

Re Temiskaming News.

The same mail by which the "Farmer's Advocate" reached me, containing a letter from N. A. E., of Hilliardton, I also received a copy of the "Hailey-burian," a local paper. The latter, curiously enough, had an editorial upon the road question. This I have clipped, and herewith enclose. It fully bears out my contention, referring to road situation as desperate. Enclosed also is clipping from "Temiskaming Herald" on roads, taking similar ground. In spite of what N. A. E. says of the roads, I repeat my former assertion, that within a mile or two of New Liskeard are "roads" along which even the bravest dare not venture with a wagon.

Concerning my criticism of the lectures given by the two Professors in July, I hold to my original views, and am far from standing alone in those views. I did not say anything against either of the gentlemen personally, and have no doubt that, as N. A. E. says, they were the very best men for the occasion. I am, nevertheless, justified in any fair criticism, and if neither of the gentlemen in question take exception to a fairly expressed opinion, I see no reason why N. A. E. should bother himself.

Any man who is capable of thinking for himself has the right to do so, and has also the right to express opinions formed after such thought, provided they are not against the ultimate best interests of humanity.

As one who is not a sheep blindly following others, but who can think for himself, I reserve the right to criticize those who come before the public in a public capacity, and shall not deny N. A. E. the same right.

GEO. W. WEAVER.

More Drouth in Eastern Nova Scotia.

As the summer is waning, a retrospective view of the situation might not be out of place. A comparison of the two past seasons shows a similarity, yet a surprising difference in results. The spring of 1904 opened cold and dry, remaining so until midsummer, which in Nova Scotia means ruin to the hay and grain crops. About July 20th showers began to fall; pasture, hitherto dry and parched, assumed a different color; potatoes turned out a good crop; turnips, a bumper one; meadows went into winter conditions covered by magnificent growth of vegetation; yet the summer of 1904 will pass into history as the worst in fifty years, from a farmer's standpoint. Weather prophets foretold that on account of the unprecedented fall of snow the season of 1905 would also be a dry one; but, on the contrary, the spring opened warm and wet, practically ensuring full barns, as far as hay and straw is concerned. Frequent light showers during the haying season, as stated in a former letter, made the proper curing of hay not an easy matter, and farmers grumbled accordingly; but with the exception of those light showers, which did nothing more than settle the dust, no rain has fallen in Eastern Nova Scotia since. Three months of dry weather has made the drouth of 1904 small in comparison. Bare pastures, bare meadows, dry wells, brooks, and rivers nearly so; a fair supply of grain in the bins, and no water to grind it, except at the few mills where steam is used. Turnips will not be 50% of a full crop. Nearly the middle of October, and not an acre of land plowed east of Truro.

To offset all these disadvantages, we have remunerative prices for all kinds of produce. Horses are scarce, and prices high. Beef and dairy cattle are good property to hold. The woollen mills are tumbling over each other to secure wool, and 30 cents per pound is offered, while lamb is retailing in the local markets at 12c. per pound. The men who disposed of their sheep last fall are now as eager to buy as they were then to sell. They will have to wait a while, or pay very high prices to get them. Butter has been high, and will go higher. Dairy-men having private customers have been getting 22c. during the summer, and will easily get 25c. during the winter; eggs, 20c. per dozen, and supply short. Market men are already contracting for their Thanksgiving turkeys, at 15c. per pound, and holders are in no hurry to accept that price.

A. MCP.

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A schoolboy has figured out the amount of travel necessary to grow 40 acres of corn. He says a farmer travels 90 miles in cutting the stalks, 90 miles in harrowing, 90 miles each for lister and drill, 45 miles for harrowing, 270 miles for cultivating, 45 miles for husking, or in all 720 miles, not counting the trips to and from the field.—Chicago Live-stock World.

THE STOLID ENGLISHMAN.

The English seem to recognize and enjoy their reputation for stolidity and taciturnity. The London Globe quotes an American as asking a waiter in a restaurant:—

"Doesn't anyone ever laugh here?"
"Yes, sir," replied the waiter. "Sometimes we have complaints about it."

A KANSAS CORN STORY.

News comes from Southern Kansas that a boy climbed a cornstalk to see how the sky and clouds looked and that now the stalk is growing faster than the boy can climb down. The boy is clear out of sight. Three men have taken the contract for cutting down the stalk with axes to save the boy a horrible death by starving, but the stalk grows so rapidly that they can't hit twice in the same place. The boy is living on green corn alone, and has already thrown down over four bushels of cobs. Even if the corn holds out there is still danger that the boy will reach a height where he will be frozen to death. There is some talk of attempting his rescue with a balloon.—[Topeka Capital.

The foregoing narrative is a close rival of the famous Niagara River pumpkin-vine story, published in these columns a few weeks ago.

BILL NYE AS A DAIRYMAN.

When I was young and used to roam around over the country, gathering watermelons by the light of the moon, I used to think I could milk anybody's cow; but I don't think so now. I do not milk the cow unless the sign is right, and it hasn't been right for a good many years. The last cow I tried to milk was a common cow, born in obscurity—kind of self-made cow. I remember her brow was low, but she wore her tail high; and she was haughty, oh, so haughty! I made a commonplace remark to her, one that is used in the very best society; one that need not give offense. I said, "So"—and she "Soed." Then I told her to "Hist," and she "Histed." But I thought she overdid it. She put too much expression to it. Just then I heard something crash through the window of the barn and fall with a thud—sickening thud—on the outside. Then I asked them if the cow was injured much.

The neighbors came to see what it was that caused the noise. They found that I had done it in getting through the window. I asked the neighbors if the barn was still standing. They said it was. They said she seemed quite robust. Then I requested them to go in and calm the cow a little, and see if they could get my plug hat off her horns. I am buying all my milk now of a milkman. I select a gentle milkman, who will not kick, and I feel as though I can trust him. Then, if he feels as though he can trust me, it's all right.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

QUESTIONS FROM ONTARIO.

1. Which is the most desirable country for wheat and mixed farming, Saskatchewan or Northern Alberta?
 2. Does the land in Northern Alberta require irrigation or special preparation for wheat and similar crops?
 3. What is the earliest date advisable for settlement, for the purpose of commencing building and preparation for breaking land, etc.?
 4. Are there cheap railway rates to the West for settlers who have been in the country less than a year?
 5. Is it advisable to purchase horses, implements, etc., in the district to which the settler goes, or is it better to buy in Ontario and take a car?
 6. When hiring with a farmer for a given number of months at a certain sum per month, is it understood to mean lunar or calendar month?
- H. B. Ont.

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