

A Sensible Immigrant's Experience.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—I have been asked to write a short account of my experiences on arrival in this country from England in search of employment. In complying with the request, I do so in the hope that the relation may be of some interest to your readers.

When I arrived in Toronto, about two months ago, my intention was to seek an appointment in the city, in hotel or club service, in which I had had considerable experience in London, or any other position which a man with an average education, a good knowledge of cash and accountancy work, and some fluency with the pen, might fill. I did not, however, intend to waste my time if I could not find what I wanted. I had been brought up to farm work, and my real objective in coming here is to take up a farm next spring, either by purchase or otherwise, as circumstances may determine. I exploited my first idea for two days, at the end of which time I came to the conclusion that the city was overcrowded with the white-shirt brigade, and made up my mind to get out of it. I called at the Immigration Office, and asked for employment on a farm, presumably a large one, for the sake of the experience. I was soon accommodated, and the same afternoon I was off to the place where I now am, about 20 miles from Toronto. It is a large farm, maintaining a large herd of cattle, and growing a considerable amount of hay, corn and grain for their maintenance.

Haymaking was in full swing when I arrived, and I was soon at work. I found methods very different from those in vogue in England, principally by reason of the use of various implements new to me, such as the hay-loader and fork. Both seem to me to be more than useful, though in the case of the former, rough ground or high wind are considerable drawbacks. I loaded the greater part of 100 acres of hay with it, and venture to think I became quite expert in the use of it.

It took me some little time to settle down to hard work again, as I had been unaccustomed to it for some years, but I soon got fit again, and feel quite at home now. The work is hard, of course, but I never expected anything else, and I am quite sure that Canada is the country for men who have a knowledge of farm work and are not afraid of it. As for the climate, I never felt better in my life than at present, and in short, I am very glad I came out, and I would advise anyone similarly placed to do the same as I did.

W. D. WILSON.

School Trustees, Take Note.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—In the National Art Gallery in Ottawa there hangs, or did hang not long ago, a painting by one of our most noted Canadian artists, entitled, "Hiring the Teacher," a reproduction of which appeared in the "Farmer's Advocate," if I remember aright, in January, 1902. The conception of the painter was admirably brought out, the interior of the school-room, dim in the light of an "after-four" meeting; the young teacher whose fate hangs in the balance; the secretary and the three trustees, one—the one who has little to say—sitting submissively in the background; another with benevolent, interested face, ready to listen to the teacher's side of the question, yet fully impressed with the importance of doing what will be best for the section; the third, a tight-fisted old fellow, who thinks more of money-bags than of education, and to whom hiring the teacher means, most of all, getting the one who will keep the school at the lowest salary.

Unfortunately, there are still a few men of this stamp on the rural school boards. There is just one species worse, and to it belongs the man who knows the quality of work to expect, and is not willing to pay for it. Perhaps he has never analyzed his mind to find out what he really requires of a teacher. If he does, he will find that he asks not only for one who has had experience and holds a high certificate; but also for one who has the faculty of pushing the children, from the lowest grade to the highest, as fast or faster than they can go, who will maintain the most irreproachable discipline, who will be at all times cheerful and friendly with the people, yet will never descend to frivolity or vanity; in short, he wants that archangel in the profession, the teacher about whom there can be no "complaints"—and for this combination of efficiency, industry and discretion, he is willing to pay, as a teacher remarked not long ago, the "amount of one's board and a few postage stamps."

Upon the very face of it, this is unreasonable. Most certainly, the best teacher that can be had is none too good for the rural school. The future of the community depends, to no little extent, upon the character and ability of those to whom is entrusted the training of the children during the most mouldable period of their lives. The very young teacher, whose own character is in process of formation, is scarcely to be recommended; neither is the one who, however clever he or she may be in acquiring knowledge, is dull in manner and appearance, listless, lacking in that force

which we vaguely designate as "personality," and without which no man or woman can be a power, either in school or community. These things, no less than proficiency, count, and it would, as a rule, be well if trustees insisted upon seeing and talking with all applicants before making a selection for the school.

