Sunday School.

LESSON VIII.—FEB. 19, 1911.

Elijah's Flight and Return.—I Kings 18: 41-19: 21.

Commentary—I. The drought ended (vs. 41-46). As Elijah had prayed that the rain might be withheld, so also he prayed that the drought might be broken. His attitude in prayer and his persistency indicated his humility, his earnestness, his faith. Both the king and the prophet had returned from the Kishon after the slaughter of the prophets of Baal, the one to feast, the other to pray; and as the small cloud appeared over the Mediterranean Sea, low on the horizon, a sure precursor of rain in that country. Elijah sent the king word to hasten to Jezreel, because the storm was at hand. The prophet was given supernatural strength as he ran before Ahab's chariot the sixteen or seventeen miles from the summit of Carmel to the gates of Jezreel, in the storm that had already broken in fury upon the land that had lain parched for three and one-half years.

I. Elijah in flight (vs. 1-3). 1. Ahab told Jezebel all—Jezebel had remained away from Carmel and had kept the priests of Asherah away also. There was much for Ahab to tell: the fruitless efforts of the Baal followers to obtain an answer from their god; the mocking on the part of Elijah; the calm faith of the prophet; the descending of fire; the consuming of the sacrifice, the wood, the altar, the dust and the water; the crying of the people, 'The Lord, he is God;" the slaughter of the prophets of Baal; and the prophet's prediction of rain. 2. sent a messenger—Elijah had discreetinly refrained from approaching the royal palace, hence the necessity of sending a messenger. let the gods do—One of the most tremendous vows which mark the history of the Semitic race, both within and without the Jewish pale.—Stanley. It is evident that Jezebel had a measure of fear of Elijah, or she would have sent officers at once to slay him; but, in sending the threat as she did, she gave him ample time and opportunity to escape. 3. went for his life—The message of the queen showed that his life was in danger at the hands of this angry and fiendish woman, and prudence led him to do his part in securing his own safety. So far as the record goes we are not informed that God had anything further for the prophet to do in Jezreel at that time. Beersheba—On the southern borders of Judah, ninety-five miles from Jezreel.

II. Elijah refreshed (vs. 4-8). 4. into the wilderness—Where he found the solitude he desired. juniper tree—A shrub, known as the broom tree, which is ten or twelve feet in height and affords scanty protection from the sun's rays. take away my life—The bold prophet had become disheartened. The marvelous display of divine power on Mount Carmel had not been followed by the widespread reformation he had hoped, in that the queen was not turned from her idolatry. He was worn and faint from his labors and journey, and from hunger. He felt as if he had done all that he could. His words showed human frailty. 5. slept—From weariness and possibly from grief.

6. a cake baken—The usual round, flat cake baked upon heated stones. cruse—A jar or bottle. 7. the second time—He had lain down for further rest and sleep, and had not eaten sufficient for the demands of the journey before him. Food was here miraculously provided for Elijah, as it had been repeatedly before at Cherith and Zarephath. the journey is too great for thee—Even if the prophet had made a mistake in fleeing from Jezebel, his journey was to be turned to good account for him. 8. meat—"Food." R. V. forty days and forty nights—Moses had twice fasted the same length of time, and Jesus also fasted forty days. unto Horeb—Mount Sinai.

IV. Elijah encouraged (vs. 9-18). 9. Unto a cave—A ruined chapel covers the rock on which the prophet is supposed to have rested. The granite rocks enclose it on every side, as though it were a natural sanctuary.—Stanley. The cave is small and would furnish shelter for only one person. What doest thou here—The Lord by this question brought a tender reproof to Elijah, and proceeded to give him a deeper revelation of Himself than he had ever before received. 10. Jealous—He had defended the honor of Jehovah. Forsaken Thy covenant, etc.—Three charges are made—disobedience, sacrilege and murder. I only, am left—Elijah was the only one on Carmel to defend the God of Israel, and in his despondency and ignorance he thought he was the only one in the nation loyal to Jehovah. They seek my life—In the prophet's belief the true religion was all but stamped out. 11. Go forth—The Lord was now ready to teach Elijah his much-needed lesson. He would first gain his attention and then give instruction. Wind...earthquake—These were but the manifestations of God's power, and Elijah recognized them as such. 12. A fire—A constant blaze of lightning. The Lord was not in the fire—He might have spoken by means of the wind or the earthquake or the fire, but He desired to teach Elijah a lesson that could not be presented in that way. Still, small voice. With the voice came the conviction to the prophet that God was speaking directly to him.

