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Agricultural Legislation of the Session

The last session of the eleventh Parliament of Ontario, which terminated recently was not very fruitful in legislation affecting the farmer.

The legislation of the past session, in the way of protecting the farmer's interests, is very meagre. The rural residents had a right to expect more stringent regulation of the automobile than the session has brought forth. The act regulating the speed and operation of motor vehicles on highways, a synopsis of which was given in a recent issue, does not improve the situation very much. The licensing of chauffeurs and compelling the driver of a motor car, when necessary to stop both the car and the machinery which operates it, are very good as far as they go. But these regulations give no guarantee that the reckless chauffeur, who drives through the country at break-neck speed, will cease to do so. He is the greatest offender of all, and any legislation that is not effective in bringing him to time, will be non-effective in preserving country roads for the use of the people who build and maintain them—the farmers.

When it comes to protecting other citizens from the dishonest practices of some farmers, our legislators are not so dilatory. In taking this view there is no desire, on our part, to condone dishonesty in any form, but merely to point out how easy it is to get legislation of this kind enacted, as compared with legislation looking to the preservation of the farmers' interests. The automobile legislation is one case in point. The act regulating the worrying of sheep by dogs is another. A very good bill, dealing with this latter question was introduced by a private member, but was not allowed to become law. The main provisions of this bill were given in The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World. What it might have been improved on somewhat, this bill provided for some amendments to the sheep and dog law, that would have made it more effective in abating the dog nuisance. Yet it was not allowed to become law.

DAIRY LEGISLATION

The most important legislation relating to agriculture, was the Milk, Cheese and Butter Act, introduced during the closing days of the session. Its main provisions are given elsewhere. It should prove most effective in preventing fraud in supplying milk to cheese factories and creameries, and also to be consumed in towns and cities. It takes the place of the old act and is comprised of the main features of that act with the amendments as outlined. Its application to milk sold in cities, towns and villages provides that unless sold as "skimmed milk," a person selling milk from which the butter-fat or cream has been removed is liable to the penalties of the act.

Three acts were passed relating to agricultural and horticultural societies. The act to amend the horticultural societies act carried out the suggestions made for its improvement by horticultural societies. An amendment to the act governing horticultural societies provided for the organization of horticultural societies. An amendment to the agricultural societies act provides for an additional expenditure of \$7,000 a year for spring shows and field competitions. Form-

erly the amount to be expended on these societies was limited to \$70,000 annually. There is a minor amendment to the act to prevent the spread of noxious weeds which makes it more effective.

LOCAL TELEPHONES

Other acts of interest to farmers are those relating to public highways and municipal telephones. The former amends the act for the improvement of public highways by making it necessary to have a two-thirds vote of any county council, said vote to represent, at least, one-half the assessed value of the county, before the government road improvement scheme can be adopted. The act respecting local municipal telephone systems, enables township committees to establish local telephones on a plan somewhat similar to the street improvement plan in force in cities and towns.

In addition to amendments and new legislation, increased grants provide for new and more extended operations for several branches of agriculture. The grant of \$7,000 for forestry, will be devoted to experimental work in planting trees on waste lands in older Ontario. If successful, the work will be extended until all waste lands in the older parts of the country will be reforested. Several appropriations were made, as noted in previous issues, for increasing the facilities of the Ontario Agricultural College, and other branches of agricultural educational work. A \$20,000 grant is for additional accommodation for the Winter Fair at Guelph. This, we understand, will be used to erect a building to the north of the present building and a sufficient distance from it to admit light to both structures.

Care of Horses' Teeth

John A. Johnston, D. V. D., Simcoe Co., Ont.

Veterinary dentistry is being practised more than ever before. Nevertheless many farmers and others neglect having their horses' mouths examined, and when their horse begins to lose flesh they attribute it to everything but the real cause. In nine cases out of ten they get rid of the horse thus afflicted.

If the horse falls into the hands of a man who understands his case, he will immediately have his teeth examined and the trouble rectified, if possible. In most cases a cure is readily effected.

Farmers will do well to have a qualified veterinary dentist examine their horses' mouths, at least once a year, as very often in a year's time, especially in old horses, the teeth become worn so as to show sharp edges. These cut the tongue and cheeks. This causes a falling off in condition, which is often mistaken for the symptoms of some other ailment.

Less Clovering This Year

Less than 40 years, so a seedman told us the other day, has red clover seed sold for the price it is this spring. At \$15 a bushel, its use is largely prohibited, though we believe it will pay farmers to sow it even at this figure, rather than allow their farms to go without the necessary seeding to clover. But farmers are not buying, only in limited quantities, and the area sown this season will be small. Especially is the true of Eastern Ontario and Quebec. Many farmers in those sections are not in a position to buy at the price it is now selling at, and consequently very little will be sown.

But red clover is not the only seed that is high in price. Alsike, alfalfa and timothy sell at a high figure. One large Toronto seed firm informed us the other day that they had handled this season as much alsike as had been sown in the United States last