It is only fair, however, that in return for all this, a salary suited to such requirements be offered. The teacher has been under heavy expense, and has spent long years of hard study in being qualified for such work. Is it by any means, then, reasonable or right to place the salary for the outcome of so much study and expense at a meagre pittance, less than that paid sewer-diggers of the city, whose work requires nothing but sinew and brawn?

From the standpoint of the section, too, it is the best of investments to pay a good teacher well—such a salary as will induce him or her to stay on in the school from year to year. It pays to get good workmen in all other lines. It is a very short-sighted man who will employ a "botch" to do building, or carpentering, or any other work of skill, simply because he can get him for less money. How very much more, then, must it pay, if not in actual cash, in something that is much better, to employ as teacher, no "botch," but the one who is really fit to be entrusted with so important and far-reaching work, not in brick, wood or stone, but in the hearts and lives of the little ones, whose whole lives may be made or marred by the choice, and whose best interests fathers and mothers profess to have at heart.

Sometimes, it is true, the fault of inadequate salaries lies with the teachers themselves. We once heard of one who stated in her application that she was "willing to go for \$5.00 less than any other teacher who applied." More pitiable even than the application was the decision of the trustees who accepted it. However, this was an exceptional case. There is honor among teachers, as well as among "thieves," and Canadian teachers are, as a rule, men and women of high principle, anxious to make all they can, but equally anxious to render their best services in return for it. It remains with the trustees of Canada to see that they are fairly dealt by. EDUCATION.

September Fruit Crop Report.

The Fruit Division, Ottawa, says: The crop of fall fruit in the commercial orchards will be somewhat large, but good No. 1 winter stock is only an average yield and a little below that of last year. On the whole the fruit is remarkably free from the codling moth, but in several districts the apple scab is very prevalent. In the neighborhood of Irgersoll, where this condition prevails, the farmers who had their orchards sprayed by the experimental power sprayer used by the Fruit Division, sold all their apples, while their neighbors, with unsprayed orchards, could get few bids at any price. There will be an enormous quantity of No. 2 apples and "Vaps." that will not be marketed for any purpose.

FOREIGN CROP REPORTS.

The apple crop in the United States on the whole will be considerably less than last year, but in a few of the States, notably in New York and the New England States, the winter varieties will give a larger crop than last year.

The European crop is not as large as was anticipated earlier in the season, and, consequently, prices for No. 1 stock shipped from this side have been fairly good. It should be noted, however, that less than half as many barrels left American ports up to date as at the same date last year; consequently, there has been no glutting of the markets.

PRICES.

Prices range from 25c. to \$1 per barrel on the trees, the buyer doing the picking and packing and furnishing the barrels. The prevailing price appears to be 75c. per barrel on the trees for good winter stock.

Farmers' Institute Meetings in St. Joseph's Island and West Manitoulin.

The Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes in Ontario, in response to a request of the secretaries of St. Joseph's Island and West Manitoulin Farmers' Institutes, has arranged meetings to be held in the early fall, instead of January or February, as has been the custom for some years. The speakers will be C. W. Nash, Toronto, and L. E. Annis, Scarborough, who will discuss a good list of practical topics. The dates of meetings are as follows:

- Richard's Landing—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 14
- Kentvale—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 15
- Carterton—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 17
- Tenby Bay—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 18
- Keskawan—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 19
- Marksville—St. Joseph's Island.....Oct. 20
- Gore Bay, No. 4 School—W. Manitoulin (aft.).....Oct. 21
- Gore Bay, No. 1 School—W. Manitoulin (eve.).....Oct. 21
- Barrie Island—W. Manitoulin (aft. and eve.).....Oct. 22
- Kagawong, School House—W. Manitoulin (aft.).....Oct. 24
- Kagawong, Village Hall—W. Manitoulin (eve.).....Oct. 24
- Grimesthorpe—W. Manitoulin.....Oct. 25
- Poplar, School House—W. Manitoulin.....Oct. 26
- Evansville, School House—W. Manitoulin.....Oct. 27
- Silver Water, School House—W. Manitoulin.....Oct. 28
- Meldrum Bay—W. Manitoulin.....Oct. 29

Forthcoming Stock Sales.

