

Manitoulin Island.

A representative of the "Farmer's Advocate" recently made a visit to Manitoulin Island, and was delighted with evidences of prosperity noticeable among the farmers of that district. Gore Bay, which is now the county town, lies in the Township of Gordon, snugly ensconced at the foot of a rocky ridge and overlooking as fine a natural harbor as there is on the Georgian Bay. The town, since it received the honor of being chosen by popular vote as the county seat, is growing rapidly. The county buildings now in course of erection present a very creditable appearance, being built of stone, while the style of architecture is both pleasing to the eye and substantial. This town, without a doubt, has a prosperous future before it, being situated, as it is, in the midst of as fine an agricultural tract of land as there is on the Island, where the farms are for the most part all cleared, with good bank-barns and comfortable frame houses, the farms being well fenced and well stocked with both cattle and sheep, which we were pleased to note were nearly all well-bred grades. In that particular, a very large number of our farmers in old Ontario could very profitably take pattern from the farmers on the Island, as there are very few farmers indeed on Manitoulin Island to-day that will use any but a pedigreed Shorthorn bull to breed from. The same with sheep. The major part of the stock runs are brought up from older Ontario, principally Leicesters and Cotswolds. As we said before, the Township of Gordon contains a very large percentage of first-class land, being level and almost entirely free from stone. The Township is an agricultural township, but perhaps the banner township is Carnarvon. The crops this year were extra good, spring wheat averaging from 15 to 20 bushels an acre; oats, from 50 to 80; barley, 40. Peas were not so good this year. Hay from two to three tons per acre; while the root crop was enormous. The stock on grass, both cattle and sheep, are looking remarkably well. Without a doubt, there is no better grazing country in Canada than this Island. We were also very much pleased to find a number of the farmers paying so much attention to pure-bred stock, especially Shorthorns, there being several herds of Shorthorns that for quality would be hard to beat, prominent among which is that of Mr. Edwin Battye, which includes a valuable importation from Britain, recently received, and which was reviewed in Gossip in the "Advocate" for Nov. 15th. In fact, we saw animals here that would have made things very interesting at Toronto Exhibition. At the present time stock is the great asset of the Island, but there are other possibilities; for instance, there is practically an inexhaustible supply of marl on the Island, which only requires a little capital to convert into first-class cement. Then there is pulp wood in abundance. Help is scarce, and as a result wages are high, a man commanding from \$26 to \$28 a month, with board. Signs of prosperity appear everywhere visible; and the people appear happy and contented, or, as one man put it, Manitoulin Island is Canada's Valparaiso, which is a Mexican word meaning "Paradise."

In practical value and wealth of illustration, so farmers' paper equals the "Farmer's Advocate."

South Perth, Ont.

Winter has apparently come at last, and, as often happens after a fine fall, it has caught some farmers unprepared. A great deal of plowing still remains undone, and we even hear of some fields of turnips still exposed to the merciless blasts of winter. No doubt that if the good weather lasted till March there would still be some with that fall work undone. This is usually the case with those who follow the extensive rather than the intensive system.

The receipts of milk at the St. Mary's creamery are holding out well, the average still being nearly a ton and a half per week. A few of the patrons have invested in hand separators, but, at any rate, as far as the creamery is concerned, the plan is not a success. The cream is often not of nearly the same consistency as that separated in the factory, and whether or not this is the sole cause, it is found that the percentage of butter-fat in the buttermilk from churnings where the two are mixed is much higher than from that separated in the factory. In several instances also, the cream when received at the factory was unfit for churning, the separators having evidently not been properly washed before using. The scarcity of rough feed is putting feeders at their wits' end and making them wary in buying stockers. Hogs have taken a decided drop, but are on the rise again. Poultry is now being closely looked after, the Whyte Packing Co., of Stratford, being in the market for all kinds.

J. H. B.

Ontario County, Ont.

In this locality winter is again with us, and the farm stock, after an exceptionally good pasture season, are entering winter quarters in perhaps better condition than for many years. A good corn and root crop also promise for the cattle at least, an abundance of winter feed. The increase in the corn acreage has been very marked, and a great many new silos have been erected. Small silos for very small herds is a prominent feature in this connection. In this immediate neighborhood one herd of only five cattle have a silo for their benefit, and on the next lot a single cow is favored in like manner. The round cement silo is the general favorite, although the cement is used extensively in the south townships. As to the comparison (from an economic standpoint) of wood and cement as silo material, it is enough to say that if it were necessary to use the latter at present prices probably not one in a half-dozen of the present number would have been erected. The simplicity of construction of the stave silo is of especial advantage to the tenant class of farmers, and moving silos from one farm to another, by taking down and rebuilding, is sometimes practiced.

