

many farmers worked at this employment. This has become a trade of the past. Lumbering is still active. Last year there was more lumber cut than ever before in the province. Fishing takes up part of the time of those on the coast and along the rivers. Farming, with those who have kept steadily at it, has done well for them. It has not done so well for the man who was fisherman and lumberman when he could get employment, and who only farmed when he could get nothing else to do. The land has been settled for a long time. At few meetings would any farmers be found who had come from Britain, or who had become familiar with the best modern British farming. They have no such emigration of farmers such as we have almost yearly in western Ontario, and we seldom think how much benefit this is to our agriculture.

The farm homes are built of wood; often shingled on all sides and neatly painted. They are small, comfortable, and nicely furnished homes. The people are very hospitable. The barns are small and laid out without much regard for economy in handling feed. Bank barns are few. Stables are low and dark. Many have their cattle in places where the only light is admitted when the door is opened. Sheep are few, and mostly of the long-tailed breed. Cattle are mostly of the dairy breeds; the natives resemble the Quebec cattle, and some of them are good dairy animals. Few feed well enough or with due regard to economy. Marsh or interal hay, with or without meal, is the chief winter feed. There has been of late years an advance in dairying, and farmers are paying more attention to the feeding of their stock. Excellent roots can be grown; turnips, mangolds, and carrots are of the very best quality. The development of root-growing and cattle-feeding will do much for farming in New Brunswick. There are few seed drills used. The grain is all sown broadcast. Five to seven bushels of oats in some places are sown to the acre. Self-binders are almost unknown. Many farmers take in their grain loose. They thresh with small machines and market the grain often when poorly cleaned. With all this the land is rich enough to give as much as fifty bushels of wheat per acre and as heavy as sixty six lbs. per bushel. There is a future for New Brunswick in farming when they adopt the best modern methods.

The Chair of Natural History at the Ontario Agricultural College.

The chair of Natural History and Geology at the Ontario Agricultural College has not yet been filled. It is surely about time that the Government were taking steps to fill the vacancy. We understand that there are a number of applicants for the position, and among them one or two quite capable of filling it. There need, therefore, be no delay for the want of good material to choose from, and the sooner the appointment is made the better if the students of the present year are to get any benefit from it.

Why should there be any hesitation in regard to the matter? The Government's duty is quite clear. Only a man of scholarship and experience is competent to fill the position, and when such a man can be secured there is not the least excuse for delay. The position is one of the most important connected with the college and demands a man of mature judgment, ripe scholarship and experience. These qualities were well marked in the late Professor Pantou, and his successor should be one possessing them to a large degree in order that he may creditably follow in the footsteps of his predecessor. Aside from the work of lecturing to the students, which is in itself important, the professor of Natural History will have to deal with many problems affecting the interests of the agriculturist, and especially those of the fruit-grower. Only a person having a wide training and an intimate knowledge of the work would be competent to deal with these problems satisfactorily.

We believe that among the applicants are a number of recent graduates of the college who

have given the subject of Natural History and Geology more or less special attention. We do not wish to lay down the principle that no appointments to vacant professorships should be made from among the graduates of the college. A large number of the present members of the staff are old graduates and are rendering excellent service both to the college and to the country. But there are always exceptions to every rule and we believe that the present instance is one of them. None of the graduates who are applicants for the present vacancy possess in any marked degree the qualifications necessary for filling the chair of Natural History and Geology acceptably. If such be the case the appointment should go to someone outside of the college and its graduates. A graduate in the Natural Sciences from one of our leading universities with a wide practical training in the branches he has to teach is none too good for the position, and if such an individual can be secured the people would heartily support the Government in making the appointment. Such a person would be a source of power to the college and would strengthen its position as one of the leading agricultural institutions of learning on the continent.

If what we hear is true, the tactics employed in some quarters to get a favorite into the position are to be deplored. We would not have taken the strong stand that we do in regard to the affair had we not felt that the best interests of the college and of agriculture were likely to be sacrificed to the selfish motives of a certain section of the community who appear to be taking advantage of the present unsettled condition of the Government to elevate to the vacant chair a young graduate of the college, who, whatever his other qualifications may be, has not the experience nor the scholarship necessary to fit him for the position. We therefore sincerely hope that the Government will not be influenced in making the appointment by any other motives than those which would be in the best interests of the college and of agriculture generally.

The Poultry Industry of Canada.

By THOMAS A. DUVEY, Toronto, Ont.

(Continued from last week.)

HOW TO SET A HEN.

Perhaps some of the readers of this article will say that it is quite unnecessary to write anything upon this subject, but I submit that it is of great importance, and many mistakes are made by those who do not stop to consider the matter.

