

phate the farmer has so raised the condition of this land that his present difficulty is that his cattle have a tendency to run to beel rather than breed. He says this one time "poor land" will presently feed a bullock per acre. I might quote hundreds of similar instances that are within my own experience, but, for the present, space will not permit.

FRANK WALLIS.

Lincoln, England.

P.S.—Mr. Wallis is an agricultural and dairy specialist and lecturer for the Lindsey County Council. He has made a specialty of all kinds of manuring and is competent to speak with authority on the subjects he writes about. It is therefore with pleasure that we give publication to the above letter.—Ed.

Fattening Chickens for Export

Editor of FARMING:

Seeing the interest you have always taken in anything which pertains to the advancement of the farmers' interest we send you a statement of an experiment we have just closed on our farm for the Department of Agriculture for the Dominion Government. Through Prof. Robertson, we purchased 133 chickens, for which we paid \$35 75. They weighed 575 lbs. They were fed in crates eight feet long and one foot four inches square, divided into three apartments, four chickens in each apartment.

They were fed for six weeks. The first four weeks they were fed three times a day on peas, oats, barley and wheat, mixed and ground fine and mixed with skim milk.

The feed, for the first four weeks, was as follows: 24 bus., 22 lbs. oats; 5 bus., 7 lbs. barley; 2 bus., 52 lbs. wheat; 1 bus., 3 lbs. peas; 23 lbs. tallow, and 2,589 lbs. skim milk.

The above feed, with the exception of the tallow, was fed for the first four weeks. The last two weeks they were fed with a machine called a Crammer twice a day. This machine has a rubber tube, which is inserted down the bird's swallow into the crop, through which the feed is injected.

The above feed being too coarse to feed through the machine, they were fed 466 lbs. kiln dried oats, ground very fine and mixed with tallow and skim milk. This was their feed for the last two weeks.

During the six weeks we fed them they gained as follows: First week, 57 lbs.; second week, 74 lbs.; third week, 127 lbs.; fourth week, 12 lbs.; fifth week, 13 lbs.; sixth week, 58 lbs. Total gain for six weeks, 347 lbs.

At the end of the third week the birds began to moult, which accounts for the small gain for the last three weeks. They grew feathers instead of putting on flesh.

They were killed on the 25th of November, and on the 28th they were shipped to Liverpool, and when the returns come back we will let you know what has been the result.

We are now feeding a lot of turkeys under the same treatment.

MRS. JOSEPH YUILL.

Prince Edward Island Crops and Trade Prospects

To the Editor of FARMING:

The ground has at last frozen. The frost kept away longer this fall than for many years. We had the first frost—and it was a light one—on the 17th November. By noon the frost was all out of the ground, but on the night of the 13th the ground again froze, and up to date it is freezing at night and thawing during the day. So far, the frost has not prevented the plowing of sod land.

The markets are very dull in this county. The usual general drawing of loads to market at this season is conspicuously absent this fall. Every second farmer, on an average, has nothing to haul to market.

The failure of the wheat crops is the greatest calamity. Only the millers know the extent of the wheat failure.

At a custom mill yesterday I was struck with the proportions of the failure. The miller showed me some wheat he was grinding for a customer that was horribly shrunken. Chicken feed would be the only class which it would come under. It is said that there are farmers who sowed last spring imported Russian seed wheat from Ontario and who had immunity from the damages of the Hessian fly. Farmers in the spring wheat regions of Ontario who have been accustomed to ship seed wheat down to the Eastern Provinces will do wise to hold it and prepare it in first-class condition, as there will be a big demand for seed wheat of the Russian variety in the Maritime Provinces next spring.

It is estimated that the potato crop on the Island will not pan out more than fifty bushels per acre of immature tubers. The price now being paid in our outposts is twenty five cents per bushel. In Nova Scotia the price is about eleven cents higher. Nova Scotia does not grow sufficient potatoes for home consumption. In New Brunswick, too, its price is higher. This province is not an exporting one. They grow about enough for themselves.

Oats are worth 28 to 30c. and 32c. is being paid for some fancy lots for special cargoes. There will be few if any cargoes of oats shipped to Britain this fall. The neighboring province will take all the oats we can spare, and more. Island oats are probably the best oats in the world. A farmer in this county has had a new variety of oats this year imported two years ago from New York State. Last spring he had sowed 32 bushels and harvested 650. This he has already all sold for seed purposes at 50c. per bushel. It is entirely rust proof and black in color. It is named the Plymouth Cluster. This man imported 10 lbs. of this seed two years ago, from which he had 8 bushels. Last year he sowed 7 bushels and harvested 172, and this year had, as already said, some 32 bushels from which he harvested 650. Query.—Do our farmers pay sufficient attention to varieties of seed?

In wheat, this season, all varieties, old and new, except the White Russian rusted so badly that little was thrashed. The black Tartarian and some white varieties of oats, which generally do not do well here, have been good this year. One farmer said that were it not for the Tartarian he had sowed last spring he would have no oats at all. This is certainly an off year in P. E. I. farming, and valuable deductions cannot well be made from the results of the harvest.

Bacon pigs were selling a week and ten days ago for 4c. per lb. for weights over 150 lbs. No discrimination is being made by the packing firm of B. & M. Rattenbury. All hogs of whatever breeds, sizes and shapes, if they weigh over 150 lbs. bring the same price. This state of affairs is not encouraging to swine-raisers, who have studied the demands of the market, and have procured breeds of pigs conformable to requirements, and have fed them for flesh more than for fat, and endeavored to furnish a so-called "bacon hog," to find that this hog does not fetch any more money than the commonest scrub. It is said that the price of hogs is now less than 4c. This I cannot vouch for, however. A great many drovers are scouring the country for young year-olds, to be shipped to Nova Scotia for winter fattening. For to consume the big hay crop in Nova Scotia these young cattle are sought. Lambs have been worth here but \$1.50 each this fall. So low a price is quite discouraging, and wool is worth, washed, but 18c. now. Old ewes and wethers are worth 2½c., and the demand is large.

There seems to be springing up a large inter-provincial trade between P. E. I. and Nova Scotia in animals. This is as it should be. We want the Nova Scotia coal and iron, and the miners want our food products. A fine trade with Britain is resurrecting in fine perishable food products.

A steamship of the Beaver Line has already made two trips from Charlottetown to Liverpool, and our Cabinet Minister, Sir Louis H. Davies, has now arranged for another ocean steamship, the *Galatia*, with cold-storage accommodation for 400 tons perishable product. It sails from Charlottetown on Dec. 15. The last, the *Lake Winnipeg*, took away a cargo valued at \$70,000. With direct com-