

\$300 Tin Rooster.

A despatch from LaCrosse, Wis., says: "Henry Peterson, a farmer residing a short distance north of Veroqua, purchased from an agent a tin rooster, which was guaranteed to turn red six hours before each and every storm, thus giving him plenty of time to prepare for the blow. Storms came and went, but the rooster did not change color, and Peterson started an investigation in an attempt to recover the \$30 cheque which he had given for the device. He found the cheque at the village bank. It had accomplished what the rooster failed to do. It had turned to \$300. The swindler has not yet been apprehended."

Crops Good in Spite of Rain.

We are having a great deal of wet weather here, which makes harvesting very slow. There will be a lot of damaged hay in this vicinity. Crops, except corn, are looking extra well, in spite of so much rain. Fall wheat is good sample and a heavy crop. Oats are extra heavy, and promise to be a grand crop; peas and barley are also looking very good. Roots of all kinds very good. Hay was also heavy. We never had better prospects, if the weather is only favorable. Never saw the pastures so good at this time of year, and stock of all kinds are looking first-rate.

F. BONNYCASTLE.

Northumberland County.

Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of Ontario.

The list of agricultural and horticultural societies of Ontario has just been issued. Of the latter, there are now 79 organizations, with memberships ranging from 50 to 200. The number of agricultural societies registered is 383, only four of which have a membership of 400, a large number being below 75. The need of some means of increasing the interest in our local shows is evident.

President of Iowa College Dead.

Dr. William M. Boardman, president of the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames, died on August 6th, aged 52, as a result of an illness contracted a month ago while attending the meeting of the National Educational Association, of which he was president. The deceased was a man of marked ability, and during the ten years as head of the institution at Ames was most untiring in his efforts to promote the interests of agriculture in Iowa. Prof. Chas. F. Curtis is being mentioned as his successor.

The Chinch Bug.

In certain corn-growing districts of the United States enormous injury has been done this year by the chinch bug. Happily, in Canada, we have not yet suffered to any extent from this pest. It is less than one-fifth of an inch in length, blackish brown in color, with soft white wing-covers. Grass and grain crops of all kinds are attacked, but in general a preference appears to be shown for corn. American Experiment Stations have been sending out the spores of a fungous disease to which the insect is subject, hoping to keep it in check, but so far results have not been satisfactory.

Want to Learn Farming.

A number of leading Boer farmers are expected to visit Canada shortly in order to look over the country and visit the experimental farms and good farming districts. They will study Canadian methods of agriculture, and on returning to South Africa will lecture to their fellow-countrymen upon what they have seen.

Cattle-guard Investigation.

F. W. Holt, a New Brunswicker, who is at present engaged on an arbitration case in the United States, has been appointed by Hon. Mr. Blair, Minister of Railways, to look into the question of cattle-guards on railways between now and the next session of Parliament.

A Prediction.

Theodore M. Knappen, of Minneapolis, Minn., in a recent address before the State Bankers' Association, predicted that within ten years Western Canada would be producing annually 250,000,000 bushels of wheat.

Consolidated Schools.

Prof. Jas. W. Robertson, of Ottawa, has gone east to consult with the superintendents of education in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, with a view to a selection of the sites for the three consolidated rural schools to be established in the Maritime Provinces out of a fund provided by Sir William Macdonald.

Big Apple Order.

A Belleville, Ont., dealer is reported to have received an order from an English house for a million barrels of apples. Last year the total exports of Canadian apples to Great Britain was only 643,945 and to the United States 12,502. There will be a big crop of apples in Ontario this season.

Stock Being Improved.

Mr. C. W. Hurst, of Carleton Co., N. B., writes: "Grain on high land looks well, but the recent rains have been too much for the lower tracts. Fruit is the best for years, while potatoes and root crops promise equally well. Farmers are paying more attention to stock, and the flocks and herds are now being improved. Poultry-keeping is also becoming an important industry in this section."

County Stock Competitions.

The Ottawa Valley Journal, last fall, offered a banner to the county fair in the Ottawa Valley, or district, making the largest and best exhibit of stock at its county fair. Only stock owned in the county was allowed to count in the contest. Breeders from outside counties always made the fact that they did not belong to the county known to the three judges, who last year visited all the fairs in that section; 100 points were offered in each of the classes for horses, cattle, sheep and swine; 40 for number of entries, 40 for the breeding and quality of the animals, and 20 for their show condition. The contest had the effect of making the residents of the different counties take a greater interest in their county fair, and caused them to feel that to a great extent, the success of their fair reflected the standing agriculturally of their county.

Farmers' Institutes for Women.

