

the months of January and February. Lambs weighing from 40 to 45 pounds usually bring good prices during these months when all sales are by the head and not by the pound. The average price received this year by Cornell University was from \$6.50 to \$7.00 a piece for lambs seven to eight weeks old. The results of the experiments at Cornell are summed up as follows:

It is of the utmost importance that the lambs be fat.

The market early in the season does not require so large lambs as the late market. The best early market commences as soon as the holiday poultry season is out of the way, usually about the middle of January.

Other things being equal, ewes that give the best milk breed the earliest in the season.

The Horned Dorset sheep bred earlier and fattened better than the Shropshires.

There is practically no difference between beets and ensilage as a succulent food for ewes rearing early lambs.

Dressed lambs should reach the New York market as early in the week as possible, as Saturday is retailers' day; the lambs ought to be sold before Friday noon.

As a coarse fodder for the ewes, and also for the lambs, there is nothing better than good clover hay; in fact this is one of the essentials to success in early lamb-raising.

As a rule ewes respond more liberally to forced feed for milk production the second year than they do the first.

The manner in which the lambs are dressed determines to quite an extent their selling price. Neatly dressed lambs are always preferred to those of like quality poorly dressed.

Ewes should not be forced for milk production.

The Canadian Butter Package in England.

A writer in *The Chicago Produce*, who has been investigating the condition of the English butter market, speaks of seeing a number of packages of butter from Canada, the tops of the boxes of which were made of three pieces of wood with a thin piece of wood set across the two ends in a mortice. The dealer stated that it was not a desirable package. The butter box with one board on the top and sides, six pieces in all, suits the trade better. The original Australian box, with the projecting corners, appears to be the favorite according to this writer.

A word to the wise is sufficient. We cannot hope to develop our butter trade with Great Britain unless we give particular attention to packing the butter in a suitable package that will meet the wishes of the English dealer. If it is injurious to the trade to pack butter for export in boxes with two or three pieces in the top or sides then an effort should be made to procure boxes without these drawbacks. In Britain, Canadian butter comes into competition with butter from nearly every country in the world, and if our package is not as good as that from other places we do not stand much of a chance for enlarging our export butter trade with England. Those who are engaged in shipping Canadian butter to Britain should be careful in regard to the character of the package sent over.

Hired Help on the Farm.

Ivan, Ont., Feb. 18th, 1898.

Editor of FARMING:

No doubt Mr. Hobson and several other well-to-do farmers have found the hiring of married men preferable to hiring single ones; but it is impossible for the majority of farmers to do so. I have several times discussed the subject with farmers in the townships of London, Lobo, and Blanchard. They all agree that it would considerably lighten the work of their "women folk," but they do not think that it would pay, as the majority of farmers would have to build houses, which would mean another addition to their (in most cases) heavy mortgages. Then, again, they find it hard enough to pay even a single man his paltry \$100, or more, wages for the seven or eight months for which he is hired; so how could they manage to pay a married man his two hundred and fifty or more dollars? Surely no one could expect a man to board himself and family on a less salary. And is there not already enough poverty in the country without inducing young men to marry in the hopes of obtaining such a situation? If he did obtain one I think he would find it hard enough to make ends meet. No, sir, the fewer the married men that go in for that sort of life the better for the country.

Referring to your first article in the issue of February 1st, your correspondent can have no very good opinion of the farmers in general, for he says (referring to single hired help) that "his morals are very often otherwise than desirable where there are a lot of growing lads," or words to that effect. Now, I have noticed that most of the "hired help" are themselves farmers' sons. Of course, I can understand that being the case where "home boys" are employed, but otherwise I have found them to be as honorable as any of the farmers.

W. T. HARRISON.

We are pleased, indeed, to have both sides of this important subject discussed. There are always two sides to every question, and as this subject is very far-reaching, we hope others will take an interest in it. What our correspondent says in regard to many of the farms being heavily mortgaged is quite true, and that many farmers for this reason would not be able to pay a married man a fair wage may also be true, but we are doubtful. Of course, it is not to be expected that a man on a fifty acre farm could afford such a luxury unless he were engaged in a line of farming which would require considerable manual labor. But on nearly every farm of from 100 acres upwards, and especially where a considerable amount of stock is kept, it will pay every farmer to keep a hired man all the year round, and he, we believe, will get better returns, everything considered, if that hired man has a home of his own, and does not of necessity live with the farmer. We speak advisedly in regard to this matter, and recall the time when, as a boy on the farm, a married man was employed all the year round, and when afterwards a new policy was adopted and a single man engaged for a portion of the year, how the farm work did not seem to go on as satisfactorily as before.

To succeed to-day, the farmer must practise a concentrated system of farming, and consequently must keep a sufficient amount of help to do the work properly. We venture to state that one of the reasons why so many farms are groaning under too heavy mortgages is because the owners do not carry on as intensive a system of farming as they should. If there is any place where a good, steady man can earn his money and give full value to his employer it is on the farm, if his work is properly directed.

