

APRIL 20, 1911

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

Editor on the Milking Stool.

Any readers who have pictured the managing editor of "The Farmer's Advocate" as a saucy, kid-gloved, gentleman-farmer type of man, would have been amused had they seen him, a week ago Monday, on the evening of the day he moved out to "The Farmer's Advocate" farm. The former owner of the place having used one of the teams to move a load of his own belongings to the city, delivered it at the office about five o'clock in the afternoon, after which a circuit of the city was made, collecting hardware, implements, furniture, and stoves. The load being finally assembled, and the editor, in a pair of muddy rubber boots, and with a coat somewhat the worse of wear, bade good-bye to city life, and started for the country, with his wife perched smilingly on the spring seat beside him. Arriving at the farm about eight o'clock, the journalist and his lady were welcomed by the latter's assistant, but not, alas, by the foreman, nor yet the second man! The former was eight or ten miles away, finishing a job of hauling brush out of one of "The Farmer's Advocate" orchards. The latter sent word on Tuesday that he would be unable to report for a couple of weeks.

Pulling up in the mire at the front gate—which a split-log drag has since improved—the passengers dismounted, and proceeded to unload. Team was stabled, unharnessed, and fed. Then for the cows.

There were five of them, three milking, one just calved, and one going dry. The new milk pails were unwrapped and rinsed, the can likewise, while the editor and the hired girl repaired to the barn. Kneeling down beside one of the cows, and tugging away at the teats seemed still quite natural, albeit the rapid motion was rather hard on wrists for several years unaccustomed to such work. The task was soon completed, however, the milk strained, cats fed, cows fed, watered, and bedded down for the night. Then the stovepipes! Everybody knows what that means. It is bad enough with new pipes, fitting together properly, but the pipe taken along for the stove was short one elbow and a couple of lengths. A job lot of old, rusty pipes in the back shed was resorted to, and then the trouble began. Most of this pipe was seven inches, instead of six, and there was no tapering pipe to be found, nor was there a six-inch elbow. Moreover, it was all rusted and stuck together, as if it had been glued. A long, patient struggle ensued, terminating at eleven o'clock, after which the party went to bed to get warm. The sweet restfulness of a good mattress and pillow, following a day of toil, was theirs in abundant measure as they dozed off to sleep to the soothing music of the windmill's twanging creak. Under the circumstances, may not ye editor be pardoned for failing to awake until 6.30?

Commence again the daily round of chores. Cattle and horses were fed and watered, but there was no hot water to wash the milk pails. The Scotch lass exercised her ingenuity by lighting a fire outside, between a pile of bricks, and had enough water to wash the milk pails and make coffee. Lest this attempt should not be successful, and for fear the women folks might be uncomfortable during the day, the repatriated farmer again wrestled with the stovepipe problem. Patience was finally rewarded by success, and the head of the house reinstated in the favor of the feminine section of the family circle. By this time the girl had water hot, and milking was done with clean pails. Breakfast was spread at a little past eight—a good city hour—and the farmer-editor, just missing the nine-o'clock car, brought the milk in with him at 10 a. m., made haste to the office, and appeased somewhat with a tale of adventure the printer's angry complaints at not having been furnished with copy to keep the machines going and rush composition ahead in anticipation of the Easter holidays.

We trust our readers will pardon this somewhat lengthy account of personal experiences, which is rather out of the line of ordinary editorial discussion. But several fellow members of the staff prevailed upon the writer to record his first night's experience as told to them, thinking it would interest, if not edify, and lend a more graphic interest to what might be subsequently printed about operations on "The Farmer's Advocate" farm.

In order to conduct a special investigation into the uses of electricity as applied to agriculture, it is expected that P. W. Sothman, Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Commission, and W. B. Roadhouse, Secretary for the Department of Agriculture, Toronto, possibly accompanied by a representative of the Ontario Agricultural College, will sail for Europe on April 25th. Before returning, they may be joined by Hon. Adam Beck, Chairman of the Power Commission.