There are now 42 Women's Institutes in Ontario, with a membership of 3,048, the result of two years' work in that line by Supt. G. C. Creelman, who has just had issued from the Department of Agriculture, Toronto, Ont., an attractive, little handbook on the subject, which deals with a lot of interesting topics.

The Cattle Embargo.

A special cable from London, Eng., says: "There is a strong probability that the embargo against landing Canadian cattle at British ports will be removed when Parliament reassembles in October. The negotiations of the colonial premiers here have been favorable to that end."

Exhibition Dates.**CANADA.**

Ottawa	Aug. 22 to Aug. 30
Kingston	" 25 to " 29
Morrisburg	" 27 to " 29
Sherbrooke, Que.	" 30 to Sept. 6
St. John, N. B.	" 30 to " 6
Toronto	Sept. 9 to " 11
Peterboro	" 10 to " 18
Halifax, N. S.	" 12 to " 20
London	" 16 and " 17
Wellesley	" 16 and " 17
Napanee	" 16 and " 17
Metcalfe	" 16 to " 18
Guelph	" 16 to " 18
Owen Sound	" 16 to " 18
Hamilton	" 17 and " 18
Stayner	" 18 and " 19
Eldon	" 18 to " 20
Orillia	" 22 to " 24
Richmond	" 23 and " 24
Drumbo	" 23 and " 24
Cayuga	" 23 and " 24
Paisley	" 23 and " 24
Prescott	" 23 to " 25
Aylmer	" 23 to " 25
Newmarket	" 23 to " 25
Collingwood	" 23 to " 26
Charlottetown, P. E. I.	" 23 to " 26
Merrickville	" 24 and " 26
Barrie	" 24 to " 26
Strathroy	" 25 and " 26
Woodstock	" 25 and " 26
Paris	" 25 and " 26
Milvorton	" 25 and " 26
Lindsay	" 25 to " 27
Tilsonburg	" 30 to Oct. 1
Royal Agr. & Ind., New Westminster, B. C.	" 30 to " 3
Beachburg	Oct. 2 and " 3
Brampton	" 2 and " 3
Millbrook	" 2 and " 3
Otterville	" 3 and " 4
Elma at Atwood	" 7 and " 8
Blyth	" 7 and " 8
Beaverton	" 7 and " 8
Victoria, B. C. (Provincial)	" 7 to " 10
Berlin	" 9 and " 10
Caledonia	" 9 and " 10
Simcoe	" 14 to " 16
Woodbridge	" 15 and " 16
Ontario Winter Fair, Guelph	Dec. 8 to Dec. 12
Amherst Winter Fair	" 16 to " 18

UNITED STATES.

Missouri-Sedalia, Mo.	Aug. 18 to Aug. 23
Iowa-Des Moines	" 22 to " 30
N. Y. State Fair-Syracuse	" 25 to " 30
Ohio-Columbus	Sept. 1 to Sept. 5
Minnesota-Hamline	" 1 to " 6
South Dakota-Yankton	" 8 to " 12
Wisconsin-Milwaukee	" 8 to " 13
Indiana-Indianapolis	" 15 to " 19
Michigan State-Pontiac	" 22 to " 26
Illinois State-Springfield	" 29 to Oct. 4
St. Louis Fair, St. Louis, Mo.	Oct. 6 to " 11
Kansas City	" 20 to " 25
International-Chicago	Dec. 1 to Dec. 6

Good Agents Wanted.

Farmers or farmers' sons who will undertake to represent the "Farmer's Advocate" at the fairs this fall, and secure new subscriptions, should write us at once for terms, sample copies and outfit. State what fair or fairs, and the dates. It is a pleasure to canvass for a paper that everybody likes. Try it.

Notice.

We note with pleasure that the Canadian Airmotor is being favorably received in South Africa, as the Ontario Wind Engine & Pump Co. are shipping a carload to that recently acquired possession. Canadians should feel proud of her manufacturers as well as her soldier boys. Both do well in South Africa.

MARKETS.**Toronto Markets.**

The local live stock trade at the Western Cattle Market is not active. The quality of cattle offered only moderate; prices ruled fair for medium; too many unfinished animals on offer.

Export Cattle.—Choice loads of best export cattle from \$6 to \$6.40 for tops. Medium exporters, \$5.50 to \$5.75. Many steers offered as export cattle were unfinished and refused on that account.

Butchers' Cattle.—Best butchers' cattle, equal in quality to export stock, \$5.40 to \$5.75. The best quality of butchers' cattle weigh from 1,100 lbs. to 1,150 lbs. average. Picked lots of butchers' heifers and steers, 900 to 1,050 lbs., \$5 to \$5.25. Common steers and fat cows, \$2.75 to \$3.50.

