

Farm Lands Out of Forest—Cont'd.

work lacked plan and their methods were haphazard. Of course they did not believe that other methods would be profitable. In particular, Mr. Windebank thought that the ranchers were afraid to risk sufficient expenditure to clear the land properly and to carry on the work with vigor. Even in a new country good methods of tillage and seeding ought to be profitable.

Two years ago, Mr. Windebank purchased something over 200 acres of native bottom land. Such land is worth from \$30 to \$40 an acre, and twice this expense is required to clear the heavier parts and to make it ready for crop. He planned that his money crops should be hay and hogs. Hay is always a dependable crop. The yield should be at least three tons to the acre. The price will average \$10, and the cost of raising it will not exceed \$2.50. Hogs are a good product because very few are raised in the region, and Mr. Windebank runs the meat market in the settlement and, therefore, has a ready market. He raises barley for his hogs, and he also buys feed from Manitoba and Saskatchewan when he runs short, and this is cheaper than he can buy the uncertain supply of the neighboring ranchers. Oats are raised for the grain, which is fed on the place. Mr. Windebank has a dairy herd of about ten cows. For these he puts up clover ensilage, and the young stock feed on the oat and barley straw in the field, and what remains of the straw the following spring is burned where it lies. He grows a few potatoes. When a piece of land is cleared too late for sowing with grain, he raises turnips, and seeds his grass with them. All these comprise his products; and all the land that thus far is under crop is turning a profit.

METHODS.

The ranch is being cleared rapidly. The cottonwoods are felled, the larger stumps blown out with gunpowder, the small ones pulled by team. The logs are burned. The hand grubbing is done by Chinese, who are more patient than white men at this kind of labor. Whatever the time of the season, it is the purpose to plow and fit the land as soon as it is cleared. With the very first crop, the land is seeded. Usually the seeding is done with barley, sometimes with oats, and less frequently with turnips. This western part of the Fraser River country is well adapted to clover; therefore, alfalfa has made little headway. The seeding is timothy and red clover. If the land is well prepared in the beginning and the meadow is not pastured too close after cutting, the grass land seems to be practically permanent. I saw one ranch with a meadow twenty years old and apparently as fresh and good as ever. Mr. Windebank expects to mow his meadows twice each year; then pasture till the following April or May. The first cutting is made into hay, yielding the three tons of which I have spoken, and the second cutting is ensilaged. Since grass and clover thrive so well, it is not necessary to grow corn for ensilage, although corn grows freely, but does not ear well because of the cool nights. How long these meadows will hold their own with continuous selling of the hay is not yet known, but the necessity of fertilizing them is not yet in sight. However, Mr. Windebank will use the hog manure on his grain land, and eventually perhaps on his meadows. The growth of red clover on these cool bottom lands is rapid and large. At the time of my visit, late in August, I saw heavy clover in bloom and ready for cutting, from a seeding made in the spring. On these lands a small yield of oats is said to be 60 bushels, and a heavy yield twice that amount.

PROFITS.

Most of the Fraser River ranchers, Mr. Windebank told me, sell their barley and oats; he feeds them, and sells them in the form of pork, milk and beef, although good oats never bring less than \$20 a ton. At certain times he grinds the feed, a gasoline engine supplying the power. Some 200 hogs are now kept on the place, and the number of these and of cattle will be increased as the land is cleared.

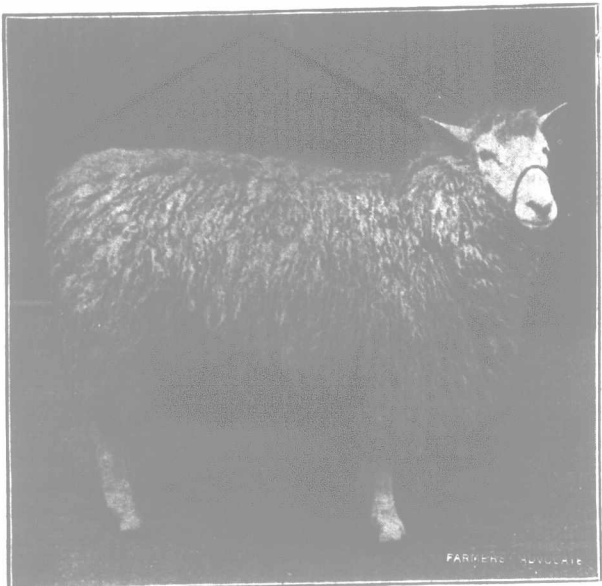
Mr. Windebank makes the following statement of the prospects for farming in his region: "With regard to profits to be made, I do not know much about it, except in my own case; but I am very well satisfied. From my experience, I

UNRESERVED DISPERSION SALE

Having disposed of my farm, I am offering, by auction, on

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18th, 1905

my entire flock of **Manor Lincoln Sheep**, consisting of 133 head, as follows:



- 80 Ewes, from 1 to 4 years old.
- 27 Ewe Lambs.
- 2 Stock Rams.
- 4 Yearling Rams.
- 20 Ram Lambs, all registered.

