

assumed that it was in low condition as regarded fertility. But after being cleaned and worked this was found not to be the case, but that it was in much too high condition to bring out reliable manurial comparisons; and indeed for several years afterwards it produced considerable crops without manuring at all. I may state that a further enquiry into the history of this particular piece of land elicited the fact that it had been in permanent pasture up to a few years previously. There was evidently a considerable store of accumulated fertility remaining in the soil, and this, a course of cleaning and thorough cultivation liberated.

It is, however, highly probable that the phosphatic dressing *has* been beneficial, and, at the same time, it is tolerably obvious that rather is Mr. Wright to be congratulated on having his land in such a high condition of fertility and crop producing power, than that Thomas Phosphate is to be considered in default for not having forced crops beyond that desirable zenith—"excellent."

FRANK WALLIS.

Lincoln, England.

The Crop Outlook in Prince Edward Island

To the Editor of FARMING:

The weather here is decidedly cold, with frosts almost every night. Fruit buds are all killed and the fruit crop on the Island will this year be *nil*, notwithstanding the laudable efforts of the Fruit-Growers' Association. It goes to show how little man can do to meet the will of the Creator. It is very dry and a drouth is imminent. Seed

is very slow in germinating. Grain in the soil two weeks has not yet shown above ground. The wheat blade above ground looks puny and sickly. No rain has fallen since the 11th April, and if rain does not fall soon much of the grain will fail to germinate.

This is a bad spring for dairying, as no grass appears. Cows require to be fed as in winter, and this few can do. The hay crop will be an entire failure. Farmers are already preparing to sow crops to be made into hay. Farmers are, at least in this part of the country, becoming quite despondent. The outlook is certainly not hopeful. Many farmers have thrown up the sponge and expatriated with their families to the New England States. One day last week two (2) families, several young men and two young girls, all from this vicinity, departed for Boston. The exodus of farmers has become serious.

J. A. MACDONALD.

Hermanville, P.E.I., May 23, 1899.

The National Sheepbreeders' Association of England has adopted a resolution in favor of the compulsory dipping once a year of all sheep, with a view to the eradication of sheep scab.

The Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber of Agriculture of Great Britain has passed a resolution to the effect that any proposal for stamping out tuberculosis by means of the slaughter of all animals which react to the tuberculin test is quite impracticable.

An English scientist, Professor Penberetey, gives a flat denial to the generally expressed belief that consumption was chiefly propagated by animals. In the human race the most fertile seat of infection is man himself.



A GROUP OF SHETLAND PONIES.