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1 Set Double Harness,
2 String of Bells.

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store, cor. Yonge and Centre Sts. 12-11

Cereals

BY AGRARIUS

We will first mention the Avena
Sativum, or the oat family, as it oc-
cupies in Ontario more acreage than
all other cereals combined. In 1899 it
was 2,363,788 acres, and this was 12-
572 acres less than 1898.

The early history of the oat is en-
veloped in mystery, as they have been
grown so long under cultivation with
no distinct record to guide us to their
original country. They grow as far
north as 65° latitude in Norway, the
same parallel as Circle City in Klondyke
region, and Hudson Strait north
of Labrador. But no doubt the gulf
stream which gives Great Britain a
more moderate climate than Winni-
peg or the northern portion of Quebec
and Anticosti Island, although Great
Britain lies north of the 50° latitude,
modifies the climate to a certain ex-
tent along the Norwegian coast as it
flows to the Arctic Ocean.

Two hundred and eighteen varieties
of oats are known and have been tested
at the Agricultural College in the
last thirteen years, and we will just
briefly mention a few leading ones.

The White Siberian was imported
from Russia in 1892, and has yielded
well both at Guelph and on the Ontario
farms. It possesses a long stiff straw,
almost free from rust, and does not
lodge. It will grow on medium land,
and is extensively grown by the farm-
ers of Ontario. The committee ap-
pointed by the Oatmeal Millers' As-
sociation, after testing 81 varieties,
pronounced the Siberian equal to any.
It is a very thin-hulled oat, weighing
35 lbs. to the bushel.

The Joannette is a black oat, import-
ed from France in 1892, of good qual-
ity, and yielded a few bushels more
than the Siberian on the Farm, but
fourth on the Ontario farms. But it
requires a rich soil and to be sown
early. It stools abundantly and four
pecks per acre is enough to sow. The
straw is very fine and naturally weak
and should be bound in small sheaves
in order to dry, as it shells very easily
if cut when ripe and hulls a great deal
if not carefully threshed. It is the
"thinnest-hulled oat known and weighs
over 35 lbs. per bushel.

The American Banner has been a popu-
lar oat in Ontario, but it yields less
and weighs less per measured bushel
than the Siberian when grown on
same conditions.

Poland White was tested for one
year on the Ontario farms, and did
not compare very favorably with the
others. It stands ninth on the list,
has a weak straw and rusts slightly,
but weighs 36 lbs. per bushel and
yields about 10 bushels less than the
Joannette under same conditions.

Bavarian oats stand well up in the
test over Ontario, being second in the
list and eighth on the Farm. It stands
well, but carried the most rust of the
five varieties tested. Its weight per
measured bushel is light.

The Black Tartan, which has been
grown quite extensively in Ontario,
stands seventeenth in the College list
and lowest in the co-operative experi-
ments of five varieties on one hundred
and six farms.

The Danbeney is the earliest oat
grown in Ontario. The grain is white
and straw of good length. Many
farmers use it to advantage in mix-
ing with peas and barley for fodder
crops or for grain.

In spring wheats we will turn to the
Triticum-durum, or the Wild Goose
Wheat. It is classed as a hard flinty
wheat, with solid or semi-solid straw,
and is decidedly the best for Ontario
farmers to grow as long as there is a
demand for export to make macaroni.
The farmers should aim not only to
have it free from oats or barley, but
more especially free from the soft
grained spring wheat, as it will not do
for macaroni. The best way is to pick
your seed on the straw; a few bushels
would soon give you plenty of seed.

Now the Triticum Sativum, or soft
wheats to the number of 30 varieties,
have been tested in the last available
list and of 16 varieties Red Fife does
the best. This is the popular variety
of Manitoba and the old standard of
Ontario.

Herison's Bearded was imported
from France, and yields one half bush,
less than Red Fife, yet weighs nearly
3 lbs. more per bush.

Wellman Fife is very popular in
some of the northern States of the
American Union and does well on the
Ontario farms. In fact it yielded the
best in 1899 on forty-three farms,
ahead of Herison's Bearded and Rio
Grande.

Now we will turn to the cereal
Hordeum class, Hexastichum or six
rowed barley. This grain has been
under cultivation from earliest times
in Southern Europe. Its the hardiest
of cereals; it has been cultivated with-
in the Arctic Circle.

