

## C.S.G.A. Amends Regulations Seed Grain May Now be Registered by Non-Mem- bers--Central Warehouses Approved

**A**n important change in the regulations regarding the registration of seed, under the rules of the C.S.G.A., was made at the annual meeting held in Ottawa, late in September. The regulations as amended permit any grain grower, whether he is a member of the C.S.G.A. or not, to purchase first or second generation registered seed and have the immediate progeny registered. It will be necessary, of course, to have the proper inspection made both of the growing crop and of the threshed seed, and the seed must come up to the standards that have been required for registered seed. Heretofore, seed growers have been required to become members of the association and to produce their own Elite Stock Seed before they could have any seed recognized officially as registered seed.

The production of Elite Stock Seed entails, of course, hand selection. In the case of wheat, barley and oats, for instance, it is necessary to secure a quantity of Elite Stock Seed or First Generation Registered Seed of the variety to be grown. Enough of this must be secured to sow a seed plot of not less than one quarter of an acre in size. At least 25 or 30 pounds of heads, uniform in character, are then selected by hand either from the standing crop on this plot when perfectly matured, or from the sheaf before threshing. The selected heads are then threshed by hand and the seed available cleaned by hand so that a pure uniform sample is available for sowing the next year's seed plot. The progeny of the hand selected seed can then be registered as Elite Stock Seed. Seed which is one generation, two generations or three generations descended from Elite Stock Seed may be recorded as registered seed. Before this could be registered under the old regulations, however, its grower had to be a producer of Elite Stock Seed and a member of the C.S.G.A. This restriction, it was found, resulted in curtailing the quantity of registered seed available to the trade each year. Hence the new regulation which allows for the registration of first, second or third generation seed by non-members without the restriction of having to become growers of Elite Stock Seed. It is believed that the new arrangement will increase the quantity of registered seed enormously, will encourage a greater interest in the matter of improved seed and will provide a wider market for those growers who operate seed plots and produce Elite Stock Seed.

### Central Cleaning Stations Needed

It was recognized at the meeting, however, that the greater production of registered seed resulting from the amended regulations, will render more imperative than ever the existence of a central cleaning plant and agencies for handling and distributing registered seed in a larger way. It is on account of this fact that during the past year the Canadian Seed Growers' Association has taken important steps in encouraging the organization in each of

the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan of a co-operative seed association, patterned somewhat after the Co-operative Seed Society in the province of Quebec. This society, the operations of which have been fully outlined in The Guide, has its headquarters at St. Rosalie, P.Q., where it has a commodious warehouse equipped with up-to-date cleaning and grading machinery. Here registered seed and other good seed grown in the province is assembled, re-cleaned and graded when necessary.

This society, known as the Co-operative Society of Seed Producers, was established in 1914. At the last meeting of the Manitoba branch of the C.S.G.A., it was reported to have 437 members who had purchased 4,370 ten-dollar shares, and contributed a paid-up capital of over \$12,000. It has a \$15,000 building, with \$5,000 worth of cleaning machinery installed, and is under the personal supervision of a paid manager. It is handling practically all the registered seed produced in Quebec, besides bringing hundreds of bushels of registered seed from other provinces. A man can, if he wishes, have his seed cleaned and returned to him or sold as his particular seed.

The report of a board of directors emphasized the need of such an organization in every province, and showed that steps had already been taken to encourage the taking of provincial action along these lines in two of the western provinces.

It was pointed out at the meeting in Ottawa that very considerable quantities of registered seed, both from experimental stations and from members of the association were being sold throughout the Dominion to farmers who, through lack of any special encouragement, did not put forth any particular effort to maintain the purity and high quality of these stocks. This naturally resulted in a rapid deterioration of this seed, and in a comparatively small quantity being conserved for seeding purposes.

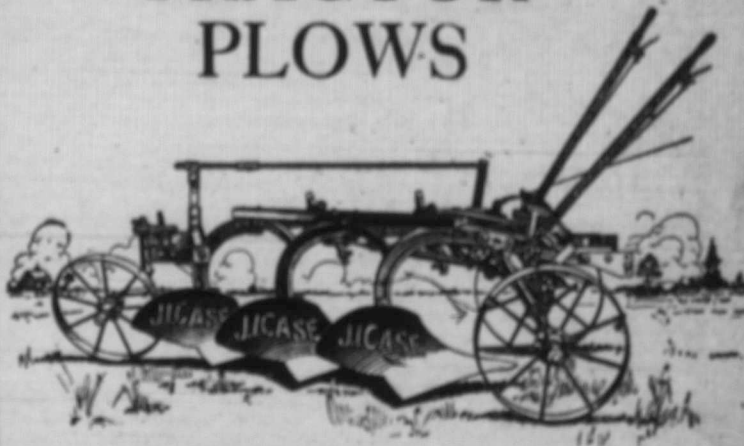
### C.S.G.A.'s Substantial Progress

The reports of the board of directors and of the secretary showed that in spite of war conditions substantial progress had been made. During the year 1917 growers had operated seed plots and had made careful selections of plants from which to obtain seed for the following year's propagation. Applications for membership to the number of 156 had been received during the year, while 65 applicants were admitted to full membership. There are now 393 members in full standing and 1,018 applicants for membership, making a total of 1,411 affiliated with the association. These growers are distributed throughout all the provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The report indicated a greater appreciation of the value of systematic seed selection and propagation on the part of the average farmer. A number of very gratifying letters from purchasers of registered seed were presented.

The officers for the ensuing year are

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