west. Spring wheat is bringing 78c., and goose wheat 77c. east. Manitoba wheat, No. 1 hard, is quoted at 95c. at Goderich and Midland.

## Barley and Oats.

The demand for barley is quiet, but there has been no decline in price. At the close of the week it was worth a cent more for feeding purposes. There is scarcely any new barley offering that is fit for malting. The price for No. 2 is 30c. to 31c., and for feed is 24c. to 25c. outside; 50c. to 55c. is still being offered for old barley of good malting grades.

There has been an increasingly active demand for oats during the week. The oat crop throughout the Northwest is not an extra one, and at the low prices prevailing it is being fed to stock. An active demand for export sprung up the past week, and prices have gone up nearly two cents. Mixed lots are now bringing 24c. and white 25c., north and west freights. About 50,000 bushels have been sold for export to Liverpool the last few days.

## Peas and Corn.

Most of the business in peas is being done in through freights to British ports. The demand during the week was very active, and prices advanced two cents a bushel, but have fallen back to 44c. middle, and 43c. north and west freights.

The corn crop for 1897 in the United States is now estimated at about 1,500,000,000 bushels, both by government and by private experts. The annual consumption of corn in the United States is from 1,700,000,000 to 1,800,000,000 bushels, and seven-eighths of this is used for feeding stock and the rest for manufacturing and distilling purposes. The crop of 1896 was the largest ever grown, 2,300,000,000 bushels, while that of 1895 was 2,175,000,000 bushels. Two such large crops following one after the other have made the visible supply the largest ever known. On the first of March stocks on hand were estimated at 1,164,000,000 bushels. From this it would appear that there is plenty of corn in the land. The export demand depends on the price; an advance of 10c. or 15c. a bushel cuts down the demand materially, and although the crop is a large one the export trade is not overly large. The price at Toronto fluctuates a little around 26c. and 27c. for old Canada Yellow, west, and there is small prospect of any great advance in price. Montreal prices are a few cents higher.

## Rye and Buckwheat.

There has been a good demand for rye for export, and prices are steady at 44c. middle freights, and 43c. north and west.

Buckwheat has been in steady demand for export. Prices ran up to 31c., but only 30½c. is offered now.

## Millfeed.

Shorts is in fair demand at \$11 and \$12 cars west, and liran at \$8 cars west.

## Potatoes.

Potatoes are firmer, and higher, and are bound to go higher still. The offerings are small, and the farmers are evidently holding for higher prices. Car lots have been sold at Toronto at 55c. and as high as 60c. per bag. Some of these were bought as low as 37½c. in country places a few weeks ago. The New York and Boston markets are firmer, and American buyers have been looking up potatoes both in Quebec and Ontario.

## Money.

There has been no change in the honey market. Choice Ontario white clover honey in the comb is quoted at 14c. to 15c. per section. Quebec comb honey is all more or less tinged; and is worth from 9½c. to 12c. Ex-

tracted honey, 7c. to 9c. for white, and 6c. to 6½c. for dark.

## Apples.

The demand for apples continues firm. No. 1 are quoted at \$3 to \$4.50 per bbl., No. 2, \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bbl. Dried apples, 2½c. to 3½c. per lb. Evaporated, 5½c. to 6c. per lb.

## Cheese.

The middlemen, upon whom devolves the task of carrying a sufficient supply of cheese from now until production begins again, are anxiously estimating the amount of cheese still in the country. Messrs. Hodgson Bros. have issued a circular in which they estimate the total production of cheese in Canada during 1897 at 2,514,300 boxes. This is 452,000 boxes more than was made last year. Over three weeks ago the *Montreal Trade Bulletin* made a somewhat similar estimate counting at that time that there would be from 700,000 to 750,000 still to ship before next season. If this estimate of the amount of stocks left over is correct, Canada will have none too many to supply the demand if it is a good one. Estimates of stocks are usually under rather than over the actual amounts. Another estimate will be made at the close of navigation. The steadier feeling that prevailed when the last report was written has continued, and a lot of business has been done. Cable advices are quiet, and after such supplies as have gone forward, nothing else could be expected. Finest Ontario are quoted at from 8½c. to 8¾c.