Bulls.—Choice heavy export bulls, \$5 to \$5.50; light, \$4.75 to \$5. One export bull weighed 1,820 lbs., and sold at \$5.25.

Feeders.—Steers of good quality, weighing 1,000 to 1,100 lbs. each, in good demand at from \$4.50 to 4.75; light and medium, average 900 lbs., \$3.75 to \$4.

Stockers.—500 to 700 lbs., of good quality, are worth from \$3.25 to \$3.75; poor quality, mixed colors, \$2.50 to \$3.

Sheep.—There is a good demand for export sheep; prices rule firm, at from \$3.50 to \$3.65 per cwt. for ewes, and \$2.50 to \$2.75 for bucks.

Lambs.—The market opened at from \$4.35 to \$4.75 for choice spring lambs, but fell about 25c. per cwt. towards the close of the day; poor demand and over-supply the reason.

Milk Cows.—A better class of cows offered and prices firmer for choice quality; good milkers and springers, \$35 to \$54 per head.

Calves.—Prices easier, \$3 to \$10 per head for choice, or at from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Hogs.—Best selected bacon hogs, singers weighing from 180 to 200 lbs. live weight, off cars, not fed or watered, \$7.37½ to a fraction over for very choice; light and thick fat at \$7.12½. Sows, \$4.50 per cwt. to \$5. Stags at \$3.50 to \$4. The prospects for the fall trade not encouraging from the drovers, who all declare that farmers are not growing hogs in any quantity, and we observe a marked falling off of the quantity sent to this market.

Dressed Hogs.—Prices firmer, at \$9.50 to \$10 per cwt. for choice stock.

	Extreme comparative prices to-day, August 8th.	Two weeks ago.	Same date last year.
Export cattle	\$ 6 40	\$ 6 75	\$ 5 15
Butchers' cattle	5 75	5 40	4 35
Export bulls	5 50	5 75	4 00
Feeders	4 75	4 75	4 25
Stockers	3 50	3 50	3 25
Sheep (per cwt.)	3 65	3 60	3 50
Lambs (each)	4 75	4 75	3 50
Hogs	7 37½	7 37½	7 25
Milk cows	54 00	50 00	45 00

PRODUCE MARKET.

Receipts at the St. Lawrence Market were only moderate, no wheat on offer.

Oats.—300 bushels of oats sold at 50c. per bush.

Hay.—Fifteen loads of hay sold at \$10 to \$12 per ton for new, and from \$15 to \$18 per ton for old.

Straw.—Two loads of straw sold at \$10.50 per ton.

Eggs.—Choice lots of strictly fresh eggs sold at from 15c. to 20c. per dozen. There is a good demand for export.

Butter.—Prices show a wide range, from 14c. to 18c. per lb., and for choice selection from 20c. to 22c. per lb.

Poultry.—Prices firm for all birds of good quality, at from 60c. to \$1 per pair. Chickens, 50c. to \$1 per pair. Spring ducks are quoted at 60c. per pair. Turkeys at from 10c. to 12c. per lb.

Dressed Beef.—The Harris Abattoir Co., are reaching out for business, they having opened a branch at Hamilton. Beef, fore quarter, per cwt., \$6.50; beef, hind quarter, per cwt., \$10; mutton carcass, per lb., 7c.; veal carcass, per lb., 8c.; spring lambs, each, \$4.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$8 to \$8.90, poor to medium, \$4.50 to \$7.50; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$5.50; bulls, \$2.75 to \$5.50; steers, \$5 to \$6.50. Hogs—Mixed and butchers', \$6.50 to \$7.25; good to choice heavy, \$7 to \$7.30; rough heavy, \$6.40 to \$6.90; light, \$6.50 to \$7.20. Sheep—Good to choice wethers, \$3.50 to \$4.25; fair to choice mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.75; native lambs, \$3.50 to \$6.35.

Buffalo Markets.

East Buffalo, Aug. 12.—Cattle—Tops, \$7.25 to \$7.50; fair to good, \$6.50 to \$7; common to light, \$5 to \$6; grass calves, \$3.50 to \$4. Hogs—Heavy, \$7.70; mixed, \$7.60 to \$7.65; Yorkers, \$7.45 to \$7.50; light Yorkers and pigs, \$7.40 to \$7.45; roughs, \$5.75 to \$6; stags, \$5.25 to \$5.75; grassers, \$7.20 to \$7.30. Sheep and lambs—Lambs, \$4.75 to \$6.50; yearlings, \$4.75 to \$5.25; wethers, \$4.65 to \$4.75; ewes, \$4 to \$4.55; sheep, \$2.25 to \$4.50.