



FRONT ELEVATION  
First-prize House Plan.

Residence of Albert Johnston, Huron Co.

putting their energy, ambition, muscle and intelligent thought into the farm lands of their native Province, and slowly, it may be, but surely, transforming their beautiful Province into one of the most fertile and productive sections of Eastern Canada, for I believe there are yet great possibilities before this Province.

W. F. S.

### Crops of Ontario.

The following statement regarding the grain crops of Ontario has been issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, and deals with conditions as reported upon under date of November 1st, 1904:

Fall Wheat.—This crop is not only smaller than usual in the yield per acre, but it is also rather light in weight, running sometimes as much as three pounds per bushel below the standard, much of the grain having become shrunken on account of rust.

Spring Wheat.—Rust also attacked this crop, but did not do so much injury as in the case of fall wheat. Goose wheat escaped the rust, however, and turned out to be an excellent sample. This crop furnished plenty of good straw.

The New Fall Wheat.—The acreage recently sown to fall wheat appears to be larger than that of the preceding year. Owing to the lateness of harvesting operations, most of the new fall wheat was got in a week or two later than usual. As a rule, the ground was in good condition to receive the seed, and a good catch was made. The cool weather in the latter part of the fall, however, retard growth somewhat, and many regard the crop as being short in the top, although otherwise looking vigorous and promising.

Barley.—This turned out to be one of the most successful crops of the year. The yield per acre was considerably over the average, and although the grain was in many cases described as being discolored by rain, it was plump, and of first-class feeding value.

Oats.—This crop was also a splendid one, the average yield being large, and the general quality of the grain being good. Smut and rust were

complained of in some localities, but, taking it all together, the yield and quality may be considered as most gratifying.

Peas.—Peas have not been widely sown during the past three or four years, owing to the ravages of the weevil or "bug." The yield and general quality of peas this season, however, will do much to restore confidence in the growing of the crop. The injury from weevil was comparatively slight, and a larger acreage of peas may be looked for next year.

Grain Crop Acreages and Yields for 1904.—The following are the final estimates of the product of the 1904 crop, computed from returns of actual yield made by threshers and an extra staff of correspondents. In most cases the yields are below the forecast of August:

Fall Wheat.—605,458 acres, yielding 9,160,623 bushels, or 15.1 per acre, as against 17,242,763 and 25.9 in 1903.

Spring Wheat.—225,027 acres, yielding 3,471,103 bushels, or 15.4 per acre, as against 4,650,707 and 18.7 in 1903.

Barley.—772,434 acres, yielding 24,567,825 bushels, or 31.8 per acre, as against 24,378,817 and 34.3 in 1903.

Oats.—2,654,936 acres, yielding 102,173,443 bushels, or 38.5 per acre, as against 109,874,053 and 41.6 in 1903.

Beans.—50,892 acres, yielding 912,849 bushels, or 17.9 per acre, as against 978,246 and 18.4 in 1903.

Peas.—339,260 acres, yielding 6,629,866 bushels or 19.5 per acre, as against 8,924,650 and 21.9 in 1903.

### First-prize House Plan: "A" Competition.

Our farmhouse was built in 1903, costing \$1,770.00, not including our own work. We hauled stones, brick, lath, shingles, and only hemlock lumber, also excavated the cellar. This plan, you will see, is very convenient for domestic purposes. The dimensions of rooms are given on the plan. (It is 41 ft. long, 24 ft. across front and back, and 8 ft. of projection.) It is solid brick walls, well plastered and back-plastered, brickwork being 20 ft. The stone foundation is 7 ft. in height, 3 ft. in ground and 4 ft. upwards, making a nice height for cellar, and leaving cellar windows clear above the ground outside. The veranda is roofed in along with the house, which makes it very pleasant for sitting in. The size of kitchen can be made to extend full width of house, if so desired. We have wood-box built outside in woodshed, and by opening a door into kitchen it is handy to get the wood. You put the wood in from the outside, and it keeps the house so much cleaner. We have, also, in our kitchen a funnel running down into slop barrel in furnace-room. In this way, slops never freeze up in cold weather, and we have no running outside with them; they can be carried out of cellar through woodshed. The water is heated by a boiler, which holds thirty gallons, besides the range, with pipes going into bath-room and over sink in kitchen, which is much needed for convenience.

The closets in each room are much needed, as the clothes can be kept free from any dust which may be raised while sleeping. The pantry is fitted with dumb-waiter, which saves many steps into cellar, especially in warm weather. There are also flour-dumpers under table, which are very easy to operate. The cupboard is fitted with three large drawers and shelves. We find the door going from pantry to dining-room very convenient. It is just as easy getting a meal in dining-room as in kitchen.

This house is well ventilated, windows are hung on rollers, easily adjusted, especially those large windows, which are so awkward to manage otherwise. The fanlights above bedroom doors are also a good idea for ventilation. The cellar windows are hung on hinges, easy to open. There are also flues in chimney which can be opened for ventilation.

This house is heated with a wood furnace (McClary), all the rooms being heated by registers, the upstairs being in the wall, and the downstairs in the floor. The room above the kitchen is heated from kitchen stove.

The flues in chimneys are fitted with doors and soot-pans. There is also, in the outside chimney, a hole for summer-kitchen stove, and the flues out of this chimney act in ventilating the cistern. I might say here, we have a tap going out of cistern into furnace-room, which is useful for many things, in cleaning out cistern, etc.

I had almost forgotten to mention we have a swinging door, as you will see on plan, from kitchen to dining-room, which I would not be without.

ALBERT JOHNSTON.