## Butter.

The market is quiet and easy for the early makes of creamery. There is a steadier feeling for choice late makes. Enquiries have been better from England since the cold weather set in, but there is said to be quite a lot of August and September creamery still in factory men's hands, and the fall make is believed to be large. October creamery is quoted at 18½c. to 18¾c., September creamery at 17½c. to 18c., dairy butter at from 12½c. to 16c.

## Eggs.

There has been but little change in the market. At Montreal 19c. is being paid for single cases of strictly new laid eggs, and in round lots 18c. At Toronto strictly fresh stock is bringing 15c. to 16½c.

## Dressed Poultry.

Large shipments of poultry are being made up for the Christmas market in England. A Toronto buyer has just made arrangements for ocean freights for fifteen carloads of dressed turkeys and chickens to be shipped from St. John, N.B., on December 8th. They will go in cold storage. A Montreal firm are arranging to ship seventy-five tons by the *Parisian*, from Portland, on the same day. Turkeys are bringing 8½c. to 9c. a pound; geese, 5c. to 6½c. Chickens are in good demand at 6½c. to 7c. and ducks 7½c. to 8½c. at Montreal. Similar prices prevail at Toronto.

## Cattle.

There is no improvement in the export cattle trade. In England the fall pastures have been good, and the prospects for easy keep during the winter have never been better. Consequently home cattle have not been rushed onto the market at the approach of cold weather, as is the usual custom. Hence prices should be better for stock shipped there. A Liverpool gentleman gives as a reason why they are not bringing better prices that the cattle are too rough and lacking in quality. He also says that after the middle of September Canadian cattle do not kill so well. They have no sap in them, and as soon as they begin to fall off in ripeness and quality the best butchers will not handle them. Hence there is a decline in prices, and as freights become dearer in the fall there is less margin on our export cattle. Prices at Toronto for export stuff is low. Choice animals for export will bring 3½c., but the greater number sell for less. Choice butchers' cattle are in good demand just now, while the very best bring 4c. Poor stuff are hard to sell. The majority of the sales are made around the three-cent mark. During the past week stockers did not bring as high a price. The market for them is largely in Buffalo, and the demand for them has not been so good. It takes the best to bring \$3.20 per cwt. Feeders are quiet at 3¼c. to 3½c.

## Sheep.

Export sheep are dull, at from 3c. to 3½c. For good lambs there is a good enquiry, and prices range from 4c. to 4½c. At Buffalo good Canada lambs are bringing as high as \$5.85 to \$5.90. It is estimated that the bulk

of Canadian lambs have been bought, and as soon as they are marketed prices are likely to rise a little.

## Hogs.

The decline in price has stopped the rush of hogs, and very few are offering. There is, however, a firmer tone to the market, and the prospects are good for a rise in prices. In a month's time prices are likely to be back to good figures again. For bacon hogs, thick fat hogs, and stores, 4½c. is being paid weighed off the cars. It is reported that pigs have been bought for delivery within a week at 4¼c., and some light hogs at 4½c.

## Hay.

There is no change in the market for hay at Toronto. It is still \$8 to \$9 a ton on the tracks.

Baled straw is quoted at \$5 on the track.

## Stock Notes.

R. H. HARDING, Thorndale, Ont.: My herd of Chesters was founded about nine years ago, and has been replenished from time to time with first-class imported stock. My herd numbers about forty head now. Annie, 519, the bronze medal winner at London, farrowed sixteen fine pigs October 27th from a prize-winning sire. I commenced breeding Dorset sheep seven years ago, and have found them very profitable indeed.

