

AGRICULTURE

Majority of Arguments Applied by Hon. W. B. Kendall to the State of Maine in Regard to Sheep Raising May Very Well Be Applied With Profit by the Farmers of New Brunswick; Great Opportunities for the Farmer in the Raising of Sheep.

Owing to the fact that some conditions of an agricultural nature in this province occur very nearly with those of the State of Maine the following article by Hon. W. B. Kendall, formerly dominion on sheep raising will be of interest to New Brunswick farmers:

There were 350,000 less sheep in Maine in 1915 than there were in 1880, or a decline of 10,000 head each year for thirty-five years, caused in part by the decline in the prices of wool, meat values, the old-time expensive method of fencing, destruction by dogs, and more than anything else it got to be a fashion to cut out the keeping of sheep. It spread all over the state in much the same way as the advent of potato growing caught on to the farmer from one to another throughout central Maine, taking its cue from Aroostook county. There seems to be too much of a habit among farmers to follow the latest popular lines, with not the conservatism that they manifest so often in other directions. Although the majority of farmers have abandoned sheep raising in the last twenty years, yet they almost universally admit that "it paid to keep sheep in the old days."

Another reason that should not be lost sight of as to why the sheep industry in Maine met with such a decline was the action of the big western beef houses, who early in the game concentrated the best supply of the country there, and a few western farms. They authorized high priced agents in Maine and New England with instructions to buy up all the sheep they could, and in order to buy the flocks to tell all the discouraging stories they could to farmers, and to point out the disadvantages of keeping sheep and to paint a black story for the future of the business. That this campaign on a part of the western houses was successful, one has only to view the situation as it exists today, but it is now hard for a farmer to commence to rebuild, for no agriculture can successfully maintain itself in New England unless it is based largely on the livestock industry, of which sheep should be a far more important part. A sheep should come back for ten or more potent reasons.

First: Because for the past five years we have much higher meat values. Years ago when farmers said that it paid to keep sheep for good sheep at that time was \$4.00 and the price of a lamb \$2.00 and for mutton 4 cents to 8 cents per lb., with now the price of a sheep at from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and mutton 8 cents to 12 cents per lb., and this is practically 100 per cent. more for good carcasses.

As for wool values, the profit in keeping sheep in New England must always rest upon the meat value of the sheep and lamb and not on the wool product. The question of the price of wool should be a secondary consideration. The sheep population of the world is down so low that it would seem reasonable to presume that the wool would not range less than 20 cents to 25 cents a pound for many years to come. At 25 cents a pound a flock of sheep of good size, well kept, will easily average eight pounds per fleece, or an actual wool clip of \$2.00 per head, and the value of a good four months old spring lamb for the past five years has averaged up around \$5.00, whereas in the old time days such a lamb was worth only \$2.00. This makes the value of the meat product of the sheep two and a half times an average of \$8.00 for the lamb and \$2.00 for the wool, and averaging the increase at 125 per cent. yearly, we have a gross income per sheep of: Lamb, \$6.50, wool, \$2.00, or \$8.50. The gross income ten years ago was not over \$4.50 or \$5.00.

Improved Breeds Needed.

Second: Improved breeds, which means that the Hampshire, Suffolks, Cheviots, Shropshires, Dorsets, which have all been developed so much to the front in recent years, will put on from 10 per cent to 80 per cent more flesh with the same feed than the old grade sheep until the very best kept in the years past. This sort of improved breeds is a most important one and should be of great proficiency when applied in small flocks throughout New England. In other words, much more adaptable and successful than on the ranges flocks of the west, in South America and Australia can be. The English breeders on their 100 or 200 acre lands can successfully raise lambs to yearlings better than we can do it in New England, but after that Maine climate, feed, and conditions, will maintain the quality, size, and excellence of the sheep as well as the British breeders can do it.

