

in the fall, we cover the berries with straw to protect from frost. If the patch has been kept free of weeds in the fall less hoeing is required in early spring, and the straw may be kept on the plants to hinder their growth until there is less danger of frost to kill the blossoms. Still, as a rule, it is wise to cultivate soon after the ground has dried up. We first remove the straw to between the rows, allow two or three days for the ground to dry, and then we hoe the berries. After this we return the straw and cultivate with a horse between the rows. We then finally put the straw between rows for a mulch. There is the objection to cultivating first that winds have already blown part of the straw between the rows necessitating its removal. Then, too, the cultivator makes a ridge along the rows which causes great inconvenience when hoeing afterwards.

If after berries are in blossom there comes a frosty night, they can be covered with this same straw until the weather is warm. We like to set out a new patch each spring, ploughing it up after the second crop. Then we have a good yield every year. We like also to have both an early and late variety so as to lengthen the season.

Leeds Co., Ont.

THE GORE.

## POULTRY.

### Cotton Fronts in Cold Climes.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Abundant evidence has accumulated as to the efficiency of the cotton-front for poultry housing, but that a house with as much as half or three-quarters of its whole south side or end, protected by nothing but one thickness of factory cotton would be satisfactory for laying stock in a climate where the mercury sometimes runs down to forty, fifty or sixty below zero would have been hard for me to take in, had I not come to Grande Prairie and seen and tested it for myself.

The first winter I was in the country I was surprised to hear that one of the neighbors was getting dozens of eggs right through the January cold snap. The next winter was a mild one and without much chance for special preparation we got eggs every month of the year though in small numbers. The third winter was a ringer for long-continued cold and storm, and our own quarters were not equipped for such a siege so that we got no "cackleberries" from December to the latter half of February. This present winter we were still not in the best of preparation and the weather has proven in the main as bad as a year ago. Nevertheless we have had eggs pretty regularly through the latter half of January and February to date, with temperature outside ranging down to fifty-two below on one occasion. The grain this year is below par too, nor do we have all the poultry knick-knacks available in the East. The house is of logs with cracks plastered, roof sodded and with a false ceiling of straw on poles. Front facing south is about 18 x 8 feet, of which a space 5 x 8 feet is cotton. During the early winter this was covered with open burlap instead of cotton and at a few places imperfect plastering left chinks in the walls. Thanks to these two facts some of the cockerels and a few of the hens had their combs nipped. Later when all was complete they sustained the severest weather without further comb injury, and the flock of sixty hens and pullets averaged five or six eggs a day. With better feed and more care in early winter they would have done much better.

A neighbor with a similar house, only better plastered and with a much larger proportion of cotton front, has obtained eggs all through January and February to date of writing, averaging about two dozen a day in the cold snaps. This flock is plentifully supplied with skim-milk and is under the special care of a member of the family who can give it close attention. Last winter this flock did equally good work throughout the worst January ever known on the Prairie.

That such results can be obtained from cotton-front houses in mid-winter of two of the worst seasons in the Peace River country is strong recommendation for their suitability under general conditions, though I intend next winter to brighten the interior of my house by substituting a small proportion of glass. Cotton alone is rather too dark but I would much rather have all cotton than all glass.

Peace River District.

W. D. ALBRIGHT.

## FARM BULLETIN.

### Guelph Winter Fair Association Meet.

The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair was held in the Secretary's office, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Thursday, March 1. The following officers were elected: President, W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford; Hon. President, William Smith, M. P., Columbus; Vice-President, J. I. Flatt, Hamilton; Secretary-Treasurer, R. W. Wade, Toronto. Executive Committee: John Boag, Queensville; Peter Christie, Manchester; John Gardhouse, Weston; R. S. Stevenson, Ancaster; John Kelly, Shakespeare; J. I. Flatt, Hamilton; William McNeil, London; A. McKenney, Amherstburg. Superintendent, J. H. Saunders, London; Assistant Superintendent, A. Leitch, Guelph.

### The Guelph Shorthorn Sale.

The Thirteenth Annual Sale of Shorthorns under the auspices of the Guelph Fat Stock Club was held in the Winter Fair Buildings, Guelph, Ont., March 7th. In many ways it was one of the most successful sales of pure-breds this season. The attendance was equal to that of any year since the beginning of the Club, and the average of \$168.55 for the 52 head sold was quite up to any previous record; 43 young bulls brought \$7,152.50, average of \$166.33 each while the 9 females sold averaged \$180, making the grand total for the 52 head sold \$8,765.00.

