

FARMING AND LIVE STOCK PAGE

DO WE NEED A COMMISSION?

Every week sees hundreds of our Ontario farmers leaving for the western provinces or for New Ontario. What's the matter with us?

We have heard a great deal about the prosperity of the farmer. He has been pointed out as the one member of the community who was making money. But is he? Is he as well off now as he was thirty years ago?

True, he has more creature comforts. He has finer surroundings. The telephone, the rural post, and electric roads, are good, but what good are they if the farmers are getting poorer and the youth getting out?

Why is land that sells for \$100 per acre looked upon as a wonderful thing by the farmer and the bait too tempting to refuse a sale?

Why will our farmers sell out a fifty acre farm with all their modern conveniences and purchase a town lot that takes nearly all the farm proceeds?

There is something wrong in the agricultural life, the agricultural returns or in our education. Which is it?

Farm products have been uniformly high for some time. Have they been too high?

Can anyone name a more ideal life than the life on the farm, by the man who loves the farm with its live stock, crop rotation, plant growth and orchards?

It is high time the agricultural department of the government of this great province was doing something more radical to infuse life and activity to the dormant, listless acres of our fertile soil in Ontario.

THE CLOVER SITUATION.

Last year was a peculiar year for clover seed in Ontario. It was a dry year, yet there was an abundance of weed seeds in the returns. The weevil mischief was common also, and as yet we have heard nothing from the farmers as to the life possessed by these red bodies in the grain box.

A prominent seed merchant of Toronto tells The World that he could go out to-morrow and purchase thousands of bushels of red clover seed, but he would not and could not handle it, because of the weed seeds present and the low quality of the seed. He moreover stated that all their seeds were being imported this year for this reason.

And here lies a danger. Farmers trade and deal among themselves for their clover seeds this spring more than ever before. The result will likely be that many hundreds of weed seeds will be sold as clover, and these in their turn will produce a big harvest of trouble. It is therefore necessary that farmers examine, very carefully, all the seeds they contemplate sowing. A revealing several times these spare days will do no harm, for it is better to throw away the small undeveloped and debatable portion than to risk a seeding with them. It is poor policy to fight weeds all summer and sow them in the spring.

Alfalfa is a coming crop for Ontario. This seed is scarce and its high price may deter many from trying it on their farms this year. This again will be poor economy. For there is no better thrift shown by the Ontario farmer than in the sowing of clovers, and especially alfalfa, which is feed for everything and a builder up of the soil. By all means try a small piece of alfalfa this season and give it a fair chance to live.

HOLSTEINS AT AUCTION.

About the last chance for farmers this spring to secure a high-class Holstein cow, is offered in the advertisement in this issue of Messrs. R. S. Stevenson and Son of Ancaster, Ont. Brookholme Stock Farm occupies lots 41 and 42, con. 2, of Ancaster Tp., and has produced Holsteins of the highest-class for a number of years. They have been supplying milk and cream to the City of Hamilton for the past fifteen years, and the city inspector's reports show 2.49 per cent to 4.20 per cent butter fat in the milk.

In all 48 head will be sold, and 14 head of these females are of the celebrated Angley family being descended from Angley's 3rd Prince. The grand-bred young stock bull "Gano's Fafort Butter Boy," whose dam, "Sherwood Gano," No. 190 C.H.B., produced in twelve months, under Dominion Government supervision, 17,619 lbs. of milk, containing 667 lbs. of fat equal to 82 1/4 lbs. of butter, and whose sire's dam "Fafort 8th" produced under advanced registry supervision 550 lbs. of milk, making 26 lbs. of butter in seven days, will be sold. Six cows and seven heifers have been bred to "Gano's Fafort Butter Boy," all other females have been bred to "Panariata's Pauline Dekol King," No. 2104, C.H.B. Here are some of the milk records, found in their neat folder catalog, which you should send for at once. Patsy Fifth—1950 lbs. in 9 mos; Patsy Sixth—1750 lbs. in 7 mos; Brada Tenson—1901 lbs. in 30 days; Patsy Fifth Five Spot—1250 lbs. in 12 mos; and others equally as good.

