

THE FARM

VALUABLE POINTS IN MARKETING HONEY.

An item of prime importance in the preparation of honey for market is to clean the sections. Many farmers who usually have less time to devote to the bees and the product of the hive, deliver the sections to the grocer just as they come from the hive. Some even present them in the original clamp. Now it takes not more than one minute to clean the propolis from a box of honey and with a little experience, it can be done in a much less time. Suppose you have 200 pounds; it will take you only a little over three hours to clean it and the difference in the price will more than repay the time spent, to say nothing of the satisfaction in having a neater article.

With regard to grading, little need be said. Unless the different grades are used by themselves, the price obtained must necessarily be that of the poorest grade. Another matter of importance is that of cartons. The tendency is, to sell all articles in individual packages ready for delivery

to the customer. There are several reasons why this is especially desirable for honey. First, there is more or less drip from all but the very finest sections. The cartons keep this from the grocer's shelves, counter or show case. I know a number of grocers who in the past have refused to handle honey at all, because that which had been offered them had no cartons and was apt to leak all over the shelves. In addition to this, cartons prevent the dust from collecting on the combs, and in warm weather, the flies, as well. The cost of cartons is very small and they can be obtained on small lots with one's name and address on them. If the honey is what it should be, their value as an advertisement will pay many times their cost.

Last but not least, comes a knowledge of prices. The honey market is broken from lack of such knowledge often than from any other cause. Quantity is a strong factor in making prices. The small producer is apt to be misled in many ways, as to the quantity of honey in the country and the resulting prices. The amount of

in the whole country determines, or should determine, the price rather than the amount in any single locality. Taking the country as a whole, last season, the crop was the smallest in years, while in Vermont, it was average.

Let me suggest that every person interested in the production of honey, who reads this article, write the editor of this department, about the middle of July, giving him an idea of the local crop. State whether it is average, above, or below. The average yield in most sections is about 45 pounds of comb or 75 pounds of extracted honey from a good swarm. Give a general idea of the number of swarms in the vicinity and the probable amount of honey that will be produced. These reports, together with information from other sources, will give an idea of what the local prices should be, whether above or below the average. A careful observation of the above suggestions will make a great difference in the value of one's own honey crop. Indeed, many times it will make the difference between profit and loss.

THE PROFIT IN NOVA SCOTIA SHEEP.

"Is sheep raising in Nova Scotia profitable?" is a question that is so much agitating the minds of the general public that we have secured a few general facts to give readers an opportunity to judge for themselves.

Some ten years ago or so the quality of farms of this province had their little flocks of sheep and they were considered profitable to their owners. At that time the conditions for raising sheep were so different what they are at the present time. Not so with the market, however. Some of the former days, two years ago, or so, were selling at \$2.00. The same class for the last year and at the present time are bringing \$3.00 per lamb at almost any market in Nova Scotia. Some few years ago a given quality of wool brought but 16 cents and often much less per pound; for some time past the price for the same quality of wool was up as high as 28 cents per pound, and the best price now prevailing runs about 25 cents per pound.

This showing is to the effect that the production of the sheep has increased in but a few years over 75 per cent. for wool and 100 per cent. for mutton. It also points out that practically all of this great increase is a clear profit to the sheep raiser, as, practically no increase in cost of raising sheep has resulted. In other words the sheep raiser of today gets \$1.50 or more per lamb clear of cost over and above the usual profit of a few sheep of the usual good Nova Scotia mutton breeds, the flock averaging a lamb per sheep, the raiser has a clear net of \$3.00 per sheep, apart from and above the regular profit according to the price of ten years ago.

Notwithstanding the greatly advanced prices shown there is practically an unlimited market for Nova Scotia sheep in sight, with no material reduction or drop in the good quality that has been in vogue for some time. The factories of Nova Scotia are using about 1,000,000 pounds of wool per year, importing most of it, and some of the leading industries are largely increasing their capacities. Mutton is being imported into Nova Scotia by the hundreds of car loads, at prices even running up to \$3.50 per lamb by the car load.

