

THE "JIMMY"-COW.

By Peter McArthur.

Ekfrid, December 31.—I have quite a bunch of letters from back-to-the-landers who have asked specific questions and as soon as the holiday excitement is over and "The tumult and the shouting dies" I shall try to answer them in detail. In the meantime they may pick up some helpful hints by pondering on some of the every day happenings recorded in this column. At the present time I find it necessary to spend from four to five hours every day, Sundays included, doing chores. That should give them some idea of what they are coming to. Mind you, I am not complaining, I rather like the work, but people have an idea that chores are unimportant matters that need not be taken into consideration when discussing farm work. They will find, however, that feeding a dozen head of cattle, watering them, cleaning out the stable, milking four cows twice a day and separating the cream takes up a lot of time and when the thermometer is hovering around zero it is none too pleasant. And besides the regular routine there are bound to be incidents that try the temper. For instance, when I was doing the chores one day last week with the thermometer at six below I cut the ice on the Government drain and turned out the cows to water. When I had finished cleaning the corn-stalks out of the mangers and had put in a fresh supply of feed I noticed that only the red cow and her eldest daughter, who never leaves her side, had returned to the barnyard. An investigation showed the rest of the herd were standing around the water hole. I started down to find out what was the matter and found the "Jimmy"-cow standing over the hole in the ice keeping the rest of the cattle away. She had her fill of ice water and was shivering with cold, but she was in possession of the visible water supply and was bound to show her authority even if she fr-froze. She got out of the way of the swinging kick I launched at her and my leg almost pulled itself out by the roots. Such conduct on the part of a cow leads me to believe just the opposite to Gratiano, who was inclined "To hold opinion with Pythagoras. That souls of animals infuse themselves Into the trunks of men."

I incline to the belief that the souls of men infuse themselves into the trunks of animals for it does not seem possible that by any process of evolution animals should develop such human meanness. I have often seen human beings play just such tricks as that cow played, and it strikes me as being of wholly human origin. In the same way I have always doubted the "dog in the manger" story. I have never seen the trick of keeping another animal from using something that was of no use to itself played by any dog of my acquaintance. The trait is wholly human and can be accounted for only on a theory of transmigration. The "Jimmy"-cow must be occupied by the spirit of some gripping old miser, for she has other traits that are entirely human. She is so discontented with her lot that she bawls whinily even when she has her mouth full and in that way contradicts a verse in Job which I cannot locate this morning, and which asks if the ox "loweth over its manger." If I can only manage to sell the "Jimmy"-cow to some back-to-the-lander next spring he will learn much by studying her exasperating little ways.

To-day we are having what may justly be called a **White Day**. The earth is white, the sky is white and the falling flakes almost hide the trees and buildings that alone break the almost universal whiteness. The children are having a snow fight and they are white from head to foot from rolling in the feathery snow. The snow drifts serve as trenches and instead of siege guns they are using brooms with which they sweep the snow into one another's faces. Even this kind of thing seems to have changed since I was a boy. In the last fight in which I took part we used snow balls that had been soaked in water, but probably the use of that kind of dum-dum snowball has been forbidden by the Hague Tribunal. I have a very distinct recollection of being hit by one that had been thrown by the biggest boy in the school. As I remember it, it passed clear through me, mushrooming as it went, and I caught the fragments in my hands as they came out on the other side. But I daresay I was mistaken. That was only what it felt like and I survived. Although the weather is cold enough we are not having any skating for the holidays. The trickle of water in the bottom of the Government drain is frozen, but the drain is filled level with snow and in some places it must be several feet deep. It would be too much like work to clean off enough of it for skating. But we are having excellent sleighing and cutter rides are of daily occurrence. We have already had as much winter as we had in some seasons that I remember but we still have the worst months ahead of us. One day last week the mercury went down lower than my thermometer registers, and I had to guess at the temperature. The instrument registered down to twenty-two degrees and as nearly as I could judge the mercury went down at least five degrees more. As it is a week since I have been off the farm I have not heard what other thermometers in the neighborhood registered, but I am willing to bet that some of them will be quoted at thirty or lower. My thermometer is safe and sane compared with some that I hear about.

