

FARM AND HOME

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CANADIAN EDITION.

PUBLISHED

SEMI-MONTHLY

(1st and 15th of each month)

BY THE PHELPS PUBLISHING CO.

Entered at Springfield, Mass., postoffice as second class matter

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SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

MONTREAL, Board of Trade Building,
204 Dearborn St., Rice Exchange,
CHICAGO, ILL. NEW ORLEANS, LA.

MONTREAL, NOV 15, 1900.

TWO MONTHS FREE. New subscribers to Farm and Home for 1901, whose names reach us before December 1, 1900, will receive the remainder of this year free, thus giving them 11 months' numbers for the price of a year's subscription. This very liberal offer will enable our friends everywhere to secure subscribers with comparative ease, as the office of extra time will be an inducement to subscribe. The Farm and Home for the ensuing year, we send to every subscriber for the ensuing year, and the special book premiums which we offer upon remarkably liberal terms, as advertised elsewhere, will be an additional inducement. Now, then, is the time to commence work. Begin at once and make good use of this offer. See the many liberal offers in our new Premium List, thus get up a club and secure one or more of the many good things offered free of cost. Sample copies, blanks, posters, etc. will be sent free on application.

FARM AND HOME,

Montreal, Canada.

OUR FARMERS' NEEDS.

A better education is the great need of the masses of Ontario farmers or a more thorough knowledge of their business in all its details. If all knew their business as do most business men and practiced what they knew, it would add at least 50 per cent to their annual income. When we consider that the wisest and best informed come far short of fully comprehending the many difficult problems farmers have to deal with, we are still more impressed with the greatness of their need. For instance: A farm of 100 a may contain soil varying from strong clay to light sandy loam. Who understands fully the best methods of manuring and cultivating the varying grades of soil so as to obtain the very best results in bushels of grain or in cash? Who understands fully the best methods of feeding and caring for the live stock requisite to such a farm, with a view to greatest profit? How are they to supply this need? Begin with a complete system of public school education, not omitting the rudiments of agricultural science. Our sons should if possible take a course at our excellent agricultural college at Guelph. Attend the farmers' institute meetings at which successful farmers give us the benefit of their experience. Then we have the meetings of the dairymen's associations, the various live stock associations, the fruit growers' association, etc at which matters of interest to farmers are ably discussed. We must not forget the benefit of a purely agricultural exhibition as an educative agency. Last but not least is the influence of the agricultural press, especially Farm and Home, which is doing a grand work.—[E. Boughner, Norfolk Co, Ont.]

The Ontario Winter Fair.

A BIG MEETING NEXT MONTH.

WITH EXHIBITS OF CATTLE, SHEEP, SWINE AND POULTRY, AND SEVERAL INTERESTING LECTURES.

IT IS expected the annual winter fair and meeting of the Dominion cattle breeders' ass'n, Dominion swine breeders' ass'n, Dominion sheep breeders' ass'n, Ont poultry ass'n and dairymen's ass'n of eastern Ontario will be one of the best ever held. The sale will be a special feature this year. There is a difference in the backing of the sale and that held at the Halifax fair, N S, by the provincial government. In the latter case the government bought and sold the animals, standing the loss. The sale to be held at Guelph will simply be a colonization sale, the management being in the hands of the live stock breeders' associations.

The associations will receive a grant from the Dominion government to assist in conducting the sale. The associations will provide a place for holding the sale, have it suitably equipped, provide an auctioneer, and do all advertising, including the publication of a catalog. Applications for entry will be received up to within a month of the sale. The catalog will give the full pedigree of the animals entered. Each animal will be inspected before the entry is accepted.

A sale of this kind will primarily benefit the farmer who has say one or two head of pure-bred cattle, but who is not in the business heavy enough to advertise them properly. He is therefore not in a position, although they may be good specimens, of being able to get any more than grade prices for his stock, because nobody knows he has them, and the following year he will probably go out of pure-bred stock and advise his neighbors to keep away from it. If a farmer of this kind had put his animal up at a public auction sale which is properly conducted, and got a fair price for his animal, or if he knew that each year he could enter his animals at the sale, that buyers would be there, and that he would receive fair market value for his animals, he would keep right on in the business and probably influence his friends. A good many such farmers have fairly good specimens of the breeds which they raise, but do not sell simply because they are unable to make connection with a buyer.