13. Wrapped his face in his mantle—An act of reverence and awe. He waited to hear what the Lord would say further to him. He heard the question recorded in verse 9 repeated, and answered it in the same way. 15. Go, return—Elijah had travelled three hundred miles on foot to receive his orders, and must return the entire distance to carry them out. Damascus—The capital of Syria. Anoint—An important commission was given Elijah. "It is the word of the Lord foretelling the agencies by which the wicked house of Ahab shall be destroyed."—Whedon. Elijah anointed Elisha to be a prophet in his stead, but we have no record that he anointed Hazael or Jehu, yet he may have done so privately. His successors performed these offices. 17, 18. Elijah could be lonely no longer. God had revealed Himself to him, had given him a definite work to do, and now He declares that there are thousands of people in Israel true to his God.

V. Elijah and Elisha (vs. 19-21). Elijah's northward journey must have been a joyous one compared with that to Horeb. His mission to Elisha was entirely successful and that young man at once proposed to follow him after Elijah's mantle had been thrown upon him. Elisha became his constant attendant.

Questions.—Describe the scene of Elijah at prayer for rain. Describe the journey to Jezreel. What was Jezebel's feeling toward Elijah as she learned what had been done at Carmel? Where did the prophet go from Jezreel? For what did Elijah wish? How was he fed in the wilderness? Describe Elijah's experience at Horeb. Upon what mission was he sent from Horeb? What did Elisha do after Elijah had cast his mantle upon him?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

"The word of the Lord came" (v. 9). As Elijah bravely faced the wrath of Ahab, as he waited patiently by the brook Cherith, as he ministered to the widow in the solitudes of Zarephath, "the word of the Lord came unto him" (1 Kings 17. 2, 8; 18; 1). So it comes to him now when he has forgotten to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, comes to him in the tenderly spoken rebuke, "What doest thou here?" If Elijah had answered truly he would have said, "I was afraid for my life; I doubted your love, your faithfulness, your power to protect me against Jezebel; forgive me, Lord." If thus the prophet had spoken, he would quickly have been restored and reinstated, and the reform would have gone gloriously on, and there would have been other great deeds and mighty miracles. But he only contrasted his fidelity with the people's faithlessness (vi. 10). So God was patient and continued to rebuke him, saying, "Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord" (v. 11). Go out of thy cave, they dark, narrow, petty view of circumstances, back to the mountain-top experience "before the Lord" (v. 11), which you had when you began this service (1 Kings, 17. 1). Go out, up into a pure clear, high altitude. "Life is for doing. A prophet's life for nobler doing; and the prophet was not doing, but moaning." In time of lethargy or despondency the same voice says to us, "What "doest" thou there? There is work to be done; the reclaimed need encouragement; those who have not bowed te Baal need a leader; the heart-broken need comfort; the sick need healing; the hungry need food and the poor need the gospel preached to them.

"Go, return on thy way" (v. 15). He who "went for his life" (v. 3) must go back where it would be again in danger. If you have wandered from God, by doubt and disobedience, go back where your failure began. One remedy for past failure is attention to present duty. "Jehu....anoint to be king" (v. 16). Anointing typifies the work of the Holy Spirit. The priest was anointed in token that he was set apart for the Lord's work (Lev. 8. 12). The king was anointed that the Spirit of the Lord might rest upon him in power (1 Sam. 16. 13). The prophet was anointed that he might be the oracle of God, speaking "unto men to edification and exhortation, and comfort" (1 Cor. 14 3); and of him who was Prophet, Priest and King, it is thrice recorded that he was anointed (Luke 4. 18; Acts 4: 27; 10. 38). And we who follow him, having received the Spirit, may say, "He which....anointed us, is God" (2 Cor. 1. 21), and the anointing abideth (1 John 2. 27) "Anoint... Elisha.. to be prophet in thy room" (v. 16). Elijah's work must draw to a close. God has designs beyond His service. The true conception is that we are only links in a chain.

