

the demand was so bad 1,081 of them were held over. Since last Saturday no Canadian live stock have been forward. On that day the 471 shown made 11c. to 11½c. per lb. U. S. bullocks sell at 11½c. to 12c. The demand for sheep is quite animated, in direct contrast with cattle, and the last consignment of Canadians (753) sold readily at 12c. to 12½c.

At Deptford to-day (Saturday) trade was very slow; 1,887 States beasts made 11c. to 11½c., and 300 Canadians 10½c. to 11½c.; 500 States cattle were held over.

The feature of the dead-meat market at Smithfield is still the abundance of beef. Really choice quality is scarce, and makes good prices, but secondary descriptions are difficult to move at substantial reductions. U. S. chilled beef, of the best quality, makes up to 12c. for hinds and 6½c. for fores; but the ranch beef does not command more than 7½c. to 8½c. for hinds and 5c. for fores. Argentine chilled beef has been scarce this week, but what there was sold readily at 7½c. hinds and 4½c. fores. Choice mutton has been scarce, and Scotch tegs have touched 16c. per lb., but ordinary carcasses range from 13½c. to 15½c. Dutch sheep are selling at 12½c. to 14c. per lb.

In the market for Canadian bacon a rather sudden relapse has occurred during the week, greater difficulty having been experienced in promoting sales, and to make any progress a substantial reduction had to be conceded, so that the listed rates for selected brands of Davies' do not now go higher than 11c. to 11½c. per lb., the heavier averages being taken at the outside figures. Other selections are quoted 10c. to 10½c., and secondary lots, 9½c. to 10c.

Hams have been in more request for forward delivery, but prices have ruled somewhat irregularly, and frequently in favor of buyers. Canadian long-cut, green, 11½c., 11½c. and 12c. per lb.; short-cut, ditto, 10½c., 10½c.

The market for Canadian cheese presents a firm aspect, but at the same time it lacks animation, and operations are still of a halting character. Prices, however, despite the fact of stocks being heavy here and in Canada, have been advanced during the week, as much as 10½c. having been paid for fancy Canadian on the spot. Very good quality cheese has been sold at 9½c., and there is hardly any difference to be seen now between the value of white and colored, though the latter, perhaps, with some persons, still commands the preference. Under-priced goods are still to be had at 9½c. and thereabouts, and all that is offered is soon picked up; c.i.f. prices are 10c. to 10½c.

The butter market has a weak tone, and prices are very irregular. Canadian makes move off moderately well, finest and fancy selections making from 20½c. to 21c. per lb.

Eggs—Best goods are in request, but the market is generally slow, with arrivals in excess of demand. Fresh Canadian, \$2.16 to \$2.28. London, Nov. 5th, 1904.

Feeding Steers.

A Huron County, Ontario, subscriber propounds the following question re feeding short-keep steers in winter:

I have a bunch of steers which weigh about 1,200 pounds, wishing to sell them before February 1st. I have oats, barley, turnips and clover hay on hand. Would it be to my advantage to buy bran at \$15.00 a ton, or peas at 60c. a bushel, and what proportion of each would be best to feed. Straw may be fed for a short time in place of hay. I intend feeding them just twice a day, as I have followed this practice for three winters, finding that the cattle will eat as much if given twice a day as they will if fed three times. There is much less danger of an animal being "stuck up."

Replying to this enquiry, I would make the following suggestions:

If your subscriber has plenty of oats and barley to feed the cattle, I am not sure that it would pay him to buy other grain. If, however, he has not quite enough, I would prefer to buy the peas at sixty cents a bushel. If oats and barley only are to be used, I would mix, at first, about equal parts of oats and barley, and start the steers on about five pounds each per day of this mixture. The quantity of meal, of course, would have to be increased, and the rate of increase would depend upon how much has to be added to the weight of the steers in the time specified. If they are good fleshy cattle, it will probably not be necessary to increase the amount of meal for nearly two weeks, or perhaps it would be safer to increase a pound a day to a steer at the end of the first week. At the end of the second week, another pound could be added, and by this time the steers should be used to eating meal, and the quantity could be increased more rapidly if desired. I scarcely think it would be advisable to feed more than ten pounds a day to steers at any time, and possibly less than this, say eight or nine pounds, will be found sufficient. The feeder will have to use his judgment in this matter, and govern the amount of meal according to the condition of the cattle. At the end of a week or so, I would increase the proportion of barley, but at no time would I feed more than three parts of barley to one of oats. If peas are used, a mixture of equal parts of

peas, barley and oats will be found very satisfactory. If it is possible to cut both the hay and straw, it will be found more satisfactory to mix them together, instead of feeding them separately. In this way, considerable straw could be used to good advantage. As to roots, unless it is desired to feed a large quantity, I should say that forty pounds a day is a good allowance for a steer.

