

## CORRESPONDENCE

## Locate the Winter Show

To the Editor of FARMING:

Regarding the Provincial Fat Stock Show, as a member of the Swine and Sheep Breeders' Associations, I am of the opinion that the show would be much benefited by being permanently located in some central place, and, judging from a personal knowledge of the past shows, I think the city of Brantford is the proper place, and should have the first consideration of the Directors of the Provincial Show.

E. E. MARTIN.

Canning, Ont., January 18th, 1900.

## Commercial Fertilizers

To the Editor of FARMING:

I have just been reading an item in your valuable paper of December 5th on commercial fertilizers, headed "A Reply to Veritas," in issue of November 7th, and answered by W. J. Thompson, Esq., whom I notice has several times recommended Thomas' phosphate. Now what I want to know is why this fertilizer is so highly recommended when it contains no ammonia, no potash and no phosphoric acid soluble in water, but contains 3.97 citrate soluble and 11.38 insoluble, and is valued at \$12.34 in the 1899 Bulletin.

Now we know that plants, speaking from a general standpoint, require a well-balanced food of ammonia, potash, and phosphoric acid. I am using one which analyzes in the same bulletin thus: Ammonia, 6.96; potash, 5.60; available phosphoric acid, 7.85, and valued at \$30.10 per ton. "Thomas' Phosphate" sells here at from \$25 to \$35 per ton, while W. A. Freeman's "Sure Growth" brand (which I use) sells at \$30 per ton.

Mr. Thompson recommends 450 lbs. per acre. I used 200 lbs. of "Sure Growth" per acre on part of a field of oats which tested 36½ lbs. per bushel, while the unfertilized tested 31½ lbs. per bushel. A neighbor, Mr. Edward Mitchell, (to whom reference may be made) used 200 lbs. per acre on 10 acres in a 20-acre field of wheat, which was considered all alike. The other 10 acres received no dressing, with a result of 9 bushels 1 peck increase per acre where fertilizer was used.

"Veritas" desires a good catch of clover. This past season I took from less than 6 acres, 16 average loads of hay, composed of timothy, clover and alsike, where I had used 300 lbs. of "Sure Growth" per acre on a clay loam.

Anyone wishing to purchase fertilizers should address Thomas Macfarlane, Chief Analyst, Agricultural Department, Ottawa, for Bulletin on Fertilizers, in which is contained the analysis of each kind sold in the Dominion, of which there were 154 in 1899.

W. A. TOPHAM.

Burgessville, Ont., January 20th, 1900.

## In the Maritime Provinces

To the Editor of FARMING:

Just now the reports of the cheese factories are coming in, and the results are even greater than the most sanguine anticipated. The total output of dairy products from P. E. Island for the year ending December 31st, 1899, amounted to \$563,000. Of this amount almost \$200,000 was from butter and the balance was from cheese. This is \$200,000 more from the dairy industry than was received last year. The increase in P. E. I. alone of '99 over '98 was 60 per cent., a most wonderful increase. This, of course, was owing chiefly to the increased value of dairy

products in '99 over '98, but the aggregate quantity was also greatly in excess of the previous year. The average price received from milk for the cheese season was about 80c. per cwt., some factories receiving an average of 85c., while others received various sums below 80c. The dairy has certainly been the saviour of the people of P.E.I. this past season, owing to the low prices of all other farm products without a single exception.

The schoolmaster is manifestly abroad in the land, for the cry for education and better methods in all branches of farming throughout the Maritime Provinces is abounding and the feeling is general. Never were such preparations being made for general provincial gatherings of agriculturists as are being made just now. In P. E. Island a two-day provincial meeting of the farmers and dairymen took place at Marshfield on the 18th and 19th instant. A week later the farmers of Nova Scotia held a three-day provincial meeting at New Glasgow, and the week following again the fruit growers held a three-day meeting at Wolfville. A week or more later the farmers and dairymen of New Brunswick held their annual meeting at Fredricton, the capital, and, sandwiched in between these great meetings, the P. E. Island fruit growers held their meeting at Charlottetown on the 24th and 25th instant. All this bringing together of the farmers, dairymen and fruit growers of the three provinces means a great deal, and shows that the truth is now paramount that no one man knows it all, and that, knowing this, the anxiety to learn of the others is great—that knowledge is power—that the husbandmen of the Maritime Provinces are hopeful in the fact that the following up of better methods will now surely bring ultimate success. As the interests of the Maritime farmers and farming are identical, FARMING will make it a point to be present at all of the important meetings, and reflect in its columns the best—the cream—in the discussions on the various subjects on general farming, dairying and fruit growing.

J. A. MACDONALD.

Hermanville, P.E.I., January 18th, 1900.

## A Quebec Dairyman's Experience

To the Editor of FARMING:

In answer to "Information Wanted," I might say that I am not an agricultural writer but will answer your questions as best I can. I farm 110 acres, and had 11 Jersey cows in 1899, some thorough-bred and others high grades. I sold the cream to a city trade at 75c. per gallon during the winter and 60c. summer. I cannot give the lowest amount received from any one cow during the year or the largest amount. The average per cow per head for the herd was \$51.60 in cream, besides 300 lbs. of butter for family use during the year.

The system of feeding I followed was good clover hay, two feeds daily; 2 bush. of ensilage per cow daily, 2 lbs. of bran, 3 of cotton seed meal, 4 of corn meal and 1 lb. of oil meal in two feeds daily. This was the winter ration. In summer I fed from the 15th of July to the 20th of August two feeds daily of oats and vetches cut green. The rest of autumn I fed green corn. I did not feed any grain during summer.

I can hardly say what it cost per cow for feed and care. I had my skim-milk for the calves and pigs. I use the improved United States separator, am 76 miles from city, and freight charge comes out of amount; would say that it would cost about \$25.00 per cow for feed and care. I am counting hay at \$5.00 per ton, cost of producing ensilage \$2.00 per ton, cost of grain 1 cent per lb. Skim-milk is worth 15 cents per cwt. I sent to the cheese factory in 1898, but did not keep an account of what I made. It would hardly pay running expenses.

R. W. FRANK.

Kingsbury, Que., January 22nd, 1900.