

THE FARM BULLETIN.

S. M., Oxford Co., who inquired about a steer, will have his question attended to if he will send his name as evidence that he is a subscriber.

Did it ever occur to you that it would be nice to own a book full of good ideas and suggestions for entertaining? If you will look on page 659 of this issue, you will ascertain how just such a book can be purchased. It is called "Bright Ideas for Entertaining," and the name indicates the contents exactly.

Experiments with a couple of prominently-advertised patent washes for San Jose scale, proved that these, when used in sufficient strength to compare favorably with the reliable lime-sulphur mixture, in its killing effect upon the scale, cost from ten to fifteen times as much as the lime-sulphur, and cannot be recommended except in a very small way.

Hon. L. P. Farris, Commissioner for Agriculture in New-Brunswick, is sponsor for the following crop figures for that Province in 1905: Wheat had given 19.6 bush. per acre, with a total of 405,897 bushels; over 46,000 bushels more than in 1904. Oats averaged 29.3 bush. per acre, and totalled 5,486,528 bushels. Barley was 8,087 bushels ahead of 1904. Buckwheat, over 100,000 bushels less. Potatoes averaged 148 bushels per acre, and turnips 498.8 bushels per acre. Dairying showed a small increase, the factory products totalling 344,026.

Canada Best of All.

Andrew Elliott, the well-known Farmers' Institute speaker, of Waterloo Co., Ont., has recently returned from an Institute campaign in Minnesota. In conversation with a member of our staff, he said the remarkable feature to a Canadian was the large and enthusiastic attendance at agricultural meetings in that State. These often ran up to five hundred, and in one case he had spoken to a thousand farmers. These are largely Scandinavians, and a great many are tenants of extensive landowners. Rent and land values are high, and the people are being driven in large numbers to the Canadian Northwest. Minnesota is a good State, and the farmers show a gratifying disposition to learn what is best and latest, but still, Mr. Elliott says, their standard of intelligence, taking the run of people as you meet them, is not equal to that in Ontario, nor is their farm practice up to ours. They are to a great extent in the grip of the beef and other trusts, and they exhibit little resource in evading the clutches of these vampires of trade. Mr. Elliott visited the State Agricultural College at St. Anthony Park, and had the pleasure of addressing the students there. At this institution girls, as well as boys, take the regular course in agriculture, including the lectures on breeding, etc.

Last year Mr. Elliott was in the State of Mississippi doing Institute work. Though speaking well of the hospitable Southerners, he could not but deplore the economic and sociological conditions. Among the poorer classes of whites, early marriages, inferior physique, poverty and inertia abound. Among the negroes an unconquerable lust leads to violence, immorality and crime. Mr. Elliott makes the somewhat remarkable confession, that, after being on the ground and witnessing the terror in which unprotected white women dwell, he has become a convert to lynching as a means of keeping the blacks intimidated. On the whole, after travelling pretty well over two States of the Union, and through several others besides, Mr. Elliott returns convinced that if there is any better country than Ontario to live and to farm in, it is the Canadian West.

Fair Dates for 1906.

Canadian Horse Show, Toronto.....	April 25-28
Alberta Stallion and Foal Show, Calgary.....	May 7-8
Fat-stock Show, Calgary	May 8-10
Montreal Horse Show	May 9-12
Winnipeg Horse Show	May 23-25
Galt, Ontario, Horse Show	May 31-June 1
Toronto Open-air Horse Show	July 2
Inter-Western Exhibition, Calgary	July 10-12
Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition	July 23-28
Brandon Exhibition	July 31-Aug. 3
Canadian National, Toronto	Aug. 27-Sept. 6
Canada Central, Ottawa	Sept. 7-15
Western Fair, London	Sept. 7-15
New York State, Syracuse	Sept. 10-15
Michigan West, Grand Rapids	Sept. 10-14
Dominion Exhibition, Halifax, N. S.....	Sept. 20-Oct. 5

