

sunlight, contrasting strongly with the dark-colored body. In shape the front pair of wings resembled those of a housefly. Attached to the body close to the head they must, when folded up, have reached almost to the tail. Extended, they widened from the body outwards, the ends being rounded, and were held at right angles to the body and on a plane with each other. The hinder pair were much smaller, triangular in shape, (the body line being the base of the triangle), and were likewise held on a flat plane, and were attached well back towards the tail.

Some doubter there may well be who will say: "I can't believe it, I don't see how anything can fly without flapping its wings." That wonder is what made the study of these charming creatures so interesting. They did fly, no one doubts that. And not only was there no apparent motion of the wings after they rose into the air, but the rigidity with which they spread and held themselves was most marked. Not a quiver could be detected, and not the least raising or lowering of the outspread wings. This was observed, they took advantage of the wind. The wind was from the right. As they got going they tilted the right side higher than the other so that the force of the wind would have a lifting effect. It was also remarked that they all took the same course. Straight ahead it appeared at first but then a long sweeping curve to the left was described. Then plop, the journey further being unseen. This much at least can be said: These strange fish using their wings after the manner of a kite only are able to make such clever use of what wind there may be as to accomplish the seemingly impossible. If our airmen had as perfect command of their machines as these exquisite living seaplanes have of themselves, greater achievements would be recorded than any yet heard of.

It was indeed a privilege to see at first hand another of the many wonders "in earth and sky and sea."

T. B.

Some Sound Sense.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Mr. Waddell, in his article in your issue of Jan. 11, fails to see how the farmer is the under dog. Then, why are Government efforts necessary to keep the boy on the farm?

Many years ago there was an abundance of timber. Cheap lumber meant wasteful use, and the wilful waste of that time is the cause of the scarcity and high price of lumber to-day. A few years ago there were cheap clothes and the sweat shops were filled with child laborers. Legislation and labor unions have helped to send the children to school. There was a rise in the price of clothes, but a great conservation in human health which was the result of the co-operation of organized labor and their entrance into politics.

Our political parties are wasting their talents in an effort to bring evidence to prove that each is making an effort to force an election in war time. Why? Simply because they have nothing to offer the electors and both want to hold office. Then why ridicule an honest effort to help out the Westerners who have helped themselves by helping others? Co-operation and organization are more necessary at the present time than the diligence and intelligence in which Mr. Waddell places,

such an amount of confidence to make successful, contended farmers. Why is organization more necessary? Simply because it is conspicuous by its absence.

Why shouldn't the political parties be prodded up a bit, or even supplemented by a new party? They have shown they have no issues worth while by their foolish appeals to prejudice and lip loyalty throughout the last bye-election or two that have been held here in Ontario. By better organization we might be able to have farming considered what it truly is—skilled labor; then demand wages for skilled labor; then employ skilled labor by being able to compete with other industries for help in the labor market. Truly, cheap wheat and cheap farm products have discouraged farm boys, otherwise there would be no back-to-the-land slogan necessary.

York Co., Ont.

HARRY STUART CLARRY.

"Hurrah for the Baby!"

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Last night I happened to pick up a two weeks old Advocate and my eye fell on to the article "I am a Prod" by Peter McArthur. During an extra busy spell it had escaped my notice, but really I wasn't able to think of anything else after I had read it. I was about to develop into an enthusiastic Prod and had even clipped this article with the intention of sending it to a capable man in our county seeking his advice as to whether we should join the producers party and select a farmer at once so as to be ready for the coming election. But my enthusiasm was somewhat dampened this morning when I read an article by W. Waddell in the latest Advocate. Being just a plain, every day farmer and not knowing much about politics I am incapable of judging between two wise men, but I have a very strong impression that Peter is right. Mr. Waddell says there is nothing to prevent farmers having adequate representation in parliament. Well it is a fact that we certainly haven't had it, and I for one cannot see any possible way of squeezing them into either of the existing parties. How could we get a farmer elected? How could we persuade the machine to allow him to run and how could he get the money to buy votes, for if he wanted to win he would have to play the game in the same old way for the party men would be party men still, and the fellows who could be bought would still go to the highest bidder. Mr. Waddell asks what could be expected from a new party made out of the old material. But I thought this was to be something brand new—a new party of new material with new aims—something to make us forget our attachment to party and graft, and rise up in our strength to demand clean politics. Oh no, not all self interest but a little self defence, and fair play and justice to all! But must we give up all hope because the Grangers failed and the Patrons failed, and because you might as well try to make a rope of sand as to try to hold farmers together and to work for their own benefit. If that has been true of us may God forbid that it will always be. Surely our blind eyes will be opened sometime and somehow. Surely this is our opportunity, let us arise and grasp it. Notwithstanding Mr. Waddell's reasoning I feel like shouting—"Hurrah for the new Baby!"

