

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS and GARDENERS

Livestock Markets

SUMMARY
OTTAWA, August 18. —There was a general upturn in cattle prices on practically all markets this week with the exception of Toronto, where the trade was dull despite a moderate supply. Prices at Toronto were down 25c on eight steers and about steady on other killers. At Montreal and in the West, prices were anywhere from 25c to as much as 50c above the previous week's level. In addition to the improved market on killing cattle, stockers and feeders also shared in a broader outlet. Orders were plentiful and provided more competition for suitable grades of replacement cattle. It is felt in some quarters that the upturn in prices this week is likely to attract more liberal supplies, especially in the West but it is doubtful if the trade can maintain its present strength under increased deliveries. Further well regulated markets are necessary to sustain the recovery made during the current trading session.

Cattle Prices
The top price on weighty steers at Toronto was \$7.35 for a choice load, but others were selling mostly from \$7.25 down, with good butcher steers and heifers, \$6 to \$6.25 and a few light steers up to \$6.40. Montreal sold good steers mostly between \$6.50 and \$7.25 and had a load of choice heavies at the week's top of \$7.75. Very few fat cattle are making their appearance at Winnipeg, and the few that are being fed material is apparently nearly exhausted. The better end of the steers sold at \$7 and up to \$7.25, while good grass killers were at \$6.50. The advance at Winnipeg applied to most killing classes and amounted to 25c to 50c with slaughter. The stock uncovering the most strength. Calgary was up 25c on good cows and steady on other classes with the top of the steer market at \$6.50. There was no material change shown at Edmonton although the trade was brisk up to a high price of \$6.50. Prince Albert had no good butcher steers but was 25c higher on the best of the catted offered up to \$4.25. Moose Jaw was generally 25c firmer and sold good grass steers up to \$5. Regina was generally 25c up and in spots as much as 50c better than last week with a high of \$5.50, while Saskatoon had an odd good steer up to \$6.

The United States Market
Buffalo had no Canadians but was 50c to 75c lower on fed native steers. The top of \$11 was paid, while good to choice fed steers generally went between \$10 and \$10.85. Grass cattle were steady to 25c lower selling from \$8.50 down. Canadian calves marked last week's advance, selling from \$1.75 down. Recent quotations from St. Paul are good Canadian steers \$9.25 grass cows and heifers \$5.75 to \$6.75, and bulls \$5 to \$5.75. Exports to the United States during the week totalled 1,056 beef cattle, 197 dairy, and 614 calves, making the total to date this year 31,272 beef, 6,610 dairy, 34,013 calves, and 96 hogs, compared with 139,690 beef cattle, 7,852 dairy, 77,930 calves, and 56,519 hogs in the same period last year.

Prices Lower in Britain
Canadian cattle from the S.S. Manchester Regiment met a slow trade at Birkenhead and ranged in price between 14-12c and 15c dressed weight, including scuff. Trade for both fat and store cattle has been easier of late but good dairy cows continue firm. Glasgow had no Canadians on offer but estimated good Canadian feeders at 8c per pound alive, and bulls 6c.

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While there were no exports to Great Britain during the current week, the S. S. Sulairia carried 379 cattle out of Montreal for Glasgow last Friday, August 12th. Total export overseas to date this year amounted to 25,213, while in the same period last year shipments totalled 6,700.

Calf Market Higher
Price advances were general in the calf market and the trade in-creased moderately. Receipts, \$3.50, bulls \$7.50, culls \$6.50 to \$7. One car of Alberta lambs sold to killers at \$7.75. Sheep steady at \$2 to \$4.

