

JUNE 13, 1916

THE CARLETON PLACE HERALD.

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POULTRY.

To anyone who has not carefully followed the direction of poultry development in Canada, an understanding of the status which the poultry industry has now reached must constitute a distinct surprise. Whether viewed from the standpoint of the farmer or of the producer trade, it is now one of the best organized and most progressive of any of our live stock industries. Co-operation amongst farmers in marketing is improving the product and realizing for them a higher price than they have hitherto been able to obtain. The reorganization of methods by the trade is providing against loss in handling, is a saving to the consumer a better article and establishing our export business upon a firm basis.

It is estimated that Canada and Cuba, during the last twenty years, received from the United States about three-fourths of all the eggs exported by that country during that period. This situation, however, has now changed. As against an importation in 1913 of 13,940,111 dozen, we imported in 1915 not more than 3,783,952 dozen. On the other hand, while in 1913 we exported only 147,149 dozen, in 1915, we exported 7,898,322 dozen. This constitutes a net increase in production, in two years, of at least 17,100,000 dozen. Practically all of these exports went to the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the surplus in Canada which these figures indicate, prices during March, April and May have remained at an extraordinarily high level. For the first quarter of the year 1916, the price to producers, selling co-operatively, has been at least 4c in advance of the price received, for the same period, in 1915. For the month of March, it was at least 5c in advance and for the month of April 3c in advance of last year's price for these respective months. The demand for eggs for local consumption, for storage purposes and for immediate export, has rarely been so keen as at the present moment. This situation is clearly reflected in the prices thus quoted. Heavy domestic consumption in the face of the high price for meats, partly explains this condition. Confidence in the export demand, on the part of the producer trade, confirms it from another direction. Notwithstanding increased production, the egg and poultry business in Canada is in a very strong position at the present time.

Under these circumstances, we believe that it will be a very wise practice to raise as many chickens as it is possible or practicable to handle. Early hatched chicks make good winter layers. Rough grains will probably be produced in abundance in Canada this year and the feeding of poultry at a profit should be materially assisted from this source. Eggs at winter prices are a paying proposition, in any event. Poultry, alive or dressed, under present and prospective market conditions, can unquestionably be reared and finished at a decided profit. A good flock of poultry, if carefully handled, will serve to prevent waste on the farm and promote economy in living expenses, such as is particularly necessary when all farm products are becoming so marketable and so dear.

Open to Conviction.

Hughie McNeill was exercised last year about his hay crop. The weather, though threatening, favored his efforts till he had succeeded in getting it safely gathered up, being in this respect more fortunate than several of his neighbors. After seeing the last wisp of straw around his stacks, he exclaimed, with a self-satisfied air:

"No, sir, I have gotten my hay a safe in, I think the world would be greatly the better s' a guid shower."

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

WINTER OATS.

Winter oats supply a cover crop for the land, furnish winter and early spring pasture and produce a very desirable feed for work stock at a time when it is most needed. They usually produce at least double the yield obtained from spring oats in the same locality. Winter oats are much less hardy than winter wheat or winter rye, the northern limit of the successful production of this crop being marked approximately by the Potomac and Ohio rivers, extending thence southwest-wardly across southern Missouri and central Oklahoma.

WOOD LOTS DWINDLING.

In 45 Townships They Have Been Reduced to Five Per cent.

To the end that the water supply may be conserved and climatic conditions prevented from becoming gradually worse one-fourth of older Ontario should be in forest. In Germany, where forestry has been made a matter of scientific study and management, over one-quarter of the country is timbered.

What are the actual conditions in this Province? According to a report issued in 1909 by E. J. Zavitz, head of the forestry branch of the Department of Lands, Forests, and Mines, in at least 45 townships in older Ontario the proportion of woodland had been reduced to 5 per cent. of the total area. Lumping all the settled townships together the proportion was less than 15 per cent. Not only this, but many of the so-called wood lots have been permanently damaged by cattle grazing in them, and a large proportion of the older trees are dead or dying, while young growth has been prevented from getting a start.

