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SCURS ON A. A. CATTLE-DUCKS HATCHING.
JOHN BELL, Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"As a reader of your valuable paper, I would like to ask a few questions."

"1st. What causes scurs on pure-bred Polled Angus cattle. Does it reduce the price. As breeders, would you advise breeding pure-bred cows to a sire with scurs?"

"2nd. Would you recommend farmers to use incubator for hatching water fowl, as I intend hatching three or four hundred ducks?"

"3rd. What kind of ducks would you advise, as we have plenty of running water. At what age is a duck best for laying?"

[1st. The scurs that occasionally appear on Aberdeen-Angus bulls probably denote contact with some horned breed in the past, but do not necessarily indicate any impurity of blood. They are said to appear only in some families, and careful breeders consider them quite objectionable in breeding.

2nd. We have no hesitation in recommending the use of an incubator for hatching ducks, as they have been proved to be the only satisfactory method of hatching ducks on a large scale for the spring and early summer market.

3rd. Pekin ducks are probably most popular, but Aylesburys and Rouens are first-rate breeds. Ducks lay about equally well as yearlings and two-year-olds; after that the number of eggs decreases.]

WARTS ON HEIFERS-WATERING STEERS-FEEDING DAIRY CATTLE-BROOD SOW.

F. A. N., Grenville Co., Ont.:—"1. What will take warts off heifers?"

"2. Should beef cattle have just a limited portion of water? If so, how often should they get water?"

"3. Should dairy cattle be fed their coarse feed, such as silage or hay, more than twice a day during their dry season in winter?"

"4. In selecting a brood sow, what should be the qualities?"

[1. If the warts are on the heifer's teats, they should be removed with a pair of scissors not very sharp. Then treat the spots with tincture of the chlorate of iron, to arrest bleeding. In 24 hours touch the spots with caustic potash. Treat the spots with carbolic oil until healed.

2. When a feeding beast, two years old or over, gets a liberal quantity of roots, from 1½ to 2 bushels per day, many feeders consider water needless, but with a less quantity, or no roots at all, in our opinion, the animal should be allowed to judge for itself how much water is required. Some prefer water before their cattle all the time, and others give it only twice a day, morning and evening.

3. Most feeders using ensilage mix it with cut hay or straw for morning and evening feed, and give a meal of whole hay at noon. We prefer giving some rough feed three times daily during the housing season.

4. A brood sow should be of good parentage, be long, deep, smooth, and vigorous, and have a good disposition. She should have at least twelve teats. A brood sow should not be selected from a litter before being weaned, as often the plumpest, best looking pigs turn out disappointing. A sow two months old or more should well indicate her future form.]

MANGELS VS. OTHER ROOTS AND GRAIN FOR STOCK-SUNFLOWERS IN SILAGE.

READER, Halton Co., Ont.:—"1. What value is mangels for fattening steers, either for growing or fattening stock, as compared with turnips, carrots, or rough grains. What amount of fat is in mangels?"

"2. What value would sunflowers have mixed along with silage in silo for winter or summer feeding (say about three-quarters of a pound seed to the acre) sown with corn and harvested with same stalk, and all put through cutting-box at same time as corn."

[1. Mangels, Swede turnips, and carrots, are very similar in composition and feeding value. Mangels possess slightly more muscle-forming substances and rather less fat-forming substances than turnips or carrots. The amount of fat in all these crops is very low, about two or three pounds in 1,000 pounds of roots. The fattening value of a fodder, however, does not depend upon the fat it contains. The starch and sugar which they contain also form fat in the animal body. Carrots contain rather more muscle-forming material than turnips, the amount of starchy matter being practically the same in the two. Mangels make an excellent food for growing stock, especially cattle and hogs. Turnips are perhaps safer than mangels for sheep. Carrots are usually highly esteemed for horses, but their actual feeding value is only slightly higher than that of mangels. It is impossible to compare roots with the different kinds of grain, as they belong to entirely different classes of stock food, each having its own particular use and value. The roots are especially valuable for making an animal's ration more palatable, and they also tend to prevent constipation, thus keeping the animal in better health. These functions make roots especially valuable in stock feeding.

2. I would not recommend sowing sunflowers among corn and putting stalks and all into the silo, though I have never had any experience in this line. Perhaps some one who has had experience could answer this question more satisfactorily. Sunflower stalks are very woody, and I doubt whether stock would derive much benefit from them.

Yours truly, G. E. DAY,
Prof. of Agriculture,
O. A. College, Guelph, Ont.]

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

Apple Exhibit for Buffalo.

Under instructions from the Ontario Department of Agriculture, an exceedingly fine lot of apples has been collected and placed in cold storage at Buffalo, to be exhibited at the Pan-American Exposition next summer.