The sale will be held under cover at farm buildings, located on lot 41, Con. 2, Ancaster Township, one-half mile west of Village of Ancaster, on Mineral Springs Road, and one-half mile north of Stop 11, on Brantford and Hamilton Electric Railway. Electric cars leave both Hamilton and Brantford to Stop 9 or Stop 11 (1-2 mile from here) at following hours: 6.30, 7.45, 9.00, 10.30, 12.00 a.m., 1.30 and 3.00 p.m.

HORSES IN THE COUNTRY HIGH.

Henry Sanderson of Weston, under the direction of William Doherty, of Agincourt, has been thru Scarborough purchasing Clydesdale fillies and paying good prices.

U.S. SALMON AND TROUT SUPPLIES FROM HATCHERY

The Spawn Are Protected and Sent 500 Miles to Lake Michigan to Stock Fresh Water.

The management of fish hatcheries and the way the spawn are transferred to the lakes and rivers is interesting to those who do not know the inner workings of a fish hatchery. A visit to the state hatchery at Havana, Ill., says an American exchange, is interesting.

For several weeks no hatching has been in progress, the attention of the attendants being directed to some 3000 young white fish which are being held in the reservoir to note the effects of the water in which they are kept upon their life and development, the temperature of the water in which they are now living being several degrees warmer than that in which the variety "trout" is the custom to "plant" the product of the white fish eggs as soon as the hatching is finished, the fish babies being less than half an inch long at the time of hatching. They are sent to Waukegan, Ill., where they are dumped into Lake Michigan and left to care for themselves, and the entire output of white fish during the winter of 1908, numbering 2,000,000, was sent there for distribution.

Like perch, more familiarly known as "wall-eyed perch, or salmon," were hatched out in great numbers last season and constituted the principal product of the hatchery. It is the expectation of Superintendent Hutchinson that by the first of April he will have received 30,000,000 pike perch eggs from the government fish bureau at Washington, D.C. The eggs will be secured originally from Lake Erie, which is conceded to be the best breeding place of the variety.

At the present time there are 50,000 rainbow trout eggs being hatched, and as the eggs of this variety are much larger than those of most others, the process is a very interesting study on account of the ability of the uninitiated to see the different points of development. For instance, the 50,000 eggs just received are called "eyed" rainbow trout eggs, because they have been so far developed at the government hatchery that it is already possible to see the eyes of the tiny fish thru the thin shell of the eggs.

The method of shipping fish eggs is ingenious. Many people suppose they are shipped in cans of water, which is far wrong. The 50,000 received last week came in 12 trays, each one foot square and one inch in height, the bottom of the trays being of cotton batting and the sides of wood. In every other tray is placed sphagnum moss, which is first dipped into cold water and then wrung out, after which the eggs are placed in two layers in the trays apportioned to them and then protected from the wooden sides of the tray by a soft cushion, a mosquito bar only separating them from contact with the bottom of the tray. The top tray is left empty; and over it is placed a three-inch perforated wooden box filled with ice, which keeps the eggs from becoming over-heated.

The stack of trays is then placed in a box about two feet square and packed all round with shavings. On the top of this outer box a notice is placed as to the shipping station, which gives explicit directions to express messengers and instructing them to keep the boxes right side up, away from heat, and to keep a watch over the shipment, jumping and see that all the ice does not melt out of the top of the box.

The rainbow trout eggs traveled 500 miles and arrived in splendid condition. Upon their arrival at their destination the temperature of the box was taken and the eggs transferred to water of that temperature. Gradually the temperature was altered until the thermometer registered 50 degrees, the difference having been six degrees. Sudden change in the temperature is very dangerous to the hatching process and is always avoided.

The eggs of all salmon and trout are a beautiful pink in color. The rainbow trout eggs are one-sixth of an inch in diameter, the size increasing slightly near the time of hatching. The young fish has a food sac attached to his belly which supplies him with nourishment for two or eight weeks, after which he must look out for himself. It requires only about 35 or 40 days to hatch them, and it is estimated that the ones just received are about 20 days old.

J. C. BRETHOUR'S YORKSHIRE SALE.

Just now, when the price of hogs is soaring, farmers will be glad of a chance to purchase some good ones at a bargain.

Brethour's success in the Oak Lodge herd in the show ring was phenomenal from the beginning.

At the Toronto Industrial in 1891, this herd first exhibited and in every section where Oak Lodge Yorkshires were shown they won first with but one exception. During eleven consecutive years the herd prize was won nine times and added to this every challenge cup, silver plate and medal.