In all parts of the Province grave injury has been caused by the undue amount of clearing. In some cases the stripping of the land of timber has left barren wastes that are not only profitless in themselves, but a menace to nearby areas of good land. The soil was naturally sandy, and the burning up of the humus in clearing, and by subsequent cropping, has left the bare sand exposed. Vegetable growth is gradually disappearing from these areas, and the loose sand is drifting over and rendering sterile other lands which would otherwise be productive.

Such danger spots are found in Prince Edward County, along the height of land in Northumberland and Durham, in the Counties of Simcoe and Norfolk, along the Lake Huron shore of Lambton, and elsewhere. In addition to this, in nearly all parts of the Province there are bare creek banks and hillsides that never should have been cleared.

As a result of unwise clearing, creeks have been dried up or contracted, wells have had to be deepened, droughts are more frequent, destructive storms are more numerous, and the productive capacity of the Province from an agricultural standpoint has been reduced. As a further result, according to Mr. Zavitz, it is to-day practically impossible to buy, in any part of Ontario, commercial quantities of any of the more valuable hardwoods. And this in a part of America that was once one of the richest in this exceedingly valuable form of natural resources.

For nearly forty years we have had in Ontario voices crying in the wilderness and giving warning of coming dangers. It was not, however, until 1905 that the first practical step was taken towards remedying existing evils in so far as the settled areas of the Province are concerned. In that year a small nursery was established at the Ontario Agricultural College farm for the growing of trees to be supplied to farmers who would agree to set out wood lots on broken places on their farms. Later on a much larger nursery was established on waste lands bought for the purpose in Norfolk county.

In the first year that stock was ready for shipment very few trees were called for. To Prof. Squair of the University of Toronto and F. C. Ryerson of Lambton County are due the credit of setting out trees on the first wood lots under the new scheme. Prof. Squair set out his trees in Darlington Township, and he now has a block of fine pine trees averaging over twelve feet in height.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Just shoveling feed to the hogs and selling for what you can get are not enough. You must know what the finished product costs you. The fact that good breeding swine are scarce indicates that farmers are looking for a more profitable market for grain. This can be found by feeding swine and selling pork and bacon.

Any injury to the hock joint of a horse must be regarded as serious enough for immediate and careful treatment if permanent lameness is to be avoided.

A good winter ration for the average work horse will be found in oat straw, ordinary hay or corn stover, with alfalfa fed several times a week.

A man who will let ewes go through a winter without necessary care cannot expect to get a large per cent. of his lambs on the market, and will lose some of the ewes at lambing time.

In many cases it is safer to dehorn cattle in winter than in summer. In summer flies and other insects are apt to trouble the sores on the animal's head unless some provision is made to guard against it. If the animal is dehorned in winter and kept in a reasonable warm barn there is very little if any danger of the wounds being infected.

A WEATHER MYTH

The Idea That the Old Fashioned Winter Was a Fury.

FAMOUS FROSTS WERE RARE.

Records Show That Remarkable Snowstorms and Long Seasons of Hard Freezing Were Not All the Rule. Testimony of Peps and Evelyn.

Perhaps the greatest of weather myths is the legend of the "old fashioned winter"—that prolonged season of ice and snow which is supposed to have held the land in its grip every year. So firmly has this idea been held for many years that it came as a shock when meteorologists first began to delve into the records of the past and prove its inaccuracy.

There can be no doubt that Charles Dickens, Washington Irving, artists who depicted winter scenes, and, in a later era, the Christmas number and the Christmas card are mainly responsible for the belief that up to about half a century ago the British winters were always extremely severe.

Such records as we possess prove the fallacy of the idea. No records of the weather were kept up to about fifty or sixty years ago, so that we have to rely on the statements of private diaries and old family records, and therefore it takes a lot of research to obtain any data at all.

In olden times no one troubled to make note of average weather, for writing was an art possessed only by few, and writing materials were hard to obtain; hence it is that mention is made only of something unusual, some abnormally mild winter or heavy fall of snow or prolonged frosts.

