

distances might possibly be placed unless time were given after arrival to recover. It is possible, perhaps, that the disadvantages might be met in some way. The construction of a live stock arena, has been under discussion at the Toronto Exhibition grounds for some time. Might it not be constructed in such a way as to accommodate a large share of the exhibits in this manner during the day, which could then be led back to their own stalls at night, and thus make an attempt to meet a situation which has so many obvious advantages from all other points of view.

#### Storing Undrawn Poultry

The New York and New England Association of Railway Surgeons has condemned in a special resolution the practice of storing game and fowls for long periods without dressing. This resolution asserts that death and injury from toxic infection are increasing and that most of it can be traced directly to the eating of food that has been stored. According to the *Literary Digest* corrective legislation is pending in both New York and Massachusetts. Such legislation will undoubtedly be strenuously opposed by the poultry and game trade of these States.

Whether undressed poultry stored for a length of time is injurious to the health or not, it is very evident that any legislation that would prevent the holding of poultry for future use would meet with strong opposition from producers as well as dealers. The dealer has found it impracticable to sell drawn poultry or at least to hold it for future sale.

#### Non-Taxation of Woodlands

The forests of Canada are among her greatest assets. They should be safeguarded and preserved for the people of Canada. The convention at Ottawa last week has thrown light on many subjects connected with their management both for commercial purposes and for improving the climatic and moisture conditions in agricultural sections denuded of trees. The governments have something substantial to work on and it is up to them to utilize the forest areas which nature has so lavishly bestowed all over Canada, in the best interests of her citizens. Every tree, large or small, has a definite commercial value, and those in authority should see to it that no timber is wantonly destroyed and that no tree is cut until it has reached a size when it can give a maximum return to the state and in a commercial way thereafter.

But we are not so directly concerned with the preservation of the forest areas for commercial purposes as with replenishing the denuded forest areas of the agricultural districts and preserving what little of the wood lot there is left in the rural sections of the country. While the full benefit of tree planting will not come to the farmers who plant to-day and will be something for future generations to reap a large reward from, yet there are advantages which the farmer of to-day may derive from judicious tree planting. There are hundreds of streams in Ontario that dry up every summer just because the trees that formerly protected the sources of the streams have been destroyed leaving them exposed to a parching sun. If some quick growing trees were planted not only at the sources of these streams but along their banks, in a few years the water flow during the summer would be increased and the moisture condition of the atmosphere improved. Even the farmers' wood lot will pay its present owner for care expended upon it. The denuding of the wood lots in the country has had a great deal to do with the severe climatic conditions that have prevailed during recent years and especially the strong bleak winds of winter bringing with

them the drifting snow. In several ways, therefore, almost immediate benefit will result from the careful planting of trees and the preservation and increasing of the farmer's wood lot.

But it is difficult to convince the average farmer that there is anything to be gained by preserving his wood lot. Taxes have to be paid on the land devoted to this purpose and he concludes that it is good business to bring the land into a condition of productiveness as soon as possible. The Provincial Forester, Dr. Clark, advises exemption from taxation for woodlands, or at least such a modification of the present methods of levying taxes as to make it an inducement to maintain the wood lot rather than destroy it. He would also make this exemption or modification conditional upon the owner giving the woodland sufficient intelligent care to keep it up to a reasonable standard of production. This seems like a reasonable view to take. There is no doubt that if woodlands were exempted from taxation or a rate levied commensurate with their productive power there would be less incentive for the farmer to break up his wood lot and cultivate it. The question is an important one and we would be glad to have the opinions of our readers regarding it.

#### Early Shorthorn Importations

The second article in the series being written for THE FARMING WORLD by the Hon. John Dryden will appear in our Feb. 1st issue. Owing to pressure of other work Mr. Dryden has not been able to have the second one ready for this issue. The first of the series which appeared in January 1st issue has been very favorably commented on by Shorthorn breeders. The second will deal with the early importations of Shorthorns into Canada and a lot of time and work will be required in its preparation. It will, however, be worth it all and something of real interest and value to Canadians may be looked for.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

For years the easterner has been going to better his condition. Recently a westerner has purchased a farm near London, Ont., and will settle down to mixed farming in that part of Ontario. He says he can make more money in the east than in the west at his chosen calling.

"Raise more hogs" is a good motto for the farmer to follow just now. At present prices there is no more profitable business than hog raising. The grievances against the packer that at present exist, though serious enough, are in our opinion not sufficient to warrant the farmer in giving up hog raising. Every farmer on a hundred acres should have at least a dozen or two of good hogs to market every year.

The live stock judging classes at the Ontario Agricultural College promise to be of unusual interest this year. Mr. Gosling who so favorably impressed those who heard him at Guelph last month, will be present about January 18th. Stockmen who can arrange it should make it a point to be present.

The mild winter and the scarcity of snow have made many apprehensive of the fall wheat crop. As a rule this crop stands the winter better if there is a deep body of snow covering the ground. The fields in most sections have been bare of snow so far this winter. The frost until quite recently has not gone very deeply into the ground and consequently any excess of moisture that the frequent rains have brought has soaked away before any damage was done.

At the annual meeting of the American Breeders' Association to be held at Lincoln, Neb., on Jan. 17-19, Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of Guelph, will deliver an address on breeding cereals. In the program a copy of which has just been received, it is announced that the Hon. John Dryden will preside at one of the sessions.

The Dominion Government has secured the services of a French tobacco expert to make a thorough investigation of tobacco growing conditions in Essex County. While large crops of tobacco can be grown it is believed that it is possible to greatly improve the quality.

A case of 150 pounds of hymenoptera flies in embryonic stage has arrived in Boston from Europe. These parasites are to be used for the destruction of the browntail moth. This plan of destruction may prove effective, but what are these flies to live on when the moths are all gone.

#### A Public Benefactor

It may be news to many that the Fife wheat which has made the western provinces of Canada famous was first brought into Canada by an Ontario farmer, i.e. late David Fife, of Otonabee. At the regular meeting of the East Peterboro Farmers' Institute, held last month, a resolution was passed requesting the Dominion Government to have a suitable monument erected to perpetuate his memory. The request is a proper one and it is to be hoped the Government will consider the proposition favorably.

#### First Canadian Cow-Testing Association

On January 6th last was organized at Cowansville, Que., the first Cow Testing Association ever formed in Canada. It is modelled after those in Denmark, and at the inaugural meeting 20 farmers were enrolled with 538 cows. The organization will be known as the Cowansville District Cow Testing Association. The by-laws governing the members in their work are as follows:

1. Any person who will agree to keep a record of individual cows during the whole milking period, to the extent of weighing the morning's and evening's milk on at least three days every month, and also take a sample for testing, will be admitted for membership. The number of members may be limited at the discretion of the Committee of Management.
2. The milk will be preserved and a composite sample tested once a month with a Babcock milk tester.
3. Members will be expected to provide themselves with scales, and sample bottles for each cow and a box for holding the samples.
4. Members shall assume the responsibility of obtaining the samples to the place where the testing is to be done, on such days as may be directed by the person in charge of that work.
5. For the season of 1906, the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, through the Dairy Commissioner, will agree to provide blanks for recording the weights of milk, do the testing once a month, compile the figures and prepare a report at the end of the year.

The interesting part of life is not what we are, but what we are going to be. When a man sits down in what he is, so to speak, and is content to go no farther, or hopeless of doing so, life becomes unsatisfactory and cheap at once. It is the glory of the gospel that it always keeps the eyes and mind of man fixed on something ahead of himself, on the infinite possibilities of life here and hereafter.