

spring work. While we do not expect a horse to be in the pink of condition after several weeks of hard work such as seeding, there is no excuse for the pitiful appearance of many horses in the early part of June.

The digestive system of the average healthy horse is capable of assimilating nourishment enough to keep him in good condition, provided of course, that he be fed food of the proper kind and in sufficient quantities. As farmers we are inclined to be lavish and extravagant of such fodder as hay, while we keep too small a measure in the oat bin. Less hay and more grain is the crying need of many farm work horses. Under ordinary humane treatment, horses will weather seed time and come through well fleshed if a proper grain ration is provided.

To Control Sale of Feeding Stuffs

A delegation recently met the Ministers of Agriculture and Inland Revenue at Ottawa and asked that a law be enacted to control the sale of feeding stuffs. Hon. Senator Owens; Prof. H. S. Arkell, Macdonald College; Mr. F. T. Shutt, Chemist Experimental Farm, Ottawa; Mr. A. W. Smith, M.P.; Mr. Patrick Clarke, Ottawa; Mr. A. P. Murray of the Edwardsburg Starch Co., all spoke supporting the matter and gave instances where they had seen injustices in the selling of feeding stuffs without some guarantee or where there was abundant adulteration of the common materials such as bran.

Prof. Harcourt, of the O. A. C., pointed out that in addition to the variation in composition of these foods, many of the by-products are not

grinding any single grain, are fairly constant in composition, no guarantee be asked for these, but that each be clearly defined. If this is done, the adulteration of these feeds is fully covered in the adulteration of Foods Act, R. S. V. Chapters 24 and 26, and the small millers throughout the

country will be put to no inconvenience. With the other newer feeds and mixtures of various mill by-products, they felt that it is only right that the purchaser should know their nutritive value; and, consequently, that the minimum

(Continued on page 9)

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION PROBABLE

The Deputation from the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association wait upon the Hon. Sidney Fisher and ask that a Commission be arranged to visit Denmark and Ireland

THERE is a strong possibility that Hon. Sidney Fisher, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, will appoint a commission of Canadian farmers to visit Denmark and Ireland to study the methods of raising and marketing hogs followed in those countries. The government has no intention of increasing the duty on green pork imported from the United States into Canada. This information was gained last week as a result of the interview that took place in Ottawa between representatives of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association and the Minister of Agriculture.

Incidentally it was learned that during the past year the government has conducted a quiet investigation into certain phases of the bacon industry. As a result of these investigations which extended over several months it has concluded that of late years the pork packers in Canada have been losing money on the export trade (although at intervals it has been profitable), that the packers have been paying as much for live hogs for the export trade as the condi-

Dairy. Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, was present with the Minister of Agriculture. Lying on Hon. Mr. Fisher's desk, as the deputation entered, was a copy of Farm and Dairy open at the page containing the open letter to the Minister of Agriculture published in our issue of March 18.

"Our exports of bacon to Great Britain," said Mr. Brethour, in introducing the subject, "have been falling off rapidly. At the same time the exports from Denmark and Great Britain have been increasing. Our Canadian hog breeders desire to find why this is the case. We want to ascertain if our methods are up-to-date and, if not, wherein these other countries excel us. We are told that their natural conditions, in some respects, are not as favorable as our own. They buy quantities of our mill feeds and they obtain higher prices for their bacon products in England than we do for ours. The members of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association have discussed this matter. They have instructed us to ask you to appoint a commission of Canadian farmers to visit Denmark and Ireland to investigate the conditions governing the swine industry in those countries. If they like this commission to ascertain if their system of production is cheaper than ours. We feel, also, that their system of co-operative pork packing should be investigated. As the production of bacon and the dairy industry are closely allied, it might be advisable to appoint one or two prominent dairymen on the commission. We feel that the condition of our export bacon trade is serious and that something requires to be done."

THE DUTY ON PORK.