The Hired Man's Holidays.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In regard to holidays and recreation, I think if a man attends properly to his work he will get all the recreation he wants without requiring holidays to get it. It is not always in the slackest time of the year that the National holidays come round, and I think it is far better to work on those days if it is needed, and take a day off when there is little to do. I myself have been in Canada four years now, since I landed in Halifax without money and absolutely green, with a capital G, having never been on a farm. I had very little idea of farm work, but I was very lucky in getting a good master the first year, and, thanks to his good teaching, I have never been short of work since. I do not make a practice of being in too big a hurry, and I can always spare a few minutes to help the women, if they should need me. I have little more to say, only that a man who is willing to work will get lots of it in Canada, and he will get enough recreation without worrying over the holiday question.

Peterboro Co., Ont.

ENGLISHMAN.

Lumbering in Temiskaming.

The lumbering industry is important, for Temiskaming. The settlers and jobbers were busy since the fore-part of October, getting ready logs for lumber and pulpwood and cedar. They were skidded up on large skids, ready for sufficient snow about New Year's, to draw them to the local sawmills, or to the banks of the rivers or large creeks that greatly abound in this country, to be dumped in the spring and carried down to the sawmills at Ottawa. Quite a quantity are bought up by the different mill-men located handy to the rivers or lakes on the way. In the first place a road must be cut out to get in supplies. The jobber will cut this wide enough to take in the supplies on the waggon. He must have engaged enough men to handle the output that he has under contract. When he can bring his supplies in for both men and teams, he starts building all the lumber camps that he requires. In every instance he must build a cookery, a sleeping apartment, a building for holding supplies, and a stable for the teams. All these buildings are made comfortable by chinking up the cracks of the walls, and by hammering moss into every available crevice. When completed by competent hands, these buildings will be a pleasure to both the men and teams engaged. In the next place the draw-road must be cut and thrown out. This road will be about 20 feet wide, cut straight for where you intend to draw the timber. When completed this road will be a most picturesque sight, that anyone would wish to see. The snow here is soon made into splendid sleighing. This main draw-road must be made where there is no upgrade; if there is, your teams cannot draw large loads, and that would mean less profits. The wages here for men in the lumber camps is \$35 to \$38 a month for best men, and the medium would be from \$26 to \$30 per month, with bed and board. Provisions are, \$2.80 per cwt. for flour; potatoes, 75c. per bag; good bacon, 13c. per lb.; butter, 25c. per lb.; eggs, 28c. dozen; cheese, 13c. lb.; sugar, 21 lbs. for \$1; beans, 5c. per lb.; honey, 10c. per lb.; onions, 5c. per lb.; hay, \$15 per ton; oats, 55c. per bush. I will explain in the next letter how the timber is got ready for drawing, and how the men are placed to get the largest returns.

N. A. E.



James Bowman, Guelph, Ont.

President Canadian Aberdeen-Angus Cattle-breeders' Association. Elected five years in succession.

Embargo Bill "Talked Out."

In the British House of Commons on April 6th, Thos. Cairns, M.P., moved the second reading of his bill for the removal of the embargo against Canadian cattle, which was seconded by Mr. Price, M.P. It was pointed out that Canadian cattle were free from disease, 1,250,000 having landed in the past ten years, and not one was found suffering from foot-and-mouth disease or anthrax. Mr. W. O'Brien opposed the bill on behalf of Ireland. Premier Campbell-Bannerman announced that the Government would not interfere in the matter, leaving it an open question with the House. A long debate followed, the House adjourning without reaching a decision. In other words, the bill was "talked out," and may not be reached again this session.

Against Rural Delivery.

Secretary Wm. Smith, of the Canadian Postal Department, and Chief P. O. Supt. Rast, who were sent to Washington to enquire into the free rural delivery system of the United States, report to the Postmaster-General against the system, chiefly because it would result in a deficit of several million dollars if adopted in Canada.

Book on the Plank-frame Barn.

