

as well as pleasure. 'Tis the month, too, when the boys like to have a game of baseball. Let them have it, they will enjoy the farm work all the more after having some fun. Lastly, 'tis the month, too, when the farmer has to endure the trial of working in his road tax. This much-abused system of statute labor has served its day, and should be superseded by a more up-to-date system of road-making. Possibly our country is further behind in respect to road-making than in any other thing which concerns our farm life. Speaking generally, we notice development on every hand, improvements have been made in our homes, steadings, manner of soil tillage and farm implements, but the same old system prevails regarding our public highways, except in a very few counties or townships throughout the country. The good roads reform cannot spread too rapidly throughout our fair Dominion.

Since writing my last notes, which were rather optimistic, perhaps, we had a drought of over two weeks, which parched things up almost beyond conception at this season, and we were beginning to think a repetition of last season was to be our lot, and began to wonder what we had done to be treated thus, when fortunately the rain came, after a prolonged hot wave, refreshing all vegetation, starting corn and other seed that had been lately sown or planted. The hay crop, which came on so well during the latter part of the month of May, does not promise to be the heavy crop expected. Clover is well advanced in bloom, and ere this reaches your readers the mower will be at work, as it promises to mature early. Timothy, now heading out, is somewhat short, but will lengthen out considerably yet, providing we get moist weather. The early grain looks well, but much of the late sown grain hardly covers the ground yet.

A large acreage has been sown to grain, mostly oats and barley, while a larger acreage of wheat has also been sown. Peas have been a partial failure for some years, and not being a sure crop, few are sown compared with former years. A much larger acreage of corn has been sown, also of vetches and oats, or peas and oats for a soiling crop. The experience of last summer has taught many of our farmers the value of these crops, the former for silage and the latter for summer feeding to the cows when the pastures begin to fail, so that the milk flow may be maintained. The pastures were fine until a week ago, when they shortened up, owing to the dry weather, consequently the milk flow dropped about 15 or 20 per cent. Few farmers feed grain feeds or bran, owing to the high prices of these. The recent rains will refresh the pastures and give a full bite again. This is the time when our pastures give a perfect ration, as fresh, succulent grass gives a greater return in milk and beef than any other food. Our condensary here is handling a larger amount of milk than ever before since it commenced operations several years ago. They have so adapted their plant as to handle even a larger amount than at present. The amount of milk and cream going to the city market is also larger than any previous year. The output of butter and cheese is not quite up to former years, owing to so much milk being used at the condensary, and the increased demand of the Montreal market.

Fewer young hogs were for sale this spring than usual, and the demand for shoats and young pigs was good. Spring pigs have sold as high as \$2.50 to \$3 each, at four weeks old. Even now, \$2 can be had for youngsters of that age. Hogs of the bacon stamp have been selling at \$5.75, but the market developed a weaker feeling a few days ago, and dropped about 15c. per cwt.

There has been a good demand for heavy horses, and our section has been well cleaned out of horses of that stamp.

Beef cattle are scarce, and the quality only fair. Little is done here in sheep and lambs now, as compared with a few years ago when every farmer had

a nice flock. Dairying has disorganized the sheep-rearing industry through this section. We regret this, and can see now that we have made a mistake in disposing of the flock. Good mutton and lamb, that toothsome and delicate morsel of flesh, is hard to obtain, and our local butchers have difficulty in securing sufficient for their trade.

There promises to be a large crop of fruit, small and large, as all the bushes are well laden with small fruits. Strawberries will be plentiful, and the apple trees indicate a bountiful crop. On the whole, it looks as if 1908 would give average returns, if not over the average, so let us be hopeful. W. F. S. Huntingdon Co., Que.

WEED PROBLEMS.

It should be remembered this year by overseers or pathmasters that during the recent session of the Ontario Legislature, the onus of destroying weeds on the roadsides was transferred to them again, from the owner or occupant of lands adjoining the public highways.

