

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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Everyone interested in dairying should not only read, but study that instructive little book, "Dairying for Profit or the Poor Man's Cow," which may be obtained from the author, Mrs. E. M. Jones, Brockville, Ont. Price, 30 cents. Over 62,000 copies have been sold, and in order to further stimulate its circulation, we will give two copies to every old subscriber sending in his own name (renewal) and that of one new yearly subscriber accompanied by two dollars.

The Norfolk Agricultural Society is offering \$15.00 in five prizes for gopher tails. The competition is not limited to the members of the society; any person may compete without paying the membership fee. The little boys of town and country have a chance to make pocket money by snaring the frisky little gophers and saving their tails. This seems like a good scheme, and might be adopted by all agricultural societies where the gopher pest prevails.

Our Cattle Trade.

The continued slaughtering of Canadian cattle at British ports is a slanderous reproach to the herds of the Dominion. Apart from the financial damage, which is its direct result, the farmers and stockmen of Canada are in no mood to allow this libel to rest as it does at present. The disputations in Great Britain as to what the veterinary inspectors there really discovered in the lungs examined, and which they reported to disclose contagious pleuro-pneumonia, have lead many to conclude that the deposits were simply of fibrinous material consolidated after an ordinary case of "sporadic pneumonia," or inflammation of the lungs, caused by exposure. We are in a position to state that in a letter to a friend in this country, Dr. S. T. Brown, veterinary surgeon to the Privy Council Board of Agriculture, England, makes the very important admission that he has never said that the disease exists in Canada. As indicated by the letter of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, given below, every part of Canada was searched by a staff of veterinary officers without finding any trace of the disease; there being no cases here, obviously none could go forward and none could be discovered by the British vets. Shippers and others report this season's trade to have been hopelessly demoralized; and the outlook not improving and everything being in a state of uncertainty, there is already a strong disposition in various quarters to abandon cattle feeding.

With regard to the inspection of our cattle on landing in Britain, we are able to say that Mr. Wm. Hunting, M.R.C.V.S., veterinary surgeon, has been appointed chief inspector under the Contagious Diseases Animals Act to receive the Canadian cattle. Concerning him Dr. Mole, M.R.S.V.S., of Toronto, writes us:—"He is well known as a thoroughly expert veterinarian, and Canadian cattle exporters may feel assured of his fairness and impartiality. His scientific attainments are second to none. As a public man, he is well known in journalistic circles as the editor and proprietor of the Veterinary Record."

We have written the Canadian Minister of Agriculture on this subject, and have the following reply:—

Ottawa, Aug. 19, 1893.

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the cattle regulations. You ask what steps, if any, have been taken in order to demonstrate the freedom of Canadian herds from contagious pleuro-pneumonia. When the question arose in England, in October last, of Canadian animals being affected, every part of the country was examined, if not by a little army, at least by a considerable staff of veterinary surgeons, without any trace of the disease being found. The reports of all the veterinary officers of the department in all parts of the Dominion have since been uniform in the same sense; and it is not possible that contagious pleuro-pneumonia could exist in Canada without the fact becoming known.

As respects the second question in your letter, the department has authorized the sending of two experts to Canada by the Veterinary Department of the Imperial Government at the expense of the Canadian Government. A similar invitation was made in October last. It was not accepted then, but from a recent debate in the House of Commons in England I think it is likely the invitation will now be accepted.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

J. LOWE,
Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

The Wm. Weld Co. (Ltd.), London, Ont.

Some time ago cable despatches from England represented the Minister of Agriculture as saying he would gladly authorize this sending of experts to Canada to determine whether or not any plague existed here; but in a later speech he appears to have refused to do so. Right or wrong, the restrictions are to be maintained, that is evident, and the Scottish Farmer even hints at the absolute prohibition of the importation of foreign stores; and when that paper says there exists "no economic reason" for allowing stores to come in, it simply means that they are trying the panacea of protection. Canadian cattle men may make up their minds that they will get no favors in Britain, but the honest reason should be given instead of slandering the healthy cattle of Canada.

Deloraine Fair.