LEALHIGH GRANGE FARM, DANVILLE, P.Q.: Having decided to make dairying a specialty, we have increased our herd of Ayrshires and Guernseys, till we have now two of as large herds as there are in Canada. The six young bulls offered in our advertisement this month are grandly bred, and should make fine animals to head herds where milking strains are wanted. Our young stock are all in grand, thrifty condition and we will be pleased to have intending purchasers come and inspect our stock. One of our late purchases was the noted bull Matchless, a son of Nellie Osborne, by Glencairn (Imp.). The young stock after this bull have proved very superior, and speak for themselves.

B. H. BULL & SON'S Brampton Jersey Herd. Among the sales recently made by Messrs. B. H. Bull & Son the following are of special mention: The beautiful young bull, Sir Brier of Brampton, purchased by Edgar Silcox, Shedden. He is an exceptionally fine animal; large, handsome, and a rich, mellow handler, was very successful in the show ring, taking sweepstakes at the best bull of any age in Montreal; second in Toronto in a very large class, and first in all county fairs where exhibited. He is a son of the famous three-year-old Sunbeam of Brampton, which is the most successful Jersey of her age in Canada. In 1896 she won six red tickets, being first wherever shown. In 1897 she has also scored five firsts, has taken the sweepstakes in Montreal as the best female of any age, and in Bradford won the milk test open to all ages and breeds. Sunbeam is a daughter of the famous cow Corinne, that won second place at the Provincial Dairy Show in Guj. Ind., 1896. Sir Brier is sired by the renowned Sir Ollie, whose gets have been wonderfully successful in the show ring, and are now distinguishing themselves in the dairy. He is also a half-brother to Ollie Boy, now owned by Mr. Dent, of Woodstock.

S. WICKS & SON, Battenwood Farm, Mount Dennis, have been breeding Jersey cattle since April, 1893. Their first Jersey cow was Peerless of St. Lambert, 2842, A.J.C.C., bought from Mr. Wm. Scully. Their first appearance in the show ring was in the year 1896, at the Industrial Fair, where their young Jersey bull, Violet's Leo, took third place in the yearling class. From there he went to Montreal and Ottawa, taking first place in his class, and winning the sweepstakes for best bull of any age, thus beating all the others, including the bulls that beat him in Toronto. He is a grand young bull, and in another year, if wintered well, will be a hard bull to beat. In temper he is as docile as it is possible to be, and is a sure getter. His get have been exceptionally fine yearlings. Among others in the herd are Violet of Glen Duart, 40710, A.J.C.C., with a record of 18½ lb. butter in seven days; Queen of St. Lambert, 104474, A.J.C.C., who is believed to be able to test up to nearly 30 lbs.; and Lady Alice of St. Lambert, 125815, A.J.C.C., Peerless King is a promising young yearling bull. Among the younger stock are Violet's Luck, Queen's Saddle, and others equally as good.

N. DYMENT, of Hickory Hill Stock Farm, Clappison's Corners, has been in the dairy business eight years. He was so successful with Ayrshire grades that some three years ago he purchased a purebred heifer. She proved such a grand cow that he purchased more, and he has since bred them with great satisfaction. His herd now numbers some twenty-two head, of which fourteen are purebred Ayrshires. That he has stock of great milking abilities may be gathered from the fact that Dandy, 2293, at four years old, with just a fair chance, gave 55 lb. of milk in one day when she had been calved two and one-half months. Another of his cows, Liberty Bank Susie, 2847, another four-year-old, gave 50 lb. in one day, when calved three and one-half months. Nellie Gray, 2057, on August 7th, gave 53 lb. in one day, and tested 5.02 per cent. of butter fat, the test being made by the milk inspector of Hamilton. Cora, a three-year-old, with her first calf, gave 40 lb. Ruby of Hickory Hill gave, as a two-year-old, 40 lb. Others are doing equally well, and he is more than pleased with them. He has at present a bull calf fourteen months old, King of Hickory Hill, a brother to Ruby of Hickory Hill. Ruby was first this fall at the Toronto Industrial in a large class and strong competition. She has never been beaten, and has captured eleven first prizes. He has also a good bull calf, two months old, out of Highland Mary of Hickory Hill. Her dam is Primrose, by an imported sire. He has also a nice Jersey bull calf, which he won as a special prize for the best herd of dairy cattle at one of the local fairs. The calf was bred by Mr. Leather, of Waterloo. Mr. Dymont also keeps Chester White swine and Brown Leghorn fowls.

