

# The Farm Page

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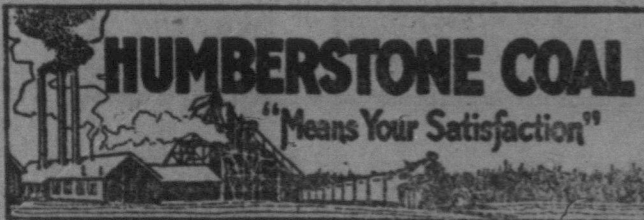
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## ALBERTA SWINE BREEDERS' ASSO. ELECT OFFICERS

Committee Appointed to Inter-  
view Hon. Dr. Tolmie Regarding  
Hog Production

F. H. Herbert, of Medicine Hat, was  
elected to the presidency of the Alberta  
Swine Breeders' Association for the  
coming year, at the annual meeting of  
that Association which was held in the  
Exhibition office, at Calgary last week.

The following directors were elected  
for the ensuing year: G. H. Hutton, Cal-  
gary; Wm. Hudson, Kathryn; Wm. Gil-  
bert, Stony Plain; W. J. Hoover, Bit-  
tern Lake; F. H. Herbert, Medicine  
Hat; Richard Knights, Pridis; Dr. A.  
M. McKay, Calgary; E. Swift, Clover  
Bar; Mr. Hanson, Medicine Hat; J. W.  
Renton, Calgary; Irvine Hamby, Mun-  
son; J. L. Walters, Olive; W. J. Elliott,  
Calgary; James B. Sutherland, C.A. was  
appointed official auditor.

G. H. Hutton and E. L. Richardson  
were appointed a committee to inter-  
view Hon. Dr. Tolmie regarding hog  
production in connection with the ac-  
tion of the Board of Commerce. It was  
pointed out that there was not twenty  
per cent of the hogs being kept for  
breeding purposes that were being kept  
a year ago and that unless something  
was done to make it possible to keep  
hogs at a profit the price of pork and  
bacon would be a great deal higher  
than at present.

## NEW HULLLESS OAT NOT RECEIVING THE ATTENTION IT SHOULD

Dr. Chas. E. Saunders, Dominion cer-  
ealist, states that the introduction of a  
good, new variety of hullless oats by the  
Experimental Farms Branch, has not,  
perhaps, attracted as much attention as  
it should. Free samples of this variety  
are now being distributed by the Do-  
minion Cerealist, at Ottawa. The stock  
on hand is not large, but as long as it  
lasts samples will be gladly sent to  
farmers in almost any district of Can-  
ada, as it is believed that this oat will  
be widely useful. The full name of the  
variety is Liberty, Ottawa 480. It is  
derived from a cross made in 1903 be-  
tween the well-known variety, Swedish  
Select, and a hullless oat from China.  
The new variety is decidedly superior  
to the old Chinese sort. Threshing out  
free from hull, this type of oat furnish-  
es a concentrated product of extremely  
high value which has only to be ground  
in order to make most excellent feed,  
especially for young pigs and chickens.  
When carefully enough cleaned for use  
as human food, it makes meal of sur-  
prisingly fine quality. The Liberty oat  
has very good field characters, being  
rather early in ripening and having  
reasonably stiff straw. The yield (so far  
as kernel is concerned) is equal to about  
seven-eighths of that of Banner oats.  
Farmers who are interested in the rais-  
ing of hogs and chickens are strongly  
advised to give the new oat a trial. It  
has already proven extremely satisfac-  
tory in some districts.

The union label stands always for the  
facts of today, never for a tradition of  
yesterday.

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## NOTICE

We did not move, but are at  
our old address  
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## DUNCAN MARSHALL BUYS CHAMPION RAM AT "INTERNATIONAL"

Hon. Duncan Marshall purchased a  
splendid imported Shropshire yearling  
ram at Chicago while attending the  
"International." This ram had won  
the championship at the Ohio, Indiana,  
and Illinois State fairs and was shown  
by Andrew Gies, of Indiana, who bred  
and exhibited the champion wether at  
the big show.

## STOCKMEN AND MINISTER DISCUSS MANGE SITUATION

Hon. Dr. Tolmie, minister of agricul-  
ture, J. D. Grisdale, deputy minister,  
and Dr. F. Torrance, veterinary director  
general, will be in Calgary this Friday,  
for the purpose of holding a meeting  
of the stockmen on the mange situation.

This is the second meeting which the  
minister and the veterinary officer have  
had with the members of the mange  
committee and as promised at the last  
meeting it is likely that portions of the  
province where mange has been cleaned  
up will be put into the clean area and  
progress made towards the elimination  
of the disease entirely, so that the cat-  
tle from this province will be able to  
bring all they are worth not only as  
butcher cattle, but also as feeders, when  
placed on the American markets.

