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OUR FARMERS' CLUB

Correspondence Invited

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

KING'S COUNTY, P.E.I.

CARDIGAN BRIDGE, April 28.—We are having a very backward spring. The snow is nearly all gone, but the weather keeps cold. Feed is plentiful, and live stock generally are in good condition. There will not be much work done on the land up to the middle of May, unless weather comes in warmer. A few farmers are fencing where the frost is out sufficiently. Others are cleaning their seed grain. Great care is taken by our farmers in getting the best seed and cleaning it as carefully as our modern separators will do it, as proved by the fine showing of seed grain at our county fairs this past winter. Potatoes are scarce at 50c a bush.; fat cattle and steers scarce at 4c to 5c live weight. Horses are in good demand at $100 to $250.—H. P.

QUEBEC

COMPTON CO., QUEBEC

COMPTON CENTRE, May 1.—We are having fine weather. Sugaring still continues and farmers have made from one to one and one-half lbs. a tree so far, and it is of good quality. Many are buying hay, and it looks as though stock would not go out until the middle of May. Pork has gone down, being only 8c a lb.—H. G. O.

ONTARIO

CARLETON CO., ONT.

BRITANNIA BAY, May 2.—A very dry spell has kept the grass back but a shower yesterday brightened things up. The ground got very dry. Seeding has commenced, the ground working very nicely. New meadows look extra well. This spring has been a record for maple syrup. The sap is still running. Maple syrup sells for $1.25 a gal. Veal has taken a drop. —J.A.D.

LEEDS CO., ONT.

FRANKVILLE, May 1.—The contractors that are building the new C. P. R. line through this section have got to work in earnest. They will make things interesting this spring and summer. Feed has been plentiful, and the stock is coming through the winter in excellent condition. The market for fat stock has a downward tendency. Hogs are selling at $6 a cwt.; beef cattle, $5.25 to $6 for good.—W. M.

GANANOQUE, May 3.—We are having a very cold spell with snow and rain. Most farmers have considerable grain sayed. There appears to be more milk going into the factories this year than last. There are prospects of a good hay crop, especially new seeding. Hay is selling at $7 to $8; oats, 35c; potatoes, $1 a bag; eggs, 16c; butter, 25c.—C.H.C.

HASTINGS CO., ONT.

CHAPMAN, May 3.—Spring seeding is well advanced. Soil is in good condition. Clover in most cases stood the winter well, but meadows are starting somewhat slowly. Cheese factories have started again, with the milk supply below that of last year. Some farmers are shipping their cream to Toronto. Hogs have dropped to 6c a lb.—H. S. T.

NORTHUMBERLAND CO., ONT.

CASTLETON, May 1.—We are having a very late spring, but the farmers are getting along very well with the spring work. Cattle have wintered very well and feed is plentiful. Fall grain has wintered well. Cows are selling for good figures; especially Holsteins. There was not much syrup made.—H.P.M.

DURHAM CO., ONT.

PORT HOPE, May 4.—There is a revival of interest in orcharding this spring. More pruning and spraying is being done than ever before. Our District Representative, Mr. R. S. Duncan, has established four demonstration orchards, one on the farm of Mr. Jas. Stanley, at Bowmanville, another on the farm of Mr. Nathaniel Nichols at Welcome, one on Mr. W. G. Noble's farm at Port Hope, and on Mr. F. W. McConnel's place at Colborne.—J. P.

SIMCOE CO., ONT.

ELMVALE, May 3.—The cold, bleak winds of the past few weeks have decided the fate of the winter wheat. The winter was not favorable, but had the spring been warm a fair crop would have been reaped. As it is, probably there will not be more than 20 per cent. of an average crop. Little grain is sown yet. Live stock are in good condition. Hay is selling at $9 to $10. Apparently there is a considerable quantity held by farmers.—C. S. B.

WELLAND CO., ONT.

STONE QUARRY, May 1.—The second cow testing association in Bertie township was organized at the Point Abino creamery, with a membership exceeding 25. Live stock in general has wintered well. A few cases of fatality among early foals is reported. There is a sufficient supply of fodder for local requirements. Butchers' cattle are very scarce. A rather backward spring finds seeding about one-half completed. More land will be seeded to alfalfa this year than ever before. Fall wheat and new meadows wintered well. The wheat, though injured slightly by frost, is better as compared with last year. Meadows have made vigorous growth during the last few days, and a heavy hay crop is looked for.—J. E. J.

OXFORD CO., ONT.

GOLSPIE, May 3.—We have had a week of fine seeding weather. It is now quite cold, with quite a hard frost last night. We have gotten along well with our seedings—the most of it will be finished this week. Land is in good condition. This cold snap will stop the growth, but it will come stronger and will stand more dry weather. Stock is looking fine. Many separate the milk at home and draw the cream to the factory. They can feed the milk warm to calves and hogs, and it pays better than drawing the whole milk.—A. M. M.

HURON CO., ONT.

GODERICH, May 3.—Ideal seeding weather prevailed during the last week of April and a good proportion of the seeding has already been done. As there was one heavy spring rain this year the heavy land shows no tendency to bake and readily works up into an excellent seed bed. The acreage seeded to alfalfa this year has increased, local seed dealers reporting nearly as large a sale of the seed as of Red Clover. Some cattle are already on grass but most farmers have sufficient feed to carry the stock till the grass gets a better start. Live stock are in a good thrifty condition.—D.G.S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

NEW WESTMINSTER DIST., B.C.

