

## POULTRY

## Poultry-keeping in Canada.

## HOW IT MIGHT BE IMPROVED.

Eighteen million head, valued at \$5,723,890.  
Killed or sold, over 7,000,000; probable value of \$3,500,000.

Eggs sold, valued at \$10,286,828, giving a total of \$13,786,828 for proceeds from poultry in 1901.

Total value of poultry, \$5,723,890; total receipts, \$13,786,828—239 per cent. on investment.

Revenue compared with that of cattle, sheep, and pigs:

	Value.
Horned cattle .....	\$54,197,341
Sheep .....	10,490,594
Swine .....	16,445,702

Total farm stock .....

	Value.
Live stock sold .....	\$852,755,375
Meats sold .....	22,951,527
Wool sold .....	1,887,061

Total receipts .....

This selling value must include dressed poultry: 95 per cent. on investment.

## Milch cows—

	Value.
Cows .....	\$69,237,970
Dairy products sold .....	\$66,470,950

95 per cent. on investment.

## Apples—

Bearing trees, 11,025,789, at valuation of \$1.....\$11,025,789

Non-bearing trees, 4,028,086, at valuation of 25 cents .....

Acres in orchard, bearing, 259,996, at \$40 per acre .....

Acres in orchard, non-bearing, 94,549, at \$1.00 per acre.....

Total value of trees and land.....\$31,527,199

Production of apples, 55,572,368 bushels, at 50 cents.

Total receipts, \$27,786,181.  
88 per cent. on investment.

## Wheat—

Acres, 4,224,512, at \$10 per acre, seed included, \$42,245,120.

Yield, 55,572,368 bushels, at \$1 per bushel, \$55,572,368.

Total value, \$42,245,120; total receipts, \$55,572,368; 131 per cent. on investment.

Revenue Percentages Compared.—If we allow the yearly per cent. of income from poultry to be represented by 100, the standing of the various branches would be:

Poultry .....	100
Wheat .....	54
Dairy .....	39
Live stock .....	39
Apples .....	36

Poultry in United States in 1907.—Poultry products, 600 millions of dollars. Surpassed only by corn and the dairy products; 9 times more than the tobacco crop. Each year the product increases in quantity and price. The United States Yearbook says that this industry has increased so rapidly that no arithmetic can keep up with it.

## CO-OPERATIVE SELLING IN DENMARK.

Prior to 1895, poultry conditions among the Danes were not far different to conditions here, except that they had several poultry societies for the promotion of breeding. The market end of the industry was unsatisfactory. The Co-operative Egg Export Society was formed to assist in the putting of the eggs on the market. It acts in conjunction with the existing societies. By means of local societies, it collects the eggs from the members and forwards them to one of the nine export packing stations. At these stations they are tested, graded, and repacked in wooden boxes holding 1,110 eggs, in which they are shipped to Great Britain. These packing stations are so well equipped for determining the freshness of eggs, and the system works so well, that even attempts at fraud are rare. Boxes are all stamped with the brand or trade-mark of the society, the grade, weight, and number of eggs contained.

The co-operative societies in other countries have been copied more or less from Denmark, and are giving satisfactory results.

## WHERE THE POULTRY PRODUCER STANDS TO-DAY.

The Dominion as well as Provincial Governments have done much to encourage the farmer to produce a better class of poultry, and also shown how to prepare it for the market, but the

marketing of both poultry and eggs he has to do for himself. As a result, his eggs require several weeks' time to reach the consumer's table, passing through the hands of four or five middlemen, each taking his share of the price. The dressed poultry has to be sold when the market is glutted, thereby getting a small price; the large margin between his price and the price the consumer pays for it goes to the middleman. The fact that each producer, be he small or large, markets his own stuff, without any recognized grading, results in a lack of uniformity that hurts the trade. The remedy for these evils might consist in (a) some system of marketing that will equalize the supply and demand; (b) a co-operative system of gathering and shipping the eggs, killing, grading and marketing the dressed poultry; (c) through co-operation, make use of cold storage.

## THE MARKET.

The prospects for a good market in Canada are very good; every year the demand is greater for a good quality. It is several years since we had any to export, the market is growing, those in the business realize that the limitations consist in the lack of supply of the proper quality, and not in the demand, which is considered practically limitless. Wholesale dealers say they will take all the good quality that can be produced, and are willing to contract ahead at good prices. Several firms in Great Britain would place orders for tons and tons of dressed poultry if it could be produced. Canadian shippers cannot attempt to take orders, as our supply is such that there is practically no poultry available for export. Should market conditions be so regulated as to assist the producer to get what his produce is worth, and more of the consumer's price reach the producer, the farms of Canada could be made to produce an enormously increased revenue, and the export trade might in time equal that of any other branch of agriculture.

## POULTRY-KEEPING HAS ITS ADVANTAGES.

Poultry-keeping is probably the most fascinating branch of animal husbandry. Every poultry-raiser is an enthusiast for a time, at least, and generally until he realizes that the market conditions are against him.

Persons with a limited capital can start on a small scale and gradually work up. The returns are quick, and, unlike so many farm departments, its revenue may be divided over the twelve months of the year. Every farm is benefited by a well-kept flock of hens. They keep down the insects, enrich the soil, turn refuse into money, and interfere but slightly with the time required for other departments. Managing a flock of hens is an education in itself, and may allow a younger member of the family an opportunity of acquiring business principles that will never be forgotten.

## CO-OPERATION AND EDUCATION.

Wherever in Canada co-operative circles have been tried, the results have been satisfactory.

