

Mason & Sons, Ottawa. Partridge Wyandottes: G. Hignan, Jr., Ottawa. Leghorns, white: T. S. Crouch, Billing's Bridge and Fred White, Calment, Que. Brown Leghorns: R. Blakely, Ottawa, and G. H. A. Collins, Ottawa. Black Leghorns: A. H. Switzer. Silver Grey Dorkings: Mason & Sons, Ottawa.

Five pairs of little fancy fowls called Silkies were in the pens, and attracted considerable attention. J. H. Warrington, and Point Fortune Poultry Yards, Point Fortune, Que., were two of the largest exhibitors, having entries in many different breeds.

FARM BULLETIN.

War Time Topics from Britain.

Germany always makes war when she has gathered in her harvest, or, when her natural enemy, France, is in the throes of her harvest. The call "to arms" rang through Belgium, France and England at a time when farmers were collecting their harvests, and while the whole of agricultural Belgium was devastated by the Germ-Huns, the north of France, too, felt the shock and usage of the tramp of millions of feet and hoofs. But the harvest of Southern France has been a good one. That of England, however has been a wonderfully fine one. The vintage of middle France must also pay a toll to war, and there will be no 1914 champagne on the wine lists when you good Canadians visit Europe and Britain, a little time hence.

English wheat will yield about four per cent. above average. Barley, however, will be one per cent. below normal. Oats are the poorest of the three cereals, being about five per cent. below the mean, though there are some good crops in parts. Beans will be a trifle over average, but peas are a poor yield, yet potatoes show a yield well over average. The root crop will be about four per cent. below average. Hops will be a heavy yield, which is good considering that continental supplies are sure to be restricted in 1914.

This has been a wonderfully good year for sheep, and prices for breeding stock have been "up" all round. At the Border Union Agricultural Society's ram sale, £300 were paid for a shearling Blackfaced ram, which was champion at the Hawick Highland Show. It was bred at Glenearn. A. J. Balfour, the politician, paid £205 for a ram from Deuchrie. Half-bred rams realized up to £39, and Oxford Downs realized £34. At Perth ram sale another black face realized £100, and a Bogside shearling at Lanark fetched £110. At Minton's Shropshire sale, Craig Turner gave 50 guineas for a ram. For "ordinary" Lincoln rams £5 apiece are being paid at most sales.

For my own publications, I have been securing actual facts to prove what help Hunter breeding has been to England during the war mobilization, and I find that in the Oakley hunt area (Oxfordshire) no fewer than 400 hunters were bought by the Government; in Surrey 500 hunters; in Somersetshire, 300; in Devonshire, 500; in Hampshire, 289 in North Warwickshire, 300; in the Grafton country, 250; in Berwickshire, 200; in Southwest Wiltshire, 200; in South Staffordshire, 200; in Ludlow, 200; in Old Berkshire, 325; in Lord Rothschild's area, 200; in Sussex, 200; and from all over the country batches of 100 to 150 hunters have been collected. What the nation has been saved in keep alone, by being able to swoop down upon ready-made four and five-year-olds, or over, deponent knoweth not. We must breed more hunters. It's so easily done—a Thoroughbred stallion used on a light-legged farmer's mare, and there you are!

The fog of war is lifting. We have had a glorious week's success driving back the enemy. Yet old England—that is speaking agriculturally—is still herself. As soon as the harvest was safely gathered in, our country lads enlisted in their thousands. We shall have one and a half million men ready for the fight soon. Agriculture has again played its valiant part in time of stress. More acreage will be devoted to wheat growing than ever—let the "bulls" of Chicago's Pit note that!

London, England.

G. T. BURROWS.

W. E. J. Edwards, B. S. A., Representative of the Department of Agriculture in Essex County, and Secretary of the Ontario Corn Growers' Association, has resigned and has accepted the position of Associate Professor of Animal Husbandry in the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing. He will commence his new duties about October first.

The Veterinary Director General, Dr. F. Torrance, informs "The Farmer's Advocate" that a Ministerial Order has been passed prohibiting, for a further period of six months from September twenty-fourth, the importation into Canada of any hay, straw, fodder, feedstuffs or litter accompanying horses from the United Kingdom.