J. W. W.

Coming Agricultural Events.

- Ontario Beekeepers' Association, Woodstock, December 3, 4 and 5.
- International Live Stock Show, Chicago, Ill., December 3 to 6.
- Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, Cobourg, December 4, 5 and 6.
- Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, Guelph, December 9 and 10.
- Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, and meetings, Guelph, December 10, 11, 12 and 13.
- Western Ontario Poultry Show, Guelph, December 10, 11, 12 and 13.
- Maritime Winter Fair, and conventions, Amherst, Nova Scotia, December 17 to 19.
- Eastern Ontario Dairy Association, Whitby, January 8, 9 and 10.
- Western Ontario Dairy Association (place not fixed), January 14 and 15.
- Eastern Ontario Poultry Show, Ottawa, February 12.

Fruit Growers at Cobourg, Ont.

The convention of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association at Cobourg, Ont., Dec. 4, 5 and 6, promises to be one of the best ever held, judging by the programme issued by Secretary Wolverton, of Grimsby, which is one of the most varied, practical and attractive ever presented. Our readers within reach, conveniently, of Cobourg are strongly urged to attend this meeting. The fruit-growing interests of the country are rapidly growing in importance, and a large number of the best-posted horticultural specialists will take part in the discussions.

Shorthorn Bulls Wanted.

Mr. W. D. Platt, Hamilton, Ont., writes us that he is prepared to buy a carload of good young Shorthorn bulls, from 10 to 18 months old, reds and roans, for the Western States trade. They must be good individuals, fleshy, well proportioned, in good condition, and at fair prices. No high prices can be paid for the trade for which they are intended. Breeders having such for sale should write Mr. Platt at once, giving all necessary information as to age, color, breeding, condition, price, etc.

Christmas is coming—so is the beautiful Christmas number of the "Farmer's Advocate." Moral: Forward your renewal.

Mr. Little's Shorthorn Sale.

We again call attention to the advertisement of the dispersion sale, on Dec. 18th, of the entire herd of Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. S. G. Little, Hagerman, Ont., 18 miles from Toronto. The herd consists of 34 head, 24 females and 10 bulls, the latter a good, strong, fleshy lot, of good age for service. The catalogue has not reached us at this writing, but we know the foundation stock was well selected, and that high-class imported and Scotch-bred bulls have been used in their breeding, and we feel sure they will be found to be a very useful lot of cattle, and we know that Mr. Little is not expecting fancy prices, but is prepared to let them go at the people's own prices. Buyers may depend upon fair and honorable treatment, and will get good value for their money. The location is convenient to Toronto, and the terms, nine months' credit, or five per cent. per annum off for cash, are easy. Send for a catalogue giving full particulars.

Manitoba Grain Crop.

The Provincial Agricultural Department has received the first installment of replies from the country crop reports, from which the official bulletin on the grain crop is compiled. Hugh McKellar, Chief Clerk, speaking on the wheat question, gives a few figures which show the amount of grain already in sight.

The amount of wheat sent east on the C. P. R. is about 12,000,000 bushels; on the C. N. R., about 3,000,000 bushels; in store at Fort William, 5,000,000 bushels; in store in elevators at C. N. R. terminals, 2,000,000 bushels; in elevators, 18,000,000 bushels; in mills, 2,000,000 bushels. The total wheat in sight approximates 42,000,000 bushels.

Mr. McKellar feels that the 50,000,000 aggregation for Manitoba wheat will probably be realized.

Do not delay, but renew to-day your subscription to the "Farmer's Advocate."

Sugar Beet Analyses.

Prof. Shuttleworth's analyses of the average specimens of beets grown on the trial plots in the various districts of Ontario in 1901 show the following results as to sugar content and purity, and the table also gives the yield per acre.

The following are the results of the various experiments:

	Per cent. Sugar.	Purity.	Tons.	Lbs.
Alvinston	15.19	86.1	21	876
Belleville	15.7	88.8	16	1,728
Cayuga	16.2	88.2	14	1,665
Clinton	14.8	86.7	16	662
Dunnville	15.13	88.15	15	523
Lindsay	16.4	87.3	15	131
London	15.6	86.1	17	59
Mount Forest	15.6	86.7	19	500
Port Perry	16.6	89.3	15	156
Peterboro	17.3	90.6	16	180
Walkerton	15.4	88.4	18	1,701
Whitby	15.8	89.1	22	83
Berlin	14.6	85.8	18	1,398
Simcoe	14.5	86.4	14	610
Waterford	15.3	86.5	17	317

Consult the label on your paper, and in renewing, remit accordingly.