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NEWSY NOTES

MERCURY, THE PERFECT DETONATOR
Mercury, so important in thermometric devices, to say nothing of its application in the arts and in medicine, is doubly important in war. Nothing can take the place of mercuric fulminate as a detonator for bombs and shells. This fulminate, it may be remarked, is obtained as a white precipitate when mercury is treated with nitric acid, and alcohol is added to the solution. Every scholar in my school— I refer to my own school days— knew that quicksilver, as it was called, was obtained from Almaden in Spain, and in America, and to a lesser extent in California. The native mercury is mined as cinnabar, a crystalline substance of a beautiful reddish color, which is known to be mercuric sulphide. The quicksilver is easily released from the cinnabar by roasting. If mineral France can over-run the rich mineral district of Almaden, Italy will have the first call on and very probably a monopoly of the Spanish quicksilver mines; and as Germany has annexed the Austrian mines, these two nations are almost in a key position in Europe. Statesmen may delude themselves into a belief in Germany's friendliness, but all her preparations are in the long run aimed at the British Empire. The situation in some respects resembles the struggle between the great commercial empire of Carthage and the rising power of Rome. At the end of the third Punic War, Carthage was taken and her empire overthrown.

MERMAID LAKE
Through the kindness of Dr. W. L. Holman, of Toronto University, I was enabled to visit the lake at Mermaid, a few days ago. Our road led to the North-east margin of the lake, which was a kind of single-covered beach, evidently produced by a lowering of the surface of the water. This strip is rapidly being covered with cranberry plants which take to the situation quite naturally, and it seems likely that there is a commercial possibility in the fact. The lake itself was studded with flowers of the little Yellow Water-lily, Nymphaea advena Ait. As the sinus of the leaves was closed, and the flower had a (partly) purple tint, it is evidently the variety "variegata" of Professor Fernald. It has two other popular names at least; the Cow Lily, and the Spatterdock.

On the outer margin, among the grass, we came across several patches of the pitcher plant, which is never all the world (in botanical circles) for its "insectivorous" habits. Its leaves have developed an upright, or at least, ascending, pitcher-shaped form, and as Gray remarks, are usually hairy on the inside and crowned with tentacles. The flower is as odd as the leaves. A species of Cotton Grass with reddish bristles was a rather attractive feature of the scenery at this side of the lake.

Taking to the highway again, we worked our way round to the western side of the lake, and at this point we thank Mr. J. MacEachern for permitting us to trespass over his fields in order to do so. It was now evident why the surface of the lake had been lowered: a deep drain had been cut, of solid peat had been drained and made available. Part had already been taken away, exposing the white sandy floor usually found under peat-bogs. A double line of posts marked the path over the peat to the lake. The vegetation on the bog, common to peat-bogs, sundew, rhododendron, and so forth. An interesting find was a deciduous member of the Holly family, a somewhat microscopic berry, growing singly in the leaf-axils, having very long thread-like stalks.

Sad to say we did not see any signs of the pitcher plant, water-lily, which we were trailing; we should have tried the North-west corner of the lake, I find.

We called at the Orphanage at the conclusion of the day, and all the elder children were at the Exhibition, under the charge of the Superintendent, Miss Beer. We were conducted through the building by one of the staff, and the visitors were delighted with the order and tidiness of everything.

HEREDITY AND MENDEL'S WORK
"Do men rather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" In the answer to that question we can find the broad principles of the science of heredity. We must admit that only thorns are produced by thorns, and that thistles remain thistles after their kind. In the matter of descent, "everybody allows that cabbage are descended from cabbages and not from watermelons." It is when we come to the inheritance of mental or moral characters that science is disappointedly silent. Some "practical" people have in-vented one so far as to say to the writer that there is no science of heredity at all; that about heredity we know nothing.

This is not strictly true, for a beginning has been made, and there is reason to think that the science of heredity will make definite strides towards becoming a revolutionary, as have physics or chemistry.