CHILLIWACK, April 27.—The new hay crop in the meadows gives promise of an abundant crop. The cattle are looking well. The cherry trees are in blossom, but not the apple trees. Seeding is nearly over, there being about one week before it will be all in. Eggs have risen in price. Duck eggs are 50c.—J. C.

SIMILKAMEEN DIST., B.C.

ALLAN GROVE, April 29.—Ploughing and seeding are general. Quite a large number of fruit trees are being set this spring. Alfalfa does well here, many cutting two crops off it, and then having good fall pasture. The spring is a little backward for rapid growth. Many trees are coming out in leaf now. Seed potatoes are $5 a cwt.; seed oats, $2.25 a cwt.; and wheat, $2.50 to $3. Fresh milch cows are $70 to $80.—R.L.A.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1911

The prize list of the Canadian National Exhibition, August 26th to September 11th, which is being distributed, shows that the prizes have been increased in nearly every department, till the grand total reaches $60,000. As no prizes are given for manufactures, the whole of this amount goes to live stock, dairy products, horticulture, woman's work, educational exhibits, and similar lines of Canadian industry. The increase in the amount given to live stock is particularly noticeable. Nearly $5,000 has been added to the horses alone, while special prizes of $500 each for the best animal in the Holstein and Shorthorn classes show that the cattle have not been neglected. Poultry also gets an additional $1,000. The prize list can be had by writing Manager J. O. Orr, City Hall, Toronto.

AN INTERPROVINCIAL PRIZE DAIRY FARMS COMPETITION

Another dairy farms competition, similar to the one held so successfully during 1909 and 1910, will be held this year (1911) throughout Ontario and in the Beauharnois District, Quebec. The contest will be continued during 1912, and possibly during 1913, to decide the best dairy farms and farmers in the two provinces. The competition will be conducted by FARM AND DAIRY, of Peterboro, Ont., the only farm and dairy paper published in Canada, assisted by a committee of prominent farmers and dairymen.

FIFTY HANDSOME PRIZES

During 1911 Ontario will be divided into four districts, which with the Beauharnois District, Que., will make five districts in all. A special competition will be held in each district. Ten handsome prizes will be offered in each of these divisions or 50 in all. Next year (1912) it is proposed to hold a final or semi-final competition between the leading prize winning farms in each of these five districts to decide the best dairy farms in all these districts. A special prize will be offered for the best dairy farm in Ontario and another prize for the farm either in Quebec or Ontario that scores the most points in an inter-provincial contest.

In this year's contest (1911) the first five prize winning farms in the provincial contest held in Ontario during 1910, as well as the four farms that won the first prizes in their districts in 1909, will not be allowed to take part

THE DISTRICTS

The five districts in which contests will be held this year (1911) will be approximately as follows:

DISTRICT No. 1.—The Beauharnois District, Que., comprising the counties of Beauharnois, Chateauguay and Huntingdon.

DISTRICT No. 2.—That portion of Eastern Ontario lying East of a line running North from Kingston.

DISTRICT No. 3.—The counties in Eastern Ontario between Kingston and Yonge St., Toronto.

DISTRICT No. 4.—Western Ontario, North of a line running from Hamilton to Goderich.

DISTRICT No. 5.—Western Ontario, South of a line running from Hamilton to Goderich.

These districts (except No. 1) are subject to revision after the entries have been received to facilitate the judging of the farms.

JUDGING THE FARMS, THE POINTS OFFERED

The farms will be judged in July, (1911), by two judges. Where competition is close for some of the leading prizes in any or all of the districts, the judges will have the privilege of visiting such farms again next winter, before making their final awards.

All departments of the farm will be included in the competition. A total of 1050 points will be offered, subdivided as follows:

House, 155, viz., plan, finish and approaches, 25, lawn 20, garden and orchard 35, arrangement of house 25, sanitation 15, ice and water supply 15, education, including books and periodicals, 20; total, 155.

Buildings, 175, viz., provision and size 25; location 25, condition 20, neatness 20, convenience 25, light and ventilation 25, water supply 25, yard, 10; total, 175.

Live stock, 210, number 40, quality and condition 40, breeding 40, feeding 20, horses 30, swine 25, poultry 15; total, 210.

Crops, 215, viz., suitability for milk production 50, yields and condition 75, freedom from weeds 75, pastures and shade 15; total, 215.

Management, 140, viz., arrangement of fields 20, rotation 25, fences, gates, ditches and roads, 20, workmanship and neatness 25, preservation of manure 20, bookkeeping and records 20, summer water supply 10; total, 140.

Machinery 75, viz., supply 25, housing 20, condition of repair 20, character 10; total 75.

Permanent improvement 80, viz., public roads 10, freedom from obstacles 25, drainage 25, beautifying 20, total, 80. Grand total, 1050.

The farms in each district scoring the highest number of points will be awarded the prizes. During 1912 the prize winning farms this year will be allowed to compete in a final or semi-final competition to decide the best ten dairy farms in Ontario and in a special competition to determine the best dairy farm in Ontario and Quebec.

For further particulars, entry forms, etc., write the Secretary of the Committee,

H. B. COWAN, FARM & DAIRY, - - - PETERBORO, ONT.