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MONTREAL, CHICAGO and SPRINGFIELD MASS JULY 1 1900

o 50 Cents a Year

The Year's Trade.

The trading of a country is a pretty sure index as to its prosperity. For the past fiscal year, the import and export statement shows a far larger volume of business than ever before, about \$360,000,000, or nearly 40,000,000 more than last year. In spite of a shortage in vessels the export trade shows a steady increase, Canadian produce having been sent abroad to the value of \$158,800,000 for 11 mos to June 1. Gradually the Canadian producer is learning how to put up produce in a form demanded by foreign consumers and the better this is understood the wider should be the market and greater the quantity exported.

It Will Pay.

With a prospect of bountiful crops and good-to-high prices for them, I hope a large number of readers will plan to attend the best fairs. These come at a season when you can best get away. The fairs are a great educational institution. No matter in what branch of farming you are interested, even if only as a consumer, you will at most of the exhibitions find enough of interest to more than pay for the trip. It is not yet so late but that, if a little extra care and attention be given the chickens, a favorite vegetable, or even the selection of some of the choicest grain, a premium may be secured. By all means go and see what the farmers of other parts of your state, competing in the sale of similar products to your own, are doing. It will pay, and be lots of fun.

Belgian Hares.

They are getting frightened in California, and no wonder, for fear the million or so of Belgian hares raised there as pets or for market will overrun the state and that the awful experience of Australia will be repeated. Dr Palmer of the state board of agriculture says that everything possible should be done to prevent the liberation of the animals. The craze for Belgian hares has extended to the Atlantic coast, and the peril is therefore a national one.

How to Sell Produce.

The value of a good salesman or saleswoman is beginning to be understood in the farm produce line, as it is appreciated in other branches of trade. The art of selling any kind of merchandise has passed the old book agent stage. The seller must have good things, attractively put up, and he (or she) must be a gentleman or lady in manner. He must have the book agent's courage and persistency without his brass; courtesy and tact are the winners. Enterprising sons, wives and daughters who are getting regular customers for farm products by such means as described are laying the foundations of a larger business career. As illustrating the value of tact, it has been discovered that German manu-

facturers have continued to hold the South American markets against the United States and England because they have better salesmen; men who are not over smart and do not bore their customers, but win their confidence and their orders through personal friendship.

The Institute Excursionists.

Well paid for the trip, is the general expression of the excursionists who visited the Ontario agricultural college and experiment farm during June. He who visits this grand institution for the first time is bewildered by the variety and extent of the work, both practical and experimental. The annual visitor notes with eager interest the development of plans, the effect of experiment work, examines the variety tests of field crops intelligently, and when he returns home, resolves to be a better and more studious farmer. The excursions to Guelph are a great thing for the farmers of Ontario and are doing much to popularize the institution and extend the results of its work.

Prohibition Marches On.

Prohibition is now the law of the land over Prince Edward Island. The Farquharson government, as one man, just before adjournment last month, placed a law on the statutes forbidding the sale or barter of intoxicating liquor, which is intended as absolute prohibition. Manitoba, too, is deeply in earnest in its stringent prohibitory law. With Quebec in line, nothing would hinder the enactment of federal prohibition throughout the Dominion. While Quebec can hardly be expected to change its position for many years, the prohibitory laws of all other provinces and territories, if followed up by strong public sentiment, should keep the coming generation farther than ever before from the evil effects of the saloon. In the meantime Quebec is a rich field for temperance agitators.

Four words tell the story of the famine in India treeless plains, drouth, starvation. There are too many people in proportion to the number of trees. Over in Egypt the Nile is gradually drying up, and elsewhere in Africa the Congo, because of the destruction of the forests at their sources. The Sahara was once fertile. We are beginning, thank Providence, to know the value of a tree in America.

No better incentive to high-class farming can exist, so far as this year's crops are concerned, than the sharp advance in wheat, the firm condition of the hog market at the highest price in some time, and the eager search for horses. But it is only the producers of the best of these products that realize the most satisfactory returns.

Give yourself and your men a fair nooning in these hot days. You wouldn't expect a valuable horse to work hard immediately after a hearty meal. All hands will work better after a little rest.

Dominion and Provincial.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES.