Then in regard to the relative amounts of wages which will have to be paid to a married and single man we have this to say. The wages of a married man may look large when considered as a whole, but when it is taken into account that the man has a family to keep that will consume a large share of the products of the farm it presents a different character. The hired man who is married will take a large share of his wages in trade, and thus provides a market for some of the products of the farm near at hand. Then look at the question in another way. Our correspondent states that a farmer usually pays a single man \$100 for seven or eight months' work. This is looked upon as the only outlay. But this man has to be fed and in most cases his washing is done by the women folks on the farm. Now this means outlay, and, considering everything, costs the farmer at least \$10 per month, which amount, added to the cash outlay, would mean \$170 for seven months' work, or \$24.28 per month. On the other hand he states that a married man would require \$250 per year, which is only \$20.84 per month, or a difference of \$3.44 in favor of the latter. There is, then, only \$80 between the actual cost of the married man for a year and the single man for seven months, and if it is not worth that much to any farmer to have a steady man during the five winter months and board himself we are very much mistaken. Besides, no farmer can fully appreciate what it is not to have his home life broken by the presence of the hired man in the home.

In regard to the employment of married men on the farm being conducive to poverty we are inclined to take the very opposite view. There are many steady men with families in our towns and cities making a precarious living, who would be glad of steady employment on the farm all the year round. In England where the most intensive system of farming is carried on nearly all the help live at home and do not board with the farmer, and as this country develops, and as a more intensive system of farming is practised, such a system will become a necessity here. We often wonder why many of the farmers' wives do not rise up in rebellion against a system that entails so much extra labor and annoyance upon the management of the home.

Referring to the moral side of the question we think that in our first article we made sufficient

exception in regard to the character of the average hired man on the farm to include those to whom our correspondent refers. Because a young man is a farmer's son does not necessarily mean that his moral character is beyond reproach or that his influence in the home is of the proper kind. We know many young men who hire out on the farm who are estimable in every way, but then we know as many whose character is not all that should be desired in any home. Besides, we have made many enquiries of those who should know about these things and the opinion almost invariably is that the character of many of the men employed on the farm is not such as tends to the highest type of morals in the young.

NOTES AND IDEAS.

In order to prevent the introduction of the San Jose scale the German Government has passed an order prohibiting until further notice the importation of living plants and fresh plant refuse from America, also barrels and boxes and other objects used in the packing and keeping thereof. The order also applies to fresh fruit or fresh fruit refuse from America whenever the examination at the port of entry may establish the presence of the San Jose scale. The reason given for this is the alleged discovery of the dreaded San Jose scale and other pests on the fruit imported from America. Whether this is correct or not remains to be seen. It may be only an excuse to get back at the Americans because of the Dingley Tariff which shuts out the German beet sugar. The Germans also object to American pork on account of its unwholesomeness and do everything they can to keep it out of the country.

CANADA'S DAIRYMEN.

J. A. Ruddick, Kingston, Ont.

Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Superintendent of the Dairy School, Kingston, though one of Canada's younger dairymen, has had a wider and more varied experience in practical dairy work than many who have been in the business a much longer time. Mr. Ruddick is a careful and cautious observer, and intensely practical in everything he undertakes. Because of this strong characteristic, his advice on all matters pertaining to cheese and buttermaking is eagerly sought for, and the results of experiments carried on by him are given additional value.

Like many more young dairymen, Mr. Ruddick spent his earlier years in an intensely dairy atmosphere. He was born a few miles from Ingersoll, in Oxford county, the birthplace of the co-operative cheese factory, and which was the home of many of those who may be called the fathers of co-operative dairying in Canada. His father, Mr. Lawrence Ruddick, is still living, and is well known in Oxford county.

At a very early age Mr. Ruddick started out for himself, and learned cheesemaking at Vittoria, Norfolk county, during 1880 and 1881. In 1882 he engaged with Mr. D. M. MacPherson, Lancaster, Ont., to manage one of his many factories. Before completing his first season, and when only nineteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. MacPherson from among thirty-four other makers as superintendent of the factories under his control. He acted in this capacity for seven years, thus acquiring a very wide practical knowledge of all the details of the business. During 1889 and 1890 Mr. Ruddick acted as travelling instructor for the Eastern Dairymen's Association, which position he resigned in 1891 to accept a position on the staff of the Dominion Dairy Commissioner. In this latter connection Mr. Ruddick has done valuable work. He managed the first winter creamery in Canada, under Professor Robertson's direction; he carried on extensive experiments in regard to paying for milk for cheesemaking by the percentage of butter-fat, at the Perth dairy station in 1892, and was the maker of the famous mammoth cheese which won such distinction at the World's Fair in 1893. By means of a travelling dairy he aided considerably in the development of co-operative dairy work in Manitoba, the Northwest, and British Columbia. Under Prof. Robertson's supervision Mr. Ruddick had charge of the Kingston Dairy School for two years, and when that institution was taken over by the Provincial Government he became its permanent superintendent. The dairy school has prospered under his management, and the attendance of students each year is increasing. Extensive experiments are carried on during the summer season, and have been productive of good results.

Mr. Ruddick is still a young man, and we may expect even greater results from his future work than have been obtained in the past. He is a careful student, a painstaking experimentalist, and intensely practical in all he undertakes, and richly deserves to succeed.