

good prices were realized. The King paid 44gs. for the Jersey cow, "Sabine," and Count de Germinez 35gs. for a two-year-old ram.

The 26th sale of Lincoln Longwool rams by the Association was a satisfactory one, considering the recent depression of sheep prices. Thirty-nine flocks were represented, and from these 294 were sold for £3,801 10s. An average of £12 18s. 7d. In the corresponding sale last year the average was £10 13s. Good rams sold well, but those of fair quality were only in moderate demand. Prices were very irregular. In one flock, for instance, they ranged from 9gs. to 85gs. F. Money secured top prices, 85gs., for two handsome rams.

The entire Shirley stud of 38 Hackneys has been disposed of by Messrs. Lloyd & Sons, at Crewe. The stud was one of the best known in the country, and notable for the breeding of many prominent winners. Breeders and buyers were present in considerable numbers and prices on the whole proved satisfactory. The top price of the sale after keen bidding was 250gs. for the Royal and International winner, "Shirley Dispatch" (formerly "Viscount Hopwood") by "Polonius," sold to H. Gilding. The cream of the youngsters, a yearling colt, "Viscount Shirley," brought 200gs. from Miss Langworthy.

F. DEWHIRST.

Demonstration Sheep Flocks

Eight demonstration flocks of grade sheep, bred and kept for commercial purposes, are being established at representative points in the Province of Ontario, one in Middlesex, one in Huron or Bruce, another in Brant, one near Toronto, one in Simcoe County, one in Victoria, and one in the neighborhood of Kingston or east. This enterprise is undertaken at the instance of the Ontario Sheep-breeders' Association, supported by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. It has been a repeated complaint of Western members of the Dominion Sheep-breeders' Association that this body has confined its attention (apart from the matter of pedigree registration) to matters for the advantage of the province of Ontario, in which a large proportion of the members live.

With a view to overcoming the objection of provincialism, it was proposed that the sheep-breeders in each province organize themselves separately, and then send representatives to the Dominion Association, which would thus become nationally representative in character. In accordance with this suggestion, the Ontario sheep-breeders organized the Ontario Sheep-breeders' Association, which has been duly incorporated. Then, with a view to accomplishing something for the betterment of the sheep business in the province, it was recommended

that these demonstration flocks should be established. The government concurred in the suggestion, and made a grant. The association then recommended the appointment of two inspectors, consisting of John Campbell, of Woodville, and Lieut.-Col. Robt. McEwen, of Byron. These two men are now, and have been, selecting the flocks with which to demonstrate. Ten or twelve good grade ewes are chosen in each case, and with them one ram of each of the following breeds will be respectively mated, viz., Southdown, Dorset Horned, Shropshire, Hampshire, Cotswold, Leicester, Lincoln and Oxford. One flock has been already selected in Scarborough Township, and a Southdown am chosen for it, the object being at this station to cater to the market for early lambs. In the Muskoka or Simcoe district, it is expected to produce lambs for summer trade, which should be in good demand at tourist and summer-resort points. At the other stations, the lambs will probably be carried along over winter, and sold in spring. The results of the various flocks will be widely published, and it is hoped in this way to create a practical interest in and encourage the extension of the sheep industry.

FARM

Topics for Discussion

To afford an opportunity for the interchange of ideas, and to provide a place where information may be given and received, we publish each week at the head of this department a list of topics, which our readers are invited to discuss. Opposite each topic is the date of publication of contributions on it, and readers are reminded that articles contributed on any of the subjects given, must be in our hands at least ten days earlier than the subject is scheduled for discussion in our columns.

Readers will understand that this department of the paper is theirs. They are invited to write the editor, freely expressing their opinion of the manner in which it is conducted and to suggest topics. If any reader has in mind a question which he or she may think can be profitably discussed, it will be given a place in the order of subjects, if it is deemed of sufficient general interest. Because this notice stands at the head of the Farm Department does not mean that farm questions, only, may be taken up. The discussions will cover every phase of agriculture.

For the best article received on each topic we will award a first prize of Three Dollars and for the Second best, Two Dollars, paying the latter

sum for other contributions on the subject published in the same issue.

Articles should not exceed 500 words.

October 13.—What is the most expedient way of harvesting a root crop? How do you store the roots? Under average conditions how late in the winter or spring are the roots fit for feeding to stock?

October 20.—How would you proceed to fit a team of farm horses for sale in order to get the maximum price? Discuss particularly the diet provided and the exercise and general care needed as well as the time taken to make horses in average working condition fit for market.

October 27.—What is your experience as to the keeping quality of butter made in Western Canada? What do you consider the reason for so much butter going off flavor within a short time after it is made? Outline important details that help to overcome the defect.

November 3.—Describe your method of finishing hogs for market, where the aim is to produce stock that will sell in the highest grade. Give particular attention to the kind of feed used during the finishing period, and state what weight you usually feed to.

