

## The Next Step in the Farmers' Movement

MANY farmers' clubs and subordinate granges and local associations of farmers, are wondering what they must do to become affiliated with the United Farmers of Ontario and to obtain the benefit of being able to sell their seed or purchase their supplies through The United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited. Here is the reply:

The first step for them to take is not to take any step—beyond talking up and following the movement closely—until they hear once more from the central organizations.

It will be some weeks, possibly some months, before the central organizations will be ready for business. They will have to prepare literature explaining the movement fully, including their purposes and aims. They will have to appoint organizers and engage officers for headquarters. The cooperative company will have to interview a large number of business concerns in connection with the preparation of the prize list. This is going to require considerable time.

As soon as possible the various farmers' clubs, subordinate granges and other similar organizations, will be communicated with once more. They will be invited to affiliate themselves with The United Farmers of Ontario. To do this it is probable that they will have to:

FIRST: Adopt and agree to be bound by the by-laws of The United Farmers of Ontario, as published on page 29 of this issue.

SECOND: Agree to remit fifty cents for each of their members, to the funds of the central association.

THIRD: Purchase one share of stock, costing \$25. in The United Cooperative Company, Limited.

In return for this, (a) The members of each local association will become members of the Central Association; (b) The local associations will have the privilege of sending delegates to the annual convention of The United Farmers of Ontario, and have their railway fares paid by the Central Association; (c) Of sending a delegate to the annual meeting of the shareholders of The United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited; and (d) of buying and selling their seeds and

supplies through The United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited. This privilege alone should be worth many dollars a year to every member of every branch association.

When the various farmers' clubs, subordinate granges, and fruit growers' associations, are finally invited to become affiliated with The United Farmers of Ontario they will be furnished with printed information concerning the whole movement, which will enable them to deal with the question in an intelligent manner, and with all the facts before them.

### The Mares We Need

R. McCarrall, Peel Co., Ont.

I recently spent a day on the Toronto Horse Exchange and got my eyes opened to a few things that would seem to indicate that all is not right with the horse breeding industry of Ontario. After all the efforts that have been made by the agricultural press and other agencies to impress on farmers the necessity of breeding only heavy horses of draft type one would think that farmers would be passing over the small mares to get something that would produce market toppers.

I found that such was not the case. The "dime saving, dollar losing" style of buying is still being pursued. I saw good big mares going out to the streets for draft purposes. I found that farmers preferred to buy farm sized chunks, mares weighing 1,300 lbs., the kind that never produce market toppers. If these mares were to be used for farm work only they might be O.K., but for producing market stock they are of an inferior class.

The motor car has largely put an end to the market for light horses and is rapidly taking the place of the delivery horse. The only place in which the motor does not seem to be able to compete is in the field of the heavy draft horse on short hauls. If we wish to sell the stock we are raising, it must be stock that will fit in for this purpose.

The poorest economy is a few dollars saved on the price of a sire. You may gain thousands of dollars in the purchase of a good one.—Alex. Hume, Northumberland Co., Ont.

### Experimental Work with Fertilizers\*

F. V. Thompson, German Potash Syndicate, Toronto

Last season was unusually dry and some of our experiments failed on this account, especially was this noticeable in Eastern Ontario and Quebec, where in many cases the crops dried up. We are often told that farming is a gamble, but it is quite safe to say that the weather is, and a big one at that.

Of course we had a great number of experiments on that most popular of vegetable crops, the potato. The first I will mention is that conducted by Mr. William Hobson, Burrville, B.C. Plot 1, unfertilized, yielded 210 bush.; Plot 2, "Complete Fertilizer," 420 bush.; Plot 3, fertilizer without potash, 213 bush. an acre. Plot 2 gave a profit of \$209, after deducting cost of fertilizers, and Plot 3 showed a loss of \$8.95. From this experiment we naturally conclude the potash, while being the dominant ingredient in a potato fertilizer, was lacking in this particular soil.

Our next experiment was one conducted by Mr. A. G. Bennett, Resboro, Alta. His unfertilized plot yielded 230 bush. Plot 2, 480 bush.; Plot 3, 320 bush. an acre. Plot 2 showed a profit of \$87.30, and Plot 3, without potash, \$28.89. It is worthy of remark that the source of potash used on this experiment was Murate of Potash as no Sulphate of Potash was available.

#### WHY LOW YIELDS?

Coming nearer home where we do not get such large yields of tubers we had a few successful experiments on this crop. I have observed on the farms sent out by the experimenters on which information regarding soil, etc., is given, that they almost invariably state that the average yield of potatoes in their locality averages from 100 to 120 bush. an acre, and sometimes as low as 90 bush. Our experiments throughout Ontario during the past few years seems to have proved that this low average yield is due to lack of proper methods of fertilization, cultivation and control of pests, wherever these methods have been carefully followed, as in the case of our experiments, the yield has been very considerably higher. Many are apt to neglect the potato patch, furthermore it has been stated on good authority that in almost any district in Ontario you will find more varieties grown than there are counties in the province. If farmers would limit themselves to varieties found suitable to the district far better results would be obtained.

#### WHERE FERTILIZERS PAID

Mr. W. B. Ferguson, Strathroy, Ontario, obtained the following yields: Plot 1, 125 bush.; Plot 2, 200 bush.; and Plot 3, 135 bush. Plot 2 gave a profit of \$26.48 an acre, while Plot 3 showed a small loss. An experiment conducted by Mr. Joseph Duff, Sydenham, Ontario, gave the following yields: Plot 1, 150 bush.; Plot 2, 195 bush.; and Plot 3, 174 bush. an acre. Plot 2 showed a profit of \$13.75 after deducting cost of fertilizers, and Plot 3 a profit of \$6.60. Mr. J. A. Mallow, Duncannon, Ontario, obtained the following yields, which are remarkably large: Plot 1, 238 bush.; Plot 2, 548 bush.; and Plot 3, 406 bush. an acre. Plot 2 showed a profit of \$112.35, and Plot 3, \$95.75, after deducting cost of fertilizers. The foregoing remarks regarding the potato crop in Ontario are equally applicable to Quebec. Mr. D. Comeau, St. Leonards, Quebec, obtained 162 bush. from Plot 1; 236 bush. from Plot 2, and 192 bush. from Plot 3, Plot 2 showing an increase of 74 bush. over Plot 1 and Plot 3 showed an increase of 30 over Plot 1. Mr. Belleveau, Grand St. Esprit, Quebec, obtained the following yields: Plot 1, 96 bush.; Plot 2, 184 bush.; and Plot 3, 182 bush. an acre.

(Concluded next week)

\*Extract from an address before the Barrie Agricultural Society.



Some of the Farmers who Helped to Make History in Toronto Last Week

Between two of the sessions of the convention of Ontario farmers held in Toronto last week a portion of the delegates gathered on the steps of the City Hall, where a photographer obtained this snapshot of them. Fully as many more delegates are not shown in this illustration. The men here shown are from all parts of Ontario, including Essex in the extreme south-west, Simcoe and Grey in the north and Dundas in the east. They represented farmers' clubs, subordinate granges and other farmers' organizations representing many thousands of farmers.