The increasing scarcity of timber is responsible for a growing interest in the plank-frame barn, as evidenced by numerous inquiries received at this office. The system has been in use in Central Ohio for the past 20 years, and has been rapidly growing in favor wherever people have had an opportunity of investigating its merits. Just to hand is a neat little 35-page illustrated book, published by the David Williams Co., of New York, on plank-frame barn construction, which should meet a widespread demand from intending builders and carpenters. It is written by John L. Shawver, and first appeared as a series of contributions to "Carpentry and Building." It may be ordered through this office—price, 55 cents, postage paid—or it may be obtained as a premium, simply by sending us one new subscriber to "The Farmer's Advocate." We quote from it the following enumeration of advantages claimed for the plank-frame method of construction:

1. A saving in timber of from 40% to 60%—a not small item in many localities, where timber for building purposes has become a scarce article.
2. An opportunity to employ for the building of barns timber that could scarcely receive consideration if solid mortise and tenon frames were to be built.
3. A saving in the cost of sawing, cutting and hauling of about one-half of the timber.
4. A saving in cost of framing, ranging from 50% to 90%, according to the plan of the building and the efficiency of the builders.
5. In cases where farmers' wives are expected to board and lodge the builders, a saving in labor and vexation of two or three weeks' unnecessary time for framing old-style barns.
6. A riddance of practically all of the interior timbers, which are usually an interference with the use of the horse and hay slings, as well as a source of constant vexation at threshing time, and all other times when the barn is in use.
7. The full benefit of the self-supporting arch roof, a construction of combined triangles, long braces and perpendicular timbers.
8. Durability, arising from the fact that there are no mortises in which moisture may accumulate and cause the tenons to decay.
9. The strongest possible support for the track of the hay fork or sling.
10. Ease of addition to the main building, should any ever be required.

Changes and variations in plans need cause no loss of timber, as is certain to be the case where a bill of materials has already been placed on the ground. If a piece of timber is too long, the piece cut off is used at some point, though, perhaps, not over 18 inches in length, and containing only two feet or more of stuff. Suppose we cut off 18 inches of an 8x8, we have lost 8 feet of lumber, which is worthless for any purpose save firewood. If a given piece is too short, it is spliced in a moment's time, and no loss of strength is sustained. In an old-style framing, if a piece was too short, it required considerable labor to remedy the matter, and a loss of both timber and strength was sustained.

Accurately Graduated Glassware for Dairy Purposes.

At a meeting of the directors of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, in Stratford, a resolution was passed, to the effect that this association, realizing the difficulty dairymen experience in securing properly-graduated or accurately-marked glassware, appoint Messrs. A. F. McLaren, M.P., and Geo. H. Barr, a committee to act in conjunction with a like committee appointed by the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, to lay this matter before the proper authorities in the House of Commons, Ottawa, with a view of having all glassware used in connection with cheese factory, creamery or dairy work guaranteed to be accurately graduated or marked, and that any person offering for sale glassware or instruments not so guaranteed shall be liable to a fine.

In representing the views of the association, Mr. Barr mentions the fact that last spring, in a search for two lactometers (instruments for testing the specific gravity of milk or cream), to be used by cheese factory and creamery instructors, about thirty instruments were tested in the dairy supply houses before they could get two that were near enough correct to be used for their work. Also, in the use of the Babcock tester, it is found that test bottles vary as much as two-tenths to three-tenths of a per cent. Such inaccuracies are liable to lead to injustice when testing for adulteration, and also in paying for milk or cream according to percentage of fat. Pipettes, thermometers and cream pails (used with the oil-test churn) are also inaccurate, hundreds of thermometers being on the market that vary as much as ten degrees, showing that there is need for some steps to secure reliable instruments and accurate measures for use in our cheese factories and creameries. The recommendations of the dairymen should be acted upon without delay.

We call the attention of our readers who want suggestions for entertainments or social gatherings of any kind to the advertisement on page 659, referring to "Bright Ideas for Entertaining." This book is full of "Bright Ideas" from cover to cover, and there should be one in every home. Look up the announcement, and see how easily it can be procured.