"I have left me seven thousand in Israel" (v. 18). Elijah mourned that in vain had he shut heaven and opened it, brought famine and removed it, defeated Baal's prophets and ordered them slain. His life after all had been a failure. But God assured him that his silent prayer, earnest protests and heroic work had kindled zeal in many a Hebrew home and strengthened faith in many a fainting heart, for there were thousands that had not bowed the knee to Baal, nor kissed him. Beloved, take heart: there are other faithful ones besides you. "That harsh-seeming governor is a Joseph in disguise (Gen. 45. 2; 50. 21). That wealthy owner of the garden in Arimathea is a lowly follower of Jesus." An Elisha is waiting somewhere to be your companion and successor. Trust in God and go forth with courage and faith.

A.C.M.

OWES HER LIFE TO

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Vienna, W. Va.—"I feel that I owe the last ten years of my life to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Eleven years ago I was a walking shadow. I had been under the doctor's care but got no relief. My husband persuaded me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it worked like a charm. It relieved all my pains and misery. I advise all suffering women to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—MRS. EMMA WHEATON, Vienna, W. Va.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotics or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record for the largest number of actual cures of female diseases of any similar medicine in the country, and thousands of voluntary testimonials are on file in the Pinkham laboratory at Lynn, Mass., from women who have been cured from almost every form of female complaints, inflammation, ulceration, displacements, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, indigestion and nervous prostration. Every such suffering woman owes it to herself to give Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial.

If you would like special advice about your case write a confidential letter to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free, and always helpful.

POULTRY YARD.

Bantams and How to Keep Them.

(By C. A. House in the Poultry World.)

PREDOMINANCE OF THE SPANGLE.

Why the Spangle should have obtained this predominance I cannot say; probably it is due to its pleasing variety of color, and the fact that only one breeding pen is required by the lover of the color. In color the cock and hen resemble each other in every respect, the plumage throughout being black and red, or blue and red, evenly spangled with white, with the tail black and white and blue and white. The chief and prevailing fault in Spangles of to-day is a tendency to lightness of color, and this failing is more prevalent in Scotland than in England, many of the birds across the border, to use the term of one of our most successful Cumberland breeders, are mere meal bags. Now a light colored, heavily spangled bird is not nearly so handsome as one which is darker in color and has not so much spangle. What is required is such a complete blending of the three colors that a bird does not look too dark or too light, but presents a beautiful, harmonious whole with neither of the three colors obtruding itself too much upon the eye of the besolder. As I have said, the prevailing fault is lightness of color, but it is one easily remedied. All that is needed is a season's breeding with a partridge hen, and then the careful use of the pullets bred from her.

BREEDING FROM ONE PEN.

When one is compelled to breed from one pen it is wise to select birds that are of medium color and evenly spangled, birds that are dark in color or too heavily spangled do not make the best of breeders from an exhibition point of view. They are each inclined to perpetuate their deficiencies. On the other hand, a sparsely spangled cock is a good mate for pullets that are inclined to be too heavily spangled, or carry too much white in wings and tail. One thing must never be done, and that is to mate a cock or cockerel that is gaily spangled to hens or pullets possessing the same failing. To do so would be to intensify the tendency to lightness, and make the progeny what I have heard them styled, "regular meal bags." Occasionally a black-red cock may be mated to spangled hens or pullets to overcome this tendency to mealiness. Another fault which is rather prevalent in some strains of Spangles, and other colors as well, is "white in lobe." In exhibition cocks it is not seen because the birds have been dubbed, and the ear-lobe removed, but it can be seen in the hens. It is a fault that is somewhat difficult to eradicate, but it is one that should be stamped out whenever it makes its appearance, because it is a great drawback to a bird, and there is no comparison between a bird with a rich, red lobe and one which shows "white in lobe."

OTHER COLORS.