A Good Shorthorn Sale.

The dispersion sale held by A. G. Smillie, of Kippen, Ont., on September 18th was a big success; the twenty-nine head of choice Shorthorn cattle making a total of \$4,958, an average of \$171 each. This is a very satisfactory showing, considering that no small percentage of stock were young animals, including calves. Capt. T. E. Robson, of London, wielded the hammer. The following is a list of the buyers with prices:

Carrie C. 2nd, W. R. Smillie, Brucefield, Ont.	\$135.00
Wimple's Signet, J. F. Mitchell, Burlington	205.00
Morning Dewdrop, J. J. Graham, Ailsa Craig	195.00
Helen's Rose, Bert Ross, St. Marys	185.00
Vesey's Brand, Robt. McAllister, Blyth	237.50
Fair Brand, J. J. Graham	260.00
Vesey's Choice Signet, J. J. Merner, Zurich	215.00
Scottish Sample, Frank Fitzgerald, Hensall	242.50
Choice Signet, Wm. Pepper, Hensall	265.00
Carrie of Treasure Valley 2nd, John Radcliffe, Exeter	166.00
Royal Choice, Thos. Brock, Winchelsea	180.00
Choice Gift, James Morris, Munro	175.00
Scottish Brand, Wm. Ritchie, Teeswater	135.00
Sample Carrie, Beattie Bros., Varna	135.00
Golden Dewdrop, Wm. Ritchie, Teeswater	100.00
Carrie 8th, John Chambers, Cromarty	100.00
Favorite Brand, J. J. Graham	130.00
Carrie 10th, Duncanson & Laidlaw Hagersville	110.00
Choice Gem, J. A. Watt, Elora	200.00
Carrie 11th, Isaac Salkeld, Goderich	125.00
Helen's Model, Duncanson & Laidlaw	122.00
Vesey's Model, Murrell Bros., Belton	100.00
Vesey's Choice Brand, J. J. Merner	145.00
Carrie 6th, H. Oestrecker & Sons, Crediton	125.00
Golden Edward, Peck & Keys, Varna	305.00
Royal George, Chas. Stewart, Gadshill	172.00
Bandmaster, Frank Bean, Hensall	146.00
Ringleader, Wm. Nethercott & Son, St. Marys	217.00
Rare Treasure, J. H. Mulholland, Mitchell	130.00

Our Scottish Letter.

Events have moved rapidly since I last wrote. Europe has become, not an armed camp, but a bloody battle field. For the first time in a century Great Britain has sent an army across the channel, and while I write tidings are being borne of a mighty conflict in which these arms are again proving victorious, and doing something to prevent the nations of Western Europe being placed under the heel of a military despotism. The losses incurred by Great Britain during the month's operations have been returned at 18,000 men—in itself an enormous price to pay for liberty, and no one is blinding himself to the fact that this is but the beginning. Army after army is being enrolled, and a demand for another half million of men has been endorsed by Parliament. It becomes clearer and clearer that the great soldier who is directing affairs means to take nothing for granted, that he does not calculate on any short and easy method of ending this war, and that ere all is over and peace again assured to the troubled nations, many moons shall wane, and many a home will be bereft of husband, brother, father and son.

The readiness of the response to the call for recruits is the most striking tribute to the solidarity of the British Dominion. Perhaps the most amazing and awe-inspiring spectacle is the army of 80,000 men which is on the way or has arrived from India. That Great Britain has always had clean hands in her dealings with subject races will not be recklessly maintained by anyone, but her methods of Government have always made for liberty, and not one of the races which owns her sway has indicated the slightest disposition to take advantage of the present emergency, and make it the occasion for rebellion. Next to India's splendid demonstration of loyalty comes news from South Africa that Boer and British are one—that the Boer has found himself in possession of greater civil freedom than he ever enjoyed under a Dutch Republic, and his attitude is such as to constitute South Africa no jumping-off place for a German attack on the British Dominions beyond the seas. All around so far the war has evoked a storm of approval of the attitude of Great Britain. She has unsheathed the sword in her traditional role of defender of the weak, the vindicator of treaty obligation, and the emancipation of men from novel alliances. In this crusade she finds herself in her closest ally; Russia, her dreaded opponent in the east; is working hand in hand to overthrow the military despotism of Prussia, and, most marvellous of all, away in the far east, the island Empire of Japan is seconding the efforts of these final round-up may portend he would indeed be a bold man who would prophesy. Students of history and the evolution of nationalities will recognize possibilities in the situation not devoid

of future danger. But "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," and it is not a new thing on the earth that the Most High should shatter one despotism by hurling against it the forces of another. Meantime in quietness and confidence lies Great Britain's strength, and in the end there shall be abundance of Peace.