Many road overseers can easily press into service a mower, which will greatly facilitate the work. Take those roads where the grader has been used, a swath or two may easily be cut on each side of the road-bed, and with telling effect in very many cases. Road-sides are already becoming unsightly with noxious-weed life, and every municipality should see that their officers looked after this work properly, as it means adding much to the wealth of the country to have them destroyed. More weeds on the farms means increased cost in cultivation of the land.

Where stock is pasturing the roadside, and especially sheep, there are not very many weeds to be seen.

The weather for the last two weeks or so has been very favorable for killing weeds. Many farmers are improving the time to do it in preparing their turnip, buckwheat and bare-fallow ground. Such weeds as the perennial sow thistle, couch grass, etc., with perennial underground rootstalks, are greatly weakened by cultivation at this time. By sowing rape in drills about July 12th, followed, of course, with good cultivation, the killing of the sow thistle will be practically assured.

Now is the time to examine the clover meadows, after mowing or pasturing, for ribgrass or buckhorn, and the catchfly should be pulled out of alsike fields, and the timothy topped. T. G. RAYNOR.

MILKING CONTEST FOR THE WESTERN FAIR.

The 1908 prize-list of the Western Fair, London, Ont., to be held Sept. 11th to Sept. 19th, has been issued from the press. Readers will be pleased to note that the pony class in the horse department, which was a new feature last year, has been again provided for. The dog show will also be held, only on a much larger scale than before. More accommodation has been provided in all the Departments where necessary. A new departure this year will be a milking contest, open to all breeds of cattle, to be conducted under the same rules as at the last Winter Fair at Guelph. All cows to be milked dry Tuesday night at nine o'clock, the contest to start Wednesday morning, Sept. 16th, at five o'clock, and concluded Thursday night, Sept. 17th, all milk to become property of Association. Entry fee is \$1. Ryrie Bros., Toronto, will donate a silver medal to the winner of the contest; 1st prize, \$25.00; 2nd, \$15.00; 3rd, \$10.00. Entries in all classes for this Exhibition close Thursday, Sept. 10th.

THIRTY-DAY QUARANTINE ON CANADIAN SHEEP.

The United States Department of Agriculture has amended its regulations governing the inspection and quarantine of imported animals so as to require a quarantine of thirty days for sheep imported from Canada for breeding purposes, according to a news item in the Breeders' Gazette, this action having been taken by Amendment 3 to Bureau of Animals Order 142.

The regulations, as amended, provide that all sheep imported into the United States from Canada, for breeding, grazing or feeding, must be inspected at the port of entry by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and also must have been inspected by a Canadian official veterinarian, and be accompanied by a certificate, signed by him, stating that he has inspected the sheep and has found them free from disease, and that no contagious disease affecting sheep has existed in the district in which the animals have been kept for six months preceding the date of importation. The owner or importer shall present an affidavit that said certificate refers to the sheep in question. Sheep which, upon inspection by an Inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry, do not show signs of scabies or other disease may be imported from a district infected with scab if such sheep are accompanied by a certificate signed by a Canadian official veterinarian, stating that they have been twice carefully dipped under his personal supervision, or under the personal supervision of another Canadian official veterinarian, in one of the dips approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition to the lime-and-sulphur and tobacco-and-sulphur dips heretofore authorized, the amendment allows the use of approved coal-tar creosote and cresol dips.

FAIR DATES FOR 1908.

June 30th to July 4th.—Royal Agricultural Society's Show, at Newcastle-on-Tyne.
June 29th to July 9th.—Dominion Exhibition, Calgary, Alta.
July 11th to 17th.—Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition.
July 13th to 17th.—Brandon.
July 21st to 24th.—Highland Society Show, at Aberdeen.
July 21st to 24th.—Regina.
August 29th to Sept. 14th.—Canadian National, Toronto.
Sept. 11th to 19th.—Western Fair, London.
Sept. 22nd and 23rd.—St. Thomas Horse Show, St. Thomas, Ont.
Sept. 29th to Oct. 3rd.—New Westminster, B. C.
Nov. 28th to Dec. 10th.—International Live-stock Exposition, Chicago.

DEATH OF WALTER LYNCH.

