

mental purposes, and we earnestly hope Mr. Rittenhouse may long live to see the beneficial results of his gifts."

### At What Height to Head Young Fruit Trees.

There seems to be a marked tendency nowadays to head fruit trees much nearer the ground than used to be considered advisable. The arguments in favor are strong, and the difficulty of cultivation has been overcome in some measure by the extension disk harrow, the freer use of the drag harrow, and a commendable determination to accomplish by promptness and pains cultivation that used to be rendered awkward by neglect.

At the same time, we must admit that what the professional fruit-grower does may be quite different from what the amateur will undertake, and in view of the fact that many trees are being planted all over the country, and that once a tree is headed at a certain height, the trunk can never lengthen thereafter, except by decay or cutting off the lower branches, it occurs to us that a full discussion of the subject will do not a little good. We, therefore, suggest the following questions, to which concise answers are invited from practical orchardists:

1. At what height would you head young fruit trees—apple, pear, plum, cherry, peach, quince, et al.?
2. At what height would you advise a farmer with a small orchard to start the heads of his trees?
3. What are the reasons in favor of low-heading?
4. What objections to low-heading occur to you? How and to what extent may they be overcome?
5. What experience, if any, have you had in working among trees headed too low for a horse to walk under the branches? What implements have you found best for cultivation in such an orchard?

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### The Other Side of the Salary Question.

In your issue of Jan. 17th Vox Populi wrote of the school law. I wish to present it from the standpoint of the teacher. Vox Populi says he is not kicking at the high salaries. I fail to see what he is kicking about except just that; he cannot get them as low as he wants. Certainly, the law does not prevent a section from raising the salary. What it does is to compel the section to pay a fair wage, the wage varying with the ability of the section to pay. Is the Government not justified in so doing? It of necessity determines a teacher's work and qualifications, and pays part salary. Why, then, should it not insist on the section paying fairly? I do not think Vox Populi objects to the law providing against "sweat work" on Government contracts by fixing the workman's minimum wage. Yet there is a howl when the Government, after paying a part, fixes a reasonable minimum for a teacher.

I know there are places where the salaries paid were already higher than the law asks, notably parts of the eastern Erie counties. Such places are not affected by the law, except that they get a better grant. They are not objecting.

Now, I wonder from what university Vox Populi received his degree; he certainly went in for the higher education, since a First or Second Class Certificate is ordinary to him. For the benefit of those who do not know, I would say that a Second is much the same as University Matriculation, plus one or more subjects.

Whatever he has done, at least he has either forgotten or never taken up Euclid, or he would not reason so absurdly. Carefully consider his statement that Canada may not be put by her citizens to the forefront of nations. And why? Because they may not pay a teacher less than a certain salary, which Vox Populi admits he does not object to as being too high. "Plato, thou reasonest well."

"School teachers have been receiving good wages." I know a professional teacher of experience—a good teacher. Circumstances make it inconvenient for her to leave the school where she is teaching and get another school. Till last year she did not get \$300. Her predecessor did not get \$200.

"Other people died from overwork." True, but that is no reason a teacher should. Let us consider the cost of an ordinary education. Four years is the ordinary High School term for a Second. Each year consists of forty school weeks. Board in our nearest High-school town is from \$3 to \$3.50 per week. Add to that books, fees, dress, laundry, railroad fare, etc. After that comes a year at Normal, which means at least \$300 more. It takes a very economical girl to get her professional certificate at a cost of \$1,500. This may appear high, but I've been there myself, and kept count. If a girl has to pay for her own education, the interest on the debt is no small sum. You can calculate what she can save after paying \$100 or more yearly for board and railroad fare. Indeed, if she has no home to go to in the holidays, it will be nearer \$150.

Vox Populi compares teaching with law and medi-

cine. True, it takes longer to qualify, and at first gives less return. But consider: The teacher is as high as he can go in his profession when principal, at from \$800 to \$1,000—a place he may reach in a very few years. With the lawyer or doctor it is different. They may go as far as their ambition and ability will carry them. We often hear of rich doctors or lawyers. Who ever heard of an Ontario school teacher making money in his profession?

