

INTERESTING AGRICULTURAL FEATURES FOR OUR COUNTRY READERS

GENERAL

POTATO CULTURE

Summary of Investigations at Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Although the potato is a very important food product of Canada, the methods of culture can be much improved. The potato succeeds well in Canada almost everywhere where the season is long enough for the tubers to develop before the tops are killed by frost.

There is no farm crop the yield of which can be increased so much by one season's work as the potato. Potatoes have been grown at the rate of over 700 bushels per acre in small plots at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The average yield was found to be an increase of 40 bushels per acre in a crop of potatoes cultivated six times over those cultivated three times.

Level cultivation will sometimes give better results than ridging, and vice versa. Where the soil is stiff, ridging is advised. Where the soil is loose and liable to suffer from drought in a dry time, level culture is recommended.

Mulching with straw is too expensive and results do not justify its use. Potatoes can be forced by some days by spraying the potatoes before planting. The crop of marketable potatoes can be almost doubled by having three weeks' growth in September.

Potatoes should be protected from insects and diseases as the yield will be in proportion to the leaves uninjured. The Colorado potato beetle and cucumber beetle are the most injurious insects.

The Colorado potato beetle and cucumber beetle are the most injurious insects. The former can be killed by using Paris green or arsenate of lead, and the latter can be prevented from doing injury by Bordeaux mixture and Paris green or arsenate of lead.

The principal diseases affecting the potato are early and late blight, potato scab, and the potato rot. The two former can be prevented by spraying thoroughly with Bordeaux mixture, beginning before the disease appears and keeping the vines covered.

Some of the most productive varieties grown at the Central Farm for five years are: No. 1, Gold Coin, Late Puritan, Empire State, Ashleaf, Kidney, Rochester Rose, Sharp's Victor, Dewey, Early Hero, Holbrook, and the new variety, Early Hero.

The six most productive early varieties for five years are: Rochester Rose, Extra Early Hero, Revue, Irish Cobble, Vick's Extra Early, Crane's Lightning, and the new variety, Early Hero.

Some of the earliest varieties are: Early Hero, New Early, Boreas, Boreas Extra Early, Burpee's Extra Early, Early Trumbull, Bliss Triumph, Early Ohio, Rochester Rose, Boreas.

Some productive varieties most free from blight are: King Edward, Dalmeny Beauty, Factor, Hard-to-Best, Highlander, Duchesne of Cornwall.

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through the regular dairy supply houses, and it is quite practicable for a farmer to have his own herd of cows. There was found to be 6,000 pounds of milk, 250 pounds of butter yearly.

The only sure guide in selection and improvement are records of milk production, and hundreds of farmers finding them of extraordinary value have earnestly taken up the work.

Records of dairy cows are always of interest, not only to the owner who is anxious to increase the yield, but also to neighboring dairymen who desire some standard whereby to check the production of their cows.

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COW TESTING

RECORDS OF DAIRY COWS

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DAIRY BUTTER

SCOTCH FARMER'S BUTTER

A Scotch farmer, who has made a study of dairy conditions in Denmark, has written the following as the chief reasons why Danish butter is uniform and good: 1. The cows receive roots and winter and the butter is soft and not hard.

The milk when it comes into the dairy must be pasteurized to 185 degrees F. and by this means turnips and other food crops are destroyed.

The cream is collected to about 64 degrees F. and a starter of lactic acid used. The cream is only kept for 24 hours.

The butter is kept for two days before use; the paper is washed off and the butter is then washed with water.

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STOCK

THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS

Owners of This Breed Offered Aid by Dominion Department. During recent years many appeals have been made to the Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture, by horsemen anxious to bring about an improvement in the quality of our light horse stock.

Recognizing the force of these appeals as well as the importance of the subject, Mr. Fisher has decided to grant assistance to certain specified conditions to persons maintaining Thoroughbred stallions for service in the various provinces.

In deciding upon this step the minister has been largely influenced by the fact that while stallions of other recognized breeds, when in capable hands, are a valuable asset to the industry, the case with regard to the Thoroughbred, the advantages of breeding to horses of

While every owner of live stock knows that salt is a necessity for the well being of their animals, yet it often occurs, especially during the busy season, that it is neglected.

The rapidity of the deaths in this flock necessitates very prompt treatment. The first step, as in almost any other trouble, was the isolation of the affected fowls from the rest of the flock and the destruction of all droppings known to contain the germ.