Renfrew Co., Ont.

R. M. WARREN.

The Marketing Season in the Okanagan Valley.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The Okanagan United Growers, the biggest co-operative fruit organization in British Columbia has ended another successful season. Much of its business has been in new fields and consequently it has been more or less of an experiment in many of these markets, and the experience has taught its lessons.

This year 68,000 boxes or 128 cars were shipped to the foreign trade alone. New Zealand and Australia lead with well over 33,000 boxes. To Ontario and Quebec 18,950 boxes were shipped, this market has largely been available because of box packing. These 161 cars going to Ontario, Quebec and foreign markets have been placed outside our usual trade, and is an indication of the expanse we must make each season, for the next few years, to accommodate the increase in the newly bearing orchards. Crabs were heavy and shipments were made to six states across the border. Next season it is likely that there will be representatives sent to these six states as soon as crabs are on the markets and see how our product is received, staying right with the shipments till they are gone.

This season in early apples, Wealthies were late and conflicted with McIntosh, which were normal, and thus the returns on the Wealthies were reduced. Owing to the Wealthies extending into the season of the McIntosh and Jonathan, which are popular in the Okanagan, an outlet had to be found and 2,000 boxes were shipped to England where an enthusiastic reception was given them. This precedent will likely have to be followed in the coming years. McIntosh and Jonathan were given an unusually wide distribution in Ontario and Quebec, all the larger cities were covered and prices on No. 1's averaged higher than in 1915.

In winter apples we found stiff conflict with American fruit, largely helped by car shortages, yet December 15 found the 1916 crop of apples sold. Here again the ignorance of growers as to varieties required by the trade has proven a great handicap. Planters were led astray by glowing catalogue descriptions of apples and planted unknown and untested varieties. The management has endless trouble in making up assorted lots containing poor varieties, and the Central says most of our concern in doing business is in clinching sales that will take our poor varieties. One plan that will likely be used to get over this is to take 40 poor varieties and cut out in those varieties, the No. 1 grade, and permit in those varieties only a No. 2, using the No. 1's and 2's to pack the boxes.

We had an unusually good fall for apple picking, and the result was that when the car shortage struck the West our packing houses soon congested and next year we shall have to get bigger storage in the upper, center and lower parts of the valley. One solution for the car shortage was worked out with C. P. R. They agreed to supply box cars and double paper the floors, ends and sides, put racks on the floors to keep the boxes up and in each car place a heater. The union sent a messenger with each 20 cars to look after the heaters and report conditions in transit. 220 cars were sent in this way up to the first of November and only 24 cars were reported damaged and these, mostly just slight harm.

B. C.

WALTER M. WRIGHT.

Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets.

Toronto.

Receipts of live stock at the Union Stock Yards, West Toronto, Monday, January 29, consisted of 139 cars, comprising 2,244 cattle, 105 calves, 2,615 hogs, and 360 sheep and lambs. Cattle trade strong, and a good twenty-five cents higher on all classes. Lambs, calves and light sheep, steady. Heavy, fat sheep, slow and slightly lower. Packers were bidding \$13.75 for fed and watered hogs.

The total receipts of live stock at the City and Union Stock Yards for the past week were:

	City	Union	Total
Cars.....	50	361	411
Cattle.....	602	3,641	4,243
Calves.....	58	502	560
Hogs.....	643	10,230	10,873
Sheep.....	382	1,142	1,524
Horses.....	80	790	870

The total receipts of live stock at the two markets for the corresponding week of 1916 were:

	City	Union	Total
Cars.....	38	391	429
Cattle.....	558	5,334	5,892
Calves.....	19	507	526
Hogs.....	750	10,374	11,124
Sheep.....	162	966	1,128
Horses.....	61	—	61

The combined receipts of live stock at the two markets for the past week show an increase of 34 calves, 396 sheep and 809 horses, but a decrease of 18 cars, 1,649 cattle and 251 hogs, compared with the corresponding week of 1916.