Black-reds resemble in color their namesakes in the Modern Game Bantams, and in breeding them both Wheaten and Partridge Hens may be used, but it should be said that the brightest and best colored birds are, generally speaking, bred from Partridge hens, and in Old English Game Bantams a deeper tone of color seems to find favor with the judges than in the moderns. Whilst this is the fashion double mating will not be the necessity that it is with the moderns. One thing must be guarded against if only one pen is kept, and that is the breeding from a wheaten bred cock; to keep the color right only partridge bred cocks or cockerels must be used. If one has the convenience and the time to attend to double mating then the same lines may be followed in breeding Old English Black Reds as are followed in breeding the modern Game Bantams.

Blue Reds are not very numerous, and are mostly sports, although during the past two years the color is one that has received more attention, and recently a number of breeders have turned their attention to the breeding of the Blue Red. In mating up a pen to produce exhibition Blue Reds, a Blue Red cock or cockerel should be mated to Blue or Blue Wheaten Pullets or hens. A mating of Black Red cock and Blue Wheaten or Blue pullets will also produce them. Duckwings, Birches and Brown Reds should be bred upon the lines advocated for breeding the modern birds of those colors, and so far as color points are concerned the description is the same as for the moderns. The Creles are very handsome with their Cuckoo markings. They vary much in their ground color and also in the color of the marking, some being very dark, almost black or blue reds, with only a suspicion of marking, and that most strongly developed on the breast, whilst others show the Cuckoo marking more or less all over the body, and so strongly that they are almost devoid of any ground color owing to the happy blending of the Cuckoo coloring.

THE INTRICACIES OF BREEDING.

Pyles can be bred by matching a black breasted red or a ginger cock to a white hen, and although the majority of the first cross may come pure white, if the white pullets are mated to a black breasted red or ginger cock the result from this second crossing will be Pyles, although it is possible some of the pullets may be Clays or Wheatens, and some of the cockerels (or stags, as they are called by the old school of breeders) Gingers.

In breeding for exhibition it is necessary to breed birds as true to color as possible; but in awarding prizes a competent judge will lay more stress on the handling, shape and carriage of a bird than the markings, color of eyes and color of legs. Light or daw eyes are by some judges considered a disqualification, whilst others are indifferent as to the color of a bird's eye, if the game properties are good, but I admit that a large prominent red eye is a great set-off to any bird. Among the black-breasted Reds, Pyles, Wheatens and Whites will be found birds with bright red eyes, while others have light or almost white eyes; the latter are termed daw-eyed on account of the color closely resembling the eyes of a jackdaw.

VALUABLE PROPERTIES.

At the present day, shape, style and feather are far more important in old English game bantams than extreme correctness of color, and breeders are devoting more attention to these points than they are to those of color. By-and-bye, when the breed has become more firmly established, there is not much doubt that we shall find old English game bantam breeders just as careful and particular regarding color points as are the modern game bantam breeders, but that time is not yet.

In some parts of the country the judging of the old English game bantam is far from satisfactory. Many of the judges seem to overlook the fact that the bird is a game fowl, and that game shape and style must take a foremost place. Many all-around judges select small, low, squatty birds for the prizes, "broad-set" they style them, and if they are wide in front and short on the leg the important points of carriage, shortness of back, color and feather, received very secondary consideration. This is wrong; the old English game bantam is a game fowl, and should be so judged.

Itching Scalp Falling Hair

To prevent dry, thin and falling hair, remove dandruff, allay itching and irritation of the scalp, and promote the growth and beauty of the hair, frequent shampoos with Cuticura Soap, assisted by occasional dressings with Cuticura Ointment, succeed when other methods fail. Cuticura Soap and Ointment have been equally effective in the treatment of torturing, disfiguring scalp humors and the alarming loss of hair which so often results. For example, read how George E. Jefferson, 1518 Reed St., Philadelphia, tells of his remarkable case:

"My disease started with a little pimple on my head. Then it began to itch. The more I would scratch, the worse it grew until it spread all over my head. So I went to the doctor. But my head grew as raw as a piece of beef and my hair commenced to fall out in bunches. So I changed doctors. My head at this time was so sore I could not touch it. Then I decided to go to the hospital. They began to treat it but it improved very slowly. For over three years I was a sufferer from this disease. I thought all hopes of a permanent cure were impossible. A friend, upon seeing the condition of my head—which was a mass of running corruption—asked me if I had tried the Cuticura Remedies. I told him nothing would do me any good; but being very anxious to be cured, I decided to try them. The first treatment brought immediate relief. My hair became alive and stopped falling out, all the scale left and now I am perfectly well and have a full head of hair. I can truthfully say that it was entirely due to the use of the Cuticura Remedies."