When a hen steals her nest, it almost invariably follows that she brings home a far greater number of chickens than if she were set in the poultry house and a nest made for it. For this reason, I prefer to conform to nature as much as possible. I would recommend that some sods be cut in the fall before the ground is frozen, and stored away for spring use. When you have a broody hen, take a box and put one of these sods into the bottom of it. If it is very dry, I would moisten it. Put the grass side down. On top of this place some fine hay; put a couple of china eggs (which should be first warmed) into the nest and then set your hen upon them. Leave her there for twenty-four hours, and if she is comfortable and has the appearance of being willing to remain for the three weeks, I would give her the eggs. Before setting her, however, I would recommend that she be thoroughly dusted with insect powder and again about two weeks before the hatch is due. During the process of incubation, I would feed her upon whole corn, and be sure that plenty of water is within reach, otherwise if she gets very thirsty, she might eat the eggs in order to quench her thirst.

FEEDING YOUNG CHICKS.

After the chickens are hatched, do not remove them from the nest for twenty-four hours. You may then safely put them into a coop, constructed in such a manner that the chicks may run outside at will, while the hen will be obliged to

remain within the coop. I would recommend a coop built as follows: Size 2 x 2½ feet, with a tight roof, removable bottom, and a wire front, one inch mesh, with a door in front or side that can be raised high enough for the hen to come out, or just enough to allow the little chicks out. The first day they are kept confined; then for the next few days, after the dew has dried off, the little fellows are allowed to come outside if the weather permits. In case of rainy weather, the projection in front is to keep the rain from beating in. Be sure the floor is always dry. Treat the hen and chicks every ten days for lice, dusting them thoroughly with some kind of insect powder. I would recommend Dr. Hess' "Instant Lice Killer." The coops should be whitewashed both inside and out frequently.

For chicks, when first hatched, the best food is hard boiled eggs and bread crumbs, rubbed up fine and moistened with a little milk. The chicks should be fed often, but given little at a time. After a few days crushed wheat, granulated oatmeal or cracked corn could be given. Milk is preferable to water, and food or drink must always be supplied in scrupulously clean vessels. Place the coop with the brood on fresh ground, in a place sheltered from wind, keeping the hen confined for about ten days before allowing her to wander off with the chicks. If she be allowed her liberty earlier, the strength of the chicks will be overtaxed, and they are likely to be exposed to wet, and the danger from hawks is increased. Keep on hand several coops for the use of the broods as you take them from the nests. A very generous quantity of food must be given from the time they leave the nest until the tail and wing feathers are grown, as feathering is a great drain upon the system, and it requires plenty of food to sustain it. After the chicks have got their feathers, see that they are well supplied with plenty of grain. A soft food, composed of bran, shorts, oat chop and barley meal should be given once a day, and twice a day all the grain they will eat up clean. Change the diet often, however. Be sure to see that the chicks have plenty of green food.

A convenient arrangement for feeding chicks is to have a coop four feet square, made of lath, or, if preferred, it may be covered. Leave an opening at the lower part so that the chicks can run in and out, and keep a feed hopper full of feed in the coop all the time. The object is to have feed where the chicks can reach it at any time, but beyond the hens. It is an excellent contrivance for yards that contain both hens and chicks, as the chicks will be in no danger of being interfered with by the larger fowls.

Give the chicks plenty of ground green bone. It makes more flesh, and stronger, healthier chicks than any other feed.

Health on the Farm.

The following extract from an address by Mr. G. C. Creelman, and which is contained in the report of the Agricultural and Experimental Union for 1897, corroborates what we said in FARMING for March 15th upon the above subject:

Being now engaged in the insurance business, I come across printed proceedings of meetings of insurance inspectors and medical men who are interested in the work of insurance. In a list of what they considered the best risks for life insurance, I was very much surprised to find that they placed the farmer very low on the list. We hear at all times the claim made that his profession is the most independent of all and the healthiest. I have heard that since I was large enough to hear. Entering into discussion with a physician, he explained why he considered farmers not as good risks as others. He said:

(1) That the farmer paid too little attention to the sanitary conditions of the house. They had low rooms without half enough air.

(2) Their rooms are very poorly ventilated; the windows are low and small, and often placed directly opposite the door; when open there was a draught; when closed no good means of ventilation could be had.

(3) In many cases the farm buildings were situated too close to the house. Nearly all cases of fever, especially of typhoid fever, could be traced to the influence of streams coming from the stables. In case of sickness the patient was frequently put into the smallest room, and the room off the kitchen where it was supposed to be the warmest. In this way they select the poorest room in the house. It would be