The advance of science has this year received striking illustration in the meetings of the British Association in Australia. The most significant feature of the meeting is its existence. Not many years have elapsed since it would have been impossible to hold such a meeting, it would have been impossible to suggest that it should be held. But the advance of Science, the bridging of the oceans, and the increase in the speed of steam vessels have all contributed to make such a meeting possible. It scarcely admits of doubt that had other international conditions prevailed the opening address of the President, Professor William Bateson, F. R. S., would have occasioned widespread controversy. It was a candid and outspoken analysis of theories of Heredity, based on Darwin's doctrine of Selection and the Survival of the Fittest from the point of view of Mendelian facts. The indictment of Darwinism was not the less thorough because it was not in itself the main purpose of the address. But the subjection of Darwinian theory to Mendelian facts issued in the abandonment of the main positions taken up by the apostles of Evolution. Some of the Professor's statements were destructive to a degree, and had they proceeded from some old school theologian, they would doubtless have been viewed with scant courtesy. But their utterance by the President of the British Association is not to be passed over, and their issue is an abandonment of the Darwinian hypothesis as at all an adequate account of the origin of species. In taking this line Professor Bateson means no disparagement to Darwin. That painstaking investigator places the world under obligations which can never be repaid. His keen observations opened up a vista in the facts of existence previously unexplored, and he must not be held responsible for theories based on his accumulation of facts which were not necessarily involved in his theories. Nevertheless, if the President of the British Association is anywhere near being right in his Mendelian facts, Darwinism as an adequate science of life has passed away. With its passing there must also go a great volume of theory and prepossession to which stock breeders have blindly subscribed for more than forty years. There are more things in stock breeding than can be solved by any system, and so far we have not got much beyond the elementary proposition that you are more likely to produce a good animal by mating two good animals than by mating a good animal and one that is indifferent. Mendelism accounts for many things within its own realm, but before pinning one's faith to it absolutely it is well to remember that even its rules do not always apply. Professor Bateson mentions a notable case in which it breaks down—that of color in the cross between the negro and the white man. If the descent of color in this cross followed the simplest Mendelian rule, the offspring of two first-cross mulattos would be on an average one black, two mulattos, one white; but it is notorious that it is not so. We have an idea that the out and out apostle of Mendel would get over this difficulty by boldly asserting that one of the two original crosses was not wholly black or wholly white. He would argue that in some part of the body there would be found evidence that the white parent was not absolutely white, or that the black parent was not absolutely black. And if he was a thorough Mendelian apostle he would maintain this position against the world. We know of a case in which a white Shorthorn cow produced a red bull calf. The said bull calf became one of the best known sires in Scotland. He was a red bull. You could not make him anything else—but seeing he was the offspring of a white cow, on Mendelian principles it was an utter impossibility that he could be red. There was bound to be some white about him somewhere, and in spite of your eyes, he was not a red but a roan. Well, a diligent search was made, and lo, inside of his ears, a few white hairs were found. Mendel was vindicated. The white cow did not produce a red calf. She could not; Mendel said so! In like manner it may possibly be argued that Professor Bateson's mulatto did not breed untrue in the matter of color. Observation leads one to conclude that so-called scientific men are capable of talking a deal of nonsense, and sometimes they are better to be held in check. What fun we might have had out of this Bateson address, if only the Kaiser had behaved himself, and not had the newspapers filled with details of this absurd war! However, the address will keep, and more may be heard of it.

Sanitary Inspectors have held their annual Congress this year in the ancient city of St. Andrews. Subjects of vital interest to the community were discussed by them with much detail. In particular they have advanced admirable theories regarding the selling of Milk and the Inspection of Meat. The position regarding the former cow is that the sanitary authorities are