(Signed) GEORGE E. JEFFERSON.

Cuticura Remedies are sold by druggists everywhere. Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston, Mass. Send for free Skin Book.

GOOD ROADS.

Vancouver Auto Club Wants Highway From Coast to Coast.

Toronto despatch: The building of a national highway from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean is the project about which the Vancouver Automobile Club has written Mayor Geary. The club is seeking to enlist the co-operation of the City of Toronto in creating interest in and putting through the undertaking. Mr. Thomas Taylor, Minister of Public Works for British Columbia, according to the letter, has undertaken the construction of such a highway from Vancouver through the mountains to the Albertan boundary. When completed it will be joined by the great Pacific highway running from Mexico to Vancouver. It is pointed out that the attraction of such a road to tourist traffic, and the facilities it would allow Canadian automobilists to spend their vacations at home would mean many times more money to Canada than it would cost in construction, and especially in the mountains would mean the erection of many summer homes by wealthy Americans and others.

Mayor Geary turned the letter over to the Good Roads Committee of the Board of Trade.

QUACK CURES.

Advertised Tuberculosis Cure Declared to be Worthless and Dangerous.

Baltimore, Feb. 13.—Certain patent medicines advertised as cures for tuberculosis were the target against which a sharp attack was aimed last night by Dr. Lyman F. Kebler, of the United States Department of Agriculture, in an address before the health conference now in progress under the auspices of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. Dr. Kebler alleged that many of the patent medicines advertised as marvellous cures for the white plague are not as represented and are absolutely worthless—dangerous, even, as they contain opium and other injurious drugs and cause those who take them to become victims of the cocaine or opium habit.

MARKET REPORTS.

TORONTO MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

As foreshadowed by a recent report, the receipts of live stock at the Western Cattle Market yesterday morning was very heavy, but prices remained firm to the end. Trading was decidedly active, and some fifteen hundred head of cattle were quickly absorbed at high prices. Choice butcher cattle, according to the list of transactions, changed hands at figures reaching up to $6.25 per cwt. The bulk, however, went at $5.60 to $5.80. Medium butcher cattle sold at $5.25 to $5.50; while common stock was disposed of at prices 25c per cwt. lower. Good, fat butcher cows were again quite strong, and buyers accepted a large number at recent figures, that is, $5.50. Rough to medium butcher cows went at from $3 to $5.

Current quotations:

Export cattle, choice	$ 5 75	to	$ 6 25
do., medium	5 50	to	5 75
do., bulls	4 50	to	5 50
do., common	4 25	to	4 50
Butcher cattle, choice	5 75	to	6 25
do., medium	5 25	to	5 75
Butcher cows, choice	4 75	to	5 25
do., com. to med.	3 00	to	4 50
do., bulls	4 00	to	5 50
Canners	2 50	to	3 00
Milkers, choice, each	60 00	to	70 00
do., com. and med.	30 00	to	60 00
Calves	3 50	to	9 00
Sheep	4 00	to	4 75
Bucks and culs	3 50	to	4 00
Lambs	6 00	to	6 60
Hogs, fed and watered	7 30	to	0 00
do., f.o.b.	7 00	to	0 00

FARMERS' MARKET.

The offerings of grain to-day were larger, being about 1,400 bushels. Wheat unchanged, with sales of 300 bushels fall at 85 to 88c, according to quality, and of 100 bushels of goose at 80c. Barley, firm, 800 bushels selling at 66 to 68c. Oats firmer, 200 bushels selling at 39c.

Hay in better supply also, there being about 25 loads received; timothy sold at $18 to $20 a ton, and mixed at $14 to $15 a ton. One load of rye straw sold at $16.

