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HEAD OFFICE, - TORONTO
Authorized Capital, \$500.000

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### It Leads Them All.

As applied to the gain in net amount of life insurance in force in Canada for the FIVE YEARS ending December 31st, 1903.



has once more established its right to the above claim. It stands to-day

#### At the Head Of All

life companies doing business in Canada in the NET AMOUNT IN FORCE GAINED OVER all its competitors during the past five years, as shown by the Government Reports.

in barrels, \$1.90; ditto, in kegs or tins, \$2.65; London washed whiting, 45c.; Paris white, 75 cents; Venetian boxes, \$2.40; 23-lb. tins, \$2.55; 12½-lb. red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2; Paris green, 14c. in bulk, and 15c. in 1-lb. packages; window glass, per 100 ft., \$3.25 for first break; \$3.45 for second break, and \$4.20 for third break; per 50 feet, \$1.70 for first break, and \$1.80 for second break.

#### TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 3, 1903.

Chemicals, Drugs, etc.—Not a very large business has been done this week, though probably for the season it is up to the average. Prices remain about steady. Opium is firm, and morphine somewhat especially active. Quinine is without change. New York advices speak of an absence of noteworthy features. Manchester trade is fairly good, that for export showing some improvement.

Dry Goods.—The more seasonable weather has brought about a much more active demand. Christmas needs, too, are becoming more noticeable, and a special feature is the enquiry for goods of high quality. Such things as hand-kerchiefs, gloves and many small articles suitable for presentation are selling briskly.

Flour and Grain.—A moderate enquiry exists for flour, and ninety per centpatents sell at \$3.05, middle freights, in buyers' bags. Millfeed and oatmeal are steady, and a good trade is going on. Wheat and other grain quotations remain the same as last week. The only change in the situation is in the demand for rye and buckwheat, for which a better enquiry has sprung up for local use. Receipts are improving with the better roads in the country, owing to the snowfall.

Fruits and Vegetables.-A demand is beginning for Christmas fruits, but trade as a whole continues on the light side. It is expected to improve rapidly, however. Prices may be quoted as follows: Apples, \$1 to \$2.25 per barrel, according to grade; cocoanuts, \$4 per sack; oranges, Floridas, \$3.75 to \$4 per case, \$2.75 to \$3.25 per box; Jamaicas, \$5 per barrel; lemons, Messina, \$3.50 to \$4 per case for 300's, \$3 to \$3.50 for 360's California, \$5 to \$5.50; Floridas, \$4 to \$5; bananas, 8's, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bunch; 1st, \$2 to \$2.50; sweet potatoes, \$3 to \$3.50 per barrel; celery, 20 to 30c. per dozen; cranberries, \$10 per barrel, \$1.25 per basket; Spanish onions, \$2.75 to \$3 per large case, and \$1 for small; Malaga grapes, \$5 to \$6 per barrel. The total shipments of apples from Canadian ports for the week ending November 21st were 212,773 barrels, against 161,848 barrels for same week last year, and 64,712 in 1901. Total shipments for the season to-date have been 2,101,798 barrels. against 1,262,163 for same time last year, and 391,951 for 1901.

Groceries.-The end of last week there was a decline in all grades of sugars amounting to 5c. per cwt. This was due to a similar movement in New York. In the latter place there was another drop of one-sixteenth on Wednesday, but so far this has not been followed locally. An average trade is being done. The trading in other lines of general groceries continues very much as before. Dried fruits are beginning to attract a good deal of attention, as is usual a few weeks before Christmas. There is a fair movement in canned vegetables and fruits. Teas are firm, but without much activity.

Hardware.—A thoroughly good business may be said to be the feature of the hardware trade just now, though, perhaps, the volume is no greater than was the case last year. Orders for practically all lines of seasonable goods are coming in satisfactorily. Travellers believe they have good prospects. Metals seem to be on a fairly steady basis now, and the movement is quite fair.

Hides and Skins.—Quietness prevails in the hide market, and no further changes have taken place in prices. For sheepskins the demand is good. Tallow remains as before. Leather for the moment is quiet, but is expected to show an improved enquiry after Christmas.

Live Stock.—Of really choice animals there is a scarcity, and they are in good demand, with a rising tendency in prices, especially for export. Butchers" cattle, too, are wanted. Sheep and lambs are quiet. There was another fall in prices for live hogs.

Wool.-Trade is quiet, a feeling which is accentuated by the reported decline in London prices. For pulled wools there is a fair demand from domestic mills, and prices continue firm. The offerings at the wool auction sales were f1,024 bales. There was a brisk demand for fine kinds at steady prices. Low and inferior grades were slow. Most of the grades offered were taken by the home trade. American buyers secured a few lots of superior. France and Germany competed for scoureds. A good supply of fine conditioned new clip caused spirited competition. Withdrawals were frequent. Following are the sales in detail: New South Wales, 3,000 bales; scoured, 11d. to 1s. 8d.; greasy, 41/4d. to is. 1/2d. Queensland, 900 bales; scoured, 91/2d. to 1s. 10d.; greasy, 63/4 to 10d. Victoria, 1,100 bales; scoured, 71/4d. to 1s. 8d.; greasy, 61/2d. to 1s. 11/2d. South Australia, 1,100 bales; greasy, 5d. to 1s. 1/2d. West Australia, 2,000 bales; greasy, 51/2 to 91/2d. Tasmania, 200 bales; greasy, 11d. to 1s. 1/2d. New Zealand, 2,800 bales; scoured, 6 to 71/2d.; greasy, 41/2 to 11d. Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 800 bales; scoured, 1s. 11/2d. to 1s. 9d.; greasy, 51/2 to 9d. The arrivals for the first series of the 1904 sales amounted to 8,384 bales, including 2,500 forwarded direct to spinners. The imports during the week were: New South Wales, 1,543; Queensland, 1,789; Victoria, 430; South Australia, 200; Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 2,099; elsewhere, 1,272 bales.