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# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

### What Stock Yards Indicate.

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Large live-stock yards do not convey the same information as may be found in a census, but they voice pretty accurately the operations in the country and the condition of the live-stock industry in general. The report of the transac actions at the Union Stock Yards, West Toronto. for the season of 1914 and nine previous years is a lecture in itself. The figures show an increase of 114,784 hogs an Arranged against this is a cattle, 17,791 sheep and 7,019 creases and decreases are applyears 1913 and 1914. The r shows a wonderful development industry over a period of ten

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Year

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decrease o decrease o g calves. T plicable onl report, as nt in the l gyears.	shorses, wi f 83,415 ca These in- ac y to the th a whole, wh ive stock Y(	th surprise and it sioned perhaps it tual contents of t e whole tone wa hat you yourself ou say Governm	regret. Th more by th he article, a is such as say is a " ents are	e regret was oc- le tone than the as it seemed to me would discourage 'great enterprise." fond of evolving that journals are
attie	Sheep	Hogs	Calves	Horses
77,828	5,902	50,442	1,072	465
88,808	12,021	30,088	824	666
91,156	16,094	58,616	2,214	293

side.

165
666
293
5,957
6,982
6,140
4,557
5,607
2,317
20,399

The trend of prices and receipts in horses were upward until the year 1909, which was almost the summit of the prosperity experienced by horsemen in Canada during the first ten years of the new century. After that year there was a dropping off in receipts until the season of 1914, when a quantity were being purchased for military purposes. Dr. F. C. Grenside, speaking at the Experimental Union and reported in a recent issue, said that trade in horses moved in periods of approximately ten years each, and that the decade, 1900 to 1910, was one of the that the business recognizes. We are now, Dr. Grenside said, experiencing a "down." The Western Provinces, Alberta particularly, are especially adapted for rearing good horses, and which should commence about 1920, figuring from records of the past, may not bring with it the pleasing prices of former days, yet there will be remuneration to those who breed with caution and intelligence.

The receipts of hogs have been gradually growing for the last six years without a break During the year of 1914 a considerable quantity appeared in Toronto and Montreal from the West and that condition promises to remain, yet prices must revive or breeders of swine will cur tail their operations in the pen and thus restore values to a more profitable level

The decrease of 17,791 sheep in one year is not surprising when one considers the status of the sheep-rearing enterprise in Ontario. It is estimated that Ontario to-day has less than 1. 000,000 sheep, and that the province suffered a decrease of 25,000 during 1914, and 135,000 head during the last four years. Prices are not re-sponsible for this, however, for they fetch almost double what they did thirteen.

fond of asking questions for other people to answer. But in this instance I feel that the questions are such as I would have expected an intelligent and progressive journal such as "The Farmer's Advocate" usually is to be answering instead of merely asking in a general way.

THE FARM.

Increase the Supply of Foodstuffs.

Your article entitled "More than Usual-

I must confess that I read your article

How" impels me to ask the courtesy of a little

space to set down a few things on the other

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate" :

Now in reply to your plaintive "how," may 1 say that this will no doubt be dealt with by the speakers who go out under the joint auspices of this Department and the Federal Department. After making allowance for all you say about the overworked farmer and about the scarcity of labor, I am still satisfied that a great many farmers will be able to find a way to increase production. Some may do it by adopting the most approved methods of farm practice, by which larger returns it has been proven may be expected from the same acreage. Others may do by securing additional labor, and I think that even at the worst, labor conditions will be better this year than during the past few years; by securing additional labor and working additional land, perhaps ploughing up old sod pastures which have not yielded very large returns for many years. Others may adopt other plans, for it is admittedly something which each farmer must work out in his own way. The whole purpose of the special Patriotism and Production Campaign is to show the need that will exist and the opportunity and duty of Ontario farmers as a consequence. If this is shown clearly, I have every confidence that the farmers themselves will do the rest to the very best of their ability.

It must be remembered that Canada is at war, and that therefore the old conditions and old standards do not obtain. During the past few months almost every person in this country to a nd every person in England France and Belgium to a much larger degree, has been doing things which seven or eight months ago they would have regarded as impossible. The simple elementary fact is that we farmers of Ontario have the land, we have the equipment, we have the inestimable boon of peace as far as our own homes are concerned, and with these advantages we should, if the duty and the need is clearly presented, do everything possible to prevent the cause which we have at heart suffering through any lack of food supplies which it may be in our power to provide. This disposes to a considerable degree also of the other point you raise in reference to mar-I am quite sure that both Governments will be glad to do everything they can to assist in the marketing of the products, and in this connection it should be noted that the products on which emphasis is being laid are non-perishable products. At the same time I quite agree with you that no man can tell two months ahead what the market price may be. If the war continues there is little reason to doubt that prices will be adequate or more than adequate. If the war does not continue, there is equally little doubt but that there will be a big slump in prices, but surely the farmers of the Province would view such a slump without any very great concern if it were caused by the great boon to humanity which the termination of this cruel, war would mean. In this again the farmers are fortunate in that their problem is providing foodstuffs for others not for themselves. There are unfortunately many in our larger cities to whom the problem is of a much more personal nature. Conditions are such that I do not think the farmer should be encouraged to look at matters from the old standpoint. The issues are too grave and the duty too obvious to be met by merely asking questions and raising hypothetical conditions. There is only one plain, simple thing to do, and

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The man of the farm may not should as load in the procession as his fellow citizen in the town but if he does not pan out as well in the long-drawn campaign for King and Country we miss our guess and "The Farmer's Advocate" has known him now intimately for some fifty very

Over 83,000 head of cattle is a big decrease m one year. It is due partly, perhaps, to the large numbers of stockers and feeders that were shipped to the other side when the duty was removed, and consequently lost to Canadian markets when sold in the finished condition. Breeding cows have decreased in Canada, but it is urged that only the poorer and non-producing cows have been disposed of. Whether this be true or untrue it is difficult to ascertain, but one thing is certain that the three Prairie Provinces are increasing their output of dairy products by leaps and bounds. This increase spells more breeding cows, and perhaps more growing stock in the future

#### A Profitable Sow.

#### Editor The Farmer's Advocate"

I have a young sow which proves burself to be ery profitable. On January 15th, 1914, she had her first litter of ten pirs. After thy wir weared, one died, the other nine at the age of six months were sold, averaging 210 lbs, each for nine cents per pound. On July 1st, 1914. she had sixteen more, of these, two died, Lavin ourteen. At the age of six months I sold si of them averaging 260 Hs. each, for seven and one-half cents per pound, the other dight at six one-half months old weighed 236 Us each and and I sold them for seven and three-quarter conper pound. Both litters together making \$452 Then on December 20th, 1914, she had eleven more, they are now six weeks old. These pigs are bred from a Yorkshire sow crossed with a Tamworth hoar.

We have taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for about ten years and appreciate the reading of it very much. It is a very helpful paper for

THOS. JACKSON.