He also has high scorn of the teacher who has pupils of four or five. Do you know, Vox Populi, that nearly half the pupils in country schools start at the age of five? "Yes, Johnny is not really old enough, but I can't be bothered with him any longer," says his mother; and the teacher is in danger of losing the school if Johnny does not get going. I have been reprimanded by a trustee for not promoting a child who was mentally lacking and unfit for even the class he was in. As to order among older pupils, children, sometimes complete "boss" in their own homes, go to school. If the teacher, often a young girl, does not do what their parents cannot or will not do in the way of order, she is voted a failure.

"In no district are taxpayers attempting to keep down salaries." To go no farther, will Vox Populi please hunt up the school statistics for the County of Dufferin for the last three months?

"Wages have increased." Yes, because teachers could scarcely be got.

"You get what you got before." True, too, only you pay a fair price.

"You get what fate hands you." How was it different before?

"You have no more chance to hire a young teacher at a low salary, and raise her salary." True, you can't. But what you can do is to begin with a fair salary, and raise it if you want to keep the teacher, not let her go to some work that pays better, as half of the teachers I knew have done. I am not referring to those girls who leave to get married.

"The law of supply and demand." Tut! I know more than one school where a poor teacher was kept because cheap, and where the only thing consulted in engaging a teacher was, "Who is cheapest?"

I know two girls, sisters. The older is a domestic servant in the city; has her holidays, goes with her employers to Muskoka or elsewhere every summer. The younger is a teacher. Leaving out all question of the cost of her education, she is not able to dress as her position demands and save as much as her older sister.

Then, think of the moral qualifications of a teacher. Of no one, save, perhaps, a clergyman, is so much required. A tradesman or a professional man may be morally pretty well what he pleases and do himself comparatively little injury as far as his business goes. I wonder what Vox Populi would think of a teacher who smoked, swore, gambled, or drank to excess?

I don't claim teachers are saints. This I will say: If any of my teacher friends did not have better characters than quite a few parents I know, I would not care to associate with them.

As to boarding-houses, Vox Populi, go and shake a red rag at a bull, but don't talk boarding-house to a teacher. If you do, you will get some plain, but not always complimentary facts.

Huron Co., Ont.

ONE SCHOOL MA'AM.

### Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show.

The next exhibition of the Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show will be held at Ottawa, on March 4th to 8th, 1907. Since the publication of the prize-list the management has been able to make arrangements for an increase in the amount of prizes for the Poultry Department. The following prizes will be offered:

	Entry Fee.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.
Poultry, Bantams and Ducks.....	50c.	\$2.00	\$1.00	50c.
Turkeys and Geese .....	50c.	3.00	2.00	\$1
Pigeons .....	25c.	1.00	.50	
Pet Stock .....	25c.	1.00	.50	

Each of the sections representing the various varieties of fowls and bantams is divided into four subsections, known as subsection A, B, C and D, representing, respectively, cocks, hens, cockerels and pullets. In all subsections where entries number 8 to 11, inclusive, 1st, \$2; 2nd, \$1.50; 3rd, \$1.00; 12 to 16 entries, inclusive, 1st, \$3; 2nd, \$2; 3rd, \$1.50; 4th, \$1; 17 entries or over, 1st, \$4; 2nd, \$3; 3rd, \$2; 4th, \$1.50; 5th, \$1.

In addition to these cash prizes, there will be a special prize-list which will have a value of several hundred dollars. These prizes will include cash, silver cups, medals and goods.

With such good prizes, and the assurance that the fine new building being erected as a permanent home for the show will be completed, breeders of pure-bred poultry should send large entries and co-operate with the management to make the Show at Ottawa this year the biggest and best ever held in Eastern Ontario.

