

Berlin Beet Sugar Factory and Exhibition.

On a visit to Berlin, Oct. 9th, a member of the "Farmer's Advocate" staff found the busy German town alive with visitors to the \$600,000 sugar factory and North Waterloo Agr'l Society's Show. Although the exhibition executive had taken special pains to set their date at a time when it seemed certain that the refinery would be in operation, yet, owing to some unforeseen delay in construction, the machinery did not move nor the sweet liquid flow on that day, much to the disappointment of farmers who came some distance to see the commencement of a great new industry, and no less to the officials of the agricultural society, who were most eager to carry out the programme which had been so well advertised.

From the market square, a two-mile ride on the new Berlin and Bridgeport Electric Railway, running north, brought the writer in sight of the white brick walls and steel roof of the big sugar manufacturing concern, within 600 yards of the Grand River. It is a structure of which everyone in that district should be proud, and when it is remembered that the first sod in excavating was not turned till April last, and that in two weeks hence, granulated sugar will be ready for sale, it is clear that good progress in construction has been made. The main building, of three floors, is 112 feet long and nearly 70 feet wide, with a warehouse at one end 146 by 51 feet, and two stories high. At the other end, and scarcely thirty feet distant, are the magnificent beet sheds, said to be the best in America, having four driveways for wagons and two for the railways, of which a Grand Trunk spur line has been built from Berlin station. This storehouse has, altogether, a capacity of 8,000 tons, being sufficient to keep the 600-ton factory running for nearly two weeks. North of the main building stands the lime house, in which are two gigantic iron kilns, constructed to burn, on an average, 60 tons of stone daily. The water necessary for the manufacture is pumped by engines from the river, 1,600 feet distant and 90 feet below the level of the factory.

Prof. A. E. Shuttleworth, agriculturist for the company, was found busy in a near-by field, demonstrating to farmers the proper and most economical methods of harvesting the beets. A man with a team, and a plow constructed for the purpose, was loosening the roots in the ground so that those who were pulling and topping could proceed rapidly. Every eight rows were being placed in one row of piles, with the distance between piles from 20 to 25 feet. This allowed for a wagon to go between and afforded an opportunity for two persons to load at once, one on each side of the wagon, the roots being lifted with large forks made for the purpose. No attempt was made to top the beets while pulling. They were first thrown in piles in the most convenient manner, and after a number had been so placed, the leaves and crown were removed, usually with one stroke of a beet knife.

A large quantity of beets were being delivered by farmers at the sheds, but others were siloing (putting) the crop in heaps. Prof. Shuttleworth had a pit in the field to show the most convenient style. It was about 12 feet wide in the bottom, on hard packed soil, and rounded up as high as the roots would easily pile. He stated that they should be covered with beet tops as soon as possible to prevent withering by the wind, and later a little straw and some clay should be added to keep out the rain and frost.

The yield of beets in this district is likely to be even greater than heretofore anticipated. The Professor stated that 11 tons had been weighed from one measured acre of the field which they were then raising, and it was by no means as heavy as the average to be seen on adjoining farms. Altogether, about 5,000 acres have been grown in the vicinity. Four dollars per ton is being allowed for this year's crop, delivered at the factory. This, however, does not include the dirt nor any excessive top which remains. Each load is weighed as it comes in, and after being unloaded, the wagon is weighed alone, the balance being, of course, the weight of beets. From each load a representative half-bushel sample is taken to the weigh-room in the factory, where it is washed, properly topped, and weighed, and from it an estimate of the amount of clean beets in each load is ascertained. It was learned that from 4 to 12 per cent. was the usual discount.

Visitors were very much chagrined at not being allowed to enter the big building in which many were so much interested, but owing to new cement floors and other equally damageable property, the construction company forbade admission to any.

Returning to the town, the principal crowd was to be found in Victoria Park, where President Reid, Secretary Moody and their efficient, though young, staff of assistants were busy engineering the best show of agricultural produce that Berlin has ever seen. This is the first year for the utilization of this beautiful pleasure ground for exhibition purposes, and with a little better accommodation for live stock, there will be none superior, of its size, in Canada. There is no reason why that part of Ontario should not put up a first-class show. The fame of Waterloo County as an agricultural district is world-wide, and with the management now in charge of this annual event, there shines ahead a brilliant future. If some of even our larger shows whose directorate includes too many worn-out, foggy members had a lesson from the active and enterprising staff that directed the affairs of North Waterloo Agricultural Society's Show on Oct. 9th and 10th, there would be more satisfied exhibitors, less dissatisfied visitors and a larger number of successful exhibitions throughout this country.

Wanted: A Good Sulky Plow.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—Permit me to express my appreciation of the "Advocate" as a farmers' paper. I have been a subscriber for only two years, and in this time have found it very helpful; indeed, I find that to miss a number is a loss. I have been very much interested in every number, and have often thought how I could in any way help to make it more interesting or instructive; in this respect I fear I would be a failure, excepting by continuing my subscription or trying to induce someone else to become a subscriber and thus be benefited by perusing its columns.

There is a subject, however, affecting every farmer brought very prominently before us at this season of the year, when we are all engaged at it and think of it every evening as we "homeward plod our weary way," viz., Why haven't we a good Canadian riding plow? Perhaps I have not put this correctly, for there may be a good sulky plow made somewhere in Canada, but if there is I have not seen it, nor have I seen any advertisement about such a plow.