A friendly publisher sent me his latest book at Christmas, and I used considerable midnight oil reading it. It is an excellent book, well worthy of a careful review, but I do not propose to mention either the publisher, author or the name of the work. I merely wish to describe the mood it inspired. Whatever this book may mean to other men, to me it was the last straw. It deals authoritatively with the political, business and social fabric of the world, and is so comprehensive and competent that it might be called the last word on the subject—until some time next week when another book equally important will probably appear. What overwhelmed me was the easy capacity and massive learning of the author. I felt that if it is necessary to know as much as this man knows in order to have any grasp of modern conditions we may as well give up. As a matter of curiosity I jotted down the list of authorities quoted in one chapter of this amazing book. The author not only quoted them but treated them as familiarly as if he had been brought up in the same town with

NAVAL STORE MARKET

New York, December 31.—The situation in the local market for naval stores shows little change. There is a very light inquiry, as the buyers are holding off until the turn of the year when operations of the manufacturers will be resumed. Locally 45 cents was repeated for turpentine with merely a hand-to-mouth movement in lots of a few barrels. The receipts of naval stores here include 267 barrels rosin, 75 turpentine, and 130 tar. Tar is dull and nominally repeated at the basis of \$6.50 for kiln burned and 50 cents more for retort. Pitch is repeated at \$4.00. Rosins were easier in the primary market and hence spot quotations should logically have been lower. Common to good strained is held at \$3.60.

The following were the prices of rosins in the yard: B. C. D. \$3.70; E. \$3.75; F. G. H. \$3.80; I. \$3.90; K. \$4.40; M. \$4.95; N. \$5.75; W. G. \$6.10; W. W. \$6.40. Savannah, December 31.—Turpentine firm, 42 cents to 42½ cents. Sales, 236; receipts, 270; shipments, 34; stocks, 36,299. Rosin firm. Sales, 491; receipts, 1,146; shipments, 643; stocks, 151,056. Quote: A. B. C. D. E. \$3.15; F. \$3.17½; G. \$3.20; H. \$3.25; I. \$3.45; K. \$3.75; M. \$4.50; N. \$5.55; W. G. W. W. \$5.75. Liverpool, December 31.—Turpentine spirits 36s. 3d. Rosin common 10s. 9d.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET.

New York, December 31.—Foreign exchange market opened firm with demand sterling up ¼. Sterling—Cables 4.85½; demand 4.85½ to 4.85½. Francs—Cables 5.15½; demand 5.16½. Marks—Cables \$8 7-16 to \$8½; demand \$8 5-16. Guilders—Cables 40 9-16; demand 40 7-16.

MARKET VERY DULL.

New York, December 31.—Indications at the opening pointed to another dull day, although forecasts of Great Britain's answer to President Wilson's protest on the shipping matter were of a reassuring character. The volume of business in the first few minutes was small and initial price changes, while generally on the side of advance were confined to such small fractions that they did not indicate a definite tendency. Western Maryland which had declined on Wednesday afternoon following the announcement that payment of the January interest on notes would be deferred, made a new low by opening at 12½, compared with 12½ at the close on Wednesday. United States Steel started unchanged at 49.

COTTON MARKET QUIET.

New York, December 31.—The Cotton Market was quiet and steady. Traders expected a free holiday market with little business and small fluctuations.

CUT NAILS QUOTED AT \$1.50.

New York, December 31.—Cut nails are quoted at \$1.50 per keg as against \$1.55 a week ago.

LET WANTED MAN GO.

Yarmouth, N.S., December 31.—A man giving the name of Orr and claiming to be an agent of the Imperial Government arrived here Monday and on Tuesday and Wednesday was busy in bargaining for horses. On Wednesday afternoon he was caught trying to sneak aboard a boat for Boston and a military officer had him arrested but afterwards let him go. He went to Acadia, where he spent the night and "skipped out" on the morning train to-day. Word has since been received that he had been released to be one of the escaped prisoners from Melville Island.

CHICAGO WHEAT.

Chicago, December 31.—Wheat firm. Rains in Argentina harvesting season and advance of about a cent at Buenos Ayres were expected to improve demand for American wheat. Corn steady in sympathy with wheat. Receipts continue in fair volume, however. Chicago, December 31.—Opening: Wheat: May 129 to 128½; July 119 to 118½, up ½ to ½. Corn—May, 73½ to 73½, up ½ to unchanged; July 74½ to 74½, up ½ to unchanged. Oats—May 52½, unchanged.

RIO COFFEE MARKET.