Fifteen varieties have been tested in
1899 and nine varieties have been
given.

The Mandscheuri stands at the head
of the list at Guelph and on fifty-one
farms the Oderbrucker lead with
about three bushels per acre. The
Mandscheuri was imported from Rus-
sia in 1899. It produces a good length
of straw, stands up well and is almost
free from rust. This variety headed
the co-operative list for seven years in
succession.

The Oderbrucker was second for
seven years, and first in 1899. It was
imported from Germany and is credit-
ed with producing the heaviest weight
per measured bushel of all varieties
grown on the Farm, but yielded ten
bushels less than the Mandscheuri
under same conditions.

Success, the beardless barley stirred
considerable excitement, but compar-
ing it with the others it stands twelfth
in the list. The weight is light per
measured bushel and does not yield
near as well. The Mandscheuri seems
to be the best suited to Ontario.

Now for the Hordeum Distichum, or
two rowed barley. Fifty varieties are
known and have been tested, but I
shall mention four varieties.

New Zealand Chevalier and French
Chevalier stand high, very little dif-
ference in yield, the Zealand the most
per acre, the French one lb. heavier
per bushel.

The Kiuna Kulla was imported from
Sweden in 1889, and stands sixth in
yield, about five bushels less, produces
good straw and stands up well.

The Duck Bill is perhaps the most
extensively grown through Ontario,
and stands twelfth on the list since
1885.

The two rowed barley requires two
weeks longer to reach maturity, but
they are valuable to mix with oats or
peas for fodder or grain. It has been
shown that oats and barley sown to-
gether produces more grain per acre
than when sown alone.

Now for the Hordeum Decortica-
tum and we close the barleys. This is
the hullless or naked barley. The
grain weighs 60 lbs. per bushel, re-
sembles wheat more than barley, is
white purple or black, straw weak,
when ripe heads break off. Some are
six rowed and some two rowed. Of
eleven varieties under experiment at
Guelph the Guy Mayle leads the list
for five years. It is a good yielder,
and possesses a straw of medium
height and stands fairly well. The
grain is of a rich purple color.

The Black Hullless is perhaps the
best known through Ontario. It
comes third on the list and yields well
and weighs heavy, but the straw is
weak and apt to lodge before the crop
is harvested. No doubt the six rowed
is the best of the barleys for the On-
tario farmer, but the other varieties
may be grown to better advantage in
some localities under circumstances.

Now we will take a look at the best
of an hundred varieties of the Pisum
Arvense, or field pea. The common
field pea is a leguminous plant and a
native of Italy, and has been in cul-
tivation for hundreds of years. It is
grown for its grain or mixed with oats
for fodder, or for soiling crops, and its
straw is a valuable feed.

The White Wonder heads the list,
and is a white medium sized pea, of
rather short length of straw, so it re-
quires strong rich soil. The New
Zealand Field comes next with a yield
of two bushels less. Both these vari-
eties are imported from New Zealand
and the supply of seed is quite limited.
There are also New Zealand brown
which stands sixth and New Zealand
blue which stands eighth in list.

Early Britain, a favorite among co-
operative experimenters, is a brown
pea and given largest yields against
three other varieties for four years.

The length of straw is about 38 inches
and of poor quality for feeding.

Chancellor is another variety that
compares well with other varieties.
It is a small white pea with a long
straw of the best feeding quality and
ripens early.

The Prussian Blue is another valu-
able variety to Ontario farmers, as it
grows well on poor land and yields the
most straw of any.

The Egyptian Mummy has been
grown in Ontario for the past fifteen
or twenty years, yield a large white
pea, next in freeness from pea weevil
to the Oddfellow, but grows very
coarse straw.

The question, does it pay to grow
peas? naturally arises. I would say
if you treat the peas after threshing
or use the bug-proof peas, it does.
The grain is valuable, the straw is
good feed, the roots of this legume
supplies in a great measure the lack
of clover on our farms.

**Farmers' Social Club
Meeting**

On the afternoon and evening of
Friday, March 8, at the residence of
Mr. D. James, was held one of the
most profitable and enjoyable gather-
ings of farmers and their families.
Notwithstanding the very stormy
weather, the programme was carried

out as announced. Mr. L. E. Annis
presided at both sessions, and he
proved an adept, promoting confidence
and eliciting points from all present.

