

prices. Prof. Barton spoke very favorably regarding the rearing of sheep, and thought no line of farming offered larger profits at the present time. Reference was made to thousands of acres of land in the Province of Quebec that were now unprofitable, and said that if sheep were placed thereon they would give a handsome return per acre and for the money invested.

At one session of the meetings Wm. Hotelling, of Kinderhook, N. Y., discussed the feeding and care of farm poultry. Ten factors leading up to success in poultry rearing were mentioned as follows: location of plant, cleanliness, little things well done, pure-breds, careful culling, selling surplus cockerels early, fresh-air houses, variety of foods, products graded and a retail market. For laying hens the following rations were recommended: wheat 200 pounds, cracked corn 200 pounds, oats 100 pounds. This to be mixed and fed in dry litter in the morning, and just before the hens go to roost in the evening. With the morning feed they should be obliged to scratch for it, but the evening feed should be placed where it could be picked up readily. For a dry mash he recommended 100 pounds wheat middlings, 100 pounds corn meal, 85 pounds beef scrap, 50 pounds wheat bran, 15 pounds oil meal and 1 pound salt; this mixture to be fed in a hopper open all the afternoon. They should also have plenty of fresh water, especially before going to roost.

Many valuable points were brought out in a discussion on artificial fertilizers by H. Hammond, Macdonald College, Mr. Hammond recommended purchasing some fertilizers in the commercial form, and where possible using legumes and green crops to supply the nitrogen. R. E. Husk, B.S.A., made a strong plea for the adoption of nature study in the schools.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Honorary President, Robert Ness; President, D. H. Brown; Vice-President, R. R. Ness; Secretary, W. F. Stephen.

Farming Under Commission.

In these days when so many people are basking in the sunshine of Government by Commission. The New York Times reports a satirical railway official who wants its provisions extended to the farmer as well as the transportation people. He has, therefore, drafted a "Farming Code" bill for the regulation of prices, service requirements, with welfare classes, as follows:

"Only one price for a given commodity shall be lawful. A farmer desiring to change a price shall file a schedule thereof with the commission hereby created, which shall go into effect thirty days thereafter, unless suspended by the commission at the instance of any consumer.

"No prices shall be increased, however, except under due proof, the burden whereof shall be upon the farmer, that existing prices are confiscatory of his goods and gear. In its discretion the commission may refuse to permit any such increase until a valuation by its engineers and accountants shall have been taken. In such valuation the farmer shall have no credit for past profits invested in new fields or improved structures, but shall be allowed only original cost plus borrowed money invested.

"Commodity, as used herein, includes all grains, vegetables, live stock, dairy articles, excepting sand, gravel, and manure.

"Every hired man shall work eight hours only a day, not including the Sabbath, and shall not remembrance work unless he has completed a period of not less than eighteen hours absolute rest and quiet. He shall not work on the Lord's Day nor on legal holidays, nor on Jack Love's birthday.

"Every farmer shall hire one more hired man than his work requires.

"The only permissible exceptions to the two foregoing sections shall be periods of stress resulting from earthquake, Halley's Comet, or European invasion.

"All wagons and all poles and doubletrees shall be provided with couplers, coupling by impact, so that the hired man need not go between the wheels of the wagon and the heels of the horses.

"All wagons shall be supplied with suitable brakes, grabirons, stirrups, and platforms of standard dimensions to be fixed by the commission.

"All bulls, when moving on the highway or in unfenced areas, shall be equipped with a bell of not less than fifty pounds weight, a steam whistle, and an electric headlight of at least 1,000 candle power.

"Sheds shall be built over all fields where hired men have to work in summer.

"All field engines and machinery shall be fenced in, all belting shall be encased in metal housings and all grindstones, churns, hay-cutters, bull's horns, and other moving parts shall be strongly encased in sheaths for the protection of the hired man.

"All barns, sheds, and other outbuildings shall in cold weather be adequately heated, and at all times shall be well lighted and policed.

"If a calf is delayed in arriving or is born dead the farmer shall instantly provide another cow whose calf shall be born that day.

"The commission's inspectors shall weekly inspect all gasoline automobiles. If a cylinder is missing the farmer must find it before he runs on the road again.

"The right to mortgage real estate is a franchise reserved to the State. No farmer shall make any mortgage nor incur any indebtedness extending over a period of more than one month without the written approval of the commission, obtained upon petition and hearing and upon paying the State Treasurer 10 cents for each \$100 of such indebtedness. Indebtedness incurred without such consent shall be void.

"To enforce this act a commission of five persons shall be selected by the Governor with a view to placating as many shades of political opinion as possible. No Commission shall, however, be deemed disqualified by lack of previous political or other experience."

Prof. Reek Goes to P. E. I.

