

He believed in more careful selection of stockers. Western Canadian farmers do not grow enough of roots and they must improve the dry rations of straw and grain by this means. Swede turnips average 700 bushels per acre and mangolds 1,100 bushels on Brandon Farm during the past six years. If the farmer thinks that such a crop is not worth the extra labor entailed, then corn ensilage, which may be grown with little labor and expense may be substituted. Properly cut and cured native hay, oat sheaves (cut green), or bromegrass were endorsed. He concluded that we are well supplied with all kinds of rations and can without difficulty finish our grass fed steers, if we will but make use of them.

Col. McCrae spoke briefly, emphasizing the necessity of using beef breeds for beef purposes. Dairy bred steers are not profitable feeders, nor can the dealer handle them profitably. They gain rapidly but the gain is fat and cheap meat.

FARMING AS AN INVESTMENT

One of the best addresses of the week was that given by Mr. Duncan Anderson on "Farming as an investment." He said that fisheries might be depleted, that forests might in time be cut completely, that sooner or later every mine must be worked out, but with proper management the farm would last unimpaired, for ever. He contrasted the agricultural products which he placed at \$400,000,000 with the mine, lumbering and fisheries products totalling \$140,000,000. A piece of good land was the best investment that could be had for the money. The man who acquired what is called a liberal education must also spend years in acquiring a profession, and even then he must in most cases look forward to a precarious existence in old age. But the man who has spent twenty-five years of his manhood on the farm might look forward with confidence to old age for the land was there and would never fail to yield him a living. He impressed upon the audience the two great truths that the land must produce the food of the people and that no combination of capital could ever control the farming interests and that farming was therefore the one sure business.

The meeting closed with short addresses from President Sparling, of Wesley College and Supt. McKay, of Indian Head Experimental Farm.

Feeding Range Steers in Ontario

Those of your readers who were fortunate enough to visit the Fat Stock Show at Guelph, last December, will no doubt remember seeing a bunch of range steers—twenty-four in number. These were sent from the West and put on exhibition at the Winter Fair prior to being stabled and experimented

with regarding the probable profit there might be in such an undertaking. Those who saw them cannot fail to remember that they were a motly bunch and most likely will have decided that they would never do well as feeders. However if these same men saw them now, they would readily change their minds.

It was arranged that ten should be fed at the experimental stables, at the Ontario Agricultural College and the remaining fourteen at Major Hood's, west of Guelph city. In taking the ten from their quarters at the show to the O.A.C. stables, one of the animals made a successful dash for liberty and had to be shot and butchered. The remaining nine were safely stabled and divided into two groups, five running loose in one pen, and four in another. Major Hood managed to get all the fourteen stabled and tied part of them.

At first they seemed somewhat averse to eating stable food and consequently for some time made very little gain. For a couple of weeks at first they got nothing but hay. Then they were given some pulped roots, and later on meal was also added to their diet. Their course of food at present consists of hay, roots and meal. The five steers, get 60 lbs. of hay, 80 lbs. of turnips, and 20 lbs. of meal per day, while the four are supplied with 50 lbs. of hay, 75 lbs. of turnips and 16 lbs. of meal per day. Their exact gains are not known as their restless nature makes regular weighing practically impossible. They averaged about 975 lbs. on Guelph market scales last December, and judging from appearances they have done as well as ordinary Ontario steers since the beginning of the year. Some of them are rather rough looking and not of the quality desired by feeders but taking them on the whole their general conformation is good.

There appears to be practically no difference between the gains made by those tied and those running loose although when running loose they should all be dehorned as some are inclined to knock the others about and cheat them out of their share of feed.

It is expected that they will be ready for the April market and we will then inform your readers as to whether it will be a paying business or not.

A. J. H.

From a Shepherd's Note Book

Weed out the flat-sided, runty, feeble sheep.

Note the great range in wool quotations. Good wool costs no more to raise per pound than the other kind.

Keep stock sheep in good condition, but not too fat.

Don't try to winter the breeding ewes without grain, if early lambs and good ones are wanted.

In starting a flock buy first-class, vigorous, healthy animals, about uniform in size and age.

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