Directors of township and other local fairs will well to read the discussion in the Home Magazine, Department of this issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," on the subject of professional and non-professional exhibits in fancy and other domestic work. Judging from the letters of several capable writers, this branch of many exhibitions is suffering badly for want of reform.

Canadian Crops and Live Stock.

The Census and Statistics Office, Ottawa, under date of April 13th, issued a bulletin on crops and live stock. The reports of correspondents show that, out of a yield of 149,989,600 bushels wheat harvested last year, 141,096,000 bushels, or 94 per cent., were merchantable, and that at the end of March, 33,042,000 bushels, or 22 per cent., of the whole were yet in farmers' hands. The quantity held by farmers in the Maritime Provinces at that date was 468,000 bushels; in Quebec, 477,000 bushels; in Ontario, 5,002,000 bushels; and in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, 27,095,000 bushels. At the same date last year, the quantity in hand in all Canada was 30,484,000 bushels, or 18.28 per cent. of the total crop of 166,744,000 bushels, of which 159,868,000 bushels, or 95.87 per cent., was of merchantable quality.

Oats, which last year gave a yield of 323,449,000 bushels, was merchantable to the extent of 301,773,000 bushels, or 93.29 per cent., and the quantity in hand at the end of March was 127,587,000 bushels, or 39.44 per cent. In the Maritime Provinces, there was in hand at that date 6,985,000 bushels; in Quebec, 17,447,000 bushels; in Ontario, 50,742,000 bushels; and in the Northwest Provinces, exclusive of British Columbia, 52,413,000 bushels. In the preceding year, the quantity in hand out of a harvest of 353,466,000 bushels, was 141,499,000 bushels, or 40.03 per cent.; and there was a total of 321,190,000 bushels, or 90.86 per cent. of merchantable oats.

The barley yield of 1910 was 45,147,000 bushels, and of this quantity there was in hand at the end of March 13,135,000 bushels, or 29 per cent. The merchantable yield was 41,505,000 bushels, or 91.93 per cent. The barley crop of 1909 was 35,398,000 bushels, and the quantity on hand at the end of March last year was 16,517,000 bushels, or 29.81 per cent. The merchantable quantity of that crop was 51,499,000 bushels, or 92.87 per cent. Ontario's crop last year was 20,727,000 bushels, and that of the three Northwest Provinces, 21,377,000 bushels.

The merchantable yield of corn last year was 83.63 per cent. of the whole crop; of buckwheat, 88.66 per cent.; of potatoes, 77.81 per cent.; of turnips and other roots, 86.81 per cent.; and of hay and clover, 88.72 per cent., which are nearly the same as the percentages of the same crops in the previous year. The quantities of these crops on hand at the end of March were nearly the same in both years, except that the supply of potatoes this year is 20,000,000 bushels less, and the supply of hay and clover 2,494,000 tons more.

The per cent. condition of live stock on the farms ranges close to the same figures for both years, but is a little higher for all classes this year. For the respective years 1911 and 1910, horses are 95.37 to 93.98; milch cows, 93.29 to 92.43; and swine, 94.36 to 92.77. These proportions are closely maintained throughout all the Provinces; they denote the condition of live stock as regards a healthy and thrifty state.

ARCHIBALD BLUE, Chief Officer.

Cuts were Reversed.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Allow me to make a slight correction in your valuable paper, Vol. XLVI, No. 964, March 16, 1911, page 457, "Effects of Bad Pruning." Looking at the picture, as it is, many people will take it for granted that the stub mentioned in the picture was one time a root. Now, turn the said picture upside down, so as to say, you will readily see, instead of being a root, as supposed, it becomes a branch stub. In the background is a barn.

Antigonish Co., N. S.
[Note.—The illustration referred to appeared wrong in some copies, owing to an error of the printers in reversing the cut accidentally on the press. The photograph was taken by the editor of "The Farmer's Advocate" himself, was correctly placed in the page proof, and appeared properly in most of the impressions printed on the press. —Editor.]

