

Exhibitions for 1898.

Trans-Mississippi, Omaha	June 1 to November 1.
Brantford	Sept. 17 to 22.
Wisconsin, Milwaukee	Sept. 19 to 23.
Napanee	Sept. 20 to 21.
Northern, Collingwood	Sept. 20 to 23.
Peninsular, Chatham	Sept. 20 to 22.
Prescott, Prescott	Sept. 20 to 22.
St. Thomas	Sept. 20 to 22.
Stratfordville	Sept. 21.
North Bay, Ont.	Sept. 21 and 22.
Laurel, South Perth	Sept. 21 to 23.
Stratford	Sept. 22 and 23.
Lindsay	Sept. 22 to 24.
East Elgin, Aylmer	Sept. 22 to 24.
Halifax	Sept. 22 to 29.
West Williams and Parkhill, Parkhill	Sept. 26 and 27.
Illinois, Springfield	Sept. 26 to Oct. 1.
Shedden	Sept. 27.
Cayuga	Sept. 27 and 28.
Beaverton	Sept. 27 and 28.
Laurel, Almonte	Sept. 27 to 29.
Centre Bruce, Paisley	Sept. 27 and 28.
Northwestern, Goderich	Sept. 27 to 29.
Peel, Brampton	Sept. 28 and 29.
Prince Edward, Picton	Sept. 28 and 29.
Barrie	Sept. 28 to 30.
Dalhousie, Ontario	Sept. 29 and 30.
Oxford, Kempville	Sept. 29 and 30.
Elgin West, Wallacetown	Sept. 29 and 30.
Galt	Sept. 29 and 30.
Semour Agricultural Society	Sept. 29 to 30.
Ontario and Durham, Whitby	Sept. 29 to Oct. 1.
Peterboro, West Peterboro	Sept. 29 to Oct. 1.
St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.	Oct. 3 to 8.
Woodstock	Oct. 3 to 5.
Norfolk, Tilsonburg	Oct. 4 and 5.
Tara	Oct. 4 and 5.
Markham	Oct. 5 to 7.
New Westminster, B. C.	Oct. 5 to 13.
Caledonia	Oct. 6 and 7.
Norwood	Oct. 11 and 12.
Norfolk, Simcoe	Oct. 11 to 13.
Highbury	Oct. 14 and 15.
Woodbridge	Oct. 18 and 19.
Ontario Fat Stock Show, Brantford	Nov. 30 to Dec. 2.

[NOTE.—If Secretaries of Fair Boards will send us dates of their shows we will include them in the lists of succeeding issues of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.—EDITOR.]

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

Prince Edward Island.

The harvest is nearly all out, and we are having fine weather for saving it. Wheat that promised so well early in the season is so badly damaged by rust as to be scarcely worth cutting. Campbell's White Chaff is the worst affected; it will not make flour at all. The Fyfe wheats and White Russian will be some good, but by far the largest part of the crop was White Chaff, so the wheat crop on the Island will not be one-fourth of an average crop. Moist, not calm, weather during the first week of August was the cause of the rust. This is the worst failure in wheat we have ever had here. Oats are good and heavy in the straw, and will thresh out well, though some late patches are rusted a little. Peas are not well filled; the maggot is the cause. Roots and tubers are doing finely and promise a heavy yield. Corn has made an excellent growth, and is now filling well, and if we have no frost to injure it this month, will mature well for the silo. There is a large crop of apples here of good quality, but some varieties, the Fameuse especially, are very much spotted. Plums are not more than half a crop. The very heavy crop of hay here, and the promise of plenty of roots, is inducing feeders to buy up a great many store cattle to stall-feed this winter. The after-grass is the best we ever had, and old pastures are still green and fresh. The milk supply at the dairy stations keeps right up to where it was in July. The fall make of cheese and butter will be very large. Cheese sells here now for 7½¢ for July and 8¢ for August. Stock never was in better condition. Good grass beef is worth 6¢, per pound dead weight. Lambs are worth 2½¢, live weight. Very few hogs ready yet. The best quality would bring \$4.75 per hundred. Eggs are worth 11¢. No grain selling yet. The failure of the wheat crop is a severe loss to our farmers, and will cause a great drain on the country for imported flour.

Sept. 7th.

Manitoba Cattle Outlook.

A careful observer thus sums up the situation:—"Manitoba has hardly any cattle fit for export this year; what she has are only fit for stockers. Some have been shipped this fall to the States. I do not think many will be. Export cattle come from Yorkton district, Alberta and Saskatchewan, with, perhaps, a few loads from Manitoba, up north of Russell. I doubt if any stockers will be brought into the country from Ontario, as I fancy prices would prohibit it. It's early yet to estimate the number of cattle to be fed here. Not until after the harvest is over will people do much planning along that line; will see first what feed grain they have on hand, and the price. I fancy wheat is going to grade very low on account of wet, and there is considerable frost, I hear, which will make feed more plentiful."

Bees are a success in the Edmonton district. Mrs. Thos. Henderson, of Rabbit Hills, has between fifty and sixty swarms. She has taken 500 pounds of extracted honey from them this season already, and another crop is about ready. This season was not so good for honey as last, as a frost in June cut off the flow of honey for some weeks. Last year these swarms yielded 5,000 pounds of extracted honey. For three weeks one swarm yielded 100 pounds a week. Only three swarms were lost last winter. Mrs. Henderson has been keeping bees at Edmonton since 1886, and has proven them a complete success."—*Edmonton Bulletin*.

Bruce Co., Ont.

Harvesting all over, excepting a few odd lots. The weather was almost unprecedently favorable. The crop on the whole is good. The fall seeding is about over. Many fields quite green. The drought during the haying and harvest had begun to tell rather seriously on the pastures, and in some instances water was getting scarce. The graziers, of which there are quite a number in this section, have had a fairly good season. Grass was abundant and good in the early part of the season, and the prices obtained for cattle fit for export have been fairly satisfactory. Stockers and feeders are scarce and high in price, selling at the rate of 3½ to 4 cents per pound. Lambs for the Buffalo market are being bought at 3½ to 4 cents. Some of the farmers are holding them at \$4 each, which means about 5 cents per pound. Dairy products are some higher now, but do not know that many of the patrons of the cheese factories and creameries will net more cash. Those that did not provide for a drought had less milk and cream to sell. Cheese, a fraction less than 8 cents; new wheat, 65 cents; peas, 48 cents; oats, 25 cents; hay (when it can be sold), \$5 to \$6. The harvest and fall seeding being completed so early in the season will give the farmers ample opportunity to prepare the land for next spring's crop—clean up rough and wet places, put the fences in better shape, and attend the fall exhibitions which are now on. We have had some fine showers of rain lately, which have had a telling effect on pastures, root crops, and the fruit crop. Pear crop good; plums good in some localities; apples about half crop, quality fair. Duchess apples were sold at 65 cents per barrel, buyer finding the barrel. Fall apples are selling from 60 to 75 cents, according to quality and variety.

September 6th, 1898.

Brandon, Man., District.

Harvest came in gradually and cutting became general about 15th Aug., and was pretty well finished by the 31st. The weather for the most part was cool, with occasional light showers, which retarded ripening. The night of Sept. 2nd saw an immense downpour of rain, with high wind, lasting nearly all night. Almost all grain was standing in shock and was pretty thoroughly soaked. This, with the many previous light showers, will have the effect of reducing the grade of what would otherwise have been a universal high "hard," being now very much weather-bleached. If grain is stacked and allowed to stand three weeks or a month, the appearance will be improved. The kernel this year is larger than usual, and the yield will be close upon 20 bush. per acre. Oats and barley will give a very satisfactory yield. A liberal reserve of wheat for winter fodder may be expected this year, which means high-conditioned stock next spring.

Labor.—The demand for labor for harvesting has been very well met (without being overdone) by the harvest excursions brought in. Wages run about \$1.25 per day for harvesting and threshing.

Root crops are all exceedingly good. Garden stuff, equally good.

Stock, owing to late summer rains and good pasturage, are in fine condition, but not many beef cattle available. Quoted at 2½¢ on foot. Hogs scarce at 4½¢ live weight. Eggs scarce at 15¢. Butter, 17¢.

COMBINED HARVESTER AND THRESHER.

Conroy's Combined Harvester and Thresher has been experimented with for several days on the farm of Mayor Evans, near Brandon. It has been demonstrated that the machine will do the work it was intended for, viz., to cut and thresh the grain, but it has also been pretty fully demonstrated that such method of saving grain is not suitable for Manitoba, there being, in what appeared to be a well and evenly-ripened crop, so much green and soft grain that it would be impossible to keep the grain from spoiling after it was threshed. The machine is drawn by eight horses, takes a six-foot cut, operated by three men, and would get over the same amount of ground as a binder, turning the grain out in bags as the machine travels along. It is probable improvements could be made, reducing the draft so that six horses might handle the machine and two men operate it. This would make it a very desirable machine for our large western wheat farms, if only our crops would ripen evenly, and could be allowed to stand until flinty hard.

Brandon, Man.

Cheaper Hay Rate in Quebec.

The freight agents of the different railways running into Quebec from the Eastern States have decided to make a substantial reduction in the freight rate on hay, in order to enable the Quebec farmers to resume the business cut off by the Dingy tariff. A few years ago there was a large amount shipped every year from this Province, and the business was profitable to both railways and farmers. But when the Dingy Bill increased the duty from \$2 to \$4 a ton the trade was practically killed.

Toronto Markets.

The fat cattle, both butchers and exporters, were of average quality. Trade was fair; the best cattle of both classes sold at good prices—at an advance over the last two weeks.

Export Cattle.—Exporters sold from \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt. Most of our largest dealers have retired from the export business, and ceased shipping, for the season exports from this market are much below former years.

Butchers' Cattle. Choice picked lots of butchers' cattle sold well at from \$4.20 to \$4.50 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per cwt. Common, inferior stock sold down to \$2.87½ per cwt. Loads of good exporters and butchers' cattle, mixed, at \$4; the better class of butchers' were scarce. Joseph Gould sent forward 20 carloads at prices ranging from \$4.25 to \$4.55 per cwt. via Boston, U. S.

Export Bulls.—Light export bulls sold at \$3 to \$3.25. Medium bulls sold at from \$3.35 to \$3.50 per cwt. Heavy-weight export sold at \$3.65 to \$4.25 per cwt. extra choice quality.

Stockers.—There was a heavy run of stockers, which sold at from \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt. Mr. A. Ironsides bought about 100 for the Buffalo market, at \$3.50. These were fair, average class, and the only load sent through.

Feeders.—Feeders of good quality, weighing 1,100 lbs. average, sold at \$3.00. Mr. Vincent bought 12 steers, 1,180 lbs. average, at \$4 per cwt. They were scarce and in good demand.

Sheep.—A picked lot of ewes, 160 in number, were purchased for export by Mr. A. Ironsides at \$3.60 per cwt. Bucks \$2.75 per cwt. Of the 1,350 sheep on the market not more than two dozen wethers were on sale.

Lambs.—Spring lambs sold at \$2.75 to \$4 each, or \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Calves sold at \$3 to \$6 per head, or \$1.50 to \$5 per cwt. Milk Cows.—One extra good quality dairy cow fetched \$55. There were 15 on the market to-day at prices from \$25 to \$50 each. Scarce and wanted.

Hogs continue to decline, and we thought that rock-bottom had been reached at \$4.75 for the best, but \$4.50 is a still lower point. It has stopped the sending of stores, and the supply is still above normal requirements; over 6,000 received this week. The market is very unsettled, with no prospect of an early rise. The reported loss of \$25,000 of bacon in London, England, will not fall on Messrs. Mathews, of Ottawa, but the

steamship and insurance companies are disputing as to the failure of the cold storage plant.

Average Prices.—Export cattle, \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt.; export bulls, \$3 to \$4; butchers' cattle, \$3.50 to \$4.10; stockers, \$3.25 to \$3.50; feeders, \$3.75 to \$3.80; milch cows, \$25 to \$50 each; calves, \$3 to \$6; sheep, \$3 to \$3.50. Hogs.—150 to 200 lbs., \$4.25 to \$4.75; heavy, fat, \$4.25 to \$4.60; sows, \$3.25 to \$3.50; stage, \$2.

Buffalo Stockers.—The stocker trade for some considerable time has been in a depressed condition, the quality not being very good, and the inferior stock is badly discriminated; that is, the price is cut on poor quality. Superior stockers and half-fat feeders will meet with good sale at improved prices, but the poor, inferior stock will not be taken in any quantity. Shippers have lost considerable money on all their late shipments. Six carloads were confiscated for undervaluation. This has had a tendency to restrict shipments of any quantity. The export sheep trade is also badly handicapped for the reason that so many bucks are sent onto the market. The difference between wethers and bucks is \$2 per hundredweight in favor of the former.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

CATTLE.	Extreme Prices.	Top prices			
		Two weeks ago.	1897.	1898.	
1500 lbs. up.....	\$4 65 to 5 70	\$5 60	\$5 40	\$5 25	
1200 @ 1500.....	4 40 to 5 70	5 75	5 65	5 30	
1000 @ 1200.....	4 00 to 5 65	5 70	5 40	5 10	
800 @ 1000.....	4 00 to 5 50	5 55	5 35	4 95	
600 @ 800.....	3 90 to 5 30	5 30	5 00	4 35	
Fed Westerns.....	3 85 to 5 45	5 50	5 20	4 95	
Stockers and feeders.....	2 75 to 4 60	5 15	4 80	3 80	
Fat cows and heifers.....	3 40 to 5 00	5 15	4 75	4 60	

HOGS.				
Mixed.....	3 50 to 4 00	4 05	4 50	3 35
Heavy.....	3 45 to 4 10	4 07½	4 40	3 27
Light.....	3 30 to 4 00	4 02½	4 65	3 45
Pigs.....	2 75 to 3 90	3 95	4 65	3 40

SHEEP.				
Natives.....	2 25 to 4 00	4 70	4 25	3 25
Western.....	3 50 to 4 60	4 50	4 00	3 25
Lanes.....	3 80 to 4 10	4 30	3 65	
Lambs.....	4 00 to 5 35	6 30	5 50	4 60

There is quite a healthy tone to the general live stock trade. The supplies are not excessive and the demand is good. Feeders, dealers and packers are all making some money. Very few feeding cattle are being sent in from the Western ranges. One of the travelling agents for the Union Stock Yard Company returned from Texas and Indian Territory. He says cattle are so scarce in Texas that feeders have to go to Indian Territory to get cattle to put on cotton meal, being the first year on record when cattle were shipped from the Territory for that purpose. He says the number of cattle marketed at the four leading western markets this year will fall 300,000 short of the grand total of 1897, and he thinks the total number of all kinds of cattle marketed in 1898 at the four markets will be 1,000,000 short of 1897.

