

HORTICULTURE.

A Home-made Sprayer.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

to it, and they do well and it is not much trouble. When whey is sterilized at the proper temperature and the tanks cleaned out every day and taken proper care of when taken home, it makes very good feed for calves about two months old. We pay our cheese maker 75 cents per ton of cheese for sterilizing the whey, and we believe it is worth it if the tanks are cleaned out every day and kept covered. Some put chop or bran in the calves' drink, whether it be milk, sterilized whey or hay tea. I think that this is not a good plan. I believe that it is better to teach the calf to eat the chop and bran dry, so that it will chew it. All changes in the feeding of calves should be introduced gradually, never change suddenly from one feed to another.

I think that the farmers in our district are getting about double the returns from the cheese factory that they were forty years ago. Of course the price of cheese is higher, but the principal reasons for the great increase are the great improvement in the breeding of the cows and in the feeding. The majority now have silos, and are able to feed the cows in a way that they could not do thirty years ago. Quite a number of our patrons have made from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per acre off their cows for the year 1914, and one farmer and his son, off a 50-acre farm, got almost \$650 from milk. I might mention that he bought tags for his cows and pastured them mostly on the road. And then we must not forget to count in the sterilized whey which enables the farmer to take in very nearly as much for his pigs as for his milk. And then also figure on the amount of valuable manure that the pigs make. If properly managed it is the best. And we must feed the land if we are to make a success of farming.

Don't keep poor cows, they are thieves and robbers. Buy two or three real good cows and a pure-bred bull of good milking strain. Raise all the heifer calves, and when they come to be cows keep the best and dispose of any that prove inferior. Have a good silo, or better still, two smaller ones. Keep all the cows possible. If you draw your own milk to the factory it costs no more to take 500 lbs. a day than it does to take 250 lbs. If all the farms in the Province of Ontario were worked up to their full productiveness we could raise about 40 per cent. more than we do.

Oxford Co., Ont.

DAVID LAWRENCE.

Profitable Producers.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I thought your readers might be interested in a short account of what my herd of thirty-eight cows made me in 1914. The herd consists of Ayrshires and Ayrshire grads. Including milk sent to the factory, cream shipped, and butter made, but not counting the milk used for family (which was from three to five quarts daily) and an additional family for six months, also supplying a large camp ground with from one hundred to one hundred and fifty pints per day for eight days, and an occasional quart or two to a couple other families residing nearby and besides considerable feed to young calves. The net amount of money taken, not including all this used for other purposes was for the year, \$2,953.74, or an average of \$77.73 per cow for year.

This herd is composed of twenty-eight cows, five three-year-old heifers, four two-year-olds and one farrow. Their feed ration after going on grass consisted of one quart ground oats, bran, oil cake meal, and gluten feed mixed twice a day, night and morning until they were put in stable in the fall.

Leeds Co., Ont.

ANDREW HENDERSON.

POULTRY.

Another Cure for Blackhead.

A correspondent in Elgin Co., Ont., sends the following on Blackhead in turkeys, which we pass on for what it is worth:

"Having found something which has proved more successful than muriatic acid in curing blackhead in turkeys, I will pass it on to other readers. Take a tablespoonful of castor oil and add 9 or 10 drops of turpentine; give to the diseased bird once a day, for about a week or until the bird shows signs of recovery. It can be given by warming and pouring into the bird's mouth, but I find it more easily given by mixing with dry bran and forming into pills. This dose is for a grown bird. For young birds the dose would have to be lessened. This treatment has proved successful even when given after the disease has reached an advanced stage."

John B. Leonard, Ottawa, and Alfred Eastham, Cambridge, have been appointed official seed analysts for the Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

and educative factors in country life, the place of women and the religious factors affecting rural welfare and contentment. Discussion from anyone with any experience relating to the point was invited and freely taken advantage of.

