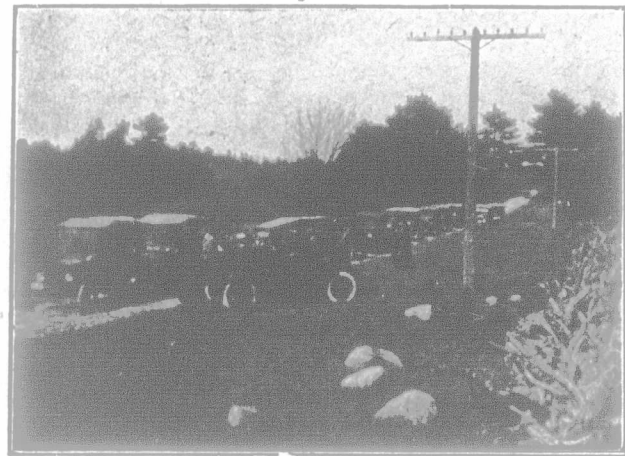


Wentworth Farmers See Five Counties by Motor.



Some of the Cars Used on the Tour.

It has often been said, and certainly with some degree of truth, that farmers are to a greater degree isolated from each other than those engaged in any other industry. There are signs, however, that this isolation is being overcome by farmers themselves with rapidity. One of the newer but satisfactory ways of overcoming this isolation and providing means of making farmers aware of what the other fellow is doing, has come with the advent of the automobile. During the last three or four years particularly, automobile tours on the part of farmers to other sections of the province have not been uncommon, and it was our privilege recently to cover the Counties of Wentworth, Waterloo, Oxford, Brant and Haldimand on one of these trips, which lasted two days. The trip in question was the annual tour of the farmers of Wentworth County, organized by and conducted under the auspices of the Boards of Agriculture of North and South Wentworth. The actual work of organization and all arrangements for the trip were made by W. G. Marritt, Agricultural Representative of the Ontario Department of Agriculture at Hamilton. It was intended to make the trip one of particular interest to milk producers and live stock men, particularly those engaged in breeding dairy cattle, although many very interesting farms were visited where other kinds of stock of excellent quality were met with.

Starting from the office of the Department of Agriculture on the morning of Wednesday, June 19, about ten cars left Hamilton for Rockton, where those from the north of the County were to be met and the tour continued with a full party. On the way to Rockton an incidental stop was made in order that the members of the Board of Agriculture might visit a model one-roomed school, situated between the Townships of Beverley and West Flamboro. This school certainly merited a visit and the trustees and ratepayers of the section are deserving of the very highest praise for the progressive ideas which led to the building of this school. Costing about \$5,500, although the enrolment numbers only thirteen scholars at the present time, the school embodies practically all of the features which a one-roomed school should have in order to provide comfort and pleasant surroundings for the pupils. The heating and ventilating systems are especially worthy of note, since we were informed that the air in that schoolroom could be changed no fewer than eight times every hour. Individual seating accommodation is provided; black-board accommodation is of the very best; a special teacher's room opens off the main schoolroom, and the basement is very well planned for convenience and play room on cold or rainy days. The appearance of the school from the outside is very good indeed and those who visited it were high in its praise.

Proceeding to Rockton the party was more than doubled in number, there being twenty-five cars in all, and practically one hundred farmers all told when the start was again made for Galt. The first stop was made at the farm of John Brown & Sons, Galt, where opportunity was afforded of seeing and examining a few excellent Hereford and Angus baby beeves. Numbers of the party were enthusiastic over the splendid quality exhibited. It was at this farm that the party was met by members of the Waterloo County Board of Agriculture, and a welcome extended to the Wentworth

farmers by the President, A. R. G. Smith, New Hamburg. Leaving Mr. Brown's the party proceeded to the farm of George Tilt, where one lot of twenty-six Angus bullocks were grazing across the road from another lot of thirty-nine Shorthorns. Mr. Tilt is feeding altogether about two hundred fat cattle but time could not be taken to visit them all. Last winter Mr. Tilt tried an experiment in wintering cattle without grain, which he says was very satisfactory where alfalfa and silage constituted the source of feed. The next stop was at the farm of A. C. Hallman, Breslau. Mr. Hallman breeds pure-bred Holsteins and some time was spent in inspecting the stable fittings and the senior and junior herd sires.

From there the party proceeded to Kitchener where arrangements had been made to accommodate the crowd at the hotels, and where the party was met after dinner by the Waterloo County Council. An address of welcome was read by Warden Oaks, of Waterloo County, and responded to by Erland Lee, Stony Creek, President of the South Wentworth Board of Agriculture. Warden Oaks in his address effectually answered criticism of such tours on the part of farmers at this time, when he said in part as follows: "We are glad to think that you have thought it worth while to spend a part of your time in Waterloo County. We know that while perhaps there is an element of pleasure in your visit, the main object is the pursuit of knowledge whereby through observation and comparison you may profit by the faults of others and better equip yourselves for the work at home. There is no calling which requires more



The Home of J. W. Richardson.

general knowledge or a wider view of things than successful agriculture. There must be a combination of scientist and artisan, extending even to the domain of health and disease, all combined with careful habits of observation and good common horse sense. The study of nature in so many of its forms, the friends and foes in insect life, germ life and bird life, surely provided a broad enough curriculum for the study of any one profession."

