

Estelle of Majsemore. The heaviest beast in the show was W. & H. Whitley's Devon, which scaled 2,912 pounds.

Captain J. A. Morrison's Hampshire Down was the sheep champion, and he also got the special for the heaviest pen of three, i. e., 656 pounds.

Sir Gilbert Greenall's large white pig held sway in their section. The local breed of Tamworths were headed by W. H. Mitchell's meaty trio.

NOTED SCOTS BREEDER DEAD.

Sir John Macpherson Grant, of Ballindalloch, Scotland, has just died, and as a breeder of high-class Aberdeen-Angus cattle he had a high reputation. It was in 1861 that the herd at Ballindalloch was founded by the late Baronet's father, who purchased the cow "Erica" for 50 guineas at one of Lord Southesk's sales at Kinnaird Castle. Never was a purchase more fortunate for she became the foundress of the premier family of the breed. The highest price paid in Scotland at a public sale for a Ballindalloch bull calf was £504. In America, however, a bull bred at Ballindalloch sold for £1,820. At the last draft sale at Ballindalloch in 1913, the average was £50 11s. 7d. with the highest price of 110 guineas for a yearling heifer.

London, Eng.

G. T. BURROWS.

THE FARM.

Building a Concrete Silo.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

While the wintry winds are whistling about the eaves and snow sifting in under the door, doubtless there are many readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" who wish they had a silo in which was safely stored this year's big corn crop. Instead they look forward to digging their corn out of the snow this winter, or, if they are lucky enough to have barn room enough for it, to pitch out next spring a dried-out, mouldy mess of corn, which, to say the least, is not very appetizing to a milk cow or any other animal. A good New Year's resolution for many a farmer would be, "A silo before another winter." One factor which deters many a man from building is the initial cost. Possibly some have not a very clear idea of the cost of building a silo. It is not very difficult to ascertain the cost of the stave silos, which are sold all ready put up, or ready to put up, but the concrete silo seems to be rather an uncertain quantity as regards cost. Some time ago I was told of a man who had built a concrete silo for less than \$100, of another who put one up for \$150. The former was an experienced concrete worker, and with the assistance of his own farm force practically built it himself. But a farmer should put a fair value on his own time when counting the cost of any building or improvement on his farm.

Below is a statement of the labor and material used in constructing a concrete silo in 1914, and although prices may vary somewhat in different localities, the reader will be able to make a fairly close estimate of what his silo should cost him. I might say here, the silo in question is the size commonly erected in this locality, viz., 35 feet high, 12 feet diameter inside, with wall 12 inches thick at bottom and about 8 inches at top:

66 yds. gravel at \$1.00 per yard delivered	\$36.00
23 loads stone at 25 cents load	5.75
1 yard sand for plastering	1.00
82½ bbls. cement at \$1.80 per bbl	58.50
500 ft. matched pine for roof and chute at \$30.00	15.00
Nails, etc.	1.50
Gas pipe	2.00
8 men 9½ days at \$3.00 per day (including use of mixer)	85.50
1 laborer 8 days	12.00
Use of poles, plank for scaffold, etc.	6.00
Use of rings	10.00
Carpenter 4 days at \$2.50 (building roof and chute)	10.00
Carpenter's assistant 4 days	6.00
Painting lumber for roof before erecting	1.25
Excavating foundation, 2 men 2 days	6.00
Total	\$256.50

Some of these items may look a little high, for instance, gravel had to be hauled three miles, which I consider worth 85 cents per yard. Owing to location I had to use more lumber for the chute than would be the case with most silos. The lumber used for both roof and chute was matched pine 5 inches wide, and was given a coat of paint before putting on and another while erecting it. I am satisfied that I have a first-class job in every respect, and this helps a lot in forgetting the cost. The old adage that "quality remains long after price is forgotten" should hold good in this case.

My short experience of three weeks scarcely justifies me in saying much about the feeding value of silage, but I must say that the cattle are crazy for it, and have actually gained at a time when they have always failed in other years both in flesh and milk.

Prince Edward Co., Ont.

MORRIS HAFF.

Repairing Cracked Silo.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In a recent issue a subscriber asked how to repair a cracked silo. I have seen two repaired in this way: Procure from any wholesale hardware, or through an agent for stave silos a number of rods as used for stave silo, these should be bent round a water tank, of much smaller circumference than the silo, as they will spring back considerably. They are easily bent by putting a post in ground close to tank; then insert end of rod between tank and post and walk around tank holding the other end of rod, this makes a perfect circle which fits snugly all round silo. Then with a long open wrench he can tighten nuts on rods and can close up cracks quite a little bit, also ensuring no further cracks.



Dandy.

Champion fat animal at the Guelph Winter Fair. Exhibited by Pritchard Bros., Fergus, Ont. Readers will recognize four prominent stockmen in the rear.

A week or two ago I noticed an enquiry re "pigs drinking urine." I have had same trouble years ago, and was advised by several farmers to salt them every day for a week, and then about three times weekly. I have not been troubled since.

Oxford Co., Ont.

FARMER.