Ten Tons of Canadian Chickens.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:
SIR.—It may be of interest to your readers to learn that today we received an order from Great Britain for ten tons of Canadian chickens. This order was obtained upon a sample of a few hundred pounds sent six weeks ago. This is the largest order for Canadian chickens ever received, and is a good start for a new Canadian industry. THE CANADIAN PRODUCE CO., Toronto, Nov. 22nd, 1900.

P. E. Island.

The season continues very open, with a good deal of rain. Fall plowing is well done. The turnips are still going on. Shipping sheep, lambs, live geese and turkeys is still going on. A great number have been marketed this fall. Stock are in excellent condition for going into winter quarters. The winter in dairy stations are in full blast and receiving a large supply of milk. The cheese season is closed, and it has been a very successful one. The average price will be the highest in the history of our dairy business. October cheese are mostly sold at from 10c. to 10.5-16c. Several chicken-fattening stations are being operated here, some by the Department of Agriculture and some by private parties. One shipment of fattened chickens has already been sent forward in cold storage to the British market. A move is on foot here with a view to starting a beet-root sugar factory. An American company is behind it. They want the farmers to guarantee them the produce of 3,000 acres, and the company will buy or rent land and grow beets themselves. If a sufficient number of farmers can be interested and promise the 3,000 acres, the factory will be started.

Manitoulin Island.

The weather since September 1st has been very unfavorable for fall work on the farm, and many of the farmers have not completed plowing. Some places it was almost impossible to get up the root crop, which is an exceptionally good one. Threshing is about over, and grain is grand, with the exception of peas, which were very poor on some farms. Nearly all the late crops of peas were blighted and did not fill well. Both spring and fall wheat were the best crops we have had for a good many years. Hogs have brought a very good price this summer, as high as \$5 per 100 lbs., being paid most of the summer. Once or twice they reached \$5.25, but soon dropped to \$5 again. Now it is impossible to sell them for shipping outside, as the markets are so uncertain. Lambs have sold at \$2.50 to \$3.25 each, or \$3.40 per 100 lbs.; fat sheep, \$1 to \$1.50. Stockers are hard to sell at \$3 per 100 lbs., but cows and calves are in great demand. Some calves have sold as high as \$12 and \$13 at auction sales. Dairy butter is firm at 18 cents, and is coming in more plentiful since the creameries have closed down for the winter. Oats are 25c.; peas, 50c.; wheat, 65c.; and potatoes, 20 to 25c. W. J. W.

Perth County, Ont.

A brief review of the season's operations in this locality should teach us some useful lessons. Work commenced after a rather backward spring, and as a result much of the spring crop was put in with less favorable conditions. Barley especially, in the hay crop, which was carefully sown picked up wonderfully under more favorable conditions, and, on the whole we had about an average crop. The beardless suffered most. Oats did well, in spite of smut (which was very bad), rust and must, and yielded a heavy crop of bulky straw, though most of it was greatly lessened in feeding value by rain. Oats are our favorite crop, and the number of varieties now sown is legion, but the Siberian seems to be the coming favorite, displacing the Banner. Side oats looked excellent in the field, but didn't bear out expectations in the bin. Peas were badly infested with the "bug," which seems destined to prohibit peagrowing as a grain crop in this section. The early drought also affected the hay crop, but we grow a comparatively small acreage of hay, our land being too valuable to keep much in meadow or pasture. Roots were got in in good shape, and mangels did well from the start, producing a heavy crop. The intermediate variety is being more largely sown, although probably the average yield, pound for pound, is considerably behind the Long Red, but the latter is much harder to harvest, takes up more room in the root cellar, and wastes more from breaking. Turnips came up very uneven, but made a wonderful top growth. They were badly affected with cabbage worm, and towards fall the rot played havoc with many patches, especially the white variety, while, singularly, in many places, contiguous patches escaped almost wholly. If there is any like to know it, Sugar beets haven't met with favor, some specimens I saw being miserably undersized, while their feeding value, in our farmers' opinion, does not equal that of mangels. Potatoes were a bumper crop, both in quantity and quality, and the price rules correspondingly low. In fact, we doubt if any section in the Province can beat us in potatoes and corn. The latter was a magnificent crop, many acres running close to the 20-ton mark, and some few reporting considerably above it. Silos are becoming more numerous, and it looks as if we were slowly but surely working into a specialty of dairy or stock-feeding. Apples are a glut on the market, the highest price at present having risen to 60 cents a barrel, the owner to do the picking and drawing, and the packers culling them more than two-thirds. The honey crop is a failure, prices holding stiff at 10 cents for extracted, and most apiarists will have to feed. Sales are numerous, and stock sells well, cows bringing almost famine prices. Most of the stock is in good condition for wintering, and feed plentiful. J. H. J.

British Apple Market Report.