Entries positively close February 18th, 1907. For regular prize-list, special list, or entry forms, apply to A. P. Westervelt, Secretary, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

### Live Dairymen and Farmers at Huntingdon, Que.

We are in the midst of a good old-fashioned Quebec winter. Have had a plentiful supply of snow, with abundance of rain thrown in to keep the snow from piling too high, not to forget our January thaw, which, coming immediately after our cold spell, when the thermometer dropped to 27 below zero, was like a Western "Chinook." From 27 below zero to 50 above—a change of 77 degrees in two days, was almost unprecedented. The brooks and rivers overflowed their banks for a day, until "King Frost" came down in his might again and stayed the progress of the thaw, and the waters have subsided again. The thaw was accompanied by an exceedingly strong wind which did some damage to old buildings.

Farming operations are now confined to the caring for the stock, cutting the next season's supply of firewood, or putting in the summer ice supply. Our dairymen nearly all realize the value of ice in the dairy in summer, and put in a goodly store. To the producer of milk and cream for the city and the condensing factory, it is imperative that he should have a good ice supply, and more and more of our milk producers for the creamery and cheesery realize its value, and are putting in a supply also. Many of our summer dairymen are taking a rest, as their cows are now dry, getting ready to freshen in March and April. Our farmers find, under ordinary conditions, that the nine-months milking period is about long enough, as they find by experience that a stronger, more vigorous calf is dropped than if the lactation period goes to within six weeks or so of calving; and they also find that the results at the pail are better. Huntingdon dairymen, as a rule, are progressive, and many of them have adopted the scale and Babcock test as a means of determining the value of their individual cows. The make of butter and cheese during the past season has been a large one, and, although feeds were higher, there has been a good profit. Cheese factories have averaged \$1.05 per cwt. of milk for the season, and creameries about 97c. Taking the extra value of skim milk over whey for feeding purposes, the odds are in favor of the creamery. Much young stock was raised the past season, and it was of a superior quality, as our farmers are realizing the value of and using more pure-bred sires than formerly. Our farmers are also realizing that a profitable adjunct to the dairy is the bacon hog, and a larger percentage of bacon pigs are being raised. The past season has been a profitable one for the Quebec bacon-hog producer, as prices never got down to an unprofitable point, although at one time \$5.30 per cwt., live, was reached. The City of Valleyfield, 20 miles from here, with its large mill population, takes a great deal of our produce, and is a good home market for our pork, and usually pays a slightly higher price than Montreal. Poultry is also quite an adjunct to every farm, here as elsewhere, and much to the satisfaction of every hen-wife who had fresh eggs for sale about the holiday season, 50 cents per dozen being realized, and it was surprising how many dozens were brought to the town during that week. They are now bringing 35 cents per dozen.

In some of our municipalities our farmers are becoming more and more interested in good roads, and are beginning to realize their value; so much so that they are actually at work. Five years ago the Township of Godmanchester began an onward march by passing a by-law, making half of the statute labor commuted on the basis of \$1 per day, and payable in cash. This was devoted to permanent roads. Stone being plentiful in most sections of the municipality, it was decided to purchase a rock-crushing outfit, and get to work macadamizing the roads. This was done. One mile was laid the first year, and the crusher has been kept in operation ever since, and last season four miles were laid. That municipality has now eleven miles of good, well-made macadam roadway, and all paid for. How it was done, I will tell you later on. But the great and only trouble is we cannot get our roads made fast enough. A further move was made by the fathers of this municipality at the first meeting of this year, when, by resolution, the old statute-labor system was abolished, and a new policy (not yet complete in all its details) was adopted—a policy that we can commend, that by letting out by contract, by section, the necessary repairing and maintaining of the roads for the season. This policy, where properly handled, has worked out admirably in other municipalities that have adopted it. Our Legislature, now in session, has decided to give more attention to roads in rural sections.

W. F. S.

Huntingdon Co., Que.

### Mr. Duthie's Impressions of Canada.

A London, Eng., cable last week said that Wm. Duthie, the noted Scottish Shorthorn breeder who visited Canada last fall, addressing the students at the West of Scotland Agricultural College, referred in high terms to the morale of the students at the Ontario Agricultural College. Three things in Canada struck him particularly: Our loyalty, our temperance, and our habit of hard work. He found us more temperate than the people of Scotland; all the time he was in the Dominion he saw no man who could not keep the pavement.

The Ontario Parliament opened on Thursday, Jan. 24th.