Can there be any question that sheep raising does not pay now, in these days when so many farmers are many allowed, for cancellation of homestead entry only an application will be received from any one person and he must be a genuine homesteader. These changes will get at the root of the evil. Furthermore, an effort will be made to set right some of the irregularities of the past. Frauds are reported to have been especially rampant in Ainslie, Regina and Yorkton agencies, the three agencies nearest to the Manitoba and the international boundaries. In these districts the agents have received orders to prepare lists of all lands which have been under entry for more than a year and in respect of which there has been no extension of time granted.

A Thorough Weeding-Out.

When that time comes all the homestead inspectors that are available in Manitoba and also in Saskatchewan and Alberta will concentrate in the three agencies named above, and armed with the lists referred to will go over the lands township by township. Where they find a quarter section which has been under entry for more than a year but which has no special protection and upon which no improvements have been wrought they will report the fact to the local agent. The latter will cancel that entry and post notice in his office at the end of the fact. The land will then be open to the entry of the first applicant at the counter.

An Enforced Holiday.

The Battledore Herald registers a kick because "the entire staff of this paper were taken to serve on a jury recently and the Herald in consequence had to shut up shop. This was hard luck for the Herald—possibly also for the litigants. But for the matter it was a windfall. About the only holiday a "statute" gets is when they are locked up and sent to the penitentiary for some act of human pity in the soul of the man who selected the jury. Seasons might come and seasons go, the inviting beauty of spring gives place to the good old summer time and this to the golden glory of autumn, but for the "statute" there were only memory's fading pictures of the dreams of youth and by chance a daisy memento, struggling

THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

To Be Rigidly Enforced and Land Sharks to Be Put Out of Business—New Regulations.

The extraordinary influx of settlers into the Northwest which has taken place during the last few years has subjected the homestead regulations to a severe test and has demonstrated that they are not suitable to present conditions. When there was little or no emigration to that country the land had scarcely any value. It did not matter that the soil was the best in the world and was capable of yielding enormous crops. People did not come there for any other reason than to get a piece of land. Under such circumstances the homestead regulations were easily carried out and there was no difficulty about their enforcement. No incentive to fraud existed and if such occurred, it was easily detected. That was all changed when the great fertility of the Northwest lands began to be realized. The great land companies and speculators formed in the United States who purchased large blocks from Canadian railways and other sources and generally land was in great demand.

The Land Shark's Chance.

This was the opportunity for the land shark and for unscrupulous persons who saw big profits in buying the land and blanketing quarter sections on a large scale. The history of the western states shows that the most ingenious description, similar methods were sought to be introduced into the Canadian Northwest and a considerable degree of success. The lands bought from railway companies were especially rampant in Ainslie, Regina and Yorkton agencies, the three agencies nearest to the Manitoba and the international boundaries. In these districts the agents have received orders to prepare lists of all lands which have been under entry for more than a year and in respect of which there has been no extension of time granted.

Recently new homestead regulations come into force which are designed to prevent frauds of the kind described.

Hereafter homestead entries must be made in person and no proxies will be allowed. For cancellation of homestead entry only an application will be received from any one person and he must be a genuine homesteader. These changes will get at the root of the evil. Furthermore, an effort will be made to set right some of the irregularities of the past. Frauds are reported to have been especially rampant in Ainslie, Regina and Yorkton agencies, the three agencies nearest to the Manitoba and the international boundaries. In these districts the agents have received orders to prepare lists of all lands which have been under entry for more than a year and in respect of which there has been no extension of time granted.

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CANADA'S NEW RIFLE

IT WILL SOON BE READY FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

The Military Expert of the Vancouver News-Advertiser Talks of the Points of the New Rifle, the New National Weapon—The Lee-Enfield—Its One and Quarter Pounds Lighter.