The following auction sales of pure-bred stock are advertised in this paper:

- Oct. 18th—David Bennett, Dutton, Ont., Shorthorns, Clydesdales, Oxford Downs, Yorkshires and Berkshires.
- Oct. 20th—Robt. Moorhouse, Cairo, Ont., Shorthorns and Grades.
- Oct. 21st—Ed. Martin, Beeton, Ont., Shorthorns.
- Oct. 26th—Estate of T. E. Perkins, Petrolea, Ont., Shorthorns.
- Oct. 27th—T. H. Hassard's Clydesdale fillies, at "The Repository," Toronto.
- Nov. 16th—John Bright, Myrtle, Ont., Clydesdale fillies and Shorthorns.
- Nov. 10th—H. Cargill & Son, and W. G. Pettit & Sons, at Hamilton, Ont., Shorthorns.
- Every Tuesday and Friday—Walter Harland-Smith, at The Repository, Toronto, horses.

Better Fruit Rates.

The representations of the fruit-growers to the Canadian Railway Commission resulted in a substantial reduction from the principal Ontario points to the larger centers of distribution, such as Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec and Winnipeg. There will also be a special rate on half-car lots of 10,000 pounds or over. These concessions will be equal to \$10 a car to Ottawa and Montreal on full carloads, and \$36 a car to the Northwest. In addition, the flat rate for icing cars destined for Manitoba has been abolished, and hereafter shippers will be charged only for the actual amount of ice used. Apples in boxes or barrels will be carried at the same rate, and it is expected that pears will be in the same class as apples. The above reductions were made by the railways before the decision of the Railway Commission was made known.

A Stable Shelf.

We needed a shelf in the milking stable, that would not be in the way; so we got a pair of six-inch hinges, fastened them to a board of proper length, and screwed the other ends of the hinges fast to the side of the barn, about eighteen inches from the floor, so that the shelf could be turned up out of the way. A couple of pieces of pump chain attached to each end of the shelf, and to the side of the barn, held the board when in use. When turned up a button held it in place. This holds milk pails all right.

A Prophecy for Canada.

"We will try to look forward a thousand years, or five hundred or two hundred years, and to think how, in the changes which are bound to take place as to the central spots of the world's activities and interests, we are absolutely bound to find that this magnificent land, with incomparable lakes and rivers, limitless tracts of country and populations taking hold of that country with patience, foresight and power, must be, come what may, one of the great, perhaps the very greatest, of the world's great centers of life."—Archbishop of Canterbury, now visiting in Canada.

MARKETS.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Export cattle are quite scarce on this market, and even the offerings of butchers' cattle are rather of a poor quality. Feeders are numerous, but the good stuff is badly diluted with dairy-bred stock. Hogs held at \$5.15 for selects; London quotes \$5.10, while Montreal reports place the price of selects at \$5.50. In other lines trade is normal, except for horses, which show a temporary depression. Quotations are:

LIVE STOCK.

Exporters—Extra choice, \$4.50 to \$4.75; good to medium, \$4.25 to \$4.40.

Butchers—Choice picked lots of butchers' heifers and steers, 1,100 lbs. each, \$4.30 to \$4.50 per cwt.; loads of good heifers and steers, \$4 to \$4.25; good mixed cattle, \$3.70 to \$3.90; medium butchers', \$3.40 to \$3.60; cows of good quality, \$3 to \$3.25; inferior and rough old worn-out cows, \$1.60 to \$2 per cwt.

Feeders—Choice breedy steers, 900 to 1,000 pounds each, \$3.80; feeders, choice, 800 to 850 pounds, \$3.40 to \$3.60 per cwt.

Feeding Bulls—\$2.50 to \$3.124; poorer stuff, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Stockers—There are a large number of eastern stockers forward, few of which are of good quality. Trade dull and prices easy, at about \$2.25 to \$2.85 per cwt. for those weighing from 500 to 700 lbs. each.

Milch Cows and Springers—There is a fair demand for all offerings of good quality at steady prices, of from \$30 to \$50 each, the bulk going at \$35 to \$45 each.

Veal Calves—Range from \$3.50 to \$5.25 per cwt. Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$3.75 to \$3.90, the bulk going at about \$3.85 per cwt. Lambs, \$4 to \$4.15 for all of good quality, while culls and feeding lambs sell at \$3.70 to \$3.80 per cwt.

Hogs—Selects, \$5.15, and lights and fats, \$4.90 per