

News from Ottawa

Continued from Page 31

bushels more of wheat than we do, it would not make very much difference in the world's market in view of the total production."

Another advantage pointed out by Mr. McKenzie which would result from free access of the products of the Western farms to the United States would be that it would tend to prevent the car blockade conditions such as have existed in the West in this and former years, as a great deal of wheat would be shipped to the south.

Once more Senator Bell became restive. "Who maintains the duty against Canadian wheat," he asked. "We do" came back the quick reply. "The United States offered to take it off." Senator Bell was silent.

Mixed Farmers Handicapped

Equally interesting evidence was given by Mr. E. J. Fream, secretary of the United Farmers of Alberta. He assured the committee that with wider and surer markets Alberta would become one of the greatest mixed farming countries in the world. This he said was fully realized by many men who had voted against reciprocity, but who afterwards felt like being kicked for having done so. Senator Taylor suggested that there were men who had voted for reciprocity who also felt like being kicked. Mr. Fream retorted that if there were such men in Canada he had not met them. He then proceeded to place on record figures which made it clear what a good market there is in Chicago for the cattle and other products of the American West.

Senator Pope, who has had some experience in ranching, expressed the view that the creation of a chilled meat industry in the West might go a long way

to make up for the loss of reciprocity. Mr. Fream agreed that the development of this industry might do much for the cattle business but that nothing would ever compensate the ranchers and the farmers for the loss of the big market to the south. This he said was equally true of the sheep industry which is rapidly declining in the West. But for the duty large numbers of American sheep could be fattened to advantage for the Chicago market but the American duty spoiled all opportunity of sales in that quarter. In replying to a question by Senator Pope, Mr. Fream said that the Western farmers were not afraid to compete in the sheep business with all countries in the world, including Argentina. Speaking more particularly of existing business conditions in the West, Mr. Fream informed the committee that as a result of the failure on the part of the farmers to dispose of their crops to advantage writs are being issued at an alarming rate and many judgments were being given. Altogether conditions were far from being satisfactory. Undoubtedly they would be better had the farmers in September last secured the advantage of a wider market.

West Wants No Favors

When F. W. Green, secretary of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers, was giving evidence there were a number of lively interchanges between the witness and a number of protectionist Senators. Somewhat to the surprise of the members of the committee, Mr. Green displayed a knowledge of economics and an acquaintance with general tariff conditions which was somewhat disconcerting to his inquisitors. Touching on the problem of taxation Mr. Green informed the committee that, owing to geographical location Saskatchewan pays higher taxes per capita, than any other province in the Dominion. In spite of this handicap however, the Saskatchewan farmer was doing better than the eastern tiller of the soil, many of whom were paying \$18 a ton for their hay, 53c. per bushel for western oats and importing eggs and potatoes from the United States. Things were not so bad as that in Saskatchewan. The present trouble was due largely to the long hauls necessary to convey the products of the prairies to market. The passage of the reciprocity pact would have done much to relieve the situation. Mr. Green was inclined to admit that the farmers of the West would have to do more in the way of providing additional storage facilities. The question of the duty on horses being broached Mr. Green declared that he personally was prepared to compete with the world. Speaking as a farmer he was ready and willing to compete with anything that draws breath. "Its pretty hard" he declared, "to try to convince the Western farmer that the East wants him to have fair play when the East insists on shutting the West from its natural market."

J. S. Wood of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association made a strong point of the circumstance that while the West is producing an immense quantity of wheat the farmers have to pay big prices for their flour. Some people liked to put their feet up on a radiator and advise the farmers to go in for mixed farming. But it was not so easy for one thing, there was the great difficulty of getting suffi-

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cient labor, then there were the people who seem to think that if anybody wants to buy something from you that is the thing you should not sell him. Mr. Wood was decidedly critical of the government for causing the price of lumber to go up by a stricter enforcement of the customs schedules. Other witnesses were Mr. George Lane who gave much evidence as to the benefit of a wider market to the cattle industry, Hon. Duncan Marshal, Minister of Agriculture for Alberta, and E. C. Drury, of the Ontario Grange, who assured the committee that the farmers of Ontario were not opposed to free trade in natural products. The committee will take more evidence next session.