E. C. Drury, of Crown Hill, opened the conference with a speech, "Attractions and Repulsions of Farm Life as I Know It." In Mr. Drury's experience farm life was intensely interesting in many ways: The actual dealing with plant and animal life, the creation of things by our own brain and muscle, and the appreciation of natural surroundings and natural beauty are all sources of pleasure to him. Mr. Drury finds joy in healthy, physical labor, and in the simplicity of rural social life. This latter factor, however, did not appeal so highly to some of the speakers following. Mr. Drury was, however, forced to admit that there was something radically wrong with the rural situation to send boys and girls away from the farm, and the rural problem he claims is the biggest thing, next to the war, that faces the Province and the Dominion. He cited as some of the disadvantages of farm life, the lack of leisure to think and talk and for healthful recreation; the actual strenuousness of the life of the farmer and his family measured in hours and hardness of work; the lack of social intercourse, slightly improved upon since the advent of the rural phone; the lack of educated leadership in rural communities; the failure of the rural school system to give any stimulus to education for oneself, and hence the failure of the farming population to develop and hold its own as the nation grew; the lack of conveniences of life, and the inadequate profit derived from farm labor. In Mr. Drury's opinion, the place of the agricultural college graduate is back on the farm.

The discussion of the economic questions emphasized the need of easier rural credit systems and more co-operation, the adoption of a system of taxation on land rather than on improvements and a lower tariff on farm machinery. W. J. Bell, a senior student at the College presented his views on the labor question, based on some years personal experience as a "hired man." The prosperous, progressive, systematic farmer, said Mr. Bell, has no labor problem. It is the opposite kind, the poor farmer who is handicapped by lack of capital, who can not or will not pay sufficient wages for a competent man, who works his men long hours, it is this farmer who worries over his help problem. From the hired man's viewpoint, the speaker advised keeping him all the year round, securing a comfortable house for married help, giving him a little recreation and treating him like a man, and there would be no complaint that farm work was drudgery.

The rural school system came in for some severe handling from several speakers, both ex-teachers and farmers' sons. Other agencies are doing more to discover the boy than day schools, notably short courses by District Representatives, School Fairs and School Clubs. It was agreed with Mr. Drury that farmers have failed to advance and organize with other interests and workers of the country, such as the manufacturers, and one great cause of this was the lack of rural education. The good must be accomplished through the present generation of boys and girls, said one speaker quoting from Hon. Duncan Marshall, of Alberta. At present our city and country schools have the same curriculum. High Schools and Collegiate Institutes have courses leading primarily to entrance to the University. Insofar as the teaching of agriculture goes, one good demonstration by a District Representative is of as much practical use as many times the number of hours teaching. The rural school teachers have no earthly paradise, judging by remarks made. The low salaries paid to men, the lack of social life, the numerous changes of location, and the badgering from trustees all make the work more or less distasteful in many instances.

The social side of rural life received considerable attention, and the gist of the matter appears to be that while social life is absent or practically so in a large number of localities, it is largely a question of energetic leadership to make the farm quite as attractive in this respect to the boys and girls as life in the city. The presence of numerous church denominations in one small community was more or less instrumental in dividing the people into smaller and smaller groups. Instead of being an active aid in making the leisure time of both young people and adults enjoyable and promoting social intercourse the effect was more to separate them, a tendency which was deplored.

Mrs. Brethour, of Burford, in the opening speech on "The Place of Women in Rural Life," expatiated on the undoubted advantages which farm life possessed for girls. Mrs. Brethour's grandfather and father were farmers, and in her opinion the girls of today enjoyed numerous blessings not vouchsafed to the girls of the previous generation. However, notwithstanding this, there is a definite drift cityward, and several girl students from Macdonald Institute gave the rea-

FARM BULLETIN.

A Rural Life Conference on the Rural Problem.

The Conference on Rural Life and Work, held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, from Friday, January, 29 to Sunday, January, 31 was the first of its kind held in Ontario, but judging by the success in point of interest, attendance and ideas, it should not be the last. The numerous speakers had been warned that facts and not theories were to be presented and for the most part observed the warning, and related their own personal observations and experiences in rural Ontario. The convention was promoted by the College Y. M. C. A.

The discussion was conveniently divided into several phases, the economic question, the social