

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

## Canadian.

Mr. H. J. Hill, for about twenty years manager and secretary of the Toronto Exhibition, is dead.

Mr. Jno. Fraser, of the Finance Department, assumed his duties as Auditor-General on the first of August.

A party of Canadian scientists, headed by Prof. King, the astronomer, will go to Labrador to observe the eclipse of the sun which is to take place.

The British second Atlantic cruiser squadron, under command of Rear Admiral Prince Louis of Battenburg, has sailed for Quebec.

## British and Foreign.

The Royal Commission on food supplies for Great Britain has presented to Parliament for consideration a monster scheme, which proposes that a quantity of food sufficient to last the nation for three months, even though all imports should be cut off by reason of war, be laid up in national storehouses. The City of Manchester, which is 35 miles from the coast, has been mentioned as the headquarters for the elevators.

France and Germany are again somewhat at odds over the Moroccan affair; Premier Rouvier and Ambassador Von Radolin having so far found it impossible to agree in regard to the programme which is to be presented at the conference. The chief cause of dispute is the right claimed by France to police the territory adjoining Algeria, and supervise the maintenance of order throughout the Empire. In the meantime the Germans are doing their best to secure commercial concessions from the Sultan.

A sensation has been caused in England by the fact that the Channel fleet has been ordered, for the first time in many years, to make a trip to the Baltic. The move is supposed to be for the purpose of checking a possible plan of the Kaiser to effect a Scandinavian Federation, composed of Norway, Sweden and Denmark, and to be under the domination of Germany. It is said that the Kaiser is aiming also to close the Baltic against foreign shipping.

There are still few developments as yet in Manchuria. The heaviest rains of the season have occurred, and the Valley of the Tumen, where the Russians have been holding important outworks, is flooded. Report says that the Russians in that vicinity have been cut off from Vladivostok and are unable to retreat.

## THE FARM BULLETIN

In the Winnipeg district 10,240 acres were home-steaded during July.

Sir William Mulock, while in Scotland, made a close investigation into the telephone system adopted by the Glasgow municipalities.

An increase of ten per cent. on the price of leather has been ordered by Ontario tanners. The increase is said to be due in part to the demand of leather for the troops in Manchuria.

The 42nd annual meeting of the Ontario Entomological Society will be held on Oct. 18th and 19th, at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, by invitation of President Creelman.

In order to be prepared to meet the tremendous exportation of grain from the Northwest during the coming fall, the C. P. R. is already rushing cars and engines westward.

Canada is taking a firm stand against adulteration of foods, and in future the law providing for punishment of those who resort to the practice will be vigorously enforced.

It is reported on good authority that nearly 1,000,000 bushels of winter wheat from Southern Alberta will be shipped to British Columbia, to be ground in the mills there. This move is a first step towards a policy of making Vancouver a great milling center, from which flour may be shipped to the Orient.

Owing to the labor troubles in Russia, which have prevented shipment of butter, there is a great scarcity of the commodity in England, and butter has reached a higher price than at any time during the hot weather for twenty years.

Mr. John Fixter, foreman at the Central Experimental Farm, in an interview with a representative of the Ottawa Valley Journal, said recently that if the farmers of Ontario would turn over the sod land every second year, and reseed other parts of the farm, the crops of the Province might be increased twenty-five per cent. Mr. Fixter favors a three-year rotation: 1st year, grain and seeding; 2nd year, meadow and pasture; 3rd year, hoed crops, corn, clover and potatoes. He says old meadows should be cleared as soon as the hay is off, to give an opportunity of clearing the land of weeds. To kill the weeds, he says, plow the land as shallow as possible, and then harrow it well

to rot the sod. When the sod is rotted the soil should be disk harrowed and plowed again in the fall, when the land will be in excellent condition for raising a grain crop the following year.

## Weather Predictions.

Guy E. Mitchell, of Washington, D. C., in correspondence to prominent agricultural journals, makes the following pertinent remarks about predicting the weather: Long experience has shown that it is impossible to predict what is going to happen beyond a couple of days. Certain prognosticators and almanac makers, however, furnish monthly and even seasonal predictions, and some newspapers go so far as not only to print, but even pay for these long-time forecasts, based, it is claimed, upon moon signs, planetary movements, etc., which, in the opinion of scientific men who have spent their lives in observing the atmosphere and the sky under the most favorable auspices, is ridiculous.

