

# FARM AND DAIRY

## AND RURAL HOME

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FARM AND DAIRY is published every Thursday. It is the official organ of the British Columbia, Manitoba, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District, Quebec, Dairywomen's Associations, and of the Canadian Holstein, Ayrshire, and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Associations.

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

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## FARM AND DAIRY

### PETERBORO, ONT.

### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS AT THE CANADIAN NATIONAL

Sir Wm. Mulock, in an address delivered at one of the Directors' Luncheons held during the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, warned the management of the Exhibition against overlooking the importance of the agricultural interests of the Exhibition. Attention was drawn to the fact that there is always a tendency with such Exhibitions for the control to become centered in a few hands. Sir William referred to the fact that the great dairy interests are not represented on the Board of Directors.

The warning is timely and should be heeded. The management of the Exhibition has done much to promote the agricultural interests of the country, and has it within its power to do much more. While the Exhibition this year was a great success in practically every particular, still there were numerous minor complaints that deserve immediate consideration if they are to be prevented from becoming more serious. It was a mistake

to take the exhibits of dairy machinery out of the dairy building and show them under the grand stand, and to replace them with honey and other exhibits, not relating to dairy. General dissatisfaction was caused by calling off the butter making demonstrations in the dairy building during the first week of the exhibition, in order that the dairy amphitheatre might be used for speech making. The exhibit of cheese and butter during the past two years has shown a great decline. This is only to be expected when the dairy interests are not represented on the Board of Directors.

Attention has already been drawn in Farm and Dairy to the manner in which the exhibits of dairy cattle were arranged. The Holstein cattle, for instance, were shown in three different buildings. It was a distinct disadvantage to the breed. Many people saw only one division of the Holsteins must have concluded that those they saw were all that were shown.

Last year the exhibitors of sheep petitioned the Board of Directors that sheep should be judged during the first week of the Exhibition. Apparently no attention was paid to this petition, as the judging this year did not take place until about the middle of the last week of the Exhibition. This is unsatisfactory, both to the exhibitors and to the sight seers. Numerous other complaints might be mentioned. These referred to should be sufficient to show the management of the Exhibition how necessary it is that careful attention should be given to the desires of the representatives of the agricultural and dairy interests, if their continued loyal support to the Exhibition is to be expected.

### SOMETHING TO LEARN ABOUT CORN

Corn is more widely grown this year than ever. Dairywomen and farmers generally have come to recognize in the corn plant, a cheap wholesome fodder, well suited to the dairy cow and to other coarse-fodder-consuming live stock generally. One need not travel far in these early days of autumn to discover the fact that many have much to learn as to proper methods of growing this great fodder crop.

In districts where corn, in large areas, is comparatively a new-come, we find it planted altogether too thickly. Rarely has there been enough space left between the rows to permit of cultivation through a sufficiently long period. More rarely still do we find corn planted at such a distance that good sized ears may form and reach maturity. While travelling through a considerable portion of the better dairy section of Peterboro County recently and particularly in the Norwood District, an editor of Farm and Dairy noted that with few exceptions, corn had been planted altogether too thickly. From two to three times too much seed, in some instances, had been planted.

The corn, while thick in the bottom had failed to reach more than two-thirds its normal height. Stalks were spindly and lacked that healthy, rank dark green color so noticeable in first-class corn. In addition to these defects, the corn, from being crowded

was poorly cared and so immature that in this climate it has not time to reach maturity before frost puts an end to its period of growth. Much loss will herein result. This corn, failing to mature and having but few ears, will be much inferior in feed-value to that properly grown and fully matured.

### INTEREST ARISTOCRACY IN STOCK

There was a time in the history of our fairs when all took an interest in the live stock. It cannot be said that they do to-day. At the Ottawa fair last week, particularly on the former days of the exhibition, there was a notable lack of interest evinced in these departments by the sight-seeing public.