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POULTRY

THE HOT-WEATHER LAYERS

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BATTLESHIP MAINE

WAS DESTROYED BY INWARD EXPLOSION

Washington, D.C., July 6.—The loss of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor was caused by the explosion of three magazines. No such effect as that produced upon the vessel could have been caused by an explosion from within.

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found that the fact was that the labor cost for locomotives on the same routes was three and one-half times greater in the Japanese shops than in the American shops.

What becomes of the "yellow peril?" Mr. Redfield told about an experience of one of his agents in Calcutta, India. "Do you see these shoes," said Mr. Redfield, "I paid \$3.85 for these shoes. "Why that is an American shoe," said Mr. Redfield. "Yes," answered the agent, "I bought it here. It is the regular American \$3.00 shoe. I wore them from New York and went into the store on Broadway, where they are sold, and asked what the price was there, and was told it was their regular \$3.00 shoe."

Albert County People Want Bridge Erected. Are Drawing Local Government's Attention to Needed Improvements at Chapman Creek.

Hopewell Hill, July 8.—Next week promises to be pretty full of attractions for the pleasure seekers. On Monday the steamer Wilfred G. will run an excursion to Moncton and on Wednesday the Orangeton will celebrate the "Glorious Twelfth" at Edgett's Landing. The Wilfred G. is chartered by the Orangeton to carry excursionists from Shepody River points. On Tuesday, the 11th inst., the Roman Catholics will have a big picnic at Riverview, an excursion being run from the Joggins by steamer Harbinger. In the evening St. Rose's dramatic society will give a play in Oulton hall, Albert.

Mrs. Ward, formerly Miss Maud Ayer, a home from the west on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ayer, Hopewell Cape.

Douglas Nichol, of Moncton, is quite ill at Albert, where he and his wife have been visiting. His condition, which was at first very critical, is somewhat improved.

Dorchester folk enjoyed a picnic on Thursday at Grandisford, making the trip down in Mr. Cole's motor. Benickers from Harvey also spent the day on the island. Last night the Wilfred G. was to make an excursion to Riverview and Moncton, there is a large amount of travel, and a level crossing, either a bridge or embankment is one of the crying needs of the country.

A petition is being signed in this section of Albert county asking the local government to erect a bridge over the Chapman Creek, near Riverside, where the worst of the worst of the great road in the county cause great trouble to all who have occasion to travel or team over them. Located on the through from Brookfield to Albert, and Riverview, and Moncton, there is a large amount of travel, and a level crossing, either a bridge or embankment is one of the crying needs of the country.

Heavy manuring with barnyard manure is not recommended, but the use of a moderate quantity is advised applied on the clover in the autumn. If used in the spring the manure should be well rotted. Chemical fertilizers, if used, should be applied at the rate of 500 to 800 pounds or more per acre in the proportion of 250 pounds nitrate of soda, 300 pounds superphosphate, and 100 pounds sulphate of potash.

The soil should be very thoroughly prepared; the better the preparation, the better the crop. The best time to plant varies; it depends largely on the condition of the ground and spring frosts. As a rule, the best time is when it is possible after danger from frost is past.

Sets should be cut from medium or large potatoes and planted and covered on a straight road along down to Riverview and Hopewell Hill, making a straight and level route. A straight road will in a similar way between Riverview and Albert prove a great success.

REXTON NEWS. Rexton, N. B., July 8.—The remains of William Brooks were brought here yesterday from Greyton (N. H.), and interred in the Union cemetery at Richibucto, after the service was held in the Church of England, Richibucto, by Rev. F. W. M. Bacon.

The crops throughout the country are looking splendidly on account of the favorable weather. Even the hay crop will be good, although a short time ago it gave promise of being light.

Misses Mary Chubb, Annie McInerney, Ellen Walsh, Nellie Edward and others returned yesterday from St. Anne's Beaupre, after having enjoyed the pilgrimage immensely.

Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Simpson returned yesterday from their wedding tour and will spend a few more days in the city before their home in Montreal. They were rested to the regular charivari.

Turn the gloves wrong side out, press the seat together and coat the edges with automobile gum. Cover with a piece of adhesive plaster. When dry the gloves may be turned and will be found as good as new.