A permanent building for holding the provincial winter fair is being erected on the market square in the city of Guelph. The building is in the shape of an L, the full length being 310 ft, 210 ft of the length is 118 ft wide; the remaining 100 ft is 180 ft wide. The building is of stone, and with the exception of 50 ft running along the full front of the building, is one story high. The second story, 50 ft wide and 310 long in the front of the building is to be used for exhibition of dressed poultry. Several parts of the building will be heated, including the lecture room and the dairy building. The lecture room will be capable of holding about 325 persons and will be so equipped that live stock may be brought into the room for the purpose of being used as illustrations. The tracking on which the dressed carcasses are to be hung will also run into this room, in order that they also may be used as illustrations during the meetings. The room for dressed carcasses will be fully equipped with tracks and travelers for hanging carcasses, and will be so arranged that any particular carcass wanted for lectures can easily be taken out. A large space, 70x40 ft, is provided for a cattle show ring. This space is entirely free of posts and provision will be made here for seating the spectators.

In connection with the show, there are several new features this year. This is the first year in which prizes have been offered for dressed carcasses in the cattle department. The prizes amount to quite a sum in order that exhibitors may be induced to enter. They are: 1st \$50, 2d 30, 3d 20. In each of the pure-bred classes, with a grand sweepstakes of 50. As last year, there will also be prizes for dressed carcasses in the sheep and swine departments. The prizes offered for this purpose are double what they were last year. In connection with the dressed carcasses in the sheep department, we are endeavoring to have the animals so marked

that any particular animal can be followed straight through to the carcass. The result of any particular conformation in the live animal can then be readily seen. Arrangements will be made to have the animals in each department starved the same length of time before killing in order to obtain a comparative statement showing the percentage of shrinkage in dressing.

In the dairy department, this is the first year in which the feed has been taken into consideration in the result of the test. Arrangements will be made to ascertain which is the most economical among those at the show. The test will be conducted Dec 10 and 11. This is the time the milk will be kept and weighed. The cows, however, will be on hand Dec 4 and the amount of feed kept track of from this time to and including Dec 11. Spectators will not be allowed in the dairy building until Dec 12. If it can possibly be arranged, placards will be prepared and attached to the stall showing the amount of feed eaten and particulars as to standing of each cow in the test.

In the live poultry department the prizes will be the same as last year, a total of \$1500. In the dressed poultry department, the prize list will amount to about 300, about same as last year. The prize list for the last 2 yrs is considerably larger than has ever before been offered in Canada for dressed poultry, and as much as has ever been offered in any place in America. In this department, prizes are offered for a competition in killing, dressing and preparing chickens for the British market.

Lectures will be delivered in each department, using as illustrations first live animals, then dressed carcasses. A public meeting will be held Dec 12. It is also probable that special instruction will be given on cold storage, its use on the farm and cheap plans of installing. All the delegates who will attend farmers' institute meetings during the coming season will be present, and will receive instruction which they will use in addressing over 700 meetings which they will attend during the year. In the poultry department there will be an exhibition of experimental birds which have been fed so as to compare unfattened birds with birds which have been fattened by three or four different methods of feeding. In another lot there will be dressed fowl showing the difference in the flesh caused by different kinds of feed.

At the public meeting the speakers will probably include D. Derbyshire, Hon John Dryden, Dr James Mills, Hon Sydney Fisher, Director C. F. Curtiss of the exper sta, also other prominent visitors who may be present. This year a large number of farmers' institutes have affiliated with the show, and the members of these institutes will be entitled to free admission. A large number of them have signified their intention of wishing to run an excursion to the show the same as is done to the Ont agri college in summer. The dept of agri of each province will be represented by two or three prominent men.—[Sec'y A. P. Westervelt.]

LIVE STOCK PAID FOR FARM.

I came to Canada in '88, a big broad-shouldered man at 25 yrs. Located near the Molra river, Hastings Co, Ont. Hired to a farmer and saved \$130 that year. Besides, learned how to farm and farm well, for my employer was a graduate of the agricultural college and understood the principles underlying scientific farming. The next year rented a farm which paid well. The next year bought a farm of 110 a for \$1900, to be paid for in 3 yrs. It was a poor farm, poor fences, barns and sheds. But it had a good orchard and a splendid well. The first year did finely: milked eight cows, raised 16 calves, a colt and 19 pigs. I supplied corn from 10 a for a canning factory, clearing \$30 p a. I invested that sum in machinery. The mortgage was wiped out the third year.

