

small, neglected Ontario orchards; but we are assured it is coming, nevertheless.

THE SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

Wolfville has been the seat of the Provincial School of Horticulture, where a few acres of land are devoted to experimental work in decorative and commercial horticulture. A good deal of work has been done in testing cover crops for orchards. Hairy vetches, crimson clover and buckwheat have given most promising results. Alfalfa grows successfully, but is not exactly suited for cover-crop purposes. It is continued by Prof. Sears, partly to indicate its possibilities as an agricultural crop. The opening of the Agricultural College at Truro has caused removal of the Collegiate work to that center, but the grounds are retained for experimental purposes, and in summer Prof. Sears makes the place his home.

We said Wolfville could not be described, but that will scarcely relieve us from the attempt. It nestles at the foot of the "Ridge" which divides the Cornwallis and Gaspereaux. East, and similarly situated, is Grand Pre, beyond which are the great meadows. North and west lie diked lands, flanking the Cornwallis River. Beyond these are Minas Basin, and westward, rising upland, set with orchards. Away in the distance stands the North Mountain. Bordering the river, outside the dikes, are haystacks set on raised bottoms, surrounded by water at high tide. Threading its way in from the river to the town is a muddy channel, empty at low tide, but brimful at high. Right at the town it expands into a basin several hundred yards wide. This, too, is alternately empty and full. Vessels make their way in here with the tide and tie up at their moorings. When the tide recedes they may be seen perched away up on a mud-shelf, with no water in sight.

The dikes here are high—seven, eight or ten feet, we should judge. They are at judicious distance from the river, and follow most of its various tributaries. The strip of dyked marsh on each side of the river may be a mile or so wide, narrowing as you go up stream. From the edge of the marsh the upland rises, sometimes steeply, sometimes with a more gentle slope. The upland is wooded with natural trees and, elsewhere, with great blocks of orchard, in the center of which are fine white dwellings, with the necessary complement of outbuildings.

Surveying the scene from the eminence back of Wolfville, the poet's couplet gains realistic force:

"The low, bare flats at ebb tide, the rush of the sea at flood;
Through inlet and creek and river, from dike to upland wood."

The dikes now holding back the sea are not the old French dykes. In many cases the location is changed, and the "dikes which the hands of the farmers had raised with labor incessant" are but slight mounds, nearly levelled by the plow.

NOT HOLLAND OR CALIFORNIA, BUT JUST NOVA SCOTIA.

The whole scene is as a touch of Holland, blended with California; and yet it is neither Holland nor California, but just Nova Scotia, with an ozone, a fragrance, a character all its own—a character that defies language to express, but haunts memory in the most insistent way.

But the picture is not complete without a touch of the quaint. The main highways through this region run east and west, and are styled streets. The intersecting public ways are called roads. A "team," as we have said above, may consist of a rig and single horse. The rule of the road is the old English one of turning to the left, and many an accident is narrowly averted by visiting Americans or Upper Canadians. The heavy wagons in use are low ones, patterned after the "sloven," also in use. The axle is let down a foot or so just inside the arm, bringing the box close to the ground.

But the most unique thing of all is the threshing. In other parts of the Maritime Provinces it is customary for each farmer to have a small separator and power of his own, and do his own threshing at leisure through the winter. But here, near Wolfville, they grow very little grain, so they have reversed the Ontario practice, and, instead of having a traction engine to haul the outfit about, they set up their machine at a central point, run it by horse-power, and have farmers haul their sheaves there, as we would haul grain to a mill.

THE GASPEREAUX VALLEY.

And now our most vivid impression of all remains to be told. One afternoon, as the clouds had broken away after a rain, we walked back south from Wolfville over the Ridge, and a mile or two brought us to the "Stile." Never shall we forget the vision that burst upon our sight as we looked for the first time on the far-famed Gaspereaux Valley. Rising up the opposite bank, but hundreds of feet below us, lay the pretty village of Gaspereaux. Past it runs the river, at the mouth of which, several miles eastward, the unfortunate Acadians were deported. West, the eye sweeps up the steep-banked rocky ravine; east, the valley is broader but still deep, and the eye discerns the glimmering sheen of the winding, thread-like stream. The banks are wooded with forest, and on the gentler slopes near the foot, great blocks of young orchard

have been planted. Scattered like gems in the sylvan mosaic, are white frame farmhouses, and the whole presents, under the setting sun, most wondrous shades of green. Description fails. Photographers have tried their best to reproduce this scene, and world-famous artists have raved over it, but all their efforts at reproduction are flat failures compared to the baffling reality. Color photography may give us a picture of it some day, but at best it can be only a glimpse. Pen, brush, nor camera, can ever do it justice. It's the climax of Nova Scotian scenery. It's a picture no artist can paint.

POULTRY.

Poultry Feeding at the O. A. C.