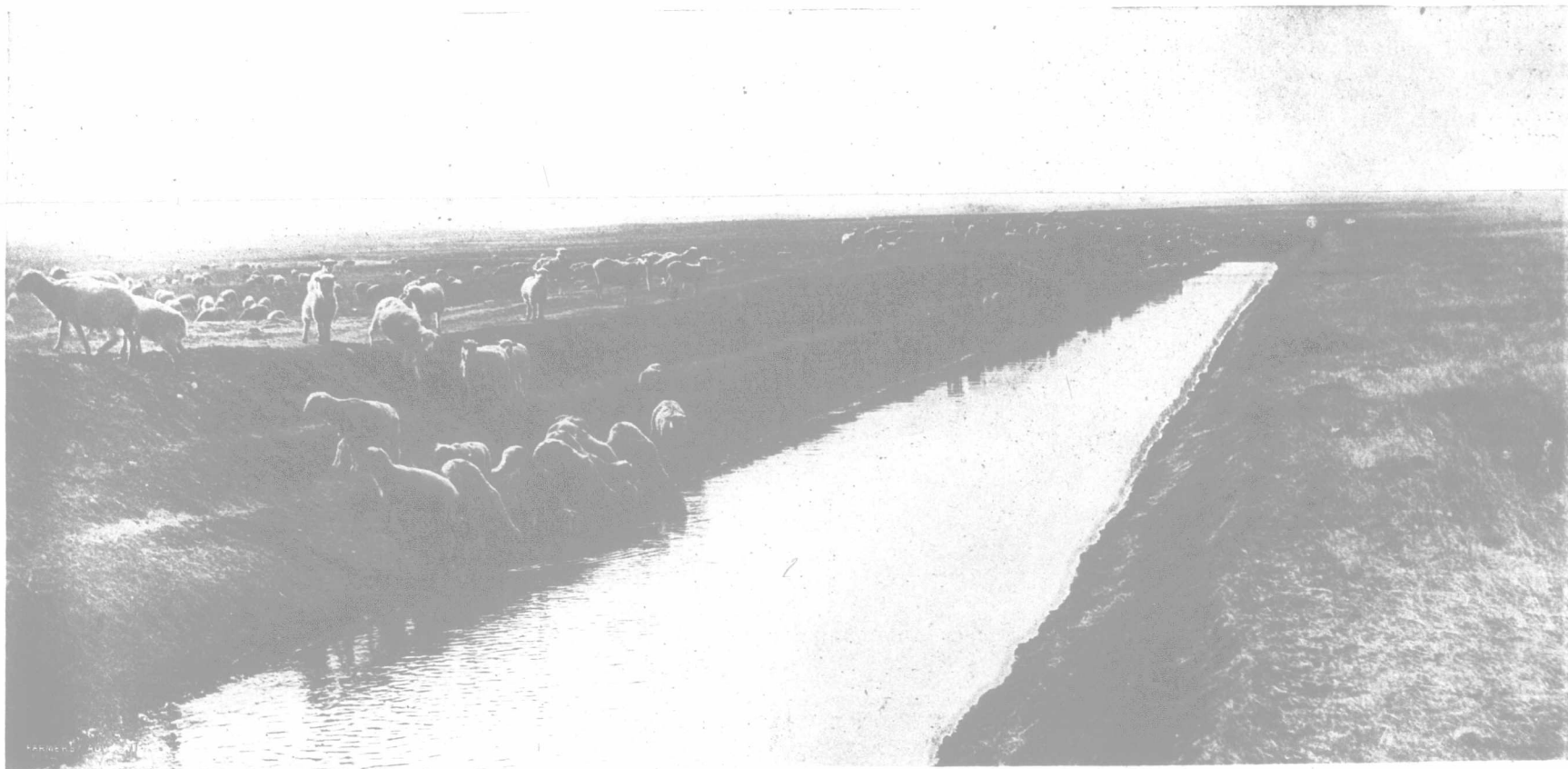
Advises Holding Wheat

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Regarding the marketing of wheat one must go back some few years. In those days the great question was: Can I hold my wheat and let my debts wait, and take chances for a rise with an equal chance of a drop? We had no chartered banks then for assistance, and as the creditors had generally waited over time, one was morally bound to sell. In this case the first market was, I think, the best in the majority of cases.

Nowadays things are changed. People, as a rule, are on a better standing. Banks are scattered all over the country and are ready to do legitimate business. Any farmer, under ordinary circumstances, can get an advance on his wheat, if he wishes; but he has to take into consideration storage, shrinkage and interest, and unless he is prepared to hold until the following May, which is, as a rule, an active month in the wheat market. I think, in the majority of cases, the earliest market (if the farmer can catch it) will give as good an average as any, taking everything into consideration.

To the farmer to whom the selling of his wheat is immaterial (as far as the financial part of it is concerned), it is another matter. I think, as a rule, he will hit it by keeping over and carefully watching the spring and summer market. But as the wheat market of the present time is a big gamble, which is too intricate for the ordinary farmer to deal with, one might say that you never know where you are. Personally I think when a good price is going, under ordinary circumstances and seasons, a man is wise to take advantage of it.



SHEEP RANCHING IN THE IRRIGATION COUNTRY, SOUTHERN ALBERTA.