



Plot of Oats on Experimental Grounds, Morrisburg.

crop be grown. If, therefore, every effort is made now to introduce alfalfa, we will have overcome the obstacles in the way by the time the fodder from this source is most needed.

To experience difficulty in the growing of alfalfa in the beginning is not new, for in many States where alfalfa is now recognized as a safe crop, there were many discouraging years before it became established. Our land is new, and bacteria, if not present, must be introduced. The more our land becomes filled with bacteria, the better will the alfalfa flourish.

G. H. HUTTON, Supt. Lacombe Exp. Farm, Alberta.

Extension Work in Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry.

When, three years ago, the Department of Agriculture for Ontario determined to undertake the establishment of district representatives in various parts of the Province, through them to introduce the study of agriculture into the district High Schools, and to vitalize the services of the Department by bringing its agents into actual practical touch with the farming population, the United Counties of Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry were fortunate enough to have given to them one of the six original representatives. The office was opened in Morrisburg in June, 1907, under W. H. Munro, a native of Dundas, a graduate of Guelph, and now superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farm at Rosthern, Sask. A. D. Campbell, B. S. A., a native of Middlesex County, Ont., took charge of the work in these counties in June, 1909, and is having the satisfaction of having the work progress in a gratifying manner in many directions.

United, these three counties comprise quite an extensive territory. Within their boundaries is much most productive land. In Glengarry, the northern part of Stormont, and the north half of Dundas, is found a heavy, yet mellow, friable, rich clay loam, whereon diversified farming, with a marked bent to dairying, is intensively carried on. Nearer the St. Lawrence River the soil is somewhat sharper and harder-bottomed, yet excellent; apples, especially the McIntosh Red and the Fameuse, do exceedingly well. All together, these counties are a splendid district, in which much has been done, and wherein many finishing touches are still needed.

Mr. Campbell brings to his work here the advantages of normal training, experience in teaching and in assisting as district representative elsewhere, his O. A. C. training, geniality, and six feet two inches without shoes.

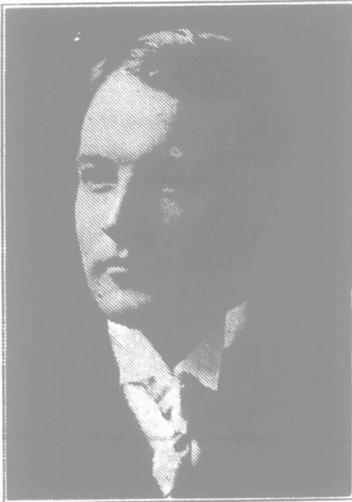
The primary idea of these district offices was to introduce agricultural courses into the High Schools. In few counties has this approximated a success, for which conditions the various representatives need not feel depressed, since the fault lies not with them, but mainly with our educational system, which, from the time the child first toddles away from the home to the district school, shapes the tastes and the processes of mind in directions away from agriculture. Mr. Campbell's experience in Dundas has been no exception. Although a course is offered in the Collegiate Institute at Morrisburg, there are very few to take the work. However, interest is being manifested, and there is hope of a growth in this department of the work. Farmers will appreciate this educational opportunity as time progresses.

But the other features of the representative's work have grown so that an assistant, in the person of P. C. Nunnick, B. S. A., has had to be added to the working force, devoting his energies to Glengarry.

Short courses, usually of three-days' duration, were held last winter throughout all the townships in which the attendance mounted up close to five hundred. At these classes the people were true to their old loves, rallying in greatest numbers to stock-judging; but the tremendous im-

portance of selecting, judging and testing their seeds and crops cannot long escape their attention. It is a safe venture that greatest good, at least cost, can be accomplished in the next three years in this territory by the judicious selection of crops and seeds.

The status and prospects of the apple crop in Dundas has led Mr. Campbell to devote thought



A. D. Campbell, B.S.A.

District Representative of Agriculture for Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry.

and energy to this much-neglected crop. There are many fair-sized, well-grown orchards throughout the district. The McIntosh Red and the Fameuse do wonderfully well when cared for, but the culture and marketing have received practically no attention. As a consequence, the orchards are unsightly, the fruit spotted, and the prices far from what they might be. Mr. Campbell has



Ernest Farlinger's Orchard, Morrisburg.

Pruned, cultivated and sprayed under the direction of the District Representative.

taken charge of four orchards this season, directing the pruning, cultivation and spraying. As a result, a normal crop of clean apples is being produced in an orchard famed as being the worst-affected with blight in the district. So much interest is being developed by this demonstration (which is being done on the places of "good" farmers) that there is every hope of forming a co-operative association for marketing purposes next season.

These counties, in most parts, have much to learn of the value of underdrainage; it is needed, too, before the full benefit of the many ward ditches will be obtained. In the experimental plots on the fair-grounds at Morrisburg, Mr. Campbell placed a complete system of tiles, with the result that, while, in the wet season of 1909, the land was too soft for working on June 1st, it was this year ready for sowing on April 15th; a bog was transformed into first-class land. Many farmers are, consequently, seeking and receiving aid in the planning of their drainage system.

Mustard is too much with these people; sow thistle is prevalent, and ox-eye daisy, quackgrass, brown-eyed Susan, and the whole retinue of weeds, are daily stealing possession of the farms. Campbell is busy preaching short rotations, and it would appear that the people need such sermonizing. If they have one fault more than another, it is that of too long a rotation; land lies too long in hay, then in pasture. He has sprayed fields of mustard with splendid success, again demonstrating a work that has interested his people.

At every district fair in the three counties, save two or three, there will be held stock-judging contests this fall. This is a splendid opportunity for the boys, and will strengthen the work of the leaders.

Experimental plot work is carried on at Morrisburg. Alfalfa, both uninoculated and inoculated, was making a splendid showing. The difference in the varieties of corn indicated that farmers must select discriminatively which to plant for silage or for the grain. The irregular stands obtained in mangels and corn showed that seed-testing must be done. Oats were a splendid crop, though varieties differed greatly. An effort, which deserves success, is being made to encourage the improvement of the potato crop.

Farmers' Clubs are not as flourishing as they will yet be. Their function should not be chiefly commercial, at least not in their earlier stages. The most crying problems are not those presented by the country merchant, who usually serves the community very reasonably. The Clubs must grow; they must form the threshing floor for the problems of weed eradication, live-stock management, stock improvement, social improvement, and improvement of market facilities.

The farmers are beginning to appreciate and use their representative; they have confidence in him, and are learning that he is there to do his very best for them. His office is as a magnet to them; their problems of drainage, weeds, feeding, insects, soils, live stock, come to his desk for his best judgment. In the fuller use of the district representative lies promise of a new life in rural communities.

Prof. Cyril G. Hopkins declares that on the best-fertilized plots at the experiment station in Urbana, Ill., corn made the prodigious growth of forty-one inches during the first seven days of July, measured by the rise from the ground of the tip of the leaf, and during three weeks, from June 23rd to July 15th, corn plants grow six feet seven inches. Such is the miracle of the corn.