

doubt it will be in great demand, unless it should prove too soft as a shipper. It is quite possible that the Logan berry is hardly enough for some of the more favored spots in Ontario.

Small fruit growing, however, is not confined by any means to the western side of the province. Nelson, in the Kootenay district, has achieved a most enviable reputation for its strawberries. These are regular in the Winnipeg market, to which they are now finding their way, as among the best berries received there. The possibilities of the province are best brought out by such successes as Nelson has made, inasmuch as a few years ago nothing was expected of this except as a mining town. A correspondent from Kaslo, in a mining district somewhat further north, draws attention to the fact that there are being planted several hundred young orchards, all small, it is true, but which will furnish an aggregate that will visibly affect the market a few years hence.

Notwithstanding the large quantity of apples grown in British Columbia, there is still an occasional demand for some winter varieties from outside the province. I would warn Ontario shippers that it is impossible for them to fill this demand. The pest laws are so strict that even a single codling moth in a carload would condemn it, and it is needless to say that nowhere in Ontario could a carload of apples be assembled with a certainty of reaching this high standard. The eastern nursery men, too, are at somewhat of a disadvantage inasmuch as their stock is subject to a close scrutiny, and all of it practically has to be fumigated or dipped in a disinfectant mixture.

Eastern fruit growers might well envy their western friends the excellent timber they have for fruit boxes. It is commonly supposed that any kind of timber is good enough for a fruit box. Such is not the case. A fruit box should have rigid ends and sides, but the top and bottom must be as elastic as possible. The whole must be light and yet strong. There is very little wood remaining in eastern Canada to fulfil these conditions, but the supply of British Columbia is not only abundant but perfectly adapted for this purpose. There is no difficulty in getting boxes, each dimension of which is made of one piece, of perfectly clear stuff, smooth and bright.

It would not be difficult to paint a beautiful picture of fruit growing in British Columbia. The beautiful scenery of mountain and lake, the delightful climate, the fertile soil, the eagerness with which nature seems to respond to intelligent effort must appeal to anyone with a spark of enthusiasm. Nevertheless the law of compensation does not cease to work in this. A venture the opinion that the same capital invested and worked with equal intelligence in eastern Canada will yield equal profits. However, on considerations not measured in money no two men will place the same value. Social advantages will appeal to one, scenery to another, climate to a third, and others will be influenced by a mere love of change. And thus it will be that British Columbia will get her fair share of immigrants, and will deserve them all, yet it is not at all likely that the rest of Canada will be depopulated.

#### Short Courses at the O. A. C.

The short courses at the Ontario Agricultural College in dairies, stock, and seed judging and poultry raising will be held as follows: Dairy school, long course—Jan. 2, March 23, 1906. Dairy Inspectors—April 10-20, 1906. Summer course for butter and cheese-makers—May 1, Sept. 20, 1906. Stock and seed judging—Jan. 8-20, 1906. Poultry raising—Jan. 8, Feb. 3, 1906.

#### The Special vs. Mixed Farming

Farmers as a rule trail along in the same old rut, unless awakened to some new ideas through an article in an agricultural paper, or given to them by some person who has time for thought and who has some knowledge of farming as well.

The farmer to-day has to use more thought and better judgment, and be more skillful in his work than in the past, when the soil brought forth abundantly with the least effort, when any implement was good enough, even a brush harrow covered the seed; but not so now. Implements of the most modern form are necessary to secure good crops, and the man with the most and best machinery can handle his crop cheaper, grow larger and, therefore, more profitable ones.

That problem, the great cost of so many farm implements, strikes the beginner with small capital as a serious matter, and the same is true with the average farmer.

To the beginner I would say: "In the first place do not purchase too large a farm, or if you have a large farm sell one-half and use some of the proceeds to drain the rest. I think an acre thoroughly drained will yield as much profit as two acres not drained, one year with another.

Then select the branch of farming that you like best, and your farm is best adapted for, whether it is dairying, stock raising, fruit or grain growing. If grain can be grown on the farm most profitably, purchase the necessary implements for that purpose. If fruit, the things required to carry on fruit farming; if dairying the implements and utensils for dairying.

