

The exports from Ontario alone of Alsike clover during the past season, according to the estimate of the Steele, Briggs, Marcon Seed Co., one of the largest exporting firms, were of an aggregate value of \$350,000.

The Indian wheat crop is reported as being below the average on the whole. In the central provinces it is about up to the average, but in the important regions of the Northwest it is fully twenty per cent. below the usual quantity.

The Iowa legislature has done a most admirable thing in passing a law compelling public eating houses and hotels to conspicuously announce the fact where they serve oleomargarine to their patrons. A worthy example for other states to follow.

A Royal Commission is now enquiring into the cause of agricultural depression in Great Britain. Mr. John Speir, a tenant farmer of Newton, is on the commission for the west and south-west of Scotland. Mr. Speir was a farm delegate to Canada in 1890, and subsequently contributed to the columns of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. A better selection could not have been made for the commission.

A good farmer will never undertake to till more land than he can thoroughly cultivate. It is the aim of too many farmers to get as many acres in crop as possible without paying sufficient attention to the manner in which it is put in. The farmer should bear in mind that well-tilled land is constantly drawing plant food from the subsoil, while a half-tilled field is growing poorer every day.

Not long ago the newspapers contained despatches from England to the effect that the British Minister of Agriculture was disposed to admit Canadian store cattle so soon as he was satisfied of the freedom of this country "from tuberculosis." At the time this was thought to be a telegraphic blunder in the use of the word "tuberculosis" for pleuro-pneumonia, because if the British Minister of Agriculture were open to conviction at all he could not gainsay the clear case made out by the Canadian Government of the non-existence of "pleuro" in the Dominion. Our able correspondent, Scotland Yet, in this issue devotes a good deal of attention to tuberculosis in Great Britain, and significantly says: "What is proposed is that farmers and all interested should agitate to have tuberculosis scheduled the same as pleuro-pneumonia is, and that compensation be paid for every animal slaughtered." Is this the beginning of a new crusade?

According to the Agricultural Journal of April 2nd, London received in the week ending with that date a good supply of American, Argentine and Russian wheat, together with 10,890 quarters of Australian wheat.

In view of this fact, we can hardly credit the good news which has been going the rounds of the papers of late, that Mr. Van Horne predicts that wheat will increase to \$2.00 per bushel in the near future. Mr. C. Wood Davis, of Kansas, made similar predictions two or three years ago.

There also arrived from Turkey, in the same time, 15,501 quarters of oats. We do not usually think of Turkey as an oat-producing country, still there are very extensive mountain regions where the rainfall is heavy, and the growth of oats might easily be increased.

The United States sent 3,826 quarters of peas, and 4,819 quarters of linseed cake came in from the River Plate district.

Mr. C. R. Valentine, the well-known butter expert in Australia, and at present special dairy commissioner of New Zealand, is very enthusiastic over the prospects of the butter industry of Australia, but is evidently laboring under a misapprehension in regard to the dairy industry of Canada, and does not realize the great efforts which are being put forth by our dairy associations to further the cause of butter-making, nor the fact that Canada not only makes all the butter which is consumed by her own people, but also has an export trade with Great Britain, which is rapidly increasing, for in the course of an article in the Australasian he has the following:

"There is a good possibility of a trade with Canada in spite of the attention which the Dominion is now paying to the development of her dairying resources. In winter Canada is subject to the same necessities of stall-feeding which enable Australia to compete with the North European export trade, and the imports of American butter, which were once large, are now rapidly falling off."

Timely Notes for May—No. 1.

FARMERS AND MONEY.