Since lifting the mortgage have improved the stock, built new fences and placed new barns where old ones were. Now have the latest and best machinery. Raise considerable stock. The last 2 yrs sold my milk to a milkman, milking cows summer and winter. I find more money in raising stock and dairying than in anything else. Tried a silo, which did not turn out as well as I thought, but the cows did twice as well on ensilage. Last year I raised and fed out, oats 214 bu, buckwheat 110, peas 325, barley 84, field corn 17 a,

fodder corn 6 a. On one acre loam I planted mangolds, carrots and turnips. I had two sows and 17 small pigs when they came off the stubble.

For feeding roots, washed mangolds, boiled in a large kettle and then put them in a large vat. Mixed peas and buckwheat and covered them so as to keep the steam to scald the grain. Did the same with carrots and turnips. Had 95 bu grain and peas and buckwheat for the pigs. One sow weighed 417 lbs, the other 390 lbs. The small pigs averaged 220 lbs and made a fine lot of pork. Bought a yoke of steers, tied them up and fed them on fox-tail grass, screenings and turnips. They weighed 1712 and 1500 lbs, the fattest on the market for many years. Sold 100 qts milk a day at 2 1/2c in summer and 3c in winter.—[F. Creeper, Hastings Co, Ont.]

The Largest Squash ever raised in America is the claim made for one raised this year by William Warnock of Goderich, Ont. It weighs 32 1/2 lbs, measures 36 inches in length, 37 wide, 26 high, is 3 1/2 ft in circumference one way and 9 2-3 another. The stalk near the root measured 11 in across. Mr Warnock also raised a half-dozen squashes that weighed over 200 lbs each. He showed the largest squash at the World's fair, Chicago, in '93, and has raised mammoth squashes every year since. His method of growing these mammoth squashes was printed in F & H May 15.

A Wonderful Future is in store for the fruit industry of N.S. Last week I visited one farmer who last year sold his apple crop for \$4000; this year is an off year for his orchard, but it will bring him considerably over \$2000. Other crops are fair this year. Grain in parts of the province was late and somewhat damaged by fall rains. Potatoes are a good crop in this section. The man whose orchard is referred to above was digging 250 to 300 bu p a on a 9 a field the day I was there; selling at 35 to 40c p bu.—[Prof F. C. Sears, N S School of Horticulture.]

Nova Scotia Fruit Growers—It is proposed at the next annual meeting of the fruit growers' ass'n in late Jan to hold a winter exhibit of fruit as was done last season. Every one who attended the meetings last year agreed that the fruit show was a most attractive feature, and it ought to be possible to have a much larger exhibit at the coming meeting. Judging from what was shown at Halifax there ought also to be a splendid exhibit from counties outside the Annapolis valley. Pictou, Colchester, Halifax, Yarmouth and several other counties made most attractive exhibits at the Provincial exhibition; now let growers from these counties attend the annual meeting and bring some of their fruit with them, and they will help to make the winter exhibit a success, and will have an opportunity to join in the discussions and receive a large amount of practical information that will help them to succeed still further in this most important branch of their business. No doubt it is true that there is only one Annapolis valley in the province, but no one can have watched the development of the fruit industry and have seen the fruit at Halifax without concluding that there are splendid possibilities in other localities.—[F. C. Sears, Chairman Committee on Fruit Exhibit.]

The Gluten Content of Wheat in the various parts of the country is being investigated by the U S dept of agri. This study has been begun in co-operation with the directors of the Cal, Ind, Ky, Md, Mich, Col and Mo experiment stations. The effect of soil and climate on the gluten in wheat will first be determined by having the same wheat grown at the different stations for a series of years, noting the changes which take place in its composition during that time. The method of preserving and increasing the gluten content of wheat, by the selection of the seed and by proper fertilization and culture, will also be studied. New varieties have been imported to test their gluten content.

Greenhouse Radishes sown in Nov will be ready in Jan, and lettuce sown at the same time will mature in Feb.