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Control of Contagious Abortion.

DITOR, Farm and Dairy:—The experiments which we have been making in the Health of Animals Branch of the Department of Agriculture, with the object of finding a means of controlling contagious abortion in cattle, have resulted hitherto successfully, and I am permitted by the Minister, the Honorable Martin Burrell, to make them public.

Experiment I.

Four heffers, aged one year, were inoculated with our protective vaccine January 26th, 1915. The test of the blood of these heifers showed that one of them was already infected with the bacilius of contagious abor-tion, and all four were living in a herd in which the disease was known

The four heifers were bred on the following dates: April 21st, April 23rd, April 23rd, and December 18th, 23rd, April 23rd, and December 18th, 1915. They all calved, the dates being respectively January 26th, January 26th, January 72th and September 11th, 1916.

Experiment II.

Ten yearling heifers were inoculated March 20th, 1915, four of which reacted to the test for contagious abortion. They were bred after an in-terval of about three months. (Accurate dates cannot be given in this case, as the herd records were destroyed by fire.) All became pregnant; eight carried their calves to full term and produced living offspring; two aborted.

Experiment III.

Four heifers—yearlings—were em-ployed to test a method of employing serum as well as a vaccine. the first two the serum and vaccine were used simultaneously; with the second two, the serum was given ten days prior to the vaccine. When testthe first two had reacted to the ed, the first two had reacted to the test; the second two did not react. The first two were bred December 15th, 1915, and August 25th, 1915, and both aborted—July 12th, 1916, and April 16th, 1916. The second two were bred December 23rd, 1915, and November 9th, 1915, and produced living calves September 19th, 1916, and August 5th, 1916. This experiment was unsatisfactory, and gave conflict-ing results, but shows that the simultaneous method of giving serum and vaccine did not prevent infected heifers from aborting

Experiment IV.

In this experiment an effort was made to find out how far the vaccine treatment would prevent abortion in cows which had previously aborted

Eight cows were selected, ranging Eight cows were selected, ranging from two to seven years in age. All had previously aborted, one of them three times, the others once. All but one reacted to the test for contagious abortion. None were pregnant when inoculated nor bred afterwards until some weeks had elapsed. The result showed six cows produced living calves at full term; one cow proved to be barren and was slaughtered; and one cow reacted when the herd was tested with tuberculin and was slaughtered, having previously abort-

The method used in this experiment was a double inoculation with a mild vaccine first, followed by a strong vaccine several days later.

Experiment V. Four cows, aged two to seven years, and four yearling heifers were used. The cows had all aborted previously, ne of them twice, the others once Three of them reacted to the test for contagious abortion. All were treated to the double method, and were bred him and to the purchas after a suitable interval with the following result: One of the cows, the tion of grain and reme one that had aborted twice previously, restraint of marketing.

aborted again. All the others pro-

duced living calves.

These experiments have resulted in obtaining 27 living caives from 34 cows and heifers in badly infected This encourages us to hope that we have a really useful method of producing immunity to the disease, and we are anxious to enlarge our ex perience by extending our work to other herds.

With this object we now offer to treat free of charge a limited number of herds in which contagious abortion is present. Owners are requested to make application in writing to the make application in writing to the Veterinary Director General, Ottawa, stating the number of breeding females in the herd. Applications will be dealt with in the order of their receipt. — F. Torrance, Veterinary Director General, Ottawa

Grain Commission Appointed

HE Commission to control the grain production of Canada will be composed of Dr. Magill, Chairman; H. W. Woods, Alberta; S. K. Rothwell, Moose Jaw; T. A. Crerar, J. C. Gage, W. A. Bawif, W. A. Matheson and C. A. Stewart of Winnipeg; William A. Best of Ottawa; Controller A.ney of Montreal, and L. H. Clarke

Dr. Magill is now Secretary of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, but was for five years Chairman of the Grain Commission.

Commission.

H. W. Woods is a prominent grain-grower of Alberta, President of the United Farmers of Alberta and the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

S. K. Rothwell is one of the largest grain producers in Saskatchewan, and has been a candidate both for the Federal Parliament and the Provincial Legislature.

T. A. Crerar is Manager of the Grain-Growers' Grain Company, the largest grain purchasing and export-

ing concern in Canada.

J. C. Gage is President of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

W. A. Bawlf is a prominent grain dealer and a member of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

W. A. Best is Parliamentary repre-sentative of the Order of Locomotive

Controller Ainey is well known in Montreal civic affairs and has been a representative labor man in that city

representative lator man in that city for many years.

Lionel H. Clarke is a member of the Toronto Harbor Commission, and a prominent business man of that city. W. A. Matheson is Western Maa-ager of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company.

C. A. Stewart is a member of the firm of Stoddart & Stewart, Winnipeg, representatives in Canada of the Brit-Wheat Purchasing Commission

Waiting for United States.

Little action is possible on the part of the Commission until such time as a similar body is appointed by the United States, with similar powers to cooperate with the Canadian Commission. Pending the appointment of such an American Commission, the Canadian Commission will seek to keep prices on a parity with those in the United States.

The Commission has been granted great power and will have authority to fix grain prices on shipment from storage elevators, but not the price paid the farmer. They have power to take offers of purchase from the British and allied Governments and to determine what quantity to sell and the price required. They can take grain from elevators without the consent of the owner and fix the price to him and to the purchaser. They can investigate the storage and accumula-tion of grain and remedy any untain

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