A press despatch from Westbourne, Manitoba, announces the death, on June 19th, of Mr. Walter Lynch, of that place, long and favorably known to stock breeders throughout the Dominion as a successful and prominent breeder and exhibitor of Shorthorn cattle, whose fine herd was dispersed by auction some three or four years ago. Mr. Lynch, who was a native of Middlesex County, Ont., went to the West in 1871, where he gained an enviable reputation as an enterprising farmer and stockman, and by his cheerful disposition and upright business methods made for himself a host of enduring friends, who will learn with regret of his demise. Mr. Lynch, at the time of his death, held the position of Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Agricultural College of Manitoba, located at Winnipeg.

THE SPICE OF LIFE.

The following letter is reported to have been received by a firm in Indiana:

smiths and browns
jndinoplis, jnd.
dear sirs,

when bruther si druv out frum town late last satday Night he lost them shues he fetched me frum your place out the back of the waggen. i wisht you woud send me a nuther pare, they are pictuers of them on page 8 of your Catalog rite down in the cornur of the page. i want them as long as this hear cord i put in and wide as youve got. they have sum black rubers on the side sos to slip on easy. it wooden do no harm if thay was a littel longer then this hear cord.

send to
Mis jemimy Hart,
twelvemile, jnd.

p. s. while the boys was playin out by the corn crib jest now dont you no thay found them new shues jest wher si dropped them in the mud. the rapping paper on them wasen even brok so you dont need to send me them uthers.
j. H.

A traveller waited at a certain English provincial town in vain for the much-overdue train on the branch line. Again he approached the solitary sleepy-looking porter and inquired, for the twentieth time, "Isn't that train coming soon?"

At that moment a dog came trotting up the line, and a glad smile illuminated the official's face.

"Ah, yes, sir," replied the porter. "It'll be getting near now. Here comes the engine driver's dog."

Two Scotch travellers, a merchant and a farmer, were discussing political economy in a railroad carriage. After a while the merchant filled his pipe, lit it, and settled back for a comfortable smoke. The farmer took his pipe from his pocket, and, after gazing longingly at its empty bowl, asked his companion for a match. The merchant selected one from a large boxful, and handed it over.

Said the farmer: "I am afraid I've come away w'out my baccy pouch."

"Well," said the merchant, holding out his hand, "then ye'll no be in need o' that match."

TOO PERSONAL.

A trolley car had collided with a heavily-laden milk cart, and sent can after can of milk splashing into the street. Soon a crowd gathered. A man, coming up, had to stand on tiptoe and keep dodging his head about to see past a stout lady in front of him. "Goodness!" he finally exclaimed, "what an awful waste!"

The stout lady turned and glared at him. "Mind your own business," she snapped.

CATEGORICAL BARGAIN.

"A corruptionist," said Senator Depew, "once entered a voter's house. In the voter's absence, he pleaded his cause to the man's wife. Finally, spying a wretched kitten on the floor, he said: 'I'll give you \$25 for that animal, ma'am.'"

"She accepted those terms. The corruptionist, thrusting the kitten in his overcoat pocket, rose to go. At the door he said: 'I do hope you can persuade your husband to vote for me, ma'am.'"

"I'll try to," said the woman, "though Jim's a hard one to move when

his mind's made up; but anyhow you've got a real cheap kitten there. Your opponent was in yesterday and gave me \$50 for its brother."

"The late Duke of Devonshire," said a diplomat at a recent dinner here, "kept a stud and took calm and ducal interest in the races."

"There was a certain sporting paper that kept a large staff of prophets, and always prophesied the outcome of important races. The Duke, for some reason, put great reliance in these prophets and their prophecies. He always read the paper, and he continually recommended it to his friends."

"But once at Goodwood, at the day's end, a man came up to the Duke, and said: 'What of your paper now? Did you see it this morning? Six prophets prophesied that different horses would win, and here only seven ran, and the winner was the seventh, which no prophet had selected. Well, what have you to say, now?'"

"All I have to say," the Duke answered, calmly, is that there's room for another prophet on that paper."