N. S. Agricultural College Flourishing.

The 1910-11 session of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College closed on Thursday, April 13th. The session was the most largely attended and the most successful in the history of the College. The total enrollment was 62, of whom 41 were from Nova Scotia, 4 from New Brunswick, 5 from Prince Edward Island, and 12 from foreign countries. While this is not, by any means, as large an enrollment as there should be, yet it compares very favorably with the enrollment of the older established institutions in Canada. For example, there were enrolled at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, from the Province of Ontario, last year, 295 students, in comparison with 41 enrolled at Truro from the Province of Nova Scotia. But Ontario has over nine times the area under cultivation that Nova Scotia has, from which it appears that, in proportion to size of

the constituency, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College has already enrolled a number of students that compare favorably with the number enrolled at the older-established institutions of Canada. It is exceedingly satisfactory to record the representative character of the enrollment, including, as it does, students from Cape Breton, all the way to Yarmouth, and from nearly all the intermediate counties. However, the College is only in its infancy, and, if as much progress is made in the next few years as in the past five years, the attendance will be a record one for the Dominion.

Express Rates on Cream.

The Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, having heard the complaint of the Eastern creamery and dairy interests against the proposed new express charges on shipments of cream and return of empty cans (formerly free), have found them well grounded, and have ordered as follows:

1. The charges on cream for making butter, between all points east of Port Arthur, shall not exceed the following schedule:

Miles.	5-gal. can.	8-gal. can.	10-gal. can.
25	15c.	20c.	25c.
50	20c.	25c.	30c.
75	25c.	30c.	35c.
100	30c.	35c.	40c.
150	35c.	43c.	50c.
200	40c.	51c.	60c.

Return of empty cans, 5 cents each.

No reduction for smaller or partially-filled cans.

2. The express companies shall submit for the approval of the Board special tariffs on sweet cream in cans for purposes other than buttermaking, adjusting the rates for the entire service, namely, the outward shipment of the cream and the return of the empties, so that for the total service there shall be no increase in any charge over the charge made for the said total service between March, 1907, and March, 1911.

3. The words, "Charges must be prepaid," under the item "Empties," on page 15 in the said classification C. R. C., No. 2, are to be struck out, and the following words substituted therefor, namely: "If the authorized charges for the return of empties are not prepaid by the party returning them, the party to whom they are consigned shall be liable for the express charges thereon, and must pay the said charges on delivery."

4. The words, "and 10 cents on each shipment," at the end of the second paragraph, page 15, of the said Classification, under the item, "Empties," are to be struck out.

5. All the provisions of this Order are to be effective May 1st, 1911.

Dr. Rutherford, Veterinary Director-General, writes us in regard to the report of the International Commission on the Control of Bovine Tuberculosis. This Commission, as many of our readers know, was appointed at a meeting of the American Veterinary Medical Association in Chicago, in September, 1909. It was felt that a really efficient and satisfactory control of the dreadful disease on this continent could be secured only by united action of the authorities in both the United States and Canada, and so the commission includes veterinarians from both countries, our own Dr. Rutherford being chairman at present. The report embodies the conclusions of this deliberative body regarding tuberculosis, its dissemination, detection, means of prevention, etc., with recommendations to Governments as to measures to be adopted to control and eradicate it. The decisions reached are conservative in their nature, and for this reason are more likely to be acceptable to stock-owners. The information which the report contains is of immediate and practical value, and should not be neglected. The report may be obtained free by addressing the Veterinary Director-General, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

"The 17th Annual Spring Horse Show will be held this year in the Armouries, Toronto, Ont., April 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th, 1911. No expense is being spared, and the building will be decorated and illuminated on a scale not hitherto attempted. The largest number of horses in the history of the Show will compete this year, and it promises to be the event of the season. Single fare on all railways. For full information apply to the Secretary-Treasurer, W. J. Stark, 12 Wellington St., East, Toronto, Ont."

James Pearson, K. C., is setting a fine example to men who would encourage the cultivation of tasteful farm flower-gardens, by announcement of this week's Home Department of "The Farmer's Advocate" three prizes of \$30, \$20 and \$10, to be competed for annually in the County of Peel, Ont.