

1887, to \$1,700 in 1908. On the other side of the account, the United States shipments of farm products to Canada have increased from \$6,299,000 in 1886, to \$28,000,000 in 1908. These are astounding figures, which may seem incredible to many farmers who have not had a personal knowledge of the commercial and industrial end of their business. For the last fifty years, the United States farmers have had a larger share of the protection afforded in their market than the Canadian farmer has in his, and if a tariff is to be maintained at all in Canada, it is time the Canadian farmer got interested in his relationship to it.

WOOL TARIFF AS AN EXAMPLE

The case of the duties on wool can be taken as a striking illustration of the extent to which a tariff may either advance or injure a product of the farm. During the reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States, wool was on the free list. At that time the Canadian Provinces were almost the only growers of long-combing wools in America. The United States farmers had gone in for Merino and Down wools, and there was not enough combing wools grown in the United States to keep one worsted mill running. There were then sixteen worsted mills in the United States, and practically all of the wool used in these mills came from Canada and England, the major amount being of Canadian growth. Under the Morrill tariff, passed in the United States in 1866, when the reciprocity treaty was abrogated, wool, among other farm products, was highly protected, but the United States worsted mills would have been completely closed if the manufacturers could not obtain the Canadian wools. Such wools should have paid 24 cents a pound duty, but a compromise was arranged under which washed wools, when coming from Canada, were admitted as unwashed. There was a compensatory duty put on the manufactured worsted goods which enabled the United States worsted mills to continue and develop, and the remarkable result of that tariff was that the domestic clipping of wool in the United States rose from 60,000,000 pounds in 1859, to 106,000,000 pounds in 1862, and the census of 1905 show that, out of a grand total of 500,000,000 pounds of wool used in the woollen and worsted mills of the United States, 300,000,000 pounds were grown within the country. The woollen industries of the country have expanded in still greater ratio, with the result that in 1905 the products of these mills was over \$380,000,000, whereas the value of the imports of woollen goods was less than \$18,000,000. The number of sheep in the United States has grown from 28,177,000, in 1870, to 51,630,000 in 1901.

Now, under the Canadian tariff, in which wool is imported free, while there is a protection to the manufactured goods, the very reverse is the situation as regards both farmers and the condition of the woollen and worsted industries. Notwithstanding the growth in population, the number of sheep in Canada has declined from 3,155,000 in 1871, to 2,100,000 in 1905, while this country imports and pays duty upon about \$21,000,000 worth of woollen and worsted goods, the Canadian woollen and worsted clothing industry being also in a languishing condition, whatever may be said of the knit-goods trade. Indeed, the worsted industry for which Canadian wool is especially suited can hardly be said to exist in this country. There are only three mills in Canada combing worsted out of a total of about 300 mills, large and small, devoted to the various branches of the wool-working industry. If we had a scientific tariff in the woollen industry, farmers would have a market for between 20,000,000 and 25,000,000 pounds of wool, which is now imported from abroad. If the money for this wool were paid to Canadian farmers, and the subsequent success of the industry developed here, there would be an immense amount of money circulated in this country which is now sent abroad, and the Canadian consumer would get better value for his woollens than he is getting now.

There are two processes by which wool is manufactured into yarns and fabrics. In one the wool for the yarns is combed, in the other it is carded, the first process producing worsted goods, the second carded-wool goods. The modern wool-combing machine has been so developed that practically all of the wools grown in Canada can be combed, while, of the wool raised from Ontario east to the sea, four-fifths are specifically adapted to the worsted process. When we bear in mind that the worsted industry is now of far greater consequence than the woollen industry—the worsted manufactures of the United States, for example, consuming 261,000,000 pounds of wool annually against 157,000,000 pounds consumed by the carded-wool industry and that such protection as we have in Canada is applied to the carded-wool end of the business, and ignores the greater branch for which Canadian wools are particularly suited, it will be seen that there is something radically wrong with our tariff. No one with a knowledge of the trade would think of establishing a complete worsted plant in Canada, when tops and noils, the first products of the worsted comb, are on the free list. Hence, because there is no market for it at home, the majority of the wool raised in Ontario, for example

has to be shipped to the United States, where, owing to the tariff, it has to be sold at an average price of 15 cents a pound less than the U. S. farmer gets for the same class of domestic wool.

There are nine States in the American Union which raise more wool than the whole Dominion, and one of these is Michigan, with a climate and soil just the counterpart of Southern Ontario, but relatively insignificant in area. As showing what a tariff can do to advance an industry of the farm, when the Morrill tariff was put into force, Ontario grew more wool, and of a better quality, than Ohio. Since then Ohio has eclipsed Ontario in its own specialty of combing wool, both in quality and yield per fleece, while that State has three times the number of sheep Ontario has, and 1,000,000 head more than all Canada. If nature had been unkind to Canadian sheep, or our farmers lacked intelligence in handling them, one would not be so surprised at this melancholy decline of a once great industry in Canada, but we know that no part of the American continent is so healthful for sheep, that our mutton is distinctly superior in flavor to that of the United States, and that the best prizes are carried off year by year by Canadian sheep at the great International stock fair at Chicago.

