

is really of stocker grade from want of high finish. Some of it, apparently full-fleshed and fat, but it does not stand shipment well. Unless we feed to a higher finish so as to get higher prices and better shipping qualities, the returns to the producer must be only moderate. If we had a good cold storage system and transportation and local abattoirs the producer would gain by there not being good money spent in carrying to the East the waste products of the carcasses.

"A striking example of what we are now doing is seen in our inability to profit by our market in the neighboring province of British Columbia. A good deal of our stuff goes into British Columbia, but it does not reach the coast, and 30,000 or more muttons are brought from Seattle and other American points by Vancouver dealers, principally for the Yukon trade.

"We derive a revenue of 20 per cent. on these, but buyers can afford to pay the enhanced price in view of the high freight rates through the mountains from the prairies. A car costs \$20 to the coast, and if it carries two hundred sheep, this would mean 60 cents a head, or the amount of the duty of 20 per cent. on a \$300 per head basis. The rate of duty is, however, runs more nearly 50 cents per head. It is according to invoice, of course, but the price is usually about \$250 per head. The freight on the one about balances the duty on the other, but the shrinkage on grass stuff weighed up at the coast market amounts to twelve or thirteen per cent. We shall require a better finish to our stuff and a better sale before we can get this market."

"Is not this good proof that the duty on sheep coming into this country is not high enough to keep out American sheep? To Mr. McCuaig's statement I might add, "and a higher duty on sheep to protect our home market." Just to think of 20,000 American sheep coming into this country and sheep "gone" to the dogs," as some of your correspondents have said. According to Mr. McCuaig's own statement, the Americans now hold a large percentage of the mutton trade of British Columbia. Is not this a sad state of affairs in a mutton-producing country such as ours is?"

At the thirty-ninth annual meeting of the National Wool Growers' Association of the United States, no less a person than President Warren defends the tariff on wool by the following: "To remove the tariff or duty on wool would be to practically blot out our flocks, to compel our manufacturers to depend on foreign wool, and finally to raise the price of woollen goods to consumers with out any benefit to the country for the sheep and wool grown."

Now, since our country has no duty on wool, according to Mr. Warren's reasoning, our flocks must be diminishing. Likewise in every letter written on the subject in THE FARMING WORLD, there was not one dissenting voice; all were agreed upon the decline of the sheep industry.

Mr. Warren's claim that a removal of the duty would compel manufacturers to depend upon foreign wool is worthy of note. This is exactly the case in Canada today. Most of our large woollen mills are using foreign wool entirely. While attending the Ottawa show a few weeks ago I learned from a reliable source that woollen manufacturers were in a combine, which in time would keep wool down somewhat in price.

There is a large woollen robe manufacturing establishment in Galt. All the wool they use comes from

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South America. What good to the sheep industry is an establishment of that kind in the country. When we have a combine against us; free wool from all the world, not enough duty on sheep to protect our home market, shoddy goods galore, is it not about time for us to have an association such as exists in the United States to protect our interests? Is it any wonder that the sheep industry is declining?

I noticed a statement in your paper which I cannot let go without a protest. It was to the effect that we sheep breeders do not push our industry. If you will look at the United States farm papers you will see that several of our sheep breeders spend from \$25 to \$150 a year in advertising their sheep in the country which protects their industries. It is often like throwing money away to advertise in our own papers because our home trade is no good. At present we have but two foreign markets, England and the United States, England for mutton sheep and the United States for pure-bred sheep principally. It behoves us, therefore, to look for other markets for pure-bred stock.

In my last letter, published in April 15th issue, there is a mistake. It may have been mine. It reads: "The surplus wool of the United States goes to England." It should read "surplus mutton."

In your editorial you state that the National Live Stock Convention concluded that shoddy and cotton are the cause of cheap wool. I contend that as wool is second to lamb, so is shoddy and cotton second to the tariff. Good shoddy is dearer than wool today. Then if shoddy be the cause, raise the duty to 100 per cent. and keep the stuff out of the country the same as the United States do with the woollen robes made at Galt. We have only 35 per cent. against the U. S. robe, so that the Americans by making a lighter robe compete with us in our own market.

There has recently been a sale of one man's wool in the United States, which netted \$22,000. What a pity he did not live in Canada. He might have got \$10,000 for it. But, of course, you say wool is only of secondary consideration, so what must his lambs have brought?

How long are farmers and live stock associations going to keep mum and allow Americans to flood this country with pure-bred stallions and bulls, and we cannot take even a sheep to that country, pure-bred or grade, without paying the duty. I believe in fair play. How is it that so much cured pork from Chicago supplies so much of the North West market. It is time for us to take hold and see to our interests.

JNO. B. LLOYD-JONES,  
Burford, Ont.

### Consolidated Rural School

Dr. J. W. Robertson, Agricultural and Dairy Commissioner, on May 3th addressed a meeting at Guelph, of the trustees and others interested in the proposed new consolidated school at the Ontario Agricultural College. The schools coming into the consolidation are Nos. 1, 4 and 7, and probably No. 6, in Guelph township, and No. 2 in Puslinch. The plans are completed and it is expected that the school will be opened this autumn. Dr. Robertson referred to the success of the consolidated school at Middleton, N.S. The average attendance is 90 per cent. compared with 50 per cent. in the old schools, while the maximum attendance has grown from 280 to 400. The Quebec and P.E.I. schools will be built this year.