

CITY MILK SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

The Toronto Milk Producers' Association

Scarboro Junction, April 14, 1908.—We strongly advise all milk producers not to make contracts for the supply of milk which include the month of October, 1908. Our agreement with the Toronto Milk Dealers' Association, made last October, covered only 11 months, commencing Nov. 1st, 1907. There is no disposition on the part of the dealers' association to disregard this agreement.

The City Dairy Company, we understand, are now soliciting contracts for six months. This would include October, 1908. We consider that gaining seven months of winter prices is a most valuable concession, and we trust no producer will consent to the defeat of this advantage. We therefore urge all producers to make no agreement not in accordance with our terms and prices.

We congratulate our members upon the success of our association, and the increase of its membership. Those who are not already members since September 1st, would do well to forward \$1 to the secretary, and receive a member's ticket.

A. J. Reynolds,
Secretary, Scarboro Jct.

J. G. Cornell,
Pres., Scarboro.

Notes from Manitoba

N. J. Kueneman, M.A.C., Winnipeg.

Dairymen and live stock owners are all in the best of spirits over the successful wintering of their stock. All animals went into winter quarters in splendid shape. Owing to the mild winter it took less feed to bring them through and they are coming out in good condition. It was thought at one time last fall that there would be a scarcity of feed owing to the late spring last year. The growth of the native hay crop was very backward, and as a consequence the yield was rather below the average. During the haying season we had an excessive fall of rain which was a great drawback as well. About this time things began to look "blue." Some people spoke of selling their stock. Others thought of allowing a number to fatten and slaughtering them. But a few of the better thinking fellows came to the conclusion that straw could be fed. The usual custom is to burn the straw as soon as the thrasher has gone. But this year it was quite a usual thing to see stacks of straw wherever one went.

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Units were intended for feeding. There was more straw fed the past winter than possibly was fed in the ten years previous. The grain was cut a little on the green side, consequently the straw was of a superior quality and cattle ate it up clean with a relish.

As the spring opens up we find that we have plenty of hay left over. The prices have dropped considerably from what they were last fall, when hay was selling for \$17 to \$20 a ton. At the present time it is going begging at \$5 to \$10 a ton. Bran and shorts and chopped feeds all have taken a drop in prices. With the price of feed down and the prospects of an early spring the outlook at present is the better. That the dairymen and farmers of Manitoba have had for many years. The prospects are especially bright for the dairymen, as butter and cheese prices were likely to be high for some season. At the present time dairy butter is retailing at 30 cents to 35 cents and is very scarce. Dealers are searching all over for this article and cannot find the bulk of what they require.

There is little creamery butter to be had. What there is sells for 38 to 40 cents. Supplies will soon be coming in, however, as some of the country creameries will be opening up soon. The supply of dairy butter will also increase for a time, until the cheese factories open up. We do not expect an over-production, however, nor do we expect that much will have to be exported this year. The whole western country is filling up rapidly. This along with the great amount of railroad construction that is going on may pretty safely be expected to consume the most of the output.

The stocks of cheese are pretty well cleaned up. Prices range from 14 to 15 cents a lb. New cheese will be on the market in about a month. There will likely be a good price for it, as the local consumption is greater than the output. We hope in the near future to be able to supply the home trade, and to be a competitor with "old Ontario" for a slice of the English market as well. Why shouldn't we? We have the soil and the men (many from Ontario.) But what is better we have a climate that cannot be excelled for dairying. With our cool nights, the dairyman can keep his stock in better condition, and with less care, than can the average Ontario dairyman.

We expect a much heavier make this season than last. We expect to get an earlier and a better start, and there will be more cows to draw from. In all we are anticipating a very busy and prosperous season for the dairy business of Manitoba.

The Farmers' Feed Situation

As many farmers will long remember, there was, last fall, when might be termed a panic in regard to the winter's feed supply. It was predicted that there was a general shortage of feed. In some cases, farmers were advised to sell their feed early that the present prices were as good as would be realized later. Some, however, believing that a general scarcity really existed, persuaded themselves that they would do well to hold their feed for higher prices. In many cases, these higher prices were never realized. On the other hand, those who believed the fall was an opportune time to sell, overdid the matter, and as a result, either sold their stock at a sacrifice because they had no feed or were obliged to purchase feed to carry them through the winter.

In order to find out the present condition of the feed supply throughout the country, The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World sent out circulars to their correspondents re-



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questing them to report upon the feed condition in their locality. Many replies have been received. The general opinion is that there is still plenty of feed to carry the stock through till grass.

The following is the situation as sized up by some of our correspondents:—

Our farmers have enough feed and are not buying any more than usual. The yield last year was slightly less and farmers put in a few head less on that account.—Allen Shantz, Waterloo Co., Ont.

There is sufficient feed in this section for all purposes.—Jno. A. Campbell, York Co., N. B.

Feed is plentiful here.—Donald Innes, Victoria Co., N. B.

There is abundance of feed here.—T. A. Thunder Bay and Rainy River Co., Ont.

We have had enough feed to winter present holdings. Farmers sold a lot of stock last fall.—C. S. Nicholson, Wellington Co., Ont.

Farmers will not have to buy as much feed in this province as a year ago.—Theodore Ross, Queen's Co., P. E. I.

The feed situation here is fairly good.—R. L. Crowford, York Co., Ont.

Feed is scarce here, and farmers will have to buy more than a year ago.—Geo. Terry, Muskoka, Ont.

The feed situation is rather better than a year ago.—D. Logan, Muskoka, Ont.

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Farmers will have to buy more feed this year than last. If spring is late feed will be very scarce.—A. G. Fallick, Durham Co., Ont.

Feed of all kinds is very scarce; much hay, straw and feed stuffs have been brought in. Hay has been selling at from \$15 for the poorest to \$18 for the best. Straw has been selling at from \$5 to \$7 a ton. Gluten feed \$34, bran, \$23, oil cake meal, \$36, pea meal, \$34, cotton seed meal, \$34, and moulse from \$22 to \$28 a ton. I consider that about three times the amount of mill feeds and eight times the amount of hay have been brought in as compared with other years. In fact, we have been importers of hay and straw rather than buyers.—W. F. S., Huntingdon Co., Que.

Farmers have enough feed to carry their stock through without buying. Those who are buying corn or frozen wheat are doing so to take the place of barley or other grains sold.—G. B. Hood, Wellington Co., Ont.

Feed is plentiful here.—O. L. Smith, Carleton Co., N. B.