

# FARMING

VOL. XVI.

JANUARY 17th, 1899.

No. 20

## What Our Readers Say.

The following extracts are taken from among the many letters we are receiving daily containing appreciative words of FARMING:

MR. JAS. SMITH, Secretary of the North Grey Farmers' Institute, Inglis Falls, Ont., says: "Your subscribers are well pleased with the paper. I think it should be read by every farmer. The market reports alone are worth the money."

MR. JAS. HUNTER, of Carholme, Ont., says: "Enclosed find \$2 for subscription for FARMING. I can not get along without your paper, and if my subscription should run out again do not drop my name, for I want your paper."

Commercial Cross, P.E.I.  
Dec. 28, 1898.

I have been much pleased with your paper for the last six or seven years and every change in it has been for the better.

JOHN N. McDONALD.

Copenhagen, Ont., Jan. 11, 1899.

Editor of FARMING,  
Toronto.

Inclosed find \$1, subscription to FARMING. It is a bright, spicy, up-to-date agricultural paper, and being published weekly makes it much more acceptable in our homes. Wishing you the success your enterprise merits, and hoping that our Canadian farmers will show their appreciation for FARMING, as it supplies a long felt want.

Yours very truly,

R. LINDSAY.

## Agricultural News and Comments

A novel test is being conducted in Great Britain. It is an egg-laying competition. All the competing birds are pullets and are being kept under the same conditions and management. Each pen contains four birds and the competition is to last eighteen weeks.

The Essex Tobacco Growers' Association are sending a representative to England with a view to finding a market for their tobacco. In 1897 the counties of Essex and Kent produced over 10,000,000 pounds of tobacco, the acreage being 5086 in the former and 2140 in the latter.

The great increase in the high price of meat which has taken place in Germany during the past year has produced a powerful agitation against the high duties and numerous restrictions by which the Government has nearly stopped the importation of live animals and greatly increased the price of meat products. This increase in price has caused a decided decrease in the amount consumed.

Referring to the Irish Board of Agriculture the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland recently said: "There are few industries in which more money is wasted than in agriculture. The tendency of those engaged in it is not to learn scientifically how to use their best efforts for the cultivation of their land in the proper way, and the result is a waste of energy, a waste of capital, and loss instead of profit."

A peculiar cattle disorder has arisen in Australia. The complaint is very similar to that known as "wind" in horses. It comes on when cattle are exposed to a cold wet night after a hot day. The cattle had tremendous legs in the morning, the swelling being so great in some cases that the skin of the thigh would burst. The sudden chill to the cows seems to have caused the disease. When cows were under shelter no trace of the disease was found.

The German coach horse has been bred and developed by the German Government for a hundred years, under the management of the most skilful scientific breeders. They are the largest of the coach breeds introduced into America. They are strong, impressive sires, and when bred to good trotting bred mares they produce the popular type of harness horse to suit the export trade, as well as our best home markets horses with good size, fine graceful action and the outlines of beauty that command the best prices.

To estimate the weight of cattle by measurement, measure the girth close behind the shoulder and the length from the fore-part of the shoulder blade along the back to the bone at the tail, which is in a vertical line with the buttock, both in feet. Multiply the square of the girth, expressed in feet, by five times the length, and divide the product by 21, the quotient is the weight, nearly, of the four quarters, in imperial stones of 14 lbs. avoirdupois. When the cattle are very fat the four quarters will be about one-tenth more, while in very lean cattle they will be one-twentieth less than the weight obtained by the rule.

The returns of thoroughbred mares for the year 1898 in the English stud book are scarcely as satisfactory as could be wished, and there are proportionately fewer foals than was the case last year. In 1898 there were 5,585 mares accounted for, against 5,526 in 1897, but there are 59 fewer colts. The increase in the number of barren mares which amounts to 99 shows that 1898 has not been a good breeding season. The exports of mares fall nine short of what they were in 1897, but 29 more mares have been put out of the stud. About eight mares per thousand breed twins, and as twins are counted as two foals there requires a proportionate reduction in the number of mares.

## Co-operation in Dairying

Co-operation is the real foundation-stone of Canadian dairying. Though our dairymen realize this in a general way, we question whether all of them have such a grasp of the situation as will impel them to perform faithfully their share in making this huge co-operation a success. The maker and the manufacturer or company, with a few exceptions, perhaps, fully realize the true significance of what co-operation in dairying means; but, from our own experience in practical dairy work a few years ago, and from our observation since then, we question whether one-half of the patrons of our cheese factories and creameries do so. Too many patrons, though they recognize the co-operative principle in dairying, seem to feel that the responsibilities connected with it do not apply to them. For this reason progress in dairying, after it reaches a certain stage, is slow.

Co operation is defined as the act of working or operating together to one end. This being so, it is the duty of every one connected with a co operative cheese factory or creamery to do his utmost to make the concern a success. The patron who supplies the milk, the maker who makes it into butter or cheese, and the manufacturer, though not to so great a degree, are the factors concerned in operating a cheese factory or creamery, and upon the manner in which each one performs his part will the success of the industry depend. As we have pointed out on other occasions, while it is comparatively easy to reach the maker, it is very difficult to reach the man who supplies the milk, and to get him to feel his responsibility in the matter.