

ONTARIO CROPS AND LIVE-STOCK CONDITIONS.

The following figures, supplied by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, give the areas and yields of the principal field crops of Ontario for 1908. The areas have been compiled from individual returns of farmers, and the yields by a special staff of correspondents in each township:

FALL WHEAT.—679,612 acres yielded 16,430,476 bush., or 24.2 bush. per acre, as compared with 15,545,491 and 23.0 in 1907.

SPRING WHEAT.—142,124 acres yielded 2,197,716 bush., or 15.5 bush. per acre, as compared with 2,473,651 and 17.1 in 1907.

BARLEY.—734,029 acres yielded 20,888,569 bush., or 28.5 bush. per acre, as compared with 21,718,332 and 28.3 in 1907.

OATS.—2,774,259 acres yielded 96,626,419 bush., or 34.8 bush. per acre, as compared with 83,524,301 and 28.5 in 1907. The average yield for 26 years, 1882-1907, was 35.8 bush. per acre.

RYE.—87,908 acres yielded 1,453,616 bush., or 16.5 bush. per acre, as compared with 1,039,021 and 15.5 in 1907.

BUCKWHEAT.—140,605 acres yielded 3,323,568 bush., or 23.6 bush. per acre, as compared with 2,546,468 and 22.5 in 1907.

PEAS.—396,642 acres yielded 7,401,336 bush., or 18.7 bush. per acre, as compared with 7,365,036 and 21.6 in 1907.

BEANS.—46,385 acres yielded 783,757 bush., or 16.9 bush. per acre, as compared with 790,269 and 16.6 in 1907.

POTATOES.—166,974 acres yielded 18,517,642 bush., or 111 bush. per acre, as compared with 20,057,675 and 113 in 1907.

MANGELS.—68,685 acres yielded 29,870,966 bush., or 435 per acre.

CARROTS.—4,080 acres yielded 1,120,145 bush., or 275 per acre.

SUGAR BEETS.—17,453 acres yielded 7,004,748 bush., or 401 per acre.

TURNIPS.—120,920 acres yielded 41,210,189 bush., or 341 bush. per acre, as compared with 48,205,605 and 392 in 1907.

MIXED GRAINS.—456,049 acres yielded 15,354,350 bush., or 33.7 bush. per acre, as compared with 14,202,511 and 32.1 in 1907.

CORN FOR HUSKING.—299,690 acres yielded 23,601,122 bush. (in the ear), or 78.8 bush. per acre, as compared with 21,899,466 and 64.7 in 1907.

CORN FOR SILO.—233,753 acres yielded 2,729,265 tons (green), or 11.68 tons per acre, as compared with 2,029,547 and 10.13 in 1907.

HAY AND CLOVER.—3,253,141 acres yielded 4,635,287 tons, or 1.42 tons per acre, as compared with 3,891,863 and 1.18 in 1907. The average of 26 years was 1.47 tons per acre.

There are 3,336,169 acres of cleared land devoted to pasture; 326,550 acres in orchard and small fruits, and 11,675 acres in vineyard.

STATISTICS OF LIVE STOCK.

The number of live stock on hand on July 1st, 1908, were as follows:

HORSES.—726,471, against 725,666 in 1907.

MILCH COWS.—1,113,374, against 1,152,071 in 1907.

OTHER CATTLE.—1,711,485, against 1,774,165 in 1907.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—1,143,898, against 1,106,083 in 1907.

SWINE.—1,818,763, against 2,049,666 in 1907.

POULTRY.—12,285,613, against 13,428,676 in 1907.

The numbers of live stock sold or slaughtered in the year ending June 30th, 1908, were as follows:

HORSES. 71,241; **CATTLE.** 798,062; **SHEEP.** 545,320; **SWINE.** 2,129,944; **POULTRY.** 4,108,750.

WOOL.—The clip of wool was 4,150,510 pounds from 635,528 fleeces, or 6.53 pounds per fleece.

BEES.—Apiaries on Ontario farms are valued at \$1,028,599, there being 179,688 hives.

FAIR DATES FIXED.

Nov. 28th to Dec. 10th.—International Live-stock Exposition, Chicago.

Nov. 30th to Dec. 3rd.—Maritime Winter Fair, Amherst, N. S.

December 2nd to 10th.—National Dairy Show, Chicago.

December 7th to 11th.—Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph.

January 13th to 15th.—Ontario Horse-breeders' Exhibition, West Toronto Stock-yards.

January 18th to 22nd.—Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show, at Ottawa.

