

WITH THE FARMERS

PLOUGHING AT THE MAT.

Medicine Hat, Jan. 30.—When Inspector Parker of the Mounted Police was at Medicine Lodge yesterday he found Mr. Dempster had commenced ploughing and discing. He has done quite a large piece of work during the mild weather.

THE HOMESTEAD RETURNS.

The homestead entries for this month show a big increase over the same month last year. Over 600 more letters were received in the month of January than ever before. The following are the returns: Homestead entries, 269; letters received, 4,822; letters sent, 3,274; applications for patent, 127. For the same month last year, the returns were: Homestead entries, 178; letters received, 4,027; letters sent, 2,288; applications for patent, 91.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Montreal, Jan. 30.—The cattle trade was dull with no material change in prices. Prime beefs held at 45c. to 46c. but they were not extra; pretty good 34 to 45c. and common 24 to 35c. There were few good cows on the market, and the severe cold served to prevent the buyers from taking hold. The prices ranged from \$20 to \$25 each. Sheep were 4 1/2 to 4 3/4c.; lambs 5 1/2 to 6c.; good hogs sold at 6 to 6 1/2c.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—The cattle trade today was somewhat gloomy, but butcher stuff was active on outside demand. In the sheep house a strike is on, and the packers are out of the deal. Shippers did some business on a basis of 10 cents 25 cents lower than on Monday. Close to 8,000 cattle arrived today, which was enough to satisfy the demand. The buyers did not seem to have any hungry orders to fill and were inclined to hold back and discriminate. There was fairly good outlet for choice steers, but not so heavy, but the market for common steers was dull and draggy at the recent sharp decline. Values were much the same as a week ago, and the early week advance has been lost. Shippers had light orders today but little is doing on the export account. Cows and heifers sold steady to strong, with the demand better from that class of material than for steers.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—Light lambs were marked up as drags as ever. The offerings in cattle were very light today, numbering about 3,000. This makes about 60,000 for the week against 72,000 last week. There was no urgent demand for any class of cattle today, and the market was not changed from yesterday. Early in the week the prices were 10 cents and 25 cents higher, but the market has since returned to normal. Values are now much the same as a week ago. Most of the stock on hand were common and medium. Cows and heifers went freely. All good ones were soon sold at \$11.50. Strong prices. Stockers and feeders sold steady and have not changed materially during the week. The best selected feeders sold at \$4.40 and \$3.75.

WINNIPEG LIVE STOCK.

Winnipeg, Jan. 31.—Sheep: Choice, per lb. 5 cents; spring lambs, per lb. 5 1/2c. Calves: Live, choice 125 to 300 lbs., per lb. 3 to 3 1/2c; other grades in proportion. Choice veal, strictly fresh, per lb. 5 1/2 to 6 cents. Hides: Choice hides, cured, per lb. 3 1/2 cents; frosen, 3 cents.

THURSDAY'S GRAIN MARKETS.

Winnipeg, Jan. 30.—The wheat market was nervous today. Liverpool was down and with great bearish pressure the American markets went down from two to three cents. The January option, which closed on Wednesday at 81.06 1/2, opened today at 81.06 1/2, the highest figure of the day, and closed at 81.06 1/2. May opened 3/4 lower, at which price it was reported and closed at 81.11 1/2. It touched 3/4 higher than the previous close, but was down 1/4 lower than yesterday.

FRIDAY'S GRAIN MARKETS.

Winnipeg, Jan. 31.—On extremely low cables from Liverpool and heavy Argentine shipments of over 5,000,000 bushels, the largest on record. The heavy market today assumed the appearance of a toboggan slide. The opening was weak with prices one cent under the previous close in all markets. There appeared to be weak sales by elevator interests and commission men. It has been bear market from start to finish with offerings heavy all day and very meagre demand. The volume of business has been the largest for some time, a flood of stop orders being reached on the decline, which had a further depressing effect. The demand from exporters is only fair, with prices in contract grades 1 1/2 cents under yesterday and 1 cent lower in other grades. About noon there was some

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EDMONTON MARKETS.

