

## FREE! FREE! FREE!

### TO FARMERS AND FARMERS' SONS

#### Short Winter Courses at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph

The only expense to you is board at reasonable rates while in Guelph and reduced railway fare.

#### Stock and Seed Judging

January 9th (2 weeks). Judging Horses, Sheep, Cattle and Swine, Slaughter tests, lectures on Breeding, Feeding, etc. Judging grains and seed of other farm crops; selection, germination, purity, etc.

#### Fruit and Vegetable Growing

January 9th (6 weeks). Varieties, Nursery Stock, Spraying, Fertilizers, Pruning, Marketing, etc. Vegetable Gardening, Green House Crops, Floriculture. A week's course in apple packing follows the Horticulture Course.

#### Poultry Raising

January 9th (4 weeks). Poultry Houses, Breeding and Mating, Judging, Feeding, Winter Eggs, Fattening, Dressing, Marketing, etc.

#### Dairying

January 2nd (Three Months' Course in Factory and Farm Dairying). Summer Course in Butter and Cheese Making. Courses in Cow Testing and Ice Cream Making.

#### Bee Keeping

January 9th (3 weeks). Care and Management, Swarming, Queen Rearing, Diseases and Treatment, Quality of Honey, Marketing, etc.

#### Business and Marketing

January 9th (2 weeks). Evening lectures on markets, banking, bookkeeping, etc.

For full particulars write for our Short Course Calendar, which will be mailed on request.

G. C. CREELMAN, President.

#### A Letter From Saskatchewan

**E**ditor, FARM AND DAIRY.—An instance of how established business interests can take advantage of the lack of cooperation amongst farmers to fleece them of their hard-earned money occurred in this district some six years ago. The settlers were coming in rapidly and required considerable quantities of lumber for building purposes. The regular line companies controlled the lumber business, and the prices charged were based on the rate of from \$39 to \$22 a thousand for rough lumber and dimension stuff. As this lumber cost f.o.b. \$20 at the station, the prices represented a realization of 33 per cent, and over on our local towns, an independent lumber dealer started up in business. He secured his stock from a small independent firm, so that the line companies were unable to shut off his supply. In order to put him out of business, it was necessary for them to undersell, and a miniature trade war soon developed. The independent man was without resources, but found that he could handle the business by charging a margin of two dollars for rough lumber over the f.o.b. price. He accordingly sold for \$22 for this grade, but he could not come below these prices. At this the farmers were making a saving of eight to ten dollars a thousand, compared with what they had previously been charged. The line companies, however, were bent on this man's destruction. They came down to \$21, being willing to sell at a loss in order to put their competitor out of business. The independent man was frank and showed his books to the customers, explaining the nature of the case and the motives of his competitors in selling at a loss to ruin him. The matter was freely discussed, and everyone apparently understood the nature of the case. One would have thought that they would stand by the man who was saving them from \$8 to \$10 a thousand on their lumber. But they were new settlers, almost unacquainted with each other. Each man was out for himself. He seized the opportunity of saving another dollar, and bought from the line company. The independent man, seeing how things were going, threw up the game and sold out to his competitors. The next morning lumber was selling at \$22 a thousand, and another instance had been added to the long list of cases of the farmer holding the dollar so close to his eye that he could not see the nature of the trap that had been set for him.

Since this incident occurred, the district has developed, and it now has a live grain and lumber association. It has secured considerable supplies from the co-operative department of the Grain Growers' Grain Company. Among other things, lumber and fence posts have been brought in. Our friends the line companies have made several attempts to destroy our local organization, but have found that there is a difference between the farmers of the district now and the settlers of six years ago. They are dealing now, not with scattered settlers, but with cooperating farmers who have learned the lesson that a penny saved may be a dollar thrown away. Some insidious attempts have been made to destroy our organization, but up to the present they have been futile, and I think I am safe in saying they will continue to be so.

I see that an attempt is being made in Ontario to undermine the farmers' movement in that province. To the cooperating farmers I would say that you are now in a position that we have frequently been in, a position in which you can show that you are business men with a vision that can not be blinded by an attempt to hold a penny close to your eyes. Stick to the organization which you have developed. Blindness to their ultimate

interests has cost the farmers uncounted millions. It is just such occasions as these that show how much we have benefited by our mistakes and failures as co-operators in the past.—J. A. Dugan, Sask.

#### Hogs on Pasture

**D**URING the past season, experiments were carried on at the Minnesota Experiment station with the object of showing how the most economical gains could be made by hogs running on pasture, and receiving a grain ration. Shelled corn was the grain fed in all the experiments, except one, in which barley was given. The corn was supplemented with tankage in some cases, and with buttermilk in others. The highest gain an acre for pasture was secured from hogs running on alfalfa, and being self fed on corn, the gain an acre being \$168.09. This does not take account of labor, and the overhead charges. The rations given were as follows:

1. Three per cent. of live weight in shelled corn, with alfalfa pasture.
2. Four per cent. of live weight in shelled corn with alfalfa pasture.
3. Shelled corn, self-fed, with alfalfa pasture.
4. Four per cent. of live weight in shelled corn with two pounds of buttermilk, per pig daily, and alfalfa pasture.
5. Four per cent. of shelled corn with very little tankage ration and alfalfa pasture.
6. Three per cent. of ground barley with rape pasture.
7. Three per cent. of shelled corn with rape pasture.
8. Four per cent. of shelled corn with rape pasture.
9. Shelled corn, self-fed, with rape pasture.
10. Shelled corn, self-fed, tankage and rape pasture.

The results of feeding these various rations including cost, profit per acre, and profit per pig, appear in the following table:

	Feed	Profit
Rations cost of 100 per acre	Feed	Profit
1.....	\$5.922	\$105.85
2.....	5.885	107.41
3.....	5.203	168.09
4.....	5.981	144.21
5.....	6.010	99.89
6.....	6.156	21.64
7.....	5.786	27.164
8.....	5.177	133.84
9.....	5.534	109.60
10.....	5.638	165.52

The profits shown by ration 7 and 9 were reduced because one pig in each lot proved to be unthrifty and had to be removed.

#### Judging Contest at the National

**O**NE of the main features at the National Dairy Show from an educational point of view is the Students' National Contest in Judging Dairy Cattle. This year at Springfield more interest than usual was shown by onlookers watching the competing teams representing eighteen State Agricultural Colleges, from as far west as South Dakota and as far south as North Carolina. Each competing team was composed of three students and the contest was particularly keen, since the Westerners were out to make a strong bid for highest honors.

The contest was superintended by officials from the Dairy Division of the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington. Mr. H. H. Hawes, of Rhode Island State College, was the highest honor in the judging of all breeds of cattle in the contest. With this honor Mr. Hawes has the additional distinction of winning the gold medal donated by the National Dairy Show Association, and a four hundred dollar scholarship given by the De LaVal Separators Co.