

APIARY.

Brant Beekeepers Meet.

The Brant Co. Beekeepers' Association met at the Court-house, Brantford, Saturday, May 13th. President C. Edmondson in the chair; W. J. Craig, Secretary. Reports on wintering showed that bees had wintered much better than a year ago, but that spring building up had been almost at a standstill up to May 1st, on account of the continued cool weather. Several claimed bees wintered out of doors were in better condition than those wintered in cellar. Heavy winter losses are reported from Eastern Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Discussion of wintering naturally led up to spring management. Early in March, said some, when a day comes warm enough for bees to fly, open up the tops of hives packed out of doors, and lay flat on top of the frames over the clustered bees a comb of sealed honey, saved from last year. This is the very best kind of early stimulative feeding, and is recommended by Messrs. Alpaugh, McEvoy, Shaver, and others. "Systematic stimulative feeding," said Mr. Holtermann, "is followed extensively in Germany and England. When done right it is a great help, but is a dangerous tool in unskilled hands." Messrs. Alpaugh, Gimmell, Armstrong, Craig, Adams, McEvoy, and others, contributed to the discussion on this subject. One of the great drawbacks to bees this spring has been the lack of pollen-gathering days. The Germans supply this by mixing rye meal with the syrup they feed. Flour, bran, oatmeal, peameal, almost any kind of chopped grain, should be put out in spring, and it is wonderful how the bees will revel in it; yet they seem to use all they carry to the hives. For stimulative feeding sugar-syrup is used. It is made thin and fed in the hives in small quantities in the evening of days that have been too cool for bees to gather honey. The precautions to be noted particularly are to feed in the evening, syrup and not honey, to feed regularly until the honey flow, and to not feed very weak stocks, but build them up with sealed brood and young bees from stronger ones which have been stimulated to breed.

MORLEY PETTIT.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Canadian.

The excavation of the tunnel between Detroit, Mich., and Windsor, Ont., will be begun in the near future.

Canada may be honored before long by a visit from the King of Belgium.

Materials for the new Marconi Station have been sent to Sable Island.

The C.P.R. will double-track the line between Fort William and Winnipeg, the work to begin at once.

The C.P.R. has let the contract for the construction of the portion of the Toronto-Sudbury line which lies between Toronto and the Magnetawan River. Roads will also be built through Ontario, from Walkerton to Flesherton, and from Victoria Harbor to Sharbot Lake.

British and Foreign.

Ivan Kalfoff, who assassinated Grand Duke Sergius on February 17th, has been executed.

All the boats participating in the autoboat race

from Toulon to Algiers, were either sunk or disabled during a heavy storm. All the crews were picked up by destroyers which followed, except that of the Quand-Meme, consisting of seven men, of whom nothing is known. Two cruisers are searching for the vessel.

Regarding the present movements of the opposing fleets in the Far East almost nothing is known. Togo is observing the usual silence of his race, and Rojestvensky, having, apparently, taken a lesson from his book, is giving no information, even to the home authorities, regarding his plans. He left Honkoko Bay on May 14th, sailing northward, and since then nothing has been heard of him. It is surmised, however, that his junction with Nebogatoff has already taken place, and naval critics are of the opinion that when the combined fleets go further north, nearer to the Japanese docks and bases of supply, they will be subjected to a continual series of attacks from Japanese torpedo and gun-boats, the object of which will merely be to cripple the Russian strength somewhat, and leave it less able to cope with the final blow which may be struck nearer to Vladivostok. . . . In Manchuria desultory fighting has again been resumed, chiefly in the vicinity of Dangu Pass, which has been taken and is held by the Russians. During the past week 80,000 Japanese reinforcements have been rushed to the front. It is reported, also, that many sections of Northern Manchuria are swarmed with Chinese bandits, acting under the leadership of Japanese officers. The situation, in fact, every day seems to grow more precarious for the Russians.

THE FARM BULLETIN

Prof. F. C. Harrison, Bacteriologist at the Ontario Agricultural College, has accepted a similar position on the staff of the new agricultural college being established by Sir Wm. Macdonald and Prof. J. W. Robertson, at St. Annes, near Montreal. He will make the change on Sept. 30th next.

Studying the Clyde.

It is almost invariably the case that when one attends a show of horses in Western Canada or in the Northwestern States, where Clydesdales are on exhibition, he will hear a discussion as to whether a certain horse is a good specimen, because he has so little hair on his legs. The advocates of some other breeds across the line appear to have been persistently drumming into everyone who would listen that the most distinguishing feature about Clydesdales was excessive growth of coarse hair on the legs, and when many of our cousins see the modern Clyde with a fine, silky feather, they are at a loss how to reconcile the ideas imparted by their informants with the spectacle they have before them. The imputation cast upon the Clydesdale was quite applicable fifteen or twenty years ago, but to endeavor to make it stick now is to libel the breed. However, the fact that the Northwest is being settled up by a large proportion of men who carry in their minds a certain prejudice against the Clydesdales suggests the great work before the breeders of these horses, if they would make these people their customers and breeders of Clydes. The agricultural press in Canada has constantly called attention to the splendid improvement in Clydesdale quality, and exhibitions have elaborately illustrated this fact, but many of the most promising of our new settlers have never been apprized of the great change, and are naturally agreeably surprised to find the draft horses in this country possessing such clean, hard, flinty bone, which gives evidence of standing the maximum amount of wear.