Annual Meeting Experimental Union.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union will be held at the Agricultural College, Guelph, on Dec. 9 and 10, commencing at 1:30 p. m., Monday. There were over 3,000 co-operative experiments conducted this year. The most important results of these tests will be reported and discussed. Dr. H. W. Wiley, Washington, D. C., is to give an illustrated address on "The Growing of Sugar Beets and the Manufacture of Beet Sugar." Mr. J. A. Ruddick is to speak on "Our Dairy Industry, with Hints and Suggestions as to Needed Improvements." "The Reorganization and Improvement of our Agricultural Exhibitions" will be discussed by F. W. Hodson, Prof. G. E. Day and Supt. G. C. Creelman. "The Growing of Fruit of High Quality" and "The Packing of Fruit for the Best Results" will be handled by W. N. Hutt and Elmer Lick. The ladies' session, Monday afternoon, will be addressed by Miss Watson, Principal of the Ontario Normal School of Domestic Science, Hamilton, and by Mrs. Joy, Principal of the Domestic Science Department, Toronto Technical School. The programme embraces many other equally good features. The Ontario railroads will grant excursion rates to Guelph for those attending the Experimental Union and the Provincial Winter Show.

Owing to increasing duties in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, President James Mills has relinquished his duties as director of the Dairy Schools at Strathroy and Kingston, which will now be taken up by Mr. G. C. Creelman, Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes. The direct personal charge of the two schools continues in the hands of the present superintendents.

Watch for the Christmas number. It will be a beauty. Renew to-day, and induce your friends to subscribe and they will obtain a copy of it.

Toronto Markets.

Considering the class of cattle being offered, trade at the Western Cattle Market has been fairly good. Export and butchers' cattle of good quality are scarce, and selling at good prices, while the common grades are plentiful and cheap. The same can be said of feeders and stockers. Sheep and lambs are selling at the lowest prices recorded this season. Milk cows sold at \$30 to \$50 each. Hogs have advanced 50c. per cwt.

Export Cattle.—The highest price paid for the best load of 16 export steers, 1,300 lbs. each, was \$4.80 per cwt., while the bulk sold at \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt. Export cows sold at \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt.

Butchers' Cattle.—Good to choice butchers' cattle are scarce. Loads of good sold at \$3.80 to \$4 per cwt. Choice picked lots sold at \$4.25 to \$4.50. Common to medium grades sold at \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt., while inferior sold at \$2 to \$2.75 per cwt.

Bulls.—Heavy export bulls sold at \$3.75 to \$4.12½ per cwt. Light export bulls sold at \$3.25 to \$3.60 per cwt.

Feeders.—Short-keep feeders are worth \$4 per cwt. Well-bred steers, weighing from 1,050 to 1,200 lbs. each, are worth \$3.75 to \$3.90 per cwt. Light steers and those of poorer quality sold at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt. The demand for feeders is not as great as it was, owing to the fact that the distillery byres are all filled.

Stockers.—The bulk of stockers offered were of poor quality, the best selling from \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt. All colors and those of inferior quality sold at \$1.75 to \$2 per cwt.

Sheep.—The run of sheep was light. Prices easy, at \$2.75 to \$3 per cwt. for ewes, while bucks sold at \$2.50 per cwt. Export sheep are not wanted before Dec. 10th, as there will be no shipping space available before that date.

Lambs.—Deliveries were not large. Prices easy, at \$2.50 to \$3.25 per cwt. Very few veal calves offered. Prices easy, at \$2 to \$8 each.

Milk Cows.—Prices steady, at \$30 to \$50 each. Something of choice quality would bring from \$5 to \$10 more than these prices.

Hogs.—Contrary to the expectations of many, the price of hogs has again advanced 50c. per cwt. Best select bacon hogs, singers, not below 160 lbs. and not above 200 lbs. in weight, off cars, not fed or watered, sold at \$6 per cwt. Thick fats sold at \$5.50 per cwt. and light fats at \$5.62½ per cwt.

Dressed Hogs.—Deliveries are not heavy, and prices again advanced, in sympathy with the live hog market. The Harris Abattoir Co. bought 200 at \$7.65 to \$7.85 per cwt.