At Fergus, Ontario, Messrs. Armstrong Bros. were keeping a feed store, handling a few chickens of doubtful quality, brought in by their customers. They commenced a campaign of education that has resulted in a yearly output of thousands of dollars. Wholesale dealers who buy the product say it is of a superior and uniform quality, and they can afford to pay a price that will net the farmer much more than if each handled his own.

At Holmesville, Ontario, prior to the establishment of a poultry station by the Dominion Government, the limited quantity of poultry marketed was not first-class, the breeds were unsuitable, and little attention was paid to that department. Through the work of the station, and the co-operative work that has followed, there is to-day a good class of poultry kept on the farms, and the station sent to Montreal last year, from a very limited territory, several thousand dollars' worth of dressed poultry, and is shipping eggs during the entire year. The education and the co-operation have almost created a department of the farm there into an important industry.

At Petit Brule, Que., is a small co-operative circle, managed by the salesman of the cheese factory, which is shipping eggs to Montreal. The members of the circle are getting a bonus for taking care of their eggs, which is a decided benefit to themselves and the trade.

There are other instances which might be mentioned, but the cases are isolated, and act entirely separate of one another, but show that co-operation is an advantage, and can be carried on among the farmers of Canada.

A study of these shows, also, that before there is much co-operation there must be considerable education. In the case of Holmesville, the education was done through the assistance of the Government from their poultry station. At Fergus, the Messrs. Armstrong Bros. did the educating work themselves, but say that the work should not be borne by private individuals, as there is no guarantee but that as soon as the educational work is far enough advanced other firms will step in and reap the benefit, as has been their experience. Mr. Armstrong thinks that the Government should assist such co-operation the same way that they

assist cheese and butter factories. At any rate, before we can expect to have a uniform system of co-operation, even to a small extent, a campaign of education will be necessary. For this purpose, the Poultry-producers' Association of Eastern Canada has been formed, and through it the Dominion Government will assist in this campaign of co-operative effort.

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## THE FARM BULLETIN.

## P. E. Island Exhibition.

The Prince Edward Island Show, which was open to the Maritime Provinces, was held in Charlottetown, beginning on the 21st of September, and continuing to the 24th, being favored with the finest weather throughout. The attendance was not as large as last year, and the exhibition, though good along many lines, was not, taken as a whole, up to the standard of recent years. This was accounted for by the fact that the harvest was not all in, in some parts of the Island, while the holding of shows in the eastern and western counties, kept those counties from entering the competition to any great extent, thus lessening the attendance from these outlying sections of the Island. And, again, the Fredericton Exhibition, which had just closed, and the Halifax show, which opened immediately after, cut off all exhibits which usually came from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. With all this against the Charlottetown show, a falling-off was inevitable. Still, along many lines this exhibition was a marked success.

The strongest feature in the show of stock was the great number of excellent horses that filled up the different classes. Some of the cattle classes were not nearly so well filled as formerly. The greatest lack in this respect was in the Short-horn class, which was exceedingly small. Ayrshires filled well, and contained some animals as good as are to be found at any show.

Easton Bros. showed a herd of 18 pure-bred animals, headed by Fizzaway's Heir, bred by R. Relford, which was first in aged class, and was only beaten for sweepstakes by the same breeder's two-year-old bull, Howick's Crusader, bred by James Howie, Scotland. Eastons' herd contained a number of aged cows that were of fashionable breeding, and their appearance gave evidence that they were great producers, having the correct dairy form and well-developed udders. Simmons Bros. also showed an excellent herd of Ayrshires, fifteen in number, headed by Netherhall Gentleman (imp.). The competition was principally between these two herds, Easton getting first on aged bull, two-year-old bull, yearling bull and bull calf, and breeder's young herd. Simmons was a good second in most cases, with a first in yearling heifer, and first and champion for bull under one year.

In the Shorthorn class there was no herd shown, and but few pure-bred individuals, and those of much poorer quality than were to be seen here a year ago.

In Guernseys, the show was small, as Roper Bros. had their best herd at Fredericton. Still, they got together a fair quota that contained some representative animals. The prizes were divided pretty evenly between Roper Bros. and James Roper, except the herd prizes, which both went to Roper Bros.

Jerseys made a very good show, the principal exhibitors being William Clark, North Wiltshire, and Wallace Stead, Highfield. Clark and Stead each got their share of the red tickets, but Clark took first for herd and both the male and female championships.

The Holstein classes were well filled. Holsteins are coming to the front at this show. Gavin Harding, Graham's Road, showed a herd of about twenty of this breed, and many of them were choice animals, selected from some of the best herds in Canada. His principal competitor was F. C. Clark, of Victoria. Harding got most of the red tickets, and was closely followed at times by F. C. Clark, of Victoria. The champion prizes, as well as the firsts for both herds, went to Harding, and also a special prize for bull and three of his get. Clark got the special for a cow any age and two of her offspring. Other exhibitors in this class that showed excellent individuals were: John Tweedy, J. S. Wedlock, W. J. Gibson, Horace Wright, and Josiah Howatt.

A strong feature of the show was the exhibit of sheep and hogs, which, though not so numerous as formerly, were of excellent quality.

Lincolns were shown by Albert Boswell, Ernest Lund, and George Boswell. Albert Boswell got most of the firsts, as well as the flock prize. Geo. Boswell and Lund divided the second and third prizes pretty evenly between them.

Southdowns were exhibited by Cephas Nunn, Oliver Nunn, and Oliver Saunders, Cephas Nunn getting the first for flock, as well as most other red tickets. The other prizes were divided between the other two exhibitors pretty evenly.

Shropshires made a large showing, and, as usual, the Boswells had it pretty much their own