The Arrival of the Foal.

Foals are arriving daily now, and next to seeding, probably, no other subject claims so much attention in the country as does that of raising colts. Different men have different methods of handling colts. Some go to considerable trouble to insure comfort and good health, while others simply let the mare and colt have the run of a field or paddock. Frequently we have seen men become disgusted with horse-breeding, because, after spending considerable time and going to considerable trouble with their in-foal mares, they have been rewarded with a weak or dead foal. Invariably, such men were over-indulgent to their mares, or substituted a dark, damp stall for the bright, fresh atmosphere of field or yard. Mares bearing foals should never be too highly pampered. They require plenty of exercise in the fresh air, and should be kept just in fair flesh. After foaling, when the weather is bright, let the foal have as much sunshine as possible. There is something in the warm, cheerful rays of the spring sun that seems to instill life and vigor into all young animals, and especially is this true of foals and young pigs. The disinfecting power of sunlight, its efficacy in preventing such diseases as joint-ill, is scarcely appreciated as it should be. Get the young foals into the light as early as possible.

Ireland as a Hunter-raising Country.

In the course of an interesting article in the Live-stock Journal, entitled "Where the Hunter Grows," a writer has a well-deserved tribute to pay to Ireland as a hunter-raising country. Having expressed the opinion that the Grand National Steeplechase at Liverpool is the grandest test provided for the hunter-like race-horse—four miles and a half over a very strong course, and at a tremendous pace from start to finish, being a great ordeal under a fairly good hunting weight—he goes on to say: "It has been mostly the Thoroughbred that has won these Grand Nationals, the few exceptions being those bred as nearly as possible in that direction. But where have the majority come from? The answer will be Ireland, the land of the hunter, and he grows on his native soil from all sorts of sources, in many cases by those sires who have not made hits at all in this country. Ascetic, Man of War, Skylark and Decider were but moderate horses on this side of St. George's Channel, but they got Grand National winners and the best hunters of their times. It is where they grow—those old pastures of Meath and Kildare, where the climate is soft and regular, and the animals rough it, turned out all seasons by night and day. The expense of the land is not much, so whether it is three or four years for the colt to take his chance untouched, there is little to concern the easy-going Irish farmer, and he lets the young jumper grow."

[NOTE.—At the Dublin Horse Show one sees more Thoroughbred stallions up in years and carrying their age well, than at any other show in the world—horses that bear marks of wear and tear of the race-track and the stud—and there one is able to judge according to the old and always true law, "By their fruits ye shall know them," for the hunters and leapers are to be found there.—Ed.]

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ILLUSTRATIONS.

Roan Conqueror (84519).....	775
Wood Baronet 255— (9066).....	780
Thos. A. Peters, Fredericton, N. B.....	781
Vice-Admiral Nebogatoff	784
Tube for Discharging Torpedoes	784
A Submarine Torpedo Boat	785
Torpedo Boat	785

EDITORIAL.

Don't Let the Crust Form in the Cornfield	773
A Daily Mail Service Needed	773
Race-track Gambling	773
Have You a Camera?	774

HORSES.

The Height of the Hackney	774
A Day with a Surgeon	774
How to Throw a Horse	775

STOCK.

The Cattle Embargo	775
Is a Two-pound Daily Grain Ration Enough?	775
Ranting About the Embargo	776
Picking Out a Cow	776

FARM.

Forecasting the Weather	776
Kent County Corn-Growing	776
Dragging Muddy Clay Roads	777

Contents of this Issue.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

The Codling Worm of the Apple (illustrated).....	781
N. B. Fruit-growers' Association	781
Fair Play for Canadian Nurserymen.....	781
Care of a Strawberry Plantation	792
The Manitoba Floral Emblem	782

POULTRY.

Poultry Notes	782
A Pipeful for Poultry Breeders	782
Sitting Hens	782
The First Breed Produced by Farmers.....	782
The Gold Standard	782

APIARY.

Brant Beekeepers Meet	783
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THE FARM BULLETIN.

Studying the Clyde; The Arrival of the Foal; Ireland as a Hunter-raising Country	783
The Torpedo Boats; May Crop Report; As a Magazine; Washington State Agricultural College; Inoculation for the growth of Legumes	784
W. D. Flatt's Clydesdale Sale; Auto-	

mobile Legislation; Likes the Knife at 70 Years; P. E. Island; Cultivates Twice a Week; Cultivates Continually for Ten Weeks

MARKETS

HOME MAGAZINE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Miscellaneous.

Portable fence—beardless barley; getting rid of lease	792
Holsteins in Canada; chicks failed to hatch; how to destroy honey-locust hedge; poultry mites; bad seed; worm fences; chores on holidays; varieties of hens; seeding with buckwheat; inferior pure-breds or good crossbreds?	793
Bedbugs; can a field be drained too dry?; to convert cider into vinegar.....	794
The canning business; poultry books; bran in constant supply; plan of bent for plank-frame barn wanted; breeding young bull; best way to get rid of ground hogs	798

Veterinary.

Diarrhoea	794
Chronic indigestion; eczema; ring-bone	800