

The 1916 Acre-Profit and Hog-Feeding Competitions

Eighty-Two Young Men Win Short Course at Guelph ---Yields Much Below Those of 1915

The unfavorable climatic conditions Gilbert Marshall, of Bruce County, had that prevailed during the crop growing season of 1916 in Ontario, as compared with that of 1915, is strongly reflected in the reports of the Acre Profit Competitions, conducted by the Ontario Department of Agriculture through its district representatives. In every department the yield per acre was much below that of the previous year, and the profits were likewise affected. Altogether 53 of these competitions were held, and in the highest secured over 30 tons an acre, counties in which more than eight contestants finished in the competition, two men are being sent to Guelph. The competitions are open to young men who have taken the four weeks' course in agriculture conducted by the district representatives. The prize is a short course in livestock and seed judging at the Ontario Agricultural College, lasting from Jan. 9 to Jan. 20, transportation to Guelph and return and board and lodging while there, being also defrayed. Fifty-seven winners in these competitions have won this prize, as compared with 67 for the previous year.

As in 1915, the cost of operations was figured at \$5 an acre for the rented land, \$2 for plowing, 15 cents an hour for man, and 10 cents an hour for horse labor.

Oats.
The most notable feature is the great reduction in yield, as compared with that of 1915. In that year 37 contestants produced over 90 bushels an acre, and one secured 100 bushels. This year only two secured yields of 60 bushels an acre or over. It is significant that two of the young men who secured the highest yields were within the first third of the list. Russell Warner, of Haldimand County, secured 60 bushels an acre of O. A. C. No. 72 oats, at a cost of production of \$11.57, yielding, at 50 cents a bushel, a profit of \$16.43. The land that produced them had been farmed for 100 years. Geo. R. Hill, of Hastings County, came second with a profit of \$15.93 on 58 bushels of Banner oats, produced at a cost of \$19.07, while Wilson Bell, of Simcoe County, secured a profit of \$14.93 on 64 bushels and 24 lbs. of O. A. C. No. 72 oats, the cost of production being \$17.42. O. A. C. No. 72 oats therefore stood highest both in yield per acre and in profit derived.

Potatoes.
Only two contestants secured yields of over 300 bushels an acre in 1916, as compared with four who secured over 400 bushels an acre in 1915. The young man standing highest both for yield and profit was Wm. S. Courin, of Middlesex County, whose profits, at \$1.00 a bushel, figured out to \$275.33 an acre on a yield of 230 bushels of Dooley potatoes, costing \$44.47 to produce. Napoleon Chemier, of Sudbury district, had profits amounting to \$246.46 on 295 bushels of Early Rose potatoes, costing \$38.55. Arthur Greese, of Lennox County, showed \$246.45 profit on 288 bushels, costing \$41.25. Fourth in order of profits made was Herbert C. Nixon, of Rainy River district. Though situated in New Ontario, the land growing these potatoes has been farmed for 25 years.

Mangels.
Of mangels, the highest yield and profits were secured by Jas. Moffatt, of Grey County, with 1,112 bushels, yielding a profit of \$139.03, and costing \$22.65. Harold Letts, Hamilton, had 999 bushels and 40 lbs., costing \$20.05, and yielding a profit of \$117.74.

Corn Silage.
The four of the nine contestants in the growing corn for silage secured yields of over 20 tons an acre, as compared with the previous year, when the four with the highest secured over 30 tons an acre. The highest yield this year was 29 3/4 tons, secured by Wesley B. Tudhope, Ontario. The acre cost was \$17.97; the profit \$78.22, and the variety, Bureka. The yield was some 10 tons less than the highest of the previous season. Wilbert Ford, of Halton County, cleared \$62.51 on 22 tons 880 lbs. of Big Croc, costing \$12.06. Albert E. Duchanan, Grey County, secured 24 tons, with a profit of \$22.85, and a district record of \$55.95. Wilbert Baird, Ontario County, grew 20.08 tons, costing \$16.63, and showing a profit of \$48.75.

In the seed corn section, the highest yield and highest profit were secured by Geo. Vernon Robinson, of Kent County, with 62.89 bushels of White Cap Dent, costing \$20.13 to produce, the profit being \$74.20, at \$1.60 a bushel. The yield was 90 bushels less than the highest of the previous season. Benner Porter, of Lambton County, the only other contestant, produced 9.5 bushels of Wisconsin No. 7, for \$18.60, and a profit of \$37.90.

Turnips.
Henry Oldfield, of Muskoka, headed the list in turnip production, and in profits shown, with 1,073 bushels of Purple Top Swedes, costing \$26.36 to produce, and showing a profit of \$37.90, secured at 14 cents a bushel. Joseph Hughes, of Thunder Bay and Wm. H. Trewin, of the same district, stood next in order, with 1,092 bushels and 800 bushels, costing \$37 and \$22.15 respectively, and yielding profits of \$115.88 and \$101.05 respectively. In barley, Stanley R. Browning, of Kenora district, secured a yield of 60 bushels, O. A. C. No. 21, costing \$16.48, yielding a profit of \$24.52, at a valuation of 80 cents a bushel. Donald F. McKenzie, also of Kenora, had 39 bushels and 17 lbs. of No. 21, costing \$13.37, the profit being \$17.63. Geo. B. Baker, of Dundas and West Toronto, was the only other competitor.

The price allowed for beans in the competitions was \$3.50 a bushel. With present prices prevailing allowed, Robert J. McDonogh, of Kent County, would have shown a much better profit than \$28.42. His yield was 12 1/3 bushels of Yellow Eyes, costing \$14.73. There were no other prizes won in this section.

Hugh M. Bowland, Lanark County, secured a prize on wheat, 29 bushels of Colorado being produced at a cost of \$16.98, and showing a profit of \$21.52. In peas, Earnest Norris, of Muskoka, secured 15 bushels and 6 lbs., at a cost of \$19.94, and yielding a profit of \$14.64.

The Hog Feeding Competition.
Thirty-two young men won the short course as a prize in the Feeding Hogs For Profit Competition. Twenty-six of the contestants were held during the season, and as in the case of the acre profit competition, the contestant must be one who has taken the short course in agriculture conducted by one of the district representatives. Where eight or more contestants finished...

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