O. A. C., Guelph.

The Right of Free Speech.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of October 27th, your reviewer in giving the report of New Westminster (B. C.) Exhibition, attempts to give one of the Oxford Down exhibitors a calling down, for the simple reason that he had an opinion of his own and was not afraid to express it, and when the reviewer for a paper like the "Farmer's Advocate" tries to belittle an exhibitor, just because he cannot agree with all the decisions of a judge, he shows very little judgment himself, to say the least. I was an exhibitor of Oxfords, and was on the ground all the time the judging was in progress, and failed to hear one ungentlemanly remark, and am certain there was not an exhibitor that did not think Dr. Black did his work honestly. But why should any man be condemned for not agreeing with all his decisions? When the time comes that exhibitors are deprived of the right of free speech, I, for one, will not give any agricultural society a chance to refuse me a membership.

Ladner, B. C.

H. M. VASEY.

FARM.

Ragweed.

Two weeks ago we published an illustration of ragwort, a very injurious plant in some districts. This week we illustrate ragweed (*Ambrosia*



Fig. 36.
RAG WEED.
(*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*.)
(71)

Ragweed.

artemisiifolia) in order that our readers may not confound the two species, on account of the similarity of names. The ragweed is becoming quite a noxious weed in some parts of Ontario.

"O. K. Knives."

I have received the farmer's knife, and am highly pleased with it. I think every farmer should be a reader of your valuable paper; also, should have one of your O. K. knives. I herewith send you another new subscriber for the "Farmer's Advocate." Enclosed find \$1.50. Send me another knife as premium; my boy wants one.

Waterloo Co., Ont.

Enclosed please find \$1.50, to pay for "Farmer's Advocate" to December next. I like your valuable journal very much. Have been a subscriber for years.

Prince Edward Co., Ont.

JAMES BENSON.

Institute Work in New Brunswick.

With a climate tempered by the sea breezes, with its fertile valleys and fine grazing uplands, the Province of New Brunswick is well adapted for stock, dairy or mixed farming. Peopled by descendants of those races who have made a success of agriculture in European lands, we see no reason why this Province by the sea should not be one of the foremost in Eastern Canada, in producing the highest class of agricultural products in the near future. By adopting modern methods; by paying closer attention to their farms; by aiming to restore, maintain and increase soil fertility; by selecting and breeding only the best class of live stock, I am sanguine there is a great future before this beautiful Province of mountain and valley, lake and river. As one drives over the splendid gravel roads, now on an upland, where we see a panoramic view of forest, with its varied foliage; or a stretch of farm upland dotted here and there with the comfortable homes of the farmers; or now we drive along the banks of some rapid running stream, down whose swollen waters in the spring the lumberman guides his raft of timber or his run of logs; or, perchance, if our drive is along the dyke lands of the southern or eastern coast, we see beauty in it all, and we think our flat lands of Western Canada tame and monotonous in comparison.

In former years, and in some cases to-day, the farmers of New Brunswick obtained considerable of their revenue from lumbering. They neglected to maintain the fertility of their soil, and the constant selling of hay and grain soon exhausted the fertility of the land, until they began to realize that more attention would have to be given their farms. This has been a change for the better, and the more intelligent are beginning to realize that lumbering to-day is not a work for farmers; for if farm work is properly done, there is no time for any other occupation. If farming is to be made profitable, it is only by giving it the closest attention. We find, as the lumber is being cut off and the land brought under the plow, a larger acreage is being cultivated. More stock is being kept and raised, and in some places creameries and cheseries are being established and successfully operated. A better class of stock is kept; better care is given them. We find this change is largely due to the educational feature of the Farmers' Institute system, which was inaugurated seven years ago, under somewhat adverse circumstances, and has developed beyond even the most sanguine expectations. From nearly every section of the Province comes a call for speakers to address the meetings on some of the leading features of agriculture. The meetings are much better attended than formerly, and in nearly every place where meetings were held we found a growing interest in all lines of farm work. The addresses by the experts in the various branches of agriculture are usually appreciated, and many interesting questions and discussions arise. In these discussions we usually find out where the farmers stand; or, in other words, find out the existing conditions of that particular place, and prescribe the remedy accordingly, if one is needed.

The intelligent breeding of stock was always a live subject, and we found our fellow farmers always willing to discuss the problems in connection with stock-raising, whether for the dairy or beef production, sheep or hog-raising. We found that while in some sections they had a good class of stock, yet in many places there was great room for improvement. The importance of breeding from only first-class sires, the doing away with scrub stock and raising only the best has been impressed on the farmers by many of the institute speakers in the past, and is not without effect, for we find good males are purchased and used by the members of the Institutes or Agricultural Society, and in most cases giving good results.

The dairy industry always comes in for a share of discussion, and we find the farmers anxious to learn along this line. We notice in those sections where dairying is the chief industry the farmers seem better off, adopted later methods of work, and have better maintained soil fertility. Clover-growing was another live subject, our audiences being always ready to hear something (new, we trust) about this most valuable plant to the Canadian farmer. I know of no better way by which the fertility of the soil may be restored and maintained on the upland farms of New Brunswick than by the growing of clover and the plowing down of green crops for manure, as most of the upland soil lacks humus.

One pleasing feature of institute work was the discussions that sometimes arose, that brought out points the speakers had forgotten, or details that had not been mentioned; also the number of ladies and young people in attendance who followed our addresses very closely, which bespeaks for New Brunswick a splendid future, and we trust that we no longer will see our best farm boys and girls leaving for the New England States, but