The top price of the sale was paid by O. H. Patrick, of Calgary, for the 10 months bull calf, "Crown Reserve", from the Jas. Douglas consignment. He a thick, mellow, well-grown fellow, of straight Boyne Lady breeding, by Roan Chief (Imp.) The highest priced female was the 16 months heifer "English Lady 45th", which went to Gerald Kean of Guelph, at \$425. She was consigned by Jno. Currie, Rockwood, Ont. A list of all animals selling for over \$100 follows:

Rosemary Chief, O. H. Patrick, Calgary, Alta.	\$180.00
Ramsden King, Robt. Miller, Stouffville.	150.00
Sittytton Wonder, Geo. Martin, Paris.	205.00
Victorious, J. Wood, Preston.	140.00
Roan Rover, Alex. Farquhar, Elora.	212.50
Silver Lustre, R. D. Ferguson, Port Stanley.	202.50
Signet Ring, O. H. Patrick.	122.50
Canada First, Alex. McIntosh, Elora.	155.00
Crown Reserve, O. H. Patrick.	440.00
Balaclava, John Lean, Cameron.	400.00
Charming Lad, O. H. Patrick.	180.00
Wimple's Jewel, E. Hales, Guelph.	110.00
Collynie Ringleader, A. McMillan, New Hamburg.	230.00
Gloster Stamp, Robt. Watt, Elora.	160.00
Ringleader Hero, F. E. Barker, Guelph.	152.50
Oxford Ringleader, Robt. Miller.	160.00
Blythwood King, Wm. Marritt, Keswick.	330.00
Fragrant Commander, S. H. Pugh, Milverton.	190.00
Red Wing 2nd, O. H. Patrick.	110.00
Village Nonpareil 4th, O. H. Patrick.	225.00
Grey Knight, G. Newman, Essex.	207.50
Lavender Duke, Robt. Heron, Ashburn.	125.00
Mina Prince, John Miller, Ashburn.	145.00
Red Royalist, H. Manley, Grand Valley.	200.00
Diamond King, H. Hanlon, Guelph.	115.00
Gallant Marquis, Geo. Judd, Caledon East.	127.50
Mina Geraldine, G. W. Pritchard, Elora.	162.50
Matchless Hope, Wm. Sutton, Erin.	137.50
Matchless Guard, Chas. R. Blyth, Guelph.	170.00
Prince Victorian, J. W. Henry, Thornton.	175.00
English Lady 45th, Gerald Kean, Guelph.	425.00
White Chief, E. W. Glennie, Britton.	150.00
Colonel Ramsden, A. Smith, South Woodlee.	160.00
Victor Ramsden, A. Turnbull, Galt.	127.50
Ramsden Chief, Donald McKaig, Puslinch.	107.50
Prince of Eden, A. Swackhamer, Acton.	162.50
Eden Duke, E. W. Graham, Carp.	145.00
Mina Chief, A. Carey, Britton.	167.50
Countess Grey, R. D. McClelland, Fergus.	130.00
Beauty's Pride, W. E. Turner, Streetsville.	127.50
Telluria Duchess 26th, G. L. Smith, Meadowdale.	105.00
Hill Crest Wonder, Frank Smith, Port Burwell.	230.00
Right Stamp, Jas. Kennedy, Campbellville.	100.00
Cranright, A. Barber, Guelph.	197.50
Lucy White, F. W. Buforth, Waterdown.	112.50
Ramsden Chief, R. R. Rudd, Guelph.	127.50
Prince Royal, Robt. Miller.	155.00

### The U. F. O. to Push Their Work.

The directors of the United Farmers of Ontario decided at a meeting held since the convention, to cable the Honorable Sir Robert Borden, now in England, the resolution passed by the annual convention, March 2nd, dealing with our Imperial relations. Resolution passed reads as follows:

Whereas it has been widely stated that some change in Canada's relation to the Empire has been rendered necessary by our participation in the present war, and whereas there are many indications that this question will assume definite shape in the near future, and whereas the destiny of the Canadian people will be profoundly affected by any change which may take place—

Therefore, be it resolved that in the opinion of the convention the whole question should be fully and freely laid before the Canadian people before Canada is in any way committed in this matter, and that we hereby ask the Canadian Council of Agriculture to transmit this resolution to the Canadian Government.

The committee appointed at the annual convention to interview the Department of Agriculture re the proposed bill relating to co-operative companies and associations, reported that they had placed the views of the U. F. O. strongly before the Department, emphasizing the fact that when legislation affecting other industries is proposed the industries affected are consulted, but when agriculture is interested the same courtesy is not extended. Consideration was promised.

It was also decided to continue the local conventions the same as last summer and to increase the number from five to nine, thus conventions will be held in each of the nine districts in accordance with the divisions of the Province now outlined.

A series of articles of an educative nature, dealing with the platform as adopted by the convention and other matter deemed expedient, will be published in the weekly farm journals as the executive may direct.

Pamphlets dealing with various phases of the movement and an extended campaign of education and organization by means of meetings, where wanted, and the introduction of certain books dealing with our rural problems are to be pushed.

To finance this extension of the work, plans are now being prepared which will provide the funds required, and communicated to the members in a way that will strengthen confidence.

