

Poultry Department to Prof. Elford at Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., is interesting the farmers of Ontario County in "egg circles." His experiences are worth hearing, and we are glad to know he is meeting with encouragement.

If the farmers of Ontario County would patronize creameries, and have their eggs collected by the cream-haulers, it would prove to be a step in advance. The present system of marketing butter and eggs cannot be very satisfactory, so far as we can see. Somehow or other, co-operative dairying does not meet with very much encouragement in this, one of the oldest settled and in many ways best county in the Province.

H. H. D.

### Reciprocity Still.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

If you will kindly allow me space, I will make a few brief remarks in answer to one or two of your recent correspondents. Although not looking upon this reciprocity arrangement with the same optimism that your paper does, I appreciate your fairness and complaisance in allowing these different articles, though some of them are of a contrary nature.

Your correspondent of June 8th seems to have misconstrued the market quotations when he states the Buffalo market has been so lucrative, in comparison with the Toronto market. I wish to say that, in perusing the market quotations of that city, I have never seen it a dollar per cwt. higher than Toronto, and I am sanguine that, were the readers to consult the market reports which have been published during the past two years, they would agree with me that this gentleman's statement has been exaggerated. I was looking over the market reports last week, and the Toronto market was at least 25 cents per cwt. higher than Buffalo.

In reference to his assumption that the Essex farmers have lost thousands of dollars during the past year, owing to the non-existence of mutual trade relations, I can only say he seems quite oblivious of the fact that our hog markets have been everywhere higher. The readers will remember that the Detroit market was only \$8.40 per cwt. during January of this year, whereas the Windsor market was \$9.20 per cwt. If the Americans had had access to our market at that time, the Essex hogmen would not only have lost hundreds of dollars, but the country as well. The commercial system of a country should propose to increase capital, rather than divert it into foreign channels. The latter is precisely what your correspondent's political economy would have a tendency to do.

Your correspondent takes an exceptionally narrow view, when he argues that we will have an additional market of ninety millions at our door. It will be the Americans that will benefit by the more convenient market that Canada will afford them for selling their surplus products. It is estimated that 3 per cent. of the annual produce of the States is exported to foreign countries. Now, this apparently trifling figure seems infinitesimal; but when you consider that there are approximately thirteen billion dollars' worth of annual products, it should suffice to cause the Canadian farmer who has any concern for his superior home market to sit up and take notice.

The re-opening of the fallaciously-promising United States grain market will undoubtedly put a bonus on inferior farming. The farmer may surmise that he is growing wealthy, but if he were to insert the depreciation of farm lands in his balance sheet, it would soon be obvious that he was receiving reduced dividends.

Essex Co., Ont. MILTON HAIRLINE.

### Dairy Record Centers in Canada.

The new extension work of the Dairy Division, Ottawa, is causing many inquiries to be made. Officials are now located in Peterboro, Lanark and Oxford Counties, Ontario; St. Hyacinthe and Brome, Quebec; and at Kensington, P. E. I., with a view of gathering specific information as to the exact standing of the dairy industry in the district. Each such district is termed a dairy-record center. Each farmer within a certain area will be called on, and there will be obtained from him a statement as to the number of acres cultivated and in pasture, the number of cows, the type of sire, the weight of milk sent to the factory, the milk used at home, the cost of feed, and so on. When these statements are compiled, there will be definite and valuable information for the encouragement of other dairymen. It is intended to follow up this work closely for some years, both in these and in other sections.

The recorders are paying special attention to the encouragement of cow-testing in these districts; they are already collecting weights and tests of about four thousand cows, so that it is evident that a tremendous impetus is being given to cow-testing by this new forward movement.

A special bulletin on cow-testing is available to all applicants. Forms for recording weights of milk are supplied free by the Dairy Commis-

sioner, Ottawa. When applying, state the number of cows, and whether forms are wanted for weighing daily, or on only three days each month. C. F. W.

### Federal Aid to Thoroughbred Stallions.

During recent years, many appeals have been made to the Honorable Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, by horsemen anxious to bring about an improvement in the quality of our light-horse stock, who are of opinion that for this purpose an infusion of Thoroughbred blood is essential. Mr. Fisher has decided to grant assistance, under certain specified conditions, to persons maintaining Thoroughbred stallions for service in the various Provinces.

In deciding upon this step, the Minister has been largely influenced by the fact that, while stallions of other recognized breeds, when in capable hands, are, as a rule, fairly profitable, this is seldom the case in regard to the Thoroughbred.

The alleged lack in our light horses of the quality derivable from the infusion of Thoroughbred blood, is the subject of adverse comment by European horsemen who visit the Dominion with a view to investigating its possibilities as a field for the purchase of horses, whether for military purposes or for ordinary saddle or harness use. In this connection it should be remembered that, while horses for the last named or, in fact, for any of these purposes, may well be bred from sires other than Thoroughbred, it is held to be of importance that, on the side of the dam there should, in order to produce the best results, be, in such cases, an admixture of Thoroughbred blood.

The conditions under which assistance will be given are as follows:

1. All horses on account of which aid is given by the Department must be registered in the Thoroughbred Studbook of the Canadian National Livestock Records.

2. Horses shall be of good size, quality and conformation, and shall be free from all hereditary unsoundness, these conditions to be insured by submission annually to a thorough, careful examination either at the hands of the Veterinary Director-General, or such other members of the Veterinary Staff of the Department, or other persons as the Minister may from time to time appoint for this purpose.