Third: Low cost of fencing. Aside from advance in meat prices and improved breeds, there is no other factor that carries so much weight as the possibility of keeping sheep in many numbers in Maine, as the factor of a secure, inexpensive and permanent fence. At the present price of lumber and labor the old time wooden fences are so costly that it would be practically prohibitive to fence for sheep. We might have the breeds and the market and feed on ten thousand farms for the sheep, but if they could not be kept within bounds profitably, the business of raising sheep would be a thing of the past. It is not the business of the flock, the business would be down and out from this factor alone but with the woven wire fence at less than 20 cents per rod, and a cedar stake costing three cents or four cents, we have a very rapidly built, secure, economical and successful solution of keeping the sheep within any certain enclosure, and if there is need on either side of the pasture it need not be fenced at all. The fence can also be easily taken up and replaced. Mowing fields after hay has been cut, and if not kept on them too long it will be of benefit and not injure the coming crops.

Fourth: Labor factors. In these days of high priced labor and the growing inefficiency of hired help, that branch of farming or stock raising which will permit of the smallest number of labor of common ability, demands our most careful consideration. Sheep proverbially call for less attention than any other farm animal, both from the owner and his assistants. Three men will easily tend to a flock of 100 sheep and have time at their disposal for other things, and do not forget in this connection of the demands of sheep against the farmers, that in the busiest season of the year, they care for themselves entirely, going to pasture about the 20th of May and needing no care whatever until the middle of November, except the general oversight of perhaps a weekly visit to the pasture. This kind of stock leaves the farmer entirely free to do other things, planting, haying and harvesting season.

The death took place at the residence of his father in Chatham on Tuesday afternoon after a lingering illness, of Ernest Ahearn. He was a young man, and many will regret to hear of his early death.

FREDERICTON NEWS.

Fredericton, N. B., July 9.—The newly organized golf club is rapidly getting things in shape. It is expected that play will start on Monday. Money for a clubhouse to cost \$2,000 has been subscribed.

Marysville now has adopted electric lighting for streets and dwelling houses. Power is generated by the cotton mill, and lights were turned on last evening and were very satisfactory.

A meeting of the stockholders of the New Brunswick Antimony Company will be held here on July 19. It is said the company will be re-organized with largely increased capital to be supplied by an American mining syndicate.

\$34 TO \$40 A TON

FOR HAY IN CUBA

But Canadian and New Brunswick Shippers Have Dwindled Greatly, and United States Shippers Reaping the Benefit.

J. C. Manser, special representative of the New Brunswick government in Havana, Cuba, has forwarded to the department here, some interesting figures that show the noticeable decrease of the hay importations from New Brunswick to the Cuban Republic. In 1912 Canada supplied 7,780 tons to 7,741 tons supplied by the United States. During 1915 our government was able to send but 1,711 tons, while the United States sent 31,448. Last year as the result of local conditions, brought about by the war, Canada supplied only seven per cent. of the hay that the United States sent over ninety per cent. There has been a continual decrease in the amount sent from Canada during the past three years, in face of the fact that amount imported there is continually growing larger.

A considerable quantity of these hay importations are going by way of Baltimore, New Orleans and other southern ports. The flavor is not so good as well cured hay grown in the north. For this reason when Canadian dealers are again in a position to supply this market they can secure a large share of Cuba's hay trade. Cuba buys a limited quantity of high grade hay, but the bulk of the importations are what our dealers call good No. 2 timothy. Clover hay is not in demand. The size of the bale being suited to the Cuban trade is 17-inch by 22-inch by three feet long. These will run about twelve bales to the ton. On account of the heavy demand for steamer space for the bulky classes of freight, it has been difficult to secure facilities for hay during the last few months.

As a result the price of hay in Cuba has steadily advanced. Good No. 2 timothy hay is quoted at \$94, and choice timothy hay at \$40 per ton.

MANY CIVILIAN PRISONERS WILL BE EXCHANGED

New York, July 7.—A Copenhagen despatch to a news agency here today says:

"England and Germany have agreed to an exchange of civilian prisoners, according to information received by Americans here today."

The exchange will affect many thousands of Germans who were interned in England after the Lusitania sinking and a large number of English civilians in Germany interned camps.