## Reforming the Fairs.

In a recent issue of the "Farmer's Advocate" the proposal to amend the Agriculture and Arts Act of Ontario, by making the Government grants proportionate to the amounts given for agricultural purposes, or depriving of grants altogether those not expending \$200 or \$400 in that way, was discussed at length. A Wentworth Co. correspondent dissents from the proposition, on the ground that the mere size of a show does not determine its usefulness, and Mr. A. W. Cahoe, of Essex County, takes the ground that it would work out unfavorably to those societies that deal in pure-bred stock only, of which there are a few in the Province. The Rochester and Maidstone society is cited. In 1903 it spent \$288 for two bulls, and in 1904 paid out \$789 for six bulls. He suggests a fixed grant of \$50 to each society owning pure-bred stock worth \$100, and an additional grant of \$50 for each pure-bred stallion, \$15 for each bull, and \$5 for each ram or boar owned. He is in favor of cutting out a lot of the smaller fairs.

## Of Interest to Live-stock Breeders.

Mr. Henry Wade, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, secretary-treasurer of the different horse and cattle breeders' associations, announces that he will have an office in the Live-stock Association tent during the coming National Exhibition, Toronto, where membership fees and registrations for the following live-stock associations will be attended to: Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, Canadian Clydesdale Breeders' Association, Canadian Shire Association; Canadian Harness, Hunter and Saddle Horse Society; Canadian Pony Society, and Canadian Horse-breeders' Association. Also sheep and swine pedigrees. Entry forms for the foregoing associations can also be secured free of charge at this office during the exhibition. This will be a convenience to the different live-stock breeders who wish to make registrations at the time of the exhibition.

## Crops in South Waterloo, Ont.

The busy harvest time of another year is upon us, with its tangible satisfaction, as a reward for the labor already expended with this end in view. An excellent crop of hay has already been stored. The yield was from probably one and a half to two and a half tons per acre; and while the wet weather during the earlier part of haying prevented the making of much first-class hay then, the last two weeks have been much more favorable. Extra help for the busy time is a thing that exists in name only; but we have learned pretty well how to do without it. The hay-loader, which until last year was practically unknown, has this year loaded the hay on at least a dozen farms within a mile of here. The side-delivery rake, although such a useful adjunct to the loader, is not coming so fast. Cutting grain commenced about July 20th. Wheat stood fairly well on the ground, and contains a nice plump sample of grain, on bright, clean straw, a decided contrast to the rusted, shrivelled crop of last year. Barley and oats are long in straw, and well filled. A mixture of these two grains for feed is popular, and some farmers are using an early variety of oats, like the Daubenay, for this purpose. The Daubenay appears to be especially susceptible to smut, but even if this really is the case, it is an objection which can be overcome by the simple operation of treating the seed with formalin—a treatment which should be applied to seed oats by all farmers, as a matter of course. Corn is growing vigorously, and from now on, with favorable weather, will be a "thing of beauty and a joy" to the farmer, who can feel that he has had a hand with nature in producing such a wealth of growth. There is a luxuriant and pleasing freshness about a field of growing corn, that fills the eye as scarcely any other crop does. Roots, including sugar beets for the Berlin factory, are also doing well. The factory's acreage of beets is, I believe, steadily increasing from year to year. While most of the large contracts of the first year have dwindled to more moderate and manageable proportions, the number of growers is now greater. The testimony of almost all who have grown beets is that when properly cared for they pay handsomely, and the difficulty of getting the help to give them this care is what keeps most growers from increasing their acres.

