

## EDITORIAL.

The wheat crop of India is reported to be unusually good, and the average yield six per cent. greater than last year.

Says Mr. Scott at an Ohio Institute meeting: "Feed your lambs before they are born. Weak and puny lambs are the product of illy-fed ewes. Strong, vigorous, healthy lambs are the offspring of well-fed mothers."

Chicago not only does considerable business in hogs and corn, but also has a share of the poultry trade. The secretary of the produce exchange at Chicago recently gave some figures showing the magnitude of that market for poultry products. The receipts for one year equalled 22,500,000 pounds of dressed fowls; at 11 cents a pound this foots up \$2,415,000. The total receipts of eggs were 2,153,000 cases of thirty dozen each, valued at \$11,625,000. The total business in eggs and poultry amounted to \$14,000,000.

The question has often been asked, Can sweet ensilage be obtained? According to good authorities ensilage can be cured so that it will taste and smell pleasantly sweet. The cause of ensilage being sour is due frequently to imperfect sealing. According to Mr. Van Alstyne, in the Country Gentleman, sweet ensilage has been made at Cornell. The ensilage was composed of June grass and clover, made in a metal silo, and had been treated, after placing it in the silo, with carbonic acid gas, the silo being embedded in the ground; the ensilage was perfectly sweet. This question of sweet ensilage is one worthy of investigation and study, as sour ensilage fed to milking cows certainly gives the milk an objectionable flavor.

Cover the strawberries beds while the ground is frozen, not to keep out the frost but to keep it in. It prevents the plants heaving out by alternate freezing and thawing. Straw litter from the barnyard answers well; waste hay will do, but there is a danger of seeding the ground with timothy, should it happen to have been too ripe when cut. Provide grape posts if necessary; also stakes for raspberries and blackberries. Haul and spread manure while the ground is frozen; there is little danger of losing its virtue if exposed in this way, provided the fields are level where it is spread. Plan for new tools needed and for trees and plants wanted. On mild days prune any grape vines that have been neglected. Fruit trees may also be looked after. Mature plans for spring work. Order trees and plants early, before the assortment is broken up. Patronize firms of established reputation. Buy direct to avoid being taken in by middlemen. While the evenings are long, study books and papers that pertain to your calling. Attend Farmers' Institutes, Granges, and Horticultural meetings whenever possible. Ask questions and take part in discussions, and come in contact with your fellow-laborers.

At the present time many people are changing their plans and lines of work. Dairying and poultry raising are both being taken up by men who once thought such work was only fit for women folk, but these have changed their minds on account of greater branches of agriculture being no longer remunerative. These two growing rural industries can be made to go hand in hand with good effect. While egg and chickens are being sold butter can be taken to the buyer as well. Dealers in one are nearly always dealers in the other. Both products can be packed in the same box and marketed at the same time, thus economizing time and labor.

In commencing a new branch by one to whom it is new it is well to exercise caution. An instance is given in an exchange where a man who was commencing poultry business went into the nearest market town and purchased 1000 hens, old and young, pure-bred and mongrel, whatever they happened to be. As might be expected, a weedy lot was obtained—useless under the most favorable circumstances. The pens and runs were so much over-stocked that disease soon swept a large number of them out of the way, making room for a better lot to be more judiciously handled. The object lesson was rather an expensive one, but, nevertheless, lasting. The only way to achieve success is to start quietly, gradually breed up to the requirements, and learn along the way. The most successful businesses are conducted upon these lines, and many dangers are avoided by adopting this plan.

## In-Lamb Ewes.

Mr. J. S. Woodward, in the Rural New Yorker, gives some valuable advice in regard to handling ewes at this season of the year. They should be kept in a dry, warm and roomy building. Ewes which will lamb in February or March should have, every day, some sort of green food once a day; a flock of fifty should receive one bushel of cut turnips, increased to two bushels in a short time, as they become used to them. Clover hay or well-saved pea straw are both excellent for forage; nothing could be better. Oats make splendid grain food if they are not too high, but bran, as it is usually sold, answers better for pregnant ewes.

If it is intended to place the lambs on the early market the ewes should have all the clover hay and pea straw they will eat, with the daily feed of turnips, enough bran to keep them gaining a little up to the time of lambing; a few cracked peas may then be added to the bran, also a little oil cake meal to increase the milk flow. The amount of turnips may be considerably increased after lambing. As soon as the lambs will eat, a liberal supply of oil cake should be given them; to this may profitably be added cracked peas and a sprinkling of wheat bran.

The ewes and lambs should have an abundant supply of good, fresh water, and the pen kept clean and well bedded. A judicious use of new milk from a fresh cow will hurry the poorly-fed twins along quickly to market.

## Tuberculosis in New York.

About 20,000 animals were examined by the three inspectors of the State Board during 1893, and of this number 686 were found infected and killed. Many valuable animals, in fact whole herds, which took years to bring to their high standard of excellence, have been slaughtered. Dr. Balch has had the milk of infected cows tested by expert chemists. Recently Prof. Slotter analyzed a sample of milk from an infected cow, whose udder and teats were quite free from the disease, and found it crowded with tuberculosis bacilli, which, if used by a person, might develop consumption. Owners of cattle will sooner or later awaken to the necessity of having their herds examined, and if any are found diseased have them killed at once. When purchasing cattle farmers should insist upon having them tested with tuberculin, as in many cases the disease is brought into a herd by the purchase of cattle which outwardly appear to be in perfect health.