WORK MAY HAVE MUNICIPAL FARM AFTER THE WAR

Fredericton, N. B., July 6.—At the municipal council meeting this morning Warden Stairs received from the members of the board an address and traveling bag as a token of their appreciation. Es-Warden Hunter made the presentation.

The question of establishing a municipal farm was discussed but it was decided to defer action until after the war. The principal feature will be an address by George E. Corbett of Annapolis Royal, president of the new board.

Already small fruits have suffered from the wet weather, but it is believed that the yield in this vicinity will be good. Cultivated strawberries are worth eighteen cents a box here.

MAY ORGANIZE TWO DIVISIONS IN CANADA

Ottawa, July 7.—A proposal is under consideration by the minister of militia to mobilize and train in Canada two complete infantry divisions which would be ready to leave for the front in the event of a war. The divisions would be organized and trained as divisions has been done in England.

To carry out the scheme six provincial districts have been designated. These would include a Nova Scotia brigade, already under raised as a Highland brigade under Colonel Borden; a brigade from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, raised from the militia; two brigades from Ontario and a brigade from the western provinces. Details of the proposal are now being worked out. Action is likely to be taken shortly by the militia council to deal with the matter. The plan is to have the divisions severely with officers and men who put the country to expense and detract from their own efficiency by indulging in idleness or other immoral conduct resulting in frequent sickness and absence from duty.

Hereafter when illness is found to be due to the carelessness or immorality of the men themselves commanding officers will have authority to cancel part of the regular pay and allowances until the culprits are reported fit for duty again.

NOVA SCOTIA BOARDS

OF TRADE COMBINE

Western Nova Scotia Boards of Trade Organized at Digby—Geo. E. Corbett, President—A Rousing Banquet the Feature.

Digby, July 7.—Scenes Digby's quota of summer visitors, the town, tonight is filled with delegates from the various boards of trade between Yarmouth and Windsor. The delegates were met at the train by a committee from the Digby Board of Trade. After luncheon they assembled at the Digby Yacht Club, where they were taken by a number of the boat owners, belonging to the squadron, on a sail down the river. After lunching at the Gap Hotel, the delegates proceeded to the Point Prince Hotel, where they were met by the local board of trade, and a rousing banquet the feature.

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FORMER SACKVILLE GIRLS DROWNED

NEAR MONMOUTH

Montreal, July 10.—Word reached here this morning of a double drowning accident last evening at Lac Lachapelle, near Shawbridge, Quebec. The victims were Misses Helena and Kathleen Moss, aged 22 and 20 years, daughters of Mr. Chas. E. Moss, of Sussex avenue, and late of Sackville (N. B.). Witnesses of the tragedy say the young women were bathing and one was seen to sink and screams were heard and it is believed the second sister lost her life trying to save the first.

ORANGE AND GREEN SIDE BY SIDE IN THE WAR

Ottawa, July 8.—The Orange and the Green are standing shoulder to shoulder in this war, observed General Sir Sam Hughes yesterday. He was alluding to an order he had just issued, permitting the Irish Rangers of Montreal to recruit anywhere in Quebec.

"There is a mistaken impression," he said, "that the regiment is composed wholly of Roman Catholics. This is not correct. There are lots of Protestants in it, and the design is to make it a typical Irish regiment, and as I stated, with the Orange and Green blended. The Rangers are an exceptionally fine body of men."

CAPT. OTTO NASE RECEIVES APPOINTMENT.

Many friends will be pleased to know that Capt. Otto Nase, D.D.S., who is at Port Hope, Ont., has received an appointment and will be attached to Shorncliffe Hospital. He will still make Port Hope his headquarters, but will drive to Shorncliffe each day.