The new arm for the Canadian militia is now being turned out at the factory in Quebec, and will soon be issued to the permanent corps. In all probability the city corps will receive the first consignment and then follow the rural regiments. This weapon is known as the Mark II, and differs slightly from the Lee-Enfield in the bolt action. The sights will be used for both patterns.

Lighter Than the Lee-Enfield.

In the first place the new rifle weighs only one-quarter of a pound less than the Lee-Enfield. This is obtained by hollowing out the woodwork in the barrel and in the breech and cutting out the muzzle. It is two inches shorter, but this is a questionable improvement. The sights are about the same distance apart, therefore the range is not affected. Perhaps a comparison with the Lee-Enfield will give a better idea of the Ross than a description with "metes and bounds."

UMBRELLAS.

The Various Processes Which Enter Into Their Making.

The ribs and stems of an umbrella are generally made in factories having a specialty of these items and are sent there to the real manufacturer. Here the first man whose work it is to assemble the parts inserts a bit of wire into the small holes at the end of the ribs, draws them together about the main rod and puts on the ferrule.

The Bolt's Great Improvement.

One of the worst faults of the Lee-Enfield rifle was the system of locking, and in this respect the Ross rifle has been improved. The bolt required two motions, throwing upward and pulling back. The Ross rifle has a single motion, throwing the bolt forward will compress the firing pin spring and lock the breech. The old rifle bolt required the shooter to discharge on a shoulder about three inches in rear of the breech and on one side only, which was a very awkward action. The new rifle is fitted with two firing pins, one on each side, and the bolt is locked in the rear of the base of the cartridge. The Springfield and the United States army rifle, 1903, have locking lugs on the under side of the bolt head which are well up to the breech and are held in place by a single lug in the place of two.

Magazine in the Stock.

The Ross rifle is another good point, as it is contained inside the stock and does not project as in the Lee-Enfield. The magazine is in the left hand of the shooter and the magazine is held in place by a spring. The magazine is held in place by a spring. The magazine is held in place by a spring.

Old Rifle Shots will be Most Interested.

In the old days the bullet was of the ancient barbycorn pattern, permanently protected by a steel hood about one-half inch in diameter, which is secured to the block of the sight by two screws on either side, doing away with the need of a sight protector. A small set screw in the front of the block secures the barbycorn in place. If the rifle does not shoot straight the barbycorn can be adjusted, the set screw tightened and the hood replaced.

The Bolt Sight Differs from any other.

The bolt sight differs from any other sight in the market. In the bolt being curved, and in the method of fine adjustment for elevation. It is hinged towards the muzzle and supported by a movable bridge on the sight-block, which is stamped with the ranges from 100 to 2,500 yards. The bridge is moved by pressing both sides, which releases the trigger from the notches in the sight block. Any correction for elevation is made by rotating the fine adjustment ring which entirely encircles the barrel, and is marked every ten degrees. By rotating it one way the bridge is pulled slightly towards the muzzle, elevating the sight level, and depression is obtained by a movement in the other direction. No table accompanies the rifle, giving the scale and its application in inches on the target at the different ranges. Allowance for wind is made by a small milled head on the right of the sight cap. Each division gives five inches for each 100 yards, which is easy to remember. The back sight is fixed in V, but this could be filed down and used as a bar. It is to be regretted that this new sight does not have a provision for a aperture or near sight. A small hinged flap could have been mounted, with an aperture in the center, which would be closed when used when not in use. In the States this form of sight is very popular, and it is some time since the friends of the rifle have had very little experience soon become familiar. Having no back sight to complicate matters, the new sight directs his attention to the foresight and the bull's-eye only. With the open sight the person recommending it to friends and neighbors. It is a good medicine to have in the home and is widely known for its cures of diarrhoea and all forms of bowel trouble. For sale by S. N. Wear.