Much of the prominence and wonderful advancement of stock-raising in the Old Land is due to the fact that all are interested in stock. The English people are born stockmen. The wealthy classes all go in for stock. It is fashionable. Even the King himself is a stockman. The encouragement that is given to live stock breeding through the English aristocracy being so largely interested in it, is inestimable. Fancy what encouragement a breeder at a fair would receive by having the King visit his pens and exclaim: "What fine sheep," "What splendid cattle."

Such encouragement given by our city people, not to mention the farmers themselves, who too often are side-tracked by the special attractions at our fairs, would give our live stock industry a great impetus.

### HORSES FOR FARM WORK

The general purpose horse has become so popular as an all round useful animal for farm work that the heavy horse has in many instances been ousted from his old time place. The tendency seems to be to get horses even lighter than what is properly classed as a general purpose horse. Various reasons may be ascribed for these prevailing conditions. Probably the one most accountable is that heavy horses have been in great demand and since they command high prices they have been sold. The general purpose and light stock, not enjoying a similar demand, have been kept for farm service.

The general purpose horse and representatives of light breeds as well, have much to commend them. When, however, it comes to the heavy work of plowing or hauling the binder or other heavy machinery, these light horses are ill-fitted to meet the demands made upon them. Not long since, an editor of Farm and Dairy had this matter forced on his attention through seeing three comparatively light horses working on a binder, in which instance to operate the machine it required the services of a boy and a man, the former being employed in chasing the motive power and administering merciless whacks with a large pole in order that these ill-adapted horses might be enabled to haul the binder at the speed demanded by their owner.

This particular incident would have justified action being taken on the part of the humane authorities. The

farmer little realized just how his outfit and his means of driving it appeared to the outside observer. But, be this as it may, the incident is a sign of the times and is but one of the many indications pointing to the fact that we are going in too much for the lighter horses and to our loss sacrificing the services of heavier horses, which on the average farm will prove much more profitable and will command a ready sale whenever such is desired.

### CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SOW THISTLE

It is a source of much satisfaction to note that the general public is becoming aroused on the sow thistle question. There is possibly no greater enemy of the farmer than the sow thistle. Its ravages are enormous, as one may judge from the discussion on this subject that has been carried on in Farm and Dairy in late months. Any campaign having for its object the lessening of growth or ultimate extermination of the weed, would mean added wealth to the country. In this connection it is gratifying to note that one of the great city dailies, namely The Toronto World, has interested itself in this question.

The World says editorially in a recent issue: "Did you ever hear of the sow thistle or swine thistle? If you are a farmer, or the friend of the farmer, you have of course heard of the sow thistle, for you will know it is the most menacing weed the Ontario farmer has to face. It and its ravages cause alarming talk on the farms."

"The World proposes beginning right now to alarm the members of the Ontario Cabinet, the members of the Legislature, the members of the municipal councils, and all others supposed to have the welfare of our farms and farmers at heart. No greater menace to the value of the agricultural lands in Ontario exists than that of the sow thistle. What is the minister of agriculture doing against it? What is your member accomplishing to rid Ontario of this rapacious weed?"

The editorial concludes: "Death to the sow thistle is the slogan." With the additional aid of the great city dailies, our farmers should speedily get some decisive action taken by the Legislature along the lines that have been suggested by Farm and Dairy.

One of the most practical and efficient methods of preserving the corn on top of the silo is to use a covering of chaff, cut straw, or better still, alkali clover chaff, and have this wet with a barrel of water in which has been dissolved ten quarts or more of salt. This method is recommended by Mr. Henry Glendinning, of Manilla, Ont., and has given satisfaction wherever tried.

Photographs of farm buildings, farm houses, farm machinery in operation, as well as photos illustrating handy devices, farm conveniences, rural scenes and others of a nature suitable for illustration purposes in Farm and Dairy are always welcome. Keep your district well represented and to the front by keeping our edi-

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