And when all is said there are comparatively few of the latter, although they were likely to be recorded, while the milder ones would be passed over. A few years ago there were published in France some notes concerning very mild winters in early times. Gregory of Tours tells us that 584 was exceptionally mild, as were the winters of 808, 834, 844 and 1007, when influenza was rife.

Another mild season occurred in 1220, when the birds are said to have hatched their young by February, while the weather journal of the Rev. William Merle, which is in the Bodleian library at Oxford, shows us that during the middle of the fourteenth century the weather was very much as it is now and that mild winters were not uncommon.

There were one or two mild winters during the next hundred years, the most notable one being that of 1495, when barley and corn were in the ear at the end of January. Writings of the sixteenth century have similar testimony to offer, the one or two exceptions only going to prove the rule because they aroused so much comment.

Peps and Evelyn came to our aid from the middle to the end of the seventeenth century and prove conclusively that the old fashioned winter is a myth. The diaries of these famous writers have been analyzed, and as a result it is found that falls of snow are mentioned only thirteen times over nearly sixty years, while exceptionally heavy storms are referred to only three times.

In the same period there were but six prolonged frosts, and apparently only the famous one of 1683-4 and another a few years later were so severe as the modern ones of 1890-1 and 1895. In January, 1661, Peps comments on the mild winter, and in December of the following year he notes that he awoke to find the roofs covered with snow, which he had not seen for three years.

Evelyn has the same story to tell—a few hard winters and many mild ones. Such years were 1680-7, Dec. 29, "Little appearance of winter as yet," and 1692-3, Feb. 4, "Eltherto an exceedingly mild winter—an extraordinarily dry and warm season, without frost and like a new spring, such as has not been known for many years."

Here and there we come across references to the weather which are just like the letters written to modern newspapers informing readers that "roses and primroses were in bloom in my garden on Christmas day." Gilbert White's record of the weather between 1768 and 1798 helps to end the myth, for the same number of years at the present day would show pretty much the same sort of weather, as thirteen of the Decembers were mild and wet.

There were mild winters in the beginning of the nineteenth century, as well as one or two severe ones, so that we may rest assured that the "old fashioned winter" was just like the new-fashioned ones.—Ernest C. Pulbrook in London Family Herald.

Stuck to His Rule.

He had just been discharged from the service, owing to wounds, and thought to raise a few pounds by writing his reminiscences of twelve months fighting. Having completed the manuscript while in hospital, he offered it to a publisher for £100. It was a very small volume, and such a price made the publisher raise his eyes in surprise and inquire the reasons for such a demand. "My dear sir," replied the author, "it has been a point of honor with me, as a soldier, always to sell my life as dearly as possible."—London Chronicle.

It is his whole life, not a few incidents of it, that proves the man.—Rovee.

BOTTLING AN EGG.

Easy Trick That Makes Plain Some Principles of Physics.

If you place an egg on the neck of a carafe almost any one would say that it is impossible to put the egg into the carafe whole. Yet it can be done, and at the same time an important principle in air pressure can be proved.

First have the egg boiled hard and then peel it. Make a torch of folded paper, light and push it into the carafe. After it has burned almost out place the egg on the neck of the carafe, small end downward, so that it acts as a stopper. But be sure you do not push it at all.

The heat of the burning paper has by this time driven much of the air out of the carafe and heated what remains inside. When it has finally burned out the carafe will begin to cool, the air in it becomes cooler and therefore takes up much less space. The pressure of the atmospheric air outside of the bottle is exerted upon the egg, which lengthens out gradually and at last drops into the carafe with a loud "plump."

In this way several important points in physics are made plain. First it is seen how heat rarifies the air and when the air in the carafe cools creates a partial vacuum. Then is proved the fact of atmospheric pressure by the way in which the egg acts. At last we see the egg forced into the carafe, so that the air from without may fill the vacant spaces.—Exchange.

MODERN GREEKS.

They Show Little of the Grace of Their Famous Ancestors.