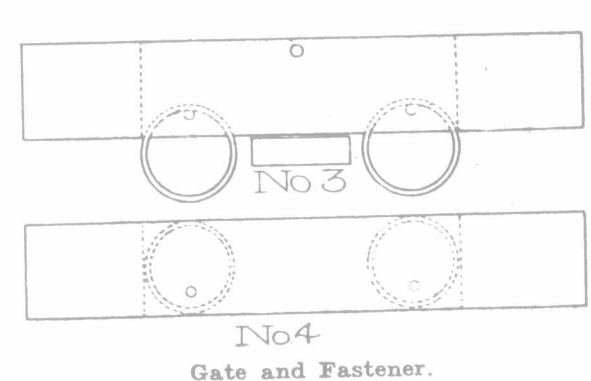
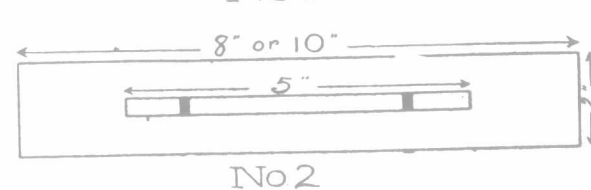
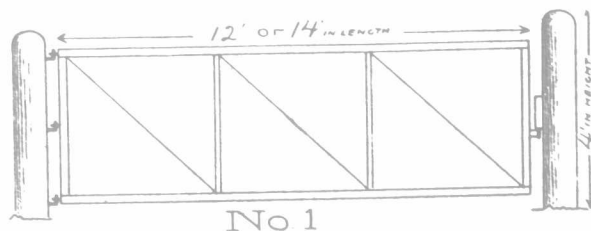
MEETING OF DOMINION GRANGE.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Grange, called for Thursday, November 26th, in Victoria Hall, Toronto, promises to be one of the most useful meetings held by this organization for some time. Reduced fares on railways can be secured by obtaining a standard certificate with the single one-way ticket. These tickets will be good to return the following Monday.

FARM GATE AND FASTENER.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Above is a pattern of a farm gate and fastener, which I find easy to make, and very serviceable, as the stock cannot open it. The gate is made of 3-in. by 4-in. pine, mortised together. Put two uprights 1½ in. by 1½ in. thick at equal distances from main uprights. These uprights come only half the thickness of outside frame. I then pull wire through from one end, fasten it and stretch it at the back of the gate, tacking it on to the middle uprights with small staples. I also use No. 9 steel wire for braces. Either woven or single-strand wire may be used; woven wire is preferable. For a fastener, take a piece of hard wood about 1½ in. or 2 in. square, and about 8 in. or 10 in. long. Cut a mortise about ½ in. wide, or a little wider, and about 5 in. long, as per Fig. No. 2. Take two rings 2 in.



Gate and Fastener.

in diameter and ½ in. thick; fasten these rings into the mortise, so that either ring may easily be pushed up into the mortise, but when they drop down cannot be pushed back without being lifted. Fasten this to the gate-post with 6-in. spikes; these spikes can also be used to hold rings in mortise. Then fasten a bolt or wooden pin in the gate, so that when gate comes shut it will come under the fastener and raise the ring. The ring drops down when gate is shut. The two rings are used when gate is to be opened either way. If gate is only to be opened one way, one ring is all that is needed, but some kind of a stop-block must be fastened to post to stop gate. When two rings are used, no block is necessary, as the two rings will hold the gate shut.

MARSHALL SMITH.

Wellington Co., Ont.

FRUIT ACREAGE IN UNITED KINGDOM.

Writing to Weekly Trade & Commerce Report, from London, Eng., Harrison Watson says:

In recent years there has been no more striking feature in the home life of the inhabitants of Great Britain than the remarkable increase in the consumption of fruit of various kinds. Owing to the varying climatic conditions of the many countries from which consignments are shipped to the United Kingdom, such favorite fruits as apples, oranges and bananas can be purchased almost without a break throughout the whole year at low prices, and practically every kind of fruit grown now reaches this market at different seasons in such quantities as to be available as cheap articles of diet.

Although the importation of fruit has developed so largely, it is interesting to note that there has been a striking increase in the home cultivation of such fruits as are capable of production in the United Kingdom, and according to figures which have recently been published, the acreage of orchards has increased from 148,221 in 1873, to 250,176 in 1907. Of these latter, no less than 214,118 are located in England, and over 172,000 are devoted to the cultivation of apples.

No reliable statistics of small fruits were compiled before 1897, but the 64,792 acres which were being cultivated in that year had increased to 82,175 in 1907.

Over \$1,500 in special prizes for poultry is being offered at the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, to be held at Guelph, December 7th to 11th, according to the special prize-list just to hand last week.

