

# FARMING

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## Agricultural News and Comments

At the last meeting of the Agricultural Student Union of Ohio, Professor C. A. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, gave a very interesting address on the work of the Ontario Experimental Union.

There is a good market for butter in South Africa, which is supplied chiefly by Australia from October to May, and by Denmark from May to July. Considerable American butter is also shipped there, and the greatest demand for it is from July to October.

In an improved horse collar the facing is formed of a metal plate of similar shape to those now in use, the back consisting of an inflatable tube, which is blown up to the desired hardness, adjusting itself to the shape of the animal's back and easing the strain of pulling.

This seems to be an age of trusts, or at least our cousins across the line are having their fill of them. The latest rumor is a beef trust by the big packers. Every beef raiser will know what this means should the packers succeed in their scheme. It is to be hoped that it is only a rumor.

A rein guide and guard has been invented to prevent the reins from falling over the dashboard or from becoming entangled in the horse's tail when driving. It is so arranged that it can be fastened beneath the back strap and to rest on the animal's haunches, thus supporting the reins.

A Michigan man has invented a feed cooker which can be placed in a barrel to cook the contents and prepare them for feeding to stock, a stove being formed of a metal tube, with a smoke pipe at the top, and draft pipes running down on one side, in which air is forced to burn the combustibles.

A new Dairy School has been started at Woodstock, N.B. Mr. J. F. Tilley, one of the dairy superintendents of the Province is in charge. Woodstock is in the centre of the best farming district of New Brunswick and should be well patronized. Mr. Tilley in ordering *FARMING* for the school speaks of it as a most valuable farm and dairy journal.

What is said to be the largest hog ever raised was recently slaughtered in New York. The animal was a Jersey red boar two and one-half years old, weighing alive 1,609 lbs., and dressing 1,336 lbs. It measured nine feet from tip of nose to the end of its tail, two and one-half feet across the loin, two and one-half feet across the hams and six feet in girth.

A self propelling traction sleigh has been invented by a resident of Washington State. The propelling power consists mainly of two barrels mounted parallel to each other, each having ice-cutting flanges projecting therefrom, and on these rests the weight of the sleigh. As these barrels are rotated by hand power or otherwise the sleigh worms its way along over the ice and snow.

Some idea of how much the British people eat may be gathered from the amount of butter and oleomargarine imported last year. Of butter the imports were 320,909,300 lbs., and of oleomargarine 89,987,500 lbs. The butter imported cost the people of Great Britain \$99,800,855 and the oleomargarine \$11,918,870. Denmark furnished nearly fifty per cent. of the butter and Canada only about three per cent.

An English food specialist has devised a plan for blending peanut meal with grain products to produce a mixture having the desirable qualities of pure wheat flour, with the added rich protein contents of the pea meal. Winter wheat flour has about 10.4 per cent. protein, but the food of man should contain about 20 per cent. by weight of protein. Peanut meal has about 43 per cent. of protein, which is a muscle producer, and if a satisfactory combination can be made with wheat flour the two would contain sufficient nourishment to meet the requirements of man's physical existence.

## Inter-Provincial Trade

Last week a deputation consisting of representative breeders and members of the Cattle, Sheep and Swine Breeders' Association waited upon the Provincial Government and asked for a grant of \$1,000 to extend inter-provincial trade in purebred live stock. In many respects it was one of the largest and most representative deputations that has waited upon the Government during the present session, and we trust that the powers that be will see their way clear to accede to the request of our stockmen and breeders.

It is hardly necessary for us to state that we are entirely in sympathy with the stockmen in their request and believe that the Government could not expend \$1,000 that would do more good, not only to the important live stock interests of Ontario, but to every agriculturist in the province. There is no class of our citizens doing more for the building up of the agricultural interests of this country to-day than the importer and breeder of purebred live stock, whether of cattle, sheep, or swine. Every purebred animal he brings into the country, or produces, adds so much more wealth to the country in the improved quality of its live stock. True, the breeder is not doing all this work for nothing and expects to make a profit on every animal he sells, which is nothing but fair—though we question very much whether any large breeder or importer in Canada has ever made himself rich in the business. His services, nevertheless, are just as valuable, and any grant from the public chest that would help him to extend his trade would be returned tenfold in the improved condition of the live stock of the country.

The special branch of farming that has made Great Britain famous among agriculturists all over the world is that of purebred live stock. She is to-day the breeding ground from which new blood is secured to replenish the herds in about every country under the sun, and there is a possibility of Ontario in this special line becoming for this continent what Great Britain is for the whole world. But to give Ontario this proud position a market must be found for the stock produced or in other words we must let people in the other provinces and in the United States know that we have the best of purebred stock for sale. Considerable progress has been made along this line during the past two years by the publishing of a list of purebred stock for sale and sending it to prospective buyers, not only in Ontario, but in other parts of the Dominion and in the United States. To extend this work, however, and to place it on a basis that will thoroughly establish and insure this trade for all time to come the various associations interested need more money. It will not do to put off this matter till next year, as a large portion of the trade may be