Dressed hogs are easy, with quotations ruling at $9.50 to $10.

Wheat, white	$ 0 85	$ 0 88	
Do., red	0 85	0 88	
Do., goose	0 80	0 80	
Oats, bushel	0 38	0 39	
Peas, bushel	0 80	0 82	
Barley, bushel	0 66	0 68	
Rye, bushel	0 67	0 68	
Buckwheat, bushel	0 48	0 50	
Hay, timothy, ton	18 00	20 00	
Do., mixed, ton	14 00	15 00	
Straw, per ton	15 00	16 00	
Alsike clover—			
No. 1, bushel	7 00	7 50	
No. 2, bushel	6 50	6 75	
No. 3, bushel	5 50	6 00	
Red clover, No. 1	6 75	7 00	
Do., No. 2	6 00	6 25	
Do., No. 3	5 00	5 50	
Timothy, No. 1, recleaned	6 25	0 00	
Do., No. 2, recleaned	5 25	0 00	
Alfalfa, recleaned	12 25	13 25	
Dressed hogs	9 50	10 00	
Butter, dairy	0 24	0 26	
Do., inferior	0 20	0 22	
Eggs, new-laid, dozen	0 30	0 33	
Ducks, spring, lb.	0 17	0 20	
Chickens, lb.	0 15	0 17	
Turkeys, lb.	0 21	0 24	
Geese, lb.	0 14	0 15	
Fowl, lb.	0 12	0 14	
Apples, bbl.	3 00	5 00	
Cabbage, dozen	0 25	0 45	
Cauliflower, dozen	0 75	1 00	
Onions, bag	0 90	1 10	
Potatoes, bag	0 95	1 05	
Beef, hindquarters	9 50	10 50	
Do., forequarters	8 00	9 00	
Do., choice, carcase	9 00	9 75	
Do., medium, carcase	8 00	8 50	
Mutton, per cwt.	8 00	9 50	
Lamb, cwt.	13 00	14 50	
Veal, prime, per cwt.	1 00	5 00	

SUGAR MARKET.

Sugars are quoted in Toronto wholesale, per cwt., as follows:

Extra granulated, St. Lawrence	$4 20
do. Redpath's	4 30
do. Acadia	4 25
Imperial granulated	4 15
Beaver, granulated	4 15
No. 1 yellow, St. Lawrence	3 90
do. Redpath's	3 90
do. Acadia	3 90
do. Acadia, granulated	3 80

These prices are for delivery here. Car lots 5c less. Prices in barrels 10c to 15c more per cwt.

OTHER MARKETS.

SEEDS.

The following prices are being paid by seed merchants to growers:

Alsike, No. 1, bush.	$7 00	to	$7 50
Alsike, No. 2, bush.	6 50	to	7 00
Alsike, No. 3, bush.	5 50	to	6 00
Red clover, No. 1, bush.	7 25	to	7 50
Red clover, No. 2, bush.	6 50	to	6 75
Red Cover, No. 3, bush.	5 00	to	5 40

Linseed—Calcutta, dated April-June, 61s 6d per 412 lbs.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET.

	Prev. Close	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat—					
May	95¾	96¼	97¼	95⅝	97¼
July	87	87½	88¾	87⅛	88⅜
Oats—					
May	34⅝	34⅝	34¾	34⅛	34¾
July	35¾	35¾	35⅞	35⅜	35¾

BRADSTREET'S TRADE REVIEW.

Montreal reports to Bradstreet's say an excellent general trade is moving and prospects for the future are decidedly encouraging. There has been a steady development in the volume of business moving during the past two weeks. Retail trade has in many lines kept up surprisingly well and wholesalers report that the demand for staple lines from all parts of the country has been good. Dry goods houses report the sorting trade on the whole satisfactory and good orders for spring continue to come forward. On most lines prices continue firm. Factories turning out knitted goods and cottons are busy.

Toronto reports to Bradstreet's say a satisfactory tone is noted to all lines of trade there. In dry goods an excellent demand is noted for sorting lines. Retail trade seems to be excellent. White wear lines have been offered with good results. Excellent spring orders are coming in despite the high prices ruling for cottons, linens and other lines. In groceries a good steady trade is noted. Hardware trade is showing early improvement and there is already considerable demand for building materials. The outlook for spring in this connection is bright.