At Dundas, near Moncton, on July 5, Alonzo H. Jones died. He was sixty-six years of age. He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Aurelia Carpenter, of Dundas, three sons and four daughters, of whom Mrs. Thomas Scott and Misses Ethel and Greta are residing in Boston. The other two sons, Percy and Edison, and one daughter, Hazel, are at home.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ON

KINGS COUNTY BRIDGE

L. B. Johnson, of French Village, Rather Seriously Injured When Horse Backed Through Rail.

On the morning of Tuesday, July 4, a serious accident occurred on what is known as the "new road" leading from French Village to Nauwigewauk. J. B. Johnson of the former place accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Lordy, of this city, was driving over to the train in a carriage. Arriving at a certain bridge on the road the party met a double team. Mr. Johnson hastened to make way and backed against the bridge rail, which collapsed instantly and horse, carriage and occupants went over into the bed of the brook a distance of some twenty feet.

Mr. Johnson had his collar bone broken and two ribs fractured. Mr. and Mrs. Lordy had no bones broken but were very badly bruised and shaken up. The horse, which was a very valuable animal, was also badly injured.

This bridge, it was stated afterwards, was condemned, but nothing had been done to strengthen it. The accident was caused by the fact that the heavy teams and automobiles, also to those who have the public safety at heart.

I. C. R. RATES LOWER

Net Likely to Be Brought up to Increased Scale of Others

Ottawa, July 8.—The government agency of railways not being subject to the jurisdiction of the railway commission, may not avail themselves of the authorized increase of rates on other railways and bring up their schedules correspondingly.

The situation is peculiar in that the state owned road rates are lower than the others while the disparity will be more marked than ever now that the railway board justifies increases in Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk and Northern Pacific. F. P. Guthrie, general manager of the government railways, returning from Winnipeg is to spend the week end in Ottawa and the situation will be discussed with the minister of railways and afterwards considered by the government.

SEVERAL CHANGES ON

MT. ALLISON STAFF

Sackville, July 17.—A number of changes are to take place in the teaching staff of Mount Allison Ladies' College in the coming year, owing to the departure of several of the present staff. The resignation of Miss Elva Machum has necessitated the appointment of a new instructor in French and English essays, which position has been filled by Miss Ella Stannard, Miss Stanley graduated from Oberlin College and later received her M.A. from that institution. She also holds an M.A. from Columbia University and studied for a time abroad. She has a wide teaching experience and is a member of the staff of the Mount Allison University.

The vacancy made by the resignation of Miss Winifred Thomas, B.A., who, for the past few years has taught Bible and History, has been filled by the appointment of Miss Leah Borden, B.A., of Canby (N. S.). Miss Borden graduated from the university in 1910, since which time she has had a valuable and successful teaching experience in the public schools of Nova Scotia. She is a student of the Mount Allison University and has made an exceptionally good record, and her return to Mount Allison on the teaching staff of the Ladies' College, is heartily endorsed by the authorities.

In addition to the changes mentioned, an instructor has been secured for the gymnasium work of the girls. Marion Ferguson will assume control of this department and will supervise the physical development of the students for the year. This branch of college work is receiving more and more attention from the larger ladies' colleges of the continent every year, and Mount Allison will be prepared to offer advantages equal to any. Miss Ferguson is a graduate of the Post School of Physical Education and has a record of successful teaching along her chosen line.

Following out the progress which has been made by Mount Allison in the past year in the department of physical education, and the changes in the staff and teaching facilities, an arrangement has been made to strengthen the Theological staff of the university during the ensuing year by the appointment of an additional professor. The Rev. John Line, B.D., has been engaged to take up the work of teaching homiletics, church polity, didactics, public speaking, philosophy of theism, and other subjects.

Mr. Line is a graduate of the University of Toronto and holds both degrees from that institution. During the past year he has had successful teaching experience in that university, while giving lectures in philosophy. He is recognized as a profound thinker with a thorough knowledge of his subjects and a keen sense of the growth and development of philosophic ideas.

HORSE IS STILL

KING IN CANADA

Opportunities in Horse Raising Open to New Brunswick Farmers—Valuable Advice Culled From Agricultural Reports for Benefit of Telegraph Readers.

Although the demand at the present time for horses may not allow the historian to record the words "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse," as falling from some king's lip, nevertheless the demand for horses at the present time is very real.

Mars has ever dominated the horse market, even when the world was young, and although the motor has in a measure very much lightened the task of the horse in modern warfare, nevertheless it is impossible to successfully conduct a war without the aid of the equine.