It is expected that representatives of  
the Western Livestock Union, The Al-  
berta Cattle Breeders' Association and  
other organizations will be in attend-  
ance and with the sympathetic support  
of the minister it is felt that good re-  
sults will follow the free discussion  
which is sure to ensue.

## DOM. SEED BRANCH REPORT SHOWS SEED TESTING ON INCREASE

The Dominion Seed Branch, with labo-  
ratories at Ottawa, Winnipeg and Cal-  
gary, reported over 35,000 seed tests for  
the year ending June 30. The growth of  
seed testing in Canada is indicated  
from the fact that only 5,775 samples  
were reported in 1909. The great bulk  
of the work in our seed laboratories is  
done between September and June,  
when each laboratory may handle up to  
200 samples per day. Only ten samples  
are tested free of charge for any farmer  
or seed merchant during the season.  
Over this number the service is charged  
for at cost.

Official seed testing is the basis of  
government seed control, which in older  
European countries is rated as a leading  
government service to agriculture. Any  
country without an efficient system of  
seed control soon becomes the dumping  
ground for inferior seeds from other  
countries, and low-grade home grown  
seeds may be sold to unsuspecting far-  
mers. Our system is frequently re-  
ferred to in other countries as being the  
most practical and efficient. Its import-  
ance is now being better appreciated  
when it is required that imported seeds  
are not released from bond until they  
are approved at the seed laboratories,  
and when cereal grains, flax, corn, as  
well as clover and grass seeds, are  
marketed on the basis of fixed quality  
seed grade standards.

## NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN SLAUGHTER OF COWS AND CALVES

From January 1 to October 17, inclu-  
sive of the present year, 212,333 cows  
and heifers went through Canadian  
stock yards; 43,000 head more than in  
the same period of the preceding year.  
Drought in the grazing country has, un-  
doubtedly, sent many young animals of  
both sexes to the shambles that would  
otherwise have matured and figured in  
the beef supply a few years hence. The  
present high price of milk has tended to  
save the dairy heifers, so most of the  
loss has been on beef cattle stocks.  
For example, there were marketed in  
Winnipeg during the last four weeks,  
4,349 hardy, thrifty, beef-bred calves.  
It may clearly be necessary for farm-  
ers everywhere to square away, but  
good, young heifers and cows are the  
seed from which Canada is to reap her  
harvest. The demand in Europe is now  
coming to a head, and if it is possible  
at all, considerable sacrifice to save  
them will be well worth the cost. Mr.  
McCurdy, parliamentary secretary of  
the British Ministry of Food, says that  
there is not enough meat in sight in  
the world to feed Europe next year. If  
this heavy liquidation of beef cattle  
stock continues, there can only be one  
outcome. Cattle raisers will not be in  
a position to avail themselves of the  
splendid market which conditions prom-  
ise for a number of years. The days  
of high prices will be spent increasing  
herds, and unloading will be timed for  
the days of the succeeding slump.

## STOCKMEN MUST PAY RETURN FARE AT RATE OF 1 1/4 CENTS PER MILE

After the new year attendants who  
have been accompanying stock must  
pay for their return fare at the rate  
of 1 1/4 cents per mile, according to the  
ruling made by the railway commis-  
sioners at their recent meeting in Win-  
nipeg. The railways are not allowed to  
issue any free transportation after De-  
cember 31.

## LUMBER CAMPS HAVE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING MEN

Returned Men Say They've Had  
Enough Roughing It—Let the  
Other Fellow Get Out.

Reports received by the Government  
Employment Bureau from all parts of  
Canada indicate that there is great dif-  
ficulty in getting men to go to the lum-  
ber camps this season, or to remain  
when they get there. One large operator  
is asking for a thousand additional  
men; others are in a like predicament.

The situation is made worse in the  
eyes of lumbermen in that of the  
shantymen who have returned from  
overseas ten thousand have drifted into  
other occupations.

**Thirst for City Life.**  
After their martial experiences  
abroad and fleeting glimpses of life in  
many old world centres these lads seem  
to have gained a thirst for city life,  
which they are now trying to quench.  
Even the fact that wages paid in the  
camps have doubled since the old days  
does not draw them from the lure of  
the big city.

It is true that a small proportion of  
men who lived originally in the city are  
going to outside occupations, and some  
of them to the bush, attracted by the  
healthily open-air life, the rude comfort,  
and the bountiful food which are the  
rule there. But these do not begin to  
make up for the loss of the shantymen.

**Teaching New Hands.**  
But the lumbermen are willing to  
take a number of greenhorns to work in  
with what experienced men they get,  
and to teach those who are quick and  
adaptable whatever there is to learn.

In British Columbia and other parts  
of Canada the situation exists of unem-  
ployment in the cities and plenty of  
work in the bush and elsewhere, which  
the unemployed will not accept. "I  
want a city job or none," is the atti-  
tude. Even the returned soldier says:  
"We have had enough roughing it for  
a while. We think we deserve a city  
job. Let the other fellow go out."  
Meanwhile, at the outset of a period  
when Canada needs to engage exten-  
sively in building, this condition is not  
a healthy one. Lumbermen predict that  
the spring will find all stocks of lumber  
low, both to fill export demands and to  
meet domestic needs.

