

five per cent. This is a large increase, and if the increase in yield of wheat corresponds it will mean the extending of Manitoba's annual output by many millions of bushels.

Mr. Stirton does not think that Manitoba or the west will have any cattle to export this season. Nearly all the stall-fed cattle sold this spring have gone to the Kootenay, the Crow's Nest Pass, and the Yukon district. During the summer these markets will be more largely supplied by the large western ranges, but until the range cattle are fit for slaughter these districts take about all the good beef cattle Manitoba produces. This spring as high as 4cts. per lb. has been paid for good beef cattle. We drew attention a few issues ago to the depletion of young stockers going on in the west. Mr. Stirton says that so great has been this depletion that Manitoba and the west will feel the effects of it for several years. In many ways the farmers are not to blame for disposing of their young stock at good prices, though everyone agrees that it is not the best policy to pursue. During the past fall and winter farmers have been able to get as much money for two-year stockers from the ranchers of the Western States as they formerly could get for them when three and four years old. In fact American buyers have gone through the country picking up young calves a few months old at \$7 to \$8 each. Many farmers consider these prices too good to let pass and consequently have allowed a large share of the stockers to be taken out of the country.

Mr. Stirton believes that pork packing is destined to be an important industry in the west. The Winnipeg packers are paying the farmers from 4½ to 5 cents per lb. As yet not so much attention is being paid to the production of the bacon type of hog as in the eastern provinces. The packers find it somewhat difficult to get a supply, and consequently are not so exact about the quality. In a few years, however, when the industry is more thoroughly established the farmers will have to produce a hog suitable for supplying the bacon trade.

There is a growing demand for heavier horses in Manitoba for work on the farms. As a rule the horses on the average Manitoba farm are not heavy enough for the work. If a heavier horse were used farm work could be done with greater ease and at less cost. As an instance of this Mr. Stirton states that if the horses used were heavier three could be used for plowing instead of four as is now the case.

Though the growing of fruits has not made any great advance in Manitoba Mr. Stirton thinks that in time, if the farmers will give the matter attention, and plant orchards on lands sloping to the south or where the trees would be sheltered by a woods, a fair quality of fruit adapted to cold countries could be grown. He mentions the case of an old settler at Nelson, Manitoba, who has for the past two or three years grown apples, plums, crabapples and cherries very successfully. The apples are a Russian variety and partially acclimatized. This particular orchard is on a side hill facing the south, and its owner takes particular pride in giving it every care and attention. Mr. Stirton is of the opinion that the hot, dry winds of the summer seasons are as injurious to fruit trees, if not more so, than the severe winters. All small fruits, such as berries, currants, etc., can be grown without any great difficulty. Mr. Stirton is a strong believer in mixed farming for Manitoba.

Why Do Young Men Leave the Farm?

The following extract is taken from *The Australasian*, of Melbourne, Australia. It shows us two things, viz., that our fellow-colonists on the other side of the world have the same problems to solve in regard to keeping the young men on the farm that we have, and that they have sufficient grasp of the situation to divine to a large extent the cause of the apparent discontent among young men as to remaining on the farm:

Why do so many farmers' sons become discontented with life on the farm, and evince a disposition to earn their living amongst other surroundings? The reason is that in

quite a large number of instances they are treated as servants, but without a servant's pay. They have to do their share—often more than their share—of the farm work, and assume at times a considerable amount of responsibility, while their remuneration very frequently consists of nothing more than the food they eat and the clothes they wear. It is hardly a matter for wonder that young fellows become dissatisfied under the circumstances, and elect to try their fortunes elsewhere. Parents, as a rule, do not place sufficient trust in their families, do not teach them self-reliance, and do not remunerate them for the services they render, and for which others would have to be paid if the young people were not there to do the work. On rare occasions one meets with a farmer who pays his sons and daughters a small weekly wage, proportionate to what he can afford and to the services which they render. The young people provide their own clothing, and pay for their own amusement out of what they earn, and because the money is their own they are economical as regards the spending, while each one gratifies his or her own particular taste. Where the parents adopt this practice it will be invariably found that the young folk are contented with their surroundings, unless it happens that they have decided tastes and talents for some other pursuit, in which case, of course, it is better to let them follow their inclination. The farmer, owning a fair-sized block of land, who cannot afford to pay his family a small sum for the services which they render, must be a bad manager, and it is time for him to give up the business of farming.

The Poultry Industry of Canada.

By THOMAS A. DUFF, Toronto, Ont.

(Continued from April 26th.)

SHIPPING.

It is certainly a pleasure to note that during 1897 there has been a decided increase over 1895 and 1896 in our shipments of poultry and eggs to Great Britain. Those who have made shipments report themselves as being satisfied with the prices obtained. I feel certain, however, that the present system of cold storage, while perhaps all right for shipping poultry, could be very much improved upon so far as the exporting of eggs is concerned. The objection I have to it is, that after the eggs are taken out of the cold storage they commence to sweat, which does not add to their appearance. I have in mind a system by which this could be entirely obviated, but space will not permit of my going into detail concerning it, but at some future time, should an opportunity present itself, I will be pleased to give my views.