In this province it seems to be mutually agreed upon (the farmers have passively acquiesced) that farmers should not be allowed to have any money—at least for any length of time—and that they should have to wait as long as possible for their pay. Is it so in any other trade or profession? Would not a carpenter or a lawyer be insulted if you asked him to receive his pay in dry goods or tea and sugar? Would he not demand immediate payment in cash? Still a farmer is expected to take "store-payment" for his butter, his eggs, potatoes, etc., and sometimes even for his beef, pork and wood. Again, does a merchant want to borrow a few hundred dollars, he can get it without much trouble by giving a mortgage on his stock-in-trade and at a far lower rate of interest than the farmer has to pay, who will give a mortgage on his farm, which can not run away or be burnt up. Again, every payment is made due at such a time as will enable the machine agent, the money-lender or tax collector to get their pay without going through the formality of asking the farmer if it would be convenient for him to pay at such a time. Isn't it very nearly time we had our own members of Parliament to look after our interests? If we are obliged to have protection, let it go all round and protect the farmer, for he is the most in need of protection.

"MIXED FARMER" AGAIN.

Mr. G. Patterson, of Calgary, remarks on "Mixed Farmer's" removal scheme as "Twaddle," etc., and prophesies this country as soon to be thickly settled as the Eastern Provinces. I wonder if Tom Daly's "vigorous inauguration policy" has been so successful at Calgary that they are getting too crowded? Come east, young man, and we'll give you land if you'll stay here; there's lots of land—improved farms at that—near stations and schools, can be had still at \$2.50 to \$5.00 an acre—many for far less! The reason is the settlers are gone, and the loan companies, etc. are willing to sell for almost anything. They ask for offers. Let him send to the manager of any of the loan companies doing business in his or any other locality in Manitoba or the Northwest, and I fancy he'll get an eye-opener that will effectually prove to him that there will be land, and lots of it, for sale in this country for small figures twenty or fifty years from now, at the present rate of immigration. There are plenty of men here now who can make money by going on to new land every four or five years and then throwing it up and getting a fresh piece. Of course, it isn't farming, it is only skimming the land, but it can be done. There can be no home-life, and very little comfort, but still a man who only wants money can still make it that way; I believe in mixed farming, manuring, good homes, good stock, and comfort for all. Because Mr. P. has not gone and done like "Mixed Farmer" is no reason why "M. F." has not and cannot do it.

GENERAL.

So there is another big farm company gone at the Rolandic Farm, Assiniboia! More's the pity, for those French gentlemen will not be active in sending us immigrants.

Sow your fodder corn early this month; also mangolds, beets and some white turnips for early use.

Try barley and oats for hay, sown after your grain crop is sown.

Those fowls that are sneezing round the yard should be dosed with a little turpentine; if not better, they have tuberculosis or cholera. Chop off their heads and burn them.

If you are shipping eggs, try packing them in finely chopped hay or straw. I have tried oats, but I don't get paid for the oats, and the box costs more expressage.

INVICTA.

Dairy Instruction.

Prof. Robertson, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, has announced that he will send two travelling dairy outfits through Manitoba and the Northwest this season. Each outfit will consist of centrifugal cream separator, Babcock milk tester, churn and other necessary utensils for making gilt edge butter. Two competent men will accompany each, and the intention is to hold meetings, lasting two days, at each place—the first day to separate a quantity of milk, operate the tester, etc., and by the second day the cream thus separated will be ripened and ready for churning. A lecture will be given at one of the meetings, and instruction imparted while the object lessons are being given. The Professor has requested the co-operation and assistance of the Central Farmers' Institute and the Dairy Association, in laying out the routes and suggesting the best available places at which to hold meetings.

The organization possessed by the Institutes affords a capital means of advertising and arranging preliminaries for these meetings, but, of course, they will not be confined to the Institutes, as meetings will be held wherever desired by a sufficient number of farmers to guarantee a meeting place, necessary milk, etc., and applications should be forwarded immediately to the secretaries of either of the above organizations.

Professor Robertson will personally visit this country at an early date, to select a location for a permanent dairy school, which it is proposed to establish as an experiment station and headquarters for the dissemination of dairy instruction throughout the west.

A Popular Engraving.