The Mendel, who has been called the "Darwin of heredity," was the abbot of Brunn, a little Austrian town, some seventy miles north-west of Vienna. He died in 1884, in his sixty-second year, but his name and work were not generally known till six years later, when Professor de Vries broadcast them to the world. His theories, known in tribute to his life-work as "Mendelism," have undergone some modification since de Vries' time but (says a competent critic) "their essential validity holds good." Mendel concerned himself mainly with garden peas, because with a little trouble he could get two

DAIRY TOPICS

Prepared by Provincial Department of Agriculture in Co-operation With the Directors of Dairymen's Association.
During the past week, a new Herd Improvement Association has been formed in conjunction with the Craupad Creamery. This Association has fourteen members at present and there are many progressive farmers in the Craupad area whom we have not called on as yet for their support. To any patron of the Craupad Creamery who wishes to have his herd tested, we extend a cordial invitation to him to join this Herd Improvement Association. Any who are interested, kindly communicate with Mr. Heger, at the factory or the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

Quality:
Quality is of utmost importance in a dairy cow. This is shown in a loose, mellow and fairly thin skin; a fine, soft, bright, oily covering of hair, and a smooth, fine, clean bone. The cow should have a regular and strong top line, horns, freedom from coarseness about the shoulder or hooks, and a fine, slim tail. A coarse cow, lacking in quality, is almost certain to give small returns from the feed consumed.

General Appearance:
The general appearance of the dairy cow also plays an important part in her make-up. All animals should have a straight, strong top line from head to tail. This adds to their appearance and helps in selling the individuals. Weak backs and drooping rumps are particularly objectionable. A cow with a weak back is less active and tires more readily and consequently does less useful work than one with a strong top line. A drooping rump is usually associated with an udder that lacks development in the fore-quarter. The rump should also be wide at the pins in order to give more room for the length of attachment of udder is determined by the length of rump. A short rump indicates a short udder.

Digestive System:
A well developed digestive system is indicated by a large barrel. This is obtained by length of body, width in the rear part of the barrel and depth throughout. A dairy cow must be long from the shoulder to the hips, wide across her top from hip to hip, and deep from the top of the chest to the bottom of the udder. This width at the base of the abdomen. This width at the hooks should be carried well forward giving a wide level loin throughout. The rear ribs should be well sprung, long, broad, flat and wide apart.

Constitution:
A strong constitution is indicated by great chest capacity, which demands depth of chest, width at the bottom of the body just back of the forelegs, thickness through the body at this region, width on the floor of the chest and fullness in the fore-flank. The fore-ribs should be well sprung out and should be deep from the top to one-half way down the body, thus giving ample room for heart and lung development.

Mammary System.
To secrete milk a cow must have a well-developed mammary system. The udder should be large and of good quality. It should be long between the rear and front attachments, extending high between the thighs. It should be broad and well filled in the rear and fore-quarters, with no noticeable division between the quarters. It should also be well balanced with each quarter the same size. The sole or bottom of the udder should be level and run well forward on the abdomen. In quality the udder should be soft, pliable and elastic. A coarse, firm, non-elastic udder is an indication of too much fibrous non-secreting tissue. The teats should be placed squarely in the centre of each quarter and should be large enough for comfortable hand-milking. Very short teats are objectionable, and there is no advantage in undue length and size.

The milk veins or the large abdominal veins running forward from the udder carry the blood from the udder to the heart. These should be long, large, tortuous and branched and should enter the abdominal wall through large orifices called the milk wells. The size and number of these milk veins and milk wells are indications that a large flow of blood is passing through the udder and consequently there is opportunity for a large milk secretion.

Dairy Temperament:
Dairy temperament is absolutely notes (produced by a kind of fiddling) differ in different species and in the true Katydid (Cyclophegma) resemble the name of Our Scudder, the male only, for the female is silent! only says "zip" or "crick."