At the Western Fair one was exhibited by an American firm, but they claimed it was not intended for work here, but said they would have one from their warehouse next day which would be suitable for this section of country (Oxford and Middlesex). As I did not attend the fair but one day, I did not see it, but took a circular, and have since then looked over its contents. Whether or not it is what is claimed for it would be known upon trial, but the price, \$60, seemed to me to be far above what it ought to be, and more than a farmer would like to pay for a plow. Sulky plows are in use on thousands of farms in the Northwest, I myself have plowed with a breaker in Manitoba which worked as well as any walking plow, and I cannot understand why some manufacturer of plows in Canada has not put upon the market a riding plow which would work with equal success. To walk 12 to 15 miles per day after a plow is very tiresome, and, with the work we do before beginning and after ending the day's work in the field, helps to make us old earlier in life than we should be. The argument has been used that it makes the work heavy for the team, but it is claimed this is not so; and again, that it looks lazy to see a man riding on a plow. This latter, I think, does not apply to plowing more than any other implement used on the farm, and I for one do not intend to be affected by it. My father has a Syracuse sulky plow which has been in use since 1880, and, excepting the wearing parts, is as good as new. Since that date I suppose improvements have been made in this style of plow, and even if not, it has been found to work with comfort and satisfaction, and unless I can find a Canadian plow that does its work equally well, I intend to get an up-to-date one from this firm.

There is another question that is connected with this, I mean the labor one. A friend of mine was visiting here from Dakota, and made the remark that his son, 12 years of age, did all his plowing. Said he: "I have a double furrow sulky, and I start it right after harvest; anyone who can drive a four-horse team can operate it; in this way he does the work of two men with walking plows." When this boy can do this, why could not we have such an implement, and save the wages we pay in this way?

To the firm in Canada that brings out a good sulky plow at a reasonable price I bespeak a good trade, and know that a farmer who has once used a sulky plow, and found out the difference between using his legs walking after a plow and riding on one for 8 or 10 hours a day, will always have one.

FARMER.
Oxford County, Ont.

Sweethearts Ever.

In an old issue of "Punch" the following dialogue appeared:

"Say, Bill! are you goin' to the Derby?"

"Aye!"

"Are you goin' for fun, or are you goin' to take the missus with you?"

There are thousands of men who never think of their wives as they used to think of the same women when they were sweethearts. In fact, my experience and observation go to prove that the spoornier a man is when he's courting the more unjust, selfish and tyrannical he is after he gets married. Any man who courts a girl and swears to love and honor her and make her life a dream of happiness and then converts her into a cook, general servant and always-stay-at-home slavery is a miserable fraud. He deserves to be unhappy—and he is.

There are some who go for a honeymoon every year, who keep up their old habits, even though life is not all romance, and I for one believe in it. There are wives who look as pretty and neat and "fetching" when they sit at the head of the table now as when their lovers came a-wooing years ago; and they are happy and deserve to be happy. My friend "Gossip" writes me that a great preacher once said that "men marry either for heaven or hell," and I believe it. If a man's home life is miserable, he cannot be happy anywhere else, and I believe with the Nazarene, that "heaven is not far from any one of us," and that we make or mar our own bliss in this little world. Do you remember that yarn about "Betsy and I?" The old man's statement in the summing-up is worth considering. He said:

"I told her in the future
I wouldn't speak cross or rash
If half the crockery in the house
Was broken all to smash;
And she said, in regard to heaven,
We'd try and learn its worth
By startin' a branch establishment,
And runnin' it here on earth."
—American Sheep Breeder.

DAIRY.

Pasteurized Cream Butter.

The following from an American exchange on the keeping qualities of butter made from pasteurized cream will be read with interest:

The superior keeping quality of pasteurized-cream butter was brought out forcibly at the State Fair. M. Sondergaard, winner of second premium, with a score of 97, pasteurized the cream from which his exhibit was made, and only a few days after the scoring was completed his tub would have easily taken first, and from day to day there was a wider difference in quality, and in course of a week there was no comparison, and every one who examined the pasteurized goods was most favorably impressed with it. It has been reported that the criticisms Mr. Sondergaard received from the four tests were complimentary and lead him to believe that he has some good scores.

This only substantiates the work done at the Minnesota Dairy School the past year or two, of which nothing has been said, but the results obtained were gratifying to the school; in every test the pasteurized-cream butter was improved and the keeping quality greatly improved.

The scores of the winners at the State Fair were:

H. J. Rosenau	97½
M. Sondergaard	97
M. P. Mortensen	96½

The deterioration of the two tubs of unpasteurized-cream butter was so perceptible that at the end of the week, or just one week after the scoring was completed, J. S. Moody, one of the judges, and B. D. White had the tubs stripped and neither knew the numbers, re-scored the three tubs of butter with the following results:

H. J. Rosenau	92½
M. Sondergaard	96½
M. P. Mortensen	91½

Mr. Rosenau's butter showed age, and was some rancid, while Mr. Sondergaard's was fresh and sweet; in fact, it did not show age, notwithstanding the fact that it was bored full of holes, and Mr. Mortensen's had developed a weedy flavor, besides showing age. Denmark has gone through the same thing. The same experiments were made three years ago, and we are just commencing to make experiments and establish facts settled years ago by Danish buttermakers. Perhaps after awhile we will learn what they have known for some time, and when we reach that point, we will pasteurize our cream and make better butter, butter which will reach the consumer in good condition.