

Special Correspondence

Our New Zealand Letter.

Our wool season has been very good. All have sold at satisfactory prices, and a few in advance of last year's quotations. My own clip realized 4c. over last season. We had a real good season all round, and our country never looked better, beautiful mild weather, with showers and sometimes heavier rains, giving the summer quite a spring-like appearance. Stock are well in condition for winter, looking exceptionally well.

At the opening of the new sale yards for sheep fairs, we yarded (some 30 miles from here) about 5,000, and satisfactory prices ranged right through the sale. All "quitted" except one small pen of ewes, and those were up to a few pence of the reserve. I topped the market for our district, Waingaro, with ewes at 19s 7d. (\$4 70c.), and lambs, 11s. 10d. (\$2.84), these acknowledged to be coming to quality, the cheapest in the fair. Romney and Lincoln rams have been in great demand throughout the season. There is not a single Romney left, and buyers have had to come south at advanced rates. A northern breeder "quitted" his in up to fifty sheep in a bunch at 4 guineas (over \$20), and upwards. Single rams have sold at 20 and even 25 guineas (\$600). Lincolns, after a great slackness, even to not being able to sell rams at 5 guineas. Black faces, as usual, have their place for production of the ewe bred lamb most saleable for export.

BUTTER.

This has been a good season, prices have been very steady at 112s. and over, even up to 120s. per 112 lbs., and some of our farmers have had exceptional returns. Cliches for one month, in many cases, have given a return of 30s. (\$7.20), 31s. (\$7.44), and even 32s. (\$7.92) per cow, and of course there is the extra profit on the calves and pigs from the separated milk.

Beef is not so high as a couple of years ago, but has been as high as 22s. (\$5.28) for 100 lbs. dead weight. The butchers, no doubt, have been making a good thing out of the hide, alone from late prices makes a great reduction in the cost of the animal, which they are very slow to speak of.

Many thanks for the two photographs of Toronto show, which have been reproduced in "N. Z. Farmer," a copy of which you will receive. We are always glad to know and see anything of our cousins across the sea, and note their progress with great pleasure. A clipping from "Otago Daily Times" may interest your people, to note your manufactures are in the front rank in New Zealand.

Some of our agricultural machinery manufacturers are very anxious re the "Harvester Trust" and its actions, but my opinion is that Canada can always supply us if they raise rates.

Possibly you would notice in Australian papers that they have suffered very much from fires in the Maitland district, some 100 miles above Sydney, as we are in a direct line from there, and the wind fair, the smoke was so great that it was quite plain here, and yet a distance of 1300 miles away. Our own bush (felled) fires are about once, and a grass seed sowing will now be in full swing. Our Government helps the several rear block districts by loaning money at 4 per cent. for 40 years for new road making. We have just

gone in for £8,000 (\$40,000), which we will make our road (macadamized) twenty miles in our direction (We had a previous one of £5,000.)

WAINGARO.

March 21st, 1906.

Ottawa Letter.

OTTAWA, April 24,

Mr. T. G. Raynor, of the seed division of the Department of Agriculture has just returned from an extensive trip throughout Western Ontario, during which he had a good opportunity to note the condition of crops. In the western section of the province he says the fall wheat and new seeding of grass and clover have come through in first class condition. The same holds true about as far east as Central Ontario. But different weather conditions prevailed in eastern Ontario. There was less snow and much of the new seeding and fall wheat was killed. The clover suffered considerably, through the root being heaved out by the frost.

Mr. Raynor's journey to western Ontario was for the purpose of visiting and inspecting the stocks held by seed dealers, to see how they stood with regard to the Seed Control Act. His observations in this regard were very satisfactory. The stocks in the dealer's hands, he says, were never better. The wholesalers are selling first class seeds and the local dealers are handling the very best. What unsatisfactory goods were held have been disposed of in other markets. Mr. Raynor has gone on a similar tour to Renfrew, Pembroke, Temiskaming and other northern Ontario points.