More than this, we know that in former days, when Canadian tweeds and other woollen goods were made from Canadian wool, a suit of clothes would outwear three of the modern suits; so that, under a tariff which restored Canadian wool to its due prominence in Canadian cloth, the consumer would get better value for his goods. It is a question whether the consumer would, under present-day conditions, pay more for his suit of clothes even if higher duties were placed on woollen goods, because the chief profit, after all, goes to the merchant or merchant tailor, and not to the maker of the cloth. Under the high protection existing in the United States, ready-made clothing is as cheap in Chicago as it is in Toronto. If ready-made clothing is dearer in the United States, how is it that these goods of American make are being sold here in Canada, over our own duty, in larger quantities every year? For the year ending March, 1910, outside garments to the amount of \$134,413, and ready-made clothing to the amount of \$522,670, were imported from the United States, making a total, including felt goods, cloths and knit goods, of \$919,852 in woollens alone, not to speak of cottons and other fabrics.

These are facts the logic of which the Canadian farmer is invited to digest. E. B. BIGGAR, Toronto, Ont.

Why Not More Sheep?

Before the days of the American tariff on sheep and wool, a flourishing business was done with sheep through the greater part of Eastern Canada. The breeder of pure-breds is still in the business, duties not interfering with his export trade; but on the farms of the mutton-producer, even the old sheep shed has disappeared; farmers themselves have forgotten the favor of mutton chops, or leg of



lamb, else surely there could be found a small flock somewhere back of the barns, and the children have to adopt a pig for pet, and wear factory-knit stockings and mittens. It was not always so.

It is not well that the sheep have gone from so many of our farms. They are splendid gleaners at least eighty per cent. of the weeds in a pasture will be eradicated by sheep; very few weeds seeds, if any, escaping destruction. They get much in a pasture that all other stock refuse. In winter, they are splendid consumers of coarse roughages, as pea straw, stemmy clover, and barley and oat straw. They do not demand painstaking care, save at yearning time. Thus, they are a sort of inexpensive accessory, gathering up the loose waste ends, and converting them into a cash surplus.

The dispersion of farm flocks all over Older

Canada has an economic reason. Other reasons are frequently given, but they are inadequate. The cur dog is a nuisance; sheep surely will go through poorly-built wire fences, if large flocks are maintained on small pastures; other stocks prefer not to graze after sheep; but these reasons are insufficient. If sheep were paying relatively, as they did formerly, they would not have been thus abandoned. When sheep were in their zenith, dairying had scarcely appeared above the horizon, beefmaking had so frequently and irregularly partial or total eclipse, that many men felt they could not rely upon it as their guiding star, and pork-production oscillated then as now. Now dairying is developed into a highly-profitable, permanent industry; beefmaking has probably become more restricted, but is more reliably profitable; pork production has shifted from fat pork to bacon, increasing the profit and constancy of the trade. But no such improvement can be noted in mutton production. The business stands too much where it did in the long ago. Lambs dropped in the spring are retained all summer and sold in the fall or early winter, when they are not especially desired. There is not a sufficient profit in the business, handled after this fashion, to continue its prosecution. This is the quasi-economic reason of the decline in popularity of sheep in Canada.

But there is money, more money, in sheep and lambs than ever before, if the methods of procedure were adapted to the present demands. What is wanted particularly is lamb, not mutton. The market wants Christmas lamb, Easter lamb, spring lamb, early summer lamb. This trade is almost as easily met, and is highly profitable. The producer must plan his crop for the market he wishes to suit. If for Christmas and the post-Christmas trade, they must be fall lambs; for Easter, they must be January lambs, and so on. What misses for January will sell later on almost as good a market. But always the lambs must be forced, and brought to market at from two to three months. At two months, the lambs can be brought to about forty pounds, and at three months sixty-five; the latter weight is getting rather heavy. For these fancy markets, the lambs at from two to three months will bring from seven and a half to ten dollars. A spring lamb, kept all summer, and marketed in the fall at 90 to 100 pounds, for five or six cents a pound, will bring no more.

It is true here, as elsewhere, that the wool produced by most sheep will pay for their keep. They are worth much as gleaners; they are worth much as a source of wool and meat supply to farms; they are a delight to have about the farm-home, and they will pay, and pay well to those men who will adapt them to the market demands.

Frequently changing the pastures for sheep greatly prevents infection, and is better for the pastures.

The high or hilly land is preferable as a sheep pasture, and the wider the range for sheep, the more they thrive.

The best way to keep pigs, sheep, calves, or any kind of stock, from breaking through the fences is to have the best grass on the same side of the fence as the stock.

A copy of "Farm Weeds" and a small flock of sheep make a splendid combination to eradicate those persistent pests. Each is a safe, profitable investment, and weed destruction is incumbent to satisfactory farming.

The sheep and lambs should be examined for ticks. They cannot thrive if they are ticky. Dipping in any one of the recognized sheep dips, or a two-per-cent. solution of any of the recognized coal-tar dips, does not take long, and does the sheep much good.

A mud-wallow is not desirable for hogs. For the hot summer, shade is easily obtained by the use of old boards placed upon supports raised about four feet off the ground. Into such a place the breezes have free access, and the pigs fully appreciate such shelter.

How can one economize upon the bill for mill-stuffs for pigs? Very easily. Give the pigs a good pasture. Set aside two, three or five acres of that clover field for their special use. The aftermath of clover can scarcely be put to better use than the growing of pigs. Pork is an expensive product where crops are not utilized in its making.

The pig is not a filthy animal, except as we make him so. Fresh, clean water is just as beneficial to, and just as much appreciated by hogs as by any other class of animals. Give them clean