The first stop after dinner afforded a splendid example of what might be gathered together on one farm in the way of farm machinery. The Barrie farm, about four miles from Galt, though only two hundred acres in size, is without doubt more fully equipped with farm machinery than any farm it has ever been our privilege to visit. The novelty in connection with the machinery is that much of it is homemade; the elder Barrie evidently being of an inventive turn of mind. Roadscrapers, lumber wagons, potato planters, rollers, turnip and mangel drills, all were homemade, while a threshing machine, several more lumber wagons, large-sized weigh scales, an individual lighting plant, corn drill, and other machines too numerous to mention all formed a part of the machinery equipment of this farm, while in addition was to be seen a cement paved barnyard and liquid manure cistern. From the Barrie farm where the grain is drawn from the field, threshed, and the straw cut the same day, and where fourteen old binder wheels



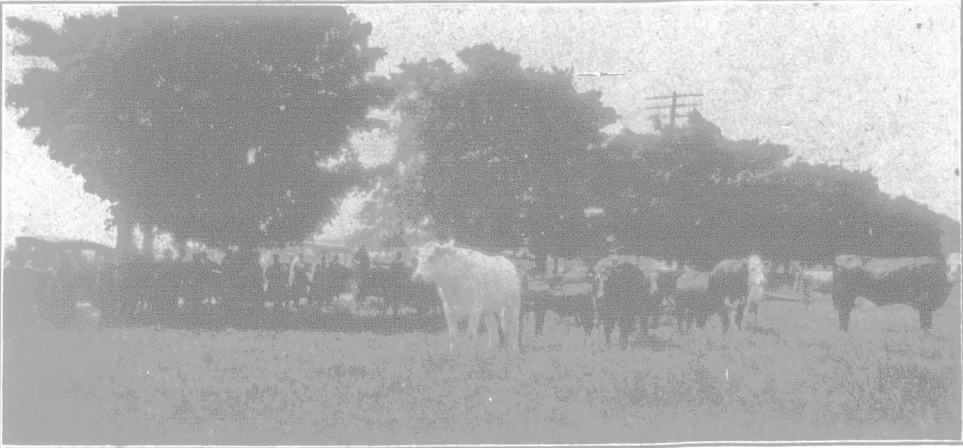
Some Calves Seen in Haldimand County.

have been made to form themselves into an efficient land roller, the party was conducted next to the pasture farm of Walter Robson, of Ayr. Here was seen perhaps the most outstanding picture during the two days of the trip. One hundred and thirty-one head of Shorthorn steers, whose average was placed at about 1,300 pounds, were to be seen in one field and when, coupled with that, we imagine a hundred or more interested farmers admiring the splendid quality of the stock, it will be possible to get a picture of the scene that presented itself to the onlooker. Considerable time was spent with this herd and moving pictures were taken by the representatives of the Provincial Moving Picture Bureau, who met the party earlier in the afternoon and who followed the line of twenty-five automobiles until late the next forenoon. The next stop and the last one before evening was made at the Jersey farm of R. & A. H. Baird, New Hamburg. Here were to be seen one hundred and twenty head of Jerseys; forty-five of them milking, in addition to a splendid home creamery situated on the farm for churning the rich Jersey milk into butter for the Hamilton market. This farm provides a remarkable instance of regularity in marketing. We were informed that for twenty-nine years, without missing a week, butter has been shipped to one firm in Hamilton from this farm. At the present time about four hundred pounds of butter is being made each week from this farm of two hundred and fifty acres. In addition to butter, the farm is supplying one hundred and twenty dozen eggs each week to the Hamilton market, and last year 40,000 pounds of bacon hogs were sold. A steam outfit generates power for running the creamery and the laundry for the house; both of which are situated under the same roof, but well separated from each other. Fifty-five acres of corn are necessary to provide silage for the dairy herd and to fill the four big silos. A turbine steam separator is used and the power churn has a capacity of 300 pounds.

From the Baird farm the party left the County of Waterloo and proceeded to Woodstock for the night, the place of J. S. Knapp, Agricultural Representative for Waterloo County, being taken by G. R. Green, Agricultural Representative for Oxford County. Cheerful, but covered with a thick coating of gray dust, the party arrived in Woodstock about eight o'clock in the evening, hungry and tired with long riding but ready for another little trip after dinner to the Epileptic Hospital, on the outskirts of the city. After supper and until late in the evening advantage was taken of the opportunity of discussing with other members of the party all that had happened during the day, while for an hour or so the hotel rang with the music of piano and many hearty voices, set to the tunes of old and well known songs. A musician had been discovered in the party, and finding his way to the piano he was kept there until very late.

A slight variation in the tour was necessary the following morning. It had been intended to visit the Norwich district to look into the question of hydro electric power and equipment on the dairy farms of that section. This part of the trip had to be cut out and four or five farms in the vicinity of Woodstock were visited instead. On the farms of Messrs. J. B. Karn, J. W. Innes, J. Karn, and Wm. Pullin, hydro benefits

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A Stop by the Way to Inspect Some Fat Cattle in Waterloo County.



A Fine Bunch of Angus Bullocks Seen in Waterloo County.