Messrs. Simons, Shuttleworth & Co., Liverpool, cable their apple market as follows: "Prices show no marked change since our last quotations. There is an active demand for good, well-packed, sound fruit. Lower grades and conditions are weak, and sales are effected with difficulty."

Messrs. Garcia, Jacobs & Co., London, cable: "Good sound fruit is in strong demand; common stuff weak and inactive."

Live Stock Exports from Montreal.

During the past season, from the port of Montreal, 92,172 cattle (including 5,677 American cattle in bond) were exported, an increase of 19,368, compared with 1899. Gordon & Ironside shipped 10,000 more ranch cattle than last year. Average cost in this country, \$60 per head; total value, \$5,530,300; ocean carriage, \$13 per head; railway, \$3.25. SHEEP—Total exports, 31,838, a decrease of 23,439, compared with 1899, but prices were 20 per cent. better. Value, \$5 per head; ocean freight, \$1.25 per head; insurance, 25 cents. Including expenses, the grand total of this season was \$7,879,149, or an increase of \$1,146,167, compared with a year ago.

Horses for South Africa.

A New York despatch, on the authority of John S. Beiton, of St. Louis, who has been supplying the British army with many horses, announces that 50,000 more are needed during the next six months for Kitchener's forces in policing the Transvaal and Orange Colony.

A New Market Paper.

A new live-stock market paper has made its bow to the reading public interested in its markets, in the form of *The Chicago Live Stock World*, a daily paper for the farmer and stockman. The editors and proprietors of this publication are Messrs. Halliwell, Baum & Co., A. C. Halliwell, former editor of *Draper's Journal*, and W. F. Baum, who has been about the Chicago Stock Yards for the last ten years. The paper has made a modest but substantial commencement, which its proprietors intend to develop into the recognized Chicago Stock-yard authority on market reports. It will be a good one.

Toronto Markets.

Trade at the Western Cattle Market slow. Prices easier on all classes except hogs, which advanced 25c. per cwt. Sheep and lambs were slow of sale; prices easier, and lowest point this season.

Export Cattle.—The quality of export cattle somewhat improved. Prices steady, at a slight advance over former quotations. Choice export cattle sold at from \$1.40 to \$1.60 per cwt. Light export are worth from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per cwt. The season is practically over, so far as the grass-fed cattle are concerned. Mr. Joseph (could) shipped about 30 loads. These 600 cattle go to Boston, U. S., for export to the Old Country; average weight, 1,375 lbs. He has now cleaned up all his stock from Strathroy, Kerrwood, Ailsa Craig, Chatham, Lucan, and the London district, and will be his last shipment for the year.

Butchers' Cattle.—Prime ripe butchers' cattle, weighing 1,000 to 1,400 lbs., in good demand, in many cases selling as high as export. Choice picked loads sold up to \$4.40. The general run sold at \$4.00 to \$4.25 per cwt. Cattle weighing 950 to 1,050 lbs. average sold at \$3.50 to \$4.25 per cwt. Medium butchers' cattle, mixed cows and heifers, sold at \$3.25 to \$3.50; for small steers, well-fleshed two-year-olds, \$3.50 was paid. Common and McClelland bought 40 butchers' steers, average 1,142 lbs. each, at \$1.00 per cwt.; 21 choice heifers, 1,050 lbs. average, at \$1.25 per cwt. Messrs. Beall and Stone sold seven choice butchers' cattle, 1,000 lbs. average, at \$1.37½ per cwt.

Bulls.—Heavy export bulls sold to a good demand, at from \$4.00 to \$5.00 per cwt. Many light bulls sold down to \$3.12½ to \$3.75 per cwt. Stock bulls, 600 to 900 lbs., yearlings and over, sold readily at \$2.00 to \$2.25 per cwt.

Feeders.—Heavy steers met ready sale. Those weighing 1,000 to 1,050 lbs., choice quality, good breeding, sold at \$3.90 to \$3.90 per cwt. Poor quality, same weights, sold at from \$3.40 to \$3.60 per cwt. Poor-keep feeders, those weighing 1,100 to 1,200 lbs., bought for immediate export, sold readily at \$1.00 to \$1.25 per cwt. Feeding bulls, 1,100 to 1,500 lbs. average, for the same purpose at the byres, met ready sale, at from \$3.00 to \$3.25 per cwt. Many farmers were on the market for this class of cattle. Messrs. Dunn Bros. bought one load of heavy feeders, 1,200 lbs. each, at \$3.90 per cwt. Mr. Jos. Featherstone bought 40 feeders, 1,000 lbs. average, at \$3.00 per cwt.

Stockers.—Buffalo stockers, yearlings, weighing 500 lbs. to 700 lbs. average, sold at from \$2.25 to \$3.00 per cwt. Black and white off-colors sold at \$1.75 to \$2.00 per cwt. Drivers report a large number of young stock throughout the country awaiting a favorable market.