A very successful fair was held in Deloraine on August 11th. The entries of horses and cattle were numerous, and some creditable specimens were shown. The exhibit of sheep and pigs, though not numerous, was of good quality. The show was held a little late in the month, and the harvest coming on earlier than usual interfered considerably with the attendance as many were starting at the harvest or busy putting machinery in order, and so were unable to attend.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

(FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT).

Business in this market for the past month has been much unsettled by reason of so much uncertainty in financial matters. Prices have shown at times violent fluctuations, which, from the standpoint of supply and demand, seemed unreasonable. Fortunately receipts have been moderate most of the time, and variations in values have not gone beyond certain limits. The general outlook is a little more favorable than it was. The high rate of exchange on all eastern paper has practically put an embargo on shippers doing business through the banks. This has been a serious blow to this branch of the trade, and has been the means of crippling it very much.

Exporters were doing a good business up to two weeks ago, but the decline of British markets has discouraged business in that line, and now they are operating very cautiously.

The season of western range cattle has been fairly inaugurated. So far supplies have not been excessive, but the quality was generally poor, and prices naturally low.

Hogs have fully recovered the smash occasioned by the Cudahy collapse. Holders in the country concluded not to sacrifice, and the result was a period of small receipts, which, with a good demand, caused an upward turn in prices, though the market is very feverish and unstable.

Top prices at present are about as follows:—Cattle, \$5.25. Hogs (light), \$6. Sheep (native), \$4.40; western, \$3.50; lambs, \$5.50.

Light hogs sell at a premium of 50c. over heavy. Sheep prices have been very unsatisfactory.

The market has been over-stocked with common and inferior grades, many of which were practically unsaleable at the lowest point of the year. Western sheep are coming freely from the ranges. They meet with a light demand from buyers, because they are hardly fat enough to suit killers.

Receipts thus far this month foot up 175,800 cattle, 290,200 hogs, and 183,800 sheep, showing a decrease of 30,600 cattle and 53,400 hogs, and an increase of 63,100 sheep compared with a year ago.

Dealers do not hope for much improvement in prices until the silver question is definitely settled.

Agricultural College Affairs.

A commission, consisting of Mr. John Winchester, of Toronto, Master in Chambers, Mr. John Waterworth, ex-M. P. P., farmer, of Wardsville, and Mr. John S. Pearce, seedsman, of London, have completed their enquiry into the alleged lack of harmony among the staff of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. We elsewhere give their findings, which were unanimous. The report itself, which is before us, covers 156 pages, and is the result of about three weeks' investigation, 94 persons in all being examined. Bulky though the report is, Prof. Shaw complains, in his defence through the daily papers, that all the testimony was not included, and that the compilation has not been fair to him. It would have looked better to have given the evidence in *extenso*. The petition asking for an investigation was presented by five ex-students—R. R. N. Morgan, Strathroy, W. L. Carlisle, Chesterville, D. Buchanan, Toronto F. Mullholland, Yorkville, and W. Randall, Camperdown, stating as follows:—

"Speaking on behalf of the great body of graduates of the Ontario Agricultural College, we recognize that you have done much in the interests of agricultural education, especially in the equipment of this institution. We certainly owe our gratitude to the present Minister of Agriculture for the many improvements he has made during his tenure of office, some of which are the establishment of the Dairy School and the erection of new buildings. The College is a great power for good in our Province and elsewhere, and has vast possibilities, but we regret to say it has not done and is not doing what it might. Why? It is well known there is something seriously wrong which has long existed and cannot exist much longer. Unless speedily corrected it must result disastrously. The existing state of affairs is causing comments through the country unfavorable to the institution, has kept students away from the College, and has a most injurious effect upon the character of the students during their course."

Having gone carefully through this extensive report and contrasting it with the findings, we think the latter might have been condensed and in some respects made more pointed.

That there was lack of harmony in the institution is quite evident from this report, and the wonder is that so much good work has been accomplished during the past few years as has been the case. The commissioners hold Mr. Shaw, Professor of Agriculture, chiefly responsible for this element of discord. The question of authority is really the central one in this whole difficulty. It is quite apparent that in any institution of this kind there must be one responsible head, and among subordinate officials a unity of action, if the best results are to be secured.

From the very outset Mr. Shaw seems to have felt or been suspicious that he was slighted. He complains, for instance, that on the first evening of his arrival at the College a special room was not in readiness, and he was required to sleep in a bed in