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IMPORTANT SALE OF LARGE YORKSHIRE HOGS

At "Oak Lodge" Farm, one-half mile south of G. T. R. station, Burford, the property of that pioneer breeder,

Mr J. E. Brethour

who offers for sale on

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

One hundred and seventy-five of his choicest animals, from the best strains of Oak Lodge herd, including Brood Sows, Young Sows and Boars, both imported and Canadian-bred. The Oak Lodge Herd is the Pioneer Herd of Yorkshires in America, as well as the largest and most complete collection of this breed on the Continent.

In founding the Oak Lodge Herd, the object in view was the production of Prolific, Hardy, Easy Feeding Pigs, whose carcasses would take highest rank when judged by the consumer in the British or American markets. That this object has been accomplished is attested by the large shipments made annually to all parts of Canada and the United States, as well as by the success of this herd in the show ring.

All pigs registered and crated for buyers. TERMS—Credit of six months on usual items. RAILWAY RATES—Single fares for the return trip are good returning as late as April 12.

NOTE—Orders for the purchase of any pig will be taken by Mr. P. M. Chapman of The World, who will attend sale. All cars will be taken if limits of price and requirements are mailed him to The World Office before April 7th.

WELBY ALMAS, Auctioneer. J. E. BRETHOUR, Prop.

offered during these years were won by this herd.

At the Provincial Winter Fair the bacon contests are perhaps the severest tests of the relative merits of herds competing. In eleven annual contests this herd has secured first and championship on pen of export bacon hogs nine times.

At the World's Fair, St. Louis, 1904, this herd won 64 prizes, including two grand championships, two reserve grand championships, four championships, and the premier championship for breeders of Yorkshires. At this fair there were 10,000 pigs on exhibition of the different breeds, and 8000 of these were under 12 months. Oak Lodge Frederick, the barrow from this herd, won the grand championship, showing against the 8000, all known breeds of pigs were represented. Every pig shown by them at this fair was bred at Oak Lodge with one exception.

At the World's Fair, Chicago, the Trans-Mississippi, Omaha, the Pan-American, Buffalo, in fact at every world's fair and international exhibition held during the last twenty years, the lion share of the best premiums has been secured by this herd.

The sale list comprises: Mature breeding sows, imported and Canadian-bred; stock boars, imported and Canadian-bred; sows and boars of breeding age, and a large number of younger pigs of different ages.

A registered certificate, and in case of a sow in pig a certificate of service, will be furnished for each pig. Each pig will be crated and delivered at express office without extra charge. Single fare return tickets can be procured at all railway stations, good on day of sale and two following days.

Trains arrive at Burford at 8 a.m. from Tillsonburg Junction and at 11 a.m. from Brantford, and leave at 5 p.m. for Brantford and 6 p.m. for Tillsonburg, giving ample time to attend the sale and return the same day. Oak Lodge Farm is one-half mile south of the Grand Trunk Burford Station. Lunch at noon.

NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURE.

The annual report of the secretary of agriculture for Nova Scotia is to hand. The work is a most creditable one indeed. It is well illustrated throughout and shows that the province down by the sea has been doing something agriculturally since the new head took charge of the affairs. Mr. Cummings of the Truro Agricultural College has been doing valuable work for the farmers of that province.

Some especially interesting articles on the dairy breeds have been collected and they are well written by men who know their breed at its best, the information will be of much service in enabling young farmers to decide upon their breeding operations.

Speaking to the question of the milkling Shorthorn, a writer says: "Granted that in the distinctly dairy districts, other breeds predominate, yet I venture to say that from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, the Shorthorn has a wider recognition as a factor in the milk supply for family use than any other breed, or perhaps, than any other two breeds combined."

Nova Scotia agriculture in all its branches is forging ahead.

A PROGRESSIVE MOVE.

Prof. Weed addressed a full house at Whitby last Tuesday evening, when he gave an illustrated address on the decorations of school gardens, town and city property and private grounds.

The lecturer was most enthusiastically received and the ideas thrown out were along the right lines for the improvement of Ontario landscapes.

Messrs. J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of agricultural societies, and George Putnam, superintendent of farmers' institutes, were present.

NEW HOLSTEIN BREEDER.

Charles Watson & Sons of Agincourt have purchased a pure bred Holstein bull to improve their already choice herd of Holstein matrons. The Holsteins are rapidly coming to the front in Scarborough Township.

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