RECORD CUSTOMS RECEIPTS
Ottawa's showing indicates a \$15,000,000 Increase

Canadian Custom receipts for the fiscal year which closed March 31 totalled \$86,397,943. When all the figures are in they will be increased by another million, which means a total increase for the year of

\$15,000,000. The collections for March were \$8,681,783, as compared with \$7,445,474 in March, 1911.

TRAINING HORSES

A new book entitled "The Training and Breaking of Horses" by M. W. Harper, a well known expert on the subject has just been published. It consists of 375 pages, handsomely bound and fully illustrated. The book goes very fully into the whole subject of training horses for work, for saddle, for driving and also of training and breaking wild horses. The vices of horses and methods of correcting them, the care of colts, the treatment of injuries and all the best devices for handling vicious horses are fully dealt with. The book is a valuable manual and a mine of useful information to every owner of horses.

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THE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

CORRECTED TO TUESDAY, APRIL 2.

WINNIPEG GRAIN				WINNIPEG LIVE STOCK			COUNTRY PRODUCE				
	TUES.	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO	TUESDAY	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO	TUESDAY	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO		
Cash Wheat				Cattle			Butter (per lb.)				
No. 1 Nor.	100 1/2	99 1/2	88	\$ c. 8 c.	\$ c. 8 c.	\$ c. 8 c.	Fancy dairy	28c-30c	28c-30c	22c-23c	
No. 2 Nor.	97 1/2	96 1/2	85	6.00-6.25	6.00-6.10	.....	No. 1 dairy	26c	26c	17c
No. 3 Nor.	95 1/2	94 1/2	83	Choice butcher steers and			Good round lots	24c	24c	15c	
No. 4	86	84	77 1/2	heifers	5.50-5.75	5.50-6.00	5.75-6.25				
No. 5	74 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2	Fair to good butcher steers				Eggs (per doz.)		18c	
No. 6	65	61	65 1/2	and heifers	4.50-5.00	4.50-5.00	4.75-5.15	Strictly fresh	23c	22c	
Feed	52 1/2	52 1/2	60	Best fat cows	4.50-5.00	4.50-5.00	4.75-5.00	Potatoes			
Cash Oats				Medium cows	3.75-4.25	3.75-4.25	4.25-4.50	Per bushel	80c	90c	70c-75c
No. 2 C.W.	45 1/2	43 1/2	31 1/2	Common cows	3.00-3.25	3.00-3.50	3.25-3.50	Milk and Cream			
No. 3	45 1/2	43 1/2	31 1/2	Best bulls	4.00-4.50	4.00-4.50	4.00-4.50	Sweet cream (per lb. butter			
Cash Barley				Com'n and medium bulls	3.00-3.50	3.25-3.75	3.00-3.25	fat	40c	40c	
No. 5	65	66	70	Choice veal calves	6.00-6.75	6.00-6.50	5.50-6.00	Cream for butter-making			
Cash Flax				Heavy calves	4.00-5.50	4.50-5.50	4.50-5.00	purposes (per lb. butter			
No. 1 N.W.	195	189	236	Best milkers and spring-				fat)	35c	35c	
Wheat Futures				ers (each)	\$45-\$60	\$45-\$60	.....	Sweet milk (per 100 lbs.)	\$2.00	\$2.00
May (old)	101 1/2	101 1/2	89 1/2	Com'n milkers and spring-	\$25-\$35	\$25-\$35	.....			
May (new)	101 1/2	101 1/2	.....	ers (each)				Dressed Poultry		
July	135	102 1/2	90 1/2	Hogs				Chickens (drawn)	18c	.....
Oats Futures				Choice hogs	\$8.00	\$7.50	\$7.50	Fowl (drawn)	15c	15c-17c	
May	47 1/2	45 1/2	32 1/2	Rough Sows	\$6.50	\$6.50	6.00-7.00	Ducks	18c	18c	
July	46 1/2	45	33 1/2	Stags	\$5.50	\$5.50	5.25-5.75	Geese	18c	18c	
Flax Futures				Sheep and Lambs				Turkeys	24c	18c-20c	23c-24c
May	193	190 1/2	239	Choice lambs				Hay (per ton)			
July	230	Best killing sheep				No. 1 Wild	\$7	\$6	\$13
								No. 2 Wild	\$6	\$5	\$11
								No. 1 Timothy	\$12	\$12	\$17