

objects when standing up, felts the wool into tangled masses. If sheep are dirty they will clean themselves in a grass field or straw yard far better than by washing, and the wool will receive no injury, whereas when washed the whole fleece is deteriorated. No washing of the wool ought to take place until it reaches the manufactory, and as soon as it is washed it ought to be sent forward into the first process at once. Next to the quality of wool, nothing is so important as the manufacturer as its condition, and the more natural a condition the better. Attention to this matter will well repay the farmer, because it will fetch an increased price, and give greater satisfaction to the user. The greatest care ought also to be exercised in the use of any materials on the wool, either as an insecticide or for other purposes, because many of these dyes and washes are chemically of such a character that they impregnate the fibre of the wool, and are of very serious importance when the wool has to be made into fancy dress goods, where fugitive colours and light shades are required—often causing endless trouble both to the dyer and user, as well as loss to the manufacturer.

A word to the wise is sufficient; and the farmer cannot study too much the necessary conditions upon which the quality of the wool depends. The best breeds of sheep may give unsatisfactory results if their management is characterised by ignorance and stupidity. That which conduces to the best benefit of the sheep reacts all round, and is best for the wool-grower and wool-user alike; and the sooner this is learned and acted upon the better.

After the wool is shorn from the sheep it has to be packed and forwarded to the place of manufacture, which is seldom in the same neighbourhood where the wool is grown. In packing and transit the wool is subject to constant pressure and attrition—especially when, as in the case of colonial wool, the bales are subjected to screw or hydraulic pressure. When the natural *scum* or grease is left in the wool, the fibres are so protected that even this rough usage scarcely injures them in any appreciable degree, but when the wool has been washed the matting and felting which necessarily occur are fatal to the best using qualities of the wool, which can never be, by any after treatment, restored to its natural condition, and thus makes more waste, combs and spins worse, and causes a deteriorated quality of yarn.

As international communication becomes more perfect, the competition between wool growers in home and foreign countries will be more keen in every class of wool, and it will behove the farmers in this country to do their utmost to distance their rivals in the condition in which their wool is presented to their customers. If the precautions which have thus been pointed out are neglected, they will certainly be driven out of the market. In the great race for supremacy, which will be a struggle for the "survival of the fittest," those will win who unite sound scientific knowledge with practical experience, and they only can reap the golden harvests of the future.

F. H. BOWMAN, D. Sc., F. L. S., F. S. C.

The Dairymen's Association of the Province of Quebec. Quebec, July, 1892

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that I shall pass the time from August 22nd to October 15th at the factories mentioned below, for the purpose of giving a practical course of lessons in the MAKING OF CHEESE AND THE TESTING OF MILK.

The Association, by means of the Inspector-general of the Syndicates, wishes to diffuse as much as possible the latest improvement in the modes of manufacturing dairy-goods, and

invites you to attend, at least for one day, the lessons I am about to give.

On Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock, there will be a lecture for the benefit of the farmers who supply milk in that region. Invite your patrons to be present. It would be as well that your factory be represented by one or two of its directors.

Your devoted servant,

SAUL CÔTÉ,

Director of the School.

P. S.—You can have your thermometers and lactometers verified by instruments I shall bring with me. I shall bring a Babcock with me.

Places where the school of the Dairymen's Association will be held during the latter part of the season 1892.

MONTHS	DATE	PLACE.	FACTORY OR
August	22 to 27	Ste Martine de Chateauguay	Edouard McGowan
"	29 to 3	Kinsey French Village, (Drummond).	F. C. Cartier
Sept	5 to 10	Ste Béatrice de Joliette.	Onésime Boucher.
"	12 to 17	Ste-Ursule de Maskinongé.	Oephis Lessard
"	19 to 24	Ste Croix de Lotbinière.	Dr Rinfret, (village).
"	26 to 1	St-Ferdinand de Mégantic.	Louis Gilbert.
Oct	3 to 8	St-George de Windsor, (Richmond)	Adelard Marcotte.
"	10 to 15	Ste-Cécile de Milton, (Shefford)	Antoine Robert.

If any region be omitted, notice is to be given, by those interested, to the Secretary.

The Quebec Pea Crop.

(Huntingdon Gleaner.)

"The blow dealt the Province of Quebec by the failure of the pea crop does not seem to be sufficiently realized by city business men. The pea crop is the dependence of the *habitant* for money wherewith to meet his obligations. He grows some oats and wheat, and less barley, but they are mainly for home use. The crop he puts in with a view to sell is peas, and this year peas are a failure beyond all precedent. They started well and gave promise of ample yield until drowned out by the rains of the latter weeks of June and beginning of July. Peas are an irregular crop, but in the worst years heretofore known they always yielded something. This season few *habitants* will save their seed; the failure on low land is as absolute as could well be. There are *habitants* who had twenty acres and more in peas, who will have none fit to thresh. During the three years, 1888-90, the *habitant* did not reap sufficient from his fields to keep him square with the world. Last year he had a bountiful crop, which went far to put him on his feet. The failure of peas this year is going to knock him back to where he was. This means in the parishes a winter of stringency, and wholesale merchants may lay to account that they will make small sales and bad collections until another harvest. In the English-speaking settlements it is different. Peas is only one of several crops with them. An important crop, to be sure, whose loss will be felt severely by many, but still its loss will put them less about than if they had a poor yield of hay or of oats. They have secured abundance of hay and appearances are that they will soon have safe under cover an excellent crop of wheat, oats and barley. The expectations raised in the beginning of June are not going to be realized, but, on the whole, the English settlements are going to do fairly well."

As to the above, I was surprised that when, at the meeting of the Huntingdon Dairymen's Association, so much was said about the marvellous pea crops of the district, no one rose to