Walt Philosopher. A good and satisfying breakfast is "Tut, tut! Your breakfast—excellent! Men had morning—I said, when I had oiled lived on bread and wholesome to eat excelsior. Their grists in ground and paid the bill; and they never filled their stomachs for their seeds; they reared up feed them, day by day, on—or—the stuff put up by health talk excelsior. We're guilty of talk of stringent times, and at chumps, we always buy excelsior rocks; want no sawdust in a glue, and you won't see your

WALT MASON

kept it up. Reciprocity was the thing most desired, he said. They were for it, first, last, and all the time, and they did not care whether the government which gave it to them was Grit or Tory. On reciprocity the farmers had sunk their all. To give it would do away with the tax on severing per cent. which was the worst he was suffering from. The farmers had been plundered in Ottawa, called blacksmith politicians and their wives "school boys," but they had paid a hundred cents on the dollar for all they owned, and more than that for such which they did not own. He believed that the government would mean money, not only for the western farmers, but for the whole of Canada. A general election this fall would be an injustice to the west, for there was absolutely no need of it.

Geed and Graft Magnates. John Evans, the chairman of the evening, spoke briefly but succinctly. He thought many newspapers were tied to the protection interest, and that the "school boys" and graft magnates were the real danger to the west. He thought the west was being plundered in Ottawa, called blacksmith politicians and their wives "school boys," but they had paid a hundred cents on the dollar for all they owned, and more than that for such which they did not own. He believed that the government would mean money, not only for the western farmers, but for the whole of Canada. A general election this fall would be an injustice to the west, for there was absolutely no need of it.

NOT A CONVICTED FREE-TRADER. The farmers were willing to make up the loss in revenue out of direct taxation, but they objected to being heavily fined for the protection of infants thirty years old. It had been said that the pact would kill Chamberlain's fiscal policy, and that the west would be ruined. They did not ask that their brothers in England should be bled for their benefit. So far as the mandate was concerned, they were not in the least bit interested. They were not in the least bit interested in the fact that he is the probable Conservative candidate for the local house at the next election, and that many of the men who rigorously applied the demand for reciprocity were of the same political faith. Once again Mr. Borden flatly refused to have anything to do with the agreement, and the farmers cheered him for it. How they will vote is not hard to guess.

HAULTAIN WAS WISE. Mr. Haultain has very evidently strengthened his position enormously by open avowal of the same attitude as the farmers showed. The assembled farmers knew, of course, of Mr. Borden's stand against reciprocity, and had no hope of convincing him to their point of view. So they couched their demands as vigorously as possible, and showed him

the story that farmers inevitably fight among themselves is completely untrue. Mr. Borden's attitude is completely untrue. Mr. Borden's attitude is completely untrue. Mr. Borden's attitude is completely untrue.

Mr. Borden got a fine reception when he began the five-minute speech, which was the only time he had before the regular meeting. "If you had sixty per cent. of the votes of Canada in your right hand and offered them to me as the price of the Canada tariff of this agreement, I would not accept," he declared, and they cheered him for his frankness.

He barely touched his arguments, promising to amplify them later. He had met western farmers who were opposed to the pact. "There is one in a hundred," a voice declared. "There was a big meeting at night, and Mr. Borden got enough warmth out of his reception to compensate him for the death by chill of the earlier meeting. The only addition which he made to his stereotyped speech was a plea for imperial preference, with the hope that the Canada tariff would force Great Britain into it. His protests against reciprocity were given a good hearing, and there was no interruption.

HUGH CLARK'S STORIES. Colonel Hugh Clark, who has been campaigning in Manitoba, joined the party here, and was welcomed with a couple of good stories. The afternoon meeting at Routham was interrupted by the fact that the funeral of Mayor MacGregor was held immediately after it closed. The meeting was hurried to enable Mr. Borden to attend the service.

Mr. Borden, it was stated, said that if any people in Canada wanted to see their leader it was the Conservatives of Routham. They were up against it hard, but there would never be a Grit scolding there. "After each fight we come up like the bullfighter, looking for more," he said. "After each fight we come up like the bullfighter, looking for more," he said. "After each fight we come up like the bullfighter, looking for more," he said.