## Publishers' Desk.

**Christmas Fat Stock Show.**—The directors of the County of Oxford Fat Stock Club will hold their thirteenth annual show at Ingersoll on Thursday, December 16th. Good prizes are offered for cattle, sheep, swine, and poultry. A special feature in the swine classes is that, with the exception of one section, they all call for "best bacon," barrow or sow. This is right. Competition is open to any one in the province. A fair for the sale of fat cattle will be held on the same day. This is a good feature, and one which should commend itself to those who have fat stock for sale.

## Ontario Beekeepers' Association.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association will be held in the County Council Chamber, Hamilton, on the 7th, 8th, and 9th of December. Addresses are expected from representatives of both the local and Dominion parliaments and from some of the best beekeepers in America. A cordial invitation is extended to all interested in beekeeping to attend. Further particulars can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. W. Couse, Streetsville, Ont.

## Western Dairymen's Convention.

The Executive Committee of the Western Butter and Cheese Association met recently, and completed arrangements for the next annual convention, which will be held in London, Ont., on January 19th, 20th and 21st, 1898. Among the prominent speakers who will be present are Dr. W. H. Jordan, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N.Y.; Mr. H. B. Gurler, of DeKalb, Ill.; Dr. Connell, Kingston; Professors Robertson, Shutt, and Dean. Every phase of practical and scientific dairying will be discussed, and no dairymen should fail to be present.

**Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association.**—The annual meeting was held on Nov. 4th, 1897. The report of the Executive Committee showed that a good year's work had been done. The number of entries made in the record during the year was 2,276. Trade in Aberdeen-Angus cattle has been good; seventeen per cent. more certificates of entry and transfer were written this year than last. There was an increase of 75 per cent. in new members this year over the average of the last five years. In all \$1,075 was paid in special premiums at the various fairs. The officers for the ensuing year are: President, M. L. Evans, of Iowa; vice-president, O. E. Bradstreet, of Iowa; secretary-treasurer, Thos. McFarlane, of Illinois.

## American Shropshire Association.

The twelfth annual meeting was held in Chicago on November 4th. Several addresses on matters pertaining to the sheep industry in general and the Shropshire sheep in particular were delivered. The Hon. John Dryden, Ontario's worthy Minister of Agriculture, was again elected president. Messrs. R. Gibson, of Delaware, and J. N. Greenshields, Danville, Que., are members of the executive committee.

**Kingston Dairy School.**—In our issue of November 2nd we published a fine photograph of the staff and students of the Kingston Dairy School for the session of 1896-97. We are advised by the superintendent, Mr. Ruddick, that the photo only included a portion of the students who attended.

**Special Offer to "Farming" Subscribers.**—We are pleased to be able to make the following combination offer to the readers of FARMING. Examine it carefully and see if it will not be in your interests to secure the advantage of these clubbing rates:

FARMING and <i>Toronto Weekly Globe</i> ..	\$1 50
FARMING and <i>Toronto Weekly Mail and Empire</i> ..	1 40
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FARMING and <i>Montreal Daily Witness</i> ..	3 00
FARMING and <i>Montreal Weekly Witness</i> ..	1 60
FARMING and <i>Family Herald and Weekly Star</i> ..	1 75
FARMING and <i>London Weekly Free Press</i> ..	1 75
FARMING and <i>London Weekly Advertiser</i> ..	1 40
FARMING and <i>Ottawa Semi-Weekly Free Press</i> ..	1 60