New York, December 31.—Rio market lower. No. 7 off 75 reis, stock 475,000 bags, against 438,000 last year. Santos unchanged, stock 2,136,000, against 2,563,000 a year ago. Port receipts 80,000 bags, a year ago 41,000. Interior receipts 90,000, compared with 54,000 a year ago. No exchange on London up 3-32 to 14 3-32d.

them and had played with the same pup. Here is the list: Chief Justice Marshall, Alexander Hamilton, Bill Haywood, Rousseau, Adam Smith, Solomon, G. K. Chesterton, W. J. Bryan, Machiavelli, William Vaughan Moody, William English Walling, Nietzsche, Karl Marks, Balzac, Ibsen, Shakespeare, Matthew Arnold, Professor Babbitt, Paul Elmore More, Bollenau, Hillaire Belloc. How is that for a list of "among those present" in one chapter of a book of twenty equally crowded chapters? I gave up in disgust. If a man needs to know as much as this author knows in order to discuss our social problems I am going to give up and confine my meditations to the vagaries of the red cow! These things are becoming too deep for common men. I don't know what will become of us unless some educationist rediscovers the system of education under which Orlando was "never schooled and yet learned." What we need is not a royal road to learning but a road that plain people can travel. An ordinary man may investigate and define his relations to as much of our social fabric as he comes in contact with, but these men who "grasp this sorry scheme of things entire" deal with problems that are beyond our comprehension and possibly beyond their own. As a relief from this book I am going to read an old-fashioned blood and thunder dime novel that I have discovered among the children's books when undertaking to overlook their reading. It is bound in cloth and fully illustrated but it has the same old flavor as the kind that boys used to read on the slo in the haylofts many years ago.

MANITOBA'S FIELD CROPS THIS YEAR

Material Increase in all Classes of Livestock was Shown; and Greater Crop Area

YIELD CROP AREA

Farmers are Branching Out More Extensively Into Mixed Farming, Particularly in Sheep-Dairy Trade Has Been Augmented.

The annual report of the Manitoba provincial department of agriculture shows a material increase in the number of all classes of livestock, greater area under crop and a most satisfactory year for dairy products.

The past spring was unusually backward, April opened up cold and wet; in a few districts wheat seeding started by April 15, but had to be discontinued, and was not at all general until about the end of the month. This was fully two weeks later than usual. May was quite favorable for seeding operations, and the last of the wheat was sown by the 20th.

In most parts of the province there was an absence of rain, and growth was backward. There were a few showers in the early part of June; the latter part of the month being warm and dry, the young grain, especially on light, sandy land, began to suffer. July was one of the hottest months in the history of the province. This high temperature, which was accompanied with a light rainfall, caused the grain in most districts to ripen too rapidly. Particularly in this true of light, sandy soil of the plains; cleared timber and scrub land did not suffer so severely.

Harvest was quite general by the end of the first week of August, and practically completed by the close of the month, making it one of the earliest harvests in the history of the province. September was decidedly favorable for threshing, and very little grain was injured in the stack.

The autumn months were ideal for fall plowing, and evidently the settlers availed themselves of this opportunity for getting the land ready for a bumper crop in 1915.

Although the area in wheat was about 225,000 acres more than last year, the yield per acre is 14½ bushels lower, and the aggregate yield for the province is 10,250,000 bushels less. This deficiency is, no doubt, attributable to the excessive heat and light rainfall during the summer months. The sample was somewhat thin and light in weight, but otherwise of average quality.

There was an increase of nearly 125,000 acres in the area devoted to oats, but, owing to the favorable season, the average yield was decreased by 12 bushels to the acre, and the aggregate crop was over 19,000,000 bushels less than a year ago. These figures show that the unfavorable climatic conditions were even more injurious to the oat crop than to the wheat crop; this is, no doubt, due to the fact that oats were sown at a later date than wheat and therefore did not receive the benefit of the early spring rains. The same remarks hold good with regard to the shrinkage in the yield of barley.

The greatly reduced market value of this seed is, no doubt, accountable for the decrease.

There has been a noticeable increase in the areas sown to potatoes and field roots; but these crops also suffered from the unfavorable climatic conditions, reducing the yield per acre materially.

With the single exception of rye grass, all the fodder crops show an increased acreage. The area devoted to alfalfa is more than twice that of last year. Fodder corn has also been more extensively planted. It is very gratifying indeed to find that the department's efforts to encourage the growing of these two useful fodder plants has met with such success.

