

gree familiar with the situation, that energetic Government patronage, such as is ungrudgingly bestowed upon the dairy interests of this country, would result in untold benefit, to this, one of the largest of agricultural interests, the production of beef.

J. H. M.

York County.

#### New Brunswick Notes

Over most of the Province the early part of July furnished splendid growing weather. It has been perhaps a little cool and crops of all kinds are late, but are now looking splendid. Where ever the ground has been in any kind of condition the hay crop is excellent. In Westmoreland and part of Kings County there has been hardly enough moisture, but elsewhere there has been more than enough, but it is only the low lands that have suffered. Hot and dry weather is now needed and if it comes with a fair amount of moisture N.w Brunswick will undoubtedly harvest crops above the average.

Labor is very scarce and contracts are being made at \$2 per day and board.

Hon. L. P. Ferris, Commissioner of Agriculture, has returned from Great Britain with thirty-eight heavy draft mares and two Clydesdale stallions. The mares are mostly Clydes of Scotch breeding, with some Percherons bought in France.

This stock will be sold at auction, twenty animals being put up at Fredericton on the 31st of July and the other twenty at Moncton on the 7th of August. The importation is stabled at the Exhibition grounds, Fredericton, and is in charge of two English grooms, who will fit it for sale. Visitors who have inspected this stock report it of exceptional quality.

Small fruits have yielded bountifully and apples promise a good average crop.

There has been almost a hay famine for the past two months and as high as \$24.00 per ton has been paid for small lots.

Both beef and dairy cattle are very scarce, butchers throughout the small towns have been importing beef on foot from the West, and dairymen have been scouring the country for cows with but poor success.

The potato crop while not forward is looking well and under the improved method of cultivation and general spraying with Bordeaux is almost certain to be satisfactory. There is a very

large increase in the acreage over last year. The C.P.R. is estimating upon an increase in crops for sale of between 50 and 75 per cent.

Macadam.

#### Conditions on Prince Edward Island

Institute speakers who have recently returned to Ontario from a tour over Prince Edward Island report that the crop prospects are very good. The hay crop will be lighter than usual but oats promise particularly well. The hay would, no doubt, be much better if meadows were more frequently renewed. Much of the stock is reported to be in thin condition, some of the cattle carrying old hair into the month of July.

From this it would seem as though the Islander is slow to learn the value of more generous feeding of farm animals. It seems to be the general custom of the people to sell about all

the hay, oats and potatoes, they can raise, compelling the stock to winter on straw. The evil results of this practise are two-fold—the cows come out in the spring too weak and poor to make profitable returns for their summer pasture, and the soil is year by year becoming more and more depleted of fertility and therefore less productive. Where dairying is the leading industry, it must sooner or later become apparent to the Island farmer that the land and the cows would each produce more profitable yields if both of these were better fed. This has been learned in the more progressive provinces until it is found necessary, not only to raise all the feed possible, but, to purchase large quantities of American corn and other feeds for the cows. Under this system both farmers and farms are becoming richer and it is seldom felt to be necessary for a dairymen to apologize for the poor condition of his herd.

S. B.

## Echoes from the West

"Watch us grow" would be an appropriate motto for the city of Medicine Hat. Of course, as they have natural gas wells up there anyone from "the Hat" gets the laugh when they talk progress. Joking aside the development of Medicine Hat since the discovery of natural gas has been phenomenal. The city provides gas for domestic purposes both cooking and lighting at 15c. per 1,000 and a discount of 10 per cent. While for manufacturing the flat rate is 5c. per 1,000, and with all the development in the way of water works, granolithic sidewalks, etc., the rate of taxation is only 9 mills on the dollar. It is one of the odd things about Medicine Hat that the street lights (natural gas) burn all day because it costs less to burn the lights than it would to hire men to light them every night.

The days of ranching are drawing to an end round "the Hat" and the big holdings are gradually being divided up into farms, but stock raising and feeding will always be a main industry, and it will only be a question of time when this point will be a big packing centre.

St. Andrew's locks, on the Red River, form another staple joke of the West, but at last the Dominion Government have got down to business and this time it looks as if the locks would be

completed. This particular piece of Government work has been the shuttlecock of political parties for twenty-five years, and in the meantime the loss to the city of Winnipeg has been incalculable. On Lake Winnipeg are enormous reserves of cordwood not to mention a score of other things the city needs, but this wood, once the locks are established, can be towed up the river in large quantities and at very little cost. There is plenty of pulp wood on Lake Winnipeg and the finishing of the locks will see the development of pulp mills.

At Keewatin, in the latter end of June, the Lake of the Woods Milling Company opened "C." the third of their big mills, and now have the largest milling capacity of any company in Canada. The new mill has a capacity of 3,000 barrels, and is up to the minute. Western wheat is the only kind ground in these mills, although they are situated in Ontario.

#### The Irrigation Convention at Calgary

The First Western Canadian Irrigation Convention, held at Calgary July 17-20, was fraught with great interest to the people of Southern Alberta, and indeed to all Canada. Its object was to disseminate useful information on irrigation

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