

FARMING

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THE SECRETARY OF THE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN ONTARIO.

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers, in connection with our special dairy number of *FARMING*, a portrait of MR. J. W. WHEATON, B.A., the popular and efficient secretary of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario. We think, also, that to give herewith a

short sketch of his life and work as a dairyman will be appropriate; especially so as we feel sure that from perusing it many of the younger readers of *FARMING* will be incited to emulate the indomitable energy and industry to which Mr. Wheaton's success and present prominence as a dairyman are undoubtedly due.

Mr. Wheaton was born in 1856, on a farm in the county of Middlesex, where his father Mr. Joseph Wheaton, is still living. His early life, till 1873, was spent on his father's farm, with the exception of a few very short intervals of winter schooling. This experience, deficient as it may seem to have been in educational advantages, has

been, however, of great use to Mr. Wheaton in his subsequent work, for it has given him a thorough knowledge of farm work, and, what is better, a thorough knowledge of the needs and possibilities of farm life, such as enables

him to act wisely when dealing with those dairy interests that affect farmers. In the summer of 1883 Mr. Wheaton went to Detroit to seek his fortune; but he soon returned home again, and in the spring of 1884 entered the service of Mr. J. W. Robertson (now Agricultural and Dairy Com-

missioner of Canada), for the purpose of learning the art of cheese-making. Mr. Robertson was then operating several factories in the Listowel district. Mr. Wheaton was employed by Mr. Robertson for one season in the Fordwich factory, and for another in the Drayton factory, in the latter of which he had full charge. From this out, until 1891, Mr. Wheaton followed cheese-making as a business, having the charge of several factories in succession, his change from one to another in every case being a promotion.

In the meantime, feeling the need of a better education than he had received, Mr. Wheaton had attended the Collegiate Institute at St.

Marys at times, as he found opportunity, for about eleven months in all, and in 1887 he entered the University of Toronto. As he was entirely dependent upon his own efforts for funds to put himself through his university



J. W. Wheaton, B.A.,

Secretary of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario.