

bacon, pork, butter, cheese and eggs. A glance at the first item in the preceding table shows that the largest imports into the United Kingdom are of beef. Here quality is our check. We need a large share of the billion pounds of beef trade. A united effort and individual progressiveness make its attainment possible.

#### To Establish Economic Equilibrium.

As a young country, growing rapidly in importance in relation to countries which have long passed the spring-time of their development and now depend upon the newer world to supply the needs they have learned cannot be economically produced by domestic endeavor, it is incumbent upon us to look well to the order of our going. Not the farmer alone, but all classes of the people who make up the human population of Canada will do well to weigh and consider soberly, and with care, our outstanding national assets upon which we may in future expect to realize. The question affects the common-weal, for proof against contradiction is the statement that agriculture and every other class of industry has an indispensable function to perform in the national life of Canada, and each will function in a varying degree according to world conditions and needs.

Should we not then consider what returns in the way of export trade can be secured from the natural industries of lumbering, mining and fishing? Should we not consider the position of the grain farmers when normal production is again established in Great Britain and Europe, and when the normal wheat supplies of Russia, Australia, India, the Argentine and elsewhere are again offered on the markets of importing countries? Should this latter question not be the more considered in the light of decreasing crop yield per acre, especially in Western Canada, due to continued grain farming? Have we not possibly reached the safety line there, while, on the other hand, our resources in the way of livestock production, bearing in mind our almost unlimited acreage of pasture land, have only as yet, in a very small way indeed, been realized upon? Is it not worth while considering if the live-stock industry cannot indeed be easily made to constitute the basis upon which our economic and financial equilibrium may now be dependably established?

## THE FARM.

### An Ontario's Farmer's View of Conditions in England.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I am very pleased to hear the farming news of Canada from your paper. When so far away, home papers have a double interest. For six weeks after our arrival (March 4), we had nothing but rain, finishing up with a very heavy fall of snow—with drifts five to six feet deep. Now everything is suffering very seriously from six weeks' drought; rain is badly needed, as crops and garden stuff are all drying up. Haying is on, and a very light crop it is.

I was at the Hackney Stallion Show at Newmarket, and attended some big horse sales. Horses are twice the price they are in Canada. Cows go as high as \$300, but average about \$200. I saw a six-weeks-old calf sold on the market for \$50, store cattle up to \$200, and yearlings about \$100 each. Fat pigs are 26 cents a pound at the Farmer's Factory, little pigs six weeks old \$15 each. Eggs, poultry and seed potatoes sold by auction in one building. Horses, store cattle, pigs, fat cattle, and sheep for the butcher are all sold by auction in the market yards. A Government official sorts and classes the cattle and sheep. Veal sells at 50 to 62 cents a pound; lamb, 40 cents; hens, \$2 to \$3 each; eggs (sold at auction by the score) at about 6 to 8 cents each; cheese at set price 36 cents, but often not to be had; hay, \$35 to \$40 a ton; oil cake about \$85 a ton; butter 60 cents a pound, but margarine is largely used at from 16 to 30 cents a pound. In the best hotels in London, you constantly see the sign, "No butter to-day."

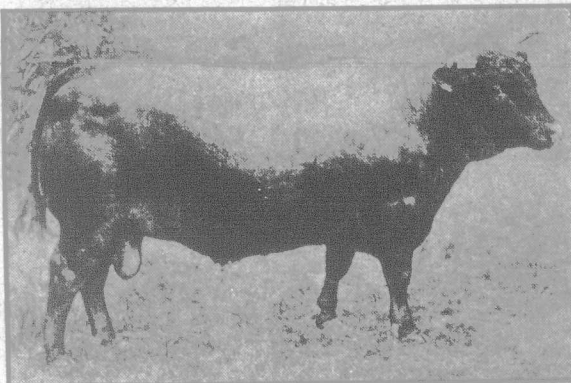
The advance in labor, shorter hours, set prices, and doubling the assessment for small holdings is making the farmers wake up. They have had much higher prices and lower cost of labor, so have done well, but now it is becoming a very different thing, and, as in Canada, it is the middleman who should be looked after and legislated against. Automobiles are a big price, with 30 per cent. duty. Old cars sell as high as new ones did before the war. There never was so much land offered for sale as now. Land owned for generations has to be sold, the charges on it being so high people simply have to get rid of it, and it is selling well—from \$150 to \$400 an acre, without buildings. Tenant farmers buying their farms in some cases bid against the Government. You should see big cultivators and plows worked by cables, the latter with six to eight shares and two big engines at each end. The charge for cultivation is \$7.25 an acre for twice over. The farms round here are 300 to 1,000 acres, with a bailiff and foreman and from ten to thirty men. There is still a lot of threshing to be done. With one outfit I saw the drum had been in use twenty-four years, with a fine big engine. All machinery is much stronger than ours.

In Canada the manufacturers have too much protection. If raw material, not produced in the country, was duty free it would help. In the town here (a "town" is where a market is held) of 5,000 people there is one bank, and one that opens an office two days a week. If you receive a draft or cheque from another bank, they do not charge you for cashing either, nor

shut up at noon on market days! The Canadian Government should do something to help get cheaper freight (ocean) to ship horses, etc., over here. Cattle could once be brought over for about \$15 a head; now it is \$100. What I have mentioned will show there is something more important than the tariff which farmers are up against. There will be considerable emigration from here, and unless something is done here to advertise Ontario's advantages, the Province will not get a proper share of it. People here know so little about Ontario. It has not been pushed enough in the past. With its good climate, plenty of fruits, and good cheap farms at a little above cost of buildings, it affords a better speculation (in farms) than England does to-day; and surely time will relieve the help question. When we were home last time, eight years ago, \$15 to \$20 capital per acre was enough to stock a farm, now \$50 and \$100 is required, as stock and machinery have gone up so.

England.

JOHN LLOYD-JONES.



Devon Bull.

### The Settlers in Northern Ontario.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The settlement of Northern Ontario is not rapid. A large number of people are coming in from Quebec Province, many without any appreciable acquaintance with the English language, and are buying improved lots as well as locating in the unapportioned townships. It is more the object of the writer to try and point out some features connected with the system of settlement of the land than interfere with the class of settlers. It is a matter of some importance to know if the plan of laying out a new tract of country which, by the way, originated in the United States, and is a system for which the land surveyors are responsible, is the most suitable. We must take into consideration the possibility that speculation was probably the basis of its origin at the time of its inception. A geometrical plan undoubtedly has its advantages, one of which is its simplicity, nevertheless physical features invariably greatly curtail any advantages.

Large areas to be surveyed in advance of settlement require a regular system, but classification of land, unfortunately for the settler, is not embraced in it. Surveyors in these cases are only required to furnish accurate boundaries, other information is from other source. Speculation usually accompanies any opening

allowance than is absolutely necessary to accommodate the public,—yet the Government persists in its lavish system of making our roads 66 feet wide. Owing to the ditch on either side, the actual road is 20 feet, the balance being on either side, and is of no use until sidewalks and boulevards come into fashion here.

It is reasonable to suppose that it is the first essential to settle the land adjacent to the towns, villages and railways before allotting to settlers places miles away, but the settler must "go hence", for all "close in" farms have long since been taken by the enterprising business man, clerk and office boy who can well afford to pay the poor settler for clearing some land occasionally, avoid any of the strenuous part of pioneering, and usually evade the resident duties embodied in his agreement with the Government. A more concentrated form of land settlement would provide better social conditions and numerous other advantages. Why open up hundreds of miles of country when there are more than sufficient farms to supply double the number of actual settlers now in the country?

In many cases settlers themselves have solved, to some extent, the problem of shorter roads by cutting a narrow way in a more or less direct line through the uncleared bush, avoiding even small hills in order to be able to draw as large loads as possible. This not only usually materially shortens the distance to market, but provides protection from the winter winds which quickly fill all tracks on the open roads owing to the noble proportions which have been given them. These "trails" are rapidly becoming less useful, however, as the primeval forest is rapidly giving way to the inroads of bush fires, leaving unsightly poles and skeletons of once large Poplar and Spruce trees. At the present time the smoke brings the tears to one's eyes while trying to put a few finishing sentences to this article, and another "near squeak" has been recorded and, alas! my favorite winter "road" obliterated forever. Oh, ye goodly number of fire rangers whose watchtowers dot the country and powerful red cars chase up and down the roads bearing ye legal documents elypt "Permits to burn," whereby the humble settler is graciously permitted to burn—and indeed has—and, judging by the darkened sun at noon these dry days, when no rain has fallen for six weeks, may have to "scorch" if no worse befall him. Yes, it's very comforting under these present circumstances to know the fire rangers are numerous, even if costly to the country, and from their high watchtowers may even now save the situation! Call off the watchdogs; divide the hundreds of thousands it costs to keep them "on the job" amongst the hundreds of poor settlers whose homes, hay and grain have been devoured by the greatest enemy as well as the best friend of the New Ontario pioneer. "It's a long road that has no turning."

Temiskaming District.

H. W. PARSONS.

### Harvesting Red Clover Seed.

For some years Canadian-grown red clover seed has been advocated in preference to imported clover seed, and as a result of this propaganda carried on by Departments of Agriculture, both Provincial and Federal, the growing of red clover for seed is becoming quite popular, particularly since it has shown itself to be a profitable business. Discussing the harvesting of red clover seed, Dr. M. O. Malte, Dominion Agrostologist, has the following to say:

"As is well known, the seed crop is practically always taken from the second crop of the season. Assuming that the second crop has been set aside for seed production, it should be harvested when most of the heads have turned brown, and the stems of the plants begin to dry up. If the crop is cut before it has reached this stage of development, the quality of the seed is apt to be inferior, because too large a percentage of the seed will be immature and shrunken. As a consequence, the vitality will be low and the general appearance of the seed inferior. If, on the other hand, the crop is left standing too long, considerable losses may be suffered for the reason that, when the crop is over-ripe, the heads easily break off and shatter, especially if the harvesting is done in warm and dry weather. It is, therefore, important that the seed crop be harvested at the right time.

"If you are not sure about when to cut your clover seed crop, pick out some average heads, and rub them in the palm of your hand. If you are rubbing out firm and well-developed seed of a pronounced color, then it is time to cut. The seed crop may be cut either with a mower or with a binder, depending on circumstances. If the clover is only a foot high or less, the mower may be used; if it is more than a foot high, the binder may prove more satisfactory.

"If the seed crop is being cut with a mower, it is most desirable to arrange to have the swath moved out from the uncut crop before a round is completed, because otherwise the horses will have to walk on the swath and, in doing so, will thresh out quantities of seed which, of course, will be lost. The mowing out of the swath from the standing crop may be done by a clover buncher attachment, or by two men with hand rakes



A Pair of Romney Lambs.

of a new area, and, as an object of development, must be injurious. Land surveyed according to the Act of 1908 must be laid out in quadrilateral townships divided into sections containing 160 acres. Readjustment even in these places where territory has already been divided is quite possible. Closer settlement making farming more attractive and profitable, reduction of the unnecessary length of roads and a proper plan made and carefully approved which will eliminate the hopelessness of the "back lot" bachelor, and the ever lamenting mother of a family ten miles from school: this is a consummation greatly to be desired. Mr. J. F. Whitson in 1906 stated that "In a wooded country like Northern Ontario it is of great importance to have concentrated on one line of road two lines of farms as closely situated as possible. The enormous cost of constructing roads up to one thousand dollars per mile makes it imperative to have no more road

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13, inclusive.

In Pounds

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0,000	1,082,655,000
4,000	408,340,005
0,000	184,779,000
0,000	511,830,569
0,000	102,050,749
0,000	74,914,560
0,000	
0,000	30,780,000
9,954	191,554,954
0,000	456,435,000
0,000	257,985,000
0,000	129,213,000
0,000	121,716,000
0,000	198,450,000
0,000	887,245,878

ngdom will require as before the war, licy pursued under years of 1917 and ver, still continue representatives of Kingdom indicates vorable outlet for