

FARMERS' SYNDICATE  
OF THE  
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,  
Office: 23 St. Louis Street,  
Quebec.

President: His Grace Mgr. L. R. Begin.

General Secretary: Ferd. Audet, N.P.

Treasurer: P. G. Lafrance, Cashier of the National Bank.

Farmers, Agricultural Clubs and Societies can be supplied with every thing they want, viz:

Pigs: Chester, Berkshire, Yorkshire, &c., &c.

Cattle: Canadian, Ayrshire, Jersey, Durham, &c., &c.

Sheep: Shropshire, Lincoln, Oxford, Cotswold, South-down, &c., &c.

Fertilizers and agricultural implements of every kind. Send in your order at once for feed-cutters. Farm products of all kind sold for our members. Information of all kind given to members.

LONDON MARKETS.

Mark lane: Prices current; Sept. 8th	
Wheat, per 501 lbs.; British.	s. s.
White...	38 41
Red...	25 36
London flour per 280 lbs...	34
Barley, malting...	34 47
Barley (grinding)...	18 19
Oats, English per 8 bushels	15 29
White pease...	32 36

FOREIGN

Wheat—Manitoba...	...
Canadian white pease...	— 26

Milk-cows, per head, £15 to £22.

BEASTS. s. d.

Scotch per stone of 8 lbs...	4 7
Herefords do do	4 6
Welsh (rauts) do do	4 4
Shorthorns do do	4 1
Fat cows...	3 6

SHEEP.

Small Downs per stone of 8 lbs...	5 6
Half-breeds and Scotch do do	5 6
Lamb trade over.	
Calves nominal.	

BUTTER.

Fresh, (Finest factory) per doz.	
lbs...	12.6 to 14.6
English Dairy-butter fresh...	varies
Irish (creamery) ...	108s.
Danish...	125s.
Canadian 96s...	100s.

BACON.

Irish ...	46 51
Canadian...	40 44
American...	48 49
Irish hams (small)...	1 88

Hay, per load of 2016 lbs...	
Prime meadow...	88 90
Prime clover...	90 95
Straw, per load 1296 lbs...	30 36

Hops from 65s. to 105s. per 112 lbs.

GRAIN AVERAGE—ENGLAND.

The immense difference between the average price of wheat in England in the years 1894 and 1896 is worthy of notice. In 1892, the writer paid for his seed wheat 4s. 6d. a bushel, and sold the crop in 1893 for 10s. 6d! Wheat was sold in the Reading market (Eng.) on the 24th of October last for 5s. a bushel, a price that has not been realised several years.

GRAIN TRADE STATISTICS.

QUANTITIES SOLD AND AVERAGES.

For the week ended October 24th 1896.

	Quantities Sold.	Averages.
Wheat.....	65,880 $\frac{1}{2}$ qrs.	28s. 11d.
Barley.....	192,640 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	28s. 6d.
Oats.....	15,868 " "	16s. 0d.

QUANTITIES SOLD AND COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

For the week ended October 24th 1896, and corresponding weeks in the four preceeding years.

WHEAT.				BARLEY.				OATS.			
Yrs.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.		
1892....	69,754½	28	8	178,316½	27	9	17,092½	17	11		
1893....	52,186½	27	6	173,473½	6		14,776½	18	2		
1894....	40,717½	17	7	170,386½	23	8	16,595½	13	3		
1895....	30,177½	25	5	196,367½	25	4	13,700½	13	7		
1896....	65,880½	28	11	192,649½	3	6	15,868	16	0		

—P. G. Craigie, Board of Agriculture, October 24th, 1896.

AGRICULTURE IN THE COUNTY OF GASPE

Roots and potatoes—Hay-crop—Fodder-corn—Red-clover—People—Stock—Hogs—Farmer's Clubs—Opponents—Market at home.

Quebec, Oct., 26 1896.

G. A. Gigault, Esq.,  
Asst. Commissioner of Agriculture  
Province of Quebec

SIR.

In accordance with your instructions I visited the County of Gaspé, and have the honour to submit the following report.

Notwithstanding the fact that fishing is the principal industry, the possibilities for successful agriculture are apparent.

The soil, in most places along the coast of the Baie des Chaleurs from Newport to Gaspé Basin, is as rich and well calculated for the raising of crops, and feeding stock as in the most favoured portions of the Province. The season, although dry in the early summer, has been a very good one for the root crops, which are excellent. Oats, too, where planted under right conditions, have made an abundant yield; some growers reporting as much as nineteen bushels harvested from one bushel of seed sown. All kinds of roots grow well when manured with sea weed. One Swedish Turnip at Percé was found upon measurement to be 32 inches in circumference and the yield of the whole field proportionately large. In fact, all the way I traveled the turnips were magnificent. Beets and mangolds are not so extensively grown as they might be, but were always a good crop, as were cabbages. Potatoes, also, manured with kelp or sea weed, were in some places phenomenal.