Also a half-dozen registered **Shorthorn cattle**, and the **work horses** and **farm implements** will be sold at the same time.

12 months' credit will be given on furnishing approved security.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock sharp

Will meet morning trains at Ilderton on day of sale.

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Under instructions from the Minister of Agriculture, there will be sold at the
ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH, ONT.

On October 25th, 1905

A NUMBER OF

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The sale will commence at one o'clock, and will be held in the comfortable judging pavilion on the College farm.
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Greenmount Herd, the property of MR. S. DUNLOP, Eady, Ont., Simcoe Co., 3 miles from Coldwater Station, Lot 13, Con. 10, Medonte Township, on

Thursday, October 26, 1905

This herd represents the Stanfords, Louisa, Agnes, Wildbans and Strawberry families, are in fine condition and regular breeders.
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Terms: 10 months' credit, 5% off for cash.

Write for Catalogue. **JAMES SLATER, CAPT. T. E. ROBSON, Auctioneers.**

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We have our own factory where we manufacture the Oxford Cream Separator, and we intend to manufacture other lines of implements also, and from this source a good profit will be made for our shareholders.

We have already a store in Durham and Galt, and are opening in Millbrook and Paris in a few weeks, also other places. This is for the benefit of shareholders who can see what they are buying. The shares are \$20 each, and no shareholder can secure more than five, consequently no one will get control of stock.

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believe that it is possible to realize from \$25 to \$50 per acre profit, with good farming. I cleared two acres of land, some of my heaviest clearing, last spring. It cost me \$72 to clear stumps and to plow. I sowed clover and turnips in the middle of June and took off the two acres 50 tons of turnips, which, at a feeding value of \$5 a ton, were worth \$250, and had my land ready for a hay crop the next year, besides grazing it in the winter months. I thus realized the whole cost of clearing the first year, with a handsome profit. I took 6½ tons of potatoes off about three-fourths of an acre of the same kind of land newly cleared and stumped. These were worth when I dug them \$17 per ton, and I don't think I attended to them as well as I might have done. There is no question of making a ranch pay here with work and a little good management, but it must be mixed farming, as growing grain is risky on account of the danger of a wet season."

The experienced reader will see that the farm scheme here described is a familiar one, resting on sound principles and practice. It interested me not so much for itself as an illustration of its application to an area that is in process of actual rescue from the woods. It is also suggestive in showing a man who is not primarily a farmer or a student of farming in the ordinary acceptance of the phrase may see and act sanely when the problem comes to his hand. In two years a raw ranch is beginning to pay. I assume that Mr. Windebank will soon sell the ranch; if he does, it will be because he will have demonstrated that it is worth buying. I was much interested to see how a man would go about it if he had virgin wood-grown land to redeem into cultivated land.—L. H. Bailey, in Country Gentleman.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS Miscellaneous.

PROBABLY GOOSEFOOT.

I found the enclosed weed in my field of fall wheat to-day. Would like to know what it is, or is it a bad weed?

Huron Co., Ont. D. R. McK.

Ans.—There are several weeds in the goosefoot family, including lamb's-quarter and wormseed. None of them are worse than the first-named, except Russian thistle. This seems to be a young specimen of goosefoot, but without flower or fruit or root it cannot be identified positively. J. D.

SILLO ON NORTH SIDE OF BARN.

I wish to build a cement silo, and have no convenient place for it, except on the north side of the barn. Will silage freeze more than if silo were built on south side? Could you advise building on north side? SUBSCRIBER.

Simcoe Co., Ont.

Ans.—In the latitude of Simcoe County, the silage would probably freeze quite a bit around the sides. If the silo is fairly large, however, say 12 or 15 feet in diameter, and enough stuff is fed that two or three inches be taken off the surface each day, and the stable or feeding-room into which the silage is thrown is fairly warm, there should be no trouble in feeding it. The frozen stuff can be dug out with a pick, broken up, and thrown in the pile with the rest to thaw out. We would rather have a silo on the north side of the barn than none at all, but would prefer it on the south or east side, where it would be protected from prevailing winds.

Breeders will do well to keep in mind the dispersion auction sale of the Ridge-wood Park herd of Shorthorns, property of E. C. Attrill, Goderich, Ont., which will take place on the Western Fair grounds, London, Ont., on Thursday, November 2nd. Besides Mr. Attrill's 30 head, there are the 10 young head from the herd of Capt. Robson, Ilderton, and the 7 contributed by W. Doherty, of Clinton, making in all some 50 head of Scotch and Scotch-topped stock, among which a lot of good values will be found. Write to Mr. Attrill for a catalogue, go over the list, and arrange your dates to take in or be represented at this sale, which will be one of the important Ontario Shorthorn events of the year.