The real danger at the present time of a depletion of horses in this country lies not so much in the great demand as in the falling off of the breeding of horses.

It is interesting to note in this connection that the number of horses owned in the province of New Brunswick has been steadily mounting during the past seven years. In 1901 it was reported in the dominion census that New Brunswick had 61,786, in the 1906 agricultural commission report it was stated that the province had 57,804 horses, and the reports given since that time by the provincial agricultural department have been as follows:

1909	67,718
1910	61,042
1911	60,829
1912	63,038
1913	68,083
1914	64,075
1915	64,486

But the increase in horses in the province in fourteen years it may be noted has only been about 8,000, which is in other words about 200 horses per year, which is a very small increase, which may be viewed as a limited market for choice animals, at fair prices. However, as experienced breeders well know, but a small percentage come up to the standard. The everyday farmer should leave this field to the expert.

The Heavy Horse Period.

The demand for heavy horses grew with the increase in population and the consequent development of the country. The heavy horse market was reached in the years 1911 and 1912. Up to this time draught horses, of any kind, found a ready sale at good paying prices, while the good, big ones were eagerly sought for and quickly picked up at figures heretofore unthought of. In the opinion of many, the middle class and poorer draughts brought a price much beyond their intrinsic value, but this was largely through the supply not being nearly equal to the demand and also, to the fact that of late years the heavy horse has been removed from the centres of demand.

During these years heavy horse breeding took a decidedly upward and upward trend. The free circulation of money made it possible for the people to buy and use a better class of sire than heretofore. Consequently the importers were not only enabled but compelled to bring a rather better class to the country. In certain respects the improvement that took place was truly wonderful. Fortunately, however, this applies only to certain sections of our country. It was not uncommon to find that, while one district improved the conformation, quality and breeding of the horse, another, by adjoining went on milking using inferior sires and poor mares, just as they had done in previous decades. Nevertheless, there is in Canada today a great deal of high class foundation stock, both imported and home bred, which if properly handled will prove of incalculable value to the country.

Conditions in Canada.

The outbreak of the war found the country with a very considerable surplus for which there was little demand. It had been practically the only demand had been for remounts. Up to the end of the fiscal year 1915-16 in the neighborhood of 100,000 horses had been purchased. Of this number the British war office took close to 14,000 head, the Canadian department of militia approximately 26,000 while the contractors for the French government purchased over 1,000 horses. The French contractors who are now buying in the country have still large contracts and are willing to buy every suitable horse that Canada has to offer. One firm writes saying that their contracts call for 10,000 a month while the war lasts.

Future Demand.

The good crop of the past year has enabled the Canadian farmers to go out and buy a part of the surplus, and accordingly a good number of horses have gone into new districts, with more to follow. Card lot are being shipped quite commonly. Already the number of horses from east to west exceeds the total number shipped during 1915. The increase in immigration which is expected to follow the war must of necessity go to the land, will create a still further market.

What to Breed.

The only safe advice that can be given to the farmer is to start now to breed good draught horses, sound, of good conformation and as large as possible. These will undoubtedly be wanted in numbers both at home and abroad.

The only light horse that holds fair to be wanted is the good, big, roidster; a square trotter of good conformation and sound, weighing from 1,000 pounds upwards. However, the demand for this class of horse will not in any way compare with the demand for draughts. Nevertheless, there should be a steady market for good animals such as have been described.

JOB FOR DIGBY MAN.

Ottawa, July 7.—(Special)—H. H. Marshall, of Digby, is gazetted as acting superintendent of fisheries for the counties of Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth, Digby, Annapolis and Kings.

The marriage of Miss Loretta (Dot) Cahill, daughter of William Cahill, and Howard Underhill, of Blackville took place at the cathedral in Chatham on Wednesday night, June 29. The bride, wearing a suit of white silk with hat to match. She was attended by Miss Nellie McIntosh, Stanley Cahill brother of the bride, was best man. The honeymoon will be spent in New York, and Boston. Many presents were received.

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