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6. "For the breeds mentioned above, the fencing need not be over six feet high. The best way of constructing the runs is to put two foot of boarding at the foot of the fence to prevent the male birds fighting through and at the same time making the pens more secure from other animals. Above this, four feet of poultry netting or other suitable fencing could be used.

7. "Again in the cost of fencing, this would depend largely on the style of fencing used, the distance of the posts apart and the amount of lumber. I would say that a good suitable run could be made at not more than \$1 per rod including labor.

"The cost of keeping a hen for a year would range from 70c. to \$1 each, depending of course on the cost of grains.

"It might take some considerable ground to answer this question as there are many hens throughout the province to-day that are being kept at an actual cost to their owner if the truth were known. In my own experience with the trap nest I have found some hens whose actual profit was less than \$1 per year while other hens of the same flock were capable of producing a net profit of \$6 per year. With an average flock of poultry properly cared for with favorable market conditions such as we have in Alberta I should think that the birds would average a net profit of at least \$2. per year."

We would advise this reader to write the department of agriculture at Edmonton for the bulletin Mr. Foley refers to above. In it, poultry raising under western conditions is discussed more thoroughly than in any other work we know of.—Ed.

## FIELD NOTES

### English Notes

June weather proved excellent from the farmer's standpoint. Timely rains have brought new vigour to growing crops. Bountiful crops of hay are being rapidly harvested in fine condition, altogether different to last year. Torrential rains did damage to fruit in some districts—gooseberries, being ripe, suffering especially.

Grazing stock are in good health and condition, and prices firm, though the scarcity predicted has not shown much evidence yet.

A most pleasing feature of the International Horse Show at Olympia was the beautiful floral setting. There were thousands of roses, palms, maples, etc., the whole making one fragrant bower. The floor was laid with real turf, with handsome garden effects, which were changed each day. There were more entries than last year, but fewer Americans showed. Americans were successful in a number of classes: R. P. McGrann, of Lancaster, Pa., having ten firsts and eight seconds; W. J. Butterfield, Plainfields, N.J., took the blue ribbon for pair ponies over sixteen years, and Walter Winans won the Hunting Tower Cup. The public patronized the show liberally and fully 30,000 were present on the day the King and Queen visited the show.

The government of New Zealand is to spend £1,000,000 in the next five years in road building in the "back blocks" to render their new settlements more easily accessible to the settlers.

The debate in the House of Commons on agricultural appropriations brought a demand for a Parliamentary Secretary for the Board of Agriculture, and for a large increase in the present meagre appropriation for agricultural education.

The annual conference of the British Dairy Farmer's Association was held at Derby this year. Prof. Sheldon's able paper on the coming legislation in regard to milk selling brought on much discussion, as a drastic new law is expected. The feeding of infants with condensed milk containing insufficient nourishment was strongly condemned, and a demand made for a minimum standard.

"Air Space in Cow Houses," the subject of one paper, contended that 400 cubic feet per cow was ample in many exposed places, though 800 cubic feet is usually demanded by local authorities.

That co-operation amongst all sections of society in Britain makes wonderful progress is well shown by the large and enthusiastic attendance at the annual Whitsuntide Congress of the Co-operative Union, at Newport, Wales.

The Central Board presented its annual report showing 1,566 societies in the Union, with a membership of 2,434,085, an increase of 101,331. The share capital held amounted to £32,055,229, an increase of £1,797,420. The total trade of the societies in the twelve months was the impressive figure of £105,717,699, with a total profit of £12,003,341. Productive societies number 127, with a capital of £4,350,935, and a trade of £10,661,418.

Many varied industries are carried on under co-operative ideas, and in all of them a definite, fixed share of profits must be allotted to labor in addition to current wages. Arrangements are such that these profits, and other savings, may be invested in the industry, and the worker receiving voting power in the society through this capital.