It is pleasing to notice a material increase in the number of all classes of livestock, particularly in the matter of sheep. Evidently the farmers are branching out more extensively into mixed farming. This contention is amply proved by the increase in the number of poultry disposed of and the augmentation of dairy products.

This has been a very satisfactory year from a dairy standpoint, as the dairy products table shows. While there has been some decline in the quantity of dairy butter made, and also in the quantity of cream used for sweet cream and ice cream purposes, there has been a marked increase in the output of creamery butter, and also substantial increases in both the quantity of cheese manufactured and the milk consumed as such, as the following short table shows:

Year	Butter pounds	Cheese pounds	Milk pounds
1913	3,929,275	996,195	46,600,000
1914	4,761,353	1,713,353	48,925,000
There was a slight decline in the prices, but still those for this year were quite satisfactory.			
The following table shows the gains in live stock:			
	1911	1912	1913
Horses	325,297	390,753	428,819
Cattle	428,819	456,936	52,142
Sheep	73,199	52,142	325,416
Pigs	325,416	218,254	
Poultry disposed of by farmers:			
	1914	1913	
Turkeys	184,236	176,964	
Geese	81,729	79,949	
Chickens	815,852	777,500	
Land prepared for crop of 1915:			
	1914	1913	
Breaking	175,326	155,942	
Summer fallowing	1,208,394	1,144,405	
Fall plowing	2,733,885	1,581,824	
Total	4,117,615	2,882,171	

LIVERPOOL COTTON.

Liverpool, December 31.—Futures opened quiet 2 to 3 points lower. May-June, July-Aug. Oct.-Nov. Jan.-Feb. Close . . . 4.34 4.41 4.52½ 4.58 Due . . . 4.32½ 4.40½ 4.52½ 4.58 Open . . . 4.31 4.38 4.50½ 4.55½ At 12.30 p.m., spots quiet, prices lower with middlings at 4.58d. Sales 5,900 bales. Receipts 19,000 bales, all American. At 12.45 p.m., spot prices were: American middlings fair 5.47d.; good middlings 4.82d.½; middlings 4.53d.; low middlings 4.11d.; good ordinary 3.49d.; ordinary 3.04d.

COPPER SALES.

New York, December 31.—Sales of copper in December are estimated between 90,000,000 and 100,000,000 pounds, by one of the largest copper producers, or from 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 pounds in excess of refinery production.

THE HOP MARKET

New York, December 31.—No new business was reported from the Pacific Coast Hop Markets, but the tone was reported firm for the top grades. There was no change in the local and state markets. The quotations below are between dealers in the New York market, and an advance is usually obtained from dealers to brewers. States, 1914—Prime to choice 23 to 27; medium to prime 16 to 22. 1913—Nominal. Old, olds 7 to 8. Germans, 1914—35 to 38. Pacifics, 1914—Prime to choice 13 to 14; medium to prime 10 to 12. 1913—8 to 10. Old, olds 7 to 8. Bohemian, 1914—36 to 41.

FIRE CAUSED \$1,000 LOSS.

One thousand dollars' loss was occasioned by a fire which broke out last night in a building at 374½ Yonge street, Toronto. The building was owned by John Wantless and was occupied by Ely Herman, furrier, and the Queen's Cloak Company. The loss to the fur company is estimated at \$300 and to the cloak company \$700. The cause of the fire is unknown.

FORMING LOCAL BRANCH.

Fredericton, N.B., December 31.—N. C. Cameron, of St. John, secretary of the New Brunswick Provincial Board of the Retail Merchants' Association of Canada, Inc., is here to form a local branch of the association.

NEW YORK OPENING.

New York, December 31.—Stock market opening: Pennsylvania . . . 104½, up ¼. Southern Pacific . . . 81½. Reading . . . 143, up ¼. Union Pacific . . . 116, up ¼. Western Maryland . . . 123½, off ¼. Amalgamated Copper . . . 51¼, up ¼.

LIQUIDATOR APPOINTED.

The voting creditors of the Dominion Trust Co., yesterday nominated Andrew Stewart, a young Scotch auditor, as permanent liquidator for the company. In appointing Mr. Stewart liquidator, Chief Justice Hunter also made it clear that as the company had not to accept deposits the depositors' claims could not possibly rank with the claims of the ordinary creditors.

SUGAR FUTURES.