Prof. W. R. Reek, B.S.A., a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College in 1910, and for a short time private secretary to C. C. James, then deputy Minister of Agriculture in Ontario, and for some time thereafter a Representative of the Government in London, England, in immigration mat-



W. R. Reek, B. S. A.

A good stockman goes to P. E. I.

ters, which position he resigned to succeed Prof. R. W. Wade as Associate Professor of Animal Husbandry at the O. A. C., has resigned his position at that Institution, and has gone to his new duties as Agricultural Adviser in Prince Edward Island. As a thorough-going, practical farmer and stockman he will be missed in Ontario and welcomed in P. E. I.

Methods of Buying Army Horses.

Some of our readers have been complaining recently about certain conditions under which horses are being purchased in Canada for military purposes. Many complain because the British Army buyers are not buying in Ontario and the other Provinces of Canada, but are making purchases on an extensive scale in the United States. A prominent horseman explains it thus, and his explanation is reasonable and satisfactory: In the buying of horses for the army or the armies of the allied nations there is no overlapping. When Canada started to buy horses for her army the British authorities withdrew, because it would be folly for one set of buyers to follow another around the country one "bucking" against the other and all interested in the welfare of one army. In the United States, where Russia, France and Great Britain are buying horses at the present time, there is no overlapping. The entire country is divided into three fields for purchase, the Russians have one, the French another, and the British a third. It is plain, then, why the British and Canadian authorities are not buying against each other right here in Canada.

Some of our correspondents seem to think that the Canadian buyers are through buying or have nearly the required number. This is not a fact. We understand on good authority that only about one-third of the horses required from Eastern Canada have been purchased so far, and the buying is being pushed vigorously in all parts where horses are available. Competent men are being sent into every district, and farmers having horses for sale are invited to bring them out. The buying is being done direct from the farmer, cutting out the profits of the big

dealer. Nothing could be fairer. We certainly approve of this policy. It is no easy matter to buy the right kind of horses in thousands. How long will you sometimes look for a suitable horse for your own farm before the right horse is found? A few "undesirables" are sure to creep in when buying in such large numbers. Horsemen should remember that in Eastern Canada only about one-third the first requirements for the Canadian army are yet purchased, and thousands more are required. If the war continues there will be practically no end to the demand. We believe also that it is the intention of the British authorities to commence buying in Canada again as soon as the Canadian authorities have a full complement to meet their requirements and have stopped purchasing. The situation is easily understood from this explanation, and horsemen seem to have no real ground for complaint.

The Farmer's Bank Account.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

It afforded me a great deal of pleasure to read E. B. Horne's article in "The Farmer's Advocate" of Feb. 18, entitled, "Produce More." It is in my opinion the most clear and common-sense view of the agricultural situation at the present time that I have either read or listened to. He certainly understands the situation from the farmer's viewpoint. In dealing with the question of hired help on the farm it seems to me that he puts the whole thing in a nutshell, in the paragraph where he says, "The question of hired labor on the farm is for our people, as yet, one of the unsolved problems. It bristles with difficulties. But in the end all these difficulties will boil down to one decisive consideration, and that is the financial one. When agriculture is in a position to offer wages and conditions of work that are economically desirable it will very soon begin to secure all the labor it needs, and until it is able to offer these it never will get the labor it needs. In spite of all the palliatives and coaxing devices suggested by our arm-chair experts in the past agriculture has not been able to at all compete in the labor market with the more highly favored manufacturing, commercial and transportation interests, it is not able to to-day the profits in the business will not stand it." In regard to that \$100,000,000 which C. F. Bailey claims the farmers of Ontario have on deposit in the savings banks, while that looks very fine on paper I claim it is very misleading in the way of being available for the purpose of loaning to brother farmers at a lower rate of interest than the banks would give. The farmers of to-day almost invariably deposit their cash in the bank for safe keeping, and for their ordinary expenses pay by check instead of keeping the money lying around the house.

Again you will find a great deal of that \$100,000,000 is the hard-earned savings of a number of years, probably for the purpose of improving the buildings, starting one of the boys in life, or paying off the mortgage. I claim that a great deal of that money is being used for the yearly expenditure necessary on the farm, so that I cannot see how the farmer is going to get much financial assistance in the way of cheap money along that line. We will have to look elsewhere for it.

Oxford Co., Ont.

WM. AMOS.

One Article Worth a Years Subscription.

That article on "Production" by Edward B. Horne in issue of Feb. 18 is worth twice the price of the subscription; he seems to understand the farmers' situation the best of any of them.

Stanstead Co., Que.

C. C. HANSON.

A Cure for Lolling.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Re the horse lolling tongue out of its mouth when driving, I have had a mare completely stopped by using chin-rest on the overdraw.

Simcoe Co., Ont.

J. A. Mc A.

The honorary president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, put the situation plainly when he said, "Do you think it necessary to tell farmers to produce more wheat when it is worth \$1.50 per bushel and still soaring? The problem will be to keep inexperienced men from putting \$1.50 wheat into weedy and ill-prepared land."

If the present prices of grain hold throughout the coming summer and fall, spring litters, if they are to be fed at a profit, must be grown on green feed. Now is the time to provide for this.