Mr. Thos. Lane introduced the sub-
ject, "All about Spring Grain Seed-
ing." Right well he did it, speaking
as he did from successful experience.
The consensus of opinion appeared
very strong to sow nothing but the
best samples of grain, less to the acre
than what has been generally adopt-
ed, get it in the ground early, do not
cultivate too deep for a seed bed, and
use the roller less in finishing.

Mr. F. W. Jackes introduced the
subject of "Farm Out-Buildings." While
he favored the bank barn, he was
much dissatisfied with the general
system of ventilation adopted by those
who had them. He instanced barns
that had to be overhauled in ten or
fifteen years. He thought our Ex-
perimental Stations should give more
time in finding out a system that was
the least objectionable.

Mr. Jos. Armstrong of Toronto, who
was present, put many questions to
the different speakers about building,
as he contemplates building next
summer.

After supper was served, Mr. L. T.
Page introduced "The Selection, Feed-
ing and Marketing Hogs." Mr. Page
is one of the largest and most success-
ful feeders in the vicinity. Milk,
shorts and barley-meal form the bulk
of his feed. Hogs should be kept in a
healthy condition with roots, clover,
salt and ashes. The breeds best adapt-
ed for our market was a Berkshire or
Yorkshire cross. He favored selling
them slaughtered rather than alive.

At the close of the evening session
of both departments, a short time was
spent in singing, readings and recita-
tions.

At the close of the entertainment it
was decided to form a Social Club by
having a small annual fee for each
family, to pay printing, etc., and lim-
iting the size of the club to a certain
number of families. All who were
present were so greatly pleased that
they gave their names as members.

In the ladies' section, Mrs. James
Martin introduced the subject of
"Bread-Making," which is becoming
almost a lost art—not only the large
white flaky loaf, but the whole wheat,
currant, corn and buckwheat breads,
as well as the best way of treating
stale bread.

Mrs. Elson introduced the question
of "Butter-Making," in a very inter-
esting manner.

At the evening session Mrs. D. Boyle
introduced the subject of "Benefit,
Care and Propagation of Flowers on
the Farm." The enthusiasm with
which she entered upon her subject, a
person might think it June and the
company were in her flower garden.

Maple

The Royal Templars of Temperance
gave an entertainment in the Metho-
dist church on Tuesday evening of last
week. The program consisted of an
address by Mr. F. S. Spence, of Toron-
to, solos by Mr. and Mrs. Fry, of Sher-
wood; and recitations by Miss Mabel
Byam and Miss Daisy Saigeon.

Last Friday evening the members
of the lodge of Independent Order of
Foresters gave an Oyster supper in the
Masonic Hall. There was a magnifi-
cent spread, provided by the ladies.
After supper Mr. J. T. Saigeon, C. R.,
proposed the toast of "The King"
when all united in singing the Nation-
al Anthem. Short speeches were then
given by Rev. S. W. Dean, Rev. W. G.
Back, Dr. Sisley, Mr. W. Thornburn
and Mr. J. R. Campbell. The heavy
snowstorm kept quite a number away,
but those who were present, were am-
ply repaid for venturing out through
the storm.

Several loads consisting of students
of Richmond Hill High school, with a
few other friends, were entertained by
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Kirby last Thurs-
day evening. A very pleasant time
was spent with music and games, and
all returned well pleased with their
visit to our village.

Rev. Ian McDonald with his mother
and sister moved into Miss Noble's
house, the latter part of last week.

Miss Dora Rupert of Toronto was
visiting friends here and at Sherwood
over Sunday.

Victoria Square

On Saturday, March 9, a contingent
from the Victoria Square Rifle Club
paid the return visit to the Toronto
Rifle Club. The match which was of
a friendly character was won by the
visiting team by 105 points as follows:

TORONTO	VICTORIA SQUARE
Patterson	37 C. Mackenzie
Hughes	49 T. Reid
Odell, jr.	81 C. Reid
McNabb	82 G. Forester
Odell, sr.	67 E. Stoutenburg
Moore	53 W. Capell
Selby	18 A. Quantz
Asting	79 W. Scott
Simpson	63 G. Bell
S. Rennie	71 R. Agar