The live-stock market opened on Monday with 1,941 cattle on sale. Good to choice steers, heifers, bulls and cows were strong and in big demand; common cattle were somewhat slow at the previous week's closing prices. In the afternoon all grades advanced in price and recovered practically all they had lost in the closing days of the week previous. During the balance of the week trade held strong in all classes at prices as quoted below, a few extra choice steers sold as high as \$10.90; a few very fine quality bulls at \$9.25, \$9.40 to \$9.60. There were also a few cows that sold at from \$8.75 to \$9, and one cow 1,150 lbs., brought \$9.25. Stockers and feeders—Very little trade is being done in this line but values are firm. Choice yearlings selling at \$7.50 to \$7.75; choice 800 to 950 lb. feeders sold at \$8 to \$8.50, and common to medium light steers and heifers at \$5.75 to \$6.50. Milkers and springers were slow, very few arrived on the market. Best cows sold at \$80 to \$105. There was no change in the price of sheep and lambs. They were both strong at prices as quoted below. Calves were also strong, and on Thursday advanced a good 25c.; choice veal sold at 13c. to 14c. per lb., and a few extra choice at 14½c. to 15c. per lb. Trade in hogs continues to advance, but the market is very unsteady. Packers are paying more attention to quality than ever before. Select hogs sell at \$14.25 fed and watered, and \$14.50 weighed off cars.

Live-stock quotations—Heavy steers, choice, \$10.40 to \$10.75; good, \$10 to \$10.25; butchers' steers and heifers, choice, \$9.75 to \$10.25; good, \$9 to \$9.50;

medium, \$8.25 to \$8.75; common, \$7 to \$8. Cows, choice, \$7.75 to \$8.50; good, \$7 to \$7.50; medium, \$6.50 to \$7.75; common, \$5.50 to \$6. Canners and cutters, \$5 to \$5.40. Bulls, choice, \$8.50 to \$9; good, \$8 to \$8.25; medium, \$7.25 to \$7.75; common, \$6 to \$7. Stockers and feeders, best, \$8.25 to \$8.50; medium, \$7 to \$7.75; common, \$5.75 to \$6.50. Lambs, choice, 14½c. to 15c. per lb.; good, 13c. to 14c. per lb.; culls, 9½c. to 12c. per lb. Sheep, light, 9½c. to 10½c. per lb.; heavy, 7½c. to 9c. per lb. Calves, choice 13c. to 14c. per lb.; medium, 9½c. to 11½c. per lb.; heavy fat, 7½c. to 9c. per lb.; common and grassers, 6c. to 8½c. per lb. Hogs, fed and watered, \$14.15 to \$14.25; weighed off cars, \$14.40 to \$14.50; less \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt. off hogs, \$4 to \$5 per cwt. off hogs, \$1 to \$2 per cwt. off light hogs, and \$2 to \$3 per cwt. off thin feeder pigs, and one-half of one per cent. government condemnation loss.

Breadstuffs.

Wheat.—Ontario, No. 2 winter, new, per car lot, \$1.80 to \$1.82; No. 3 winter, per car lot, \$1.78 to \$1.80, (according to freights outside). Manitoba, track, bay ports—No. 1 northern, new, \$2.06; No. 2 northern, new, \$2.03; No. 3 northern, new, \$1.98; No. 4 wheat, new, \$1.86; old crop trading 4c. above new crop.

Oats.—Ontario, No. 2 white, 64c. to 66c., nominal; No. 3 white, 63c. to 65c., nominal. Manitoba oats (track, bay ports)—No. 2 C. W., 71c.; No. 3 C. W., 67½c.; extra No. 1 feed, 67½c.; No. 1 feed, 67c.

Barley.—Malting barley, according to

freights outside, \$1.20 to \$1.22, nominal; feed barley, nominal.

Peas.—According to freights outside; No. 2, \$2.35.

Buckwheat.—According to freights outside, \$1.28 to \$1.30.

Corn.—American (track, Toronto) No. 3 yellow, \$1.13, shipment within 30 days.

Rye.—No. 2, \$1.40 to \$1.42.

Flour.—Manitoba first patents, in jute bags, \$9.90; second patents, in jute bags, \$9.40; strong bakers', in jute bags, \$9. Ontario, new, winter, according to sample, in bags, \$7.40 to \$7.50, track Toronto; \$7.25 bulk, seaboard, export trade.

Hay and Millfeed.

Hay.—Track, Toronto, No. 1 per ton, \$13; extra No. 2, per ton, \$12 to \$12.50; mixed, per ton, \$10 to \$11.50.

Straw.—Car lots, per ton, \$9, track, Toronto.

Brn.—Per ton, \$34.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$38.

Good feed flour, per bag, \$2.70 to \$2.80.

Hides and Skins.

City hides, flat 20c.; country hides, cured, 20c.; country hides, part cured, 18c.; country hides, green, 17½c.; calf skins, per lb., 30c.; kip skins, per lb., 23c.; sheep skins, city, \$2.50 to \$3.50; sheep skins, country, \$1.50 to \$3; lamb skins and pelts, \$1.50 to \$2; horse hair,