

The Farm.

Hired Help on the Farm.

The hired man is a necessary factor on every successful farm. Excepting where the farmer has the help within his own family, the hired man becomes a necessity in order to make the business a success. The difficulty, however, that confronts the farmer who is compelled to have hired men on the farm, is that this hired help breaks in on the home life. The majority of hired men on the farm are unmarried, and, consequently, they have to live with the farmer. This, to a certain extent, is objectionable, especially where there is a family of young boys growing up, as very often the moral character of the hired man is not such as would be conducive to a healthy growth of morals in the young boy.

One way to overcome this drawback is for every farmer to have an extra house on the farm for hired help. A comfortable house can be built very reasonably, and life on the farm would be better for all concerned, if the hired help lived in a separate house. It would then be necessary to engage married men, who would require higher wages. This would not be a drawback, as there is no one who renders as good service for the money he gets as the married hired man on the farm. The very fact that he is married and has some one depending upon him, makes him more steady and his service of more value to the farmer.

The difficulty with the single hired man very often is that he is too much inclined to roam around at nights, and thus unfits himself for work the next day. Of course, no one objects to a reasonable amount of recreation, which every one should have. But the hired man's first duty is to serve his employer faithfully and well. Then, again, very often if the hired man, who is boarding with the farmer, is not treated as one of the family, and consulted in regard to the business of the farm, he is dissatisfied. In taking this view we are not disparaging the hired man's calling in any way, but just discussing the question as far as it bears on the home life on the farm. A hired man on a farm should not take it as in any way disrespectful to himself because he is not admitted to the inner home life, or is not allowed the privileges of the members of the family.

And then there is the question of extra work for the women folk on the farm because of the hired man in the home. The extra wages that it is necessary to pay the married man to board himself, will be more than made up by lessening the labor in the farm home, and by the better home life the farmer and his family will have. Of course, a hired man with a family would need steady employment all the year round, and this would be an advantage to the farmer. Where a large amount of stock is kept there is just as much need of help during the winter months as during the summer.—Farming.

Experimental Fruit Shipments.

A large share of the time of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, held last week, was given up to considering the returns from the experimental shipments of fruit sent to England, and in discussing plans for future shipments. The report of the secretary, Mr. S. Woolverton, who acted as agent for the Dominion Government in selecting, packing and sending forward the experimental shipments, showed that ten different shipments were made during the fruit season. The returns on these shipments, though showing a loss in some cases, were, on the whole, very satisfactory, and the experience gathered from the season's operations will be of inestimable value in the future. There was considerable loss in the first two or three shipments, but the latter experiments returned a good profit in nearly every case. Some varieties of Canadian pears, such as the Crawfords and Bartletts, seem to meet the needs of the trade in every particular. The returns from these netted from 72 cents to \$3.92 per bushel case. The former prices were

realized upon the earlier shipments when the fruit did not arrive in good condition. The prices realized for tomatoes netted from 30 cents to \$1.70 per bushel case; for peaches from 54 cents to \$3.66 per bushel case, and grapes from 30 cents to \$2.68 per bushel case.

The substance of the report is that our Canadian pears suit the tastes of the British consumer as well as the French varieties, and if sent over in proper condition will meet with a ready market; that tomatoes have succeeded very well, and if a smaller sized variety is sent forward a good business can be done in this line; that grapes have been almost a complete failure; that peaches afford great possibilities for both loss and profit, and that early apples will bring the top prices if only the right varieties are sent over.

One of the chief causes of failure in some was that the temperature of the cold storage warehouse at Grimsby and on board the vessels was kept too high, ranging from 40 to 48 degrees. The temperature during some of the later shipments was as low as 38 degrees, and much better results were obtained. Another cause of failure was the bad ventilation, both in the manner of packing and on board the vessels, and in neglecting to cool the fruit before packing.

In addition to the experimental shipments sent over under the direction of the Government from Grimsby, Mr. George E. Fisher, of Burlington, sent over a number of shipments of small fruit on his own account with very good results. The first shipments were made of pears. These, after lying in Montreal for a day in the sun, reached Liverpool in good condition and sold well. Mr. Fisher's experiments go to prove that cooling the fruit to a low temperature before packing is absolutely necessary. As a proof of this, ripe Bartlett pears, that were too ripe even to send to Toronto, had been thoroughly cooled, packed, and sent to England. The returns from these were satisfactory. Two different lots of cooled and uncooled fruit had been sent over, the former sold for 11s. and the latter 9s., the fruit being the same in each case.

Mr. Fisher's experience, coupled with that gained from the shipments sent over under Government auspices is very valuable indeed. It should stimulate further efforts in developing our export trade in Canadian tender fruits. The requisites for developing this trade are a well selected quality of fruit, a system by which all fruit can be properly cooled before being packed; a complete cold storage system that will admit of the fruit being kept at not more than 33 degrees from the time it is packed till it reaches the British market, and arrangements made for selling the fruit to the best advantage when landed. With these requirements provided, the future of the Canadian fruit trade is assured.—Farming

TESTIMONY OF A

Crimean Veteran

The Secretary S. P. C. A. Recommends

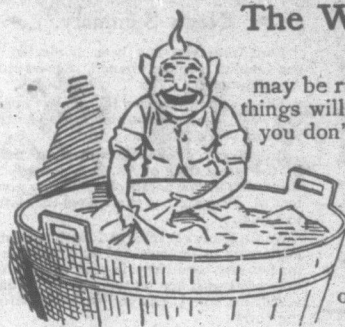
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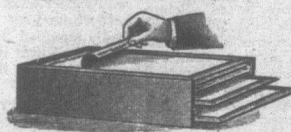


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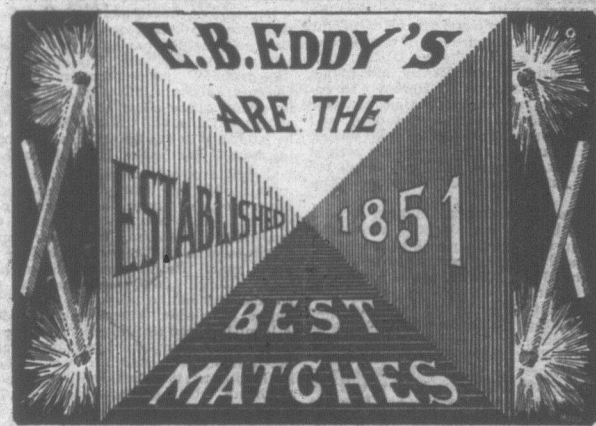


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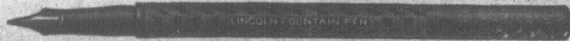
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