	Extreme comparative prices to-day.	Two weeks ago.	Same date last year.
Export cattle	\$4.80	\$4.85	\$4.60
Butchers' cattle	4.50	4.40	4.50
Bulls	4.12½	4.25	4.25
Feeders	4.00	4.00	3.90
Stockers	3.25	3.25	3.25
Sheep	3.00	3.40	3.50
Hogs	6.00	5.50	5.75
Milk cows, each	50.00	50.00	50.00
Lambs, each	3.00	3.15	3.75

Wheat.—Receipts on the street market were 1,000 bushels. White sold at 68c. to 75c. for 300 bushels; red, 100 bushels, sold at 68c. to 74c.; goose, 600 bushels, at 66½c. to 67c.

Oats.—Prices firm, at 48c. to 49c. per bushel.

Hay.—Prices steady, at \$11 to \$12 per ton for timothy, and \$7 to \$9 per ton for clover.

Barley.—Two thousand bushels sold at 54c. to 62c.

Peas.—Prices firm, at 75c. to 78c. per bushel, with few offerings.

Bran.—City mills sell bran at \$16 per ton; shorts at \$18 per ton.

Straw.—Sheaf straw sold at \$10 to \$11.50 per ton for five loads.

Dressed Hogs.—Prices firmer, at \$7.60 to \$7.85 per cwt.

Poultry.—Deliveries large. Prices easy, as follows: Chickens at 40c. to 60c. per pair; ducks, 50c. to 80c. per pair; turkeys, 7c. to 9c. per lb.; geese, 5½c. to 6½c. per lb.

Butter.—Prices steady, at 18c. to 22c. per lb.

Eggs.—Strictly new-laid eggs retail at 35c. per dozen.

Dressed Beef.—Fore quarters, per cwt., \$4.50 to \$5.50; hind quarters, at \$6 to \$7 per cwt. Mutton, dressed carcass, \$4.50 to \$5.50 per cwt. Lamb, per carcass, \$5.50 to \$7.50 per cwt.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, Nov. 27th.—The best lot of steers seen on sale was a bunch of 1,500-lb. steers that went at \$7.25, and most of the really good to choice steers on offer went between \$6.50 and \$7. Below these a very fair to good style of 1,200 to 1,450 lb. steers went at \$5.90 to \$6.35; coarse and underfat 1,200 to 1,300 lb. grades, \$5.25 to \$5.85; very fair, fat, light steers, \$5.50 to \$6; good many medium-fleshed and coarse steers at \$4.50 to \$5.25, with common, thin, light killers, \$3.60 to \$4.40. All cattle to sell below \$6 moving very slowly.

Sheep.—Sheep and lamb receipts to-day included about five double docks of fresh rangers, with a good many hold-overs. The market was steady on fat sheep and lambs. Some export stock was bought at \$3.10 to \$3.60 for ewes, and \$4.25 for wethers.

Hogs.—A fair to good grade of strong-weight mixed sold largely within a range of \$5.55 to \$5.75, though a nice smooth, medium and heavy butcher top made \$5.75 to \$5.80. In light mixed the trade was late in getting started, at even lower prices, ranging from about \$5.35 to \$5.55.

Montreal Markets.

Cattle.—A pair of prime large steers were bought for shipment to Britain at 4½c. per lb., but very few of the others brought over 4c. per lb., and from that down to 3½c. for pretty good cattle. Common stock were difficult to sell, and brought from 2½c. to 3c. per lb.

Sheep.—Sheep sold at from 2½c. to a little over 3c. per lb., and the lambs at from 3c. to 3½c. per lb.

Hogs.—Fat hogs sold at about 5½c. per lb., weighed off the cars. A few choice ones brought 6c. per lb.

Buffalo Markets.

East Buffalo, Nov. 28.—Hogs.—Demand active; market firm; Yorkers, \$5.50 to \$5.70; mixed packers, \$5.80 to \$5.90; heavy, \$5.90 to \$6.05.

Sheep and lambs.—Offerings, 11 cars; firmer; top lambs, \$4.60 to \$4.70; culls to fair, \$3.50 to \$4.60; Canadas, \$4.70 to \$4.75; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50; wethers and yearlings, \$3.60 to \$3.75.

British Markets.

London, Nov. 25.—United States cattle, 6½d.; Canadian sheep, 5½d.; cattle made 5½d. to 5½d. on Saturday.

Liverpool, Nov. 25.—Canadian cattle, 5½d. to 5½d.; sheep 5½d. Cattle fair; sheep slow.