(Elevator Prices) Wheat. No. 1 Northern, 80c; No. 2 Northern, 78c; No. 3 Northern, 76c; Lower grades, 60c up. Oats. No. 1 White, 38c; No. 2 White, 36c; No. 3 White, 34c. Barley. Malt, 40c; Feed, 30c. Flax. Northwestern, No. 1, 85c; No. 2, 80c; No. 3, 75c. Hay (baled in car lots). Upland, \$8 to \$10; Timothy, \$8 to \$10. Flour (retail). Five loaves, \$3.50; Household, \$3.50; Strong Bakers, \$3.50; Capital, \$3.50; White Rose, \$3.50; Straight Grade, \$3.50; Ramond Straight Grade, \$3.50. Groceries. Strictly fresh, per doz., 50c; Glycerine, 50c; Fancy Dairy, B. prints, 35c to 40c; Choice Dairy, 25c to 30c; Dairy in crocks, 25c to 28c; Creamery, 35c to 40c. Potatoes. Potatoes, 90c to 75c; Hogs Heavy, per cwt., \$4 to \$4.25; Hogs Light, per cwt., \$4 to \$4.25; Cows, per cwt., \$2.50 to \$2.75; Lambs, per lb., 5c to 6c; Sheep, per lb., 5c to 6c; Hides, Green frozen, 5 lb. tare, per lb., 3c; Steer Hides, green salted, 9 to 12c; Creamery, 35c to 40c. Dressed Meats. Beef, 5c to 6c; Mutton, 5c to 6c; Lamb, 5c to 6c; Spring chickens, 12 to 15c; Spring chickens, dressed, 12 to 15c; Dressed, per lb., 10c.

NEED UNDER SECRETARIES.

Senator Ross Advocates Relief of Ministers of Arduous Work. Ottawa, Jan. 30.—In the Senate, Senator G. W. Ross offered a resolution for the appointment of under-secretaries to the more important departments, with duties and privileges similar to those of corresponding officers in the Imperial parliament. Senator Ross dealt on the growing labor of the ministers who with six months' parliament and heavy departmental business, had little time to devote to the leadership of the people, and with whom the filing of petty offices could give more vexatious major interest. Pointing out the number of under-secretaries in the British Home, Senator said it would be an excellent training for the cabinet rank and would hold the young men's attention to promotion and prevent them to fall away from public affairs. Secretary of State Scott congratulated Senator Ross on his proposal, but he had forgotten the provincial governments which took care of a large portion of the work which the Imperial government did not do. Senator Ross said that he would not make any such statement, nor would he make any such statement, nor would he make any such statement.

WAR ON WOLVES UP IN THE NORTH

T. A. Brick to Introduce Bill Providing for Use of Poisons in Destruction of Wolves.

Yesterday afternoon's session of the Legislature was a brief one, devoted to routine. An interesting feature of the afternoon bearing upon the fur trade of the north country, was a notice of motion given by Mr. Brick, the member for Peace River, of a motion he will introduce on Monday concerning the use of poisons in the destruction of wolves. The bill will have force only in the province lying north of the fifty-fifth degree.

SENATE DISCUSSES REFORM.

In the Senate—Senator Davies' Opinions—Hint for Commons. Ottawa, Jan. 30.—In the upper house yesterday Senator Davies, resuming the debate on Senate reform, said he had had experience in both chambers, and could say that work was better done in the Senate and in committees than in the Commons. There was a feeling in the country for reform, but not for abolition. Manitoba illustrated the necessity of a higher chamber. Had there been a second chamber, the telephone deal, saddling the province with a debt of three or four millions, would not have gone through without the people's acquiescence. The Commons did not appreciate that the time was coming when they would have to arrange their own system. With 85 members for Quebec as a basis, the Senate would be in five years reorganized. In ten years there would be a surplus, unless the system were reconstituted. Senator Davies presented the whole representation balloted for by the whole province every second term of parliament with property qualifications for electors. The vacancies between the general elections could be filled by a ballot of the senators, the members of the Commons and the provincial legislature where the vacancy occurred. Senator Davies resented the claim that the Senate was a useless expense and scored the Commons for its ostentatious flowery language.

ON THE MARKET SQUARE.

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