The seed division is this year co-operating with the Farmers' Institutes of the province to hold a series of meetings in June. Seventy or eighty of these have been arranged for. Discussions will be held upon the best means and methods of growing pure seed and how to eliminate most of the weed seeds from a crop by destroying before maturity the weeds that grow in spots where the clover or grain has been killed out by the frost.

Mutual assistance in government departments has been exemplified recently by the Militia Department asking Dr. Fletcher, of the Central Experimental Farm to ascertain if the Petewawa drill ground could not be improved by sowing a suitable species of grass. The land is light and sandy, and is overgrown with low scrubby bushes, blue-berry plants, wintergreen and other wild growth. Dr. Fletcher will pay a visit to the ground and find out the kind of grass that would grow best. Part of the object in this is to keep down the dust which has proved an annoyance to the troops. The incident serves to show another benefit of scientific farming.

The Dominion Government, through the Department of Agriculture, will continue for another year the experiments in seed and crop growing, conducted at Richmond Fair Grounds, Carleton County, for the past three years. The ground to be used will consist of 30 plots each 3 feet square. They are situated in the open space in the centre of the spacious speed ring ground. The experiments will consist chiefly in the growing of grass and clover with nurse crops, with a view to illustrating the best methods

of securing a good catch of meadow and clover growths. Previous experiments have been conducted without nurse crops.

Mr. D. Drummond, of the live stock branch, starts shortly on a tour in which he will take in the various dairy herds included in the Dominion Record of Merit. He will stay two days at each dairy, taking the weight of milk and tests for butter fat. The tests required are four per year. At the end of the period the figures will be officially compiled and results recorded.

Prince Edward Island.

We are informed that tuberculosis has developed in the cattle at the Provincial Stock Farm; some sixteen cows have had the disease.

One of the finest and largest steers ever bred in this Island was sold by Mr. Leard, of Wilnot, to Mr. F. Blake for shipment to Sydney. The animal at three years old weighed over a ton. He was bred by Senator Yeo, his sire being an Angus bull and his mother a pure-bred Shorthorn.

Morgan M., the only live stallion in the province, is a handsome dark chestnut, coming 3 years old, sired by Colten Swell, 6639, dam Comet 7-3008. He is owned by W. Moffatt, Mayfield.

The Condensed Milk Factory Co. have been paying \$125 per cwt. for milk during the past few months.

We are informed that on the 15th of February there arrived at London a shipment of 136 lbs. of Ben Davis apples from P. E. Island. They were grown by Senator Ferguson, F. G. Boyver and Frank Boyver. The inspector at London said that the barrel was the best example of honest packing that he had ever seen. A. R.

New Brunswick Notes

A small glimmering of interest is being aroused in agricultural education, and quite a number of New Brunswick boys are now at the Truro Agricultural College taking the short course in stock and grain judging, etc.

While the New Brunswick government is unwilling to take up any short course work on its own account, it is this year paying the railway fares for students who take the short or long courses at either the Nova Scotia or Central Agricultural Colleges. This action does not exactly show a very independent or progressive spirit, but it is an indication of an acknowledgment of the benefits of up-to-date agricultural instruction.

Considerable quantities of potatoes are going from St. John Valley to Toronto and to Boston.

One of the farmers in the neighborhood of Fredericton is making special preparations to cater to this trade, and has demonstrated to his own satisfaction that with the help of a clover crop once in three years and a dressing of 12 tons of city stable manure to the acre, he can grow turnips or potatoes, oats and clover, in a three-year rotation without any appreciable loss of fertility, and his crops are the envy of his neighbors. With 180 acres in this rotation he only keeps one cow and turns everything that his horses do not eat into cash.

MCABAM.

Prizes it

I was a subscriber to THE FARMING WORLD years before it became THE FARMING WORLD and also since. I prize it as the best paper I take—Robert Leitch, Renfrew Co., Ont.