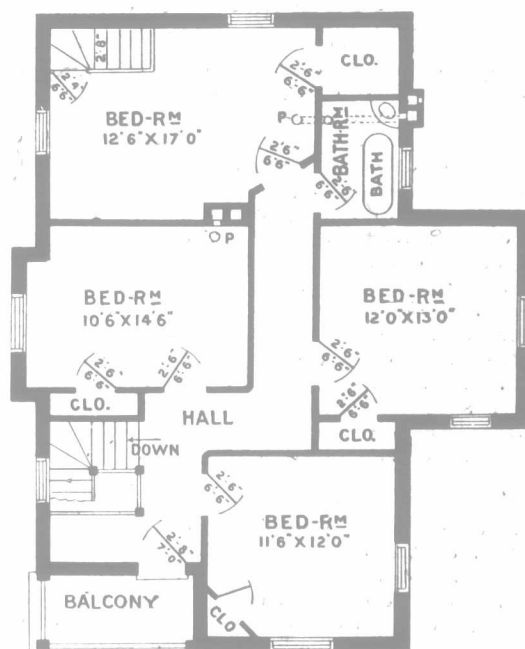
Huron Co., Ont.

### Re Premiums.

Dear Sir,—I received the premiums which I sent for, and am very much pleased. I think they are well worth sending for.

York Co., Ont.

WILLIAM A. BROWN.



UPSTAIRS PLAN.

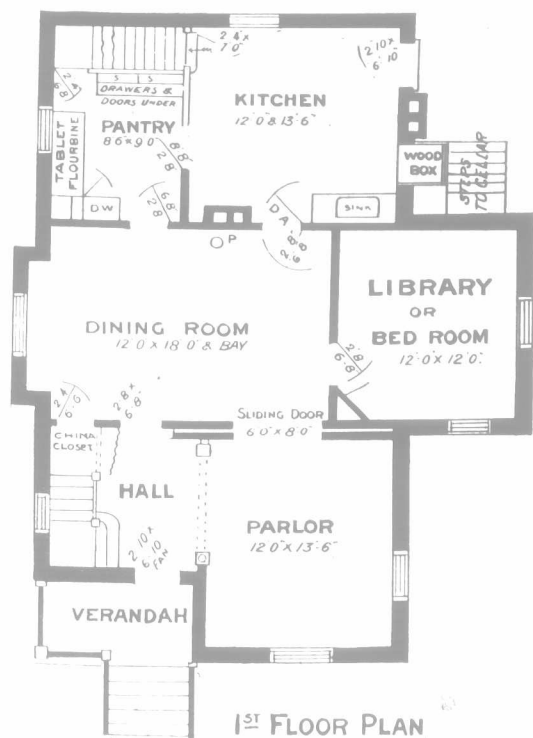
### Beef Ring Works Well.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Town-line Beef Association was held on November 1st, at the home of Mr. Wm. Walkington, Maple, York Co., Ont. The affairs of the Association were found to be in a very satisfactory condition, and every member was well pleased with the administration of the officers during the season just closed.

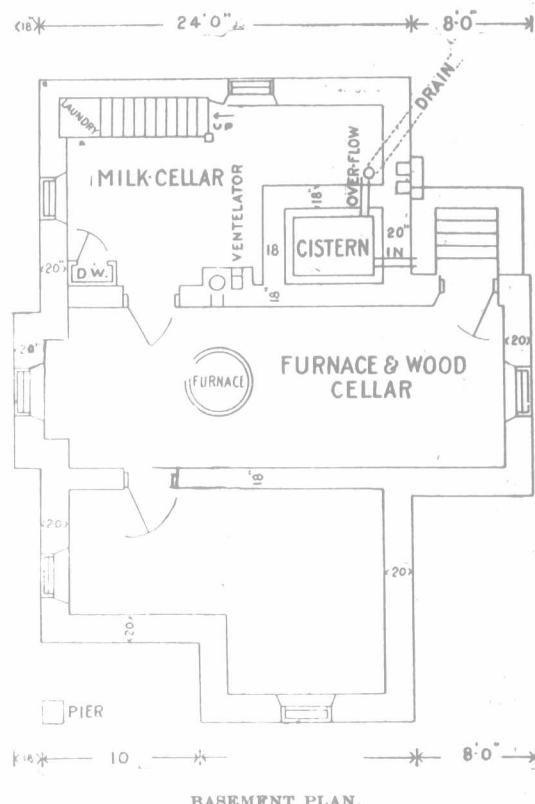
It has always been the aim of this Association to produce the best of beef for the ring, and this year they were eminently successful. The average weight of beasts killed was 551 pounds, a standard reached by few similar associations in Ontario. If any have done better, we would be pleased to hear of it through the "Farmer's Advocate." The officers of last year were all re-elected, Mr. Alex. Cameron entering upon his fifteenth term of office. When the business had been attended to, and everything put in good order for another season, the members and their guests repaired to the spacious dining-room, where a sumptuous supper had been prepared by the members' goodwives. After doing justice to the very excellent repast, speeches, songs and recitations were listened to till the wee small hours, when the very happy gathering, after singing Auld Lang Syne and God Save the King, drove to their various homes, convinced that a beef ring was a good thing in more than one way. Not only does it supply good beef, but makes a friendly neighborhood.

### Mexican Bird Protection.

An agitation has been on foot in Mexico for some time looking to the passage of a law to prevent the wanton destruction of birds throughout the country; in fact, a proposed law has already been presented to the Government by the "Association for the Protection of Birds," and it is confidently expected that it will meet the approval of the executive. This law is intended to prevent the killing of certain classes of birds useful to the agriculturist. Other kinds, such as for instance game birds, may be killed only at stated periods of the year. All birds of prey, and others destructive to the interests of the farmer, may be killed at any time, and by anybody.



1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR PLAN.  
FIRST-FLOOR PLAN.



BASEMENT PLAN.