The method of feeding the fowls in winter at the Poultry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, is described in a recent bulletin by Prof. Graham:

Early in the morning the fowls are given half a handful each of whole grain. This is buried in



Mouth of the Gaspereaux River.

the litter on the floor. Thus the fowls get exercise (a very necessary thing) in searching for it, and at the same time keep themselves warm. About noon about two handfuls of grain are given to a dozen hens in the litter; they are also given all the roots they will eat, either pulped or whole, as fowl relish mangels, sugar beets and turnips. Cabbage also—a very good green food—is sometimes given. About four o'clock in the afternoon they are fed a mash composed of equal parts of bran, shorts, oat chop and corn meal (during cold weather); and to this is added about ten per cent. of animal meal, if we have not cut green bone or cooked meat. These foods are thoroughly mixed together in the dry state, after which is added steeped clover, prepared by getting a bucket of clover leaves or cut clover hay and scalding it with boiling water. This is done early in the morning, and the bucket is kept covered with a thick sack throughout the day. This will be quite warm at night, if it has been kept in a warm place. There is usually sufficient liquid to moisten the meal that has been mixed. Our aim is to have about one-third of the ration, in bulk, of clover. After the mash, a small amount of whole grain is fed in the straw. There is—and should be—a plentiful supply of good, pure water within easy reach at all times.

Do Fowls Require Warm Houses?

Jas. Shackleton, a great authority on feeding, in his "System in Poultry Practice," says that fowls will live outdoors all winter, in all kinds of weather, providing they have a dry place to secure their food, and, further, provided they are given a balanced ration. From observations I have been enabled to make with a band of Barred Rock cockerels, I am inclined to the belief that he is not far astray. My birds had no building whatever to enter at any time during the summer and up to the first week in November. During the fall we have had two snowstorms of unusual severity and depth for the time of year, and they were out in each one, besides numerous heavy rains. They roosted in an apple tree, and the ground was covered with snow all day after the latter snowstorm, and yet there was no signs of a cold or any other trouble with any one of these lusty fellows. Their plumage seemed to shed the rain and snow marvellously well. Had they been pampered and housed from every shower, they certainly could not have endured such hardships without bad results.

It is when fowls are housed in buildings which are drafty and possessing leaky roofs that trouble comes. These conditions are worse than being out in the trees. The birds are comfortable in fine weather, and are not conditioned to withstand inclemencies. Then, when storms come, some of the weaklings, in their state of low vitality, contract a cold, which soon develops to something worse and then spreads to the stronger

members of the flock. This is the way disaster often comes to the poultry business.

Now, as to the feed my cockerels have had: Not a scientifically "balanced ration," 'tis true, but of sufficient variety of suitable foods so as to balance fairly well. They had wheat and some oats for whole grain. Their mash was composed of bran, shorts, barley chop, ground oil cake and some beef scrap, mixed with some blood meal. I believe the oil cake is a good thing. It, no doubt, imparts an oiliness to the plumage highly beneficial in turning water. Of course, it is like all concentrated foods—it must be fed in moderation.

Wentworth Co., Ont.

R. J. H.

APIARY.

Poultry-raising with Beekeeping.

Not everyone realizes the large sum to which the chicken-and-egg business amounts in this country. And much the greater part of that business is in the hands of women. Many of the sisters who keep bees might do more at the chicken business than they do, and, by proper management, it need not conflict with the work of the bees, says the American Beekeeper.

Beekeeping is particularly adapted as an adjunct to poultry-farming, as the heaviest part of the work among the bees comes at a time when the poultry work is comparatively light. On most practical poultry farms the hatching season closes

with May, and the work during the remainder of the season is comparatively light, while the work with the bees is most exacting from the last of May, through June and July. If the poultry-keeper chooses to bend most of his energies to obtaining fall and winter eggs, which are the most productive of profit, he is free to give them his entire attention, as the bees require very little of his time at these seasons.

The labor of both beekeeping and poultry-raising is comparatively light work, and to one not very strong, and who feels the need of an open-air life, there are few occupations which are more attractive and fascinating, and certainly few which require so little capital to be invested, and yet are capable of furnishing one with a good living, if not something besides.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

P. E. Island.

A terrible north-east gale for the last two weeks, has churned up the waters of the gulf and lashed them into a fury of foam, bringing in the great tide from the Atlantic to swell up into great billows and breakers on the north shore of the Island. Numerous have been the wrecks, and considerable the loss of life. This storm has been accompanied throughout by heavy rains, making work on the land impossible. Turnips, which are generally taken up by November 1st, are most all out yet (November 13th), and as the storm still continues, with a little snow falling now, it is possible that many will be frozen in if the weather should turn colder. Turnips are an excellent crop here, having grown very fast during the last two months. Cattle, old and young, have had to be stabled night and day for two weeks. This will lengthen the stabling period materially, and take considerable more feed. The cheesemaking season has closed. It has been a very successful one as to quantity and quality of make, and as to price, a record maker. The average price for the season will be considerably over 12c. Patrons are well pleased with the season's work, and will go much more largely into the business next year. There has been very little produce marketed this fall. The great failure of the potato crop and the somewhat short crop of oats is the cause. Along the north coast it is difficult to get vessels to venture, especially in such a stormy season as this, and as we have no rail connection with southern ports of necessity, we will have to market our farm crops in pork, beef, poultry and other stock. This will pay in the long run, by adding to the manure pile, but with many it will be hard to realize enough cash just at present to pay debts now maturing. Prices of farm produce are higher than usual. Oats, 40c.; potatoes, 30c. Sheep and lambs are such a good price as to induce many to again start flocks who rashly sold clean out a few years ago. A carload of fat steers, averaging 1,200 pounds, has recently been brought here from Toronto, Ont. The importers, Saunders & Newsom, of Charlottetown, claim that they could not get cattle of good