## PREVENTIONS FOR HEAVING OF ALFALFA DURING WINTER TIME

Heaving of alfalfa by frost is due to  
alternate freezing and thawing. When  
the ground freezes expansion takes  
place and the surface of the soil rises,  
lifting the roots with it. With subse-  
quent thawing the soil settles, but,  
being thawed free from the roots these  
do not settle with it. If the process is  
repeated the soil with each freezing  
takes a new hold of the roots and lifts  
them higher and higher each time. The  
roots are drawn up and injured and the  
top root may even be broken. This in-  
jury is particularly prevalent in the  
chink belt, where warm winds, thawing  
the snow and surface soil, followed  
by hard freezing weather, are frequent.  
The prevention of heaving is largely  
a matter of winter protection. The Al-  
falfa should go into the winter with a  
good top, especially the first year. This  
may hold the snow so that only a pro-  
longed chinook will bare the surface.  
Close pasturing late in the fall, or in  
the winter, is an excellent preparation  
for heaving. A light dressing of man-  
ure, evenly applied, preferably after  
some snow has fallen, will also afford  
protection, besides supplying plant food  
and also a mulch for conserving the  
moisture during the following season.

## MINNESOTA LEADS ALL OTHER STATES IN CO-OP. COMPANIES

The division of research in agricul-  
tural economies at the Minnesota Uni-  
versity Farm, after having made a pro-  
tracted study of co-operation by farm-  
ers, finds that Minnesota leads all the  
states in the number of co-operative  
companies. It finds, too, that Minne-  
sota's lead is not likely to be chal-  
lenged for many years to come. Sound  
economic need is cited by the investi-  
gators as the basis for a successful co-  
operative company. "Such a need  
exists," they declare, "where the pre-  
sent markets give poor service or take  
too large profits; where the present  
marketing system is wasteful and ex-  
pensive; and whenever the farmers by  
combining can reach better markets  
with their products or teach themselves  
to turn out better products."

Experiments conducted at the Mani-  
toba Agricultural College, in the treat-  
ment of fallow for the eradication of  
Sow thistle, show that wherever the  
duckfoot cultivator was used persis-  
tently and thoroughly on the summer  
fallow and the land was kept black, the  
Sow thistle has been thoroughly eradicated,  
but on all land on which methods  
of summerfallow consisted of frequent  
prowings, or the use of narrow tooth  
cultivators, discs, or harrows only, this  
weed still persists.

## Short Training Course for School Teachers

### AN EMERGENCY PROVISION

There is still a great need for more teachers in Alberta. On  
account of the increase of the teacher-training period to a full  
year, there will be no class of graduates at Christmas this year.  
This will temporarily aggravate the present shortage. Plans  
are being made to establish an additional teacher-training  
institution in Edmonton just as quickly as possible, but in the  
meantime this—the transition year from the short normal term  
to the long—is fraught with special difficulties.

### PROPOSED SHORT COURSE

As an emergency measure, to meet the present extraordi-  
nary conditions and for this year only, the Department of  
Education has decided, providing a large number of students  
can be secured, to offer a short course of training for persons  
with the necessary academic standing to enable them to qualify  
for limited certificates. This course will cover twelve weeks,  
opening January 5th, continuing until March 26th, 1920. It will  
be given in the city of Edmonton; will entitle the student to a  
temporary certificate, valid until January 1st, 1922. The holder  
of one of these temporary certificates, who desires to complete  
his training in order to secure a permanent certificate, will be  
entitled, providing he has had successful teaching experience,  
to admission to a normal school at the New Year, and may com-  
plete his training by taking the advanced period of the regular  
normal course, running from January 1st to the end of April  
in any year.

### WHO MAY ENTER

Anyone holding the Grade XI diploma, its equivalent or  
higher qualifications, may enter. In the case of returned sol-  
diers, however, Grade X standing or its equivalent will be  
accepted as sufficient qualification.

### FINANCIAL AID

All students enrolling for this course will be eligible for  
government loans just as those taking regular Normal Course,  
the maximum loan granted being \$50 per month or \$150 for  
the course.

### APPLICATIONS BY DECEMBER 23

All who wish to enroll for this course are urged to commu-  
nicate with the Department of Education before December 23rd.  
This information must be in hand by that date to enable the  
department to arrange for the necessary buildings, staff and  
equipment. While students may enroll until the opening day,  
the course will not be given unless a sufficient number enroll  
before December 23rd, to justify the department in proceeding  
with arrangements for premises, securing the necessary staff,  
and making all other necessary arrangements.

Address all communications to—

THE DEPUTY MINISTER

Department of Education,

Edmonton, Alberta.

(CB5340-64c)

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