New York, December 31.—Sugar futures market opened steady.	Bid.	Asked.
February	2.86	2.90
March	2.90	2.94
April	2.96	2.98
May	3.03	3.06
June	3.10	3.12
July	3.15	3.17
August	3.20	
September	3.25	3.28

The fact that the successful business man is an advertiser is usually overlooked because he is wise and possessed of good, sound business sense, and an analytical mind. At some time or other he came to the conclusion that advertising could be made one of the mightiest factors of his business organization, and having arrived at this conclusion, he just naturally went to it and advertised.

PHILADELPHIA OPENING.

Philadelphia, December 31.—Market opened steady: United Gas . . . 82½. Philadelphia Rapid Transit . . . 11 bid.

LIVERPOOL GRAIN.

Liverpool, December 31.—Corn opened unchanged from Wednesday, Jan. 6s. 3½d., Feb. 6s. 1½d. Wheat not quoted.

THE HIDE MARKET

New York, December 31.—Quiet conditions prevailed in the market for hides yesterday, and there was an absence of new developments to record. Tanners evinced little interest in common dry hides, and no sales were reported. Prices continued firm, previous quotations being repeated. There were no changes in wet or dry salted hides.

	Bid.	Asked.
Orinoco		31½
La Guaya		31
Puerto Cabello		30½
Maracaibo		30½
Guatemala	29½	30½
Central America	29½	30
Ecuador		26
Bogota	31	32
Vera Cruz		32
Tampico		25
Tabasco		25
Tuxpam		28
Dry Salted: Selected—		
Payta		21
Maracaibo		21
Pernambuco		21
Matamoros		21
Wet Salted:		
Vera Cruz	17½	18½
Mexico		18½
Sancti Spiriti	16½	17
Sancti Spiriti	16½	17
Havana	17	18
City slaughter, spreads		23
City native steers, sel. 60 or over		21½
City branded		19½
City bull		16
City cow, all weights		21
Country slaughter, steers, 60 or over	20	
Country slaughter, cow	20	
Country slaughtered bull, 60 or over	16	16½

SUGAR MARKET CLOSED.

New York, December 31.—The raw and refined sugar trades have decided to close their offices from to-day until Monday for the observance of New Year's.

HOLIDAY ASPECT IN STEEL.

New York, December 31.—The steel market has taken on a holiday aspect. Few contracts are being closed and little in the way of buying is expected until after the first of the year. Price of \$1.10 for bars, plates and shapes is expected to rule after January 1st. Mills of United States Steel Corporation are operating at about 25 per cent. of capacity, but this is due to the usual shutdowns during the holiday season. Increased production will be in evidence before the close of the first week of next month.

COFFEE MARKET.

New York, December 31.—Coffee market opened steady.	Bid.	Asked.
March	6.13	6.15
May	6.35	6.40
July	7.29	7.35
September	7.34	7.35

LIVERPOOL COTTON, 2 P.M.

Liverpool, December 31, 2 p.m.—Futures dull, 2½ points lower. Sales 5,000 bales, including 2,900 American. May-June, 4.31½; July-Aug. 4.38½; Oct.-Nov. 4.50½.

Boston, December 31.—Market opened dull. American Tel. ex-div. . . . 116½, up ½. United Fruit . . . 119. Butte and Sun . . . 30½, off ½.

COTTON OPENING.

New York, December 31.—Cotton market opened steady. May, 7.94, off 1; July, 8.13, off 2; Oct., 8.33, unchanged.

NEW YORK CURB.

New York, December 31.—Curb market opened irregular:	Bid.	Ask.
Profit Sharing	17	17
Standard Oil, New Jersey	397	400
Anglo-American	14½	15½
World Film	5	5½

NATIONAL STEEL CAR CO.

Hamilton, Ont., December 31.—The French and British orders, aggregating in value \$1,500,000, received by the National Steel Car Company, will mean employment for 500 additional men. The company is now employing a staff of 300 men. The recent orders will furnish steady employment for four months with the plant working day and night most of the time.

U. S. CROPS AND FARM PRODUCTS.

Washington, December 31.—The Department of Agriculture estimates the value of all crops, farm animal products, and farm animals sold and slaughtered in United States in 1914 at grand total of \$9,872,936,000, a new high record and increase of \$53,000,000 over previous year.



NO USE, MY FRIEND, THE CURRENT'S TOO STRONG FOR YOU.

COAL

GET YOUR COAL BINS FILLED NOW AND SO AVOID TROUBLE AND DELAY LATER.

The Hartt & Adair
Coal Company
146 Notre Dame West

'Phone Main 5645.