### Glenwood Stock Farm Holsteins Bring Good Prices.

On March 1, I. N. Howe, of Mossley, disposed of his herd of registered Holsteins by public auction. The stock was well fitted and brought out in good form. The bidding was keen throughout the entire sale, but was especially brisk with the two-year-olds. While there was a good crowd in attendance the unsatisfactory railway service to the farm prevented a number of outsiders from attending. None of the animals, other than the 1917 calves, sold for less than \$100. The average price of the calves was \$60, and of the older stock \$162.85. The following is a list of the animals, together with the price and the name of purchaser:

Canary Helbon De Kol, Wm. Cochrane, Niles-town.	\$130.00
Glenwood Princess De Kol, Wm. Cochrane.	160.00
Glenwood Princess Colantha, R. J. Bird, Cobalt.	180.00
White Bessie De Kol, R. J. Bird.	160.00
Lady Houwtje Colantha, Wm. Jones, Zenda.	170.00
Houwtje Pauline Colantha, Wm. Copp, Woodstock.	100.00
Easter Queen, Peter Campbell, Lawrence Station.	165.00
Belle of Whittaker Pride De Kol, R. J. Bird.	175.00
Helbon Colantha De Kol, F. W. Miller, Lawrence Station.	160.00
Houwtje Queen Colantha, H. G. Nicol, Wilton Grove.	100.00
Princess Jean of Bayam, R. J. Bird.	155.00
Glenwoods Daisy Belle, R. J. Bird.	145.00
Houwtje Maid De Kol Pietertje, W. A. Scott, Galt.	180.00
Glenwood's Maid De Kol, J. Smith, Tillsonburg.	197.50
Glenwood's Daisy Corinne, J. Smith.	160.00
Glenwood's Pietertje Teake, Wm. McKie, Cobalt.	190.00
Colantha Beauty Pietertje, Wm. Copp.	200.00
Glenwood's Colantha Princess, F. W. Miller.	150.00
Glenwood Beauty Colantha, Peter Campbell.	180.00
Glenwood's Houwtje Pietertje, R. J. Bird.	145.00
Colantha Leilla de Kol, Peter Campbell.	200.00
Houwtje Pledge Butter Girl, Wm. McKie.	165.00
Pledge Helbon Colantha, R. J. Clifford, Putnam.	152.50
Glenwood Pietertje Colantha, Wm. Jones.	165.00
Colantha Belle De Kol, R. J. Bird.	157.50
Glenwood's Colantha Belle, Geo. Ellery, Mt. Elgin.	165.00
Glenwood's Belle Colantha, Geo. Ellery.	147.50
Glenwood's Queen Colantha, D. G. McLellan, Atwood.	172.50

### Duty on Seeds.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

In the February 15th issue of "The Farmer's Advocate", was a very timely and common sense article headed, "Why a duty on Seed Beans" at the end of which a note appears presumably by the Editor giving the information that according to the Canadian Almanac the duty on beans from the United States is 25 cents per bushel. Now as a matter of fact the present duty is not only 25 cents a bushel, but 7½ per cent. Ad Valorem added to the 25 cents, therefore beans costing, we will say, \$8.00 a bushel in Michigan, would cost for duty 25 cents and 7½ per cent. of cost added which would make the duty 85 cents a bushel, an increase in duty of about 300 per cent. The same increase applies to peas, potatoes and all other commodities rated by the bushel, as well as eggs and some other articles rated by the dozen, before the tariff increase the duty on eggs was 3 cents per dozen, now 3 cents plus 7½ per cent. on the cost in the country from which they are imported. About four weeks ago I received six bushels of garden peas from New York city costing there \$31.00, the duty is 15 cents a bushel plus 7½ per cent., making the duty including the entry charge of 50 cents, \$4.08. If the farmers of Canada but knew the amount they contribute yearly in revenue on the seeds imported from other countries they would, to say the least, be surprised as the amount is certainly considerable. If a farmer sends across the line for a bill of garden seeds and does not purchase more than a pound of each kind he pays 32½ per cent. duty, whereas a seedsman or dealer who, of course, buys more than a pound of each kind pays 17½ per cent. duty, a discrimination in favor of the dealer of 15 per cent., and as a matter of fact nearly all kinds of garden seeds including peas, beans and sweet corn can be purchased in the States from wholesale houses from 30 to 100 per cent. cheaper than the same seed can be bought from wholesale firms here in Canada. Now the question is this, who pays the duty and who reaps the benefit?

Brome, Co., Que.

J. RAYMOND BALL.

[Note.—We were perfectly aware and believe everyone else is that there was 7½ per cent. added to the former tariff as a war-tax measure.—EDITOR.]

### New Hereford Cattle Values.

Still another record in Hereford cattle values was made at the annual sale of O. Harris & Sons, at Harris, Mo., on February 28 and March 1. At that time 144 head in their annual auction sold for \$184,440, or an average of \$1,281. The crowd were looking for bulls and 47 head sold at an average of \$1,945. Gay Lad 40th., by Gay Lad 6th., was very much in demand, but he went to the bid of Frank Collicutt, Crossfield, Alta.; \$11,900 was the amount of the bid that brought this young bull to Canada.