## Tuberculosis.

We learn with regret from The Country Gentleman that tuberculosis has been discovered in the magnificent Guernsey herd of Mr. Morton, Ellerslie, Rhemcliff, N. Y. Seventeen animals have been condemned and will be slaughtered, only one of which is imported; all the others, except two, are young heifers of Mr. Morton's own breeding, most of them due to calve in a few weeks.

Mr. Morton writes:—"The test was made by Dr. John Faust, of Poughkeepsie. Just before the fire Dr. Gardner, of Hartford, inspected our herd by the usual methods, and pronounced them entirely free from tuberculosis. Dr. Faust made an examination since the fire. His examination was made in the usual way, by sounding the lungs, examining the glands, etc., and he pronounced the cattle perfectly healthy as far as this method would show. He then injected every animal with tuberculin, and 17 showed reactions for tuberculosis.

"Several of the condemned are due to calve soon. Dr. Faust proposes to isolate them and wait until their calves are born, when he will again apply the tuberculin test. It has been suggested that young heifers when pregnant might show reactions from the injection, even when perfectly free from disease. Dr. Faust proposes to test this.

"The rest of the cattle will be killed Jan. 10th. Secretary Edward Norton, Dr. Gardner, and others interested will be present.

"We are very anxious to determine whether the tuberculin test is accurate or not. If it is accurate, it will be used on all animals we purchase to stock our new barn."

Scotch and English cattle breeders have united their efforts against Canadian cattle, and are using their best endeavors to prevent the removal of the quarantine regulations now in force. This is as a matter of protection from a financial aspect—not because any sane Briton believes Canada has never had a case of pleuro-pneumonia.

## Mr. John A. McGillivray's Dorset Horns.

Our front page is beautified by a life-like illustration of three of Mr. McGillivray's Dorset Horned sheep. The flock owned by this gentleman is a very large and a very good one. Drafts from these pens have been most successful in all leading Canadian and American show rings where exhibited. A full review of this flock will appear in an early issue.

## Our Subscription Prizes.

See our list of subscription prizes on page 56. We have carefully selected the grains offered. The subscription prizes presented in last issue, though not advertised in this number, are still offered. See last paper, page 39. We have sent out a number of World's Fair Triumph Watches; all who have received them are pleased with them. Our rings are genuine, and have given perfect satisfaction wherever sent.

We have again made arrangements with some of the most reliable breeders of live stock of the various sorts, and can supply young animals of high excellence, and of either sex, as subscription prizes. See page 56. An energetic person can thus obtain pure-bred animals, and pay for them by canvassing for us. A short time ago a gentleman and his daughter sent us two hundred and eighty names, as a result of twenty days' work. We send out a number of animals each year as subscription prizes, each is selected by an expert before being shipped.

## The Grange Wholesale Supply Co.

Co-operation is the order of the day. A short time ago, while a member of our staff was in Toronto, he visited the store of the Grange Supply Co., who have moved from their old stand, 35 Colborne Street, to 126 King, East.

To those who are not conversant with the system of management, we would say that it is the only Farmers' Chartered Co-operative Store in Canada—that it is a joint stock company, owned and controlled entirely by farmers. No one man can hold more than fifty shares, at \$25 per share. The Directors are elected annually by the shareholders, and the manager is appointed annually by the Directors.

The purchases are made as much as possible from the manufacturers, and every thing is paid for when bought. The profits on the goods are only enough to pay legitimate expenses. Every thing is guaranteed to be as represented.

While the Patrons of Industry and Dominion Grange were in session in the city of Toronto, they were asked to appoint committees to investigate the Grange stock and mode of doing business, and to report back to their meetings what they thought of the Company. After the matter had been fully discussed by the delegates in general, the following reports were passed, and signed by the members of the committees:—"We, your committee, appointed to visit the Grange Wholesale Supply Co.'s Store, beg leave to report. We enquired into the principles on which they conduct business, we are of opinion that the principles are just equitable, and that the prices and quality of the goods for sale are such that we consider said Company worthy of the support of all who are desirous of enjoying the benefits of co-operation."

We might say, that members of our staff have visited their store from time to time, and we know that the report of the above committee is quite in keeping with our own views.

We advise our readers to club together, and make orders as large as possible.

In looking over the prices of goods quoted in their catalogue, we are surprised to find such a reduction from the ordinary selling price of the same quality of goods in other places. Everything that a farmer has occasion to use is kept in stock. We notice that their prices in boots are simply remarkable for their cheapness. Harness is another line that is specially worthy of mention for its cheapness; a splendid double set of farm harness can be bought for a trifle over \$20.00, and a very substantial and showy single set of driving harness for about \$14.00.

Groceries, foreign fruits, agricultural implements and dry goods are kept.

Write the Manager, Mr. R. Y. Manning, for their latest catalogue.

## Errata.

Under the heading "Sheep at the Ontario Agricultural College" in our last issue, near the end of the article, the writer was made to say, "Owing to a sterile ram and other avoidable causes." This clause should have read, "Owing to a sterile ram and other unavoidable causes."