3. Horses so approved shall be duly and properly advertised to stand for service of mares, under the ordinary and general conditions usual in the districts in which they are to be kept, at an annual service fee (except in the case of Thoroughbred mares) of not more than \$10 to insure, such service fee to become due and payable only when mares prove to be in foal.

Any person, firm or corporation owning or controlling any Thoroughbred stallion, in regard to which all of the conditions above set forth shall have been duly and properly fulfilled, shall, on production of satisfactory evidence thereof, and of the fact that a reasonable number of mares, other than Thoroughbred mares, have been served during the season, be entitled to receive at the close of each such season the sum of \$250 from the funds of the Live-stock Branch. If, in the event of a horse dying or becoming incapacitated for service during the season, an approved substitute is immediately placed in the same district, the Minister may, after due consideration of the circumstances, authorize the payment of the subsidy above-mentioned.

The necessary form will be furnished on application to the Veterinary Director-General and Live-stock Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

### Clover Seed Prospects 1911.

Having travelled over a considerable area of the clover seed-producing part of Ontario, the writer is of the opinion that, unless some of the non seed-producing sections of Canada turn some of their good clover prospects toward seed production, or unless some foreign country has a good crop of seed, we have not yet paid the highest prices for red-clover seed.

Very much of the new seeding with clover west of Kingston, and over the usual seed-producing area, was badly injured with winter smothering by ice and late spring frosts. Apparently, the Lake Erie counties suffered the least from these causes. The meadows there give considerable promise. The dry weather of April and May so shortened up the hay prospects, along with the killing of the clover, that where the second growth does come on well, it is most likely to be used for hay or pasture. Eastern Ontario this year is rejoicing in the prospects of a good hay crop. Where clover has been sown, it has done well, and

judging from last year's experience, may produce a large quantity of seed. Near Winchester Springs, Dundas Co., last year, from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of second-growth clover, which had been cut about the 21st of June for hay, a farmer had threshed, with an ordinary cleaner not fitted up especially for the work, so that it had to be put through five times, 1,650 pounds of seed. After keeping 100 pounds for his own use, he sold \$235 worth to his neighbors and a Farmer's Club near-by. There were many pieces in that locality, and hundreds of others in Eastern Ontario, last year, where about as good results might have been reached had the seed been saved.

This year, from our present knowledge, it would pay all farmers who have second-growth clover worth keeping at all, to press it into service for the production of seed. Of course, with this object in view, the first cutting should be done as quickly as possible. It seems strange how so many farmers who have been in the habit of selling hay have so little use for clover hay, as they get no market for it. They do not even recognize its feeding value for their own stock. This may be partly due to the poor way it is often handled. Many of the non-seed-producing sections do not even realize its value in improving their lands, and are content to go on paying out their good money for seed each year, when they might save that money, and make some more with it, besides. They would likely sow more themselves, and less timothy, which would be infinitely better for their lands.

The question might be raised, "What about the weeds that are altogether too common in these districts?" No doubt, weeds would be a trouble to many, but, in red clover seed production from the second growth there are but one or two weeds which would interfere with growing pure seed, and even these could be satisfactorily dealt with.

A good criterion for growing red clover seed profitably would be if the second crop blossomed out well. If it did, it would likely fill with good seed. If it didn't, there would be no loss in holding until such a time as it then could be cut and cured for hay. Let every farmer try for seed this year who can. With very little expense, the ordinary cleaner can be fixed up to do good work in hulling it. T. G. RAYNOR.

### Sell Out and Co-operate(?)

Here is a matter I would like to outline, and have you think over. There has been much said lately regarding co-operation. Why wouldn't a plan something like this work out: Co-operate with the laboring men first, by giving them a share of the profits? It seems to me a few farmers could, as it were, form a stock company, have the best man for manager, and everybody work. The laboring man then would take the same interest, and we ought to have the best of management. With the laboring man taking an interest in the producing of crops, with good management, and each co-working, we could do with fewer implements and have the best, could buy cheaper, and sell to the best advantage. I mean, put farming on a thorough business basis, and satisfy the working man by making him a member of the firm, and paying him according to what he earns. Farms would then produce more and better crops. Most farmers would then make more money than they do now; besides, the laboring man would have a home, and very often make more money than he would if he owned a farm. Of course, I see difficulties, but I would like to see any business without difficulties. If we are to co-operate, we must first co-operate with the producer or laboring man. At first thought, this will look absurd to many, but if they think it out and see what it would lead to if carried out on good, honest, co-operative principles, I think it would be a good thing for humanity and the country. Essex Co., Ont. JOSEPH AINSLIE.

### Charlock for Mustard.

It has come to the attention of the United States Board of Food and Drug Inspection that the seed of charlock is being substituted by some manufacturers, in whole or in part, for that of the true mustards, viz., yellow or white mustard, brown mustard, and black mustard. It is the opinion of the Board that, when charlock is substituted in part for mustard, the label should clearly indicate this fact.

Impressed with the significance of the figures, Prof. W. H. Day has sent out to the public press a circular letter embodying his calculations recently published in "The Farmer's Advocate," showing the profit of tiling as much of one's land as possible at once, instead of extending the work over a period of years. The estimates are striking.

There is a good deal of the primeval about us yet. Nations exult in the dominance of their own powers, but brand as pagan similar ambitions on the part of other countries.