

### Prince Edward Island Notes.

We are having a very late harvest on the Island, September 4th and cutting only just beginning. The cold wet weather of August delayed the ripening, but has assured a good length of straw in the later-sown grains. Farmers are cutting their grain while still very green, and if this cool damp weather continues, it will be very difficult to get it dried out so it will keep in the mow. Crops in general are good. The only exception is on the low lands, some of which are almost drowned out. The newly seeded clover has made an immense growth, and if not fed off this fall should stand the winter well.

Pastures are excellent and the milk supply at the factories is keeping up well. The cow is receiving a little more attention since cheese has risen in price. Every sale so far this season has been a record one in comparison with other years.

The potatoes and root crops promise well, except in some cases where "club root" is playing havoc with turnips. This trouble which has not been much in evidence here till the last few years, is now spreading at an alarming rate and if some way is not found to check it, it will be ruinous to the stock interests. It is liable to get all over a farm, as the germ that causes it is not destroyed in the process of digestion in the cattle, but survives and goes out on the land in the manure, thus spreading the infection all over the farms. We hope the matter will be investigated by the officials of the Government staff at Ottawa, and a remedy found if possible, or at least, a plan worked out to help stop further spread of it.

The judging in the competitions in standing grain has been completed. The entries were quite numerous this year, and many of the competitors scored up well. These competitors are giving quite a stimulus to the production of good clean seed grain, and also helping in the matter of cleaning the land of weeds as the number of weeds in a field has a lot to do with the scoring for a prize.

An effort is now being made to re-organize the Stock-breeders' Association here, and also to have a "Winter Fat Stock Show." It is felt by many of our farmers that we are neglecting our fat-stock business. The fine herds of cattle of former years are not much in evidence recently. Instead a considerable amount of our best beef has to be imported from Toronto. Quite a large amount of beef is shipped all the year round to the cities in the neighboring provinces, but it is the product of dairy-bred steers, and does not fill the demand of our own home market for good cuts. Dairy-farming has cut into our beef-producing business of late years, but it is becoming a question now—whether with beef cattle at such a high price—whether it would not pay farmers to supply their own market here with all the prime beef it requires.

A sale of pure bred sheep will be held here the latter part of September, which will give flock masters a chance to grade up their stock.

During a recent visit to our Experimental Farm we were struck with the fine appearance of the crops in general, and with the alfalfa plots in particular which have yielded two heavy cuttings, and are making quite a strong growth towards a third cutting. An up-to-date sheep barn, 100 feet in length, is now about completed. Superintendent Clark informed us that he expected to feed off a flock of 100 lambs in it this winter.

Two colony houses have also been built, and experiments in poultry will be carried on. W. S.

### An International Poultry Association.

At the meeting of the Provisional Committee, held in London, England, July 18 to 24, the International Association of Poultry Instructors and Investigators was formally established, and is now an accomplished fact. During the week important reports were submitted from many countries, recording the present state of poultry teaching and research, which it is intended to issue in permanent form. The constitution adopted, which will be published at an early date, states the object to be interchange of knowledge and experience among those engaged throughout

the world in poultry teaching, demonstration, and investigation, and to promote extension of knowledge by encouragement of scientific research, practical experimentation, the collection of statistics, study of the problems of marketing, and in other ways. Candidates for membership must be engaged as teachers or instructors, as experimenters or investigators, as Government officials employed in poultry work, or as making a noteworthy contribution to advance the Poultry Industry. The ordinary fee for membership is £1 per annum. Also, provision has been made for the election of patrons, inclusive of persons, government departments, associations, or clubs contributing to the funds of the Association.

Among other decisions arrived at are:—

(1) That a Fellowship be instituted, with the designation F.I.P.A., to be conferred only on such persons as shall have rendered service of the highest distinction to the advancement of the Poultry Industry. Only five of such Fellowships shall be conferred, by the vote of the entire Association, every three years.

(2) That a Central Bureau shall be established for the time being in London, which shall be the clearing house for information to members and others concerned in promoting the Poultry Industry.

(3) That records of experiments and investigations be collected and distributed among the members, and material exchanged for future work.

(4) That there shall be established at the Central Bureau a Historical Section, and one for illustrations and lantern slides which can be loaned to members.

(5) That members shall collect and supply annually statistics as to the progress of poultry teaching and research in all countries, and that efforts be made to improve the statistics of poultry production and adopt a universal form.

It was further resolved that, subject to the receipt of acceptable invitations, a World's Poultry Congress be held in 1914, representative of all sections of the poultry industry, and it is hoped that such invitations will be forthcoming at an early date.