Sheep.—Deliveries heavy; 2,586 on offer; all sold, at prices ranging from \$3.25 to \$3.55 for ewes, and at from \$2.50 to \$3.00 for bucks. Mr. J. R. Arkright sold one load of export sheep, at \$3.60 per cwt.—very choice animals; two carloads of sheep for the district of Fort William, Ont.

Spring Lambs.—Spring lambs sold at from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per head, at from \$3.75 to \$4.00 per cwt.

Milk Cows.—Demand still unsatisfied. Good milkers and springers are wanted, at from \$30.00 to \$50.00 per head. Mr. S. H. Reynolds sold one choice cow, with calf, at \$54.00. Mr. J. Armstrong bought five milk cows. The Locust Hill Creamery is making good progress, he reports.

Cakes.—Fifteen on offer, at prices from \$3.00 to \$10.00 per head.

Hogs.—Light deliveries met ready sale, at firm or slightly advanced prices. Best select bacon hogs, off cars, not less than 160 lbs., not more than 200 lbs., live weight, about six months old, choice singers, sold at \$5.50 per cwt. Light and thick fat are quoted at \$5.00, but if of good quality, not over 220 lbs. weight, are graded to \$5.25. Unculled ear lots are quoted at \$5.50 per cwt.

	Comparative prices to-day.	2 weeks ago.	Same date last year.
	Nov. 23, 1900.	Nov. 9, 1900.	Nov. 23, 1899.
Export cattle, per cwt.	\$ 4.60	\$ 4.60	\$ 4.70
Butchers' cattle, per cwt.	4.40	4.40	4.40
Bulls, per cwt.	4.00	3.25	4.12½
Stockers, per cwt.	3.00	3.00	2.75
Feeders, per cwt.	3.90	3.90	4.00
Sheep, per cwt.	3.35	3.50	3.40
Hogs, each.	5.75	1.75	4.12½
Lambs, each.	3.50	3.25	3.50
Milk cows, each.	52.00	50.00	50.00

Dressed Hogs.—Deliveries large; prices firm or advancing. Mr. Wm. Harris, Jr., purchased 200, at \$6.75 to \$7.50 per cwt. The complaint is that they are too fat for butchers, who require a small lean hog, not more than 100 lbs. dressed.

Hides.—The hide market was a little firmer on good demand. No. 1 green, steers, 8½c. per lb.; hides, cured, 8½c. per lb.; calveskins, 8c. per lb.; lambskins and pelts, 8½c. each. Wool, fleece, 15c. per lb.; wool, unwashed, 10c. per lb.; wool, pulled, extra, 20c. to 2½c. per lb. Deer skins, 10c., and dry, 25c. per lb.

Poultry.—Messrs. Gunn Bros., at the Western Cattle Abattoir, commenced operation by purchasing four carloads of turkeys, paying 7½c. per lb.; 8c. per lb. for choice birds. Here comes a very difficult question for solution in the near future: Young birds have been sent forward; in fact, 75 per cent. of the birds are not fat. There has been no care taken in preparing them for market. Over 100 birds in a deck of 400 were culled out, unfit for plucking, too small, too light, some with large frames and no meat. Mr. Sim, who is in charge, informs our representative that he prefers to pay 8c. per lb. for birds weighing 12 lbs. They put the weight at 9 lbs. as the lowest limit, and almost every farmer has put that as meaning the weight required. There is no lack of quantity, but quality is most looked for in turkeys for the Christmas export trade to the Old Country. Prices for best pea-fed turkeys, weighing 15 lbs. and upwards, 8c. per lb. Must be choice, plump hen birds. Discolored, yellow, large frame, thin turkeys, 6c. per lb. Chickens, per pair, 40c. to 50c.; spring chickens, per pair, 50c.; turkeys, per lb., 8c. to 9c.; ducks, per pair, 50c. to 90c.; geese, per lb., 5c. to 7c. The Canadian Produce Co., Toronto, are making good progress in the export chicken trade. They have just made arrangements to ship to Manchester, England, 2,000 lbs. of dressed poultry per week. They request all farmers to ship live poultry by the Express Co., and ask for shipping crates. Prices this week, 7c. per lb.

Deer.—A large number of deer on sale at St. Lawrence Market. Mr. Tom Davey, proprietor of the Temple Cafe, Bay Street, purchased the large moose shot at Orillia, weighing over 800 lbs. It is reported that he paid somewhat near \$50.00 for this animal. A gentleman, passing at the time the deal was just completed, asked if the head was for sale. In thinking, Mr. Davey replied, "Yes, \$10.00." The gentleman very quietly said, "It is mine." It appears the Toronto Albany Club privately offered \$50.00 for the same head.
Nov. 23rd, 1900.