FARM AND DAIRY

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Influence of Judging Courses*

Influence of Judging Courses * D. A. McKensie, B.S.A., Victoria C_{O_n} Ont. The influence of a five day judging course, though necessarily local in its purpose, presents some great possi-bilities as a factor in our agricultural extension work. The effects on the community may be summed up as fol-lows: The indifferent man has his in-terest aroused. The man who honestly wants to learn more about this profe-sion, gets a fund of information from the discussion and criticism of exist-

sion, gets a fund of information from the discussion and criticism of exist-ing varieties, breads and methods. The college professors and leaders in agricultural thought and practice throughout the province are brought into close touch with the rank and hostly, it tends to create tendity, and esta, higher appreciaton of their pro-fession.

THE INDIFFERENCE THAT EXISTS It is evident, from the small per-

It is evident, from the small per-centage of farmers' sons in attendance at the Ontario Agricultural College, the poorly attended meetings of the Farmers' Institutes, the ragged, dirty appearance of many of the farmsteads of Ontario, that indifference exists to an appaling degree. New mothods must be adopted to reach and stir these men and a five days course will, if properly advertised and conducted, interest many of them: not perhase

from a genuine desire for knowledge but because it is a new thing and the

but because it is a new thing and the crowd is going. To the man who is alive to his in-terests, the five days judging course comes as a shower to a thirsty land. The discussion and criticism of com-mon varieties, breeds and methods, as carried on at the five days course, gives him a chance to examine the variety or type under discussion, at close range, and to understand and remember points of merit or distin-tion as the case may be. He has a chance to compare his own practical experience with that of the instruct-ors in charge or with that of other)

ors in charge or with that of the instruc-ors in charge or with that of other men successful along the same line of endeavor, and to inquire into the cause or causes of difficulty and fail-

REAL AND BENEFICENT ORGANIZATION

Despite the fact that Ontario has an of the best organized Departments

one of the bass organized Departments of Agriculture in the world, there are many farmers who do not come di-rectly under its influence. The On-tario Agricultural College reaches a considerable number, the Farmers' Institute and other branches of the decorational world.

Institute and other branches of the department reach a large number, but to many farmers the Ontario Ag-ricultural College and the Farmers' Institutes are mere names associated only with the spending of the peo-ple's money. These people are not in-terested in the work of the college and never attend an Institute meet-ing, but they will attend a five days judging course and there they come in touch with the college professors and heads of the various branches of the Department in Toronto. They hear President Creelman tell of the work done by the Ontario Agricultural

work done by the Ontario Agricultural College, the college professors discuss important phases of farm practice, and the superintendents of the To-

and the superintendents of the To-ronto branches discuss their efforts along educational and organization lines. They have their eyes opened; what was once to them a sort of in-fernal machine for squeezing money out of the farmer, to supply lucrative positions for political favorites, be-comes a real and beneficent organiza-tion

AROUSE THE INDIFFERENT MEN The indifference of many farmers to education and their conservatism in

to education and their conservatism in adopting improved methods, has led men in other callings to underrate Agriculture as a profession. The small financial returns secured by many farmers as a direct result of the other and alip-ahod methods have caused these farmers to look on their



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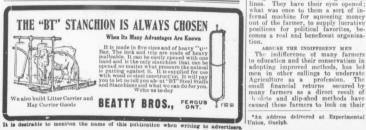
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profession as a little inferior to al others. If we can arouse the indif ferent man to see his need of im provement, satisfy the honest in quirers after knowledge and bring our quirers after knowledge and kring our Department of Agriculture into liv-ing touch with every farmer in the community; the result will be, great-er financial returns to the individual farmer, more liberal education for th-boys and grils on the farm, and a greater respect for Agriculture as a mofession. profession.

Excessive Co-operation

"It is possible for farmers to co-operate to excess. No group of farmers should co-operate to their town merchant," undersell said P. 10

their town merchant," said P. E. Angle, B.S.A., in an address before the Experimental Union at Guelph. "The fruit growers of Samoe in Norfolk County, Ont., use large quan-tities of spray material. They went to their town merchants and gave to their town morchants and gave. Then they went to a who madernal. Then they went to a who madernal. bb per cent. on these spray materials if they bought co-operatively.

they "The merchants were ill-advised in this case. They should have been con-tent with a smaller profit. The fruit growers were quite justified in buying their goods co-operatively when mer-chants are not content with less than 50 per cent. profit on such large deals."

Weeding Out Unprofitable Cows

G. W. Mayhew, Stanstead Co., Que. 3. W. Andprece, Stansteid Co., Que. I have been testing my cows and keeping individual records for two or three years. We have been keeping records of feed, also, since last June. We hope to have some interesting facts as to the cost of feed by the time they are increased. the year is out. We have had two hard years for

the farmers-two dry summers when grasshoppers ate about all the green feed in sight so our dairymen have not had much of a chance. Many cows went back in their production about one-third during the past year

The only way to get rid of cows that don't pay for their keep is to discover them by testing and keeping individual records. Since I commenc-ed to test my cows, I have been sorting them over and getting rid of those that do not pay. Cow testing has shown us which cows are the best to keep for building up the dairy herd.

Give the Horse a Chance to Breathe

A farmer, plowing with three horses hitched abreast, noticed that the middle horse became tired and exhausted long before either of his mates, says the Farm Journal. As the animal was the equal in every way of the other two, he was puzzled as to the cause of this horse not being able to stand the same amount of work. He finally observed, however, that as they drew the plow along, the three horses held their noses close together, with the result that the middle horse was compelled to breathe the expired air

The farmer then procured a long "jockey" stick, which he fastened with straps to the bits of the outside horses. The device worked perfectly; for, given his rightful share of good, fresh air, the middle horse was able to do the same amount of work, and to go the same amount of work, and with no greater fatigue than his fel-lows. Many persons are like the mid-dle horse; they do not get their rightful share of frosh, pure air, and this is why they are not able to per-form as much work.

We have more good cows than we ever thought we had. We have more poor feeders than poor cows.-J. W. Newman, Victoria Co., Ont.

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DRE ca ho These w years a thought 3.000 to cows, tl time, I teens. with the them gi coarse f allowed be very profit. many di same op were pa consider average ing, the 2,000 or in a yea TH

We, wi to-day w grain to too. Wh cows, and ers. Our cows coul pounds, b Was room ment as c ing great ducing go herds thro As I cou priced co plan of good sire. The firs

my bull, calves; for neighbors their very 14, all calv well, not 1 make good to eat and we expect 15 to 18 n bringing th old. After could easily improvemen tion was 6, their mothe