Winnipeg reports to Bradstreet's say the volume of business moving is fair and there are signs of recovery from the quietness usual to January. Railways have had considerable difficulty in moving goods owing to snow but the past week has seen considerable improvement in that respect. The outlook for spring continues very satisfactory.

Vancouver and Victoria reports say general trade along the coast has shown a better tone during the week.

Quebec reports to Bradstreet's say trade conditions remain unchanged and orders to hand are reported of a sorting nature.

London reports say the volume of business now moving is considered excellent for this time of the year.

Ottawa reports say retail trade generally has been good during the past week and wholesalers express themselves as satisfied both with orders for immediate shipment and with those for spring lines.

GAMBLING AT COUNTY FAIRS

J. Lockie Wilson Condemns the Management of Fairs.

Should Copy Those on the Other Side of the Water.

Toronto despatch: "I regret that many societies last year allowed wheels of fortune, dice, games, pools, coin-tables, draw lotteries, and other illegal games. Under the statutes societies permitting such illegal practices shall forfeit all claim to legislative grants for the year ensuing. A number of these fakirs were arrested last year by officers of the Government and taken before local magistrates, who, in several instances, failed to do their duty, and allowed the parties interested out on suspended sentence, or where a fine was imposed, it was made payable in fifteen days, and, of course, as these magistrates must have known, these crooks did not again visit their Worships. I would urge that in the interest of your agricultural societies, both from a moral and financial point of view, you see to it that the fairs of 1911 are run strictly in accordance with the act regulating them. Societies which break the laws are in danger of losing their grants."

The above statements were made at the eleventh annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions held in the City Hall yesterday, by Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, Toronto, Superintendent of Fairs, in his annual report. The references to gambling were not pleasing to several members.

Mr. H. Foreman, Collingwood, wanted to know what was a gambling game and what was not. Some of the games mentioned were not games of chance.

Loud protests at this query came from members and on Mr. Foreman insisting on his right to a hearing he was interrupted and finally sat down.

Mr. Wilson also referred to his visit to a number of exhibitions in Great Britain and the European continent. He found that Ontario farmers had much to learn from the methods of conducting these fairs. The Midway was not in evidence, and educational features were everywhere prominent. Stock was judged in rings in front of the grandstands. Milking and horse-boxing competitions were features at the Scottish fairs. Prizes were also given for eggs.

President H. J. Gould, Uxbridge, in his annual report, said that in the larger centres the speeding of horses was the predominating feature. In towns and cities many persons would not walk through a field to view a splendid herd of cattle, but would stand for hours in the rain to see a horse race. The directors found these people their heaviest contributors, and this part of the Fair had to be attended to.

Mr. Gould was not in sympathy with the Midway at large shows. It was neither useful nor ornamental, and in some cases was immoral. He had been at fairs where there were no horse racing or special attractions, and yet some were a success. Standing field crop competitions were meeting with approval.

Lengthy discussions followed these reports.

At the evening session the scheme that the Department of Agriculture should pay something to societies sustaining loss through snowstorms and rainy weather was endorsed.

Mr. Wilson explained that this proposal was to make an additional grant equal to 50 per cent. of the loss sustained through bad weather on the filing of affidavits with the Department of Agriculture. The total sum for this purpose was not to exceed $10,000 in one year and the estimate of the loss was to be based on the average gate receipts for the three previous years. In no case was over $200 to be paid as compensation to any fair. Perhaps in one year only $1,000 of this grant would be devoted to compensation purposes and the balance would be apportioned in the usual way. The total Provincial grant to fairs this year is $75,000.

Some of the members protested. It was claimed that the $200 limit would discriminate against the larger fairs and it was urged that $10,000 more be asked of the Government.

Hon. J. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, who occupied the chair, said that he was pleased at being able to be present, and he expressed regret that he would have to leave early to attend a banquet.

As Hon. W. J. Hanna, who was expected to deliver an address, did not arrive by 9.20, an adjournment was taken until to-day.