JUDGING PROGRAMME FOR WINTER FAIR, GUELPH.

The following programme for judging, at the Ontario Winter Fair at Guelph, December 5th to 11th, will be carried out as far as possible:

DAIRY CATTLE.—Saturday, December 5th, 5 a.m., commencement of dairy test. Tuesday, 5 a.m., conclusion of dairy test.

BEEF CATTLE.—Tuesday, 2 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m., continued until finished.

SHEEP.—Tuesday, 2 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m., continued until finished.

SWINE.—Bacon Hogs—Tuesday, 2 p.m. Other classes—Wednesday, 10 a.m.

POULTRY.—Tuesday, 8 a.m.

BLOCK TESTS.

The killing and dressing will not be open to the public.

The killing of the different classes of live stock will commence as follows (exhibitors will carefully note Rule 12 of the prize-list):

BACON HOGS.—Wednesday, December 9th, 8 a.m.

CATTLE.—Wednesday, December 9th, 8.30 p.m.

SHEEP.—Thursday, December 10th, 8 a.m.

The exhibit of carcasses in the cooling-room will be open to the public Wednesday evening, Thursday afternoon and evening, and Friday morning, and, if possible, Wednesday afternoon. This department will be in charge of Prof. R. W. Wade, O. A. College.

RAILROAD RATES.

GENERAL PUBLIC.—Kingston, Sharbot Lake, Renfrew and West: From stations in Ontario, Kingston, Sharbot Lake, Renfrew and West, but not west of Azilda, single fare for the round trip, good going December 5th to 11th, 1908, inclusive, good to return up to and including December 14th.

East of Port Arthur, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; St. Clair and Detroit Rivers: From all points in Canada east of and including Port Arthur, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; St. Clair and Detroit Rivers, outside the territory described in the previous paragraph, tickets to be issued on the certificate plan. Tickets will be sold and certificates issued, good going December 4th to 10th, inclusive. Certificates properly filled in and signed by A. P. Westervelt, Secretary, will be honored at Guelph up to and including December 15th, for free tickets for the return journey. Certificates to be used and fee of 25 cents charged for each certificate used.

JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS.—From all points in the district named in the preceding paragraphs, upon presentation of certificates signed by A. P. Westervelt, Secretary, exhibitors and judges may purchase round-trip tickets for single fare between December 4th and 10th, inclusive, good to return to December 15th, 1908.

"ISALEIGH GRANGE" SALE OF AYRSHIRES.

Despite the inclement weather, the "Isaleigh Grange" dispersion sale of Ayrshire cattle, which was held at Danville, Que., on November 12th, drew a large crowd of buyers. The stock was in fair condition. As their older stock had mostly been disposed of by private sale some months ago, only four females over two years of age were offered, but they were all premier cows, and sold at prices ranging from \$45 to \$125. Among the younger stock were many fine heifers from stock of the best strains to be had in Scotland, quite a number of the dams having qualified in the Canadian Record of Performance test with large records of milk and fat.

While prices did not average quite as high as at some former sales (largely due to the shortage of feed through the Province), yet they brought good average prices. The stock bull, Netherhall Robin Hood, imported by R. R. Ness, three years of age, was in fine form, and was knocked down to Mr. C. B. Stevens, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., for \$165. Mr. Stevens is to be congratulated on securing such a prize, as this bull was already leaving his mark in the Eastern Townships, as he was proving an impressive sire. Two-year-old heifers sold from \$40 to \$105; yearlings from \$20 to \$50, and calves of 1908 from \$20 to \$50. The 45 head of Ayrshires brought about \$3,000.

At times the bidding was keen, and caused considerable interest, and that well-known live-stock auctioneer, Capt. T. E. Robson, of London, Ont., ran off the stock pretty lively. The principal purchasers of Ayrshires were A. H. Trimble, Red Deer, Alta.; C. B. Stevens, St. Johnsbury, Vt.; Gus. A. Langelier, Cap Rouge, Que.; James Boden, G. W. S. Gibson, Jos. Hemmond, Jos. Jackson, Danville, Que.; Geo. Morrell, Alp. Turgeon, Nicolett Falls, Que.; E. F. Cleavland, S. G. Wintle, Richmond, Que.; and others. Although regretting that this fine herd has been dispersed, yet we are pleased to note that it is only being displaced by another equally as good, for that well-known importer and breeder, Mr. James Boden, has arranged to operate the "Isaleigh Grange Farm," and already has the stable well filled with his choice lot of Ayrshires.

W. F. S.