

with it, and without its natural enemies to assist us in keeping it down, we should find the contest much more difficult to carry on.

Besides the species I have referred to there are many others assisting us as weed destroyers all through the summer, amongst them the Quail which is unfortunately confined to the southern and western parts of the province. This good bird, besides furnishing sport and delicious food, is an insect eater and notable weed destroyer, and only needs some slight protection through the coldest part of the winter to become abundant in its chosen localities. With very little trouble this can be furnished, and the farmers who give it will be well rewarded for their work.

As winter comes on and our summer residents leave for the south, vast flocks of weed gleaners come from the north to take their place. The most familiar of these are the Snow Bird, the Tree Sparrow and the Slate-colored Junco. Large numbers of these birds remain with us all through the cold season, frequenting patches of weeds that carry their seed above the snow, and by their work materially lessen the number to germinate in the spring.

The work of destroying weeds is continually before us, wherever the land is cultivated, and any assistance that we can obtain in the war we are compelled to wage against these plant enemies is well worth our attention. The birds are the cheapest and best allies we can have, those I have mentioned being invaluable. The trouble is we have not enough of them in and about the cultivated fields where they are most wanted. Save them from persecution and protect them at all times, and they will be induced to remain about the farms and breed there. We have a sufficient law for this purpose, and every farmer should see that it is enforced on his own premises. By doing so, he will not only derive pleasure from the presence of our feathered friends, but also substantial benefit.

Raising and Training Horses for Market

By W. C. Edwards, M.P., Rockland, Ont.

Complying with your request I will give you in short terms my views on horse raising and training for the market. There, perhaps, never was a more opportune time for the farmer of Canada to engage in horse raising than the present. For a few years horses have been more or less a drug on the market arising from the falling off in the demand through the great commercial depression in the United States and also the inception of electricity as applied to street cars and to some extent to other purposes. This gave a sudden shock to the value of horses. True, the chief class of horses affected was the ordinary or common place horse, such as was used on street railways, but their low prices affected also somewhat seriously the value of the heavy draught horse as well also that of the carriage and saddle horse.

Many believe that in a great measure the usefulness of the horse is gone, and that in almost every sphere he will be replaced by electricity. I hold an entirely different view, which is, that for the greater number of purposes for which the horse has been used he will continue to be used, and that in the end the developing forces of electricity will cause a greater use for horses, just as the numerous and succeeding inventions of the world, commonly called labor saving devices, such as the cotton gin and many, many others, have not lessened the demand for labor, but by their aid in developing the resources and the wealth of the world have enormously increased the demand for labor, and at same time while making it possible that the daily hours of the toiler might be reduced have also enhanced very largely its daily remuneration. Just as the ingenuity of man makes it possible for the workers on the world's surface to increase production, so the wealth of the world will increase and the demand for labor increase. And the same applies to the use of and demand for horses. As I hold firmly to the conviction that so good a developer and enricher of the world will electricity be that in ten or

twenty years hence the use for horses will be far greater than if electricity had not been introduced. Many run away with the idea that the idle men of the world are benefactors to those who labor, that they leave all the work for them to do, but unhappily, the reverse is the case. There is no greater menace to the laboring man than that there are men who do not labor, for the men who do work not only have to make their own living but also the living of those who do not work. There is no greater curse to the commerce of the world than the great standing armies of Europe, and also the many idlers who will not work. If they were also producers how much greater would the commerce and interchange of products be and how vastly richer would the world be. And but for invention which has enabled the producers to produce so much more than they otherwise would, how much poorer this world would be today!

GREATER DEMAND FOR HORSES.

Holding strongly, as I do, these views and regarding electricity as one of the great developers and enrichers of the future, I contend, as before stated, that in the near future there will be a greater demand for horses than if electricity had not been introduced. But the great demand will be for a superior class of horses; the ordinary horse, such as was used on street cars, will no longer be wanted, and there will be no place whatever for the scrub. The great demand of the future, in my opinion, will be for the good-sized, well-developed draft horse and the high-class coach and saddle horse. For the right stamp of these horses I believe the demand will grow just as the wealth of the world develops. But to produce such horses the haphazard and careless breeding, which, unhappily, has prevailed in Canada to too great an extent with a large number of our farmers, must cease. Greater care and more expert and advanced methods must be applied. And all the education that can be given in this particular should be given. There are many of our advanced farmers and horse-raisers in the country far more competent to write upon the subject than I am, and they should put their brains and pens to work and write vigorously. For myself, I have not the time and have not the knowledge or experience of many, but what little I can do I do with all my heart, for nothing has a greater place within me than a desire for the promotion and advancement of Canadian agriculture.

BREEDING HEAVY HORSES.

The question is "Raising and Training Horses for the Market." The greater demand will be for the good, large, serviceable draft horse; and it comes more within the scope of the greater number of our farmers to raise this style of horse, and only the more expert horsemen should engage in the production of carriage and saddle horses. I do not think much need be said as to raising and training this class of horse for the market, except this: for dams use the best brood mares possessed or obtainable by each farmer; breed only to purebred sires of the recognized draft breeds of horses; work the mares moderately and carefully while carrying the colt, and if no work is to be done do not keep the mares tied up continuously in stalls, but allow them freedom and plenty of daily exercise; neither underfeed nor overfeed the mare; give her what clover-hay or hay, with a portion of straw, that she needs, also a small allowance of either or both ensilage and roots and a little grain if idle, and if working a larger allowance, but do not overfeed with grain. A very large percentage of mares so treated will produce strong and vigorous colts. The treatment afterwards must depend much on the conditions.

RAISING THE COLT.

The mare and colt should, if possible, be kept in a good roomy box-stall for about a week and then let out in day time and kept in at nights for a short time. Good pasture, however, is the great requisite, but where circumstances will permit to keep the mare and colt in during the hot days of the fly time it is a great benefit, and a small amount of grain expended on the colt, and sometimes to some extent upon the dam, is profitable in pushing the colt forward to early and good development. In many instances, however, farmers are compelled to work their mares