

# The Farming World

## And Canadian Farm and Home

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### The Western Wheat Crop

**A**FTER several weeks of favorable and unfavorable reports the situation regarding the wheat crop of Western Canada seems to have settled down to a yield of about 55,000,000 bushels. With the increased price much more money will come into the country than a year ago, though the total output is no greater. Notwithstanding the many contradictory reports regarding the injury from black rust, our information leads us to believe that many sections have been seriously affected by this pest. However, the damages from rust are confined chiefly to the older settled parts of the country, where the farmer has had several years of successful wheat growing, and is in a position to withstand one year's failure. In the newer settled portions very little, if any, damage has been done by rust, and the settler will be able to get a good start with this year's crop. The west is a big country, and wheat is grown over such a wide area, that a failure in a few sections does not affect the general output very materially.

The wheat cutting is now pretty well through with. Harvesting weather the past few days has not been the best. In a letter received on Monday last, a western correspondent says:

"We are having continued bad weather. Everything is at a standstill, and as you can readily understand, the quality of the grain is not being improved by standing out in stock."

### Show Ring Condition

If there was one thing emphasized more than another at the larger fairs held last month, and more especially at the Canadian National, it was the great need of having all animals exhibited in first-class show condition. Several instances might be given where the only thing that influenced the judge in making his decision was that one animal was better fitted than the other. And in not a few cases an animal otherwise as good as the best in his class, was placed several degrees from first money because he was not properly fitted for the showing. All this emphasizes the fact that to win prizes, especially at the larger shows, the exhibitor must not only have good individuals, but also have them in perfect show shape. More often than not it is the skill of the feeder and fitter that wins the coveted ribbon, when the individuals in the ring are closely matched. The successful exhibitor, therefore, must see to it that his animals are in proper show trim before they face the judges.

But, some one will ask, "will it not injure the breeding qualities of an animal to put him in proper show trim?" Perhaps it will. But it must be re-

membered, that many of the world's top-notchers in the showing have been excellent breeding animals as well and left their impress upon the live stock of the country. While the qualified judge of the present day may, rightly so, demand that an animal be in show condition before entering the ring, we do not think the requirements in this particular are so exacting as they were some years back. In other words, a more moderate course in this respect is being followed and perfect showing condition today is not as injurious to the breeding qualities of an animal as it was a decade ago. But be this as it may, the exhibitor owes it to himself, to the judges and to the onlookers, to have his animals showing the very best that is in them. It adds to the attractiveness of a live stock exhibit and makes it of greater educational value to all concerned.

### Getting Better all the Time

EDITOR, THE FARMING WORLD:

Thanks for copies of your excellent Exhibition Number. I am sending these to friends of mine who are engaged in agriculture, one in the County of Bruce and the other in Alberta. I am a subscriber and constant reader of THE FARMING WORLD, which is getting better all the time.

Wishing you continued success, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

T. B. MILLAR.

London, Ont.

### May Ship Nova Scotia Stockers West

In Nova Scotia, and especially in the eastern part of that province, the drought of the past summer has been so severe that many farmers will not have sufficient fodder to keep their cattle during the winter. Under direction of the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. F. W. Hodson, Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa, recently visited some of the dry sections with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of placing a number of the young cattle among western stock raisers, where feed is more plentiful. The bulk of this young stock is too small to be disposed of with profit to their owners. If a shipment west is undertaken, the Live Stock Commissioner suggests that it be sold at auction, and that the Government guarantee the credit at the banks of the buyers, who would probably be stock raisers with abundance of feed but with no ready money, so that shippers will receive the returns from sales promptly. The cattle to be shipped must be two-years old or upwards.

The conditions indicated above will

come as a surprise to many in Ontario, where there has been too much rain during the past summer for the good of the crops. It is, however, another proof of the vastness of the Dominion, when such varied climatic conditions prevail during any one season. But, be this as it may, it is doubtful whether the shipping of this young stock to other parts of the Dominion where fodder is more plentiful is the best way of helping the eastern farmer in this emergency. There are none too many cattle in the Maritime Provinces now, and especially in Nova Scotia. Would it not, therefore, be a better plan to relieve the situation by shipping sufficient hay from Quebec and Ontario, where the crop is an abundant one, to enable the cattle raiser down by the sea to bring his young stock through the coming winter. The cattle would then be left in the province and could be fitted another season for the block. There is now a greater demand for fresh meat in the markets of Nova Scotia than that province can supply, and it is not helping matters any to ship the young stock out of the country and have others make a profit by feeding and fitting them for market. If the eastern farmer is not in a position to buy the fodder required to tide his stock over the winter, the Government might guarantee the shipper and accept a lien or other security from the farmer, as was done some years back in western Canada, when there was a scarcity of seed grain. Besides, there are already too many of the scrub kind of stockers in Ontario and the west for the good of the beef cattle industry and the situation will not be helped any by running in several hundred inferior ones from the eastern provinces. Better transfer some of the surplus hay crop east and allow this young stock to be fed and fitted for market at home and leave the profit, if there is any, with the Nova Scotia farmer.

### How U. S. Wool Supply is Used

In the census year, 1900, the total production of wool in the United States amounted to 288,636,621 pounds. The estimated production for 1903 was 340,000,000 pounds, and the importations for the same year 173,573,891 pounds. This makes the total supply of domestic and foreign wool 513,500,000 pounds or a little less than 6½ pounds of raw wool per capita.

Of the importations of foreign wool in 1903, 123,096,269 pounds or upwards of 70 per cent. was made up of third-class wool for making carpets. Estimating the consumption for carpets at 100,000,000 pounds, as in the census year, the remainder of this third-class wool was utilized for clothing