

# The Farming World

For Farmers and Stockmen

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## Canada in Britain

**C**ANADA is being kept well before the people of Great Britain these days. Since the arrival of the Hon. Sydney Fisher and Prof. Robertson a few weeks ago, the people of the Old Land have had the many-sided and important features of Canadian Agriculture presented to them in a most striking manner. These two representatives of the Canadian farmer are seemingly leaving no opportunity neglected of placing before the English consumer the capabilities of the Dominion in the production of large quantities of the finest quality of food products. We hear of them in London, in Liverpool, in Glasgow, and in other large centres of trade in the United Kingdom, addressing meetings of provision dealers and merchants and being interviewed by representatives of the large dairies and by men in official positions as to the possibilities of Canadian Agriculture.

Truly these are great days for Canada. The seed that is being sown is evidently finding a lodgment in the business centres of the Old Land and many are turning their attention Dominionward in their endeavor to secure food products of the finest quality. The British consumer has had a taste of our cheese, our butter, our bacon, our fruit, our eggs and our poultry, and it has been so satisfying that he is asking for more. The duty then of the producer is quite clear. He must aim to supply the articles we have enumerated, with the exception perhaps of the first named, in increasing quantities. But the quality must not be neglected. It has been due to the fine quality of the products already sent forward that this taste has been acquired, and every effort should be put forth not only to keep up to the standard of other years, but to so improve, that the quality of food products from Canada shall be superior to that of any others imported by the Mother Land. This can be done by constant, persistent and definite effort along educational and practical lines.

But our exports of food products are increasing at a most satisfactory rate, and if the present rate of progress keeps up, in a few years Canada can lay claim to a goodly share of Great Britain's imports of food products. In addressing a meeting of the Scottish Provision Trade Association at Glasgow, on June 19th, Mr. Fisher stated that some five

years ago Canada sent to Great Britain seven per cent. of the staple food products which she imported. In 1900 Canada sent sixteen per cent. and he had no hesitation in saying that in the next five years we could again more than double that percentage, providing the goods were wanted.

Speaking at the same gathering, Prof. Robertson gave some interesting figures, showing the increase in Canadian trade with Great Britain during the past ten years. Our cheese exports have doubled in this time, and instead of supplying 40 per cent. of the cheese consumed in Britain, we are now supplying 70 per cent. Our butter trade has grown fifteen fold, and our bacon trade twenty fold. Ten years ago Canada exported 162 shiploads of produce to Britain; last year we exported 480 shiploads. Our export of wheat last year was thirty times greater than it was ten years ago, while our flour exports have grown five fold.

The average producer in this country can hardly comprehend the significance of these figures. While he has been plodding along seemingly not increasing his annual output to any great extent, the total volume of trade has been enlarging at a very rapid rate. And yet it is each one's little addition to the whole that counts in the end and causes trade to expand. If each producer, while endeavoring to increase his annual output would further improve the quality, there is hardly any limit to the amount of expansion our trade with Great Britain will stand. But there must be advancement in regard to both quantity and quality, or no permanent advancement can be made.

## Fruit Inspection.

On the first day of July, 1901, the act to provide for the marking and inspection of all packages containing fruit for sale passed at the last session of the House of Commons, came into force, and from this time there should be a decided check to the fraudulent packing and marketing of fruit that has disgraced this country during recent years. Of course no law of this kind is of the greatest advantage in preventing fraud without some effective means are taken to enforce it. But we have every assurance that the law will be enforced where necessity demands it. The fact that there is such a law will no doubt act as a deterrent and prevent many who might be afraid of being detected from

perpetrating the frauds of recent years. It will also renew confidence in the Canadian fruit trade on the part of the English consumer.

In The Farming World of April 23rd last we published the leading clauses of the bill to which we would direct our readers. It will pay all fruit growers and packers to make themselves thoroughly familiar with the provisions of the bill which will be known as The Fruit Marks Act, 1901. Copies of the bill are now being distributed from Ottawa.

## Feeding the Beef Calf

In rearing animals for beef production a great deal depends upon the method of feeding adopted with the calf. And it is just here where too many of our farmers fail. They neglect the calf and leave it to shift largely for itself till the time approaches for fitting it for market when they begin to feed in earnest. The very best animal, no matter how good the breeding, cannot be produced in this way. From the time the calf is dropped till it is ready for the block it should be so cared for and fed that it will continue to grow every moment of the time. Every beef producer should begin fitting for market as soon as the calf is born.

In rearing the beef calf the following from the pen of a practical American breeder and feeder is to the point: "Work is always to be done in accordance with the end and purpose in view. There is a distinct difference between a dairy cow and a cow intended to rear calves. In the former the intention is to develop a large digestive apparatus, with a full development of bone and muscle, but with no tendency to make fat. All the fat produced by the feed of a dairy cow is intended to go into the milk. Consequently the feeding is so arranged as to produce a good development of bone and digestive organs, a large stomach, and no waste of flesh. Everything is to be turned into development of the milk product and while in some breeds the milk-giving proclivity goes with that for making flesh and fat, yet this is not desired beyond the needs of the calf until it is able to eat and digest solid food. Three months' milk is enough for this and thus the calf is trained so that its digestive organs may turn rich food into flesh and fat, not so much nevertheless as it used to be the case. The calf thus gets the whole milk of the dam, and this is done with the least labor by permitting the calf to suck the cow. And the common and