Silo Cracking.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In regard to cement block silo cracking I may say that I built one in 1911, and it was placed on a 10-ft. wall of solid cement that was built 4 years before and was perfectly solid. I put the blocks up 20 feet higher, making it 30 feet. It cracked when we were filling within 2 feet of the top the first year. We put wire cables around it right away to hold it, and the next summer we took 2 x 4 scantlings and stood them up about 4 feet apart all the way around it, and we held them up with common black wire. You can drive nails in the joints to hold them up. And then we took ½-inch rods and rodded the same as a stave silo, about 4 feet apart at the bottom and a little farther apart at top, and we filled the cracks with cement mixed 2 to 1. Mine has never bothered since; been filled three times since.

Oxford Co., Ont.

FRED JULI.

The boy that is satisfied with his present knowledge of agriculture will never be the most successful farmer. Agriculture is a calling of which even the most experienced admit they know little, and have only touched the fringe of its possibilities.

Besides taking our part in feeding Europe we may be called upon to supply no small proportion of the breeding stock needed when the great war draws to a close and industry and production begin to find new foundations over there.

Protect Game and Birds.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

When reading over an address given at the Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto, by Dr. C. W. Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist, of Ottawa, relating to the preservation of Canadian birds for the country's welfare, the thought came to me that such addresses should also be given to our rural communities before an interest will be awakened in the agricultural minds of our Province for the preservation of their best friends, the birds. Dr. Hewitt says all Canadian birds should be preserved, for instance: The Crow is invaluable for the destruction of the army-worm. Insects and weed-seeds, also are destroyed by all the common Canadian birds, the twenty species of native sparrows, swifts and swallows.

Farmers were urged to cultivate birds even to the extent of building nests for them and providing food, water and shelter to keep them in Canada during the winter time.

If addresses having this end in view were delivered at our Farmers' Institute meetings much good might be accomplished. If such men as our Dominion Entomologist, and the Editor of

"Nature's Diary," were to present themselves to our township and county council meetings, and lay the matter plainly before the important bodies, we might have very beneficial additions to our by-laws, re, hunting, but until our townships take the matter up within themselves and for themselves we can not look for much improvement along this line. The most formidable enemy our birds and squirrels have is the 22 calibre rifle, and from a humane, as well as an economic standpoint, would suggest that the ratepayers petition township fathers to pass by-laws prohibiting hunting in their respective townships, and in order to make such by-laws effective, offer a suitable reward for the conviction of any offender. The "trespassers will be prosecuted" sign is effective only in one way, it simply means there is game here, get it. I certainly hope the farmers of Ontario will rise in a body and ask for better protection for their feathered and furry friends before it is too late.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

E. DUNN.

Grain and Seeds at the Winter Fair.

In its usual place upstairs in the city hall was to be found the exhibit of grain and seeds. There was very little new to report in this exhibit; entries were in number about 70 greater than in 1913, and the exhibit all through was very creditable, and the quality pronounced higher than has been seen at former shows. Oats were remarkably good with the exception of being a little off color. Barley was also colored more than good judges like to see it. Wheat was a fine sample, and as good as anything that has been shown previously. There was a great exhibit of corn, and it was a close competition throughout, especially in some of the special sweepstakes trophy classes. The best twenty-five ears of flint corn at this show were exhibited by L. D. Hankinson, Aylmer the variety being Longfellow. The cup for this exhibit was won last year by A. S. Maynard, of Chatham. Potatoes made the strongest showing ever seen at Guelph, and alfalfa was a feature of the exhibition, with twenty-one separate entries. There were ten entries from Haldimand county alone, all made by separate growers. Alsike and red clover were about equal to a year ago. On the whole the seed was particularly pure and free from weed seeds. There was only one rejected sample in twenty-one, and nineteen out of twenty-one graded number one. A new thing in the seed department was an exhibit of Swede turnips and sugar beets, there being a few entries in each class. A number of special exhibits were made by various corn-growing associations and seed-growing organizations. Essex county also had a special corn exhibit, and it was very interesting and instructive indeed to look over some of these special exhibits and learn how seed corn is cared for in Ontario's corn belt, and also become

a little seed for doing a out Ontario

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OATS

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Puslinch,

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Smith G

John Mc

F. Laidl

Fraser, J

BARL

O. A. C.

C. 21; 3

4, S. W.

F. Ford,

FALL

Golden C

Golden C

Golden C

Golden C

SPRI

Square, C

POTA

Davies' V

Abundanc

Dooley; 4

Walker, M

TURN

Fergus; 3

Pritchard

PEAS

SUGA

ston; 2,

CORN

Comptons

Rowed; 3

Lyndoch,

Longfello

CORN

Wisconsin

7; 8, Jas.

4, E. J.

5, R. J.

Awards

Walkerton

Carmichae

5, T. W.

Fergus; 1

J. M. Fies

4, D. H. 7

Trewin, 1

Wylie, Str

Bingham,

Foster, H

Smith; 4

Bros. O

Elcoat, Se

Hutton; 5

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clover; 1,

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Wm. Roth,

Alfalfa; 1,

Martindale

Anderson;

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Schmidt; 2

white; 1, A

mer & Son;

E. Wood; 5

Bingham;

Potatoes, 16