At Barachois, the Revd. Mr. Sirois P. P., had just harvested 65 barrels of large potatoes from less than two thirds of an acre, (307 bush. to the imperial acre), excellent in quality, and may tubers weighing one and a half to two pounds. The variety "Glory of the world" has proved most satisfactory. At Grand Rivière, Mr. Carberry had a wonderful crop, some roots weighing two pounds and three quarters.

The hay crop was reported light on account of the weather being unfavourable, and the usual bad system of grazing in the Autumn, the idea of planting supplemental crops not being yet adopted. I had the pleasure, assisted by Mr. Dalaire, to point out to our hearers the prime necessity of this, and

have no doubt, from the great interest evinced, that much improvement, in this respect will ensue.

Indian Corn, for fodder, has not been grown as a field crop, but some patches planted, experimentally, in gardens, proved that its culture for this purpose is quite practicable, and from the many enquiries as to the best varieties for the purpose, method of culture etc., it is evident that many are alive to the fact of its usefulness and will plant next year.

We scarcely saw any red clover on our journey, and did all we could to explain the desirability of using it extensively as a valuable fodder-crop and fertilizer of the land.

Those who suppose that the South shore of the Bay is a mere cold, infertile and inhospitable coast, occupied by rude and clownish fishermen and their families, make a serious mistake.

The climate is not much more unpropitious than in many other parts of the province. It is true that the spring is some days later but this is made up for, in a great measure, by the fact that the heat, tempered by the sea breeze, causes rapid and healthy growth of all vegetation, so that, after all, the harvest is not so much later than it is in what are considered more favourable localities, the grain crops having been secured, by those who had planted early, by the first week in October, and the potatoes by the middle of the month.

As to the people themselves, so far from being rude and clownish they are as a rule respectful and well informed, and, considering their somewhat isolated position this is the more remarkable. It is gratifying to note that the majority were anxious to learn anything that would be likely to improve their condition socially or financially, and from the fact that many had been purchasing, and acquiring from the Experimental farm, new varieties of grain, roots etc., and experimenting with them, it is evident that a growing interest in agriculture has been awakened.

The breeds of animals especially of hogs need improvement and, partly with this end in view, we urged, successfully, the establishment of farmer's clubs in every Township.

A few instances of indifference to the importance of fostering Agriculture were noticed on the part of influential gentlemen who could not have been alive to the fact that this is not a party question, but one in which all are concerned, whatever their political principles may be, and one in which their personal interests are involved. The argument of these men was that it was

no use for farmers to be taught how to grow crops which they could not sell owing to the want of communications, forgetting that, if the products were raised there was a market for them at their own doors. This was proved on the spot where the said remarks were made by the landing of 100 bushels of oats from Prince Edward Island, and a statement made by one of the farmer that he had just raised 190 lbs. from 10 lbs of Banner Oats he had received from Ottawa, and that he could sell all he could grow.

In conclusion, it is worthy of remark that the county of Gaspé and its inhabitants are well worthy of the consideration of all who sincerely desire to aid in the development of the resources of this great Dominion.

Respectfully submitted,  
GEO. MOORE

CLEANING OUT DITCHES, Etc.

Negligence about cleaning out ditches in proper time—Ayrshires not much in evidence at Islington—Dairy Shorthorns unknown in Quebec—The Old English Cart-Horse—Improvement in domestic animals always accompanies improved farming—Milking machine ought to be tested at Experimental Farm—English Horse-Market—Frenchmen the founders of the Veterinary Profession.

DEAR SIR,

A blustering rainy day, the rain not unwelcome in itself, as it is a warm penetrating rain, that will do good to hard land, that still wants softening, if there is much of it that still wants it.

I am afraid that we have had enough of rain for all the land that is susceptible to its good influence. There is land here in such bad condition, so long uncultivated, trampled over by animals, "en pécage," and so long undrained, that the water lies on the surface, without penetrating it, or softening it to any sufficient extent, and the ploughing of such land is not made any easier by the rain. Fine dry days will be scarce enough now, until all autumn work shall have to be laid aside, and every fine day, is a "jour de grâce" indeed.

Most of the people here put off the work of cleaning ditches, until the ploughing is done. This is generally done so late in the season that they don't like facing the water in the ditches, and the work is put off until the spring. This indifference and shirking in the matter of cleaning out ditches is truly wonderful, and the loss occasioned thereby is great indeed, as you may imagine. The time to make new ditches, or clean out old ones, is immediately after the haying is over. This is the right time for this work, and the only right time, and it should never be allowed to slip by. Every kind of work has its own special season, and by careful division of labour, it is possible to do the right work at the right time, although often enough there may be but barely sufficient time to do it.

They are not as fond of Ayrshires in England as they are here. At the 21st Annual Show at Islington, Ayrshires were entirely confined to a few exhibits from Southern breeders, the absence of the Scotch contingent being noticeable. A capital class of 23 Shorthorns, 30 Jerseys, Guernseys, a small class of