

PROFITABLE TWENTY-FIVE ACRE FARMING

Indexed

Poultry Fruit and Honey.

J. W. Clark, Cainsville.

The following very interesting address was delivered by Mr. J. W. Clark, Cainsville, Ont., to the students of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario, recently. Mr. Clark has consented to our publishing it for the first time. It is not, strictly speaking a bee-keepers's topic, but our readers cannot fail to be very much interested in what Mr. Clark has to say, while it may be of much direct benefit to many. It may point the way for many persons who are not now getting their entire living from bees. There are few bee-keepers who cannot profit by what Mr. Clark has to say. His own pronounced success is an evidence of the truth of what he says:

When Professor Graham asked me some little time ago to talk to you on the profit of a twenty-five acre farm, I was not sure whether I could figure out the amount of money that I made because I did not keep books in connection with all the items of my farm. I am a pretty busy man as you will know after I tell you the amount of work I am endeavoring to do; sometimes I think I have too many irons in the fire.

Professor Graham has told you that I ran a two-hundred acre farm prior to moving on the twenty-five acre farm, and it may be interesting to some of you to know what led up to my going on the twenty-five acres.

I claimed to be a successful farmer. I made money on the two hundred acre farm, but all of you know that it means a great amount of labor and the hiring of considerable help. I found difficulty in getting help in the house and it made too much work for my wife. I got

dabbling in the poultry business, probably through the influence of Professor Robertson. He advocated the crate feeding of chickens for the English market, and I became possessed of the idea from raising a number of birds myself. At that time on the two hundred acre farm I was raising five or six hundred and marketing them in our local market. The prices were not then as good as they are to-day, and after figuring it up I found that I was not making very much money, and the reason I was not making very much money was because I was not putting my poultry on the market in the best shape.

After hearing of Professor Robertson's methods I got a lot of feeding coops made, and undertook the crate feeding. I did not succeed with the first lot I put in, because I forced them too much on the start, and I stalled them and they did not eat well; but I soon learned the proper method of feeding. I was feeding between two and three hundred, and then I went into it a little stronger, and at one time I had nearly five hundred birds in crates, and Professor Robertson sent me a crammer. I used it on three hundred at one time, but that entailed too much labor and I soon dropped it. I found that I could get three or four cents more a pound for crate fattened birds, but it took considerable labor, so I decided to go into poultry for exhibition and stock purposes.

At that time I was breeding some pure bred hogs and sheep and I thought I could do the same thing with poultry. I started in at first with Orpingtons, and I imported some from the Old Country. Professor Grisdale and Mr. Hodson went to the Old Country and I got them to bring me over seven. I thus started breeding Orpingtons, and was fairly successful. I afterwards imported a pair of birds from the Old Country that cost me \$20.00 and I soon found that they were not worth more than four or five dollars apiece. Then I got some well bred stock at our Winter Fair and by watching them closely

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and breeding able to put years ago at money.

I found the prospects for I saw that t who were c handling, and be a great d chickens or purposes.

I found th big farm was to the chicke had utility bi particular at keeping the I made up my great deal mo could out of and with a g self and my v up my mind a little farm. hunting up I would be ar have heard s ing a cheap I sidered was t wanted was many small p land that su have the sha

I figured o and fruit on double crop I had been I and I though poultry and the same gro complete fert this combinat better results and have bee with less lab hundred acre

In selectin sandy loam.