Farmers have adopted co-operative methods to a large extent in purchasing and disposing of produce, manures, implements, seeds, etc. Farming by co-operative methods has been begun, but has not as yet made much progress.

Foreign trade returns for May show decreases in both imports and exports in comparison with the very high totals of a year ago. Some allowances must be made for lower values in many articles. Imports of food, drink and tobacco were less by £2,094,175 and exports in the same classes show the slight increase of £12,704.

The greatest fall in imports is in raw materials, and in exports in manufactures.

English Leicester sheep have proved themselves to be the best breed for mutton and wool on the New Zealand market. Under conditions there they prove ideal all-round sheep; having strong constitutions, easily fattened, and good foragers. At the Canterbury (N. Z.) sales more English Leicester rams are sold than all other breeds of rams offered.

At the Metropolitan Cattle Market at Islington, there were killed last year, 22,303 cattle, 106,815 calves, 12,599 sheep, and 35,065 pigs. These figures show an increase of cattle and a decrease of sheep and pigs. A feature of the report is the greater use of the public slaughter-houses by private traders. There were condemned as unfit for human food, 853 whole carcasses, and 191 parts of animals.

Lancaster and Preston June horse sales brought a good demand for work horses, and the quality of the shires on offer fully maintained the reputation of the Fylde as a breeding centre.

Nearly all the heavy horses catalogued changed hands. At the Preston show, preceding the sale, the five-year-old bay mare, "Gunthorpe Advance," won first honors and was afterwards sold for 56 guineas.

During the first five month's operation of the new Small Holdings Act, 16,000 people have applied for 250,000 acres of land. The great majority of the applicants are well qualified to hold land, both by capacity and possession of adequate capital. County Councils are making much use of the provision to let lands to co-operative associations and these are showing sensible business capacity in their arrangements with new tenants.

### Springbrook Farmers Picnic.

Last month the Springbrook (a district near Austin, Man.) Grain Grower's Association combined recreation with education, and held a picnic at which speeches and demonstrations were prominent features. The talking was done by Reeve Cairns, Geo. Spence, president of the local branch of the G. G. A., D. W. Cuaig, president of the M. G. G. A., J. J. Golden, deputy minister of agriculture for Manitoba, D. W. Buchanan, nurseryman of St. Charles and Arthur Meighen of Portage. Mr. Golden also identified weeds and plants in collections by the children of the district.

The nature of the event seemed to touch a popular chord, for the estimated attendance was one thousand and a program of dancing prolonged the event until 4 a. m. The accompanying cut illustrates a group of prominent farmers in the district, with their wives and daughters, who made the picnic so signal a success that it will be one of the most pleasant of the annual events in the province. We surmise also that the part contributed by the president, Geo. Spence, to the success of the occasion has not been fully appreciated.

### Events of the Week.

#### CANADIAN.

The Prince of Wales planted a tree in Victoria Park, Quebec, near the monument erected to the memory of Queen Victoria.

An error occurred in our report of the Clydesdale prize winners in the foal section, at Brandon exhibition. The awards were: 1, J. Crawford, Chater, 2, J. Doupe, Brandon; 3 and 4, P. Douglas, Madford.

A rear-end collision on the C. P. R., at Trudeau, east of Port Arthur, last week resulted in the death of two men and the injury of five others.

Lord Roberts is scheduled to visit Winnipeg on August 10th, as the guest of the city. He is not expected to proceed any further west. Elaborate preparations are under way for his reception.

The treasurer of the Toronto Fair Association was arrested last week as the result of the city's investigation of the books of the Association. There is a shortage of ten thousand dollars that cannot be accounted for.

Brandon and Winnipeg played a seventeen-innings baseball game on Wednesday last at the former city, in the Northern League series. This is the record for the league. Brandon won with a run. It begins to look like the wheat city's pennant this year.

A tornado swept over the Fillmore, Sask., district on Wednesday last, doing considerable damage to buildings and crops. A boy was killed and five other persons injured more or less seriously.



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