This is contrary to what we style the best authority, but times change, and I think special farming will be carried on more and mixed farming less in the near future.

The help on the farm is hard to get, and will continue so, and be expensive as long as the west has such inducements to settlers. Special farming, as a rule, requires less help than mixed farming, less fences, and not so many buildings.

Are these not convincing arguments enough of themselves for any man, with fence and building material the price that they are sold at to-day?

But you will hear the argument that "the same machinery required to do the work on a small farm will do the work on a large one." This is true in one sense, if special farming is to be carried on, but does not apply to mixed farming. If I have one hundred acres and go into mixed farming, I will have an orchard of say ten acres, keep ten or twelve cows, raise and fatten a few pigs and keep, perhaps, a few horses, grow one thousand bushels of grain, fifteen tons of hay and an acre or two of roots. I purchase as much machinery to grow one thousand bushels of grain as it would require to grow five thousand, or the whole farm with grain, as much to run my ten acres of fruit as if I had all fruit, as many utensils—corn cutters, root pulpers, ensilage cutters, cream separators, etc.—as if I made a business of dairying only.

On the other hand, if I take one branch, I only purchase the things required for that, and save the expense of the others. I know farmers in the fruit business only, making money, that keep but one cow and just milk her when they want milk, sometimes once a day. If your farm is cleared and adapted to grain and hay, rather flat and liable to be injured by cattle pasturing upon it, especially after a rain, you had better grow all grain and hay, as it is damaged by pasturing and your crops will be affected for several years

by one good tramping with cattle. Should your land be rolling and rough, or part that way, try stock and dairying; buy your grain from your neighbors with a grain farm, to feed your stock, and do not invest in machinery to sow, to harvest and handle grain—let the other man do that.

So with the man that makes grain and hay his principal crop. He saves the endless expense of articles required in mixed farming and in return for his product sold to his neighbors he can get some manure for his land, plow under clover and other crops, thus keeping his farm from deteriorating.

If farmers would go more into specialties they would have less to earn, more time to study their own, more profits, less worry, and a much happier life.—F. C. Bogart, Lennox Co.

#### Handling the Bean Crop

The general method these days is to pull the beans with a horse puller. This is something similar to a wheel cultivator, only that two shares or shoes are substituted for the teeth. As the machine is pulled through the ground, the shoes pull two rows of beans and throw into one row. Men with ordinary pitchforks will pull the beans from the dirt and throw two of the rows together as left by the puller. Some growers throw them in small piles of one good size forkful, while others make a continuous windrow.

The beans thus handled are left to dry, and in case of rain are simply turned over with the fork. Particular care must be exercised to avoid having the beans lie on damp ground too long, since they can very easily rot. When dry the beans are hauled to the barn with the ordinary wagon and hay rack. If to be stored in the barn, hay slings prove very satisfactory in handling the crop. Dry beans shed very easily, and care must be used not to tread or walk on the vines more than absolutely necessary.

In parts of Michigan some extensive growers are found who are using a special delivery rake and hay loader in harvesting beans. This is a very novel manner in handling the crop. The plan is to use the side delivery rake in such a way as to turn a row of beans left by the puller entirely out of the dirt. The next operation consists of driving the hay loader astride the windrow, thus gathering the beans and getting them on the wagon with a minimum of labor.

#### Keep a Record

One of the most common sources of disputes and even lawsuits is the failure of the parties to a transaction to make a record of it. It takes but a few moments to make and sign a memorandum which is just as good as a lengthy legal document would be. A common practice among business men is to record such things in the form of a letter. Live stock transactions are prolific of disputes about guarantees, buyer and seller often holding opposite views as to what was guaranteed. All this could be avoided by the buyer requiring a duly signed letter stating the matter explicitly. Both buyer and seller should protect themselves by such a record. Every breeder, and in fact every man who does business by mail, should keep copies of his correspondence. It is so easily done by a copying outfit, or by carbon paper and a letter file, that it is surprising that all do not practice it.—National Stockman and Farmer.

"Don't you think Miss Lingerlong's face looks rather worn?" "Well, she has been wearing it since 1868."—Exchange.