"A little over a year ago," said Mr. Flatt, "I was a member of a deputation that our Association appointed to wait on this government. We asked that the farmers of Canada who raise hogs should be protected by an advance of two cents a pound in the duty charged on green pork imported from the States. The United States duty is 5c. a lb. Ours is only 2 cents. We ask that our duty should be advanced to 4 cts. a lb. At that time I predicted that if the duty was not advanced the number of hogs produced in Canada within a year would fall one half. That prediction, I believe, has been fulfilled as there are only about one half as many hogs in the country to-day as there were a year ago. The government did not answer our request."

Mr. Fisher (smiling)—"You saw that no change was made in the tariff, did you not? That was our answer. Do you mean to tell me that there are about only half as many hogs in the country as there were a year ago? That represents a tremendous drop."

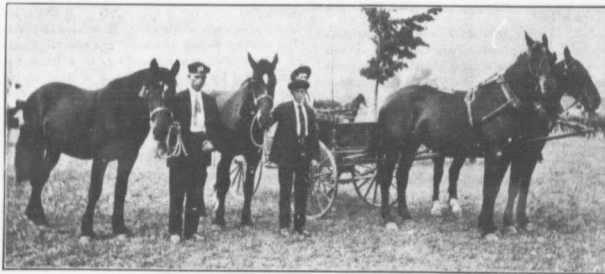
Mr. Flatt—"Yes!" I believe that to be the case.

Mr. Fisher—"Are the factories running only half time?"

Mr. Brethour—"They are running on even less than half time."

Mr. Fisher—"We can easily verify that. Why is it not paying our farmers to raise more hogs?"

Mr. Flatt—"Because of the high price of feeds. It is a serious matter that the value of our exports of bacon should be declining millions of dollars a year. We feel that if your government will appoint a commission of practical farmers



Interesting the Boys in Horses is One Way of Keeping Them on the Farm.

A good horse is the delight of the average boy. Those reasonably indulged in this respect, other things being equal, show little tendency to choose a calling other than farming, while, if the whole truth were known, the reason why many have left the farm would be that they were not provided with a good horse of their own. Mr. H. C. Bowen, of Durham Co., Ont., and his two sons, appear in the illustration, with their first prize roaster team, and general purpose colts, as photographed by a special representative of Farm and Dairy at the Lindsay fair last fall.

the farmer, and that the old familiar ones are, in some cases, being adulterated. It was surprising therefore that the feeders of live stock, who feel the need of some concentrated materials to use along with the feeds grown on the farm should be deeply interested in some way being devised whereby they may be able to know the actual, or at least, approximate composition of the feeding stuffs they wish to purchase.

In the United States, as long ago as 1895, Connecticut enacted a law regulating the sale of these cattle feeds. Since then 30 States have passed similar laws. In nearly every case these state laws compel the manufacturer to stamp on the bags, tags or invoice, the minimum percentage of protein and fat and the maximum percentage of crude fibre in the feed offered for sale. Great Britain has also enacted similar laws.

The deputation did not ask the Government to formulate any law that will be unnecessarily burdensome, but it was felt that something ought to be done. They therefore suggested that, as the old standard feeds, such as wheat bran, middlings, the whole grains, or meal obtained by

tions of the trade would allow, that the packers have been making money out of the home trade in bacon, that Canadian bacon has been sold in the Liverpool and British markets for less than the prices charged for the same product in Canada and that Canadian consumers have been paying, possibly, unduly high prices for their bacon. The interview lasted over an hour. The government, through the Minister of Agriculture, showed a sincere desire to do everything possible to improve the position of the bacon industry in Canada. Its objection to raising the duty on pork imported from the States is due in part at least to the belief that, as expressed by Hon. Mr. Fisher, "it would give only an artificial stimulus."

THE DEPUTATION.

The deputation from the Swine Breeders' Association was composed of Messrs. D. C. Flatt, of Millgrove; Joseph Featherstone, ex-M.P., of Streetsville and J. E. Brethour, of Burford. They were accompanied by Messrs. W. O. Sealey, M.P., of Hamilton; M. H. Schell, M.P., of Woodstock; A. W. Smith, M.P., of Maple Lodge, and by an editorial representative of Farm and

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