The hogs are coming in very good quality, and light weights are selling at a premium. Average weight of hogs last week, 242 lbs.; previous week, 249 lbs.; month ago, 235 lbs.; two months ago, 250 lbs.; year ago, 251 lbs.; two years ago, 256 lbs.; three years ago, 245 lbs. Average weight of hogs at Omaha last month, 259 lbs., against 264 lbs. in July and 270 lbs. in August, 1897. The packers and Board of Trade manipulators expect hog prices to go lower, as hog products for January delivery are now selling on the basis of about \$3.50 to \$3.60 for live hogs. Present prices for hogs indicate a loss on January contracts.

Sheep are selling lower than a while ago, but good sheep are selling higher than last year. The demand for feeding sheep and lambs continues very strong.

A consignment of Colorado horses ranging from yearlings to seven-year-olds arrived recently. The owner desired to get into the cattle and sheep business, and so was selling out his entire horse herd. He was offered at last accounts only \$12.50 per head for the lot. Adam Macchatti, Glasgow, is among the new foreign buyers. He deals in high-class drivers and coach horses, and reports a very quiet trade for the season. P. A. Immel, Camp Point, Ill., sold in the auction a choice load of drivers that ranged in prices from \$85 to \$250, the bulk of the offerings being taken on foreign account. Mr. Immel reports fancy drivers very scarce in the country. R. Barrett, Eureka, Ill., negotiated a load of draft horses that topped the market for some time. The best animals in the consignment were 1,800-pound Percherons, that were purchased by German exporters at \$175 to \$220 per head. They were in prime condition, and brought out brisk competition as they passed under the hammer. The horse market is in fairly good condition, but we hear the same old song about common horses not being wanted and few others coming. Expressers and heavy drafters, \$75 to \$200; 1500 to 1600 lb. chunks, \$70 to \$130; 900 to 1150 lb. chunks, \$35 to \$60; 1150 to 1400 lb. farm chunks, \$45 to \$70; Coachers and fast road horses, \$75 to \$300; ordinary drivers, \$35 to \$70. These prices are for good sound horses, five to eight years old, well broken and in good flesh. Plain, blemished and green stock sells at a discount.

Special Express Rates.

Toronto, Ont., Aug. 16th, 1898.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

DEAR SIR,—We take pleasure in advising you that the Canadian Express Co. have reduced their rates on shipments of Live Stock, viz., cows, sheep, hogs, and goats (crated), when in shipments of 500 pounds or over, to one address, as per table below:

When Mds. Rate per 100 lbs. is	Special Rate per 100 lbs. on Shipments 500 lbs. and over is	When Mds. Rate per 100 lbs. is	Special Rate per 100 lbs. on Shipments 500 lbs. and over is
\$0.40	\$0.40	\$2.75	\$2.20
0.50	0.50	3.00	2.40
0.60	0.60	3.25	2.60
0.75	0.60	3.50	2.80
0.90	0.75	3.75	3.00
1.00	0.90	4.00	3.20
1.25	1.10	4.25	3.40
1.50	1.30	4.50	3.60
1.75	1.50	4.75	3.80
2.00	1.60	5.00	4.00
2.25	1.80	5.50	4.50
2.50	2.00	6.00	5.00

Yours truly, J. H. SPARLING,
Superintendent Western Ontario Division.

Buffalo Markets.

Sheep and Lambs.—To-day there was a fairly liberal run, about 25 loads, natives and Canadas, and the Canada lambs sold generally at \$5.35, with one choice load up to 6 cents. This was fully 10 to 15 cents lower than yesterday. Good fat ewes selling at \$4.25 to \$4.50.

Cattle.—Good feeding cattle \$4 to \$4.50. East Buffalo, Wednesday, Sept. 14, 1898. EIRICK BROS.

Canadian Live Stock Exports.

For week ending Wednesday, Aug. 31st, R. Bickerdike, of the Live Stock Exchange, Montreal, reports exports of cattle, 3,177; sheep, 1,509; for week ending Sept. 7, cattle, 2,752; sheep, 2,513; week ending Sept. 14, cattle, 3,166; sheep, 1,008.