

Prof. Robertson during the past few days has been visiting different points in Eastern Ontario to look into the possibilities of building up a poultry trade with England. The Agricultural Commissioner is more than ever convinced of the possibilities of working up a mutually profitable connection between the Canadian producer and the British consumer. Throughout Eastern Ontario Prof. Robertson found the farmers indisposed to go more extensively into the poultry raising business under the present market conditions. Prices this year ran from 8c to 8½c. a pound for good turkeys, while the farmers find that less than 10 cents doesn't make it worth while to feed and fatten for the market. The fall in price is evidently due to the fact that the demands of the home and Boston markets do not keep pace with the supply. It is Prof. Robertson's belief, after a careful study of the governing conditions, that with cold storage transportation, and systematic catering to the requirements of the British poultry trade, a steady shipment of Canadian turkeys to England might be maintained from October to March, realizing prices in England that would yield the Canadian farmer fully ten cents a pound, and at the same time bringing down the price in England to a figure that would encourage consumption among the artisan classes. The Commissioner estimates that three to four cents a pound would cover the cost of cold storage, freight, commission and retailer's profit. Allowing ten cents a pound to the producer, this advance would still give the British consumer his turkey at very little, if any, over the present price of a roast of beef. The Commissioner was informed by farmers in the vicinity of Smith's Falls that, if assured of an average price of ten cents a pound, they would raise one hundred turkeys for the market where they now supply not more than forty to fifty to each farm. He concludes, therefore, that the exploitation of the English market is well worth the cost of a fair trial.

### PROFITABLE GEESE RAISING.

READ BY WM. RANKIN AT THE RHODE ISLAND INSTITUTE MEETING.

I CAME here to-day to speak to you of goose breeding for profit, for to show you how this is done I am simply going to tell you how I do it. First we must have some understanding of the habits of the goose. They are very domestic when there is plenty of food which they like, they will confine themselves to a small circle, but in scarcity are very apt to wander in spring, for the first early

green grass that will start by the side of brooks and low places. They are very wise and shrewd and with little scolding will confine themselves to your limits, but the young gosling is always looking for fresh fields for depredations. Drive them from a place once quickly, scolding them the while, and when they encroach again you scold them they will run back to their place, but will always closely watch for the same opportunity when your back is turned. They will watch careless men that leave open gates and will quickly steal into your cornfield. You scream to them sharply and they will come tumbling out but will soon forget you and sneak back again.

A neighbor had a nice plot of beets and cabbage some distance from the house and by his early hatch had got out some fifty goslings and feeling quite proud of them gave large liberty, but some way they found a small hole in his fence at the plot. At early morn the old hen would be seen standing by the side of the fence quietly watching to give the alarm should any one intrude. The owner took little notice thinking the goslings were in the field. He thought one morning after breakfast he would go down and weed out his beets and cabbage, hitching up his horse into his cultivator and with his man went to his field and found nothing but stumps, he went back put his horse in the barn and thought of another crop. He said he had made a valuable discovery in market gardening and that it was no use trying to raise beets, cabbage and gosling on the same lot.

There are but five varieties of geese worthy of our consideration, the African, Toulouse, Bremen or, Embden and brown and white China. I think the most perfect goose is the pure bred African, as they will lay more eggs, mature earlier, and make more pounds of flesh in the same time, while they are very vigorous and hardy, and you almost always raise all you hatch.

The Toulouse, while a large variety are with me not quite as hardy, yet are fully as good layers as the African, but will not take on flesh as fast for the early market while fattening.

The Embden goose, while not as large as either of the above varieties, and not as good layers, has one advantage in color, being white with yellow bill. When picked their flesh, when fat, is a clean white, and will sell more readily.

The brown and white China are a much smaller goose, laying about as many eggs as the Embden, but their size excludes them for practical purposes.

Now, in selection for the purpose of breeding. Take the variety you want to breed, carefully select only those strong, large square, vigorous and healthy. See that