Nova Scotia—The spring in the Conwallis and Annapolis valleys opened about two weeks later than usual. Farming operations were greatly delayed by cold weather and frequent rains. Fruit trees were all in bloom June 16, and never before has there been such a show. The pear, plum and apple crop will be a very heavy one. Insects are numerous, but are kept down by intelligent spraying. A great many new orchards are being set and in a few years the valley in the blooming season will be one huge bouquet. The hay crop will be large, as none of the dykes or uplands had any winter-killed; pastures are splendid and frequent showers have done away with the need of any hose on lawns. Peaches will be a small crop after the abundant one of 1899. The potato crop, which is a very important one, should be large. Although the season was late, farmers have sown less grain and planted largely of potatoes, many having 40 a. The bug is here in full force, and it is the insect year, caused by the mild winter. Small fruits, and native or wild berries will be an enormous crop. Farmers are now sowing large quantities of turnips and buckwheat. The outlook is indeed good.

Canadian Horses have been in great demand for the imperial forces in South Africa and several large shipments have been made. In an address at Montreal Lord Minto pointed out what a profitable field for the Dominion there may be in the way of the export of horses. There is a continuous demand for good mounts, and Canada is superior in this resource to most countries.

To Get Rid of Rose Slugs the work should be undertaken before a bug is to be seen. While buds on rose bushes are very small and before the bugs have begun to appear, the surrounding soil should be soaked with kerosene emulsion and have plenty of soot stirred on. I treated two or three large rose bushes by stirring the soil for about 2 ft around the bush, digging down as deep as I could without disturbing the roots, then mixed in a lot of manure. After smoothing and pounding it down with the spade, I laid flat stones all over to keep the chickens off. Two or three times before the roses were in bloom, I lifted the stones and picked out the grubworms which I found very thick directly under the stones, then sprinkled the ground with kerosene emulsion and soot. When the bushes were covered with roses what a relief it was not to see the bugs. Soot is also good for killing currant worms and should be put on while the bush is damp.—[Marie.]

Picking Clapp's Favorite Pears—Some years ago I had on some nursery trees very near the street a quantity of Clapp's Favorite pears, which might be a temptation to vacation boys if left to ripen on the trees. I recalled what the late Col Wilder said of the importance of harvesting that variety while it was yet green and hard. Aug 1 I gathered one half of the pears and spread them upon a blanket in a cool room. In two weeks' time they had turned yellow, with red cheeks and become mellow. When I carried them to

market, Mr Marsh's clerk said, "We will be glad to have all you raise if as sound and handsome as these." What remained on the trees were picked Aug 15, they had grown in two weeks to be of double the average size of those picked Aug 1, but were yet hard and were ripened by the same process and were large and juicy with a touch of lemon acid sweetness, most refreshing. It cannot be too impressively impressed upon growers of pears that the Clapp's Favorite, if left on the trees until it turns yellow, will be rotten at the core and worthless while it is one of the very best pears if ripened in the manner I have indicated.—[J. W. Adams, Hampden Co, Mass.]

Manitoba—The early season had most flattering prospects for crops. As the season has advanced, lack of rain has retarded the growth and filling out of plants and many crops will be disappointing. The hay crop, June 14, was reported from all parts of the province as very light and with a continuation of dry weather the wheat crop will be severely affected.

Canada's Tobacco Imports last year included 5,856,600 cigars, mostly Cuban, 2,212,000 cigars, 194,400 lbs manufactured tobacco. Exports included 3,000,000 cigars, 158,000 lbs cut and plug and nearly 400,000 lbs scrap and cuttings.

Ontario—The production of the section around Victoria Co includes stall-fattened cattle, mutton lambs, bacon hogs, creamery butter, factory cheese, red clover and alsike seed. Some stock for breeding purposes is also raised. Egg production is getting to be a large item. Population is dense for an agricultural country. Markets have improved greatly in recent years and can be called good. British markets take nearly all the surplus. There is a growing tendency to increase live stock so as to convert all possible farm productions into more finished and therefore more valuable commodities.

The C P R has 20,600,000 a of the richest land in Manitoba and the northwest, donated by the Dominion government, and has also sold nearly 4,000,000 a. The C P R owns more land in the northwest than the entire cleared land of the great province of Ontario. This land is being sold at \$3 p a, so the land subsidy alone is worth over \$60,000,000. It is said the C P R is the largest land owning corporation in the world.

The Northwest Territories are not only being settled rapidly by miners but large numbers of farmers are locating and making permanent homes. The same can be said of the Dakotas, Montana and Minnesota. The northwest is being appreciated as never before, because of its rich soil, healthful climate and generally favorable conditions for farming.

The maritime board of trade of N S, N B and P E I holds its annual meeting at Kentville, N S, Aug 15. Several matters of vital interest to the economical conditions of these provinces will be considered.

The fruit obtained from the home garden is so much superior to that obtained in markets it is worth a great effort and considerable annoyance to have on one's table an abundance of such choice, fresh, ripe fruit.