CRITICIZED MR. FIELDING. Mr. Evans proceeded to hand one to the government, when he criticized Mr. Fielding's guarantee that the Conservative tariff would not be interfered with further, and he felt that the failure to institute a clause and to force reciprocity through the Manufacturers' Association, a guarantee of thirty-five millions to the Mackenzie & Mann interests had been freely given. That showed whose will was to be done. Another transcontinental was not needed. The eastern outlet was at the door. Would Mr. Borden increase the

DAIRY TESTING DAIRY COWS. Recording Yields, Cost of Feeding, and Line of Breeding is Important. Testing dairy cows means much more than a report of economy and profit, and it is well that the immigrant or newcomer into the province, or at least the uninformed, whoever they may be, should be acquainted with the principle and its method. But it can only be slightly dealt with here. In the first place the individual cow should be closely watched. Her milk should be carefully weighed and tested and recorded at least three days out of every month, and often, if possible, in order to estimate the total yield of milk and fat, and to discover disease and effects in milk production accurately. This should be done, not by its and starts and briefly, but persisted in from year to year to get a just appreciation of individual merits. The outfit for testing (the Babcock test, the weight scales and the record sheet) can be had

British preference, or would he institute a tariff concession, a thing which they considered of little use. He concluded by urging that Mr. Borden allow the pact to pass without forcing dissolution and election. Wm. Lawrence spoke at some length on the grain situation, and Wm. Horden demanded that reciprocity be given a final trial. He stated the number of cows, and the result of being struck with a falling derick. With a number of other seafarers he was engaged piloting stone off a truck. One stone which was larger than that of other hitherto lifted by the derick was being hoisted into place when the back gear snapped from the excessive weight with the result that the derick with all its gear came tumbling down. Dalziel saw it coming and tried to dodge

to one side, but was not quick enough to elude the heavy mast, the top end of which struck with full force on the side of his head, rendering him unconscious. An examination showed that his neck was dislocated. He lived one hour.

STORM DID MUCH DAMAGE. During the thunder storm of Thursday evening lightning struck the house of Frank Charlton at South Bay, but did little damage. The barn was also struck. At Millidgeville, two dericks riding at their moorings were upset. A tree in Riverview Park, Douglas avenue, was blown down in the storm, and was one near the Y. M. C. A. grounds. The loss to the lessees of the Shamrock grounds through Thursday night's storm was estimated at about \$500. Although it was considered that the large signs which had been erected about the fence were soundly secured, it was found that they were not sufficiently so, and seven of them were blown down along with 200 feet of fencing.

To dry-clean a white coat lay the coat on a table and cover it with a mixture of powdered borax and French chalk. Leave it for half an hour or so, then take a dry brush and rub it well all over. Let it lie twenty-four hours, then shake and brush it well, when it will probably look quite fresh.

corn is fed in the litter so the hens must scratch for part of it. We feed all that will eat. The other things are all mixed together in quantity in a bin where the feed is available when needed. This material is kept where the hens have access to it at all times, in boxes about a foot deep which is fitted with loose rack with 1-2 inch spaces, to lay loosely on the feed to keep the fowls from scratching in it. This box is ahead of any hopper I have ever seen, and it saves a good many. I like to see the hens spend most of the day contentedly resting in the shade during the hot days. I am pretty sure the eggs which are laid in a bin where the egg yield is up where it should be. When I see the hens ranging about and scratching up everything that is loose I begin to think they are after something I ought to be supplying to take its place.

An abundance of crushed oyster shell will go a good way toward keeping up the egg yield in a bin where the oyster shell is more available for the production of egg shells than that from any other source, and it is certainly the cheapest. I find this system of heavy feeding in warm weather, while profitable to follow, produces a considerable number of broody hens. As provided for those in a wire cage on three sides. If they are taken promptly, usually about three days confinement breaks up the broody fever and the hens are ready to lay again. After the first of July we begin to cut heavily and market the culls. At that time the price is better than later and we are able to get a better price for the culls. The ones that are pretty well through laying—

DAIRY RECORD CENTRES. The new extension work of the dairy division, Ottawa, is causing many inquiries to be made. For the benefit of our readers it may be explained that officials are now located in Peterboro, Lunenburg and Oxford counties, Ontario; St. Elizabeth and P. E. Island; and with a view of gathering specific information as to the exact standing of the dairy industry in the district, each such district is termed a dairy record centre. Each farmer within a certain area will be called on, and there will be obtained from him a statement as to the number of acres cultivated and in pasture, the number of cows, the type of stock, the weight of milk sent to the factory, the milk used at home, the cost of feed, and so on. When these statements are compiled there will be definite and valuable information for the encouragement of other dairymen. It is intended to follow up this work closely for some years both in these and in other sections.

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