

# The Canadian Dairyman AND Farming World

Published by The Rural Publishing Company, Limited.



1. THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN AND FARMING WORLD is published every Wednesday. It is the only Canadian paper of the British Columbia, Manitoba, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District Quebec Dairyman Associations, and of the Canadian Holstein, Ayrshire, and Jersey Cattle Breeders Associations.

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6. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive constructive articles.

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The paid-in-advance subscriptions to The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World exceed \$150. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies sent to 11,000 copies (never being less than that) to 11,000 copies. Subscriptions unexpired, are discontinued as they expire. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the subscription rates. Thus our mailing lists do not contain any dead circulation. We have detailed estimates of the circulation of the paper, showing its distribution by countries and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

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THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN AND FARMING WORLD  
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## RECLAIM THE BARREN WASTE

In several sections of Older Ontario, there are tracts of land which are practically absolute waste. The lands are of no use agriculturally as they consist of light sand and even of shifting sand. A large tract of such land exists in Norfolk County. The Forestry Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture has already done some work in connection with a part of this waste area. In Simcoe County, another large tract of such land, locally called "The Plains," is to be found. This area covers some 10,000 acres and is of value only for forestry purposes. In Northumberland and in Durham Counties exists another large tract of this land, which cannot be exploited successfully for any branch of agriculture.

At one time, this land produced the best of timber. The area in Durham County was originally timbered with pine and oak, two of our most valuable timbers. These lands should never have been opened for settlement and at least should never have been deforested. Now that the timber has been taken off, these lands have, in some cases, been abandoned, and in others, are furnishing but a poor existence to those who live upon them. The one thing to do is to reforest these areas.

In view of the existing conditions on these tracts in Durham and Northumberland Counties, as outlined on another page of this issue, some forest policy should be adopted in the very near future in connection with them. The great difficulty in handling these waste areas is that they are frequently poorly served by railroads, thus making it difficult to get material in for reforesting purposes. The areas in Northumberland and Durham Counties are well situated in this respect and offer probably the best chances of success of any of these waste lands in that they are near a railroad station. Burketon or Pontypool on the C. P. R. are situated close by. A nursery established in this vicinity would serve both Northumberland and Durham Counties. Were a forest reserve to be established in this locality, while it would not only be profitable to the country at large, it would be one of the very best demonstrations to the people of the fact that waste portions of the farm can be successfully planted with trees. Farmers in the locality could be furnished planting material at a very low cost from the nurseries in connection with such a reserve.

These waste lands in their present state are of little value to the country. In many cases, they are not worth the taxes, hence they bring in no revenue. There is no reason why these lands cannot be exploited successfully for forestry purposes.

## THE BACON INDUSTRY

There is a growing indifference on the part of many to have but little to do with bacon production. The price for the finished product being somewhat unstable, tends to discourage some producers. Especially at this season of the year when hogs are inclined to drop in price, this feeling becomes marked.

It has been a matter of common experience that when the price of hogs is falling, that is the time to stay with the business, and even to load up more heavily with hogs. The producers who have stayed by this business through its times of adversity are the ones who have made money out of hogs. They have learned the game well and when the price of hogs goes down, they are not the ones that wear the long face and cry down the business. When their neighbors are in such spirits, these men are actively engaged buying in the hogs which their neighbors are too ready to sell at a sacrifice.

The bacon industry has reached a point where it is of great importance.

It is largely accountable for the ready money which our farmers possess to-day, and while it is sometimes difficult to figure out a direct profit from the hogs, especially when prices are declining and feed bills are high, still, on the long average, the production of bacon is a profitable business. It has done much for our farmers and for our country. It is capable of doing as much, or even better, in the future. Let us stand by this great industry, that has been built up at considerable cost, in seasons of adversity as well as in prosperity. By doing so, we will all share the profits which, in the past, have been realized mostly by those who have learned to stay with the business.

## SIRE'S INFLUENCE UNAPPRECIATED

It seems difficult for all to grasp the full meaning, in dollars and cents, of a good sire in the herd. Some, having one cow which is much better than the others, look to her to work any improvement which may be brought about. Where this idea of improvement by means of the cow is general, any interest in a pure bred sire of the best breeding is overlooked. The old maxim that the bull is half the herd, though oft repeated, fails to come home with its full sized force. Failing to recognize this truth in breeding accounts for the inferior stock noticed in practically all sections.

The cow of high quality and large production is a great factor in bringing about any desired improvement. provided she is bred to a high class bull. By using an indifferent sire on her, practically all is lost and no advancement is brought about. Improving the herd by means of a single cow is the best, slow process. On the other hand the effect of a good bull is a noticeable improvement in all the resulting stock. In other words, he counts for half the herd.

Just so soon as we realize the full sized meaning of the value of good sires, will we experience the advancement desired in the herds of this country. Money expended in a suitable sire, while it may seem a large sum and out of proportion to the merits of the herd on which he is to be used, will soon be paid back many fold in the improvement wrought in the stock. It takes but little progeny from even a high priced sire to pay large returns for money invested. Reverses in breeding are common enough even when the best of sires are used. One cannot afford to overlook the necessity of using only the best sires that are obtainable.

## HEAVIER RATINGS NEEDED

No one would attempt to run a steam engine, that was driving a modern threshing outfit, with but 30 pounds of steam. Yet many dairymen attempt to get profitable results from their cows by feeding a partial ration. They attempt to run them with but "30 pounds of steam." Chemists tell us that two-thirds of what a cow consumes goes to maintain her body. The remainder goes towards milk production.

It is evident to all that the profit must come from the feed fed over and

above that which the cow requires for maintenance and that the more she eats, the greater will be the profit.

There are many good cows in the country that are not recognized as such and cannot be made profitable unless they receive more feed. There is no profit in feeding partial rations to milk cows. We cannot get profitable results running cows on "30 pounds of steam." If there is a food shortage, one might better feed full rations to half the number, rather than feed the many on half rations. In the latter case, there will be much work and little profit. In the former, the cows are sure to give profitable returns and the labor of caring for the herd would be much lessened.

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## The Effect of Reading

[New Zealand Farmer]

Men's minds are like the soil; they need stirring, cultivating, fertilizing. We all recognize quickly a barren or neglected or uncultivated piece of land. We know what is the matter with it. Some people have said to us: "Why do you lay so much stress upon reading on dairy questions for the dairy farmer? Don't you know that the farmer has but little time to read?" Yes, we know all about that view of the case. But that view is a delusion and a snare. Much of the time and labor of the farm is wasted; yes, absolutely wasted, which, if he were a more intelligent man would not be wasted.—No wonder a man has no time to read when he is working day and night for a lot of unprofitable cows. A Canadian farmer writes to the "Canadian Dairyman and Farming World" like this:

"I commenced weighing individual cow's milk four years ago through reading about cows that were only boarders. To my astonishment I found that I had some of that kind of cows. I would not have believed it had I not started to weigh each cow's milk."

Now mark what this man says of the effect of such an effort started because he was a reader.

"The result of my efforts in this work is that I have to-day one of the best milking herds in this section."

Think of the saving in time, labor, and expense to get a given amount of milk when, for instance, you can get it from 10 good cows when before you kept 20. Thousands of men say that they have no time to read, which means that they have no time to think and study, because thinking and study come largely through the ideas and hints they get from reading. But they have all the time in the world to waste on poor cows, poor wasteful methods, and all that. Do such men really understand what they are about?

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