H. GROH.

## Fair Dates for 1905.

Canadian National, Toronto	Aug. 26—Sept. 12
Dundas Co., Morrisburg	Aug. 30—Sept. 1
Eastern Exhibition, Sherbrooke, Que.	Sept. 2—9
East Elgin, Aylmer, Ont.	Sept. 4—8
Ohio, Columbus	Sept. 4—8
Minnesota, Hamline	Sept. 4—9
Western Fair, London, Ont.	Sept. 8—16
Central Canada, Ottawa	Sept. 8—16
New York State, Syracuse	Sept. 5—10
Wisconsin, Milwaukee	Sept. 11—15
Indiana, Indianapolis	Sept. 11—15
Michigan, Pontiac	Sept. 11—16
Central, Guelph	Sept. 12—14
Nova Scotia Provincial, Halifax	Sept. 13—21
W. Michigan, Grand Rapids	Sept. 18—22
Kentucky, Lexington	Sept. 18—23
Fullarton and Logan, Mitchell	Sept. 19—20
North York, Newmarket	Sept. 19—21
Prescott, Prescott	Sept. 19—21
Lewis & Clark Exposition, Portland, Oregon	Sept. 19—29
North Oxford, Woodstock	Sept. 20—22
Peel Co., Brampton	Sept. 21—22
Fredericton, N. B.	Sept. 21—27
Charlottetown, P. E. I.	Sept. 26—29
Dominion Exhibition, New Westminster, B.C.	Sept. 27—Oct. 7
Illinois, Springfield	Sept. 30—Oct. 7
Sussex, N. B.	Oct. 2—6
International, Chicago	Dec. 2—9
Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph	Dec. 11—15

## Temiskaming District.

The principal events of the month are haying, and the visit of Professors Zavitz and Reynolds, together with the inevitable "weather" topic. At the time of writing, haying is in full swing, being rather late this year. June, especially the latter end, was so exceedingly hot and dry that fears were being expressed as to the probability of the hay crop being diminished by at least half, but, fortunately, rain fell early in July and saved any serious loss, although the crop generally is below the average. Now the boot is on the other foot, for we've had rain almost ceaselessly during July; so much so that haying proved a difficult operation. So far, however, the heavy rains have injured no other crops, for the ground was so dry as to absorb surplus water quickly. Everything looks well and flourishing. Up to the present it has proved a good season for all tender and semi-hardy crops, the usual late spring and summer frosts having mercifully withheld their discouraging presence. Potatoes, in particular, promise a fine yield, if the frost still holds off. The few examples of fall wheat look fine, and almost ready to cut, though the area under wheat is very small in this district.

One of our local apiarists started with two hives of Italian bees this spring, which he has increased to five by dividing stocks. In addition he took some 50 lbs. of honey recently. This result is very encouraging, and the enterprising gentleman in question proposes working on a larger scale next season, should wintering be reasonably successful.

Rumors are afloat that several of the "progressives" are talking of trying strawberries on a much larger scale than has hitherto been attempted; there being a good local market. Those that understand the culture should do well in strawberries, as indeed in all small fruits, for the conditions seem favorable in spite of the long and severe winter.

The lectures given by the Professors above mentioned were attended by fair audiences on the whole, and were very interesting, both to the expert farmer and the raw settler, raising interesting discussions. Both the gentlemen were heartily thanked for their efforts to impart helpful information. G. W. W.

## Nova Scotia Fruit and Grain Outlook.

The prospect for a good apple crop is not so bright as it was when the trees were in bloom. More than the usual number of partly-formed apples are dropping. The frost on the early morning of the 7th of June had a decidedly injurious effect; especially was this so in the Annapolis and Cornwallis valleys. This was followed also by cool, wet, unfavorable weather for proper fertilization at the time the pollen was ripe. These two causes combine to make the outlook for a good apple crop somewhat dull. Considering the Maritime Provinces as a whole, so far as one can judge, the crop can safely be put below a medium one.

The plum trees in this and surrounding sections, and also in the most parts of New Brunswick, came through the winter in poor condition, and many were winter-killed. In most parts of Nova Scotia, and in Prince Edward Island, they are reported as wintering fairly well. The prospects are that the crop will be light. The set of pears is fairly good, and the crop will be a medium one. Cherries in most places are light.

The season has been especially favorable for wood growth in fruit trees, and the present development of the fruit indicates that a good quality of fruit will be harvested. The early part of the season favored the development of the apple scab fungus, and where spraying was not done the spot made great headway. The month of July has been a good one for the orchardist, for nature, by her bright, dry weather, has prevented the development of fungi to a great extent.

Although the grain crops were put in late, they are invariably looking well. Grain sown towards the end of May is better than that sown early in May. Our experiments and practical experience indicates that grain