Summer Care of Pigs

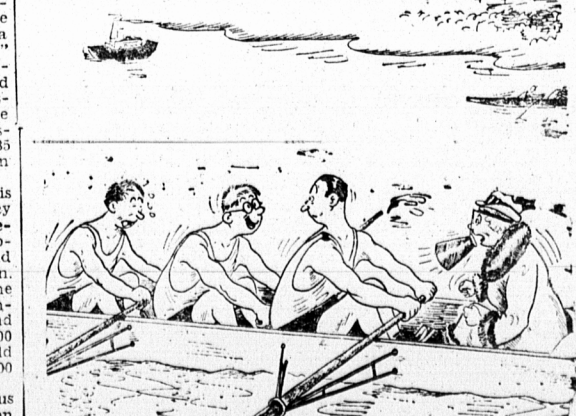
(Experimental Farms News)
An abundance of good pasture during the summer greatly reduces the cost of maintaining brood sows. Crops such as rape or clover supply needed minerals, vitamins and other nutrients. The exercise obtained in grazing also contributes in no small measure to the general health of the breeding stock, with consequent beneficial results at farrowing time. Sows raising only one litter per year need but little grain after the pigs are weaned, if good pastures are provided. While it is a mistake to allow sows to become too fat, it is equally unwise to allow them to become too thin. Enough grain should be given to keep the sows in thrifty condition, and in any event they should get some grain such as a mixture of ground oats, ground barley and middings, supplemented with skim-milk or fish meal, for two or three weeks before breeding time in the fall. Sows raising two litters per year naturally require more feed than those raising only one, but if early spring and fall litters can be accommodated, the average cost of rearing pigs to weaning age will be lower if two litters per year are raised.

Market-bred animals, when confined to a pen, but sow pigs which are to be reserved for breeding, should be given good pasture to ensure good vigorous breeders. They should be fed liberally to ensure satisfactory growth when they are on pasture, but if they are small and the pasture is of a limited amount, exercise, heavy feeding should be avoided. At the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton, N. B., states Leonard Griesbach, Assistant Superintendent, the brood sows are housed in portable cabins. A three-year rotation of rape, oats-seed and clover is maintained in the paddocks. This rotation provides an abundance of pasture throughout the summer. The cabins are placed on the clover paddock in the spring and the sows are given access to the other paddocks when the rape covers the ground and when the oats are in head. Grain is usually fed at the rate of three pounds per head daily, during the summer, but screenings or other low quality feeds are utilized whenever available, to replace the ordinary grain ration. There is no natural shade in the paddocks, the cabins should be built to provide plenty of ventilation, or some other cheap shelter should be provided.

HERE ARE QUEER FACTS ABOUT FLOWERS
There are flowers that act as timekeepers for those who have studied their ways and habits. So punctual are they that laboring men in some countries of Europe are to be seen at the dinner and leaving work has come, while in certain districts of Scotland, the school children are dismissed when the goat's beard closes, which it does at the same time every day.

The gardener to a millionaire has provided a flower clock in the shape of a circular flower bed, with twelve divisions. Each of the divisions, from one to twelve, contains flowers which open or close at the corresponding hour. Thus the two space is occupied by a figure made of hawkesweed, which closes at 2 p.m. precisely, and so on.

Amongst the flowers used are the snowflake, blue chloery, purple pernel marigold, Star Bethlehem, and evening primrose. The shortest-lived flowers are the dew-flowers of the Death Valley in California. Heavy dew are waited for on the mountain side two before sunrise, and an hour or two with the under current of warmth, gives life to the dew-flower. When the first beams of glory in the east, myriads of tiny pink flowers burst into bloom, hugging the sand for the few minutes they are destined to live. When the sun rays come slanting along the surface, and as though a touch of fire had passed over them, the dew-flowers wither and disappear.



SPINNING and WEAVING
Send us your wool to be spun into yarn and woven into blankets. Charges are: single yarn 23 cents, double 26 cents per pound, blanket \$2.00. Wool must be well washed and all dirt and burrs picked out. The size of single yarn is: medium, double yarn, fine, medium, coarse and hocking. Put spinner's and owner's name on all parcels, address and instructions inside. Freight will be paid on 100 pounds lots. Price of well washed and picked wool is 23 cents per pound. Special price for unwashed, Auto robes, white and colored blankets, yarn in all shades for sale. W.M. CONDON, 65 Queen Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I. Phone 145-J.