Edward Brown, F.L.S., 52 Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W., was elected President and Dr. Raymond Pearl, Agricultural Experiment Station, Orono, Maine, the Hon. Secretary. The Canadian representatives on the Council are Prof. W. R. Graham, Guelph, Ont., and W. A. Brown, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

### Sawdust to Preserve Silage.

What looks like the best plan we have ever heard of to preserve silage when it is not to be fed out immediately after filling, was told to us by a subscriber, S. A. Otton, who called at the office last week. After the silage has settled for a day or so, it is covered with six inches of sawdust wet well. Our informant says he tried this on three different occasions and never had a hundred pounds of waste. A little is lost just next to the sawdust, but this was thrown out over the barnyard and the cattle "fuzzled" through it, picking up almost everything. The silage was each time found bright and fresh underneath the protective coat of dust. Mr. Otton at one time farmed in Middlesex Co., Ont., and was an early and strong advocate of the silo, having built a square one in the early days. He experimented with many means of preserving the surface layer before hitting upon sawdust. He is at present living in Essex and has no silo because of the filling problem, his neighbors all preferring to husk their corn. He himself cannot see it that way and wishes he had a silo.

He mentioned, too, the idea that some people have about silage-fed cattle not doing well on grass. His experience was the very opposite, his cattle going on without set-back, and doing better on grass than those turned out after being maintained on dry feed. Mr. Otton stated also that his vicinity, Leamington, had not received nearly so much rain as districts further west, towards London. Their grain was all housed in pretty good condition. Along the road, however, he saw many fields of beans standing in mud and water, and much grain standing out, including occasional fields of barley. Fruit prospects in Essex are pretty fair with the exception of peaches. Tobacco is not good but the price, judging from figures offered for some of the old crop, seemed likely to be good. Eight cents a pound is the figure below which he considers a farmer cannot afford to produce the narcotic leaf.

It is reported that 4,000 horses have died in Western Kansas since the outbreak of an epizootic disease. Hundreds of farmers have been left without animals to do their work.

### A Township Dairy Census.

Under the direction of Geo. A. Putnam, Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes for Ontario, a dairy census has been inaugurated, covering two typical townships in the eastern portion of the Province and two in the western. One of these lies north of Dorchester, in Middlesex County, and the work of collecting the information was delegated to S. A. Bergey, B.S.A., of Waterloo County, one of this year's graduates from the Ontario Agricultural College. The object of the enquiry is to secure a trustworthy body of information as to how the operations of dairy farming in these sections is carried on, as a guide to the Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture in carrying on its work for the benefit of those engaged in the business. Printed schedules are prepared after careful study with a lengthy list of questions regarding the cows in use, management, stabling, foods grown and purchased, how milk is cared for and disposed of, returns, and other points. The plan is to actually visit every farmer in the township, see the herds of cows and obtain first-hand data from the owner. Mr. Bergey was assisted on the start by Mr. Whale, the county district representative at London, and after four weeks' work had on Saturday last approximately half completed the work. He found farmers though very busy with the late harvest very willing to facilitate his efforts. Thus far he had found but one keeping individual cow records, and one, Robert Clifford, of Putnam, using a milking machine, with which he was able to milk thoroughly 18 cows in about 50 minutes. His outfit milks two cows at a time, a small gasoline engine being used, the whole costing about \$450. Mr. Clifford is able to attend the apparatus alone and do the little stripping required, keeping close up with the machine. Mr. Bergey having just received notice of his appointment as assistant in the poultry department at Macdonald College, another officer will be sent to complete the census, which will require about four weeks' more time.

### Huntingdon Co., Que., Notes.

The season in this part of the Dominion has been a very poor one for farmers in some ways. In the spring an over-abundance of rain kept farmers from sowing their grain. And unless the fields were very well drained, with creek or river outlet, the land could not be worked. There was a long spell of fine haying weather, and the hay was nearly all saved in fine shape throughout the country. There has been too much rain for oats, and some have sprouted in the field. Corn was planted late, but it has grown very rapidly, and with warm weather for three weeks more there will be an abundance for the silo. That means a lot, for this is a dairy county. Milk is being bought at \$1.20 per cwt. for September at a large condensing factory. Many send milk to Montreal, and to a local creamery, and some ship cream across the line to New York.

There seems to be a scarcity of good grade mares for horse raising, farmers having disposed of the best at fancy prices. The best mares should be kept on the farm.

### N. B. Experimental Farm.

One of the immediate results of the recent visit of Hon. Martin Burrell, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, to the Maritime Provinces was the completion of arrangements for the establishment of an experimental farm a couple of miles from Fredericton, N.B., with W. W. Hubbard at present Provincial Secretary for Agriculture in charge of Superintendent.

The Scottish Farmer Album for 1913 will be issued about the middle of December and orders will be taken now through this office. As only enough copies of this popular annual are printed to supply the orders received, it is necessary that those desiring it should remit immediately. The price through this office is 35 cents per copy post paid. Order to-night.

One of the suggestions made in last week's issue of the Farmer's Advocate has taken effect. Mayor Geary, of Toronto, on the closing day of the National Exhibition, pronounced that next year 10,000 new seats about the grounds would be available for the comfort of visitors.

The total attendance at the recent Toronto National Exhibition is estimated at over 960,000.