

FARMING

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Agricultural News and Comments

The third annual meeting of the American Tamworth Swine Record Association will be held at the office of the Secretary, Wolverine Citizens Building, Flint, Mich., on Monday, February 20th, 1899. Edwin C. Wood, Flint, Mich., is the Secretary.

Experiments conducted in Germany with eight cows show that when milked four times a day they gave an increase of 5.36 per cent. in the yield of fat, but only 0.44 per cent. in the yield of milk, and 0.65 per cent. in the yields of solids not fat over milking twice a day.

Volume IX. of the American Galloway Herd Book will be ready for delivery January 15th. This publication is sent free to members by prepaying fifteen cents postage. To non-members a charge of \$1.15 is made. Entries for Volume X are now being received by the secretary, Frank B. Hearn, Independence, Mo.

There are estimated to be 35,671,914 sheep in the United States. The wool of 110,000,000 sheep is required to meet the annual consumptive demand in the United States, and therefore the Americans will have to increase their flocks by 74,328,086 sheep before they will be in a position to supply the home demand for wool.

Professor Roberts, of Cornell University, states that the manure of one sheep for a year is worth \$3.17. This is good value, and increases in a large measure the value of keeping sheep on the farm. Twenty sheep, which is none too many for the average 100-acre farm to keep, would, if this estimate is correct, bring onto it every year \$63.40 worth of fertility.

Agriculture is receiving more attention among the negroes of the Southern States than it once did. One of the leading negro dairymen and agriculturists in America is Prof. J. W. Hoffman, Director of the State Colored College of South Carolina. He has made a special study of the science and practice of dairying, and is well fitted to carry on the important work he is doing in the South.

The average net price realized in 1898 at the Government creamery at Moose Jaw, N.W.T., was 20 cents per pound. This is an advance of two cents per pound over 1897. The patrons were charged four cents per lb. for manufacturing, leaving them 16 cts. per lb. The total output of the creamery was 38,000 pounds, which at 20 cts would equal \$7,600. Deducting \$1,520 for making, and we have \$6,080 divided among thirty nine patrons.

An exchange says: A man who does not advertise simply because his grandfather did not, ought to wear knee pants and a queue. The man who does not advertise because it costs money should quit paying rent for the same reason. The man who does not advertise because he tried it once and failed should throw his cigar away because the light went out. The man who don't advertise because he don't know how himself should stop eating because he don't know how to cook.

A new industry has been started in Oregon. It is the manufacture of pine needles into a fabric very like woollen cloth. It is the intention at the start to make material of the consistency of excelsior for mattresses. Afterwards wool used for underclothing, bandages and other purposes

where soft and pliable fabric is required will be manufactured. Only the inner fabric of the needles can be used for the latter, and the process is expensive, but not more so than that of the manufacture of lamb's wool.

The grade of eggs required for the British market is one that will weigh a pound and a half to the dozen, and for every half-pound which eggs weigh less than fifteen pounds to each ten dozen, the value is lessened by about one cent per dozen. It is believed by those engaged in the import trade that in large eggs the albumen is thicker than in small ones, and that ninety per cent. of the stale or bad eggs are small eggs with white shells. Shells of a brown color are preferred, and must be clean without having been cleaned.

A new market for American wheat is opening up in Japan. In 1895 that country imported from the United States 484,510 pounds of wheat. In 1896 these imports had increased to 2,451,689 pounds, and in 1897 to 12,467,466 pounds. Corea is the greatest rival that the United States has in this trade. For the last two years the United States sent to Japan annually over 31,000,000 pounds of flour as against 13,000,000 pounds in 1895. This trade with Japan is growing very rapidly, and there is no reason why Canadian wheat growers should not have a large share of it.

In 1896 Great Britain imported 132,450,110 dozens of eggs valued at \$20,365,326. Of this quantity France supplied 32,757,760 dozens, valued at \$6,196,240; Germany 29,304,860 dozens, valued at \$3,806,322, and Russia 24,610,680 dozens, valued at \$3,660,253. The important point to notice in these figures is the great difference in the value of the imports from France and Germany which closely approximate one another in quantity. The average price at the point of export was 15.3 cents per dozen. The selling price in England varies from 31 to 34 cents in winter for French extras, to as low as 17 to 18 cents for Canadian pickled stock.

An agricultural college for the Maritime Provinces is likely to be established at some Nova Scotia point. Mr. W. C. Archibald, of Wolfville, N.S., has recently been on a visit to the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, with a view to learning something of how this institution is conducted. There are five students at Guelph this year from the Maritime Provinces, and every year a number go to colleges in the United States. Mr. Archibald is of the opinion that if a good agricultural college were organized there would be no need for young men in the lower provinces to go so far for an education and that a good attendance could be secured at the start.

Experiments in Iowa and Pennsylvania seem to show that crude petroleum or oil can be used as a valuable adjunct for roadmaking. After the dirt road has been prepared and smoothed in the ordinary manner it is claimed that the application to the surface at the rate of one barrel to 100 feet of road twelve feet wide, will cause the surface when dried to become hard and impervious to rain. The present cost of oil at the wells in the United States is 90 cents per barrel. At that rate the oil for a mile of road would cost about \$47.50 not including freight. If the plan proves successful it will be the cheapest yet found for meeting the crying need of the country for good roads.