The agricultural returns show that nearly fifteen hundred million eggs come into England from abroad. Four hundred millions are laid in Germany, and a hundred and sixty-four millions in Russia. Notwithstanding this the demand more than exceeds the supply. Why, therefore, when prices are so low in Canada in summer, can we not obtain a share of this trade, and obtain more for our product? As far as I can learn, the prices paid in England during the summer for strictly first-class fertile eggs are from seventeen to twenty-three cents per dozen. If our friends who keep poultry would only take care of their stock, gather the eggs daily, and market none weighing less than seven and a-half to the pound, we could easily obtain a large portion of this trade. We are already promised a fast steamship service, and with proper cold storage facilities, there should be no difficulty in placing on the English market as fine a class of eggs, and in as good condition, as the Russian, German, or French supply. There is an unlimited market for all our summer stock. Of course our home market can far more than use all we produce in winter. What is necessary to obtain this trade is the co-operation of those who sell with those who buy. You do your part and the buyer will do his.

If those engaged in the raising of poultry will bear these few simple facts in mind, and act upon them, they will find their pockets containing more dollars at the end of the year than under the old regime.

NOTE.—This week completes the publication of Mr. Duff's very able and comprehensive treatise on "The Poultry Industry of Canada." The treatise was prepared for and will appear in the next annual report of the Farmers' Institutes of the province. Owing to the kind courtesy of the Superintendent of Institutes we have thus early been permitted to give the readers of *FARMING* this admirable series of articles covering every phase of poultry farming.—EDITOR.

Canadian Butter in Great Britain.

Last week's *Trade Bulletin* gives some interesting figures regarding the exports of Danish and Canadian butter. The amount of butter exported from Denmark in 1897 was 132,090,000 pounds, which was an increase of 11,040,000 pounds as compared with the year previous. During 1897 the total imports of butter into Great Britain were 360,393,000 pounds, about \$78,000,000 in value, and of this Denmark contributed about one third and Canada only about one thirty-sixth. From this it will be seen that there is a wide field open for Canadian butter-makers, which, if they give as much attention to developing as the Danish butter-maker does, affords them a grand opportunity to build up an extensive export trade in butter with Great Britain.

According to reliable reports from Great Britain, Canadian butter is every year attracting more and more attention. A finer quality of butter is being sent forward which is of excellent consistency and durability. One report states that Canadian butter much resembles the Danish in style, and the best of it approaches the Danish in goodness. Then because Canadian is cheaper than the Danish the British tradesman is able to make a larger profit out of handling it. To quote from the same report: "The climates and pastures of Canada are well suited for the production of butter, and it has a population of able English and French farmers. And, finally, the transport from Canada lasts only fourteen days. Canada, therefore, has no doubt better prospects than the much talked of Australia, which lies on the wrong side of the globe, and suffers from always returning periods of drought."

Confirmation of what we know to be the good qualities of Canadian butter, coming from consumers in Great Britain, is very valuable indeed, and should put new life into our butter-makers and encourage them to make still greater efforts to improve the quality of the product and make it a thing even more to be desired than ever by the English consumer.

Theodore Louis.

The kind, intelligent and sympathetic face on the front cover of this week's *FARMING* will be recognized by everyone who attended the annual convention of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association at Woodstock two years ago. Not only will they remember the face as that of Theodore Louis, but they will remember the sound, practical and common sense addresses on swine husbandry which he delivered on that occasion. In our special swine number of April, 1897, we gave a somewhat extended account of Mr. Louis' life and work, and though we have no intention of repeating what was said then we do not think it out of place to draw attention again to one, who, by his teaching and practice, has done more than anyone else on this continent to make known the value of the hog as an important factor in economic agriculture. In his own state and the adjoining one of Minnesota, Mr. Louis is a familiar figure at all farmers' gatherings. His strong fort is at farmers' institute meetings, where he is a host in himself. The success of an institute meeting may, to a large extent, be measured by the amount and kind of discussions which take place. Mr. Louis is an adept at answering questions, and it is said that he has no equal at a farmers' meeting for imparting good, practical information in response to a question asked by someone in the audience. There was a striking example of this at the Woodstock meeting, and Mr. Louis' good nature was taxed to the utmost to reply to questions, not because he was unable to answer the questions, but because the questions were so numerous as to keep him long after hours. Personally, we would like to have Mr. Louis again visit Canada, and we think in the interest of our important swine industry some of our larger farmers' organizations should make an effort to secure him for their meetings next fall and winter. Perhaps our public-spirited Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes will take the matter up.