A FREE TRIP TO THE DOMINION EXHIBITION

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WEEKLY MONITOR has decided to offer a free trip to the Dominion Exhibition to be held in Halifax from September 22nd to October 5th.

By a free trip we mean that we will pay all expenses—board, lodging, entrance fees, railway fares, etc., from the time you leave home until you return, to the person who secures us the largest number of cash in advance subscribers at \$1.00 each from now until the 15th of September. Besides this free offer we will allow a liberal commission on all new subscribers sent us.

LITERARY CANADA.

What Hurts Our Pride When Criticism Hits Us.

Those who resent the criticism of Mrs. Bevan and Sir Gilbert Parker, are right in asserting that Canada has her writers, her musicians, her artists, her men of science, says The Montreal Standard. The slightest reflection, the slightest knowledge of the world in every nation there is a remnant, a saving few who devote themselves to the things of the intellect and the imagination. These the nation is proud to count as its representative men. Go to Finland, Bosnia, or Argentina, and you will find this true. Ah, but our Canadians do not take their rank; they are not known to the world, and that hurts our pride.

The Devotee of a Very Active Breed of Cattle.

Devons are a very active breed of cattle. They are good walkers and therefore good rustlers and a very prolific breed, the cows breeding up to twenty years of age, and at the fall they are found on the average as good as any breed. While probably not giving as large a flow as some other breeds, they hold out well. Some of the cows refuse to be dried off before calving.

Change in an Old Standby.

It may be worth while to call the attention of those feeders who do not stop to figure to the fact that the developments of trade the last few years have made our old standby corn not always now the cheap feed it was at one time. East, especially of the "corn belt," the market price of corn rarely falls below 50 cents a bushel and frequently advances considerably above it. With grain corn selling at 50 cents, cornmeal will cost from \$20 to \$22 a ton. On my desk as I write is a quotation for fine western corn delivered to my station for \$19.00. Cornmeal and bran mixed far outrank cornmeal alone as a cow ration. At these figures it will manifestly pay me to exchange at least part of my corn for bran.

THE SUNDOWNER.

Shrewd Traders Pick Up Bargains in the Cow Market. To the average visitor at the well known stockyards in Brighton, Mass., the chief object of interest is the large stock barn. The large rows of stalls provide accommodations for hundreds of cattle, and the market place is about needed during the busy seasons of the year. On Tuesday and Wednesday of each week this barn is the scene of great activity, says American Cultivator. The cattle arrive by train from all parts of New England and New York state. They are brought in mostly by traders who make a business of buying from farmers or at auctions and sell in Brighton. Any one, however, is allowed to use the barn and sell his own cattle if he wishes to do so. Some who live near by drive in their own cows and sell them direct, thus saving the middleman's profit, although their own lack of trading experience may often offset the apparent gain.

No Dealer Likes to Carry over cows from week to week.

The rent of the stalls is for the market days only and includes feed for that period, and also the cow, if kept over, is a week further along in milking. This consideration is the cause and encouragement of the "sundowner." The term is applied to the shrewd trader who stays away while buying is active and appears at the last moment and picks up bargains just as dealers are beginning to fear they must keep over some of their cows. The "sundowner" drops in late Wednesday afternoon and often buys cows at low prices. He is usually a country resident and trader and takes his pick out of the stalls left over to the last, and then his bargains are to be found. Many a man who can't trust himself against the butcher and baker to trust him.

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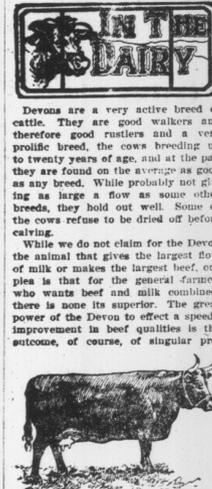
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DEVON COW FARM OF HALLOW.

(D. H. B. 1847. Property of W. R. & A. T. B. Barton, North Devon, England.)

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