



The Heavy Horses at the Galt Fall Show, 1903.

In and About Quebec

The St. Hyacinthe Dairy School will open on Nov. 16th next. As usual there will be courses for cheese and butter-makers who have had some experience, eight courses in all, and the special dairy course for farmers which was inaugurated last year for the first time, will be repeated.

The series of courses are as follows: First course from Nov. 16th to 20th, 1903, both butter and cheese. French only. 2nd course, from Nov. 30th to Dec. 23rd, 1903: For candidates for inspectors. French and English. 3rd course, from Jan. 11th to 30th, 1904: Special butter and cheese course for apprentices who wish to take charge of factories. French only. 4th course, from February 7th to 20th, 1904: Special for butter-makers. French and English. 5th course, from February 22nd to March 12th, 1904: Special for cheese-makers. French and English. 6th course, March 14th to 26th: Butter and cheese. French only. 7th course, from April 4th to 16th: Butter and cheese. French only. 8th course, from April 18th to 30th: Butter and cheese. French only.

The special dairy course for farmers will commence on Monday, February 1st, and will last three weeks. This course will be divided into three periods of a week each, the first week will be devoted to the study of elementary subjects, the second to practical agriculture in connection with dairying, and the third week to the raising of various kinds of stock. Farmers who may be unable to attend this whole course, can attend for only one or two of these periods if convenient.

The 2nd course is specially reserved for makers of not less than three years' experience in charge of a factory, who wish to obtain a diploma as inspector of butter or cheese factories. No student is admitted for examination for a diploma, who has not sent in application during the Spring previous, who has not been visited by the Inspector General, or who has not followed this complete course.

In the Eastern townships the drought still continues, and fall plowing is at a standstill. In spite of this the Agricultural Societies are holding their plowing matches and large entries are reported.

In many sections of the township a large number of farms are changing hands, from English to French, and auctions are numerous. At a recent sale of movables, the writer acquired a very old one-handed plough,

hand-made throughout, with wooden mold board and welded point. This implement is known to have been in one family for over 100 years, and is a most interesting relic of the primitive devices which our forefathers used for tilling the soil.

H. W. P.

A Quebec Fall Fair

Mr. John Campbell, Woodville, Ont., who recently attended a fall fair at Chateau, Que., where he acted as judge of sheep and beef cattle, writes regarding it as follows:

"Ferrying across the river two miles at Pembroke and a six mile drive on the Quebec soil, brought us to the last fair on the list. Favored with fine bright weather unusually large crowds were present, and on returning to the ferry at an early hour in the evening we found a regular blockade of Ontario horses and carriages all waiting for transportation. The boat took ten or twelve horses and rigs each trip, which took an hour for a round trip, and yet at a late hour many of the people had to be content with taking their horses across and leaving their buggies until the following morning. The Quebec people were also present in large numbers and were deeply interested in the judging and explanations given, even their clergymen being attentive listeners. The fair was said to be the best ever held at Chateau, and one reason given was that the priest had publicly advised the people to take out

their stock, and then set the example by showing his own cow. While the stock exhibited would not be considered creditable at a western show, yet it is praiseworthy to find such a great improvement in one year.

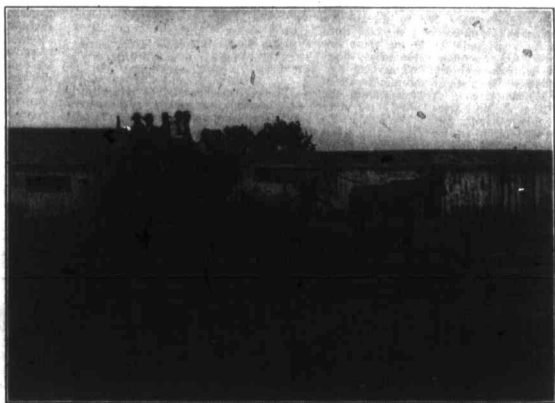
"The Shorthorns and grades were not numerous, nor was the quality of a high standard; want of flesh and lack of form prevailed and the dairy cattle were little if any better.

"The sheep showed only a few pure-bred, and two or three which had recently been brought from Ontario, showed an outstanding contrast. The grades were better and in this class the lambs made a good showing, being such as butchers would be willing to pay a good price for. The breeding and condition of live stock is much the same as in Ontario thirty years ago. The sooner the Quebec farmers in the Chateau district learn how much profit and satisfaction is to be got from the use of pure-bred sires, and the keeping of their stock in better condition, the better for their pockets, and the more interesting their lives on the farm will be."

Early Ranching Days in the Canadian West

Ranching in the early days in the Canadian West was not what it is today. Long distances had to be travelled on foot or on horseback. A "drive" of cattle often meant a tramp of four or five hundred miles, crossing unbridged rivers and creeks and enduring all kinds of weather and hardships. Still the rancher and the cowboy of those days endured it all and took as much pleasure and enjoyment out of his free undeveloped surroundings as do those of the more favorable yet circumscribed conditions of the present time.

The ranching methods and privations of those earlier days are well told in a book recently issued by Wm. Briggs. It is an attractive narrative reciting the experiences of Mr. John R. Craig, a native of Ontario, who engaged extensively in ranching in the early eighties. An English company, known as the Oxley Ranch Company, was formed with Mr. Craig as resident manager, to carry on ranching operations in the West on a large scale. The operations of this ranch are given in detail by Mr. Craig and form a most interesting tale, in which are recounted the schemes of the



The Stewart Stage-Coach leaving old Fort McLeod for Calgary, in 1883.
—From *Ranching with Lords and Commons*.