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## BEST NONE TOO GOOD.

"The best is none too good," is a good motto. Too many farmers are indifferent to this sentiment in conducting their live stock business. The shrewd buyer comes along and offers the average farmer an extra price for the tops in his herd, and occasionally the owner accepts the offer to his detriment. In the case of the milch cow or the meat producers generally, the inferior stock should always be on the sale block. One is fortunate, however, if he has attained that goal where he can offer for sale at all times only superior animals.

The professional breeder who pretends to supply breeding stock to the general farmer should have a high ideal and take pride in following the motto at the head of this article, furnishing only such foundation stock as he would himself be content to retain in his own herd. When this policy is followed generally, there will be a much greater demand from the ordinary farmers for such stock. This suggestion is not a creation of fancy. The culls and inferior creatures in one's herd can be fattened and disposed of for the shambles. The breeder who would observe the golden rule and furnish his fellow men only the best for building up a herd, will patiently follow this policy. It means for a few years that he must be content with the moderate profit which the fattened stock yields. The character as well as the reputation of such a breeder will later on extend his business, so that the profits of later years will compensate for the sacrifice of the earlier period.

We do not pretend to say that one in following his high ideal may not at times make mistakes. It is also true that when the very best stock is furnished to some farmers they will not handle it properly, and will in consequence fail of expected good returns. The party who has furnished the foundation stock is, by such people, criticised and censured more or less unjustly. One with a broad view of the conditions in life will not allow himself to be seriously disturbed by such criticism.

## THE CROP BULLETIN.

The crop bulletin for September by the United States Department of Agriculture says:

Although there has been some decline from the highest prices reached in August, the general tenor of the information gleaned from all available sources is not of a character to warrant either the expectation or fear of any material cheapening of wheat until another crop is in sight with a prospect of ampler stocks. With an annual European product of over 1,428,000,000 bushels a year. This year the European crop, according to Broomhall's Corn Trade News, will, in round numbers, amount to 1,329,000,000 Winchester bushels, or 99,000,000 bushels less than the average of the six years in question. If we make the comparison with the figures for 1897 given by Beerbohm, the deficiency in the European crop is still greater, amounting to about 113,000,000 bushels. To make up this deficiency little help is to be expected from India, Argentina or Australasia for months to come, and in so far as Europe will have to import a larger quantity than usual she will have to draw it mainly from North America, and especially from the United States, the Canadian contribution being relatively small. Official returns for Ontario and Manitoba give for these two Provinces an aggregate of 51,042,253 bushels. If the Argentine crop shall escape the ravages of locusts is seems likely to turn out unusually well, and from January, 1898, when the bulk of the harvest will be got in in Argentina, that country may have more or less wheat to export, as the latest mail advices represent the crop as being in fine condition and the weather highly favorable. There are however, many chances of serious damage during the next three or four months. The latest accounts from Australia indicate that the drought from which that country has suffered for the last two or three seasons has been broken and that the wheat crop is giving good promise throughout most of the Australian colonies; but the area was narrowed by drought at seeding

time and, as stocks must be low, it is not likely that even with a full yield the crop will be one out of which any great amount can be spared for exportation. The present high prices, would ordinarily tend to encourage the sowing of an increased breadth in India, should the weather be favorable, this fall; but any inclination on the part of the poorer cultivators to take advantage of such favorable conditions will probably be in a great measure thwarted by the impoverished condition in which they have been left by the famine in the greater part of the wheat-growing districts. Many of them lack the draft cattle necessary for the tillage of even the usual breadth of land, and will, moreover, be unable to buy the necessary seed wherewith to sow it. Public and private charity will aid them to some extent, but it is probable, on the whole, that the area will be below the average rather than above it, and that, the aggregate outturn will be somewhat short.

But leaving out of view the fact that the burden of supply for Europe will fall more largely than usual upon the United States, it is evident that there would, in any case, be a demand for a larger surplus than is to be expected out of this year's crop. If to our advantage annual export for the six fiscal years 1892-1897 we add a European shortage of 99,000,000 bushels we get a total of 265,373,872 bushels, and in so far as we fall short of that quantity, Europe, as compared with an average year, must suffer a scarcity in her bread supply, except in so far as she can avert it by drawing on the stocks that may remain out of previous crops. The world's reserves have, however, been reduced in consequence of the short wheat crop of last year, and a deficiency in some of the other important food crops will not tend to relieve the tension of the wheat market.

## BUZZINGS.

BY MRS. CHAS. LEE.

If for some reason your bees will have to be fed to survive the winter, do it now by all means, before the cold weather begins.

In preparing your bees for winter do not take too much honey from them. Remember it's their surplus you should take and nothing more.

Every colony should have twenty-five or thirty pounds of sealed honey to take them through to the first of next May. It is far better to have a little too much than not enough.

Mr. Lee thinks that he can usually control all cases of robbing that he comes in contact with, and is usually successful. But Monday evening, while returning from North Yakima he encountered a case that was too much for him—and is loser \$45.00.

Leaving the supers on with unfinished sections through the winter may be all right for the bees, but not for the sections. Better get them off immediately and let the bees have access to them. Put three or four supers in a pile and allow an entrance for only one bee at a time.

Honey ought to be stored where it is warm and dry. Most bee keepers know this, but not all of them. Have the honey stored in the southeast corner of the building. Have the walls painted black if you can. On dry days open doors and windows; keep them closed nights and cool, damp days if possible.—Review.

C. H. Thies, A. B. K., says in moving bees by the little-at-a-time method they soon catch on to the idea, so that they can be moved much farther at a time after the first three or four moves. We found that out several years ago, but did not like the method, as it makes the bee cross and irritable.

L. A. Aspinwall in Review for Sept. tells his experience this season in clipping the wings of his virgin queens. Those with unclipped wings averaged mismating one in every four. Those having clipped wings the mismating averaged one in twelve. He says great accuracy must be observed in clipping to maintain a uniform length, and preserve the balancing power requisite in flight. In having their wings clipped they cannot fly as far, hence the above facts.

Smythe & Cox shipped from North Yakima this week a train of sheep to Chicago.