In the last issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE we announced the completion of our new engraving, "Canada's Columbian Victors," and its reception both by the Press of Canada and the United States, and the high encomiums passed upon it by those to whom it has already been sent as a premium, have exceeded our most sanguine expectations. It is indeed gratifying to find such a spontaneous, hearty and universal appreciation of our efforts. Like "Canada's Pride," issued by the ADVOCATE a few years ago, "Canada's Columbian Victors" is evidently destined to become a household word not only throughout the Dominion, but beyond its bounds. From scores of commendations we select a few as follows:—

OPINIONS OF THE EASTERN PRESS.

"The publishers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, Wm. Weld & Co., of London, Ont., and Winnipeg, have just published a handsome and life-like engraving, entitled "Canada's Columbian Victors." The picture is a gem of artistic design, and contains the portraits of a large group of pure-bred Ayrshire cattle that won distinguished honors at the World's Fair, Chicago, last summer. Canadian live stock breeders and dairymen, especially, will appreciate the commendable enterprise which has actuated the FARMER'S ADVOCATE in thus giving the public such a permanent memento of Canada in that great prize ring. Out of \$2,035 in prizes, Canadian Ayrshires won \$1,885; United States, \$150. It is also highly creditable to Mr. F. Brigden, who is, without doubt, the leading live stock artist in Canada. In the way of live stock portraiture we have seen nothing finer than this, the shading and grouping being artistically done, and the individual characteristics faithfully brought out. We might mention that the cattle portrayed in this engraving were from the herds of Messrs. R. Reford, St. Annes, P. Q.; R. Robertson, Howick, P. Q.; Thomas Guy, Oshawa, Ont.; W. M. & J. O. Smith, Fairfield Plains, Ont.; D. Drummond, Petite Cote, P. Q.; Thos. Irving, "Logan's Farm," Montreal, P. Q.; Joseph Yuill, Carleton Place, Ont.; William Stewart, jr., Menie, Ont."—[The Weekly News, Toronto, Ont.]

"The publishers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE have just issued an engraving of a group of pure-bred Ayrshire cattle, which won such a large number of the prizes at the Chicago fair. It is a handsome engraving, and will serve as a permanent memento of the success of Canadian cattle at the greatest exhibition the world has ever seen."—[The Advertiser, London, Ont.]

"It is a handsome engraving, and will serve as a permanent memento of the success of Canadian cattle at the greatest exhibition the world has ever seen."—[Daily News, Berlin, Ont.]

"The FARMER'S ADVOCATE has issued a capital plate of the prize-winning Ayrshires at the World's Fair, which will make an interesting addition to the adornment of every farm house in Ontario."—[Algoma Pioneer, Sault Ste. Marie.]

"In live stock portraiture we have seen nothing finer than this."—[The Arcadian, Wolfville, N. S.]

"Some of the Canadian cattle which won so many prizes at the Chicago Fair last year have been put into a lithograph, of which the artist is Mr. F. Brigden. This handsome cattle picture may be had from the publishers, The Wm. Weld Co., London and Winnipeg."—[Monetary Times.]

"Exceedingly handsome and lifelike."—[Coleman's Rural World, St. Louis, Mo.]

"It is a beautiful and artistic piece of work, and provides a means by which the stockmen of Canada may preserve a memento of the greatest achievement of Canadian stock."—[Windsor Review.]

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

"Canada's Columbian Victors came to hand, and I have to thank you for same, as well as for another copy of Canada's Pride. The Ayrshires are splendid." R. P. MCGINNIS, Iberville, P. Q.

"Please accept thanks for your premium, Canada's Columbian Victors, which I have just received. It is a very handsome premium, and more than I could reasonably expect." GEO. ALLAN, North Nation Mills, Ont.

GENTLEMEN,—The premiums you sent are now all safely to hand—thank you. The barley and oats came some weeks ago, and are in appearance all that need be desired; and the picture, "Canada's Columbian Victors," came to-day, and I think is one of the finest and most creditable premium pictures I have ever seen sent out by any publishing company, and with much less boasting and more real merit." Yours very truly and respectfully, W. R. SCOTT, Allan's Mills, Ont.

Any reader of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE can obtain a copy of this beautiful engraving, by sending us the name of one new subscriber, accompanied with \$1.