Against the background of antiquity it is easy to project the ties of sentiment which bind the life of the Greek of today to that of the classic worthies from whom he claims direct descent, and it was with only a slight shock that I learned that the man who brought me my morning coffee at the legation bore the tremendous name of Themistocles. And yet it is difficult to visualize the modern Athenian with those who once walked his streets.

Thinking of Homer, of Praxiteles and of Phidias, one looks for Helen, for Hermes and for Athena, but the only Helen I ever saw in Athens was an American girl, married to a member of the cabinet and whose golden hair, blue eyes and classic features made her at once the reigning hostess in the city. And it is only in the islands or deep in the country, where the Albanian blood which swept across the Attic plain has never reached, that one finds the facial lineaments and the bodily grace which the ancient sculptor has taught the modern world as being common to all Greeks of classic time.

This survival persists chiefly among the children, because incessant toil and scanty nourishment soon deprive both boys and girls of their native grace and stamp them with the ineradicable marks of a life of labor.

The Poor.

We all love the poor. It would be entirely unnecessary, if not positively cashish, to say that we hate the poor. But there are two kinds of poor—the individual poor and the collective poor. It is not the individual poor that we love; it is the collective poor. It is not the poor that we know and see, but the poor that we do not know and have neither time nor inclination to look at. We are afraid if we see them we shall cease to love them. We never say, "God bless the coal heaver or the motorman." For them we find our execrations for not contributing to our comfort just so and so and so.

It is with great fervor, however, that we can say, "God bless the poor," because the poor do not interfere with our comfort to the slightest degree.

Making Tommy Attractive.

Ethel, the twelve-year-old daughter of a family that resides in an up-town apartment house, recently said to her mother:

"Mother, I wish you'd wash Tommy's face."

Now, Tommy was the son of the man whose apartment adjoined theirs, so mother was both alarmed and astonished.

"The idea!" she exclaimed. "Why, he's a neighbor's child! I have nothing to do with him."

"But I have," explained Ethel. "We've become engaged, and I want to kiss him."

Facts About the Sun.

Scientists estimate the volume or size of the sun at more than 1,000,000 times that of the earth, its mass at more than 300,000 times and its density about 50 per cent more than water, but they have not attempted to express its weight in figures. They estimate that the attraction of gravitation alone at the surface of the sun is twenty-seven times that of the earth, so that a 200 pound man on the earth would weigh more than 5,000 pounds at the sun, provided he could stand the temperature long enough to be weighed.

Bobwhite.

The male quail, or bobwhite, deserves honorable mention among gallinaceous birds because he is particularly good to his wife. He always helps her to hatch her eggs and if anything keeps her away will take the whole duty on himself.

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James J. Hill left an estate of \$10,000,000, but no will.

Stories of the gallantry of the Canadians in the battle near Ypres continue to reach London.

Of 425 men who applied for enlistment in Toronto last week only 206 were accepted.

Richard J. Cashman, for forty-five years an employee of The Toronto Globe died suddenly.

The daylight-saving scheme went into effect at Hamilton the clock being moved forward an hour.

Wm. O. Heath of Kingsville, aged 67, died as the result of being struck down by a street car in Detroit.

An Indian, Wapawake, has been arrested by the Provincial Police for the murder of Mrs. Heubener and daughter, in the Kenora district, during May of this year. He has confessed.

Dumped his German Passenger.

A French aviator, riding in a two-seated craft, lost his way in a fog and descended inside the German liner. The machine was intact, but the aviator was surrounded and disarmed. A German captain had an idea. Strapping the young Frenchman securely to the pilot's seat he jumped in behind him, pointing a revolver and saying:

"We'll explore the French trenches and rear at a low altitude. If you make a motion to land I'll blow your brains out and pilot the machine myself."

The French aviator obeyed. He steered straight to the French trenches, flew over them, reared suddenly and looped the loop. Not strapped to the seat the German captain spilled out and went crashing to earth, while the aviator steered for headquarters and made his report.

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